

Field Notes: September 2013

- Long-billed Curlew • Black Turnstone • Red Knot • Forster's Tern
- Buff-breasted Sandpiper • Williamson's Sapsucker • Long-billed Murrelet

September was wetter than normal, especially at the end of the month, but portions of it were warm and sunny. Fall migration was in full swing, with the neotropical migrants leaving for the south and boreal breeders returning for the winter. As is always the case during migration, a few rare birds were found— see below for details.

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

WATERBIRDS

Greater White-fronted Goose	Sept 9	Eugene area	SMc	A little later than normal
Greater White-fronted Goose	Sept 23&24	Eugene area	m.ob.	Large numbers migrating south!
Canada Goose (small flock)	Sept 18	Eugene area	LF	Found feeding in his small residential backyard!
Tundra Swan	Sept 13	Eugene area	SMc	Earlier than normal
Harlequin Duck (6)	Sept 11	Stonefield Beach	SH, SM	A good location for this species
Black-crowned Night-Heron	Sept 13	Junction City area	AC	Rarely found except at FRR

VULTURES to ALCIDS

Turkey Vulture (~80)	Sept 27	Eugene-College Hill	A&TM	Two kettles circling then moving south
Merlin	Sept 12	SJSR Deflation Plain	AC	First report for the winter season
Semipalmated Plover (20)	Sept 4	FRR-Royal Ave	NS	A good number for this location
American Avocet	Sept 16	Siltcoos River mouth	DF	Rarely found away from FRR
Solitary Sandpiper	Sept 6	FRR-E Coyote	JS	Becoming more common during the fall
Lesser Yellowlegs (20)	Sept 6	FRR-E Coyote	JS	Large numbers for Lane Co
Wandering Tattler (5)	Sept 4	NJSR	AC	A higher than normal number
Willet	Sept 25	NJSR	BG	Still being reported from the area
Long-billed Curlew	Sept 22	NJSR	BG	Rarely found in Lane Co
Marbled Godwit (7)	Sept 6	FRR-Royal Ave	JS	A large number for inland Lane Co
Marbled Godwit (14)	Sept 11	Baker Beach	SH, SM	A flock of about this size was seen through the end of the month
Ruddy Turnstone	Sept 20	NJSR	LF	Getting late for this migrant
Black Turnstone	Sept 6	FRR-Royal Ave	AC, et al.	A very rare inland record
Red Knot (2)	Sept 11	Baker Beach	SH, SM	A normal time for these rare

Sanderling (100+)	Sept 11	Baker Beach	SH, SM	migrants First report of large flocks for the winter
Semipalmated Sandpiper	Sept 4	SJSR–Crab Dock	AC	A later than normal report
Pectoral Sandpiper (30+)	Sept 6	FRR–E Coyote	JS	Large numbers for this time of year
Pectoral Sandpiper (40)	Sept 28	FRR–Royal Ave	TMe	Very large numbers for this time of year
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	Sept 26	FRR–Royal Ave	RR	Almost annual at this location in the fall
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	Sept 14	Siltcoos River mouth	LF	Later than normal for this rare migrant
Short-billed Dowitcher (10)	Sept 4	FRR–Royal Ave	NS	A high number for inland Lane Co
Red Phalarope (small flock)	Sept 7	NJSR	LF	Normally pelagic except after storms
Sabine’s Gull	Sept 13	FRR–dam	LF	Almost annual in the fall at this location
Sabine’s Gull	Sept 21	FRR–Shore Lane	NS	The same bird or a different one?
Franklin’s Gull	Sept 14	Siltcoos River mouth	LF	Rarely found in Lane Co
Common Tern	Sept	Florence area & FRR	m.ob.	Found in fair numbers through the month
Common Tern (34)	Sept 4	FRR	NS	A higher than normal number
Forster’s Tern	Sept 22	FRR–Perkins Pen	SH	Rare for Lane Co
Elegant Tern	Sept	Florence area	m.ob.	Were still being reported in small numbers
Parasitic Jaeger	Sept	Florence area	m.ob.	We received four reports—high than normal
Long-billed Murrelet (possible)	Sept 21	Strawberry Hill	BC	Would be the first record for Lane Co

OWLS to FINCHES

Western Screech-Owl	Sept 24	Hendricks Park	A&TM	Roosting in the rafters of the Wilkins Shelter
Northern Saw-whet Owl	Sept 5	SW of Eugene	MS	Calling during the day!
Vaux’s Swift (~1000)	Sept 5	Agate Hall–U of O	MS	Entering the chimney at 1PM —because of the “bad” weather?
Vaux’s Swift (4880)	Sept 8	Agate Hall–U of O	BC	Roosting numbers slowly increased during fall
Vaux’s Swift (5300)	Sept 14	Agate Hall–U of O	MS	migration, as usual, peaking a little later than normal
Vaux’s Swift (11,680)	Sept 28	Agate Hall–U of O	BC	normal
Williamson’s Sapsucker	Sept 12	Waldo Lake	A&TM	Rarely found in Lane Co
Am. Three-toed Woodpecker	Sept 1	Fuji Mountain	NS	A good area for this species
Black-backed Woodpecker	Sept 12	Waldo Lake	A&TM	Always a good location for this species

Willow Flycatcher (2)	Sept 26	Delta Ponds	SH	Last report for the breeding season
Pacific-slope Flycatcher	Sept 25	LCC	HF	Last report for the breeding season
Cassin's Vireo	Sept 11	Creswell area	NS	Last report for the breeding season
Barn Swallow (1000s)	Sept 18	FRR-Royal Ave	LM, et al.	A little late for such large numbers
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Sept 15	The Twins	NS	First report for the winter season
Mountain Bluebird (3)	Sept 12	Waldo Lake	A&TM	Also a good location for this species
American Pipit	Sept 4	Crab Dock	AC	First report for the winter season
MacGillivray's Warbler	Sept 26	Delta Ponds	SH	Last report for the breeding season
Yellow Warbler	Sept 27	Ribbon Trail	JW	Last report for the breeding season
Hermit Warbler	Sept 15	The Twins	NS	Last report for the breeding season
Wilson's Warbler	Sept 22	FRR-Perkins Pen.	SH	Last report for the breeding season
Brewer's Sparrow (2)	Sept 6	FRR-Royal Ave	AC	Still being reported
Fox Sparrow (Sooty)	Sept 18	Florence area	DP, A&TM	First report for the winter season
Lincoln's Sparrow	Sept 6	FRR-Royal Ave	AC	First nonbreeding location report
White-throated Sparrow	Sept 27	River Road area	BC	First report for the winter season
Golden-crowned Sparrow	Sept 18	FRR-Royal Ave	LM, et al.	First report for the winter season
Black-headed Grosbeak	Sept 25	north River Road	MR	Last report for the breeding season

A&TM Allison & Tom Mickel, **AC** Alan Contreras, **BC** Barbara Combs, **BG** Brandon Green, **DF** Daniel Farrar, **DP** Diane Pettey, **HF** Harry Fuller, **JS** John Sullivan, **JW** J'ne Wade, **LF** Luke Ferrenburg, **LM** Larry McQueen, **m.ob.** many observers, **MR** Mark Rudolph, **MS** Maeve Sowles, **NS** Noah Strycker, **RR** Roger Robb, **SH** Sally Hill, **SM** Silvia Maulding, **SMc** Steve McDonald, **TMe** Thomas Meinzen