

## October 2002 Field Notes

### Warm weather fuels exciting birding

October was warmer and drier than normal except for the very end of the month when record low temperatures were set. The mild weather is reflected in the reports below, with species lingering later than normal.

The American Ornithologist Union (AOU) has made some changes to the checklist of North American birds. One Lane County bird has been affected: Common Snipe is now Wilson's Snipe. Those of you who have been birding for awhile may remember that it was called by that name until the species was combined with the Common Snipe of Europe. The European and American species have been split again, so our snipe gets its old name back.

### Waterbirds & Vultures

**Pacific Loon** Oct. 19; Fern Ridge Reservoir; JS

**Horned, Red-necked, Western Grebe** Oct. 24; Siuslaw River mouth; B&ZS

**Red-necked Grebe** Oct. 18; Fern Ridge Reservoir; JS

**Eared Grebe** Oct. 24; Siuslaw; B&ZS

**Western Grebe** (adult w/young) Oct. 6; Delta Ponds; SMC

**Great Egret** (80) Oct. 18; Fern Ridge Reservoir; DD

**Great Egret** Oct. 30; UO; SS

**Turkey Vulture** (5) Oct. 21; West Eugene; VA

### Waterfowl

**Snow Goose** (35) Oct. 7; Mt. Pisgah; DD

**Tundra Swan** (9) Oct. 25; Fern Ridge Reservoir; DB

**Tundra Swan** Oct. 31; Florence area; fide DP

**Wood Duck** (10) Oct. 28; Alton Baker Park; VA

**Surf Scoter** Oct. 15; Gold Lake; J&KL

**Surf Scoter** Oct. 16; Dexter Reservoir; HH

**Surf Scoter** Oct. 31; Fern Ridge Reservoir; JS

**Surf Scoter** (~5000) Oct. 27; Florence area; AC et al.

**Black Scoter** Oct. 27; Ocean Haven; AC et al.

**Long-tailed Duck** Oct. 27; S. Jetty, Siuslaw R.; AC et al.

### Raptors

**Osprey** Oct. 18; Kirk Pond; JS

**White-tailed Kite** (2) Oct. 9; Fern Ridge Reservoir; LM

**White-tailed Kite** Oct. 15; Triangle Lake; MRu

**"Harlan's" Red-tailed Hawk** Oct. 26; Lorane Highway; B&GC

### Cranes & Shorebirds

**Sandhill Crane** (50) Oct. 24; Walterville; RJ

**Snowy Plover** (16) Oct. 9; Siltcoos River mouth; SMu  
**Marbled Godwit** Oct. 5; N. Jetty, Siuslaw R.; B&ZS  
**Baird's Sandpiper** Oct. 4; Fern Ridge Reservoir; DD  
**Pectoral Sandpiper** Oct. 25; Fern Ridge Reservoir; JS  
**Sharp-tailed Sandpiper** Oct. 7; Fern Ridge Reservoir; PS  
**Ruff** Oct. 23; Fern Ridge Reservoir; JS  
**Wilson's Snipe** Oct. 18; Island Park; VA

### Gulls, Alcids & Owls

**South Polar Skua** Oct. 6; Pacific Ocean, 30 mi.; DA,et.al  
**Franklin's Gull** Oct. 18; Fern Ridge Reservoir; JS  
**Bonaparte's Gull** (10) Oct. 18; Fern Ridge Reservoir; JS  
**Thayer's Gull** Oct. 19; Siltcoos River mouth; AC,et.al  
**Black-legged Kittiwake** Oct. 17; S. Jetty, Siuslaw R.; PS,SMu  
**Common Murre** Oct. 24; Siuslaw River mouth; B&ZS  
**Pigeon Guillemot** Oct. 24; Siuslaw River mouth; B&ZS  
**Rhinoceros Auklet** Oct. 24; Siuslaw River mouth; B&ZS  
**Rhinoceros Auklet** (17) Oct. 27; Sea Lion Caves; AC,et.al  
**Northern Pygmy-owl** Oct. 17; Spencer Butte; NS

### Passerines

**Vaux's Swift** (8-10,000) Oct. 9; Agate Hall; MP  
**Williamson's Sapsucker** Oct. 6; Scott Lake; A&TM  
**Williamson's Sapsucker** Oct. 15; Gold Lake; J&KL  
**Three-toed Woodpecker** Oct. 27; Diamond Peak area; GF  
**Black-backed Woodpecker** Oct. 27; Diamond Peak area; GF  
**Empidonax Flycatcher** Oct. 1; Kirk Park; LM  
**"Western" Flycatcher** Oct. 6; Craig Lake area; A&TM  
**Black Phoebe** Oct. 24; S. Jetty, Siuslaw R. ; B&ZS  
**Northern Shrike** Oct. 17; Spencer Butte; NS  
**Northern Shrike** (2) Oct. 24; S. Jetty, Siuslaw R. ; B&ZS  
**Western Scrub-jay** Oct. 6; Old McKenzie Pass; SS et al.  
**Steller's Jay** (6) Oct. 10; Eugene airport; MN  
**Blue Jay** Oct. 19; Springfield; SMu  
**Blue Jay** Oct. 25; Coburg area; RH  
**Tree Swallow** Oct. 1 ; Fern Ridge Reservoir; LM  
**Violet-green Swallow** Oct. 15; SE Eugene; DD  
**Barn Swallow** Oct. 1; Fern Ridge Reservoir; LM  
**House Wren** Oct. 19; Baker Beach road; DA  
**Swainson's Thrush** Oct. 5; Eugene; DI  
**Hermit Thrush** Oct. 26; Siltcoos River mouth; B&ZS  
**Yellow Wagtail** Oct. 17; Diamond Peak; fide AP  
**Cedar Waxwing** October; Eugene area; m.ob.  
**Palm Warbler** (2) Oct. 27; S. Jetty, Siuslaw R.; AC et al.

**Black-throated Gray Warbler** Oct. 9; Fern Ridge Reservoir; LM  
**Northern Waterthrush** Oct. 19; Baker Beach road; NS et al.  
**Wilson's Warbler** Oct. 25; SE Eugene; DHo  
**Swamp Sparrow** Oct. 14; SE Eugene; LM  
**Swamp Sparrow** Oct. 19; Baker Beach Rd.; DA  
**White-throated Sparrow** Oct. 9; Fern Ridge Reservoir; LM  
**American Goldfinch** (~2000) Oct. 1; Coburg Rd. area; DH  
**Evening Grosbeak** (12) Oct. 1; Kirk Park; LM

### **Thank you, contributors!**

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