Field Notes: October 2021

Orchard Oriole, Dusky Warbler, Brambling, Snow Bunting

Weather for the month seemed cooler and wetter than normal, but that may have been because of the warmer and drier summer. The "bomb cyclone" that passed offshore during the third week of the month pushed a number of pelagic birds closer in (e.g., shearwaters, fulmars, storm-petrels, etc). Lastly, with the addition of two new species to the Lane list, the species total for Lane is now at 430 species. Lane has had the largest list of any Oregon county for some time!

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

GREBES TO VULTURES
Red-necked Grebe..........................Oct 4............Hills Ck Res. ...............AC,TJ............An unusual location
Eared Grebe (12)..........................Oct 5............Dorena Res. ..........NS.............Large number for one Lane location
Vaux's Swift (3)..........................Oct 25 ..........Lily Lake area ..........AC, et al............About two weeks later than normal
Red Phalarope............................Oct 22 ..........Tokatee-Klootchman ......AC.............Normal time for southward migration
Black-legged Kittiwake....................Oct 9..........NJSR..........................&GB..............First report for the winter season
Common Tern (12+).......................Oct 5............Dorena Res. ..........NS.............Annual at FRR in the fall
Northern Fulmar (3).....................Oct 14 ..........Tokatee-Klootchman ......AC,MP..........Normal time for southward migration
Short-tailed/Sooty Shearwater ........Oct 14 ..........Tokatee-Klootchman ......AC,MP..........Hundreds seen moving south
Pink-footed Shearwater .................Oct 21 ..........Tokatee-Klootchman ......RR.............Uncommon to see from shore
Leach's Storm-Petrel (2)................Oct 27 ..........Tokatee-Klootchman ......AC.............Rarely seen from shore in Lane
American White Pelican (35).........Oct 23 ..........Cottage Grove Res. ....DB.............Larger number than normal
Snowy Egret ..............................Oct 6...........FRR .........................SH.............The last report
Turkey Vulture (214).....................Oct 5...........SW Eugene...................SG.............Kettles moving south

WOODPECKERS TO TANAGERS
Lewis's Woodpecker ......................Oct 21 ............Dorris Ranch .............VB,MO.........First report from the valley this fall
Olive-sided Flycatcher .................Oct 11 ............Lily Lake area ..........JK.............About two weeks later than normal
Pacific-slope Flycatcher ..............Oct 25 ............Mt Pisgah .................SD.............About two weeks later than normal
Northern Shrike ........................Oct 23 ..........FRR ...........................DF, et al............First for the winter season
Dusky Warbler .........................Oct 7.............Stonefield Beach ........AC.............First Oregon record
Mountain Bluebird ......................Oct 26 ............Sher Khan Rd ..........NS.............Unusual in the valley
American Pipit (150)....................Oct 5............Dorena Res. ..........NS.............Normal time of year for large flocks
Brambling ...............................Oct 29 ..........Deadwood area ..........KB.............Fourth record for Lane
Lapland Longspur (2) ..................Oct 4.............FRR - Royal ...............JS.............Never common in the valley
Snow Bunting .............................Oct 31 ..........FRR - W Royal ..........LG.............Never common in the valley
Breuer's Sparrow .......................Oct 12 ..........Waite Ranch ..........AC, TJ.............Rare record for the coast
Vesper Sparrow ..........................Oct 25 ..........KR Neilson Rd .......SH.............Unusual this late
Orchard Oriole ............................Oct 14 ..........Waite Ranch ..........MP, AC............First Lane record
Yellow Warbler ...........................Oct 18 ..........Florence ..................AC, et al............A little later than normal
Palm Warbler (2) .........................Oct 27 ..........Deflation plain SJSR ....JS.............Normal location during fall migration
Wilson's Warbler .......................Oct 19 ..........FRR - W Coyote ..........RW.............About two weeks later than normal
Western Tanager .........................Oct 21 ..........River Rd area ..........RH.............Last report for the breeding season