



The

July-August 2011

# Quails

News from Lane County Audubon Society



## From Our President

### Entertainment from the living world

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Take some time this summer to unplug from the electronic buzz and experience something other than the techno world many of us keep close by throughout the day. On a recent summery afternoon with blue sky, fluffy white clouds, and a warm breeze, I dragged my blanket out to our field for a nap. As I settled into the three-foot tall sweet grass, I felt like I was in my own green-walled room open to the sky above. My haven was scented from a patch of multiflora rose nearby. The two dogs each had a corner of my blanket and were happy to accompany me in this lazy pastime.



Young male Bullock's Oriole —Cary Kerst

I dozed but would wake up as various birds made their presence known. A pair of chickadees foraged for insects in the orchard trees above me. They carried food back to the nestbox at the edge of the orchard. I could hear the six hungry mouths greet them each time an adult went inside. Courting Band-tailed Pigeons were “oo-whooping” in deep voices, and I would see one occasionally fly out from the fir tree tops with its tail flared. Dueling Black-headed Grosbeak males would erupt into song, startling me out of sleep with their loud, rich melodies. A pair of

(continued on page 3)



## 2011 State of the Birds Report: examining bird populations on public lands

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The 2011 State of the Birds Report was issued this spring with an emphasis on the distribution of birds on public lands. Millions of acres of land and ocean provide habitat to about 1,000 species of birds in this country. Approximately one-fourth of our birds are listed as endangered, threatened, or species of conservation concern. Birds are considered ecological indicators, so these reports provide a broader picture of environmental health.

This year's report utilized bird distribution maps from an analysis of the eBird citizen-science project, which is administered by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and National Audubon Society. Many of you have played a role in this vital project. The distribution maps were used in conjunction with several databases, including the Protected Areas Database of the United States and the USGS-GAP National Land Cover. GAP analyses are often used to determine how much of a species' range is unprotected. In this case, it was used to identify the percentage of birds utilizing different habitats on public lands. Public lands encompass BLM-managed land, state-owned land, National Parks, National Forests, Wildlife Refuges, Department of Defense land, and ocean.

Below is a summary of how birds are faring in some of the various habitats:

**Arid lands** – More than half of arid lands are publicly owned. Bird populations in these areas are declining 75 percent, with 39 percent of particular conservation concern. For example, over 75 percent of the populations of Gunnison Sage-Grouse, Sage Sparrow, and Le Conte's Thrasher are found on public lands.

**Oceans and Coasts** – Marine waters are all publicly owned and contain 86 ocean bird species and 173 coastal species. About 39 percent of these species are declining and half are of conservation concern. U.S. coastal saltmarshes provide



Turkey Vulture —Cary Kerst

the only habitat for global populations of Saltmarsh and Seaside sparrows.

**Forests** – About one-third of forests are publicly owned. A larger proportion of Alaskan forests and a smaller proportion of eastern forests are on public lands. There are some species with more than two-thirds of their U.S. distribution on public forest land, including birds of high-elevation, Pacific-Northwest, and boreal conifer forests, as well as those in pinyon-juniper woodlands and pine-oak forests of the Southwest. Many species of conservation concern require forest habitat, including the Kirtland's Warbler—97 percent of its U.S. distribution is on public forest land.

**Arctic and Alpine** – These habitats are mostly all on public lands, with 90 percent of Alaskan bird inhabitants reliant on them. Almost 40 percent of these species are of conservation concern.

**Islands** – Birds in Hawaii face the greatest risk of extinction in the U.S. with half of the land area publicly managed.

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About 78 percent of declining Hawaiian forest birds rely on state land, and four endangered species are totally dependent on federal land.

**Grasslands** – Only 13 percent of grasslands are publicly owned, and many of these areas are open to energy development, grazing, and other activities that degrade habitat. Approximately half of the 36 obligate grassland bird species are of conservation concern.

**Wetlands** – All of the nation’s 40 waterfowl species and several other bird species utilize publicly protected wetlands during all or part of their life cycle. Acquisition, protection, and determined management of public wetlands have resulted in successful recovery of waterfowl and water bird populations. Much of this has been due to the revenue generated by hunting fees and taxes.

The overall picture is that over 300 bird species have more than half of their U.S. populations on public lands and waters. Many of the habitats on public lands are managed for purposes other than conservation, including resource extraction, energy development, agriculture, and urban

development. The State of the Birds Report draws attention to the crucial importance of public lands for the recovery of bird populations. At the release of the report, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar commented, “Although we have made enormous progress in conserving habitat on public lands, we clearly have much more work to do. The good news is that because birds so extensively use public lands and waters as habitat, effective management and conservation efforts can make a significant difference in whether these species recover or slide towards extinction.” Thank you, Mr. Secretary.

But, wait—now I’m reading that a few weeks later Secretary Salazar sent a memo to the director of the Bureau of Land Management that reverses his December 2010 order to make millions of acres of public land eligible for wilderness protection. Could a government official be saying one thing and doing another? I think I’ll go back to looking at the pretty maps and colorful charts in the State of the Birds Report.

Check it out at: <http://www.stateofthebirds.org/>

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*From Our President continued from page 1*

Western Tanagers were calling “pi-tic, pi-tic” deeper in the forest. Circling Turkey Vultures, riding the updrafts and lazily spiraling out of view, lulled me back to sleep.

As the afternoon progressed, I woke to a loud altercation between a Raven and Red-tailed Hawk, and I saw them chasing, diving, and turning back to chase each other again. There did not seem to be a winner, as each finally returned to their hillside—the Raven to the west and the hawk to the east. Our patch of land was the arena for their acrobatic display.

The lazy, restful afternoon of watching, listening and letting the natural surroundings sink into my psyche was an important healing time for me. I got up feeling calm, happy, and restored. I plan to make it a regular summer sojourn—to stop, watch, listen, and rest with the living world as my entertainment.



Western Tanager with Yellow Jacket —Cary Kerst



## Another adventure with Lane Audubon wraps up for the school year

Joyce Trawle

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**A**udubon's award winning environmental education program brought exciting stories of "Wildlife on the Move" to our children in 26 classrooms this year in Lane County. The children learned about the migratory feats of birds and butterflies in the sky and whales and turtles in the sea. Here's what just some of the teachers had to say:

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*"'Wildlife On the Move' was an excellent series on migratory birds, whales and sea turtles, and Monarch butterflies. The students enjoyed the poster of backyard birds that was also included. To help supplement interest in the geography of migration we also used Google Earth to find some of the locations listed on the map/worksheets included. I found this to be an excellent combination for science and geography." - Grade 6*

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*"We'd love to have next year's set, 'Feathers, Fur, Fins and You.' Thanks for providing this awesome resource!"*

— Grade 3

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*"I love the Audubon materials. I used it several times in my classroom. I like the newspaper format. It is very kid friendly--they love the puzzles and games."*

—Grade 3

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*"The materials fit in really well with our science curriculum. I have used them with whole-group instruction when we were focusing on comprehension and understanding. I have used it in small breakout reading groups where we go into more depth. I have used them as a starting point for research. They are a wonderful resource."*

—Grade 4

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*"Very student friendly, wonderful pictures and illustrations, and easy-to-understand concepts and ideas. Very interesting to read."*

—Grade 4

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In its 28th year, *Audubon Adventures* is presenting "Feathers, Fur, Fins and You" for the 2011-2012 school year. The four topics in this program will cover "Pollinators," "Wild Alaska," "Rivers of Life," and "Actions for Planet Earth," focusing on ways that young people can make a contribution to conservation in their own community. This resource will bring science to life in the classroom and can be used across the curriculum.

We are thrilled to continue offering the "Adopt-a-Classroom" program for our teachers and their students at no cost to their school system. We have a growing list of teachers requesting the material for the next school year and expect more requests once the new school year begins. If you know a teacher who might be interested in the program or would like to sponsor a classroom yourself, please contact Joyce Trawle at [jtrawle@comcast.net](mailto:jtrawle@comcast.net) or 541.515.6244.

Thanks to everyone who sponsored classrooms this year!



Skinner Butte Bald Eagle and chicks —Cary Kerst

# A message from Lane Audubon Board of Directors

Maeve Sowles, President

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president@laneaudubon.org



We ask you to become a local member of Lane County Audubon Society and support our grassroots efforts in the local community. All of your local dues stay here to help us work on local education projects and conservation issues related to birds and their habitats. With your support, we will continue to do the things you expect from us. We welcome your suggestions—this is your Audubon!

**Lane County Audubon Society  
Membership Benefits**

**The Quail**—  
9 issues/yr.

**Field trips and  
bird walks**

**Program  
meetings**

**Educational  
publications**

**Conservation issue  
representation**

**Answers to  
questions—  
541.485.BIRD**

Visit our web site:  
[www.laneaudubon.org](http://www.laneaudubon.org)

**Lane Audubon welcomes you—join or renew today!**

Lane County Audubon Society needs your local membership dues to keep our various programs alive! This means that your membership dues for National Audubon Society no longer support a membership in your local chapter. Become a member of Lane County Audubon Society today to help us continue our educational programs and our work in protecting birds, other wildlife, and their habitats in Lane County. We appreciate your support.

**Lane Audubon Membership Dues**

Individual \$20.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Students and Seniors (65 and over) \$15 .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Family \$25 .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Lifetime Membership \$400.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

I want to do more. Here's my tax deductible contribution for .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed (check payable to Lane County Audubon Society) .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Current National Audubon member       Don't know

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Check here if you prefer to receive your newsletter by e-mail.

*Lane Audubon will not release your personal information to other organizations. We will use it only for Lane County Audubon Society communications.*

**Please contact me regarding**

Gift memberships

Volunteering for Lane Audubon activities

Lane Audubon's Living Legacy program

I'd like to receive e-mail alerts about conservation issues.

**Mail this form and your payment to:**

Lane County Audubon Society  
P.O. Box 5086  
Eugene, OR 97405

### Check us out on Facebook

Lane Audubon is now on Facebook! Please join our page and stay informed about events, bird walks, news, and conservation issues. Share bird sightings, photos, links, events, nature news and stories.

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php#!/pages/Lane-County-Audubon-Society/330177413824>



#### Deadlines:

September issue: **August 13**  
October issue: **September 10**

Submit material to  
Rob Hoshaw, editor  
[rhoshaw@gmail.com](mailto:rhoshaw@gmail.com)

*The Quail* is the newsletter of Lane County Audubon Society, which is a chartered chapter of National Audubon Society. Nine issues are published per year (*May-June, July-Aug. and Dec.-Jan. are double issues*).

Local members of National Audubon Society receive a free subscription to *The Quail*, but are encouraged to voluntarily join Lane County Audubon Society (see pg. 5).

**Subscriptions:** Contact Tim Godsfil at 541.915.8852 or [tgodsfil@gmail.com](mailto:tgodsfil@gmail.com).

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### Electronic version of *The Quail* available!

Lane County Audubon Society offers an electronic version of the *The Quail*. Each month, LCAS will send a link to your email address that will take you to a pdf version of our newsletter. Viewing your subscription digitally helps save paper and keeps printing costs down. Of course, you still have the option to continue receiving your *Quail* in the mail.

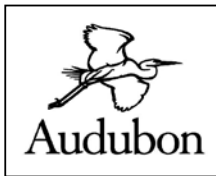
If you would like to begin receiving *The Quail* electronically or would like more information, please contact Tim Godsfil at [tgodsfil@gmail.com](mailto:tgodsfil@gmail.com).

#### Lane Audubon Officers & Board Members

|           |                  |              |  |
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# Volunteer with Lane Audubon

## Booth Report: sixth annual Wings and Wine Festival

Nearly 350 people visited the sixth annual Wings and Wine Festival at Domaine Meriwether Winery on May 14. As usual, the Lane Audubon booth was on site, staffed by LCAS members eager to help festival goers identify birds, answer questions, and spread the word about LCAS activities and events. Booth staffers included Connie Berglund, Diane McInness, Phil Shepard, Phil Smyzer, Susanne Twight-Alexander, and Herb Wisner. Thanks to all of you. A special note of thanks goes to Nancy Radius, who not only helped staff the booth but also organized and prepared handouts and publications for the Wings and Wine Festival this year.

Kris Kirkeby, LCAS education chair extraordinaire, was also on hand with volunteer Jenny Mullins. They offered fun LCAS education activities for kids, including birdwalks, bird-related games, and art instruction.

We're making plans to have the LCAS booth again this year at the Eugene Celebration, August 27-28. If you'd like to help staff the booth at this or any other event, e-mail Ron Renschler at [christyandron@qwest.net](mailto:christyandron@qwest.net) or phone 541.345.0834.

## Booth Operations Coordinator needed!

We need one or two people to adopt the booth operations, which occur about five times per year. This includes setting up and taking down the booth as well as coordinating the schedule of booth staffers. Booth setup/takedown involves delivering and erecting our portable booth, tables and display materials, and then dismantling them after the event is over. If you are more comfortable indoors and have some basic computer organization skills, you could help by sending out announcements alerting our volunteers of booth staffing opportunities. Orientation and training for these volunteer opportunities will be provided. Maybe you would like to "adopt" only one event per year. That would be a big help too! For more information, call Ron Renschler at 541.345.0834 or e-mail at [christyandron@qwest.net](mailto:christyandron@qwest.net).

## Have a little spare time? One of these roles might be for you!

Lane Audubon members are very proud of our all-volunteer organization. It is through the diverse talents and contributions of our members that we are able to fulfill our mission--and have fun while doing it!

See [www.laneaudubon.org/volunteer.htm](http://www.laneaudubon.org/volunteer.htm) for full role descriptions.

**Bird Walk Coordinator** – Responsible for setting up our Third Saturday Bird Walks—probably the most fun job in Lane Audubon! Contact Maeve Sowles at 541.343.8664 or [president@laneaudubon.org](mailto:president@laneaudubon.org).

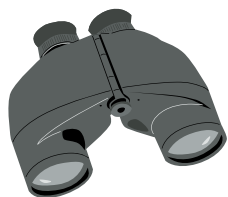
**Quail Layout and Graphics** – Use your graphic design and creativity skills to help produce the layout for *The Quail*. Contact Rob Hoshaw at 541.505.9541 or [rhoshaw@gmail.com](mailto:rhoshaw@gmail.com).

**Deliver Quail Materials** – Deliver printed newsletters to the post office, and coordinate with *The Quail* mailing crew. Only requires a few hours nine times per year. Contact Maeve Sowles at 541.343.8664 or [president@laneaudubon.org](mailto:president@laneaudubon.org).

**Distribute Quail in the Community** – Help us bring new members to Lane Audubon by distributing *The Quail* to high-visibility locations around the community. Contact Ron Renschler at 541.345.0834 or [christyandron@qwest.net](mailto:christyandron@qwest.net).

**Publicity Person** - Help us get public notices to various media services and spread the word about upcoming Program Meetings, bird walks, and other activities. Contact Maeve Sowles at 541.343.8664 or [president@laneaudubon.org](mailto:president@laneaudubon.org).

## Field Notes: April - May 2011



- Common Loons migrating through
- Clark's Grebe on the Siuslaw
- Calliope Hummingbird in North Eugene
- Pine Siskin numerous in College Hill neighborhood

Tom and Allison Mickel

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This spring was colder and wetter than normal, which is reflected in the number of late arrivals below. It was also one of the "slowest" springs for birding on Skinner Butte that we can remember. There were very few days with large numbers of birds! On the other hand, larger numbers of Lewis's Woodpeckers were reported than we can remember, and Calliope Hummingbirds were again reported in large numbers. During the latter part of May, Western Tanagers were found in large flocks throughout the Eugene-Springfield area, generating lots of reports.

### WATERBIRDS

|                             |         |                       |       |   |
|-----------------------------|---------|-----------------------|-------|---|
| Greater White-fronted Goose | Apr. 16 | Junction City area    | JF    | Large flock feeding in fields                               |
| Greater White-fronted Goose | Apr. 16 | FRR - Royal Ave       | JS    | Another large flock   |
| Ross's Goose                | May 5   | FRR - Royal Ave       | AC    | Late date for this species                                  |
| Tundra Swan (15)            | Apr. 5  | FRR                   | JW    | Getting late for this species                               |
| Eurasian Wigeon (pair)      | Apr. 3  | FRR - Royal Ave       | JS    | Getting late for this species                               |
| Blue-winged Teal            | Apr. 20 | FRR - Royal Ave       | AP    | About a week earlier than normal                            |
| Redhead (15)                | Apr. 18 | FRR - Royal Ave       | JS    | First report for the summer                                 |
| Tufted Duck                 | Apr. 8  | FRR - Royal Ave       | R&SM  | Sixth year at this location                                 |
| Tufted Duck                 | May 2   | Siltcoos River        | DF,AK | Third record for Lane Co. besides the returning male at FRR |
| Greater Scaup (3)           | Apr. 3  | FRR - Royal Ave       | JS    | Not a common place for this species                         |
| Black Scoter                | May 1   | Siuslaw River         | RR    | Not commonly found  |
| Common Goldeneye (2)        | Apr. 7  | Siltcoos River        | DF    | Not a common place for this species                         |
| Red-breasted Merganser      | Apr. 19 | Long Tom River        | LG    | Rare in the valley  |
| Common Loon (2)             | Apr. 4  | Hills Creek Reservoir | JW    | A normal migration location                                 |
| Common Loon (10)            | Apr. 11 | Dorena Reservoir      | NS    | Calling migrants  |
| Yellow-billed Loon          | Apr. 5  | Florence area         | B&ZS  | Eighth record for Lane Co.                                  |
| Horned Grebe                | Apr. 29 | Dorena Reservoir      | DW    | Found in small numbers on local reservoirs                  |
| Clark's Grebe               | Apr. 2  | Siuslaw River         | B&ZS  | Rarely found on the coast                                   |
| Brown Pelican               | Apr. 5  | Heceta Head           | B&ZS  | First for the year  |
| Green Heron                 | May 2   | Mill Race - U of O    | AM    | First report besides wintering birds                        |
| White-faced Ibis            | May 22  | FRR - Fisher Butte    | A&TM  | Found most springs the last eight years                     |

### VULTURES TO TERNS

|                        |         |                    |           |  |
|------------------------|---------|--------------------|-----------|--|
| Turkey Vulture         | Apr. 25 | Spencer Butte      | NS        | "Nest" with two eggs                                 |
| Osprey                 | Apr. 2  | Oakridge area      | JW        | A normal time for their arrival                      |
| Bald Eagle             | Apr. 13 | Skinner Butte      | DS,et.al. | A downy chick in the nest for the 5 <sup>th</sup> yr |
| Swainson's Hawk        | May 4   | Mt. Pisgah         | DA,et.al. | About fifteen records for Lane Co.                   |
| Sandhill Crane (2)     | May 7   | Mt. Pisgah         | BC        | Rarely found this late in the spring                 |
| Pacific Golden-Plover  | May 6   | FRR - Fisher Butte | SH        | Rarely found in the spring                           |
| Black-necked Stilt (5) | Apr. 19 | FRR                | LG        | About a week later than normal                       |
| American Avocet        | May 3   | FRR                | RR        | Fifth year at this location                          |



|                             |         |                    |       |                                   |
|-----------------------------|---------|--------------------|-------|-----------------------------------|
| Solitary Sandpiper          | May 3   | FRR                | RR    | Their normal migration window     |
| Whimbrel                    | Apr. 5  | SJSR – crab dock   | B&ZS  | First of the spring               |
| Long-billed Curlew          | May 1   | Florence area      | RR    | Rarely found in Lane Co.          |
| Long-billed Curlew          | May 21  | FRR – Fisher Butte | JS    | Rarely found in Lane Co.          |
| Marbled Godwit              | May 3   | FRR                | RR    | Rarely found inland in Lane Co.   |
| Red Knot                    | Apr. 30 | NJSR               | DF    | First of a number of reports      |
| Short-billed Dowitcher (10) | Apr. 30 | NJSR               | DF    | A normal migration period         |
| Wilson’s Phalarope          | Apr. 30 | FRR                | SM    | About a week earlier than normal  |
| Red-necked Phalarope        | Apr. 20 | Siuslaw River      | DP    | A normal time for their migration |
| Red-necked Phalarope (7)    | Apr. 30 | FRR                | SM    | Small numbers migrate through     |
| Red Phalarope (3)           | Apr. 26 | Siltcoos River     | DF    | Normally migrate off shore        |
| Bonaparte’s Gull (6)        | May 6   | FRR – Royal Ave    | SH    | A normal migration period         |
| Caspian Tern (2)            | Apr. 5  | FRR                | JW    | Small numbers migrate through     |
| Caspian Tern                | Apr. 6  | Siltcoos River     | DF    | Large numbers migrating north     |
| Black Tern                  | May 3   | FRR                | RR    | Right on schedule                 |
| Forster’s Tern              | May 14  | FRR – Royal Ave    | JS,LJ | Rarely found in Lane Co.          |
| Common Murre                | Apr.    | Heceta Head        | B&ZS  | None seen during the month        |
| Tufted Puffin               | Apr.    | Heceta Head        | B&ZS  | None seen during the month        |

## SWIFTS TO SWALLOWS

|                               |         |                     |           |  |
|-------------------------------|---------|---------------------|-----------|--|
| Vaux’s Swift                  | Apr. 4  | Hendricks Park area | MPk       | About a week earlier than normal       |
| Vaux’s Swift (4,300)          | Apr. 30 | Agate Hall (U of O) | NN-P,ST-A | Normal numbers during migration        |
| Costa’s Hummingbird           | Apr. 12 | North Eugene        | DS        | About ten records for Lane Co.         |
| Calliope Hummingbird          | Apr. 21 | North Eugene        | DS        | First of about six reports this spring |
| Lewis’s Woodpecker            | Apr. 23 | Elijah Bristow SP   | MB        | Unusually high number of reports       |
| Lewis’s Woodpecker            | May 1   | FRR – Fisher Butte  | LG        | the spring in the valley               |
| Lewis’s Woodpecker            | May 7   | Oakhill Cemetery    | E&VT      | Unusually high number of reports for   |
| Lewis’s Woodpecker (2)        | May 10  | Delta Ponds         | DG        | the spring in the valley               |
| Olive-sided Flycatcher        | May 3   | Skinner Butte       | BH        | A couple days later than normal        |
| Western Wood-Pewee            | Apr. 24 | Santa Clara         | MRu       | About a week earlier than normal       |
| Willow Flycatcher             | May 11  | Delta Ponds         | DA,et.al. | A couple days earlier than normal      |
| Hammond’s Flycatcher          | Apr. 13 | Mt. Pisgah area     | TM        | A few days earlier than normal         |
| Gray Flycatcher               | Apr. 29 | Oakridge            | GA        | Rare in Lane Co.                       |
| Dusky Flycatcher              | May 3   | Skinner Butte       | SM        | About two weeks later than normal      |
| Pacific-slope Flycatcher      | Apr. 21 | Skinner Butte       | TM        | Right on schedule                      |
| Black Phoebe                  | Apr. 19 | Green Island        | KL        | Nesting again this year                |
| Say’s Phoebe                  | May 2   | Thurston area       | GG        | An unusual “spring” report             |
| Western Kingbird              | Apr. 24 | Meadowlark Prairie  | E&VT      | A few days later than normal           |
| Western Kingbird              | Apr. 28 | Siltcoos River      | DP        | An unusual location                    |
| Western Kingbird (11)         | May 10  | FRR                 | NS        | A very large number                    |
| Ash-throated Flycatcher       | May 24  | Skinner Butte       | BB,JM     | Small numbers found most springs       |
| Cassin’s Vireo                | Apr. 10 | Ridgeline Trail     | TM        | A few days later than normal           |
| Warbling Vireo                | Apr. 30 | South Eugene        | AC        | About a week later than normal         |
| Gray Jay                      | Apr. 25 | Spencer Butte       | NS        | Rarely found in the area               |
| Horned Lark (3)               | May 10  | FRR                 | NS        | Do they breed in the area?             |
| Purple Martin                 | Apr. 12 | FRR – Royal Ave     | LG        | Right on schedule                      |
| Northern Rough-winged Swallow | Apr. 6  | Mt. Pisgah area     | LM,et.al. | A few days later than normal           |
| Bank Swallow                  | May 14  | Meadowlark Prairie  | VT        | Rarely found in Lane Co.               |
| Barn Swallow                  | Apr. 3  | FRR – Royal Ave     | A&TM      | A few days later than normal           |

## WRENS TO SISKIN

|                             |         |                    |            |  |
|-----------------------------|---------|--------------------|------------|--|
| House Wren                  | May 1   | FRR                | A&TM       | A little over a week later than normal               |
| Wrentit                     | Apr. 23 | Elijah Bristow SP  | CT         | An area where the species has been found in the past |
| Townsend's Solitaire        | Apr. 30 | Skinner Butte      | BMc        | Unusual spring reports from the valley               |
| Townsend's Solitaire        | May 5   | Mt. Pisgah         | NS         | Unusual spring reports from the valley               |
| Swainson's Thrush           | Apr. 26 | SJSR – crab dock   | B&ZS       | Earlier than normal                                  |
| Swainson's Thrush           | May 1   | Skinner Butte      | A&TM       | A couple days earlier than normal                    |
| Northern Mockingbird        | Apr. 3  | Florence area      | RN         | Last report for the winter season                    |
| Nashville Warbler (3)       | Apr. 20 | Skinner Butte      | DA,et.al.  | About a week later than normal                       |
| Yellow Warbler              | Apr. 29 | FRR                | A&TM       | Right on schedule                                    |
| Black-throated Gray Warbler | Apr. 2  | Skinner Butte      | A&DH       | A couple days earlier than normal                    |
| Hermit Warbler              | May 1   | Skinner Butte      | BMc,et.al. | About a week later than normal                       |
| MacGillivray's Warbler      | Apr. 21 | Delta Ponds        | NN-P       | Right on schedule                                    |
| Common Yellowthroat         | Apr. 6  | Mt. Pisgah area    | LM,et.al.  | Over a week later than normal                        |
| Wilson's Warbler            | Apr. 27 | North Eugene       | A&DH       | Almost two weeks later than normal                   |
| Yellow-breasted Chat        | May 10  | FRR                | NS         | A few days later than normal                         |
| Chipping Sparrow            | Apr. 9  | North Eugene       | BG         | Over a week later than normal                        |
| Vesper Sparrow              | Apr. 28 | Cantrell Road      | RR         | Almost a month later than normal                     |
| Sage Sparrow                | May 1   | Meadowlark Prairie | TW         | Sixth record for Lane Co.                            |
| Western Tanager             | Apr. 21 | North Eugene       | BG         | Right on schedule                                    |
| Black-headed Grosbeak       | Apr. 29 | Thurston area      | GG         | A few days later than normal                         |
| Lazuli Bunting              | May 5   | River Road area    | BC         | About a week later than normal                       |
| Yellow-headed Blackbird     | Apr. 3  | FRR – Royal Ave    | J&CM,JS    | Right on schedule                                    |
| Brown-headed Cowbird        | Apr. 21 | South Eugene       | DG         | A couple weeks later than normal                     |
| Bullock's Oriole            | May 1   | River Road area    | B&KA       | About a week later than normal                       |
| Pine Siskin                 | Apr. 13 | College Hill area  | MPs        | Large numbers at feeder in the neighborhood!         |

### Special Note – Hutton's Vireo

On morning walks along the Ridgeline Trail in southeast Eugene, I had Hutton's Vireos singing for about three weeks in late January/early February, which isn't uncommon during "nice" weather, but I've only heard them once since then! They're normally heard almost daily from early March through about the third week of April. They become rather quiet about that time with young in the nest. On the other hand, every time I've been to Skinner Butte in downtown Eugene in this spring, one or more Hutton's Vireos have been singing. I'm not sure why they're not singing/present in the south hills of Eugene, but they are on Skinner Butte just a few miles away. (TM)

### Abbreviations

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

### Thank you, contributors!

B&KA Bill & Kat Allison, GA Gail Andrews, DA Dennis Arendt, MB Mia Baki, BB Bob Bender, BC Barbara Combs, AC Alan Contreras, BG Brandon Green, DF Daniel Farrar, JF Jeff Fleischer, LG Linda Gilbert, GG George Grier, DG Dan Gleason, A&DH Anne & Dan Heyerly, SH Sally Hill, BH Bill Hunter, LJ Laura Johnson, AK Adam Kotaich, KL Kit Larsen, J&CM Jim & Charlotte Maloney, R&SM Rick & Sylvia Maulding, BMc Barry McKenzie, LM Larry McQueen, A&TM Allison & Tom Mickel, JM John Mundell, RN Russ Namitz, NN-P Nicole Nielsen-Pincus, MPs Margie Paris, MPk Magnus Persmark, DP Diane Pettey, AP Al Prigge, RR Roger Robb, MRu Mark Rudolph, DS Don Schrouder, B&ZS Bill & Zanah Stotz, NS Noah Strycker, JS John Sullivan, E&VT Eddie & Vjera Thompson, CT Charlie Thomas, ST-A Susanne Twilight-Alexander, DW Darrel Whipple, TW Teresa Wicks, JW Jay Withgott.

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## Community Calendar, Events and Opportunities

*A service to Lane Audubon members*

### Summer Daycamps

Nearby Nature

Children's camps are a medley of adventure, discovery, art, and science. Most camps include special guests or neat field trips. Activities include hiking, canoeing, playing games, planting gardens, telling stories, making art, and more!

**June 20 - August 26**

FMI: [www.nearbynature.org/events/june-20-august-26-2011-summer-daycamps](http://www.nearbynature.org/events/june-20-august-26-2011-summer-daycamps) or [info@nearbynature.org](mailto:info@nearbynature.org)

### Eugene Fourth of July Butterfly Count

North American Butterfly Association

The first of two "Fourth of July" butterfly counts. Four different count groups will explore for butterflies in the West Eugene Wetlands, Mt. Pisgah Arboretum, East Buford Park, and Spencer Butte.

**Saturday, July 2, 10:00 a.m.**

*Pre-registration required: Fee: \$3.*

FMI: [NABA.ES.trips@gmail.com](mailto:NABA.ES.trips@gmail.com)

### Wetland Wander at Hanson/See-Sil Site

Willamette Resources & Educational Network (WREN)

Wetland Wanders are casual walks through various West Eugene Wetlands sites each second Tuesday of every month. This month's wander is at the Hanson/See-Sil site.

**Tuesday, July 12, 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.**

*Free! No registration required. Binoculars provided.*

FMI: 338.7047 or [info@wewetlands.org](mailto:info@wewetlands.org)

### Dragons of the Air

Nearby Nature

Learn about dragonflies and other creatures who wing through the skies on a Family Nature Quest in Alton Baker Park with naturalist Rick Ahrens!

**Saturday, July 16, 10:00 a.m. - noon.**

*Meet in Alton Baker Park, at the ponds outside the Science Factor. Pre-registration suggested. FREE for members; \$2/person or \$5/family for non-members. FMI: 541.687.9699 or [www.nearbynature.org/events](http://www.nearbynature.org/events)*

### Browder Ridge/Iron Mountain Fourth of July Butterfly County

North American Butterfly Association

Two groups will count along Browder Ridge and Iron Mountain or Cone Peak in the Cascades.

**Saturday, July 23, 8:00 a.m.**

*Meet in the Campbell Community Center parking lot. (155 High St., Eugene). Pre-registration required. Fee: \$3.*

FMI: [NABA.ES.trips@gmail.com](mailto:NABA.ES.trips@gmail.com)

### Butterfly Field Trip to Holland Meadows

North American Butterfly Association

Holland Meadows near Oakridge is a great late-season destination for butterflies with its large, interconnected network of lush meadows.

**Saturday, August 6, 9:00 a.m.**

*Meet in the Campbell Community Center Parking lot. (155 High St., Eugene). Pre-registration required. Free!*

FMI: [NABA.ES.trips@gmail.com](mailto:NABA.ES.trips@gmail.com)

### Summer 2011 Hikes

Oregon Wild

Explore Oregon's Wild areas with a series of hikes and events in areas like Tamanawas Falls on Mount Hood, Opal creek, and Fuji Mountain overlooking Waldo Lake. Most hikes are free of charge and led by expert conservationists. Some hikes may have a small fee with a discount for members.

FMI: [www.oregonwild.org](http://www.oregonwild.org)

### 2011 Outdoor Photo Contest

Oregon Wild

In its seventh year, Oregon Wild is looking to reward a photographer who takes the perfect picture of someone enjoying the wild places that make our state so special. Contest is open to amateur and professional photographers of all ages. Special youth category.

**Submission deadline: September 15, 2011**

FMI: [www.oregonwild.org](http://www.oregonwild.org)

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## Thanks and appreciation

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Thank you and welcome to **Kathy Danz** for responding to our request for a membership coordinator who will help us respond to membership donations!

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Thank you to **Lucy Biggs** and **Becky Uhler**, who both attended Wings and Wine planning meetings, helped with organizing activities, and worked during the day of the event to make it a success!

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Thank you to **Joyce Baker**, who provides home-baked treats at the Program Meetings each month from September through May! She adds a delicious personal touch, and we truly appreciate her generosity of time and energy.



## Bird Walks and Events

Maeve Sowles

541.343.8664

president@laneaudubon.org

All levels of birders are welcome, from first timer to expert. For both bird walks, we will meet at South Eugene High at 19<sup>th</sup> and Patterson, rain or shine, at 8:00 a.m. and return by noon. A \$3 donation is suggested, as well as a share of gas costs for carpooling. Please note: As a precaution, do not leave valuables in your parked car.

### **SATURDAY Third Saturday Bird Walks**

**July 16**

Saturday July 16 Kit Larsen will lead a walk on Green Island, at the confluence of the McKenzie and Willamette Rivers. This property, owned by McKenzie River Trust has a variety of habitats offering several bird species. We will meet at South Eugene High School parking lot (corner of 19th and Patterson) for carpooling at 8:00 a.m. and plan to return by noon.

### **SATURDAY Lane Audubon sponsored field trip**

**July 23**

#### **Bird watching by canoe**

Saturday, July 23, Dick Lamster and Maeve Sowles will be leading a bird watching by-canoe trip to Fern Ridge Lake. You will need to furnish your own canoe or kayak and lifejackets (required). Each craft will need an "Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Permit." See: [www.boatoregon.com](http://www.boatoregon.com). To reserve a spot and for more information call 541.343.8664. Participants may have extra space in their canoe, so if you do not have a canoe, call anyway and perhaps there will be space for you.

### **SATURDAY Third Saturday Bird Walk**

**August 20**

Birding location and trip leader to be announced. Please check the website ([www.laneaudubon.org](http://www.laneaudubon.org)) for updated information.

### **Upcoming Program Meetings**

#### **September:**

Bill Sullivan

#### **October:**

Jim Regali

#### **November:**

Jim Maloney

**Eugene Garden Club  
1645 High Street, Eugene**

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY  
LANE COUNTY CHAPTER




*The Quail*

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