

## June - July 2002 Field Notes

### Just passing through? --or nesting too?

This breeding season started out rather cool and wet, but ended quite dry and warm. The most notable feature of the season was the continued increase of what has always been thought of as Great Basin breeding species such as Clark's Grebe, American White Pelican, Black-necked Stilt and Wilson's Phalarope around Fern Ridge Reservoir. As detailed below, new breeding evidence was found for some of these species, and it's quite likely only a matter of time before evidence is found for most others.

#### Waterbirds & Seabirds

**Western Grebe** July 30; Fern Ridge Reservoir; SMc  
**Clark's Grebe** July 4; Fern Ridge Reservoir; KL  
**Sooty Shearwater** (30+) June 24; North Jetty; TM  
**American White Pelican** (3) June 21; Fern Ridge Reservoir; JS  
**Great Blue Heron** June 2; Alton Baker Park; VA  
**Great Egret** (2) June 26; Fern Ridge Reservoir; DD  
**Great Egret** July 12; Fern Ridge Reservoir; NS,HR,AK

#### Waterfowl

**Blue-winged Teal** (200+) June 17; Fern Ridge Reservoir; SMc  
**Blue-winged Teal** July 3; Deflation Plain; B&ZS  
**Blue-winged Teal** July 10; Fern Ridge Reservoir; LM  
**Redhead** (4) June 21; Fern Ridge Reservoir; JS  
**Redhead** (16) June 29; Fern Ridge Reservoir; KL  
**Greater Scaup** July 13; North Fork, Suislaw R.; AC,NS  
**Harlequin Duck** (2) June 27; Salt Creek; EM  
**Surf Scoter** (100's) July 26; near Oregon House; LB  
**Bufflehead** June 14; Deflation Plain; B&ZS  
**Ruddy Duck** June 8; Fern Ridge Reservoir; DD

#### Raptors

**White-tailed Kite** (2) June 29; Fern Ridge Reservoir; KL  
**Cooper's Hawk** July 1; Skinner Butte; MP  
**Golden Eagle** July 1; Grasshopper Meadows; LG

#### Shorebirds

**Black-bellied Plover** (3) July 13; North Fork, Suislaw R.; AC,NS  
**Semipalmated Plover** July 8; Meadowlark Prairie; RR  
**Black Oystercatcher** June; Heceta Head; B&ZS  
**Black-necked Stilt** June 1; Fern Ridge Reservoir; HW,JH, TM  
**Black-necked Stilt** June 12; Fern Ridge Reservoir; NS  
**Black-necked Stilt** July 15; Fern Ridge Reservoir; DD

**Greater Yellowlegs** (3-4) July 3; Fern Ridge Reservoir; LM  
**Lesser Yellowlegs** July 12; Fern Ridge Reservoir; NS,HR,AK  
**Willet** July 31; North Jetty; B&ZS  
**Wandering Tattler** (2) July 21; North Jetty; JC,JR  
**Whimbrel** July 9; North Jetty; B&ZS  
**Long-billed Curlew** July 30; Fern Ridge Reservoir; DD  
**Ruddy Turnstone** (2) July 21; North Jetty; JC,JR  
**Black Turnstone** (35) July 21; North Jetty; JC,JR  
**Surfbird** (20) July 21; North Jetty; JC,JR  
**Sanderling** (50) July 21; Siltcoos River mouth; JC,JR  
**Western Sandpiper** (5) June 29; Fern Ridge Reservoir; KL  
**Least Sandpiper** (3) July 3; Fern Ridge Reservoir; LM  
**Short-billed Dowitcher** (5) July 13; Deflation Plain; AC,NS  
**Long-billed Dowitcher** July 12; Fern Ridge Reservoir; NS,HR,AK  
**Wilson's Phalarope** (50) July 7; Fern Ridge Reservoir; JE  
**Wilson's Phalarope** (6) June 26; Fern Ridge Reservoir; DD  
**Red-necked Phalarope** (2) July 21; Deflation Plain; JC,JR

#### **Gulls, Turns & Alcids**

**Heermann's Gull** mid-June; Florence; B&ZS  
**Herring Gull** June 16; Florence; B&ZS  
**Forster's Tern** (3) June 8; Fern Ridge Reservoir; J&KB  
**Forster's Tern** June 19; Fern Ridge Reservoir; PS  
**Common Murre** June; Heceta Head; B&ZS

#### **Nighthawks & Swifts**

**Common Nighthawk** June 8; Fern Ridge Reservoir; DD  
**Common Nighthawk** June 23; River Road area; BC  
**Black Swift** June 7; Ocean Beach Wayside; DP  
**Black Swift** (15) June 8; Florence; DP

#### **Passerines**

**Black-backed Woodpecker** June 16; N. Waldo Lake burn; JS  
**Black-backed Woodpecker** July 21; Bunchgrass Ridge; A&TM  
**Willow Flycatcher** June 1; Amazon Ck. & Polk St.; SG  
**Dusky Flycatcher** (2) June 1; Mt. Pisgah; OFO  
**Ash-throated Flycatcher** June 3; Creswell area; SN  
**Ash-throated Flycatcher** July 8; Cantrell Road; RR  
**Western Kingbird** June 20; Highway 99 & Beltline; JS  
**Red-eyed Vireo** (3) June 4; Elijah Bristow SP; DD  
**Western Scrub-jay** July 20; Florence; B&ZS  
**Purple Martin** June 2; Lorane area; A&TM  
**Purple Martin** June 13; Walton area; TM  
**Purple Martin** June 14; Crow area; TM  
**Bank Swallow** July 19; Fern Ridge Reservoir; JS

**Bewick's Wren** June 13; Skinner Butte; AR  
**Mountain Bluebird** June 20; N. Waldo Lake Burn; PS  
**Northern Parula** June 23; Herman Peak Road; KH,DP  
**Yellow-rumped Warbler** June 23; Creswell area; SN  
**Townsend's Warbler** June 14; Siltcoos River mouth; B&ZS  
**Grasshopper Sparrow** (2) July 23; Fern Ridge Reservoir; TM  
**Lazuli Bunting** July 1; Grasshopper Meadows; LG

**Abbreviations:**

**m.ob.** many observers, **North Jetty** North Jetty of the Siuslaw River, **Deflation Plain** Deflation Plain near the South Jetty of the Siuslaw River, **Meadowlark Prairie** Amazon Creek wetlands restoration site at Greenhill Road & Royal Avenue.

**Thank you, contributors!**

**DA** Dennis Arendt, **VA** Vjera Arnold, **LB** Lou Balaban, **J&KB** Jim & Kat Beal, **JC** Jim Carlson, **BC** Barbara Combs, **AC** Alan Contreras, **DD** Don DeWitt, **JE** John Emerson, **LG** Linda Gilbert, **SG** Steve Gordon, **JH** Jeff Harding, **KH** Ken Hollinga, **AK** Alex King, **KL** Kit Larsen, **SMc** Steve McDonald, **LM** Larry McQueen, **EM** Ed McVicker, **A&TM** Allison & Tom Mickel, **SN** Sally Nelson, **OFO** Oregon Field Ornithologists Field Trip, **MP** Margie Paris, **DP** Diane Pettey, **JR** Jim Regalli, **AR** Alan Reid, **HR** Holly Reinhard, **RR** Roger Robb, **PS** Paul Sherrell, **B&ZS** Bill & Zanah Stotz, **NS** Noah Strycker, **JS** John Sullivan, **HW** Herb Wisner.