

Field Notes: February 2021

Rhinoceros Auklet, Black-legged Kittiwake, Lapland Longspur, Western Bluebird

The month seemed pretty normal for those of us in Lane County, as compared to the northern valley. The early “spring” arriving birds have started to show up, and more will be arriving through March. Some of the resident species have started to sing/display: woodpeckers, Hutton’s Vireo, chickadees, wrens, thrushes, and sparrows.

Abbreviations: North Jetty of the Siuslaw River (NJSR)

WATERFOWL

| | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------|------------|--|
| Brant..... | Feb 14..... | Siltcoos River mouth | MS..... | Normally only migrants |
| Ruddy Duck (300) | Feb 10..... | Siltcoos Lake..... | AC | Large numbers |
| Clark’s Grebe..... | Feb 3..... | Heceta Head..... | AC,RH..... | Unusual on the ocean |
| Clark’s Grebe..... | Feb 10..... | Siltcoos Lake..... | AC | Rarely found on the lake |
| Band-tailed Pigeon | Feb 14..... | Creswell area..... | TMo..... | A normal arrival date |
| Rufous Hummingbird | Feb 19..... | Florence area..... | DP | A normal arrival date |
| Rufous Hummingbird | Feb 26..... | River Road area | KU | A few days later than normal |
| Sandhill Crane (2) | Feb 4..... | Cantrell Rd | NC..... | Rarely found during winter |
| Sandhill Crane (4) | Feb 17..... | FRR - Royal Ave..... | RS | Rarely found during winter |
| Mountain Plover..... | Feb 9..... | Siltcoos River mouth | A&TM..... | Last reported sighting |
| Marbled Murrelet | Feb..... | N of Florence | M.ob..... | Unusually common this month |
| Ancient Murrelet (2)..... | Feb 11..... | NJSR | DP | Found in small numbers |
| Rhinoceros Auklet (many) | Feb 11..... | NJSR | DP | Starting to return for the breeding season |
| Black-legged Kittiwake | Feb 10..... | Florence area..... | AC | Very large numbers being seen |
| Black-legged Kittiwake (150) | Feb 11..... | NJSR | DP | Very large numbers |
| Western Gull | Feb 22..... | W Eugene area..... | AC | Never common inland |
| Brown Pelican..... | Feb 3..... | Heceta Head..... | AC,RH..... | An uncommon winter report |

FLYCATCHERS TO WARBLERS

| | | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------|------------------------|----------|-----------------------------|
| Horned Lark (75) | Feb 1..... | Eug Airport area | AC | Large numbers |
| Western Bluebird (7) | Feb 18..... | N River Road area..... | MM | Not seen in the area before |
| American Pipit (400)..... | Feb 1..... | Eug Airport area | AC | A very large flock |
| Lapland Longspur..... | Feb 1..... | Eug Airport area | AC | Rarely found inland |
| Hermit Warbler (photos)..... | Feb 21..... | Springfield | SM..... | Rare winter sighting |

AC Alan Contreras, A&TM Allison & Tom Mickel, DP Diane Pettet, KU Kate User, MM Marcia Maffei, MS Martin Sheehan, NC Nancy Clogston, RH Rich Hoyer, RS Robert Snowden, SM Sylvia Maulding, TMo Tori Morgan. M.ob signifies many observers.