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The Quail

News from Lane County Audubon Society



From Our President

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Thank You



photo: Marcia Maffei

Scoped Heron

Lane Audubon sends a very big **Thank You to Kathy Wilson**, who for the past 14 years was our recording secretary at Board meetings! Kathy and her husband,

Bruce, have been members and worked on various volunteer projects since the mid-1970s. They and other family members have helped on other projects when needed as well. The Wilsons are among some of the earliest Lane Audubon members who have continued to support and actively participate with our organization. We will miss Kathy at Board meetings, but hope to see her at some of our activities in the future. While we sincerely thank Kathy for her past volunteer efforts, we also are happy for her, knowing she will have more free time in the New Year for traveling and spending time with family.

Thank you also to Dick Lamster, Vjera Thompson, and Marcia Maffei

for their outstanding organization, implementation, and completion of the Eugene Christmas Bird Count for 2022! Their Count data and articles are found in this issue of *The Quail*. Dick is the overall Count Coordinator, Vjera is the Species Compiler, and Marcia is the Home Count Coordinator. Each does an integral and terrific job, both leading up to the count day and afterwards, pulling all the data together to submit to National Audubon.

We received several comments from Team Leaders and participants who experienced and appreciated the efforts of our organizers. One new participant said, "What a fabulously run Christmas Bird Count!!!!!" Another person said, "Thanks for organizing and getting us all fired up!! You did great!" Finally this comment: "You create such a positive, respectful, inclusive spirit for our Eugene Count, and a tangible joie de vivre! Many many thanks."

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Lane County Audubon Society

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Audubon
CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

Lane County Audubon Society's 2022 Eugene Christmas Bird Count

By Dick Lamster, Count Coordinator

The 81st Eugene Christmas Bird Count (ECBC) was held on Sunday, January 1. The day started as one of the warmest ECBC in recent memory. All 153 excited bird watchers took to the field and, along with 102 Home Counters, identified 133 species of birds and 80,801 individual birds (see the Count Tally on page 3). These numbers are about average for the past two decades. A more detailed summary by Species Compiler Vjera Thompson can be found on page 4.

Teams covered each of the usual 26 Areas inside our Count Circle, each led by an expert birder. The 26 teams comprised 153 Field Observers, the fifth highest number of Field Observers for our Count. The highest number, 164, was set last year. In total, Field Observers spent 272 hours looking for birds while walking 175 miles, driving 591 miles, and bicycling 12 miles!

Added to that were the 102 Home Counters, who identified 75 species and recorded 7,676 individual birds. Marcia Maffei was the Home Count Coordinator again this year. As usual, she did a great job of organizing. See her report on page 5.

Due to COVID restrictions, for the third year we could not have our traditional Chili Feed Countdown at the end of the day. We did have a Zoom Countdown viewed by approximately 75 people. I really hope

we can have the Chili Feed Countdown next year. It is a fun event, typically attended by more than 100 birders.

One of the main reasons the ECBC is so popular and so successful is because of the efforts of the Team Leaders listed on this page. They assemble their teams well before Count Day, guide them through the day, and then report the results.

A few of the leaders changed this year. Three Areas had first-time Team Leaders: Joshua Galpern in Area 9, Sarah Merkle in Area 13A, and Tye Jeske in Area 17. Jim Maloney came out of "retirement" to be the Team Leader for Area 10. John Sullivan exchanged his role as Team Leader for Area 17 to Leader for Area 6. Thanks to all of these new Leaders.

Speaking of great efforts, last year our Count was the 9th largest in number of participants of the 2,612 CBCs in North America, Central America, and the Caribbean. That is quite remarkable for a little town in Oregon!

I am very pleased that our 81st ECBC was both safe and very successful. Thank you to all of you who participated. It was fun!

It's not too early to mark your calendar for the **82nd ECBC, set for December 31, 2023.**

Team Leaders by Area

- 1: Ron Renschler
- 2: Rich Hoyer
- 3A: Dan & Anne Heyerly
- 3B: Darryl Wisner
- 4: Rick Ahrens
- 5A: Donna Albino & Tim Griffin
- 5B: Marcia Maffei
- 6: John Sullivan
- 7: Roger Robb
- 8: Dave Kofranek
- 9: Joshua Galpern
- 10: Jim Maloney
- 11A: David Novak
- 11B: Dick Lamster
- 12A: Steve Gordon
- 13A: Sarah Merkle
- 13B: Holly Hartmann
- 14: Julia Siporin
- 15: Thomas Meinzen
- 16: Linda Gilbert
- 17: Tye Jeske
- 18: Caryn Stoess
- 19: Barbara Combs
- 20A: Vjera Thompson
- 20B: Bruce Newhouse
- 21: Ellen Cantor

From Our President continued from page 1

Looking Forward

In 2023, we are reviving some of our outreach activities. We are well along in planning for a Bike Path Cleanup in the spring. Once we have a date, we will post that so folks can get signed up to join in the satisfying work of a cleanup out along the bike path in West Eugene. This year, we look forward to having logistical support from the BLM (Bureau of Land Management) employees. At our last Bike Path Clean up in 2021, we had 24 volunteers helping. And of course we can look for birds along the way as we work! Stay tuned for more activities in 2023!

Eugene Christmas Bird Count Tally

By Vjera Thompson

133 Species + 5 Count Week, 80,801 individuals
 RH = Record High, RL = Record Low, CW = Count Week



photo: Nancy Goodale Graham

Area 1 Birders

Species	Total	Status	Previous High	Species	Total	Status	Previous High
Snow Goose.....	0	CW		American White Pelican	224	RH	105 (2019)
Greater White-fronted Goose.....	14			American Bittern.....	7	RH	3 (1969, 2006)
Cackling Goose.....	22,690			Great Blue Heron.....	97		
Canada Goose.....	7,601			Great Egret.....	109		
Tundra Swan.....	457			Green Heron.....	1		
Wood Duck.....	262	RH	227 (2006)	Turkey Vulture.....	41		
Northern Shoveler.....	334			Northern Harrier.....	79		
Gadwall.....	188			Sharp-shinned Hawk.....	13		
Eurasian Wigeon.....	3			Cooper's Hawk.....	36	RH	27 (2020)
American Wigeon.....	1,404			Bald Eagle.....	130	RH	120 (2021)
Mallard.....	2,087			Red-shouldered Hawk.....	45	RH	43 (2021)
Northern Pintail.....	2,032			Swainson's Hawk.....	1		
Green-winged Teal.....	1,687			Red-tailed Hawk.....	185		
Canvasback.....	2			Rough-legged Hawk.....	4		
Redhead.....	19			Barn Owl.....	7		
Ring-necked Duck.....	158			Western Screech-Owl.....	5		
Greater Scaup.....	0	CW		Great Horned Owl.....	24		
Lesser Scaup.....	142			Northern Pygmy-Owl.....	0	CW	
Bufflehead.....	246	RH	185 (2021)	Barred Owl.....	3	RH	2 (2011)
Common Goldeneye.....	21	RH	16 (1991)	Short-eared Owl.....	3		
Hooded Merganser.....	49			Northern Saw-whet Owl.....	3		
Common Merganser.....	270			Belted Kingfisher.....	32		
Ruddy Duck.....	233			Lewis's Woodpecker.....	1		
California Quail.....	81			Red-breasted Sapsucker.....	31		
Wild Turkey.....	500			Acorn Woodpecker.....	118		
Ring-necked Pheasant.....	3			Downy Woodpecker.....	146		
Pied-billed Grebe.....	110			Hairy Woodpecker.....	31		
Horned Grebe.....	1			Pileated Woodpecker.....	11		
Western Grebe.....	6			Northern Flicker.....	442		
Rock Pigeon.....	428			American Kestrel.....	144		
Band-tailed Pigeon.....	1			Merlin.....	4		
Eurasian Collared-Dove.....	191			Peregrine Falcon.....	1		
Mourning Dove.....	378			Black Phoebe.....	100	RH	67 (2020)
Anna's Hummingbird.....	363			Say's Phoebe.....	2		
Virginia Rail.....	16	RH	12 (2011)	Hutton's Vireo.....	6		
Sora.....	4	RH	3 (2021)	Northern Shrike.....	6		
American Coot.....	710			Steller's Jay.....	386		
Black-bellied Plover.....	56			California Scrub-Jay.....	660		
Killdeer.....	666			American Crow.....	1,848		
Dunlin.....	4,602			Common Raven.....	236		
Least Sandpiper.....	21			Black-capped Chickadee.....	1,036		
Long-billed Dowitcher.....	1			Chestnut-backed Chickadee.....	137		
Wilson's Snipe.....	77			Tree Swallow.....	2		
Spotted Sandpiper.....	7			Barn Swallow.....	1		
Greater Yellowlegs.....	17			Bushtit.....	986		
Ring-billed Gull.....	306			Wrentit.....	21		
Western Gull.....	5			Ruby-crowned Kinglet.....	519		
California Gull.....	5			Golden-crowned Kinglet.....	245		
Herring Gull.....	11			Red-breasted Nuthatch.....	178		
Iceland (Thayer's) Gull.....	2			White-breasted Nuthatch.....	106	RH	88 (1967)
Glaucous-winged Gull.....	172			Brown Creeper.....	90		
Double-crested Cormorant.....	340			Pacific Wren.....	77		

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Eugene CBC Tally *continued from page 3*

Species	Total	Status	Previous High	Species	Total	Status	Previous High
Winter Wren	0	CW		Fox Sparrow	248		
Marsh Wren	32			Dark-eyed Junco	2,935		
Bewick's Wren.....	220			White-crowned Sparrow.....	276		
European Starling.....	6,117			Golden-crowned Sparrow	1,174		
Western Bluebird.....	514	RH	302 (2021)	White-throated Sparrow	78	RH	48 (2016)
Varied Thrush	76			Savannah Sparrow.....	63		
Hermit Thrush	31			Song Sparrow	617		
American Robin.....	4,656			Lincoln's Sparrow.....	103		
Cedar Waxwing	21			Swamp Sparrow	4	RH	3 (2003, 2006)
House Sparrow.....	338			Spotted Towhee.....	633		
American Pipit	177			Western Meadowlark.....	122		
Evening Grosbeak.....	0	CW		Red-winged Blackbird.....	1,327		
House Finch.....	516			Brewer's Blackbird.....	680		
Purple Finch.....	34			Orange-crowned Warbler	8		
Pine Siskin.....	23			Yellow-rumped Warbler	458		
Lesser Goldfinch	256			Townsend's Warbler.....	148		
American Goldfinch	252			Hermit Warbler.....	2	RH	2 (2012)



photo: Jan Morrow

Spencer Butte Birders

2022 Eugene Christmas Bird Count Summary

By Vjera Thompson, Species Compiler

The 81st Eugene CBC, held on January 1, was again fortunate to have no rain despite heavy rain before and after Count Day. Field Counters reveled in the decent weather, and they were rewarded with year birds as well as bursts of sunshine.

A total of 133 species, just above our average for the last five years, and 80,801 individual birds were reported by the Field Teams and Home Counters on Count Day. Two Hermit Warblers were found in neighboring areas, the 4th and 5th records for the count. The 5th record of Swainson's Hawk was seen, but not identified

until almost two weeks later. A Lewis's Woodpecker was counted; last time was in 2013. And for the first time since 2016, Canvasback was found: two with a flock of Redheads.

An additional 5 species showed up during Count Week: Snow Goose, Greater Scaup, Northern Pygmy-Owl (found the day before the Count but not on Count Day), Evening Grosbeak, and the 2nd state record Winter Wren (very similar to the more common Pacific Wren). Other misses were Clark's Grebe (often found on Fern Ridge Reservoir), Short-billed Gull (formerly called Mew Gull), Osprey (sometimes one overwinters), Prairie

Falcon, and Brown-headed Cowbird.

We broke several high records, including some set last year. We also broke some raptor records: 130 Bald Eagles (120 last year), 45 Red-shouldered Hawks (43 last year), and 36 Cooper's Hawks (the old record was 27) seen by 19 teams. For water and marsh birds, we recorded record highs of Buffleheads (246 up from 185 last year), Wood Ducks (261), Common Goldeneyes (21), Soras (4), Virginia Rails (16), and American White Pelicans (224).

Several records of smaller birds were also broken. Observers commented on the surplus of Western Bluebirds and they were right: we set a new record of 514, up from last year's 302! We also counted 100 Black Phoebes (previous record, 67), 106 White-breasted Nuthatches (the previous record of 88 had stood since 1967), 4 Swamp Sparrows, and 78 White-throated Sparrows (an astounding jump from the old record of 48).

The weather cooperated for a few owling teams, and we were able to find almost all the expected species of owls, including a record high of 3 Barred Owls.

Thanks to all the birders that made this another successful count.

2022 Home Count Summary

By Marcia Maffei

Cackling (1,652) and Canada Geese (1,574) made the top of the list this year! So glad that people are looking up. However, for the second year in a row, Dark-eyed Junco's were the top non-goose bird! Close to 600 juncos showed up this year, beating out those European Starlings (525) by a slim margin!

Bushtits made a decent showing, with 482 of them flocking the yards, and the American Crow was not far behind with 389. Anna's Hummingbird hovered in with 166. Other species that made the 100 - 200 club were: Black-capped Chickadee: 224; a yellow flurry of American Goldfinches: 167; House Finch: 150; Golden-crowned Sparrow: 129; Spotted Towhee: 123; American Robin: 110; and the California Scrub-Jay: 131. The rest of the species were in single or double digits.

The bird Home Counters were most excited about was the White-throated Sparrow (16)! Many commented and a few sent pictures that captured this gorgeous bird. A Band-tailed Pigeon rounded out the not-so-common Home Count list.

One interesting note this year, is the mention of using Sound ID apps (e.g., Merlin Bird ID) for identification help. These apps are a great help in identifying a bird close by, but they are not always correct. The birder needs to find the bird and confirm it.

Many thanks to the 102 observers who observed 75 species, for a sum total of 7,676 individual birds. Read on for some Home Counter comments, in their own words:

- Perfect day, not raining. Usually see more Townsend's Warblers, but this year and last year, not as many.

- My Merlin sound ID recorded Rock Pigeon, Tundra Swan, Killdeer, Acorn Woodpecker, and American Wigeon, but I have never observed these birds in my yard so I did not include them.
- Last year I only got a few in my yard due to the windy, blustery nature of the day. This year—I'm mystified! A perfectly amenable day. Recent bird activity in my yard has included American Robins, the ever-present crows (except for the Count), Anna's Hummingbirds, Scrub Jays, Dark-headed Juncos, even swallows, and often small, mottled brown songbirds.
- It's still so meager but the kinglet and Townsend's Warbler made my day.
- Calm bird movement today. On the 31st, we saw a much greater variety of birds.
- Today I saw most of the usual visitors to my garden. Missing were the Scrub Jays, chickadees (most days I have several), Bewicks Wren, (1 or 2), and a Ruby-crowned Kinglet that comes almost daily.
- Also had a Flicker, a Varied Thrush, Crows, a Spotted Towhee and a Bewick's Wren yesterday, but they stayed home today, alas.
- This year, we have not seen the pine siskins or house finches
- Thanks for all the work you do to coordinate, communicate, and collect the Home Counters' info.



Band-tailed Pigeon



photo: Val Rocco

Rory with Cottage Grove Christmas Bird Count

Cottage Grove Christmas Bird Count

By Grace Fowler-Gore, Cottage Grove CBC Compiler

The weather was comfortable during this, our sixth recent Christmas Bird Count. We surpassed our previous CBC high of 89 species by 9 birds for a total of 97 species on Count Day, and 2 during Count Week. Our 16 teams were made up of 46 participants, down from last year's 51.

Two new species made appearances: an Orange-Crowned Warbler spotted by Tim Griffith and a Tree Sparrow seen by Anne and Dan Heyerly with Noah Strycker. This threesome also recorded an Evening Grosbeak, the first seen since our Count resumed in 2017.

Thank you to all the participants. It was great seeing everyone in person and being able to have a meal together. Love my birding buddies.

Florence Christmas Bird Count Summary

By Vjera Thompson, Species Compiler



photo: Dan Pancamo, Wikimedia Commons

Orchard Oriole

Record high counts included Bufflehead (587), Anna's Hummingbird (154), Ancient Murrelet (14), and Lesser Goldfinch (a flock of 11). We also tied high counts for Spotted Sandpiper (10) and Swamp Sparrow (8). In an extreme opposite from last year, we almost missed Pine Siskin, but luckily one of the Home Counters had a couple. Eurasian Collared-Dove numbers climbed back to 61 from last year's low of 38. Species often present, but not found, included Snowy Plover, Surf-bird, Tundra Swan, and Northern Shrike.

Thanks to team leaders Alan Contreras, Ellen Cantor, Pat Blue Heron, Tye Jeske, Marcia Maffei, Vjera Thompson, Linda Gilbert, John Sullivan, Paul Adamus, Adele Dawson, Rich Hoyer, and Daniel Farrar. Thanks also to Ellen Cantor for doing the upfront coordination.



photo: Becky Matsubara, Wikimedia Commons

Tropical Kingbird

The 38th Florence Christmas Bird Count was held on Saturday, December 17. We had 40 birders in the field, and another 14 Home Counters. The weather was gorgeous but cold, with blue skies, heavy frost inland, and low 40s in town. We decided to be cautious about gathering indoors together and did our countdown virtually via video again.

We recorded 139 species, our highest count since 2004. Thirty-five species were found by one team only. Our four sea-watching teams were able

to pick up Ancient Murrelet, Marbled Murrelet, Rhinoceros Auklet, Black-legged Kittiwake, Bonaparte's Gull, three Northern Fulmars, and a dark shearwater.

Two unusual species found before the Count stayed on for Count Day, both first-time species for this Count. One, a Tropical Kingbird, had been seen in Old Town Florence since early November. Usually Tropical Kingbirds are only in the area through late November or early December; this is the first time one has lingered for the Count. The other new sighting was an Orchard Oriole coming to a feeder in the Heceta Beach area, only the second Lane County record.

Three teams owled, but the number of owls observed was low, with only one Barred Owl, one Northern Saw-whet Owl, and one Northern Pygmy-Owl. One unusual sighting before dawn was a Marbled Murrelet, calling as it flew over Cape Mountain Road, 2.6 miles inland.



photo: Dan Pancamo, Wikimedia Commons

Area 18 Birders



photo: Dan Pancamo, Wikimedia Commons

Area 14 Birders

Oakridge Christmas Bird Count

By Joel Geier, Count Coordinator and Compiler

The Oakridge CBC on December 30 started off with heavy cloud cover but no precipitation, a welcome change from last winter when there was never a dry moment. This good luck lasted for about two hours before varying degrees of drizzle settled in for the rest of the day, making it hard to find songbirds from then on.

Despite exceptionally good access with snow-free roads up to 3,700 feet, large areas of forest appeared remarkably birdless. We saw no forest

finch flocks (siskins or crossbills) and relatively few chickadees and kinglets. This was the case both in the Cedar Creek burn areas northeast of town, and areas well away from that burn. Even Pacific Wrens were in short supply, with only seven heard or seen.

Volunteers had better luck around the town areas. Most notably, a flock of 51 Snow Geese turned up on the lawn of the high school, the first Count Day record for this species. We also broke records for Eurasian

Collared Dove (125), Black Phoebe (6), California Scrub-Jay (65), and Townsend's Warbler (4).

A Barn Owl roosting in a barn on High Prairie on the day before the Count was the first ever recorded for Count Week. Western Screech-Owls were also heard calling during Count Week in the Hemlock area, but no Great Gray Owls were found this year.

The total of 59 species (plus 5 Count Week species) was below average for recent years. Notable misses besides forest finches included grouse, Mountain Quail, Red-shouldered Hawk, Pileated Woodpecker, and Brown Creeper.

Field Notes: November - December 2022

Tom and Allison Mickel, 541.485.7112, tamickel@riouisa.com

Leach's Storm-Petrel, Surfbird, Harris's Sparrow, Palm Warbler

This period seemed a little more normal for Lane County (cooler and wet), except for the deep freeze and ice storm in mid-December. Observers found some very rare birds for the county this period (see below). Also, there were numerous breeding species that stayed later than normal and wintering species that arrived later than normal. Related to our warming climate?

Abbreviations:

Fern Ridge Reservoir (FRR), North Jetty of the Siuslaw River (NJSR), Oregon Birds Record Committee (OBRC), South Jetty of the Siuslaw River (SJSR), University of Oregon (UO)

Ross's Goose	Nov 25	Jefferson Park	NB	Small numbers seen most winters
Tundra Swan	Nov 9	FRR	CKJ,CC	First report for the winter season
Long-tailed Duck	Dec 5	Tokatee-Klootchman	RF	First report for the winter season
Common Goldeneye	Nov 8	FRR - Kirk Park	MG	First report for the winter season
Bufflehead X Goldeneye (3)	Nov 18	Siltcoos River	MJ	Birds showed markings of both species
Eared Grebe	Nov 2	NJSR	TJ,AC	Normally not a wintering species
Band-tailed Pigeon (6)	Nov 14	W Eugene	VT	Not normally found during the winter
Band-tailed Pigeon (2)	Dec 14	Fir Butte Rd area	J&SB	Not normally found during the winter
Sandhill Crane (26)	Nov 9	Harms Park	SS	Only the second flock this fall
Semipalmated Plover	Dec 17	Baker Beach	TC,OO	Late date for this species in Lane Co
Surfbird	Nov 8	Bob Creek	AC,TJ	Getting harder to find than in the past

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Leach's Storm-Petrel

Photo: Seabamirum, Wikimedia Commons



Surfbird

Photo: Tom Benson/Flickr (CC-BY-NC-ND-2.0)

Red Phalarope.....	Dec 27	NJSR.....	MS	A very late date for this species
Black-legged Kittiwake.....	Nov 2	NJSR.....	TJ,AC	First report for the winter season
Short-tailed Shearwater.....	Nov 2	NJSR.....	TJ,AC	First report for this fall migration
Leach's Storm-Petrel (2).....	Nov 5	SJSR.....	DF,RF	Rarely seen from shore
Brown Pelican.....	Dec 5	Alton Baker Park.....	JL	Very rare inland occurrence
Brown Pelican.....	Dec 9	FRR dam area.....	LA	The same bird as above?
Green Heron.....	Dec 21	Delta Ponds.....	DA,et al.	They overwinter sometimes
Turkey Vultures.....	Nov 11	FRR area.....	AC	Around wintering roost again this year
Bald Eagle.....	Dec 14	Fir Butte Rd area.....	J&SB	Pair at nest
Rough-legged Hawk.....	Nov 8	SJSR.....	AC,TJ	First report for the winter season
Short-eared Owl.....	Nov 8	Bob Creek.....	AC,TJ	Rarely seen on the beach
Short-eared Owl (2).....	Nov 12	FRR - Royal Ave.....	AM	First report for the winter season
Say's Phoebe.....	Nov 5	Purkerson Rd.....	SH	First report for the winter season
Tropical Kingbird (2).....	Nov 3	Florence.....	LW,et al.	Normal time for this species to show up
Tropical Kingbird (4).....	Nov 8	Florence.....	AC	Higher numbers than normal
Tropical Kingbird.....	Dec 11	Florence.....	RF,DF	Quite late for this species
Northern Shrike.....	Nov 9	KR Neilsen Rd.....	RF	First report for the winter season
Tree Swallow (6).....	Dec 1	FRR - W Coyote.....	MN	Occasionally found during the winter
Barn Swallow (3).....	Dec 1	FRR - W Coyote.....	MN	Occasionally found during the winter
Winter Wren.....	Dec 10	Skinner Butte.....	CC,CKJ	First record for Lane Co if approved by OBRC
Swainson's Thrush (photos).....	Nov 23	Skinner Butte.....	PT	Very late sighting - great photos & notes
Evening Grosbeak.....	Dec 25	Cottage Grove.....	SS	Last report for the breeding season
Evening Grosbeak.....	Dec 25	Creswell area.....	NS	Last report for the breeding season
Evening Grosbeak.....	Dec 25	W Eugene.....	VT	Last report for the breeding season
Lapland Longspur.....	Nov 13	SJSR.....	AC,TJ	Small numbers seen this time of year
Snow Bunting.....	Nov 4	SJSR.....	RF	Small numbers seen this time of year
American Tree Sparrow.....	Nov 9	KR Neilsen.....	RF	A normal time for finding this species
Harris's Sparrow.....	Nov 22	Oakridge.....	MLS	Rare in Lane Co - reported every few years
W-C X G-C Sparrow.....	Nov 22	N River Road area.....	MRu	Bird showed markings of both species
Fox Sparrow (Red).....	Dec 2	Oakridge.....	MLS	A rare subspecies for Lane Co
Swamp Sparrow (8).....	Dec 17	Waite Ranch.....	DF,RF	A very large number for one location in Lane
Orchard Oriole.....	Dec 11	Florence.....	Fide AC	Second record for Lane Co
Nashville Warbler.....	Nov 5	Friendly St area.....	DA	Later than normal for this breeding species
Nashville Warbler.....	Dec 6	Florence.....	KT	Later than normal for this breeding species
Common Yellowthroat.....	Dec 20	Springfield mill race.....	VT	Last report for the breeding season
Palm Warbler.....	Dec 10	Florence.....	JL-SH	A typical location for this species
Palm Warbler.....	Dec 13	Eugene.....	SG	Not often found away from the coast
Black-throated Gray Warbler.....	Nov 4	Alton Baker Park.....	KW	Last report for the breeding season
Wilson's Warbler.....	Nov 18	UO.....	AK	Next to the last report for the breeding season
Wilson's Warbler.....	Nov 19	FRR.....	RS	Last report for the breeding season
Western Tanager.....	Nov 27	Near UO.....	BN	Last report for the breeding season

AC Alan Contreras, AK Andrew Kern, AM Alex Murphy, BN Bruce Newhouse, CC Caleb Centanni, CKJ Courtney Kelly Jett, DA Dennis Arendt, DF Daniel Farrar, J&SB Jim & Sharon Blick, JL Joshua Little, JL-SH Jenn Lodi-Smith Hebrank, KT Ken Tweedt, KW Karl Wallulis, LA Levi Ashe, LW Lisa Wallace, MG Marissa Gibson, MJ Mary James, MLS Mary Lee Sayre, MN Mark Nikes, MRu Mark Rudolph, MS Martin Sheehan, NB Neil Bjorklund, NS Noah Strycker, OO Ondie O, PT Phil Thompson, RA Ramiro Aragon, RF Rachael Friese, RS Robert Snowden, SG Steve Gordon, SH Sally Hill, SS Susan Sheppard, TC Thomas Cable, TJ Tye Jeske, VT Vjera Thompson. Fide references a sighting reported to the listed observer.

Klamath Fall's Winter Wings Festival

The Winter Wings Festival is being held Feb. 17 - 20 (President's Day Weekend). The event brings together nature lovers, wildlife photographers, and birders from around the United States for workshops, field trips, and presentations led by experts in their fields. While many have already registered, openings still exist for many sessions and activities.

FMI: WinterWingsFest.org for the complete schedule and/or to register online.

LCAS Program Meeting—In Person and Zoom Tuesday, February 28, 7:00 pm

Dennis Arendt, 541.221.3691, dennisarendt@gmail.com



A Confluence of Interests: Nature and People in the 21st Century



Joe Moll

Joe Moll will present a program and discussion about the new McKenzie River Trust lands near Mount Pisgah.

The Willamette Confluence Preserve was established in 2010 when The Nature Conservancy acquired it from the Wildish Family. The Nature Conservancy is now transferring ownership of the property to the McKenzie River Trust, which will lead a collaborative effort to ensure long-term stewardship of the site. River confluences are ecologically rich, due to dynamic shifts in land and water. This interplay creates a diversity of habitats. As Springfield and Eugene continue to develop and expand, this area's location in our metaphoric backyard as well as adjoining popular recreation areas, will become increasingly vital for nature conservation and appreciated by people who enjoy connecting to

natural habitats. In this discussion with McKenzie River Trust Executive Director Joe Moll, we will consider the opportunities and challenges of caring for nature in the places we love close to home.

Joe Moll has given two presentations for Lane County Audubon Society in the past: one about the McKenzie River and the other about grizzlies. He has been a member of the Oregon Water Resources Commission since 2018. He began his career in conservation in the early 1990s, working with bears and people in Montana and Hokkaido, Japan. Since that time, he has been intrigued by one of the basic conundrums of those working in conservation: *How best do we live in and love a place without loving it to death?*



This LCAS Program will be available in person as well as via Zoom. The location is Campbell Senior Center, 155 High Street near Skinner's Butte. The Zoom link will be available one week before the event on the LCAS website and Facebook page.



Photo: Wikimedia

Tierra del Fuego National Park

Southern Willamette Ornithological Club (SWOC)

February 15, 7 pm

“Argentina: From the Chaco to Tierra del Fuego” is the title of February’s Eugene Birders’ Night presentation by Dan and Anne Heyerly.

In mid-October 2022, these life-long birders joined a three-week birding tour to Argentina. The trip covered parts of Central Argentina, as well as the Patagonian steppe that extends south all the way to the Beech forests of Tierra del Fuego in the far southern tip of the continent. Join the Heyerlys as they share the stunning land forms and bird-rich delights of their journey.

The meeting is at the Alluvium, in the Whiteaker area of Eugene. It’s at the corner of Monroe and W 3rd Ave, 810 W 3rd Ave, Eugene, in a spacious room suitable for COVID-safe protocols. All are welcome to this free event, but we encourage donations to help pay the rent.

Lane County Audubon Society



The Quail is the newsletter of Lane County Audubon Society, a chartered chapter of National Audubon Society. Local members of National Audubon Society receive a free subscription to *The Quail* but are encouraged to voluntarily join Lane County Audubon Society.

The Quail Subscriptions

Contact Tim Godsil at 541.915.8852 or tgodsil@gmail.com

The Quail Upcoming Content Deadlines

March: February 1

April: March 1

Submit material to Karen Irmscher at quailkaren1@gmail.com

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Lane County Audubon Society Welcomes You—Join or Renew Today!

We ask you to become a local member of Lane County Audubon Society and support our grassroots efforts in the local community. Your membership dues for National Audubon Society no longer fully cover the costs of a membership in your local chapter. Your local dues stay here to help us work on local education projects and conservation issues related to birds and their habitats. With your support, we will continue to do the things you expect from us. We welcome your suggestions—this is your Audubon! We appreciate your support. — *Maeve Sowles, President*

Lane Audubon Membership Benefits

- *The Quail*—9 issues/yr.
- Field trips and bird walks
- Program meetings
- Educational publications
- Conservation issue representation
- Answers to questions: 541.485.BIRD
- Website: laneaudubon.org

Lane County Audubon Society Yearly Membership

- Individual \$20.....\$ _____
- Students and Seniors (65 and over) \$15.....\$ _____
- Family \$25.....\$ _____
- Lifetime Membership \$400.....\$ _____
- I want to do more. Here's my tax-deductible contribution for\$ _____
- Total Enclosed (check payable to Lane County Audubon Society).....\$ _____

To pay by PayPal, go to laneaudubon.org/support/join

I am a Current National Audubon member Don't know

Please contact me regarding

Gift memberships Lane Audubon's Living Legacy program

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

I would prefer to receive the e-Quail newsletter by e-mail.

I would like to receive e-mail alerts about conservation issues.

I would like to volunteer for Lane County Audubon activities.

Lane Audubon will not release your personal information to other organizations. We will use it only for Lane County Audubon Society communications.

Mail this form and your payment to: Lane County Audubon Society, P.O. Box 5086, Eugene, OR 97405

Artistic Bird Houses Exhibited

At New Zone Gallery, “Art in Birds” is a project of the McKenzie River Trust on Green Island, where the Willamette and the McKenzie Rivers meet. This collection of artistically painted bird nest boxes will be exhibited at the New Zone Gallery (110 E 11th Ave., Eugene, OR) from January 30 to February 24.

The artist, Dennis Arendt, painted the birdhouses using many techniques and themes. The birdhouse designs reflect the artist’s creativity and some emulate famous artists,



notably a Picasso birdhouse and a Jacob Lawrence birdhouse. The new collection of birdhouses includes “Freedom Fighters” and Toucans, as well as birdhouses painted in the style of Kandinsky, Warhol, and Matisse.

These birdhouses will join 30 other painted birdhouses already installed on Green Island. The McKenzie River Trust protects Oregon’s natural lands. Green Island’s 1,100 acres contains some of the least-altered fish and wildlife habitats in the Willamette Valley. This special area provides essential habitat for numerous species including more than 150 species of birds that find refuge here throughout the year. The birds love these birdhouses, as do the humans who see them.



Dennis Arendt

Thanks ... And It’s Not Too Late

In the November issue of *The Quail*, we made our annual request for a tax-deductible donation in support of Lane County Audubon Society. If you’ve already responded, thank you for supporting our education and conservation programs. We report on these activities routinely in each newsletter.

If you haven’t yet responded, it’s not too late to contribute. You can mail your donation to LCAS, PO Box 5086, Eugene OR 97405, or use our website to make an online contribution. Our website address is laneaudubon.org. Just click on the Donate button at the top of the home page to help sustain LCAS programs. Thank you in advance for your support.



photo: Marcia Marfel

Interested in Sharing Nature with Children?

Sara Spoden, the new Education Manager at Mount Pisgah Arboretum, is reaching out to see if any LCAS members would be interested in Nature Guide volunteering this coming spring and summer.

Volunteer Nature Guides will be trained in local ecology, teaching techniques, and nature topics before leading groups of elementary school-age children on weekday field trips at the Arboretum.

Typically volunteers are asked for a commitment of at least one 2-hour tour per week after attending our hands-on trainings and shadowing walks.

If this seems like something you might want to do, or ask questions about, email education@mountpisgaharboretum.org or call 541.741.4110. Orientation Night is March 20th.





Check your mailing label. Has
your *Quail* subscription expired?
See page 10 to renew!



LCAS Bird Walks & Events

Field trip coordinator opportunity



photo: Dave Kofranek

Area 8 Birders, Dave and Summer Kofranek

First Saturday Bird Walk, February 4

Our First Saturday Bird Walks, created in celebration of the Lane Audubon Inclusivity and Diversity Statement, are reserved for women, BIPOC, and members of the LGBTQIA+ community. Birders of all levels and backgrounds are welcome to join, particularly those who may have felt intimidated at the thought of birding alone or on other guided walks. Location and leader TBA.

FMI: Email Sarah at 1stSatBirdWalks@laneaudubon.org to sign up.

Third Saturday Bird Walk, February 18

Park Manager John Mullen will lead a walk at Elijah Bristow State Park, located on Wheeler Road, off Highway 58. We'll wander through forest edge grassland, down to old quarry ponds, and the Middle Fork of the Willamette River, then circle back. Walking distance is approximately 2.5 miles, covering old fields, oak woodland, cottonwood floodplain, and mixed woodland habitats.

Start time is 8:30 am. Meet at the Oak Grove parking area, first parking area after entering the park.

FMI: audubon@laneaudubon.org

Bird Walk Coordinator Needed!

Lane Audubon is looking for a volunteer to plan our monthly Third Saturday Bird Walks. This is a fun opportunity to meet and learn from birding experts. Best of all, you get to be out birding!

Lane Audubon has the traditional dates set, a network of willing field trip leaders, and a list of past birding locations to choose from. Your responsibilities would include contacting field trip leaders, deciding on a location, emailing the field trip publicity, and meeting the birding group on the day of the walk to get things started.

Please help maintain this wonderful Lane Audubon tradition!

FMI: Contact Maeve Sowles at 541.343.8664 or audubon@laneaudubon.org