

## FIELD NOTES: AUGUST 2011

### • Solitary Sandpipers at FRR • White-throated swifts drop in on LCAS bird walk • Golden Eagle visits Crow area • Rare Bank Swallow at Fisher Butte

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August was warm and dry again this year, as is normal. The shorebird migration was phenomenal during August in the Royal Avenue and Fisher Butte units at Fern Ridge Reservoir--much like the fall of 2007! A special thanks goes to Wayne Morrow and his crew at the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife for keeping water levels adjusted during the migration period. The other big news for the month was the flock of White-throated Swifts flying overhead during a Lane Audubon field trip.

#### WATERBIRDS

<b>Greater White-fronted Goose</b> (3)	Aug. 31	FRR	LM,et.al.	First report for the fall migration
<b>Northern Pintail</b>	Aug. 24	FRR	LM,et.al.	First report of birds returning for the winter
<b>Black-crowned Night-Heron</b> (2)	Aug. 17	FRR – RA	JS	Normally found in small numbers in the fall

#### EAGLES TO AUKLETS

<b>Golden Eagle</b>	Aug. 14	Crow area	DI	Rarely found in Lane Co., especially the Coast Range foothills
<b>Black-bellied Plover</b>	Aug. 4	FRR	DH	Normally found in small numbers during migration and the winter
<b>American Avocet</b>	Aug. 21	FRR	RR	Almost annual in Lane Co. during spring and fall
<b>Solitary Sandpiper</b>	Aug. 17	FRR – FB	LM,et.al.	Not normally found during fall migration
<b>Solitary Sandpiper</b>	Aug. 26	FRR	BMc	We're not sure why so many were reported this fall!
<b>Solitary Sandpiper</b> (2)	Aug. 28	FRR	RL	were reported this fall!
<b>Lesser Yellowlegs</b> (28)	Aug. 30	FRR	JW	Very large numbers for Lane Co.
<b>Long-billed Curlew</b>	Aug. 6	FRR	LM,DA	Rarely found in Lane Co.
<b>Marbled Godwit</b> (12)	Aug. 17	FRR – RA	JS	A very large number for inland Lane Co.
<b>Ruddy Turnstone</b> (4)	Aug. 25	SJSR	JS	Found in small numbers during fall migration
<b>Baird's Sandpiper</b> (2)	Aug. 23	FRR – RA	RR	A few additional birds were reported later in the month.
<b>Pectoral Sandpiper</b>	Aug. 17	FRR – FB	LM,et.al.	A normal fall migrant in small numbers
<b>Stilt Sandpiper</b>	Aug. 26	FRR	BMc	About the tenth record for Lane Co.
<b>Stilt Sandpiper</b> (6)	Aug. 28	FRR – RA	A&TM	A flock is unheard of in Oregon.
<b>Ruff</b>	Aug. 23	FRR	RR	A rare, irregular migrant in Lane Co., but
<b>Ruff</b> (2)	Aug. 28	FRR – RA	A&CH	The 2 <sup>nd</sup> time in 5 years that more than one has been found at this location
<b>Short-billed Dowitcher</b>	Aug.	FRR	m.ob.	Large numbers for inland Lane Co. were found during the month
<b>Wilson's Phalarope</b>	Aug. 24	FRR – RA	LM,et.al.	Late report for the breeding season

<b>Red-necked Phalarope</b> (12)	Aug. 18	FRR	BMc	A normal time for their fall migration
<b>Bonaparte's Gull</b>	Aug. 6	FRR	LM,DA	A spring and fall migrant
<b>Black Tern</b> (6)	Aug. 18	FRR	BMc	Last report for the season
<b>Common Tern</b> (8)	Aug. 25	SJSR	JS	Found in small numbers during migration
<b>Cassin's Auklet</b>	Aug. 6	Siuslaw River	SB	Found onboard the USACE dredge Yaquina at night and released the next morning near the mouth of the river

## NIGHTHAWKS TO BLACKBIRDS

<b>Common Nighthawk</b>	Aug. 25	West Eugene	JS	An area where they're normal with some regularity
<b>White-throated Swift</b> (30)	Aug. 20	Stewart Pond	MS,DL	3 <sup>rd</sup> record for Lane Co. – seen & heard flying overhead on a LCAS field trip
<b>Williamson's Sapsucker</b>	Aug. 23	Horseshoe Lake	NS	Found in small numbers in the high Cascades
<b>Western Wood-Pewee</b>	Aug. 9	ABP	VT	Numbers of singing/calling birds increased for a couple weeks at this time before decreasing at the end of the month
<b>Black Phoebe</b>	Aug. 25	Deadwood	JS	First report from the Lane Co. Coast Range.
<b>Black Phoebe</b> (2)	Aug. 26	Siltcoos River	DF	Not a breeding location.
<b>Common Raven</b> (108)	Aug. 14	FRR area	MN	Moving south in small groups all afternoon
<b>Bank Swallow</b>	Aug. 11	FRR – RA	A&TM	Rare, but found in small numbers during fall migration
<b>Cliff Swallow</b>	Aug. 15	ABP	VT	Last report from the area.
<b>Barn Swallow</b>	Aug. 31	Churchill HS	JN	Last brood fledged from nest.
<b>American Dipper</b> (2)	Aug. 29	Lake Cr "slide"	JS	Not a known nesting location.
<b>Wrentit</b>	Aug. 27	Eugene – CH	DG	An unusual location for this species, but they tend to show up in strange places during the fall dispersal
<b>Yellow Warbler</b>	Aug. 25	ABP	VT	A singing bird – last report for the breeding season
<b>Grasshopper Sparrow</b>	Aug. 17	FRR – FB	LM,et.al.	About as late as normally found
<b>Lazuli Bunting</b>	Aug. 10	ABP	VT	Last report for the breeding season
<b>Tricolored Blackbird</b>	Aug. 4	FRR	DJ,RR	About the 6 <sup>th</sup> record for Lane Co.
<b>Yellow-headed Blackbird</b>	Aug. 24	FRR	LM,et.al.	Last report for the breeding season

## Abbreviations

Alton Baker Park (ABP), Eugene - College Hill (Eugene - CH), Fern Ridge Reservoir (FRR), Fern Ridge Reservoir - Royal Ave (FRR-RA), Fern Ridge Reservoir - Fisher Butte (FRR - FB), South Jetty of the Siuslaw River (SJSR).

## Thank you, contributors!

**DA** Dennis Arendt, **SB** Steve Burock, **DF** Daniel Farrar, **DG** Dan Gleason, **DH** Dan Heyerly, **A&CH** Adrian & Christopher Hinkle, **DI** Dave Irons, **DJ** Dave Jones, **DL** Dick Lamster, **RL** Rie Luft, **BMc** Barry McKenzie, **LM** Larry McQueen, **A&TM** Allison & Tom Mickel, **JN** Janet Naylor, **MN** Mark Nikas, **RR** Roger Robb, **MS** Maeve Sowles, **NS** Noah Strycker, **JS** John Sullivan, **VT** Vjera Thompson, **JW** Jay Withgott.