

Thrushes were in the storm-related mix in the w. Aleutians 21–25 May+ (ATTOUR, DDG), with a peak of 3 at Attu 21–23 May. Another 3 were also noted at Attu 3–4 Jun (ATTOUR). Heintl submitted details of what was considered an imm. male Naumann's Dusky Thrush, *T. n. naumanni*, from Attu's Gilbert Bluffs 20–21 May (ATTOUR). This more southerly race reaches the Pacific Coast barely to the s. Sea of Okhotsk, and this report constitutes the Region's 2nd and the first in spring.

Another suspicious pair of Black-backed Wagtails resided at Attu 13 May–13 Jun near a structure where the species has previously nested (ATTOUR). Up to 6 Olive-backed Pipits made a decent spring peak at Attu 13 May–1 Jun+ (ATTOUR, DDG). Two small groups of Rustic Buntings arrived at Attu only, including 4 on 13–25 May and another 4 on 2–5 Jun (ATTOUR). Bramblings were described in small numbers, with maxima of only 13 at Attu 18 & 19 May and in the w. Aleutians 13 May–3 Jun+ (ATTOUR, DDG). The only

report from elsewhere was of 2 together at Gambell 29 May (TS, MMR, VENT). At Attu and Shemya 1–13 Jun, Common Rosefinches made the Region's best showing since the Jun 1977 Gambell fallout, with a peak 7 at Attu 3 Jun (ATTOUR, DDG). The Ketchikan area's 2nd-ever May Purple Finch, which remains a rare winter/spring visitor in S.E., appeared at a feeder there 6 Jun (JFK). A flighty male **Bullfinch**, the 4th for the w. Aleutians, was reported without details from Attu 14–15 May (ATTOUR). Evening Grosbeaks were up the Taku R., probably part of the winter push that also brought one to Juneau (q.v. winter), last seen 7 Apr (SZ). Up to 9 were reported from the Tulsequah area in April (*vide* AD), and singles were seen near Canyon I. 5 Apr (AD) and at the Canada border 9 May (TS). A few Hawfinches were included in this spring's passage, including one at St. Paul 21 May (ST.PAUL) and 2 and then a single at Attu 1 & 13 Jun, respectively (ATTOUR).

**Observers:** ABO (N. DeWitt), C. Adler, J. Ainsworth, J. B. Allen, C. Anderson, R. Armstrong,

ATTOUR (S. C. Heintl, P. Baicich, J. Huntington, D. W. Sonneborn, G. B. Rosenband, P. W. Sykes, M. Toochin), J. Ball, G. Beaton, K. D. Bell, R. Berns, J. Blackburn, B. Blush, D. Brann, M. Brown, G. Bullock, G. V. Byrd, B. Daugherty, D. F. Delap, A. DeMartini, J. Doyle, S. Doyle, L. Edfelt, G. Etherington, D. D. Gibson, R. E. Gill, R. J. Gordon, T. Goucher, C. Harwood, S. C. Heintl, O. Hughes, B. Hunt, M. Ingle, M. Jefferson, I. L. Jones, J. Knott, J. F. Koerner, A. Lang, R. A. MacIntosh, B. J. McCaffery, S. McCurdy, B. Myers, M. Nash, L. J. Oakley, J. Pearce, G. Perkins, R. Pintner, A. W. Piston, M. Resoff, M. M. Rogers, B. Rowe, D. Russell, L. Sanborn, S. Savage, T. Schantz, R. L. Scher, M. W. Schwan, M. Schwitters, N. Senner, S. E. Senner, W. Shuster, D. W. Sonneborn, S. Springer, ST.PAUL (S. D. Smith, M. Greenfelder, E. Hynes, D. Lovitch, B. McWhorter), D. Stokes, P. Suchanek, M. E. Tedin, L. Tibbitts, K. Titus, S. B. Walker, G. Van Vliet, VENT (D. E. Wolf, K. J. Zimmer), K. S. Wallen, M. Walsh, M. L. Ward, S. Wellborn, J. C. Williams, WINGS (J. L. Dunn, G. H. Rosenberg, S. N. G. Howell et al.), M. A. Wood, S. Zimmerman.



# oregon-washington



## Steven G. Mlodinow

4819 Gardner Ave.  
Everett, Washington 98203  
(SGMlod@aol.com)

## Gerard Lillie

329 SE Gilham Ave.  
Portland, Oregon 97215  
(gerardl@teleport.com)

## Bill Tweit

P.O. Box 1271  
Olympia, Washington 98507  
(Sebnabgill@aol.com)

**F**or only the second season in the last five there were no first state records found in the Region this spring—no Shy Albatross, Wedge-tailed Shearwater, Red-faced Cormorant, Whiskered Auklet, or Eurasian Kestrel. Perhaps we were getting spoiled. But it was still an interesting

spring, and the most fascinating angle was not specific rarities but trends. White-faced Ibises irrupted across the Region,

Franklin's Gulls irrupted on the eastside, and shorebirding on the eastside/ interior westside was incredibly good, better than on the coast for that matter. Somehow, these occurrences seem likely linked, but how is not clear. The eastside also had its share of mega-rarities with Arctic Loon, two Eastern Phoebes, Black-throated Green Warbler, Kentucky Warbler, and Summer Tanager, all recorded ten or fewer times in the Region.

**Abbreviations:** F.R.R. (Fern Ridge Reservoir, Lane, OR); L.K.N.W.R., (Lower Klamath N.W.R., Klamath, OR); Malheur (Malheur N.W.R., Harney, OR); N.S.C.B. (N. Spit Coos Bay, Coos, OR); O.S. (Ocean Shores, Grays Harbor, WA); P.N.P. (Pt. No Pt., Kitsap, WA); Ridgefield (Ridgefield N.W.R., Clark, WA); W.W.R.D. (Walla Walla R. delta, Walla Walla, WA); WBRC (Washington Bird Records Committee). "Eastside" and "westside" mean east and west of the Cascade crest, respectively.

## LOONS THROUGH FALCONS

A Red-throated Loon was on the eastside, where not annual, at Priest Rapids L. 15 Apr

(DG). Washington's first **Arctic Loon**, initially found in Jan at Priest Rapids L., remained until 15 Apr (†EH, DG). Two Pacific Loons at Vantage, *Kittitas*, 18 May were exceptionally late for the eastside (†TA); 4 others were on the eastside, all in Mar (BF, BL). Yellow-billed Loons at Yaquina Bay, *Lincoln*, 9 Mar (C. Philo); Sequim, *Clallam*, 11 Mar (SDo); Netarts Bay, *Tillamook*, 13 Mar–9 Apr (CR); and one a few weeks late at O.S. 7 May (SM, DD), provided an above-average spring total for the past decade. Westside Clark's Grebes at L. Washington, *King*, 19 Mar (S. Terry); O.S., 14–20 Mar (PtS, KKn); near Florence, *Lane*, 20 Apr (BS, Z. Stotz); and at Yaquina Bay 12 May (PaS) provided an average total. Laysan Albatross reports continue to increase: Newport, *Lincoln*, pelagics had two 29 Apr, one 7 May, and seven 21 May (GG), while two were off Westport, *Grays Harbor*, 22 Apr (TRW), and one was dead at O.S. 20 Mar (PWS). Offshore counts of Black-footed Albatross were normal, with 100–200 per trip, but one from shore at Boiler Bay, *Lincoln*, 20 Apr was most unusual (PP). Northern Fulmar numbers were remarkably low, with only 23 on five pelagic trips (TRW, GG). Somewhat normal numbers of Pink-footed and Sooty Shearwaters were found offshore but, surprisingly, no Short-tailed Shearwaters were reported (TRW, GG). A Manx Shearwater was found in a parking lot in Hoquiam, *Grays Harbor*, 9 Apr (†SM, C. Wood) and another was at O.S. 14 May (†KA); though now annual in Washington, most have been Jul–Oct, so these records are the first for spring since 1994. A Manx/Black-vented Shearwater was seen from Boiler Bay 3 May (†PP); given recent trends, it was almost certainly a Manx.

Over the past decade American White Pelicans have been found in singles and

pairs, throughout the year, at scattered westside localities; reports this year from Everett, *Snohomish* (DB), Sauvie I./Ridgefield (L. Johns, EA), and Leque I., *Snohomish* (S. Kostka) fit this pattern but 27 at F.R.R. 27 May was exceptional (JC, DDe). Brown Pelicans returned early this year, with Oregon's first at Port Orford, *Curry*, 13 Apr (NW) and Washington's first at Westport 15 Apr (BTw). A Snowy Egret, barely annual in Washington, was at Tokeland, *Pacific*, 13 May (†BL); most records are Apr–May. One Cattle Egret report, from Malheur 21 Apr, was about normal (DE).

The injured Emperor Goose at Port Angeles, *Clallam*, survived until at least 13 May (BN) and 2 at Tillamook, *Tillamook*, remained until 2 Apr (CR). Westside Ross's Geese were not as numerous as in recent springs, with 4 at Baskett Slough N.W.R., *Polk*, 16 Apr (JL) and one at Boiler Bay 20 Apr (PP), but on the eastside, 60 at Rock L., *Whitman*, 8 Apr provided a record Washington count (DW) and 180 near Post, *Crook*, 15 Apr was astonishing for e.-cen. Oregon (CG). A single Ross's was at Phileo L., *Spokane*, 3 May (JA, WH). Single Brant were at Ridgefield and vicinity 1 Mar–10 Apr (DE, EA) and near Grants Pass, *Josephine*, 28 May (PaS); interior records are always noteworthy, even from the westside, and the latter bird was quite late for such a location. Fifteen Eurasian Wigeons on the eastside was almost twice normal. A hybrid Cinnamon x Blue-winged Teal, reported annually in the Region, was at Mollala, *Clackamas*, 15 Apr (ES, TS). A Eurasian Green-winged Teal remained at Edmonds, *Snohomish*, until 2 May, one of the latest dates yet for this scarce winter visitor (DD). Others at Dallesport, *Klickitat*, 8 Apr (BTw) and Pelton Dam, *Jefferson*, 1–2 Mar (R. Marheine, G. Concannon) were on the eastside, where extremely rare. The Region averages  $\pm 2$

Tufted Ducks per spring, almost all from the westside, though reports along the eastside Columbia R. from Umatilla to Hood R. have been somewhat regular during recent years. This spring there were three reports: Hoquiam 11 Mar–2 Apr (R. Sanders, J. Friars, vt. SM); Biggs, *Sherman*, 26 Mar (J. Alban); and Ridgefield 15 Apr–14 May (N. Brunson, WC). However, one at Hatfield L., *Deschutes*, 6 May (A. Weber) provided perhaps the first e. Oregon record away from the Columbia R. and surpassed the previous Regional late date of 2 May. A concentration of 21 Red-breasted Mergansers at Banks L., *Grant*, 29 Mar was unusual for the eastside (JA). A count of 12,800 Ruddy Ducks at Malheur 21 Apr was exceptional, even for se. Oregon (DE, CG).

A White-tailed Kite at Malheur 13 Apr was in e. Oregon, where rare (MM). Out-of-place Red-shouldered Hawks, rare n. of Coos, were at Yachats, *Lincoln*, 10 Mar (S. Hagen) and Ridgefield 28 Apr (†PtS). If accepted by the WBRC, a **Broad-winged Hawk** at Stanwood, *Snohomish*, 11 Apr (†DB) will provide the 3rd documented spring Washington record and the Region's earliest by a month. There were unprecedented numbers of Swainson's Hawks on the westside, where extremely rare. Singles were at Everett 5 May (DB); Eugene, *Lane*, 5 May (M. Nikas); Carnation, *King*, 14 May (EH); Portland, 16 & 23 May (fide HN); Cape Blanco, *Curry*, 30 May (TJW); and Nisqually N.W.R., *Thurston*, 31 May (SN). A Harlan's Hawk at March Pt., *Skagit*, 13 May was a month late (SM, BTw). The only Gyrfalcon was a month late at Tangent, *Linn*, 11 Apr (JH). A Prairie Falcon at F.R.R. 29 Apr provided a rather late date for this scarce winter visitor to the westside (H. Lown). An apparently injured Sandhill Crane at Brady, *Grays Harbor*, 20 May was unusually late for w. Washington (PtS).

**SA** White-faced Ibis have steadily increased in the Region, with the center of abundance always being Malheur. About 20 pairs nested there in the late 1960s, increasing to 150 pairs in the late 1970s, 880 pairs in 1984, and 4600 pairs in 1987 (Gilligan et al. 1994, *Birds of Oregon*). By the late 1980s, small nesting colonies become established in *Lake*. The 1990s saw further increases, with ever more birds wandering elsewhere in the Region. In the 1990s, Washington averaged about 2 per year; prior to 1960, there had been only 1–2 records. Paralleling these changes in WA/OR, wintering numbers in se. California have increased from a few thousand in the 1950s to 16,000+0 in the mid–1990s and double that today (G. McCaskie).

Even given such impressive increases, spring 2000 was stunning. At Chewaucan Marsh, *Lake*, 1518 were tallied 13 May (CM) and numbers at Malheur seemed well above recent norms (AC).

Additionally, unprecedented numbers of vagrants appeared, with 438 reported from w. Oregon after 19 May, 81 from w. Washington after 25 May, 16 away from usual locations in e. Oregon after 29 Apr, and 3 in e. Washington 27–28 May. Maxima from w. Oregon included 100 near Bandon, *Coos*, 21 May (DL, KC) and 65 at Yaquina Bay 21 May (GG). Wayward birds in e. Oregon included 6 near Post, *Crook*, 29 Apr (C. Gates), 5 at Hatfield L., *Deschutes*, 14 May (D. Hale), and  $\leq 5$  at *Wallowa* in late May (F&SC). In Washington, sightings included 80+ at Ridgefield 25–31 May (ph., D. Yorgason-Quinn, DF), 3 at Othello, *Adams*, 27–28 May (KA, SM, C. Beachell), and one near Kingston, *Kitsap*, 30–31 May (VN). Reasons for this irruption are unclear, particularly considering the substantial westside component. An ever-increasing breeding population is likely part of the reason, but why so many birds along the coast and relatively few in ne. Oregon and e. Washington?

## PLOVERS THROUGH ALCIDS

Six hundred Black-bellied Plovers at L.K.N.W.R. 21 Apr exceeded the previous eastside spring high count several-fold (KS); even 14 at Swanson Lakes, *Lincoln*, 19 May was exceptional for the eastside in spring (JA). Though not unprecedented, an American Golden-Plover at Millicoma Marsh, *Coos*, 17 March was about one month early (TB); one at Rock L., *Whitman*, 29 Apr (DW) provided about the 2nd spring record for e. Washington. The only other report was of one at O.S. 29 Apr (SDs). Six Pacific Golden-Plovers—a record spring total—were at Brady 4 May (†TA). Two were also there 11 May (TA) and one was at the Pistol R. mouth, *Curry*, 29 Apr (NW); the Region averages only about 4 per spring. Nine unidentified golden-plovers were reported 12 Apr–31 May. Black-necked Stilts are still increasing in the Region; a number were found 2–3 weeks early at scattered *Adams*, *Grant*, and *Benton* locations in late Mar (BF, DP, BW). Tallies of 51 at Othello, *Adams*, 28 May (SM, BTw, KA, BL, S. Mills) and 50 near Lamont, *Whitman*, 5 May (DW) were probably record counts for spring in Washington. Rare on the westside, ≤7 were at Ridgefield 26 Apr–17 May (J. Shearer, JE), and 12 were at Corvallis, *Benton*, OR, 12 Apr (BT, D. MacDonald), ≤6 were at Tualatin N.W.R., *Washington*, OR, 22 Apr–13 May (PaS), 4 were near Bandon 21 Apr (DL, KC), 2 at Baskett Slough N.W.R. 20 Apr (RG), and 2 at Eugene 24–27 Apr (D. W. Smyth). Eight American Avocets were at Crockett L., *Island*, 15 May, with nest-building noted 21 May (J. Meyer, SM, CH); they are casual in spring in w. Washington and have not previously nested there. In w. Oregon, where rare, 4 were rare at Flores L., *Curry*, 21 Apr (J. Heaney, L. Mangan) and one was at N.S.C.B. 21 May (TR).

Solitary Sandpiper numbers were above average, with 17 in w. Oregon, 4 in e. Oregon, 4 in w. Washington, and one in e. Washington, all 17 Apr–16 May and most 20–30 Apr. Single Willets were at Tangent 10 Apr (TB), F.R.R. 22 May (DDe), and Swanson Lakes, *Lincoln*, WA, 20 May (JA, WH); they are rare in interior w. Oregon and e. Washington. An Upland Sandpiper, extirpated since 1993 as a Washington breeder, was near Ephrata, *Grant*, 28 May (†MMo), only about the 17th state record of a migrant and only the 4th from spring. Twenty-two Whimbrels at L.K.N.W.R. 29 Apr was an exceptional concentration for the eastside (KS). Six Long-billed Curlew reports from the Willamette Valley and Puget Trough 2 Apr–15 May was above

average for the westside interior. A **Hudsonian Godwit** at Miller I., *Klamath*, 30 May (D. Heyerly, A. Esche) furnished only the 3rd Oregon and 7th Regional spring record, with previous ones spanning 26 Apr–8 Jun. Marbled Godwits at Columbia N.W.R., *Grant*, 9 May (BF) and Swanson Lakes 12 May (JA) provided rare e. Washington records; 59 at Antelope Res, *Malheur*, 21 Apr provided an excellent count for e. Oregon (MD, MLD). Three more at Ridgefield 3 May, were quite unusual for interior w. Washington (JE). A Ruddy Turnstone was at Hatfield L., *Deschutes*, 10 May and 4 were in Lake 13 May (S. de Vasconcellos, CM); there are <20 spring eastside records. Two Red Knots, rare on the eastside during spring, were at L.K.N.W.R. 1 May, providing the eastside with its earliest record ever (KS). Three more were at Summer L., *Lake*, 12 May (CM, MM) and 2 were at Swanson Lakes 19 May (JA). Another at Ridgefield 14 May provided a very rare report from the interior westside (Pts). Eight Semipalmated Sandpipers 8–14 May doubled the recent average of 4/spring; 2 on the eastside at *Malheur* 14 May (TB) were particularly noteworthy. The only Baird's Sandpipers were at O.S. 2 Apr (PWS) and near White City, *Jackson*, 1 Apr (J. Harleman), probably the earliest ever for the Region. Eleven Pectoral Sandpipers 22 Apr–20 May were well above the usual 2–3 spring total. A **Sharp-tailed Sandpiper** at New R. mouth, *Coos*, 24 May, provided only the 2nd Regional spring record (†DL, KC), the first coming from Leadbetter Pen., *Pacific*, 26 Apr 1979. Eighteen Rock Sandpipers at Cape Flattery, *Clallam*, 28 May were the latest ever for the Region and a good high count for recent years (†BN). A **Stilt Sandpiper** at Astoria, *Clatsop*, 20 Apr, was only Oregon's 2nd in spring (MP) and a **Ruff** at L.K.N.W.R. 30 Apr was only Oregon's 4th in spring (vt. K. Owen). Numbers of Red-necked Phalaropes offshore were low, but 4000+ from shore at Boiler Bay 3 May were impressive (PP). A tally of 3500+ Red Phalaropes off Newport 21 May provided a record high count (GG).

South Polar Skuas are casual before June, so one nw. of Westport 28 May was noteworthy (PA). Six Parasitic Jaegers at Bellingham, *Whatcom*, 21 May, provided a remarkably high spring count for the Puget Sound area (TRW). Spring Long-tailed Jaegers, formerly considered casual, were recorded for the 4th consecutive year: 3 off Newport 21 May (GG) and one nw. of Westport 28 May (PA). Franklin's Gulls are normally barely annual during spring in e.

Washington and ne. Oregon, but this spring was different with one at Swallows Park, *Asotin*, 27 May (KKn), 3 at W.W.R.D. 25 May (TA), several at Joseph, *Wallowa*, in late May (F&SC), 3 at Swanson Lakes 20 May (JA, WH), 9 at Sprague L., *Lincoln*, 13 May (JA), and 7 at Reardan, *Lincoln*, 18 May (JA). Another Franklin's Gull 16 mi w. of Yaquina Head, *Lincoln*, 7 May was on the westside, where extremely rare during spring (GG). A Little Gull at Summer L. 30 Apr was only about the 4th for e. Oregon and the first in spring (†PH, JH). Another was at P.N.P. 22–25 Mar and 5 Apr (VN); this species is barely annual during spring in the Puget Sound area. An unseasonable Heermann's Gull at Ediz Hook, *Clallam*, 11 Mar was likely a survivor from the winter (SDo); spring arrivals appeared in late May. A first-year **Iceland Gull** at Tacoma, *Pierce*, 19 Mar was about the 9th for Washington, if accepted by the WBRC (ph. MDo). A first-year Glaucous Gull was a month late at O.S. 22 May (KK); another late individual was at Lincoln City, *Lincoln*, 3–12 May (PP, PaS). Two Arctic Terns returned to the tiny Everett colony 5 May (DB). A Forster's Tern was at F.R.R. 13 Apr (D. Pettey) and ≤6 were at Ankeny N.W.R., *Marion*, 13–29 May (JL, JH); this species is extremely rare in spring on the westside. Up to 16 Black Terns were at F.R.R., where they have bred since 1992, 13 May+ (D. Irons); 12 others, well above average, were reported from the westside 14–30 May. Common Murre and Cassin's Auklet numbers off Washington remain pathetic, with 80 of the former and 46 of the latter on the two spring Westport pelagics (TRW). Marbled Murrelet counts of 647 on 31 Mar and 337 on 25 May at P.N.P. (VN) were some of the highest ever for the Region.

## PIGEONS THROUGH THRASHERS

Band-tailed Pigeons, rare-but-annual on the eastside with most records from se. Oregon in spring/summer, were at *Malheur* 27 May (AC) and Joseph 28 May (F&SC). Bringing the Regional total to ±5 records, a **Eurasian Collared-Dove** was at Astoria 3 Apr (TT). The only westside Burrowing Owl was at Portland 10–20 Mar (B. Sallinger). A White-throated Swift at Eugene 4 May was in nw. Oregon, where casual (B. Newhouse). The Vaux's Swift roost in Eugene peaked at 10,000 birds 6 May (JC). A Black-chinned Hummingbird at Everett 19–20 May was in nw. Washington, where casual (vt. SM). Another at Grants Pass 15 May was in the Rogue R. valley (A. van Hulzen), the only westside area where somewhat regular Washington's 2nd **Costa's Hummingbird**

was a male at Richmond Beach, *King*, 27 Apr–10 May (D. Norman, D. Paulson, †SM, vt EH). Oregon reports came from Sutherlin, *Douglas*, 1 May (K. Wilson) and Bend, *Deschutes*, 28–30 Apr (D. Tracy, J. Williamson); Oregon averages one/spring. Calliope Hummingbirds, nearly annual w. of the Cascades in Washington in Apr–May, were at Washougal, *Skamania*, 4 Apr (WC); Olympia, *Thurston*, 9 Apr (R. Saecker); and Everett 22 May (SM). In w. Oregon, where more regular, there were 13 reports 2 Apr–13 May, well above average. Lewis's Woodpeckers, rare in nw. Oregon and w. Washington, were near Baskett Slough N W.R. 26 Apr (R. Day) and Wilson W.A., *Benton*, 28 May (JH). On 14 May, two Acorn Woodpeckers were near Lyle, *Klickitat*, Washington's only regular spot for this species (PtS). Red-naped Sapsuckers were near Lebanon, *Linn*, 31 Mar (JH), Elkton, *Douglas*, 2 May (SD), and Portland 7 Apr (R. Cronin); they are rare in spring w. of the Cascades.

Willow Flycatchers at Spanaway, *Pierce*, 28 Apr (GR), Skagit W.M.A., *Skagit*, 2 May (SM, DD) and Washtucna, *Adams*, 4 May (BF) were exceptionally early for Washington, the main influx not reaching that state until about 25 May. A few Least Flycatchers occur annually in the Region starting in late May; singles were at Wenas Creek, *Yakima*, 26–29 May (AS); Palouse Falls, *Franklin*, 27 May (KKn, DB); and Malheur 30 May (JG, GL, SG). Gray Flycatchers were near Arlington, *Snohomish*, 1–2 May (DB, †SM, DD) and at Steigerwald L., *Clark*, 6 May (†WC); there were only three prior records from w. Washington, two from May. A Black Phoebe at Milwaukie, *Clackamas*, to 20 Mar was well n. of its usual range (ES). Washington's 3rd **Eastern Phoebe** was at Washtucna 27 May (†DB) while Oregon's 6th was near Fossil, *Wheeler*, 14 May (†PaS); most of the Region's records have accrued during the last five years. Ten Say's Phoebes in w. Oregon 6 Mar–5 May were well above average and included one on the outer coast near Florence 16 Mar (BS). The only w. Washington report came from Steigerwald L. 19 Mar (HG). Three Ash-throated Flycatchers were n. of their usual range in w. Oregon: F.R.R. 15 May (L. Gilbert); Detroit Flats, *Marion*, 16 May (M. Kleinbaum); and Tualatin N.W.R., *Washington*, 30 May (EM); most records from nw. Oregon are May/June. Seven Western Kingbirds at P.N.P. 22 May (VN) was an impressive concentration for the westside.

A Loggerhead Shrike, barely annual in w. Washington, was at Everett 13 May (DB). Another on the outer coast at Cape Blanco 26 May (TJW) was more exceptional. A Northern Shrike at Finley N.W.R., *Benton*, 22 Apr (J. Fairchild) was about three weeks late for w. Oregon. Three Plumbeous Vireos from *Harney*, 19–30 May seems above normal, but this species' status is still being worked out (M, HN, D. Helzer, D. Albright). A Red-eyed Vireo at Malheur 9 May (OS) was at least two weeks early. Blue Jays, barely annual on the westside and virtually unrecorded after early May, were at Steamboat I., *Thurston*, 25 Mar–7 May (J. Parkhurst); Duvall, *King*, 30 Mar–1 Apr (*vide* H. Opperman); Philomath, *Benton*, 15 May (K. Fairchild); and P.N.P. 21 May (VN). On the eastside, individuals remained at Sisters, *Deschutes*, until 6 May (SS) and at Bend, *Deschutes*, until 19 Mar (G. Bernstein). Clark's Nutcrackers, rare in the westside lowlands, were near Pedee, *Polk*, 31 Mar (TB), Mehama, *Marion*, 8 Mar (SD), and Coburg, *Lane*, 13 May (L. Kaye). Ten reports of Bank Swallows away from westside breeding areas provided further evidence of their increase w. of the Cascades; in the past, they were less-than-annual during spring. Particularly notable was one about two weeks early at Newport, *Lincoln*, 11 Apr (W. Hoffman).

Two Rock Wrens, rare on the westside, were at Mt. Pisgah, *Lane*, 23 May (DDe). A Bewick's Wren near Frenchglen, *Harney*, 20 May was well e. of that species normal range (HN). Three Northern Mockingbirds on the westside represented an average spring: Eugene 12–13 Apr (L. Fish), N.S.C.B. throughout period (TR), and Ft. Steilacoom, *Pierce*, 18 Apr (B. Wilson). Only one from the eastside, however, was subpar—Malheur 20 May (OS). Sage Thrashers, extremely rare in w. Washington, were at Vancouver, *Clark*, 24 Apr–2 May (RK, KKn), Steigerwald L., *Clark*, 30 Apr (HG), and near Granite Falls, *Snohomish*, 5 May (B. Boyes). A Brown Thrasher at Prairie Creek, *Wallowa*, until early May (F&SC) was about the 20th for Oregon.

#### WARBLERS THROUGH FINCHES

A Tennessee Warbler, nearly annual in se. Oregon 20 May–15 Jun, was at Malheur 30 May (GL, JG). Two Virginia's Warblers were at Malheur 19 May (†OS), one of which remained until 29 May (HN, GL); 2 more were at Page Springs, *Harney*, 26 May (N. Bjorkland, M. Rudolph). This species recently proved to be a local breeder in se. Oregon, but there are <10 Oregon records during migration. A Black-throated Gray

Warbler near Corvallis 20 Mar was two weeks early (R. Noss) and a Hermit Warbler along the Winchuck R., *Curry*, 26 Mar was a month early (DM). Oregon's 7th **Black-throated Green Warbler** was at Malheur 20 May (PaS); most previous records are from *Harney* 21 May–20 June. The wintering Palm Warbler in Portland remained until 13 Mar (D. Bailey); the one in Everett remained until 2 Mar (S. Pink). Another at Mollala 28 May (ES, T. Sellers) was exceptionally late and an apparent spring migrant. The only Black-and-white Warbler was at Malheur 26 May (AC); the Region has recently averaged 5/spring, not including June. Oregon's 4th **Kentucky Warbler** was at Fields, *Harney*, 8 May (M); the previous three records are from Harney and Lake in June/July. A Yellow-breasted Chat at Wilson WA, *Benton*, 3 May (A. McGie) was n. of its usual w. Oregon range.

A **Summer Tanager** at Fields 9 May was about the 8th for Oregon (M); most previous records are from the se. 24 May–14 Jun, but there are at least two late Apr/early May records from n. California. A tally of 100+ Western Tanagers at P.N.P. 7 May was exceptional (VN). The wintering Clay-colored Sparrow at Sauvie I. remained until 12 Mar (RK); 3 returned to the traditional *Spokane* nesting site by 16 May (JA). A singing Brewer's Sparrow at Marymoor Park, *King*, 29–30 Apr provided w. Washington with only its 9th record (EH), 7 of which were 2 Apr–5 Jun. Equally rare was one on the Oregon coast at Brookings, *Curry*, 30 Apr (DM). Three Vesper Sparrows were in w. Washington away from breeding areas: Carnation 14 May (EH); Sylvana, *Snohomish*, 27 May (SM, DD); and Sequim 31 May (L&BR). Migrant Vespers are rare in w. Washington and mostly occur early Apr–early May. A Lark Sparrow, rare in nw. Oregon, was at Brownsville, *Linn*, 5 May (M. Nikas). A singing Black-throated Sparrow, a local and irregular breeder in e. Washington, was n. of Royal City, *Grant*, 31 May (EH). Two others were in w. Oregon, where casual: Sutherlin, *Douglas*, 16 May (K. Wilson) and Coburg 27 Apr (R. Holland). Most westside records have been mid-May to early Jun. A Sage Sparrow at Steptoe Butte, *Asotin*, 28 May provided a first county record and was well e. of the species' normal range (DB, KKn). A **Lark Bunting** at the L. Ozette trailhead, *Clallam*, 28 May (A. Schlecht), provided ±11th Washington record and first from Mar–May, if accepted by the WBRC. Four previous records are from June, with three from Clallam. Single Grasshopper Sparrows were at Detroit Flats, *Marion*, 8 Apr and 5

May (SD); migrants are extremely rare on the westside and 8 Apr is probably the earliest ever for the Region [though it has wintered—ed.]. A Red Fox Sparrow, likely *zaboria*, was at Spencer I., *Snohomish*, 12 Mar (†SM, DD); the status of this taxon in the Region is still uncertain, but it appears to occur annually. The last of the Region's overwintering Swamp Sparrows were at Millicoma Marsh, *Coos*, 15 Apr (TR). A Harris's Sparrow at Nisqually N.W.R. 31 May was a month late (SN). A Golden-crowned Sparrow at Cape Blanco 26 May (TJW) was ±10 days late, but one at Washtucna 27 May was later and quite far east (DB); also rather far e. were 1–2 at Davenport, *Lincoln*, 5–12 May (JA).

A male Rose-breasted Grosbeak at Astoria 5 Apr was ±6 weeks early, if it did not winter locally (MP). Two more were seen in Portland 14 May (P. Blair) and a single was at Fields 26 May (M); the Region averages about 3 each May. Lazuli Buntings are rare west of the Puget Trough in Washington, so males near Sequim 18 & 22 May were noteworthy (G. Kridler, L&BR). Another at Canby, *Clackamas*, 5 Apr (ES, TS) was among the earliest ever for the Region. A male **Indigo Bunting** at Puyallup, *Pierce*, 11–13 May (L. A. Rose, †D. Adams) was Washington's 8th and the earliest by seven days. Another at Hillsboro,

Washington, 16 May was also early. **Tricolored Blackbirds** returned for the 3rd consecutive summer to their colony near Wilson Creek, *Grant*, with 20+ males there 28 May (DB, KKn). A Rusty Blackbird at Ellensburg, *Kittitas*, 21 May was probably the latest ever of this rare winter visitor (†Pts, †D. Hayden, RS). Common Grackles were at Fields 18 May (M) and Malheur 31 May (S. Jagers); there are now ±23 Oregon records, half from May. Great-tailed Grackles, regular in spring/summer in se. Oregon for nearly two decades but casual on the westside and in ne. Oregon, were near Florence 8 May (R. LaChance), Newport 8 May (R. Cheek), and LaGrande, *Union*, 9 Apr (S. Croghan). Rare w. of the Cascades, a Cassin's Finch was at Leaburg, *Lane*, 11 Apr (A. Reid). Several Common Redpolls from this winter's irruption lingered into Mar on the eastside, but singles near Lebanon 9 Mar (BT), Olympia 31 Mar (J. Pruske), and Mt. Vernon, *Skagit*, 10 Mar (J. Douglass) were on the westside, where always rare. A **Hoary Redpoll** at Elk, *Spokane*, 14–16 Mar was about the 12th for Washington and the first to be physically documented (vt. MMo).

**Addenda:** The following were inadvertently not included in the fall 1999 column: E. Oregon's 5th Pomarine Jaeger at McNary

Dam, *Umatilla*, 21 Nov (D. Smith, P. Dauble); Brown Thrasher at Glass Butte, *Lake*, 10 Sep, about the 19th for Oregon (A. Reid).

**Initialed observers (subregional editors in boldface):** Kevin Aanerud, Jim Acton, Eric Anderson, Phil Anderson, Tom Aversa, David Beaudette, Bob Boekelheide, Trent Bray, Wilson Cady, Kathy Castelein, Alan Contreras, Frank & Sue Conley, J. Cooney, Craig Corder, Merry Lynn Denny, Mike Denny, D. DeWitt (DDe), Michael Donahue, Steve Dowlan, Dennis Duffy, **Joe Engler** (Clark), Duncan Evered, Bob Flores, Dan Friesz, Chuck Gates, Jeff Gilligan, Greg Gillson, Henry Gilmore, Steve Gordon, Denny Grinstead, Warren Hall, Jeff Harding, Patricia Harding, Carl Haynie, Eugene Hunn, Kraig Kemper, Ken Knittle (KKn), Ray Korpi, Bruce LaBar, David Lauten, John Lundsten, Ed McVicker, Allison Mickel, **Tom Mickel** (Lane), Craig Miller, Marilyn Miller, M. Moskwik (MMo), Don Munson, **Harry Nehls** (OR), Vic Nelson, Steve Nord, **Bob Norton** (Olympic Peninsula), Michael Patterson, Phil Pickering, Gene Revelas, Craig Roberts, Dennis Rockwell, Tim Rodenkirk, **Russell Rogers** (WA), L.&B. Rymon, Owen Schmidt, Tom Sellers, Stephen Shunk, Elmer Specht, Kevin Spencer, Andy Stepniewski, Patrick Sullivan (PtS), B. Stotz, **Paul Sullivan** (PaS, E. OR), Ruth Sullivan, B. Thackaberry, Dennis Vroman, Terry J. Wahl, Terry R. Wahl, Nathaniel Wander, Diane Weber, Bob Woodley.



# middle pacific coast

## Scott B. Terrill

(loons to frigatebirds, larids to alcids)  
H. T. Harvey & Associates  
3150 Almaden Expwy., Ste. 145  
San Jose, California 95118  
(sterrill@harveyecology.com)

## Daniel S. Singer

(herons to shorebirds)  
c/o Arroyo & Coates  
500 Washington St., Ste. 700  
San Francisco, California 94111  
(dsg@isp.net)

## Steven A. Glover

(doves to wrenit)  
6526 Conestoga Lane  
Dublin, California 94568  
(Sgloverccc@aol.com)

## Don Roberson

(thrashers to finches)  
282 Grove Acre Ave.  
Pacific Grove, California 93950  
(creagrus@montereybay.com)

