

Field Notes: November-December2023

Surf Scoter, Costa's Hummingbird, Pine Grosbeak, Clay-colored Sparrow, Red Phalarope

This season the number of unusual/rare species was quite high. Is it because of changes to our weather, an increased number of people out looking at birds, or a combination of both? It's great to see all the bird reports, especially from what we assume are new birders!

Abbreviations:

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

Surf Scoter	Nov 14	Delta Ponds.....	SHe.....	Rarely found inland in Lane Co
Long-tailed Duck (2)	Nov 15	NJSR.....	LG,CS	The first report for the winter season
Band-tailed Pigeon	Nov 16	Florence area	AC,JG	Rarely winters
Band-tailed Pigeon	Nov 26	S Eugene area	JC.....	Rarely winters
Costa's Hummingbird.....	Dec 30	S Hills, Eugene	DP	Rare wintering species!
Sora.....	Nov 22	FRR – Royal Ave	SB	Winters in very small numbers
Sandhill Crane (10).....	Nov 24	Dorena Res.....	SS.....	Late for this species
Snowy Plover (51)	Nov 16	NJSR.....	SHe.....	A very large flock
Surfbird.....	Dec 16	NJSR.....	AC,JG	Not nearly as common as in years past
Long-billed Dowitcher (225).....	Nov 20	FRR.....	MP	A very large flock
Western Sandpiper (2).....	Nov 14	Siltcoos Estuary	LH.....	Same birds that wintered last year?
Red Phalarope.....	Dec 28	Siltcoos River mouth	LH.....	Rare wintering species
Ancient Murrelet (15).....	Dec 16	NJSR.....	NB,et al	Large numbers from shore
Black-legged Kittiwake	Nov 3.....	Bob Creek	RR.....	The first report for the winter season
Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel (2)	Dec 9	NJSR.....	SHi,DP	Not common from shore this time of year
Brown Pelican	Dec 9	NJSR.....	DP, SHi	Last report for the season
American Bittern (5)	Nov 14	FRR – Fisher Butte	JS	A good number for this late in the year
Snowy Egret	Nov-Dec.....	FRR.....	M.ob.	Same bird that wintered last year?
Green Heron.....	Dec 16	Coburg area.....	VB	They winter in small numbers some years
Osprey	Nov 11.....	Coburg area.....	RS	They winter some years
Osprey (2).....	Nov 17	Siltcoos River	JS,JL	They winter most years in small numbers
White-tailed Kite.....	Nov 17	Cox Island	LW.....	Numbers are slowly coming back
Golden Eagle (2)	Nov 12	FRR.....	LP	Occasionally winters in the valley
Rough-legged Hawk.....	Nov 1	Dorena Res.....	SS.....	The first report for the winter season
Short-eared Owl.....	Nov 7	FRR – Royal Ave	SM,LP	The first report for the winter season
Say's Phoebe.....	Dec 2	FRR – Fisher Butte	HS.....	The first report for the winter season
Northern Shrike.....	Nov 7	FRR – Royal Ave.....	SM,LP	The first report for the winter season
Tree Swallow (3)	Nov 14	FRR – Fisher Butte	DF.....	Getting late, or early, for this species
Barn Swallow	Dec	Valley and Coast	M.ob.	Small numbers show up this time of year
Pygmy Nuthatch	Nov 13	W Eugene	VT	Heard again or second bird
Pygmy Nuthatch	Dec 1.....	Glen Oak City Park.....	M.ob.	Up to three seen in the area
Evening Grosbeak (20)	Nov 27.....	Siltcoos River	LH.....	Last report
Pine Grosbeak	Dec 11	McKenzie Bridge.....	KV.....	Rarely found in Lane Co.
Red Crossbill (2000+)	Dec 16	Florence CBC.....	VT	Very large numbers
Snow Bunting.....	Dec 20	Siltcoos River	GP	Late report for this species
Chipping Sparrow.....	Nov 27.....	Springfield.....	SM	Rare wintering species
Clay-colored Sparrow.....	Nov 27.....	Mill Race – UO area.....	JL.....	Rare in Lane Co
Swamp Sparrow.....	Dec 5	FRR - Royal Ave	JM	First report for the winter
Orange-crowned Warbler.....	Dec 5	Amazon Park	TJ,JG.....	Winter in very small numbers some years
Nashville Warbler.....	Nov 15	College Hill area	DA.....	Rare wintering species - still seen in late Dec
Palm Warbler	Dec 19	SJSR deflation plain	RS	Winter in small numbers along coast

Black-throated Gray Warbler.....	Nov 9.....	Amazon Park	GM.....	Rarely winters, but becoming more common
Black-throated Gray Warbler.....	Nov 24	Hileman Landing	VJ.....	Rarely winters, but becoming more common
Western Tanager	Dec 3	U of O area	BN.....	Same bird as wintered last year?
Western Tanager	Dec 25	U of O area	GM.....	Same bird as above?
Rose-breasted Grosbeak.....	Dec 27	Lost Creek area.....	RP	Rare wintering species! Photo
Black-headed Grosbeak	Nov 24	Cottage Grove	RC.....	Winters in very small numbers some years
Black-headed Grosbeak	Dec 3	Cottage Grove	SS.....	Same bird as above?

AC Alan Contreras, BN Bruce Newhouse, CS Cynthia Stockwell, DA Dennis Arendt, DF Daniel Farrar, DP Diane Pettet, EJ Erik Johnson, GM Gerry Meenaghan, GP Glenn Pannier, HS Hal Sadofsky, JC Joanne Carlson, JG Joshua Galpern, JL Joshua Little, JM Jasper Meekes, JS John Sullivan, KV Kristen Vale, LH Lars Hovde, LG Linda Gilbert, LP Lalla Pudewell, LW Lisa Wallace, MP Magnus Persmark, NB Neil Bjorklund, PO Pam Otley, RC Ramona Campbell, RP Ritch Pope, RR Roger Robb, RS Randy Sinnott, SB Selena Blick, SHe, Steve Heintz, SHi Sally Hill, SM Sylvia Maulding, SS Susan Sheppard, TJ TyeJeske, VB Vickie Buck, VJ Victoria James, VT Vjera Thompson. M.ob. signifies many observers.