Field Notes: August 2013

• Willet • Whimbrel

Long-billed Curlew
Red Knot

Dusky Flycatcher
Clay-colored Sparrow

The weather seemed about normal this year, but the dry winter is catching up with us! Most of the ponds in the southeast corner of Fern Ridge Reservoir are dry as of the end of August, because the reservoir is so low ODFW can't pump any water into them. The only shorebird habitat in the area for the rest of fall migration will be around the edge of the reservoir instead of the excellent habitat we're used to in the ponds.

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

WATERBIRDS

Surf Scoter (1500)	Aug 26	Tokatee Klootchman	HR, AC	A high count for this time of year
Bufflehead	July 31	FRR-Royal Ave	LF	Rarely found in the valley in the summer
Red-necked Grebe (5)	Aug 26	Bob Creek	HR, AC	An early date for this species
Brown Booby (possible)	Aug 16	NJSR	JS	Seen flying north just off the end of the jetty, but not
				a good enough look for positive ID!
American White Pelican (70)	Aug 20	FRR-Royal Ave	JS	The largest number reported during the month

RAPTORS to ALCIDS

White-tailed Kite (3)	Aug 2	FRR-Royal Ave	JS	An early date – did they breed locally?
Black-bellied Plover	Aug 3	FRR-Royal Ave	BG	Up to 10 birds were seen
Pacific Golden-Plover	Aug 1	FRR-Royal Ave	JS	Up to three birds were seen
American Avocet (2)	Aug 5	FRR-Royal Ave	DJ	Still being seen after breeding
Solitary Sandpiper	Aug 4	FRR-Royal Ave	RR, DA	Becoming more common during the fall
Solitary Sandpiper	Aug 12	FRR-Royal Ave	TM	migration than in years past
Willet (2)	Aug 13	NJSR	BG	Rarely found in Lane Co
Whimbrel	Aug 30	FRR-Royal Ave	JS, BMc	Rarely found inland in Lane Co
Long-billed Curlew	Aug 20	FRR-Royal Ave	JS	Rarely found in Lane Co
Long-billed Curlew	Aug 29	Heceta Beach	RR	Rarely found in Lane Co
Marbled Godwit (6)	Aug 24	NJSR	DF	Uncommon along the Lane Co coast
Red Knot	Aug 24	Siltcoos River mouth	DF	Rarely found in Lane Co
Red Knot (3)	Aug 29	Heceta Beach	RR	Rarely found in Lane Co
Semipalmated Sandpiper	August	FRR-Royal Ave	m.ob.	Higher than normal numbers were seen
Pectoral Sandpiper	Aug 12	FRR-Royal Ave	TM	Another earlier than normal report
Stilt Sandpiper (possible)	Aug 26	FRR-Royal Ave	LF	The bird flushed before getting a good look
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	Aug 27	Heceta Beach	HF	Not an annual migrant, but a normal time
Short-billed Dowitcher	Aug 11	FRR-Royal Ave	JS	First inland report for the season
Red-necked Phalarope (4)	Aug 9	FRR-Royal Ave	JS	First inland report for the season
Caspian Tern (28)	Aug 25	FRR-Royal Ave	JS	The largest number reported for the month
Elegant Tern (13)	Aug 15	NJSR	DP	A species that moves north after breeding some years
Black Tern	Aug 5	FRR-Royal Ave	DJ	Last report for the breeding season
Common Tern (13)	Aug 29	FRR-dam	JS	Not uncommon in the late summer
Common Murre (80)	Aug 13	NJSR	BC	Good numbers for the river mouth

SWIFTS to FINCHES

Black Swift Aug 13 Schindler Landing Park BC First breeding season report from the Lane Co Coast Range

Vaux's Swift (40-50)	Aug 13	River Road area	TMe	Roosting in a chimney
Dusky Flycatcher	Aug 28	Stewart Pond/Wallis St	BC	A rare nonspring report
Bank Swallow	Aug 11	FRR-Royal Ave	JS	Found in small numbers this time of year
Wrentit	Aug 8	W Eugene	MP	They haven't been found in this area before
Wrentit (2)	Aug 23	Leaburg area	BC	This is a good time for young to be moving around looking for
				a territory
Clay-colored Sparrow	Aug 17	FRR-Royal Ave	LF, BMc, JS	An unusual late summer/early fall report—about a dozen
				records for the county
Brewer's Sparrow	Aug 2	FRR-Royal Ave	JS	Not uncommon postbreeding
Brewer's Sparrow (4)	Aug 30	FRR-Royal Ave	JS, BMc	Not uncommon postbreeding
Indigo X Lazuli Bunting	Aug 14	Alton Baker Park	VT	A male that's been on territory the last two years
Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch (12)	Aug 18	South Sister	TMe	A normal place for this species

AC Alan Contreras, BC Barbara Combs, BG Brandon Green, BMc Barry McKenzie, DA Dennis Arendt, DF Daniel Farrar, DJ Dave Jones, DP Diane Pettey, HF Harry Fuller, HR Holly Reinhard, JS John Sullivan, LF Luke Ferrenburg, m.ob. many observers, MP Magnus Persmark, RR Roger Robb, TM Tom Mickel, TMe Thomas Meinzen, VT Vjera Thompson