

Field Notes: Spring 2022

White-faced Ibis, Red-naped Sapsucker, Great-tailed Grackle, Baird's Sandpiper

Spring season this year was about as opposite of last year as you can get— cool temperatures, lots of rain, and rare snow! That local weather was reflected in the birds seen during the season. Wintering species stayed later than normal and migrants piled up on their way north because of cold rain. Another observation was the unusually large influx of Great Basin breeding species that showed up here due to the lack of water/breeding sites there. We decided not to include arrival dates in this year's spring fieldnotes, because that data can be easily found in other places (i.e., eBird).

Abbreviations:

Amazon Prairie Mitigation Bank (APMB), Fern Ridge Reservoir (FRR), South Jetty of the Siuslaw River (SJSR)

Greater White-fronted Goose.....	May 22.....	Coburg Hills.....	TM.....	Later than normal, flying overhead
Snow Goose.....	May 16.....	FRR.....	M.ob.....	Later than normal
Ross's Goose.....	April 24.....	APMB.....	M.ob.....	Later than normal
Trumpeter Swan (2).....	May 27.....	FRR.....	SH.....	Resident birds?
Eurasian Wigeon.....	May 17.....	FRR.....	RR,JH.....	Later than normal
Long-tailed Duck.....	May 3.....	Heceta Beach.....	JS,et al.....	Later than normal
Band-tailed Pigeon (54).....	May 14.....	N River Rd.....	MRu.....	Higher numbers than they've had before
Vaux's Swift (11,000+).....	April 30.....	Agate Hall, UO.....	LCAS.....	A high count for the spring
Calliope Hummingbird.....	Apr/May.....	Eugene/Springfield.....	M.ob.....	Numerous reports from the area
Sandhill Crane.....	May 20.....	FRR.....	NS.....	Much later than normal
American Avocet.....	May 27.....	FRR.....	M.ob.....	Will they breed again?
Long-billed Curlew.....	May 18.....	Siltcoos River mouth.....	DF.....	Uncommon in Lane Co, especially spring
Baird's Sandpiper.....	April 22.....	FRR.....	JS.....	Very rare spring migrant
Baird's Sandpiper.....	May 1.....	APMB.....	SH.....	Very rare spring migrant
Solitary Sandpiper.....	Apr/May.....	Eugene/Springfield.....	M.ob.....	Smaller numbers than normal
Willet.....	May 18.....	Siltcoos River mouth.....	DF.....	Rare in Lane Co
Common Tern (2).....	May 25.....	SJSR.....	JM.....	Not commonly seen during spring migration
White-faced Ibis (9).....	May 23.....	Meadowlark Prairie.....	RR.....	Rare spring "over-shoot" from the Great Basin
White-faced Ibis (80+).....	May 25-30.....	FRR.....	M.ob.....	Numbers increasing through end of period
Swainson's Hawk.....	May 1.....	Springfield.....	A&DH.....	First of three sightings, numbers increasing
Lewis's Woodpecker (2).....	May 11.....	Creswell area.....	JG.....	Getting to be later for this wintering species
Lewis's Woodpecker.....	May 27.....	Creswell area.....	JG.....	Attempting to breed in the area?
Red-naped Sapsucker.....	May 1.....	Marcola area.....	NP.....	Rare for Lane Co
Olive-sided Flycatcher (6+).....	May 16.....	Friendly St area.....	DA.....	Very large numbers for "in town"
Gray Flycatcher.....	May.....	Eugene/Springfield.....	M.ob.....	Larger numbers than usual
Dusky Flycatcher.....	May 27.....	Creswell area.....	JG.....	Singing in good breeding habitat - breeding?
Bank Swallow.....	May.....	Eugene/Springfield.....	M.ob.....	More reports than usual - do they nest here?
Western Bluebird.....	May 26.....	N Eugene.....	B&DG.....	Attempting to breed in backyard!
Brewer's Sparrow.....	May 3.....	Heceta Beach.....	JS,et al.....	Rare spring sighting
Fox Sparrow.....	May 5.....	UO area.....	BN.....	Later than normal for this wintering species
White-throated Sparrow (9).....	April 19.....	Skinner Butte.....	RR,SH.....	Very large number for one location in Lane
Tricolored Blackbird.....	May 12.....	FRR.....	RR.....	First spring sighting for Lane Co; breeding?
Great-tailed Grackle.....	May 24.....	FRR.....	HS.....	Rare for Lane Co
Western Tanager.....	May 13/21.....	River Rd area.....	RH.....	Very large numbers in yard
Neotropical migrants.....	April 25/May 5.....	Skinner Butte.....	SH,RR.....	Both mornings in the rain, hundreds of warblers, flycatchers, vireos, etc were observed on the top of the butte -- a rare sight these days!

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