

Field Notes: June/July 2017

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, White-faced Ibis, Sage Thrasher

For the most part it's been a warm, dry couple months. Good numbers of unusual birds were found, plus the first successful breeding record of Blue-gray Gnatcatchers in Lane County. Greater populations of shorebirds are starting to use Fern Ridge Reservoir during their southward migration, and we expect that trend to continue into October.

Abbreviations: Fern Ridge Reservoir (FRR), South Jetty of the Siuslaw River (SJSR)

WATERBIRDS

Greater White-fronted Goose	June/July	FRR-Royal Ave	m.ob.	Small numbers throughout period
Brant (3)	July 15	Siuslaw R crab dock	SH,SM	Summering birds?
White-winged Scoter (12)	July 21	Siltcoos River mouth	JS,JL	A large number for summer
Black Scoter (3)	July 6	Heceta Head	JGh,GL	Rare during the summer
Black Scoter	July 28	Tokatee Klootchman	SM	Rare during the summer
Brown Pelican	June/July	Along coast	m.ob.	Small numbers during period
Black-crowned Night-Heron	July 13	FRR-Royal Ave	SH	A good post-breeding location
White-faced Ibis	June 23	Kirk Pond	FH	Rare in the summer
Sandhill Crane (pair)	July 21	Goose Lake	CKJ	Small numbers breed in high Cascades

SHOREBIRDS TO GULLS

Black-necked Stilt	July 26	FRR-Royal Ave	CS	Rare in summer except when breeding
Black-bellied Plover	July 13	FRR-Royal Ave	RR	Start of fall migration
Semipalmated Plover (4)	July 13	FRR-Royal Ave	RR	Start of fall migration
Solitary Sandpiper	July 21	FRR-Royal Ave	JW	Rare in the fall
Greater Yellowlegs	July 1	FRR-Royal Ave	J&SF	The first southbound bird?
Greater Yellowlegs (45)	July 6	FRR-Royal Ave	RR	The "flood gates" have opened
Lesser Yellowlegs (1)	July 6	FRR-Royal Ave	RR	Always an early migrant
Whimbrel	June 2	FRR-Royal Ave	JL,JS	A late report for spring migration
Whimbrel	July 7	FRR-Royal Ave	JS	The start of their fall migration?
Long-billed Curlew	July 21	FRR-Royal Ave	JS,VB	Unusual in the county
Marbled Godwit	June 1	FRR-Royal Ave	FT	A late report for spring migration
Marbled Godwit	July 7	FRR-Royal Ave	JS	The start of their fall migration?
Ruddy Turnstone	July 21	SJSR	JW	Normal time for their fall migration
Red Knot	July 21	FRR-Royal Ave	A&TM	Rarely found inland
Sanderling	July 21	FRR-Royal Ave	JS	Rarely found inland
Semipalmated Sandpiper	July 13	Driftwood Shores	DF	The first report for fall migration
Western Sandpiper (12)	June 17	Siltcoos River mouth	DF	Late north bound or early south bound?
Baird's Sandpiper	July 21	FRR-Royal Ave	JG	First of the south bound migrants
Dunlin	July 28	FRR-Royal Ave	SH	A very early sighting
Long-billed Dowitcher (25)	July 6	FRR-Royal Ave	RR	A normal time for their fall migration
Wilson's Phalarope	July 7	FRR-Royal Ave	SJ	Young of the year
Red-necked Phalarope	July 11	Siltcoos River mouth	DF,EK	Earlier than normal
Forster's Tern (pair)	June 18	FRR-Coyote Ck	TJ	Nested in the area a couple years ago
Cassin's Auklet (40)	July 21	Siltcoos River beach	JS,JL	Very high number to be seen from shore
Bonaparte's Gull	July 28	FRR	LS	An early sighting
Heermann's Gull	July 4	Heceta Beach	GB	The first sighting for the fall

GOATSUCKERS TO BLACKBIRDS

Common Nighthawk	June/July	Eugene/Springfield	m.ob	Higher than normal number of sightings
Black Swift (5)	July 12	Salt Ck Falls.....	EH.....	Didn't find any nesting birds
Ash-throated Flycatcher (2).....	June 7	Mt Pisgah.....	LM,et.al.....	Appeared to be a pair on territory
Eastern Kingbird	June 14	Mt Pisgah.....	RF.....	About the twelfth record for Lane Co
Red-eyed Vireo	June 5	Clearwater Park	SH	A couple days earlier than normal
Red-eyed Vireo	June 26	Amazon Ck @ fair	JM	A rare "in town" sighting
Bank Swallow	July 18	FRR-Royal Ave.....	BMc.....	Found in small numbers post-breeding
Blue Jay	June 8	Carl Washburne SP	fide BG	Reported in the campground
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (pair)	June 7	Mt Pisgah.....	LM,et.al.....	Pair attempted to breed here in 1997
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	July 28	Mt Pisgah.....	NS	Pair w/ juvenile - first successful breeding
Northern Mockingbird	July 14	Big Creek.....	KN,WW	Reports along the coast last summer
Sage Thrasher	June 9	Cleawox Lake.....	BP.....	Rarely found in Lane Co
Yellow-rumped Warbler (juv)	July 9	near FRR.....	MN	Rarely breed in the valley
Lark Sparrow	June 4	Siltcoos River mouth	ACk.....	Later than normal for spring migrants
Rose-breasted Grosbeak (♂).....	June 18	Mt Pisgah.....	JH.....	Rarely found in Lane Co
Rose-breasted Grosbeak (♂).....	June 29	SW Eugene	AC.....	Could it have been the same bird at all
Rose-breasted Grosbeak (♂).....	July 5	SE Eugene.....	LMa.....	three locations?
Bobolink (♂)	June 2	FRR-Royal Ave.....	JS,et.al.....	Seventh record for Lane Co
Grasshopper Sparrow (2♂, 1♀)	June 14	Camas Swale	JG	A normal breeding location
Great-tailed Grackle (pair).....	June 4	FRR-Royal Ave.....	fide SM.....	A woman reported seeing a male & female
Great-tailed Grackle (2 ♂).....	June 4	FRR-Royal Ave.....	VT	Seen quite a distance apart in short time

ACk Alexander Clark, **AC** Alan Contreras, **A&TM** Allison & Tom Mickel, **BG** Barbara Gleason, **BMc** Barry McKenzie, **BP** Ben Phalan, **CKJ** Courtney Kelly Jett, **CS** Cody Smith, **DF** Daniel Farrar, **EH** Eric Horvath, **EK** Erica Krygsman, **FH** Frank Hall, **FT** Forest Tomlinson, **GB** Gloria Beerman, **GL** Glen Linderman, **J&SF** Judy & Stephen Franzen, **JG** Joel Geier, **JGh** Jean Greenhaigh, **JH** Jennifer Haynes, **JL** Joshua Little, **JM** Jerry Morsello, **JS** John Sullivan, **JW** Jason Wilder, **KN** Kim Nelson, **LM** Larry McQueen, **LMa** Lori Markoff, **LS** Lorelle Sherman, **MN** Mark Nikas, **m.ob** many observers, **NS** Noah Strycker, **RF** Rachael Friese, **RR** Roger Robb, **SH** Sally Hill, **SM** Sylvia Maulding, **TJ** Tye Jeske, **VB** Vickie Buck, **VT** Vjera Thompson, **WW** Will Wright. Fide indicates a sighting reported to the listed observer.