Field Notes: November-December 2020

Red-bellied Woodpecker, White-winged Crossbill, Lapland Longspur, Hermit Warbler

A number of “good” birds were found during the period, as has been the case for the last few months. We assume it has to do with people staying closer to home because of the pandemic.

Abbreviations: Fern Ridge Reservoir (FRR), South Jetty of the Siuslaw River (SJSR), Springfield (Spfd)

SWANS TO OWLS

Wood Duck (40+) ........ Dec 21 .... U of O ......... KL ........ Going to roost in trees at dusk
Lesser Scaup (2) ........ Dec 22 .... Hills Ck reservoir .... JG ........ Uncommon for this location
Long-tailed Duck (1-3) .... Nov-Dec .... Sioulsa River mouth .... M.ob ........ Seen throughout the period
Common Goldeneye (2) .... Nov 7 ...... Amazon Creek ... NC ........ An unusual location
Common Goldeneye (12) .... Dec 22 .... Hills Creek Reservoir ... JG ........ A large number for this location
Horned Grebe (8) ........ Dec 22 .... Hills Creek Reservoir ... JG ........ A large number for this location
Red-necked Grebe (20) .... Nov 20 .... Sioulsa River mouth .... KL ........ A large number for Lane
Band-tailed Pigeon ........ Nov 8 ....... Florence .......... CH, ES .......... Rarely found in the winter
Western Sandpiper .......... Nov 15 .... Siltoos River mouth .... DF .......... Rare during the winter in Lane
Red Phalarope ........ Dec 17 .... Sioulsa River mouth .... KN, WW .......... Much later than normal
Ancient Murrelet (3) ........ Nov 20 .... Sioulsa River mouth .... KL .......... Rarely found in river, normally at sea
Franklin’s Gull ........ Nov 7 ...... SJSR .......... CH, ES .......... Rare for Lane
Glaucous Gull ........ Dec 23 ...... SJSR .......... MC .......... First report for the winter season
American Bittern ........ Dec 17 .... FRR - Royal Ave .......... EC .......... Uncommon in the winter
Snowy Egret ........ Nov 14 .... FRR dam area .......... A&DH .......... Unusual for Lane - seen through Dec
Osprey ........ Nov 30 .... Lower McKenzie Rvr .......... RR .......... They winter some years in the valley
White-tailed Kite ........ Nov-Dec .... FRR .......... Almost no reports this winter so far!
Swainson’s Hawk ........ Nov 20 .... Santrell Rd area .......... A&DH .......... Rare in Lane, especially in the fall
Short-eared Owl (3) ........ Nov 22 ...... FRR - Royal Ave .......... RR .......... Good numbers for one location

WOODPECKERS TO THRUSHES

Black Phoebe (5) ........ Dec 22 .... Oakridge CBC .......... JG .......... High number for that area
Say’s Phoebe ........ Nov 11 .... Florence - Old Town .... FT .......... Uncommon along the Lane coast
Tropical Kingbird (2) ........ Dec 8 ...... Florence .......... CH, ES .......... Almost annual in late fall
Tropical Kingbird ........ Dec 12 ...... Florence .......... PA .......... Last date it was seen
Northern Shrike ........ Dec 4 ...... SJSR Deflation Plain .......... AC .......... First winter report from this area
Cassin’s Vireo ........ Dec 13 .... Willamette R-bike path .... NG .......... Very late report for this species - photo
Tree/Violet-green Swallow (20) .... Dec 12 .... Delta Pnds/W “D” St .......... M.ob .......... Found through the end of the year
Barn Swallow ........ Dec 15 .... Delta Ponds .......... JW .......... Only reported the one day
House Wren ........ Nov 12 .... Springfield .......... MG .......... A very late sighting - photos
American Dipper ........ Nov 30 .... McKenzie River, Spfd .... RR .......... An unusual sighting from the valley
Swainson’s Thrush ........ Nov 22 .... Dexter Res .......... AC, RH .......... A very late sighting - photos
Northern Mockingbird ........ Nov 1 .... Mt Pisgah .......... DA .......... An almost annual wintering species
Northern Mockingbird ........ Nov 17 ...... SJSR area .......... KN, WW .......... Found in Oct, seen through end of year

SPARROWS TO GROSBEAKS

White-winged Crossbill (2) .......... Dec 4 .... Gold Lake area .......... RN .......... Rare in Lane
White-winged Crossbill (20) ........ Dec 22 ........ Salmon Creek area .......... BA ................. Rare in Lane - a good year for them
Pine Siskin (800+) ................. Nov 14 ........ Eugene ...................... DB ................. Very large numbers at feeders in the area
Lapland Longspur .................. Nov 8 .......... Baker Beach ............... CH .................. Normal migration time along the coast
Lapland Longspur .................. Nov 23 ........ Eugene airport area ........ SH .................. Rare in the valley
Snow Bunting ...................... Nov 11 .......... SJSR ....................... RN .................. Good time to find this species at the coast
Chipping Sparrow .................. Nov 13 ........ Eugene ...................... DA .................. A late report for this species - photos
Swamp Sparrow .................... Dec 1 .......... FRR - Kirk Pond ............ RA .................. Small numbers normally found in winter
Orange-crowned Warbler ........... Nov 25 ........ Eugene - near UO ...... KL .................. A rare wintering species in the valley
Orange-crowned Warbler (2) ........ Dec 3 .......... River Rd area .......... RH .................. Gray-headed subspecies
Orange-crowned Warbler ........... Dec 4 .......... Eugene ...................... EC .................. I'm not sure why so many reports?
Orange-crowned Warbler ........... Dec 4 .......... Coburg Rd area ............ BG .................. Late migration, I assume
Palm Warbler ........................ Nov 29 ........ Ada Grange ............... LW, NT ............. Small numbers normal along coast
Hermit Warbler ..................... Dec 24 ........ Springfield ............... RR .................. Rare in the winter
Western Tanager (2) .............. Nov 4 .......... River Rd area .......... RH .................. Very late for this breeding species
Western Tanager (2) .............. Nov 4 .......... FRR - Kirk Pond .......... RA .................. Interesting that 2 birds were found today

Late Report
Red-bellied Woodpecker .......... Late Aug ....... Row River Trail .......... WM .................. First sighting for Lane, 2nd for Oregon