

Field Notes: November–December 2014

Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel

Lesser Black-backed Gull

Snowy Owl

Rufous Hummingbird

Black-headed Grosbeak

Fulvous Whistling-Duck

Weather-wise, the period was pretty much normal—mostly cloudy, wet, and warmish—although we did have a cool, sunny stretch at the end and a very wet and windy weekend in mid-December. Bird-wise, we had a first record for the county and a couple possible firsts. Also, there were many larger than normal numbers of more common species and a few species that lingered later than normal.

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

WATERBIRDS

Snow Goose	Nov 17	C&M Stables, Florence	RL	Never common on the coast
Cinnamon Teal (2)	Dec 13	Canary area	DP	Winter in very small numbers
Surf Scoter	Nov 14	Alton Baker Park	SNa	Rarely found inland
Long-tailed Duck	Nov 29	NJSR	DI, SF	Winters most years
Common Goldeneye (4)	Dec 16	Hills Creek Rec.	TM, TMe	Not normally found on the Oakridge CBC
Barrow's Goldeneye	Dec 20	N Fork Siuslaw River	SNa	Rarely found along the coast in the county
Common Loon	Dec 16	Hills Creek Res.	TM, TMe	Later than normal for this location
Pied-billed Grebe (44)	Nov 2	FRR	JS	Just in "pond" near tern island
Eared Grebe	Nov 1	Siuslaw River	AC	Almost annual during the winter
Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel	Nov 29	Brays Point	SF	Rare seen from land
Am. White Pelican (183)	Nov 2	FRR	JS	Very high numbers for this late in year
Am. White Pelican (2)	Dec 7	Alton Baker Park	RR	Very unusual location
Am. White Pelican	Dec 7	Baker Beach	fide DP	Another unusual location
Brown Pelican (400)	Nov 8	Heceta Head	AC, DP	Highest count this fall
Great Egret (79)	Nov 2	FRR	JS	Numbers increasing every winter

HAWKS to GULLS

Red-tailed Hawk (109)	Dec 12	Raptor Route #2	JS, et al.	Highest number recorded
Rough-legged Hawk (3)	Dec 12	Eugene airport	JS, et al.	Higher than normal numbers
Sandhill Crane	Nov 8	NW of Eugene	LG	A normal time for their migration
Sandhill Crane (6)	Nov 30	Mt. Pisgah	B&JC	Later than normal
Red-necked Phalarope (2)	Nov 2	FRR	JS	Later than normal
Red Phalarope	Dec 20	Florence CBC	fide KL	Forced to shore with the high winds
Black-headed Gull (poss.)	Nov 8	NJSR	AC, DP	Seen flying south just past end of jetty
Bonaparte's Gull (16)	Nov 2	FRR	JS	Later than normal
Heermann's Gull (2)	Nov 8	Florence	AC	Southward migration
Heermann's Gull (5)	Nov 9	FRR	JS	Southward migration
Lesser Black-backed Gull (imm)	Nov 23	Camas Swale	BC	Second Lane Co record
Lesser Black-backed Gull (ad)	Nov 24	Camas Swale	NS	Both birds were photographed together

Glaucous Gull	Nov 25	FRR dam	SH	Rare inland
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PIGEONS to FINCHES

Band-tailed Pigeon	Nov 1	Stonefield Beach	AC	Later than normal
Band-tailed Pigeon (3)	Dec 20	Florence	TM	Later than normal
Snowy Owl	Dec 3	FRR	SH	Seen throughout the month
Rufous Hummingbird	Dec 3	FRR area	DT	Rare "winter" record - photo
Rufous Hummingbird	Dec 20	Florence CBC	fide KL	Rare "winter" record
Acorn Woodpecker	Nov 15	U of O	MP	First she's seen on campus
Prairie Falcon	Dec 12	Washburn Lane	JS	Winters most years
Tropical Kingbird	Nov 1	Stonefield Beach	AC	Almost annual in the last fall along coast
Gray Jay (2)	Nov 30	Mt. Pisgah	B&JC	Rare for this location
Barn Swallow (3)	Nov 14	FRR dam	SH	It still seems to be a mystery why these
Barn Swallow (2)	Nov 16	FRR	JS	swallows are showing up so long after the
Barn Swallow	Dec 17	Delta Ponds	DS, et al.	breeding birds have migrated south
Northern Mockingbird	Dec 25	Alvadore	A&DH	Still being seen
Orange-crowned Warbler	Dec 9	SW Eugene	AC	Very small numbers winter most years
Common Yellowthroat	Dec 6	FRR	BW, NP	They occasionally winter
Black-headed Grosbeak	Nov 24	SE Eugene	JSi	Rare "winter" record - photos
Am. Tree Sparrow	Dec 6	River Road area	fide VT	Not annual in the county
Swamp Sparrow	Dec 7	Meadowlark Prairie	SNa	A normal time and location for the species
Swamp Sparrow	Dec 17	FRR - Royal Ave.	KB	A normal time and location for the species
Harris's Sparrow	Dec 6	River Road area	fide VT	Rare winter visitor
Cassin's Finch (2)	Nov 20	SW Eugene	DPa	Rarely found away from the high Cascades
Pine Siskin (30)	Nov 5	SW of Eugene	MS	Finally showing up again
Pine Siskin (700)	Nov 8	SJSR	AC	Flocks moving north along the dunes

LATE REPORTS

Fulvous Whistling-Duck	mid-Oct	McKenzie River	BP	Briefly seen at edge of river in yard
Fulvous Whistling-Duck	late-Oct	Jasper - Willamette	JN, MB	Small flock on gravel bar in river. Both these reports are highly unusual, but we've included them given their proximity to each other both in time and location

A&DH Anne & Dan Heyerly, **AC** Alan Contreras, **B&JC** Becky & Jim Carlson, **BC** Barbara Combs, **BP** Bob Pickard, **BW** Becky Waterman, **DI** Dave Irons, **CPa** Dael Parsons, **DP** Diane Pettey, **DS** Don Schrouder, **DT** David Tabor, **JN** Jason Nuckols, **JS** John Sullivan, **JSi** Julia Siporin, **KB** Ken Burton, **KL** Kit Larsen, **LG** Linda Gilbert, **MB** Matt Benotsch, **MP** Margie Paris, **MS** Maeve Sowles, **NP** Nick Paget, **NS** Noah Strycker, **RL** Roy Lowe, **RR** Roger Robb, **SF** Shawneen Finnigan, **SH** Sally Hill, **SNa** Stephan Nance, **TM** Tom Mickel, **TMe** Thomas Mienzen, **VT** Vjera Thompson. **Fide** indicates a sighting that was reported to the listed observer.