

A Loggerhead Shrike, very rare in the s. interior, was at Separation L. near Princeton 20–29 Mar (JK, MS). Richmond's wintering Blue Jay, present since Nov, remained to 12 Mar (TP et al.). The Western Scrub-Jay, present in Ladner since Oct, remained to 31 Mar (DK et al.). An Eastern Yellow Wagtail (*Motacilla tschutschensis*, now split from the Yellow Wagtail of w. and cen. Eurasia) was reportedly seen with pipits at the Long Beach Airport 23 Apr (AP); if substantiated, this would be the first spring record and the 6th for the province. With the recent A.O.U. split within the Yellow Wagtail complex (and potentially more to come), observers are encouraged to write exhaustive documentation on all wagtails in the Region.

A singing male Northern Parula, the province's 5th, was along the Grant Narrows Dyke in Pitt Meadows 24 May (†RTO, CI, BI), the 3rd record in as many years. An SY Northern Waterthrush was banded at the Alaskan Wildlife Refuge, Ladner 27 Mar (LM); unless this bird was overwintering, as an individual did nearby in winter 2002–2003, it was over two weeks early as a spring migrant. A male Yellow-breasted Chat was along the Grant Narrows Dyke Trail in Pitt Meadows 29 May (KR), one of few lower mainland sites where this species has bred in the past. A Cassin's Vireo was record early in Salmon Arm 2 Apr (THil). An American Tree Sparrow was very late at Colony Farm 24 Apr (AR et al.). The wintering Chipping Sparrow in Cloverdale remained through 2 Mar (IR et al.). A Black-throated Sparrow was briefly seen in Kelowna 21 May only (GW), for a potential 4th Okanagan record.

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Oregon & Washington



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Early. That was the Region's main theme this season, and early arrivals were especially noticeable in insectivorous species. Beyond the record dates noted, there were quite a few reports of early arrivals that were not quite noteworthy enough, individually, to be included. Other than that, the Region enjoyed above-average numbers of uncommon shorebirds and a nice smattering of rarities that did not form any obvious patterns. The spring was mostly warm and dry. During March, most of the Region received under 50 per cent of normal rainfall and "suffered" temperatures more than 8° F above normal. April moderated a bit, with temperatures mostly 3° to 8° F above normal and rainfall 50–70 per cent of normal. May brought a return to normal in both temperature and precipitation.

Abbreviations: F.R.R. (Fern Ridge Res., Lane); Lower Klamath (Lower Klamath N.W.R., Klamath); Malheur (Malheur N.W.R., Harney); Nisqually (Nisqually N.W.R., Thurston); N.S.C.B. (N. Spit Coos Bay, Coos); O.C.N.M.S. (Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary); O.S. (Ocean Shores, Grays Harbor); P.N.P. (Point No Point, Kitsap); P.S.B. (Port Susan Bay, near

Florence, *Snohomish*); Ridgefield (Ridgefield N.W.R., *Clark*); W.W.R.D. (Walla Walla R. delta, *Walla Walla*), Y.R.D. (Yakima R. delta, *Benton*, WA). "Eastside" and "westside" designation locations east and west of the Cascade crest, respectively.

LOONS THROUGH CRANES

At Boiler Bay, the high count of Red-throated Loons was a paltry 600 on 27 Apr, while Pacific Loons topped out at a more respectable 12,000 on 20 Apr (PP). The only Yellow-billed Loon was at Tolmie S.P., *Thurston* 9 Apr (E. Level); the recent average has been 4 per spring. Eleven Clark's Grebes were detected on the westside away from F.R.R., well above par, including 4 late birds at Yaquina Head, *Lincoln* 21 May (RCH). The only two organized pelagic trips this spring were out of Westport on 4 Apr and 15 May (BT, B. LaBar). Additionally, seabird surveys were conducted at O.C.N.M.S. 22–30 May (BT). Now annual during spring, a Laysan Albatross was between Grays and Quinault Canyons 22 May (BT). Very low totals of Northern Fulmar were recorded off Westport, 18 per trip, and only 50 per day in the O.C.N.M.S. Three Flesh-footed Shearwaters, rare during spring, were seen in the O.C.N.M.S. 25–27 May; none were off Westport, but one was off Newport, *Lincoln* 15 May (WH). For the 5th consecutive spring, Manx Shearwater made an appearance, with one off Westport 9 May (P. Anderson); there was also a Manx/Black-vented Shearwater at O.S. 6 May (SMac). Very low numbers of Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel were reported, only 6 off Westport and about 50 per day in the O.C.N.M.S.

Rare on the westside, American White Pelicans were noted at four locations 24 Apr–31 May, with top counts of 14 at F.R.R. 13 May (DDW) and 12 at Ridgefield 31 May (N. Edelen). Rare on the eastside, Green Herons were at the Deschutes R. mouth, *Sherman* 8 May (DB) and Page Springs, *Harney* 23 May (TB). White-faced Ibis are still rare in Washington and w. Oregon. This year, 22 were found in se. Washington, 28 Apr–19 May, with a peak of 15 near Wallula, *Walla Walla* 10 May (D. Bowton); the sole w. Oregon sighting was at F.R.R. 17 May (P. Sherrell).

A Pink-footed Goose remained near Brady, *Grays Harbor* until 10 Apr (RS, PtS); its provenance remains questionable. An odd hybrid goose, likely a Greater White-fronted Goose x Canada Goose, was at Moses L., *Grant* 5 Mar (ph. DSc, BF). The sole Emperor Goose was at Miller I., *Klamath* 30 Apr (A. Roedell); s. of Alaska, almost all interior records of this species come from Klamath N.W.R. and vicinity. The number of stray Ross's Geese continues

to increase, with 13 in w. Oregon, 7 in e. Washington, and 2 in w. Washington 9 Mar–22 May; the 22 May bird, at W.W.R.D., was perhaps the latest ever for e. Washington (MD, MLD). Rare away from saltwater, a Brant was at Scappoose Bottoms, *Clark* 19 Apr (TA). The *Skagit Bewick's Swan*, Washington's 2nd, was last seen near Rexville 20 Mar (vt. SM, CW, R. Shaw, DD). A Trumpeter Swan near Bow, *Skagit* 16 May was very late for the westside (GB).

Oregon's first Falcated Duck remained at F.R.R. until 14 Mar (AC). The eastside had another fabulous spring for Eurasian Wigeon, totaling 22 birds through 5 May. Three Blue-winged Teal x Cinnamon Teal hybrids were noted this spring, 31 Mar–26

Rare in Washington and e. Oregon, single Red-shouldered Hawks were reported from Ridgefield 13 Mar (PtS, RS) and Malheur 16 Apr (S. Imbrie). Swainson's Hawks are still not annual on the westside, but records from there are increasing. This year, singles were at White City, *Jackson* 9 Apr (N. Barrett), Eugene 5 May (N. Nikas), and S. Prairie, *Pierce* 26 Apr (CW). Six Gyrfalcons this spring (latest 20 Mar) was above average. Prairie Falcons, scarce on the westside during spring, were noted near Stanwood, *Snohomish* 5 Mar (DD, SP) and Sauvie I. 17 Apr (HN). A swarm of 17,000 Lesser Sandhill Cranes, representing more than half of the Pacific Flyway population, congregated near Corfu, *Grant* 6 Apr (BF).



This goose accompanied a flock of *moffitti* Canada Geese at Moses Lake, Washington 5 March 2004. Expert opinion suggests that it is most likely a Greater White-fronted Goose x Canada Goose hybrid, a combination occasionally reported from the Pacific Northwest (and elsewhere) in North America. Photograph by Doug Schonewald.

May. Nine Common (Eurasian Green-winged) Teal were detected, including rare eastside birds at Y.R.D. 8 Mar (NL) and Othello, *Adams* 14 Mar (BF); late birds included singles at Midway Beach, *Pacific* 1 May (PtS, RS) and Nisqually 8 May (PtS, RS). Additionally, a Common Teal x Green-winged Teal hybrid was on the westside, following a winter season with up to 5 such birds. A w. Oregon record 350 Canvasback congregated at Astoria 22 Mar (L. Cain). A Harlequin Duck, very rare on the eastside lowlands, was at McNary Dam 21 May (T. Greager). For the 4th consecutive spring Long-tailed Ducks appeared on the eastside, with 4 at Bridgeport, *Douglas* 11 Mar (BT) and one at Madras, *Jefferson* 18 Apr (PaS); this species seems to be increasing during spring on the eastside, in contrast to scoters, which remain very rare.

PLOVERS THROUGH WOODPECKERS

Several species of shorebirds that are typically scarce on the eastside appear in large numbers at se. Oregon's wetlands. Fitting that bill were 388 Black-bellied Plovers at Lower Klamath 24 Apr (KS); elsewhere, 2 at W.W.R.D. 16 May were e. Washington's first for spring since 2000 (MD, MLD). Four Pacific Golden-Plovers were identified on the westside 24 Apr–17 May. Single American Golden-Plovers were at Tokeland, *Pacific* 24 Apr (DP) and P.S.B. 17 May (JW, KW), while 5 unidentified golden-plovers were on the westside 3–22 May; this potpourri represents a fairly typical spring. Black-necked Stilt numbers continued to explode in w. Oregon, with at least 55 reported 7 Apr+ from seven locations. Peak counts included 21 at Basket Slough, *Polk* 16 May (B. Tice) and 19 at F.R.R. 22

Apr (JS), where 2 chicks were found 23 May, confirming breeding there for the 3rd consecutive year (DDW). In w. Washington, where still not annual, 4 stilts appeared at Ridgefield 26 Apr, with one dallying to 25 May (L. Ridenour, JE), and 4 visited P.S.B. 24–25 Apr (SM, DD). In e. Washington, a record 124 were tallied at Columbia N.W.R. and vicinity 13 Apr (RH); amazingly, Washington's first record came just 31 years ago, when a pair was found breeding in *Grant*. Ten westside American Avocets, 6 Apr–26 May, was above normal.

A gathering of 22 Lesser Yellowlegs at P.S.B. 29 Apr set a Washington spring record (SM), while an apparently north-

away from the outer coast on the westside 10 Apr–17 May. Rare in e. Washington and ne. Oregon, single Marbled Godwits were at W.W.R.D. 29 Apr–2 May (MD, MLD) and Willow Creek, *Gilliam* 30 May (RG); in se. Oregon, where more regular, 98 at Lower Klamath 17 Apr set an eastside record (KS). Marbled Godwits are also rare in the westside interior, so 2 at F.R.R. 26 May (DDW) and one in N. Portland 27 May (IT) were noteworthy. Single Sanderlings, not annual during spring on the eastside, visited Swanson Lakes, *Lincoln* 1 May (F. Drobny, KK et al.) and Y.R.D. 2 May (H. Armstrong, KK). Normal for spring, 4 Semipalmated Sandpipers were found, all

were in the O.C.N.M.S. 25–29 May; 2 were light-morph ads., apparently rarely seen in the Northern Hemisphere. Pomarine Jaeger numbers were very poor, with only 2 off Westport and one in the O.C.N.M.S. Surprisingly, as many Long-tailed Jaegers were found, with 2 off Westport 15 May and one in the O.C.N.M.S. 26 May; they are extremely rare in spring. Unusual numbers of Parasitic Jaegers accompanied a large coastal movement of Common Terns: 39 Parasitics were off Westport 15 May, with 8 present 22 May and 3 in the O.C.N.M.S. 23–27 May. A Franklin's Gull at Utsalady Bay, *Island* 24 Apr (SM, DD) and 4 at W.W.R.D. 25 Apr (H. Newsome) were about three weeks early and furnished Washington's first Apr records; thereafter, 15 others were recorded in that state, all on the eastside, with a maximum of 7 at W.W.R.D. 16 May (MD, MLD). The sole Little Gull was an ad. at P.N.P. 20 Apr (VN, BSW); an ad. or 2 have visited this location nearly every spring since 1995, with very few found elsewhere: one must wonder if just a few returning birds are responsible for most of these sightings. Two ad. Western Gulls at W.W.R.D. 16 May (MD, MLD) and a third-year nearby at *Wallula* 30 May (SM, DSc, BF) yielded record late-dates for the eastside. Also extremely late for the eastside (away from small breeding colonies on the Columbia R.) was a Glaucous-winged Gull at Central Ferry Park, *Whitman* 30 May–2 Jun (SM, BF, DSc, CW). Six Glaucous Gulls were observed this spring, including 3 in May, the latest of which was at Clatsop Spit 18 May (S. Warner). Very high counts of Sabine's Gulls were noted offshore: 1902 off Westport 15 May and 110 per day in the O.C.N.M.S. 22–30 May.

A Caspian Tern at W.W.R.D. 20 Mar was one day shy of the e. Washington record (MD, MLD). A flight of 5000 Common Terns past O.S. 6 May was unprecedented (SMac), and 918 off Westport 15 May was also unusual. Rare during spring on the westside, 2 Forster's Terns were at Fernhill Wetlands, *Washington* 18 May (W. Gross). A Least Tern was reported at Westport 8 May (†J. Wingfield, U. Valdez) and will furnish Washington's 2nd record if accepted; of the eight previous Regional records, seven were 21 May–31 Aug and one was, astonishingly, from Mar. A Black Tern near Klamath Falls 11 Apr was probably record early (A. Aversa), and a gathering of 250 at Calispell L., *Pend Oreille* 21 May was one of the largest in Washington in years (MF, J. Murray). On the westside, the Black Tern colony at F.R.R. continued to grow, with 100 there 23 May (D. Heyerly); migrants, however, remained scarce, with 2 at Ridgefield 9 May (D. Hayden) and one near Auburn, King 22 May (CW).



A fourth for the state, this not-so-great-tailed Great-tailed Grackle was first detected at Liberty Lake, Spokane County, Washington in January 2004, but news of the bird did not reach the public until June (here 12 July). Photograph by Tom Munson.

bound Lesser at Fernhill Wetlands, *Washington* 9 Mar was a month early (HN). Solitary Sandpipers once again appeared in excellent numbers, with 8 on the eastside and 37 on the westside, including a Washington record-early bird at Woodland, *Cowlitz* 11 Apr (R. Koppendrayner); most were detected late Apr/early May. Very rare in e. Washington, a Willet visited W.W.R.D. 2–16 May (SR, KK et al.). A Wandering Tattler, rare in the Puget Trough, was near Ebe's Landing, *Island* 31 May (F. Krause). An Upland Sandpiper returned to a site near Spokane for its 3rd consecutive year 9 May+ (JA); this species is barely annual in Washington. Four Whimbrels were at W.W.R.D. 2 May (SR, KK, K. Kemper), and one was at Lower Klamath 17 Apr (KS); Whimbrels are extremely rare during spring in e. Washington and rare in se. Oregon. Six Long-billed Curlews were found

in w. Washington 6–18 May. Eleven Baird's Sandpipers, 11 Apr–26 May, was about twice the norm and included 5 at Swanson Lakes 1 May (MD, MLD). A typical spring yields one or 2 Pectoral Sandpipers, but this spring witnessed a stunning 102 Pectorals, all but one in Washington, 2–25 May. Most were recorded 13–16 May, with a peak count of 15 at Nisqually 13 May (JP, K. Brady). Interestingly, the previous invasion of this sort, in 2002, involved 72 birds, almost all in Oregon. A tally of 296 Dunlin at W.W.R.D. 20 Mar was among the highest ever for e. Washington (MD, MLD), while the peak in se. Oregon was of 5200 at Lower Klamath 17 Apr (KS). Red Phalaropes went unreported, and Red-necked Phalarope were scarce offshore, with only 79 in two Westport trips, and about 10 per day in the O.C.N.M.S.

Very rare in spring, 5 South Polar Skuas

Ancient Murrelets were found in amazing numbers in the O.C.N.M.S., about 5 per day. Several recently fledged chicks were observed: one w. of Destruction I., *Jefferson* 23 May, 2 off LaPush, *Clallam* 25 May, and one off Neah Bay, *Clallam* 31 May. Though nesting has been suspected off the Olympic Pen., the large numbers of ads., combined with several observations of chicks, indicates a far more sizeable breeding population than previously suspected. A Parakeet Auklet appeared off La Push, *Clallam* 25 May (BT); there are 11 accepted records for Washington, plus several older reports that are likely valid. Most sightings from the Contiguous U.S. have been in late Nov-late Apr, but there are a few mid-summer records. Increasing Cassin's Auklet numbers indicated a rebounding population: 81 on two trips off Westport and about 20 per day in the O.C.N.M.S. Tufted Puffin numbers showed a similar resurgence, with singles seen on both Westport trips and 6 per day in the O.C.N.M.S.

Eurasian Collared-Dove finally arrived in the Region, at least in Oregon, where 13 were noted 7-29 May. Five were at Diamond, *Harney* 6 May (L. Hammond), 4 were at Rome, *Malheur* 21 May (M. Smith), 2 were at Fields, *Harney* 9-11 May (M), and singles were on the westside at Cape Blanco, *Curry* 7 May (TJW et al.) and Portland 29 May (DB); there were approximately six previous Oregon records. Rare on the eastside, 2 Band-tailed Pigeons were at Gold Creek Picnic Area, *Kittitas* 3 May (JP). This spring's Yellow-billed Cuckoo was in the Catlow Valley, *Harney* 28 May (WH); this species is annual during late May and Jun in se. Oregon. A Burrowing Owl, very rare in w. Washington, was at Steigerwald L., *Clark* 21 Mar (WC). Less remarkable, the wintering Burrowing Owl in Linn, OR remained until 10 Mar (M. Nikas), but one at Lincoln City 18 May was two months late for the westside (G. Kellogg). A Black Swift at Joyce, *Clallam* 23 Apr was three weeks early and furnished Washington's first Apr record (BN). Numbers of both Black-chinned and Calliope Hummingbirds have been increasing in w. Washington, especially in s. areas. Still not annual, a Black-chinned graced Mt. Pleasant, *Skamania* 26 Apr (WC), while 3 Calliopes were noted 7 Apr-5 May. In w. Oregon, there were 15 Calliopes, 29 Mar-22 May, including 3 displaying males and a female near Mt. Bolivar, *Cos* 17-24 Apr, suggesting local breeding (TR); nesting remains undocumented in the Coast Range. Costa's Hummingbird numbers also seem to be increasing. This spring, there were 3 in Oregon, including an early bird at Bend 29 Mar (D. Tracy), and in Washington, the wintering bird at Vancouver, *Clark* lingered through 13 Mar (E.

Bjorkman). Two Lewis's Woodpeckers at Underwood, *Skamania* 20 Mar were the first during spring in w. Washington since 2001 (MD, MLD). Acorn Woodpeckers persevered in Washington, with 2 at their established granary near Balch L., *Klickitat* 18 Apr (WC); a small colony has existed near this area since 1979 but has not expanded, and there are only two or three Washington records away from *Klickitat*. Washington's 4th Yellow-bellied Sapsucker lingered at Hood Park until 21 Mar (N. Miller). An American Three-toed Woodpecker at Mt. Pleasant 8 Apr was remarkable enough for being on the westside, but its presence at an elevation of 570 m was nearly unprecedented (WC).

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH PIPITS

Single Willow Flycatchers at Vantage 24 Apr (DSc) and Fields 25 Apr (M) were nearly a month early; the previous eastside early date was 29 Apr. Four Least Flycatchers, 16-31 May, was about twice the spring norm. A Gray Flycatcher at Mt. Pisgah, *Lane* 28 Apr was rare for the Willamette Valley (A. Prigge), but one at Otter Pt., *Curry* 30 May was on the outer coast, where extremely rare (RCH). A Dusky Flycatcher visited Seattle 28 Apr (KA); Dusksies are very rare migrants in w. Washington's lowlands, and most records are from mid-May. In contrast, 2 in lowland w. Oregon, both 5 May, was subpar. Last spring's Cordilleran Flycatcher returned to Chewelah, *Pend Oreille* 25 May (MF); there are no other ne. Washington records. A Black Phoebe at Oregon's nw. tip, Clatsop Spit, 24 Apr (S. Warner) was the most unusual of several extralimital w. Oregon sightings. Single Eastern Phoebes near LaPine, *Deschutes* 8 May+ (H. Hovath) and Fields 19 May (M) added to seven previous Oregon records, four of which were May/Jun. Western Washington probably had its best spring ever for Say's Phoebes, with 6 detected 11 Mar-7 Apr (plus 3 found during late Feb). Most extraordinary, though not unprecedented, were 2 Western Kingbirds near Benton City 17 Mar (J. & M. Dawson); this species usually arrives in Washington in mid-Apr. Western Kingbirds appeared in record numbers in w. Oregon, including tallies of 17 near Troutdale, *Multnomah* 16 May (J. Withgott) and 17 at Portland the next day (C. Hallett).

Five Loggerhead Shrikes in w. Oregon (6-22 Mar) and 3 in w. Washington (27 Mar-8 May) was about thrice the norm. Plumbeous Vireos were reported from Fields 25 Apr, 9 May, and 30 May (M, TR). This species is apparently annual in se. Oregon, mid-May to mid-Jun, though documentation remains slim, and this column's editors remain nervous about confusion

with dull spring Cassin's Vireos. Extremely rare on the eastside, a Hutton's Vireo was at Malheur 22 May (†T. Janzen). Oregon's 2nd Philadelphia Vireo was at Fields 21 May (†M, †OS, O. Halvorson), while Washington's 3rd was at Vantage 29 May (†SM, BF); two of the three previous Regional records are from early Jun, the other coming from Sep. Gray Jays in *Clallam* near Joyce 6 Mar (BN, J. Mullaly) and Twin Rivers 1 May (BN) continued a recent string of sightings from this area, suggesting colonization of the lowlands there. The only Blue Jay was near Malott, *Okanogan* 17 Mar (*vide DP*); the Region averages about 3 per spring. The breeding range of Western Scrub-Jay may soon include *Yakima*, with sightings at three different locations there in Apr/May (KK, SR, B. Cummins). A scrub-jay at Madras, *Jefferson* 18 Apr was also astray (PaS). Plumbeous Bushtits persist n. of Potholes Res., *Grant*. Nine were found at the original location 6 Mar (DSc), and ads. with young were noted there 28 May (BS). Additionally, 3 were located several km away in a disjunct stretch of habitat 6 Mar (DSc). The full extent and duration of this population's presence is unknown. Up to 5 Pygmy Nuthatches on Jasper Mt. 3-8 Apr furnished *Walla Walla*'s 3rd record (MD, MLD). A Rock Wren graced Bayocean Spit, *Tillamook* 20 May (RCH); there are fewer than 10 records for Oregon's outer coast. A Blue-gray Gnatcatcher at Tumalo S.P., *Deschutes* 19 Apr was n. of its usual haunts (S. Kornfeld).

Mountain Bluebirds are rare w. of the Cascades and very rare on the outer coast. This Mar, there were 4 on the westside, including 2 outer-coast birds at Neskowin, *Tillamook* 26 (M. Elliott). A Townsend's Solitaire at English Boom, *Island* 27 May was about a month late for the westside lowlands (DD, SP). Ten Oregon Northern Mockingbirds, 4 westside and 6 eastside, was better than normal, but 2 in Washington was fairly typical: Frenchman Hills, *Grant* 25 May (B. Fakler) and near Upper Hampton L., *Grant* 28 May (RH). Very rare on the westside, Sage Thrashers were found at Detroit, *Marion* 18 Apr (D. Tracy) and N.S.C.B. 23 May (TR). Two Red-throated Pipits visited Cape Blanco, *Curry* 28-30 Apr (TJW, ph. DM), and one stopped on Bainbridge I., *Kitsap* 7 May (†BSW), providing 2nd records for both states; clearly these are related to last fall's California/Baja California invasion. Interestingly, there are but a handful of previous spring records for North America s. of Alaska, and prior fall irruptions have not been followed by spring sightings (cf. N.A.B. 58: 17-21).

WARBLERS THROUGH FINCHES

Oregon's 2nd Lucy's Warbler lingered at Brookings, *Curry* through 29 Mar (S.

SA A cautionary tale was provided by a peculiar *Oporornis warbler* at Central Ferry Park, *Whitman*, WA 30 May (TSM, BF, DSc): on its right side, this bird had absolutely no white facial markings, but on the left it had two thick but very short eye-arcs, marks that were outside the range of those found on MacGillivray's Warblers. The undertail covert length was that of a Mourning Warbler, but the chest pattern was, perhaps, intermediate and the lores very dark. It seems that the most compelling identification is that of a Mourning Warbler x MacGillivray's Warbler hybrid. There is only one Washington record for Mourning Warbler.

Chambers). A Northern Parula was at Fields 18 May (M); this species is nearly annual in se. Oregon during May/June. Two Yellow Warblers at Jackson Bottom, *Washington* 27 Mar (D. Manzer) and one at Snagboat N.W.R., *Linn* 29 Mar (C. Deklock) were nearly record early and preceded the main influx by about three weeks. A Chestnut-sided Warbler near Adel, *Lake* 30 May was about the 45th for Oregon, most of which have been mid-May to mid-Jul (P. Neumann). Oregon's 15th and Coos's first Cape May Warbler visited N.S.C.B. 17 May (TR). A Black-throated Gray Warbler at Nisqually 26 Mar was about a month early and likely represents Washington's earliest record of a northbound individual (CW); 2 at Beaverton, *Washington* 22 Mar were similarly early for Oregon (E. Knight). Hermit Warblers are surprisingly rare even a short distance n. of their breeding grounds, so one at Bayview, *Skagit* 14 May was noteworthy (†L. Mills). Rare northbound Palm Warblers were noted at New R., *Coos* 23 Apr (TR) and Waldport, *Lincoln* 26 Apr (R. West). Only 2 Black-and-white Warblers were found this spring: Fields 9 May (M) and Malheur 16 May (S. Shunk). An American Redstart, a rare migrant and breeder on the westside, was at Skagit W.M.A. 28 May+ (K. Ranta). A Northern Waterthrush returned to Lost L., *Linn* 23 May (RH); generally very rare on the westside, waterthrushes have summered at this location multiple times during the past 15 years. A MacGillivray's Warbler at Deer Park, *Spokane* 9 Apr was record early for e. Washington (J. Dammarell). A Wilson's Warbler on Bainbridge I., *Kitsap* 28 Mar was only Washington's 2nd for Mar, and if truly a northbound migrant, it was about three weeks early (D. Watkins). After a complete absence during the 1960s, Yellow-breasted Chats have slowly increased in w. Washington, averaging about one per year since 1990. This spring, there were 4 in *Cowlitz* and *Thurston*, 11–31 May.

Western Washington's 5th Green-tailed

Towhee was on Bainbridge I., *Kitsap* 26–27 May (D. Watkins, ph. BSW); three of the previous records are of overwintering birds, and one was from midsummer. In e. Washington, an impressive 7 Clay-colored Sparrows were found 18 May+ in *Douglas*, *Whitman*, and *Spokane*; most were singing in apparently suitable breeding habitat. In w. Oregon, a Clay-colored was in Portland 28 May (IT); westside records of northbound Clay-colored are quite scarce. Brewer's Sparrows, rare spring migrants in w. Oregon, were noted at Fall Creek Res., *Lane* 31 Mar (DF) and Detroit, *Marion* 18 Apr (SD). Rarely detected in w. Washington away from its shrinking breeding range, a Vesper Sparrow visited Monroe, *Snohomish* 9 Apr (DD). A Lark Sparrow at P.N.P. 10–15 May (ph. BSW) was w. Washington's 8th for spring, with preceding records spanning 26 Apr–28 May. Very rare in the Willamette Valley watershed, Lark Sparrows were also found at Detroit 30 Apr (B. Bellin) and 23 May (RCH) and Fall Creek Res. 30 Apr (DF). Very rare on the westside, a Black-throated Sparrow visited Fish L., *Linn* 24 May (D. Parsons). Another Black-throated was near Vantage 29 May (SM, BF); they are very local and somewhat irregular breeders in e. Washington. Western Washington's 2nd Grasshopper Sparrow graced P.S.B. 25 Apr (†JW, KW). Rare in w. Washington's lowlands, a Slate-colored Fox Sparrow visited Marymoor Park, *King* 17 Mar (M. Hobbs). A Swamp Sparrow at Nisqually 5 Apr (K. Brady) and 2 at Wilson W.A., *Benton* 1 Apr (J. Geier) were the only ones reported this spring. Rather late for se. Oregon were a White-throated Sparrow at Fields 25 May (M) and a Golden-crowned Sparrow at Malheur 25 May (RCH). Amazingly, only one Harris's Sparrow was seen: near Woodland, *Cowlitz* 13–20 Mar (PtS, RS).

This spring was a typical one for Rose-breasted Grosbeaks; 3 were in Oregon 18–29 May and one was in Washington, at Republic, *Ferry* 23 May (M. Dossett, D.

McKnight). Oregon's 5th Blue Grosbeak was at Fields 31 May (†TR); prior records were from midsummer or winter. Four Lazuli Buntings, very rare w. of the Puget Trough, were near Brady, *Grays Harbor* 7 May (M. Roening); similarly rare was one at Tillamook 11 May (B. Woodhouse).

A Rusty Blackbird near Conway, *Skagit* 3 Mar was the only one detected (BS). Single Common Grackles were at Tumalo S.P., *Deschutes* 18 May (L. Walker) and Catlow Valley, *Harney* 31 May (TR); Oregon now has about 35 records. Single Great-tailed Grackles, annual in se. Oregon, were at Klamath Marsh N.W.R. 18 Apr (P. Vanderheul) and Page Springs, *Harney* 23 May (TB), with up to 3 at Fields 8–31 May (M). Single Hooded Orioles, exceptionally rare in e. Oregon, were at Wapinitia, *Wasco* 8 May (D. Lusihoff) and Redmond, *Deschutes* 9 May (S. Dougill). A female Hooded/Orchard Oriole was frustratingly elusive at Vantage, *Kittitas* 29 May (BF); there are but four prior Washington records of Hooded and one of Orchard.

Very rare in ne. Oregon, 2 Purple Finches were at LaGrande, *Union* 4 Apr (TB). Extremely rare w. of the Cascades, three pairs of Cassin's Finches visited Mt. Pleasant, *Skamania* 16 Apr–7 May (WC), and one was at Gresham, *Multnomah* 20 Apr (J. Gatchet). A Lesser Goldfinch in Walla Walla 6 May provided a first county record (†G. Shoemaker), while a pair that wintered in Vancouver, *Clark* lingered into the spring and bred (ph. G. Koehler); this species formerly bred in *Clark* but was last seen there in 1991.

Initialed observers (subregional editors in boldface): Kevin Aanerud, Tom Aversa (Washington), David Bailey, Gary Bletsch, Trent Bray, Wilson Cady, Alan Contreras, Merry Lynn Denny, Mike Denny, Don DeWitt (DDW), Steve Dowlan, Scott Downes (SDs), Dennis Duffy, Joe Engler (*Clark*), Dan Farrar, Bob Flores, Mike Force, Greg Gillson, Denny Granstrand (*Yakima*), Randy Hill, Wayne Hoffman, Rich Hoyer (RCH), Ken Knittle, Bill LaFramboise (lower Columbia Basin), Nancy LaFramboise, Stuart MacKay (SMac), Maitreya (M), Tom Mickel (*Lane*), Craig Miller, Don Munson, Harry Nehls (OR), Vic Nelson, Tracey Norris, Bob Norton (Olympic Pen.), Michael Patterson (*Clatsop*), Jason Paulios, Dennis Paulson, Phil Pickering, Steve Pink, Scott Ray, Tim Rodenkirk (*Coos*), Owen Schmidt, Doug Schonewald (DSc), Kevin Spencer, John Sullivan, Patrick Sullivan (PtS), Paul Sullivan (PaS), Ruth Sullivan, Bob Sundstrom, Iain Tomlinson, Terry J. Wahl, Jan Wiggers, Keith Wiggers, Brad S. Waggoner (BSW), Bob Woodley, Charlie Wright. ☉

SA Tricolored Blackbirds, first detected in Washington at Wilson Creek, *Grant* in Jul 1998, seem to be rapidly expanding their range in that state. Five near Sylvan L. 30 Apr furnished *Lincoln's* first record (†MD, MLD), while 90 at their "traditional" wintering location in Othello, *Adams* 18 Mar set a state record (TA); 18 remained at Othello 4 Apr (BF), and one was still there 31 May (DSc). Thirteen were present near Texas L., *Whitman* (a mere 60 km from Idaho!) 29 Apr (BT), with one remaining there 31 May (SM, BF, DSc). At Wilson Creek, a maximum of 10 was detected 16 Apr (SDs), but only 2 were noted 18 May (JP). It seems a given that undetected nesting areas exist in Washington.