

Field Notes: June/July 2021

Willet, Eastern Kingbird, Least Flycatcher, Red Phalarope

June and July were very hot and very dry, setting a new record high for Eugene of 110 degrees on June 27! A number of observers reported very low numbers of flycatchers and warblers during the period. We're not sure if it's related to the heat and drought or to other causes. Did the birds nest early and leave the area, or could they have abandoned nesting due to the lack of insects to feed their young?

Abbreviations:

Fern Ridge Reservoir (FRR), North Jetty of the Siuslaw River (NJSR), South Jetty of the Siuslaw River (SJSR)

WATERFOWL TO HERONS

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|---------------------------|-----------|----------------------|-----------|--|
| Gadwall w/young | July 12 | Meadowlark Prairie | VT | Occasional nester in the valley |
| Redhead (10) | June 11 | Kirk Pond | LM, et al | Surprising number for this late |
| Red-necked Grebe | July 1 | Bray Point | VT | Late migrant or summering bird? |
| Red-necked Grebe | July 20 | NJSR | RR, DA | Summering bird? |
| Common Nighthawk | June 2 | Eugene | PR | First report for the season, right on time |
| Black Swift | June 19 | Salt Creek Falls | DF | Appear to be breeding this year |
| Vaux's Swift | July 26 | North River Road | MRu | Fledged from their chimney |
| Vaux's Swift (54) | July 27 | North River Road | MRu | Entered chimney for night roost |
| Sora | June/July | FRR | M.ob | No reports from the area; low water level |
| Black-necked Stilt (25) | July 18 | FRR - Royal Ave | DA, et al | Very large numbers; drought related? |
| Black-bellied Plover | July 19 | FRR - Royal Ave | MP | The first for the fall migration |
| Black Turnstone (2) | July 15 | NJSR | DP, SH | The first for the fall migration |
| Least Sandpiper (dozens) | June 30 | Lane Beaches | DF | The start of the southward migration |
| Pectoral Sandpiper | July 20 | FRR Royal Ave | JS | A very early sighting |
| Semipalmated Sandpiper | July 24 | FRR Royal Ave | AC, VT | Normal time for southward migration |
| Western Sandpiper (100s) | June 30 | Lane Beaches | DF | The start of the southward migration |
| Wandering Tattler | June 5 | NJSR | JE | A late/early migrant or summering? |
| Willet | July 1 | FRR - Royal Ave | AC, VT | Rarely found in Lane, especially inland |
| Red-necked Phalarope | July 14 | FRR - Royal Ave | M.ob | The first for the fall migration |
| Red Phalarope | July 19 | FRR - Royal Ave | MP | VERY early and rare inland sighting |
| Marbled Murrelet (34) | June 1 | Bray Point | VT | Large numbers continuing to be seen |
| Marbled Murrelet | July 21 | Siuslaw River mouth | AC | Rarely found between the jetties |
| Franklin's Gull (4) | June 1 | Bray Point | VT | The last of the "spring" sightings |
| Heerman's Gull (200) | July 20 | NJSR | RR, DA | The first report for the fall |
| Sooty Shearwater (130) | July 17 | Siltcoos River mouth | JL | Large numbers for so early |
| Black-crowned Night-Heron | July 9 | FRR - Royal Ave | AC | Post-breeding day roost area |

OWLS TO GROSBEAKS

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|---------------------------------|---------|-------------------|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| Long-eared Owl (nestling) | June | Creswell area | MRT | Returned to nest, rare nesting report |
| Long-eared Owl (dead) | July 1 | Creswell area | NS | Adult found on road, no brood patch |
| Lewis's Woodpecker | June 1 | Heceta Head area | VT | A rare coastal sighting |
| Williamson's Sapsucker (female) | July 18 | Hand Lake area | KF | A rare breeder in the high Cascades |
| Am Three-toed Woodpecker | June 3 | Gold Lake | AC, et al | Always a good place for this species |
| Am Three-toed Woodpecker | June 24 | Old McKenzie Pass | AC, et al | Another good location |
| Black-backed Woodpecker | June 24 | Old McKenzie Pass | AC, et al | Nest w/begging young |
| Least Flycatcher | June 12 | Creswell area | NS | The fifth record for Lane Co |
| Ash-throated Flycatcher (pair) | June 4 | Mt Pisgah | LM, et al | Breeding? |

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|--------------------------------|---------------|----------------------------|----------------|--|
| Eastern Kingbird (photo) | July 19 | Oakridge area | RF,et al | A rare summer vagrant |
| Red-eyed Vireo | June 17 | Elijah Bristow | HL | The only report for this breeding season |
| Lapland Longspur | June 22 | SJSR | DF,DP | A very late migrant |
| Grasshopper Sparrow (4) | July 12 | Meadowlark Prairie | VT | Late singing birds |
| Grasshopper Sparrow | July 24 | Willow Creek | TM | Another late singing bird; second brood? |
| Northern Waterthrush | June 4 | Mule Prairie/Salt Ck | VB | First report; heard throughout season |
| Grosbeak hybrid | July 23 | Coburg Road area | A&DH | Mostly Rose-breasted; some Black-headed |

AC Alan Contreras, A&DH Anne & Dan Heyerly, DA Dennis Arendt, DF Daniel Farrar, DP Diane Pettey, HL Hydie Lown, JE Jacob Edmonds, JL Joshua Little, JS John Sullivan, KF Kai Frueh, LM Larry McQueen, MP Magnus Persmark, MRu Mark Rudolph, MRT McKenzie River Trust, NS Noah Strycker, PR Peter Ralph, RF Rachael Friese, RR Roger Robb, SH Sally Hill, TM Tom Mickel, VB Vickie Buck, VT Vjera Thompson. M.ob signifies many observers.