

Field Notes: October 2023

Mountain Chickadee, Prairie Falcon, Lapland Longspur, Snow Bunting, Orchard Oriole

A mostly wet month except for a cold, sunny week at the end. High elevation/northern breeding birds appeared to be moving into the lowlands this fall/early winter. Mountain Chickadees and Pygmy Nuthatches have already been reported in the area. The Portland area had a report of Pine Grosbeaks, so keep your eyes and ears open for these unusual species in the valley.

Abbreviations:

Fern Ridge Reservoir (FRR), South Jetty of the Siuslaw River (SJSR)

Ross's Goose	.....	Oct 16	.....	FRR	.....	JS	.....	First report for the winter – uncommon
Tundra Swan	.....	Oct 27	.....	FRR	.....	JS	.....	First report for the winter
Eurasian Wigeon (2)	.....	Oct 8	.....	SJSR	.....	DF,RF	.....	First report for the winter
Sandhill Crane	.....	Oct 15	.....	FRR	.....	MW	.....	Rarely found at this location
American Golden-Plover	.....	Oct	.....	SJSR	.....	M.ob.	.....	More commonly found than usual
Pacific Golden-Plover	.....	Oct	.....	SJSR	.....	M.ob.	.....	More commonly found than usual
Red Phalarope (30)	.....	Oct 8	.....	SJSR	.....	DF,RF	.....	Earlier than normal for this migrant
Iceland Gull	.....	Oct 20	.....	Florence	.....	AC,TJ	.....	First report for the winter
Prairie Falcon	.....	Oct 29	.....	Junction City area	.....	EG	.....	Very early for this uncommon winter species
Mountain Chickadee	.....	Oct	.....	Eugene/Springfield	.....	M.ob.	.....	Many reports around town – quite unusual
Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch (75)	.....	Oct 13	.....	North Sister	.....	PR	.....	Large number, but usual location
Lapland Longspur (4)	.....	Oct 24	.....	Siltcoos River mouth	.....	LH	.....	Unusual migrant along the coast
Snow Bunting	.....	Oct 30	.....	Siltcoos River mouth	.....	LH	.....	Unusual migrant along the coast
Swamp Sparrow	.....	Oct 14	.....	Mt Pisgah	.....	JS,NB	.....	Earlier than normal
Orchard Oriole	.....	Oct 20	.....	SJSR	.....	JS,NB	.....	Third record for Lane Co – all in last 3 yrs
Yellow Warbler	.....	Oct 24	.....	South Eugene	.....	AC	.....	A couple weeks later than normal

AC Alan Contreras, DF Daniel Farrar, EG Emily Grossman, JS John Sullivan, LH Lars Hove, MW Madeline Wainscott, NB Neil Bjorkland, PR Peter Ralph, RF Rachael Friese, TJ TyeJeske, M.ob. signifies many observers.