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This season's interesting events centered around three main themes: unseasonable records, range expansions (some dramatic), and an apparent drought-driven explosion of xeric-habitat sparrows. June was quite dry, with much of the Region experiencing less than half of normal precipitation, but July was mixed, with the much of the westside receiving 150%+ of usual rainfall, while the east remained desiccated, averaging less than 25% its usual allotment of rain. Regionwide, June was a bit warmer than usual, but July was hot, averaging more than 5° F above normal.

Abbreviations: Finley (Finley N.W.R., *Benton*), F.R.R. (Fern Ridge Res., *Lane*), Malheur (Malheur N.W.R., *Harney*), N.S.C.B. (N. Spit Coos Bay, *Coos*); O.S. (Ocean Shores, *Grays Harbor*, *WAD*), P.S.B. (Port Susan Bay, *Snohomish*), P.T. (Puget Trough), W.V. (Willamette Valley), W.W.R.D. (Walla Walla R. delta, *Walla Walla*). "Eastside" and "westside" indicate locations e. and w. of the Cascade crest, respectively.

WATERFOWL THROUGH CRANES

An Emperor Goose, very rare in summer, was at Astoria 19 Jul (MP); the provenance of summer Emperor Geese is uncertain, but many are probably of wild provenance. An apparently healthy *parvipes* Canada Goose and an injured *taverneri* Cackling Goose consorted with hundreds of *moffitti* Canada Geese on Whitcomb I., *Benton* 9 Jun (SM, BSW). Three more *taverneri* summered at F.R.R. (DI). There are no prior Regional records of *parvipes* and fewer than five summer records of Cackling Geese. Trumpeter Swans graced Washington for the 3rd consecutive summer, with summering individu-

als near Elma, *Grays Harbor* (T. O'Brien) and Snohomish (SM). Excepting introduced birds, Washington had but two summer records prior to 2001. Gadwall populations are still increasing, part of a long-term continental trend, best evidenced by a w. Washington summer-record 458 ads. near Stanwood, *Snohomish* 14 Jun, resulting in 31+ broods there 26 Jul (SM). Additionally, w. Oregon had 10 broods at four locations. The Region's 5th summer Eurasian Wigeon lingered at Ridgefield through 22 Jun (B. Clemons, BF); the first summer record occurred in 2001. A female American Wigeon with brood in tow at Hillsboro, *Washington* 21 Jul furnished w. Oregon's first breeding record (GG). A westside summer record 62 American Wigeons were at Stanwood 3 Jun (SM). A congregation of 150 Cinnamon Teal at Wilson Cr., *Grant* 1 Jun was among the largest ever recorded in e. Washington (SM). Broods of Green-winged Teal, scarce westside breeders, were at N.S.C.B. (TR), *Swantown, Island* (SM), and P.S.B. (SM). Single Canvasbacks, not annual on the westside in summer, inhabited Ridgefield until 22 Jun (B. Clemons, BF) and Meares L., *Tillamook* 10 Jul (M. Tweelincks). A pair of Redheads, not annual after early Jun in w. Washington, adorned Ridgefield through 18 Jul (WC). A Greater Scaup was at Desert Aire, *Grant* 8 Jun (SM, BSW); this species has been annual dur-

Crane Prairie Res., *Deschutes* 27 Jun–16 Jul provided e. Oregon's first summer record (K Boddie, D. Smith). Bufflehead, a rare breeder in Washington, produced a brood at Molson L., *Okanogan* (AS). Three Red-breasted Mergansers at Paterson Slough, *Benton* 9 Jun furnished the eastside's 6th summer record (SM, BSW); Paterson Slough has hosted this species in three of the past four summers.

More than 500 Pacific Loons passed Ruby Beach, *Jefferson* 15 Jun (BS); movements of this magnitude have been noted annually into mid-Jun only during recent years. Three Horned Grebes, including a courting pair, were near potential breeding habitat at Soap L., *Grant* 1 Jun (SM); this species is extremely rare during summer in e. Washington, and there are but two breeding records. An Eared Grebe visited Coos Bay 28 Jul (TR), while a pair built two nests (but laid no eggs) at Ridgefield during Jun (JE); this species is very rare on the westside during summer, and there are no prior nesting attempts known in w. Washington. A boat survey of F.R.R. 13 Jul revealed 620 *Aechmophorus* grebes, including 437 ads. and 183 juvs., 112+ of which were Clark's (D. Farrar, DI); these are summer record numbers for F.R.R., the only regular westside breeding location for both *Aechmophorus* grebes. A Clark's Grebe off Pt Grenville, *Grays Harbor* 23 Jul (RM) and 2 at Westport 21 Jul (BLB) yielded only the 2nd



Surveys off the Olympic Peninsula found unprecedented numbers of Ancient Murrelets with chicks, strongly implying local breeding. Perhaps the best documentation received was this image of a chick scurrying after its parent near Tatoosh Island, Washington on 7 June 2007. Photograph by Rob Hollingshead.

ing recent summers on the eastside, typically at locations where large numbers winter. A brood of Ring-necked Ducks at N.S.C.B. furnished this year's only westside breeding record (TR). Three broods of Lesser Scaup, scarce westside breeders, were detected at Deer Lagoon, *Island* (RM, SM), and one was at Stanwood (SM). A Long-tailed Duck at

and 3rd w. Washington summer records away from Vancouver L., while an exceptional 3 coastal and 3 W.V. Clark's were detected in Oregon.

Not annual during summer, and extremely rare near land, a Laysan Albatross cruised past Coos Bay 24 Jun (*vide* J. Randolph). A tubenose feeding flock visible from land



Washington's eighth Scissor-tailed Flycatcher hung out near the highway east of Blyn, Clallam County, Washington on 2 (here) and 3 July 2007. The state's most recent record had been in October 2004. Photograph by Russell Rogers.

about 1.5 km off Yaquina Head, *Lincoln* 28 Jun included 50 Black-footed Albatrosses, 50+ Pink-footed Shearwaters, and 45+ Fork-tailed Storm-Petrels (TG); such a nearshore congregation is unprecedented. This summer's Flesh-footed Shearwater was off Westport 23 Jun (BS), while a Buller's Shearwater off Westport 21 Jul supplied the Region's first summer record since 2000 (SMi, BT). A Sooty/Short-tailed Shearwater, always rare in the P.T., passed P.N.P. 5 Jul (VN). Not annual during summer, 2 Short-tailed Shearwaters were off Westport 21 Jul (SMi, BT). Ryan Merrill, while doing Marbled Murrelet surveys off the Washington coast, also performed the most thorough Manx Shearwater survey to date. As many as 3 at a time were noted near Alexander I., *Jefferson* 13 Jun–11 Jul, 2 were off the Long Beach Pen., *Pacific* 26 Jun, and singles were in n. *Grays Harbor* 12 & 23 Jul and at Cape Flattery 18 Jul. This abundance of summer sightings suggests that, perhaps, the question should be "How many Manx are nesting?" rather than "Are Manx nesting?"

After a decade of increasing numbers, a party 16 American White Pelicans were found on the westside, with 5 at Baskett Slough, *Polk* 28 Jun (L. Norgren) and 11 summering at F.R.R. (m.ob.). Brown Pelicans, not annual during summer in the P.T., visited Seattle 27 Jun (D. Hutchinson), Edmonds, *Snohomish* 3-9 Jul (DD), and P.N.P. 24 Jul (BSW). A Cattle Egret, exceptionally rare during summer on the westside, graced Florence, *Lane* 21 Jun (D. Pettey); peak westside occurrence is Nov–Jan, and the few Regional summer records are nearly all from e. Oregon; photographs suggest that the Asian subspecies *coromandus* could be involved in this case. A Green Heron returned to Green Acres, *Spokane* 1 Jun (A. Roberson); this species is very rare in the e. third of the Region. A Glossy Ibis at Malheur 4-9 Jun (WC, HN) may have been the same

bird seen 10 km away this past May (providing Oregon's 2nd record). After the spring's White-faced Ibis blitz, Washington's only summer sighting was of 2 at Wilson Cr., *Grant* 1 Jun (SM). In Oregon, however, up to three pairs bred at Ladd Marsh, *Union*, yielding ne. Oregon's first nesting record (C. Nowak); out-of-place singletons also visited Hatfield L., *Deschutes* 16 Jul (D. Smith), Agate L., *Jackson* 20 Jul (R. Robb), and Tumalo Res., *Deschutes* 25 Jul (P. Low); most of the Region's stray White-faced

occur mid-May–mid-Jun.

A Red-shouldered Hawk at Kent, *King* 21-26 Jul supplied Washington's 2nd summer record (K. Andrich, ph. A. Brown). A Merlin over College Place, *Walla Walla* 22 Jun (M&MD), and another in apparently suitable breeding habitat at Godman Springs, *Columbia* 4 Jul (K. Knittle), suggest that this species may nest in the Blue Mts. A Prairie Falcon visited Eugene 2 Jun (D. Gleason); the westside probably has but one prior summer record away from *Jackson*. The Washington breeding population of Sandhill Cranes, entirely in nw. *Klickitat* and sw. *Yakima*, reached a modern-day high of 58 this summer (JE). Oddly, Sandhills are nearly annual during Jun in the W.V.; this year singles appeared near Philomath, *Benton* 10 Jun (WDR) and F.R.R. 11 Jun (D. Gleason), while 11 graced Sauvie I. 17 Jun (E. Knight). A Sandhill at Coos Bay 27 Jun was on the outer coast, where rare at any time (F. J. Petock).

SHOREBIRDS THROUGH WOODPECKERS

A Black-bellied Plover tarried at Iowa Beef, *Walla Walla* through 17 Jun (M&MD, SM), and another visited Potholes Res., *Grant* 8 Jun (L. Cooke, R. Finger); there was only one antecedent eastside Jun record. An American Golden-Plover at Iowa Beef 2-3 Jun furnished the eastside's 5th record of a northbound bird (SM). A southbound ad. American Golden-Plover, not annual in the Region, graced F.R.R. 11 Jul (K. Larsen, L. McQueen, R. Robb). Once again, the Region hosted Jun Pacific Golden-Plovers, with singles at Ridgefield 11-16 Jun (G. Mayfield, WC, R. Windemuth) and Ankeny 13 Jun (WDR); prior to 2001, such records were virtually unknown. Two more Pacifics were found during their usual window of southbound migration, 6 Jul+. A Greater Yellowlegs at Ridgefield 9-16 Jun was present between the dates usually assigned to northbound and southbound migra-

tion (B. Clemons, JE, BF); interestingly, a distinctively injured Greater Yellowlegs last seen at P.S.B. 10 Jun was rediscovered at Deer Lagoon, *Island*, some 30 km to the sw., on 24 Jun, demonstrating that a departing bird is not necessarily a migrating one (SM). A Lesser Yellowlegs at P.S.B. 14 Jun was about a week early (SM). Eleven Solitary Sandpipers, 8 Jul+, was supranormal. Note that we erred in last summer's report: the earliest southbound Solitary record from Oregon was on 29 Jun 1989 at Diamond L. (D. Fix). Not annual during spring/summer in the W.V., single Whimbrels enlivened F.R.R. 18 Jul (M. Cutler) and Finley 27 Jul (WDR).

A Long-billed Curlew summering at Dungeness Bay, *Clallam* was nearly unprecedented away from the outer coast on the westside (RM, GGe). An ad. Hudsonian Godwit brightened P.S.B. 26 Jul (TA); though southbound Hudsonian Godwits are now nearly annual in the Region, this was only the 2nd southbound ad. in the last decade. This summer's Bar-tailed Godwit frequented Tokeland, *Pacific* 19-24 Jul (P&RS). A Marbled Godwit at Dungeness Bay 25 Jun was about 10 days early (GGe). Six Marbleds on the eastside, 3 Jul+, was exceptional, highlighted by 4 at Gutierrez Ranch, *Crook* 13 Jul (CG). Semipalmated Sandpipers appeared in better-than-average numbers, with 57 in Washington and 13 in Oregon. The first was a few days early at P.S.B. 24 Jun (SM), and peak movement of ads. came on 30 Jun, when 17 were found in the n. P.T. (SM). The first southbound Western Sandpipers arrived at P.S.B. 17 Jun (SM). Washington's 2nd fully documented Red-necked Stint enlivened P.S.B. 21-25 Jun (†SM, ph. TA, ph. S. Pink, †H. Opperman). Eleven Baird's Sandpipers 8 Jul+ was nearly twice the norm. Lone Pectoral Sandpipers were at P.S.B. 28 Jun (SM) and 26 Jul (SM), about one-third the norm. This summer's early southbound Dunlin stopped at Crockett L., *Island* 29 Jun (BSW, D&PW), a goodly six weeks before the next migrant was noted. Two ill-appearing Dunlins survived at P.S.B. through 30 Jun (SM); a few Dunlins typically summer on the outer coast, but such is extremely rare elsewhere in the Region. Very rare ad. Stilt Sandpipers adorned O.S. 28 Jul (P&RS) and Midway Beach, *Pacific* 30 Jul (P&RS). A Short-billed Dowitcher at P.S.B. 14 Jun was a week or more early (SM), while singles at Hatfield L., *Deschutes* 3 Jul (C. Miller) and St. Andrews, *Douglas* 21 Jul (GS) yielded very rare eastside summer records. Two more *hendersoni* Short-billed Dowitchers were detected, with singles at Crockett L., *Island* 30 Jun (ph. SM) and P.S.B. 7 Jul (ph. SM); considered casual in the Region, this subspecies may occur

more often than previously thought. The last northbound Long-billed Dowitcher was a tad late at N.S.C.B. 10 Jun (TR), while an early southbound bird visited Ridgefield 21 Jun (JE). Numbers of southbound ad. Long-billed were exceptional, as evidenced by 474 at F.R.R. 21 Jul (S. Nord). Migration dates for Wilson's Snipe in the Region are poorly understood, but one at P.S.B. 17 Jun appeared to be a very early southbound migrant (SM). A pair of Wilson's Phalaropes at Midway Beach 30 Jun were two to three weeks early for the outer coast, where rare at any time (P&RS). At least 10 male Wilson's Phalaropes guarded nests during Jun at P.S.B., their only w. Washington breeding site (SM, TA); in w. Oregon, this species nested at five locations, including Finley, furnishing Benton's first breeding record (WDR).

An astonishing 49 South Polar Skuas were found, far more than all jaegers combined. The Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary survey yielded 35 skuas, 29 Jun–9 Jul (SMi), and 7 were off Westport on the early date of 23 Jun (BT). Washington's 5th Laughing Gull greeted a visiting Belgian birder at Bowerman Basin, Grays Harbor 22 Jul (ph. G. Beckers); of the Region's seven antecedent records, five are from the westside, all but one between 17 Jul and 15 Oct. The 8 Franklin's Gulls noted in e. Washington was near the norm. A Franklin's at Hoquiam, Grays Harbor 18 Jul was on the westside, where not annual during summer (J. Flynn). The eastside's 2nd summer Mew Gull graced Iowa Beef, Walla Walla 9 Jun (SM, BSW). Mews are proving rare but annual on the westside during Jun (mostly imms.), with the first migrants appearing in early Jul (mostly ads.). This year, single imms. visited Cultus Bay, Island 24 Jun (SM) and Deer Lagoon, Island 30 Jun (SM). A Glaucous Gull at Astoria through 3 Jun was about a month tardy and provided the Region's first summer record since 2000 (ph. B. Barnett). A Sabine's Gull near Well's Dam, Douglas 30 Jun provided the eastside's 5th summer record (K. Brown); antecedent records are all 1-19 Jun.

A Common Tern, very rare during summer on the eastside, brightened Desert Aire, Grant 8 Jun (SM, BSW); equally unusual was one in the W.V. at F.R.R. 6 Jul (DI). Continued nesting of Arctic Terns on Dungeness Spit was demonstrated by 3 ads. carrying food 28 Jul (GGe); the actual number of breeding pairs could not be assessed, as the area is not fully accessible. A tally of 320 Forster's Terns near Paterson, Benton 9 Jun was unprecedented in Washington (SM, BSW). A Black Tern visited Ridgefield 21 Jun (JE); this species is not annual in w. Washington from mid-Jun through

early Aug. Washington's 4th Least Tern enlivened Crockett L., Island 16 Jul (ph. S. Littlefield); most Regional records have been on the westside, late May–mid-Aug. Approximately half of the Region's roughly 20 records have been noted during the past five years.

Alcids were abundant and diverse this summer, with 10 species detected. Notable high counts included 8774 Common Murres off Grays Harbor 19 Jul (RM), a summer-record 145 Marbled Murrelets near Destruction I., Jefferson 14 Jun (RM), 1011 Cassin's Auklets at Cape Flattery 18 Jul (RM), and 279 Cassin's (a record for interior marine waters) in the Strait of Juan de Fuca between Angeles Pt. and Green Pt. 18 Jul (D. Wheelan). A Xantus's Murrelet at Cape Flattery 4 Jul (C. Cox) was at the same location that provided Washington's first from-shore record last Jul. A scrippsi Xantus's was 70 km wsw. of Cape Alava, Clallam 8 Jul, and 2 unidentified *Synthliboramphus* murrelets were 65 km w. of La Push, Clallam 9 Jul (both SMi). This is the 5th consecutive summer during which Xantus's has been recorded in the Region, yet the Region had only four summer records prior to 2001. A basic-plumaged Parakeet Auklet off Cape Alava 4 Jul furnished the Region's 2nd summer record (SMi), the first having come last Jun. Horned Puffins have been nearly annual during summer of late, but this summer was extraordinary, with coastal singles near Cape Alava 5 Jun (RM), off Cape Alava 2 Jul (SMi), at Newport, Lincoln 5 Jul (D. Faxon), at Quillayute Needles, Jefferson 13 Jul (RM), and at Westport 21 Jul (BT, BLB), plus one in the P.T. at P.N.P. 29 Jun (VN).

The ongoing presence of Band-tailed Pigeon in Klickitat was demonstrated by up to 15 at Trout L. 4-8 Jul (RH, RM); one farther e.



Washington's fifth Great-tailed Grackle wandered about a park in Nehalem, Whatcom County, Washington 20-25 (here 24) June 2007. In a steep valley on the Cascade Mountain's west slope at 400 m elevation, this location has little beyond a lawn and a dumpster to attract any species of grackle. Photograph by Ryan J. Merrill.

near Prineville, Crook 25 Jun was a true vagrant (D. & N. Tonseth, CG). Eurasian Collared-Doves continued to conquer the Region, with 2 reaching Washington's nw. corner at Forks, Clallam 3 Jul (RM). This species was noted in five additional w. Washington and at least five w. Oregon locations. On the eastside, observers have grown weary of reporting collared-doves, but populations of 10+ inhabited Burns, Redmond, Deschutes, Madras, Jefferson, Washtucna, Adams, and probably elsewhere. The Region's first nesting Northern Hawk Owls were found near Winthrop, Okanogan, a location that has supplied several recent winter records. A pair first noted in May had 4 fully fledged youngsters by 26 Jun (V. Glick, L. Schreiner). A Yellow-billed Cuckoo was heard along the Touchet

SA Evidence that Ancient Murrelets breed in nw. Washington has been steadily accruing over the past few summers. This year, however, an astounding 117 ads. were detected off the Olympic Pen., almost entirely during Jun, with a maximum of 56 near Cape Alava 5 Jun (RM). More importantly, 18+ chicks were also found 7-21 Jun, including a very young chick with 2 ads. near Tatoosh I., Clallam 7 Jun (RM). Concurrently, approximately 9 were found on five dates in the Straits of Juan de Fuca 12 Jun–16 Jul, where not annual during summer; and another off Anderson I., Pierce 18 Jul was virtually unprecedented for summer in the s. Puget Sound (all D. Wheelan). Not annual off Oregon during summer, 2 flew past Yachats, Lincoln 2 Jun (DI, J. Sullivan). Importantly, the Olympic Pen. sightings are consistent with breeding chronology in the Queen Charlotte Is., the nearest large colony, where fledging occurs primarily in Jun, followed by rapid dispersal (Gaston 1994, *Birds of North America*, no. 132).

R., Walla Walla 25 Jun (M&MD); if accepted by the W.B.R.C., it would be about the 10th in Washington since the species was extirpated in the 1930s.

Extremely rare for the w. Washington was a Black-chinned Hummingbird at Kelly Butte, King 2 Jun (EH). More regular, but still not annual, were Black-chinneds in w. Oregon near Oakridge, Lane 4 Jul (TM) and on Mt. Hebo, Tillamook 4 Jul (RG). Anna's Hummingbirds continue to expand their range, spawning some records that seem just plain odd. Fitting that category was one at about 1600 m elevation in Lodgepole Pine woods at Rider's Camp, Kittitas 3 Jun (A. Sedgley, D. Paulson) and another in similar habitat at about 900 m at Rimrock Retreat, Yakima 2 Jul (BT). Single Costa's Hummingbirds, now found annually during summer in Oregon, brightened Grants Pass, Josephine 1 Jun (DV) and Bend 12 Jul (J. Moodie). There was an unprecedented late summer/early fall movement of Calliope Hummingbirds into the westside lowlands, with singles at Vancouver, Clark 26 Jul (K. Knittle), Mt. Pleasant, Skamania 29 Jul and 3 Aug (WC), and Battle Ground, Clark 2 Aug (J. Danzenbaker); one wonders if this was tied to the interior's drought. At least 100 Rufous Hummingbirds visited a set of feeders near Rockport, Skagit 14 Jun, recorded during a half-hour's surveillance (SM, MB); one wonders how many hummingbirds truly use those feeders.

A Williamson's Sapsucker was near Takhlakh L., Skamania 7 Jul (RM); there are very few w. Washington records of this species, though it might actually be regular in e. Skamania. An apparent Red-naped Sapsucker photographed on Vashon I., King 1-17 Jun, upon close scrutiny, showed signs of introgression with Red-breasted Sapsucker (T. Mansfield, E. Swan). Another (and more typical) Red-breasted Sapsucker × Red-naped Sapsucker hybrid was unusually low in the Cascades foothills at about 100 m at Barnaby Slough, Skagit 14 Jun (MB, SM). An American Three-toed Woodpecker was near Government Meadows, King 12 Jul (EH). Single Black-backed Woodpeckers were near Takhlakh L., Skamania 7 Jul (RM) and Naches Pass, King 28 Jul (M. Bartels). It has been assumed that both of these species occur high on the w. slope of Washington's Cascades, but

until the past few years, there have been precious few records. Recent scrutiny of these areas have confirmed that American Three-toeds are low-density residents from Whatcom to Skamania and that Black-backed occur there as well, though likely in smaller numbers or less regularly.

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH FINCHES

The first apparent southbound Western Wood-Pewee was in Seattle 6 Jul (RM); this onset of this species' southbound migration is poorly established in our Region. After several unverified reports, Oregon's first Alder Flycatcher, near Irish Bend, Benton 29 May-2 Jun (R. P. Moore, WDR), was verified by analysis of its sonogram (A. McCallum). An apparent northbound Willow Flycatcher in Seattle 20 Jun was about a week late (KA). A mind-boggling 24+ Least Flycatchers were discovered in the Region, 1 Jun-5 Jul, continuing this species' ongoing colonization of the Region (see Mlodinow 2005, *Western Birds* 36: 310-316). Likely breeding pairs were at Turnbull N.W.R., Spokane (M. Frobe), Ellisporte, Okanogan (P. Hicks, B. Sundstrom), and Rock L., Whitman (T. & D. Weber). Very rare westside Least included a spring migrant at S. Prairie, Pierce 3 Jun (CW), a bird on territory near Wabash, Lewis 19 Jun-5 Jul (BS), and a mid-summer apparition at Marymoor Park, King 5 Jul (M. Hobbs). Oregon's only Least visited Ft. Klamath 8 Jun (B. Altman). This species likely enters (and departs) the Region from the north or northeast. A Gray Flycatcher at Cassimer Bar, Okanogan 7 Jul was probably an early migrant (RH); the first southbound birds are usually detected in early Aug. A Gray Flycatcher in suburban Eugene 16 Jun was either a stray and tardy northbound migrant or simply lost (S. Gordon); the W.V. averages about 2 Grays per spring, typically late Apr-mid-May. Nearly as peculiar in timing and rarity was a Dusky Flycatcher in Portland 17 Jun (G. Lillie). Black Phoebes, steadily pushing their range northward, likely bred at F.R.R. (D. & A. Heyerly). Multiple Ash-throated Flycatchers were heard at the Spring Creek Hatchery, Skamania 21 Jul (WC); though barely annual in w. Washington, Ash-throateds breed close to this site in Klickitat and may well breed locally in e. Skamania. Ash-throated Flycatchers again wandered northward into

the W.V., with singles at Baskett Slough, Polk 18 Jun (D. Schrouder) and Dexter, Lane 20 Jun (D. Bontrager). Washington's 8th Scissor-tailed Flycatcher was near Blyn, Clallam 2-3 Jul (R. Rogers); most Regional records have been May-early Jul.

A Warbling Vireo in Seattle 19 Jun was about 10 days late for a northbound bird (KA). A Philadelphia Vireo at Hooper, Whitman 3 Jun (†GS) would be Washington's 4th, if accepted by the B.R.C. A tally of 34 Red-eyed Vireos in the vicinity of Barnaby Slough, Skagit 14 Jun was unprecedented for w. Washington (SM, MB); rather than exceptional, this count likely merely reflects this species' high breeding density in the Big-leaved Maple woodlands on the w. slope of the n. Cascades. In w. Oregon, however, Red-eyes do seem to be expanding their range, with summering/breeding birds at five+ W.V. sites. For the first summer in several years, no new westside Bank Swallow colonies were located; however, for the 5th consecutive summer, lone individuals were found in the s. W.V., suggesting that small numbers may breed there: singles visited Finley (WDR), Philomath, and F.R.R. (R. Robb). Three Juniper Titmice near Malin 18 Jun suggests that this species is continuing to move westward in the Klamath Basin (KS, D. Haupt).

A Rock Wren graced L. Cushman, Mason 3 Jul (BS); this species is exceptionally rare w. of the Cascades during summer. One at Mt. Si, King 23 Jul was high on the w. slope of the Cascades, where scarce (M. Bartels). A Blue-gray Gnatcatcher at Ridgefield 16 Jun furnished Washington's 10th record and only the 2nd for spring/summer (BF). Two Blue-grays at Gray Butte, Jefferson 14 Jul (S. Dougill) and one at Mt. Pisgah, Lane 3 Jun (BA) were n. of their usual range; this species appears to be expanding northward on the eastside. A Gray Catbird among the Lodgepole Pines at Rider's Camp, Kittitas (elevation approximately 1600 m) 3 Jun was well out of habitat (A. Sedgley, D. Paulson), as was a singing bird on the Oregon coast at Florence 14 Jul+ (D. Pettey). Two catbirds along the Little Deschutes R. in nw. Klamath 9 Jul (R. Robb) and one at Toketee L. in e. Douglas 3 Jun (W. Stone) provided further evidence of this species' range expansion southwestward into Oregon's s. Cascades. Three Northern Mockingbirds in Washington was about average, while 3 in Oregon was subpar. Western Washington's first summer Sage Thrasher enlivened Possession Beach, Island 3 Jun (C. Johnson); this species is not annual in w. Washington at any time. A Brown Thrasher graced Fields 1 Jun (JG); this species has been annual in Oregon, May-Jul, during recent years.

SA In 1921, an American Three-toed Woodpecker nest was found at 1800 m on Happy L. Ridge in the Olympic Mts. (Jewett et al. 1953; *Birds of Washington State*). No sightings from this range have been subsequently published, but there were several reports in 1988 at the Deer Park burn (vide B. Boekelheide), and a pair at 1100 m on Mt. Norton in the late 1990s (SG). This year, a female inhabited the Griff Peak burn, at 1550 m, during Jun, the same burn that hosted a male at 1350 m during summer 2005 (SG). Given the lack of lowland westside records, it seems likely that American Three-toed Woodpeckers are low-density residents of the Olympic Mts.

A Northern Parula was near Sisters, *De-schutes* 11 Jun, bringing this "spring's" total to 3, about treble the norm (C. & M. Miller). Two Chestnut-sided Warblers at Ritzville, *Adams* 6 Jun (ph. B. Lyle) and one near Port Angeles 6 Jul (SG) added to 16 prior Washington records; almost all are from Jun. Oregon's 17th Cape May Warbler enlivened Malheur 2 Jun (C. Charlesworth); most of the Region's records have come from *Harney* in May/June. Two more Hermit Warblers were found in the mts. of *King*, one at Naches Pass 15 Jun (M. Bartels) and another (paired with a Townsend's Warbler) at Snoqualmie Pass 19 Jul (J. Flynn), suggesting that this species may breed, in small numbers, farther n. than previously recognized. This season's 2 Black-and-white Warblers were both at Malheur 1 Jun (J. Gilligan). American Redstarts were found breeding at only one westside location this year, County Line Ponds, *Skagit*, where two pairs plus one young were noted 26 Jul (TA). A very rare outer coast redstart visited Bayocean Spit, *Tillamook* 2 Jun (R. Smith). A Northern Waterthrush, very rare on the outer coast, visited Cascade Head, *Tillamook* 2 Jun (PP). A male Hooded Warbler at Malheur 1 Jun (JG, O. Schmidt, B. Stites), followed by a female there 5 Jun (WC), supplied Oregon's 11th and 12th records; surprisingly, only two of the antecedent records were from May/June. Yellow-breasted Chats formerly bred widely but locally in w. Washington and were reported as "common" into the 1950s in *Clark*. They subsequently were extirpated and for several decades not even found as vagrants. Over the past decade, numbers of stray territorial males have been increasing, with this being a banner year. As many as 9 territorial males inhabited Ridgefield through 16 Jul (JE). Five territorial males were elsewhere in w. Washington, the most northerly of which were 2 at Stillwater, *King* through 14 Jul (m.ob.). At least in *Clark*, some of this recovery is due to the re-

generation of native riparian habitats.

At least 6 Clay-colored Sparrows were detected in e. Washington, sw. to Rocky Coulee, *Adams* (GS)—modestly above average for the past decade.

Black-throated Sparrows showed well on the eastside, perhaps also related to the drought elsewhere. In e. Washington, 4 ads. were on Rattlesnake Ridge, *Yakima* 23 Jun, and an imm. was there 3 Aug (AS). Two singing males were at traditional sites near Vantage during Jun (TA, M. Fleming), and one inhabited Steptoe Butte, *Whitman* through 9 Jul (m.ob.). In ne. Oregon, Black-throateds were detected nw. of their usual range at multiple sites in Painted Hills N.M., *Wheeler* 23 Jun+ (J. Geier). More unusual was a westside Black-throated at Ruby Beach, *Jefferson* 15 Jun (BS); most westside records are during years with supranormal eastside numbers. A singing Swamp Sparrow at Lyons Ferry, *Franklin* 9 Jun was unprecedented, the previous Washington late date being 26 Apr (SM, BSW). Very tardy Golden-crowned Sparrows visited Washtucna, *Adams* 1 Jun (P&RS) and Bainbridge 1. 9 Jun (D. Watkins); there have been only about seven Washington summer records during the past 30 years.

Four Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, all in w. Oregon 1-24 Jun, was distinctly subpar. An Indigo Bunting in Snohomish 17 Jun was about the 20th for Washington (D. Kirkland). In Oregon, where annual, an Indigo was at Baskett Slough, *Polk* 14-30 Jun (B. Young); peak occurrence in the Region is late Apr–mid-Jun. An Indigo Bunting × Lazuli Bunting hybrid at Eugene was the 2nd such bird at Eugene in the past three years (K. Larsen) and the 4th record for the Region. A Bobolink visited Swauk Prairie, *Kittitas* 6 Jun (M. Mathis); Bobolinks are very local breeders in Washington, and migrants are not detected annually. At least 6 male Tricolored Blackbirds were seen carrying food near Othello during early Jun, strongly suggestive of

local nesting (RH). The largest concentration was 41 at Marlin, *Grant* 10 Jun, not far from the established Wilson Cr. breeding location (DS). A Great-tailed Grackle graced Nehalem, *Whatcom* 20-25 Jun (ph. P. DeBruyn, B. Kuntz), and 2 inhabited Iowa Beef, *Walla Walla* 14 Jul+ (ph. M&MD), providing Washington's 5th and 6th records. Oregon was visited by 6 Great-taileds 6-20 Jun, the most unusual of which was one nw. at Baskett Slough 20 Jun, *Polk's* 2nd (DI); perhaps this species has renewed its range expansion in the Region. The rather remarkable increase of Bullock's Orioles in w. Washington continued, exemplified by 18 near Everett 7 Jul (SM, DD); a decade ago, 18 Bullock's noted during an entire summer throughout Snohomish would have been notable. Washington's 5th Baltimore Oriole enlivened Richland, *Benton* 2-9 Jun (NL); three of the antecedent records occurred 31 May–20 Jun. After an eight-month absence, the ever-peripatetic White-winged Crossbill suddenly appeared in the Region during Jul, with small groups at three locations in *Pend Oreille* during late Jul (K. Tran) and one at Santiam Pass 12 Jul (RG).

Initialed observers (subregional editors in boldface): Kevin Aanerud, Bob Altman, Tom Aversa (WA), Range Bayer (Lincoln), Marv Breece, Wilson Cady, Craig Corder (Spokane), Mike and MerryLynn Denny (M&MD), Dennis Duffy, Joe Engler, Bob Flores, Chuck Gates (Crook), Roy Gerig (Polk, Marion), George Gerds (GGe), Jeff Gilligan, Denny Granstrand (Yakima), Scott Gremel, Troy Guy, Randy Hill, Eugene Hunn, Stuart Johnston (Klickitat), Bruce LaBar (BLB), Bill LaFramboise (lower Columbia Basin), Nancy LaFramboise, Ryan Merrill, Tom Mickel (Lane), Craig and Marilyn Miller (Deschutes, Jefferson), Scott Mills (SMi), Harry Nehls (OR), Vic Nelson, Bob Norton (Olympic Pen.), Clarence and Marilyn O'Leary (Grant), Michael Patterson (Clatsop), Phil Pickering, W. Doug Robinson (Benton, Linn, Marion), Tim Rodenkirk (Coos, Curry), Doug Schonewald, Bob Shermeldine, Gina Sheridan, Kevin Spencer (Klamath), Andy Stepniewski, Patrick and Ruth Sullivan (P&RS), Dennis Vroman (Josephine), Brad Waggoner (BSW), Charlie Wright. ☪

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SA Brewer's Sparrows wandered far and wide in the Region this summer and in a fashion that was utterly unprecedented. This species is typically restricted to eastside sites dominated by sagebrush (*Artemisia* spp.), where it is quite common from Apr onwards. This year, in late May/early Jun, Brewer's Sparrows inexplicably set up territories in grasslands and open dry coniferous woodlands devoid of sage from *Spokane* s. to *Baker* (M&MD). The first sign of movement into the westside was a singing bird at Finley 7-11 Jun (WDR). Then another territorial bird was found near Brownsville, *Linn* 2 Jun (B. Altman), where eventually 6 Brewer's were detected by month's end, including two or more pairs (DI, Paul Sullivan, C. Karlen). At F.R.R., 3 fledglings 19-20 Jul furnished the first W.V. breeding record (D. Farrar, DI), with up to 7 birds present 2 Aug, 2 of which lingered until 24 Aug (DI). In w. Washington, Brewer's never made it to the lowlands or established breeding territories, but at high elevations, up to 8 were at Windy Gap, *King* 12 Jul+ (EH, RM), and one was on Mt. St. Helen's, *Skamania* 7 Jul (RM). Interestingly, 16+ Vesper Sparrows at Naches Pass, *King* 20 Jul (RM) were also unprecedented and likely part of the same dispersal. In the W.V., Grasshopper Sparrows were unusually numerous and widespread, with record numbers at F.R.R. (DI) and singing birds at Finley 4 Jun (WDR) and near Airline, *Polk* 3 Jul (BA) where they have not previously bred. It is unknown whether these birds originated within the Region, or farther e., where drought conditions were far worse.