Peregrine to lose ESA protection?

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has announced its intent to propose the Peregrine Falcon be removed from the Endangered Species list. The notice of intent, issued on 30 June, was a call for information about the status of the species throughout its range.

The American Peregrine Falcon was listed as endangered in 1970. Only 39 pairs survived in the contiguous United States in 1975. Twenty years later the population is estimated to consist of about 1000 pairs in the lower 48 states, with hundreds of additional pairs in Alaska, Canada, and Mexico.

A recovery plan for the Pacific coast population was completed in 1982. The recovery team set a population goal of 185 pairs for delisting the population. There are currently about 224 pairs in this recovery zone. The 1994 Washington population consisted of 32 pairs (see back cover).

Deadline for comments on the notice of intent is 29 August. If the Service prepares a proposal, public comment will again be invited.

Civic falcons enhance downtowns nationwide

Scott Richardson

People stand in the middle of a city sidewalk with necks bent back and arms akimbo, holding binoculars against their faces. Seasoned pedestrians try not to notice. But those awkward-looking folks staring skyward are not simply awestruck by architecture. They’re watching and welcoming their new avian neighbors, the Peregrine Falcons.

Over the past 20 years, Peregrines have made themselves at home in cities from Atlanta to Seattle, from L.A. to New York, and from Quebec City to Edmonton. They have found nest boxes, complete with gravel, on the high ledges of banks, motels, and other structures, placed there by their hopeful human supporters. And many falcon pairs, in these settings of steel, glass, and concrete, have raised broods to fledging. Their young learn to master the space between skyscrapers and avoid descent into traffic-clogged streets. They keep their distance from wiring, air vents, chimneys, and narrow courtyards. Many of them gain independence and begin to explore beyond urban boundaries.

City nesting by Peregrines is a recent phenomenon. Several decades ago, only a few pairs nested in urban areas. Then the nationwide population was decimated through the effects of pesticides. Post-DDT efforts to restore Peregrines included hacking programs, some of which took advantage of the cliff-like structure of high-rise buildings. City hacking began in New York State in 1974, gained momentum in Canada in 1976, and accelerated into the 1980s.

By 1988, falcon researchers Tom Cade and David Bird could account for 30-32 Peregrine pairs in at least 24 cities and towns. Five years later, Cade and his colleagues knew of 90 territorial pairs in 63 urban areas throughout North America.

To some degree, the expansion of Peregrines into cities is the result of hacking programs. Hacked birds may return to cities because their early experiences were in artificial environments. They may take up residence near release sites, but sometimes they wander in search of new nesting opportunities. Peregrines now breed in a good number of cities where no releases have occurred. However, not all urban-nesting falcons were...
WOS receives non-profit status

The Washington Ornithological Society on June 9 became a non-profit, educational organization as described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. WOS Treasurer Charlotte Escott, who spurred the application through the process, was pleased with the IRS determination. "Being non-profit opens the door for us to expand our educational opportunities," Escott said. "They were impressed with our journal and newsletter."

WOS is now eligible to receive contributions and is exempt from federal taxation under 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Group asks, Why do women drop ornithology?

Female ornithologists drop out of their profession at a higher rate than do males. A group of interested men and women, ranging from senior-level professionals to those just beginning their careers, have decided to address this situation by functioning as a resource or support group for women pursuing professional careers in ornithology. Their goal is to identify the critical periods when women are most likely to drop out and to help problem solve during these sensitive periods. A Women in Ornithology workshop was held at the joint AOU/COS/WOS conference in Missoula in 1994. Participants have since identified initial tasks for action. To begin, the group would like to hear from individuals interested in helping in this endeavor so they may brainstorm how to proceed. Some possibilities include e-mail listservers, mentoring programs, and support groups. A charter group will be meeting in conjunction with the AOU meeting in Cincinnati this year. Those not attending the conference may contact these individuals via e-mail: Susan Elbin (sbelbin@eden.rutgers.edu) or Brook Lauro (ymbicus@sjumusic.stjohns.edu). OSNA Newsletter No. 106

President signs ESA listing ban

"In early April, Congress passed a moratorium on listing species under the Endangered Species Act through the end of fiscal year 1995. The measure, which prohibits final determinations listing species as endangered or threatened (including emergency rules) and designation of critical habitat, was attached to a Department of Defense supplemental spending bill signed by the President April 10. The bill also rescinded $1.5 million from the budget allocated to the FWS listing program. As a result, the FWS will not be adding any animals or plants to the list of threatened and endangered species through September 30, 1995." Endangered Species Bulletin XX(3):23.

Falcon volunteers recognized

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife on June 15 honored eight individuals and organizations instrumental in maintaining and monitoring a Peregrine Falcon nest site on a downtown Seattle skyscraper. The nest site on the 55-story...see volunteers, page 3
June 1995

Peregrine Falcons nesting in downtown Seattle in 1994 and 1995 were 56 stories up on the east side of the Washington Mutual tower (center). Like most other urban Peregrines, these birds nested close to water, just four blocks from Elliot Bay.

Photo made from 12,500 feet on 11 July 1989.

Sources: This article contains information from the following references: I thank Dr. Cade and his colleagues for tracking Peregrine use of urban areas and for sharing the results of their work.


Washington Field Notes

Compiled by Russell Rogers

Corrections to the 1 March to 31 May, 1994. Field Notes

Forster's Tern 1 reported from Damon Point, Ocean Shores, GH, on 5/1 was actually a Arctic Tern.

Corrections to the 1 August to 30 November, 1994. Field Notes

Brown Pelican The bird stated as a first for Thurston Co. was actually at least the 2nd record. The first known record is of a bird recorded on the CBC on 12/31/88 (see AB 43:1110).

Washington Field Notes

1 December 1994 to 28 February 1995

Red-throated Loon Rare in e WA. 1 at Priest Rapids Dam, YA, on 12/31 (AS). Uncommon along the lower Columbia R., 1 at the mouth of Geer Creek along the Columbia River in the Ridgefield NWR, CL, on 2/7 (JEn).

Pink-footed Shearwater Uncommon in winter. 1 off of Westport, GH, on 1/21 (TW).

Short-tailed Shearwater 1 at Point-No-Point, KS, on 12/4 and 12/15 (VN).

American White Pelican Uncommon in the Columbia Basin in winter. 3 near the Yakima RD, BE, on 1/12 (BW). 1 on Moses Lake, GR, on 1/20 (MD&MID), approximately 15 at Hanford, BE, on 1/21 (SR), 13 at White Bluffs, FR, on 1/21 (MD&MID), 5 on Moses Lake, GR, on 2/7 (SR).

Brandt's Cormorant A high count of 225 in the San Juan Is., SJ, on 1/14 (SM).

American Bittern A high count of 6 on the Sequim CBC, CL, on 12/17 (RLo).

Great Egret 1 at Chambers L, TF, on 12/5 (WW). 1 near Arlington, SD, on 12/27 (DBr), 1 in Puyallup, Pl, on 1/20 (MR), 1 near Auburn, Ki, on 2/28 (TB).

Green Heron Uncommon in winter, 1 at the Narrows Marina, Tacoma, Pl, on 12/17-18 (RS).

Tundr Sw: high counts for w WA, 1200 counted on the Skagit Flats, SK, on 1/7 (SM), 150 around Vancouver L.., CK on 1/1 (RN). In e WA, as many as 26 were noted at McFarney NWR, WW, throughout the period (m.ob.), 35 on Moses Lake, GR, on 2/19 (EH&GG), 184 counted between Marin and Wilson Creek, GR, on 2/18 (MD&MID).

Trumpeter Swan A high count of 115 at their traditional wintering location on the Skagit Flats, SK, on 1/7 (SM). Reports in w WA outside the Skagit Flats were, 5 at the Lewis Unit of the Willapa Bay NWR, PA, on 12/3 (MP), 1 at Olympic Game Farm, CL, 12/11 (RN), 6 on Hwy 101 at east end of Clallam Co. on 1/12 (RN), 6+ at Duckabush River mouth, JE 1/14-21 (RN) with 18 there on 2/22 (CC), 11 at Ilwaco, PA, on 2/5 (MD&MID), 1 at Waatch River near Neah Bay, CL, 11/21 (RN), and in e WA, 3 at Columbia NWR, AD, on 2/6 (KK).

Mute Swan 1 at McFarney NWR, WW, on 2/9 (RF) through at least 2/24 (KK), 4 on the Yakuma CBC, on 12/17 (AS). 1-2 with other swans on the Lummi Flats, WC, from 12/29 to 2/28 (JDu).

Greater White-fronted Goose Uncommon in winter in e WA, at least 2 in Richland, BE, on 1/11 and 1/20 (NL), 7 at McFarney NWR, WW, on 2/3 (BW) with 16 there on 1/24 (MD&MID), and 1 on Moses Lake, GR, on 2/19 (EH&GG).

Snow Goose Seldom reported from the Olympic Peninsula, 2 at Sequim, CL, on 12/10 though the first week of Jan. (DS&SS). Uncommon in e WA, 1 at the Walla Walla RD, BE, on 1/6 (SR), 8 at McFarney NWR, WW, on 2/21 (BW).

“Blue” Goose: 1 reported in WA, 1 at McFarney NWR, WW, on 1/31 (SR) and 2/3 (BW) and 1 near Sequim, CL, on 12/10 (SS&DS). Ross’ Goose 1 frequented the Kent Ponds and vicinity, Ki, first noted on 1/13 (DBe) through at least 1/25 (PS).

Emperor Goose 1 at Dungeness Spit, CL, on 12/10 (SS) through at least 2/20 (RN), and 1 at N Push, CL, on 2/14-15, reportedly present there for several months (RN).

Brant A high count of 1500 at Samish 1., SK, on 1/7 (SM). 1 throughout winter in the Ridgefield-Sauvie island area (HN).

“Atlantic” Brant Rarely reported from WA, 5 on Samish 1., SK, on 1/7 (SM).

“Eurasian” Green-winged Teal Rare in WA, 1 on Samish River, near Edson, SK, on 2/16 (fide EH), and 1 at the Everett STP, SN, on 12/22 (MD&MID).

Mallard A high count of 3000+ at Wallula, WW, on 1/4 (AS).

Garganey 1, either a female or young male of the smaller Asian form, at Richland, BE, first noted on 12/15 (BW) through at least 1/1 (BW, m.ob.). This is the 3rd confirmed state record and the first of eastern WA.

Cinnamon Teal Uncommon in winter, 1 on the Kent-Aubum CBC, Ki, on 1/1 (TB), 1 ad male at the Everett STP, SN, on 1/2 (MS), 1 at Ridgefield xWR, CK, on 2/22 and 2/27 (TEn).

Eurasian Wigeon Uncommon in winter in e WA, 1 at Groves Park, Richland, throughout the period (m.ob.). 2 males at McFarney NWR, WW, on 1/27 (MD&MID), 1 at Pasco, OR, on 12/29 and 1/29 (AS). 1 male at Clarkston, AS, on 12/31 (MD&MID) through at least 1/27 (DSv), 1 male w of Stevenson, KL, on 2/3 (MD&MID).

Tundra Swan 1 at Lake Erie, on Fidalgo I, SK, on 12/30 and 1/2 (BB). 1 on the Bellingham CBC, WH, on 1/28 (TW), 1 on Olympia STP, IC, on 1/1 (CC), 2 on Mud L., SK, on 2/12 and 2/16 (fide BK). 12 on Drano L. w of White Salmon, SM, 2/9 (JDa), 1 at Neah Bay, CL, 12/21 (RN).

Tufted Di.: 1. Rare in WA, 1 ad. female at Everett STP, SN, on 1/17 (fide EH) through at least 1/31 (SM).

Herd: Raw in e WA, 1 at John Day Dam, KL, on 12/4 (JJD&BA) and 1 at Banks L. DO, on 12/10 (KK). Locally uncommon in lower Puget Sound, 4 at Pilt Passage, Pl, on 1/3 (BR&GR et. al), and 3 males and 2 females at Allyn, MA, on 1/14 (CC).

Surf Scoter Uncommon in e WA, 1 just s of the Vantage Bridge, GR, on 12/3 (DSf).

White-winged Scoter Uncommon in e WA, 1 at Dungeness Spit, CL, on 12/16 (JM). 1 at Puyallup, Pl, on 1/18 (MR). 1 at the Everett STP, SN, on 2/27 (TEn) and 3/1 (JDa).
WA, 1 at Clarkston, AS, on 12/27 (MD&MID).

Common Goldenaeye A high count for c WA, 500 at Windust Park, s of Monumental Dam, FR, on 2/12 (SS&SP).

Red-breasted merganser Uncommon in e WA, 1 female at McNary Dam, BE, on 12/4 (JEn&DBa), 5 at Priest Rapids, YA, on 1/7 (AS), 5 along the Columbia R. in WW, on 1/21 (MD&MID), 3 at Vernita Bridge, Route 24, BE, on 1/21 (MD&MID). 2 a. McNary NWR, WW, on 1/27 (MD&MID), 1 at Potatoles Reservoir, GR, on 2/7 (SR), 1 female at Confluence SP, Wenatchee CH, on 2/8 (SR), 2 males at Priest Rapids, GR, on 1/21 and on 2/18 (SR&AS).

Turkey Vulture Uncommon in winter, 1 at Confluence SP, Wenatchee CH, on 2/8 holes Reservoir, GR, on 2/7 (SR), 1 female 24, BE, on 1/21 (MD&MID), 2 at McNary Dam, BE, on 1/22 (AS), 5 along the Columbia R in WW, on 1/21 (MD&MID), 3 at Vernita Bridge, Route 24, BE, on 1/21 (MD&MID), 2 a. McNary NWR, WW, on 1/27 (MD&MID), 1 at Potatoles Reservoir, GR, on 2/7 (SR), 1 female at Confluence SP, Wenatchee CH, on 2/8 (SR), 2 males at Priest Rapids, GR, on 1/21 and on 2/18 (SR&AS).

Northern Goshaw: 1 in Burbank, BE, on 12/1 (DR), 1 imm. along District Line Rd., SK, on 12/2 (fide BK), 2 below McNary Dam, BE, on 12/6 (MD), 1 on the Sequim CBC, CL, on 12/17 (BL), 1 at Luly Lake, near Blanchard, SK, on 1/4 (fide BK), 1 imm. at Walla Walla, WW, on 1/8 (SMu), 1 at Wawawai, WH, on 1/13 (MD&MID), 1 near Winthrop, OK, on 1/13 (GG) and on 2/8 (SR), and 1 at O’Sullivan Dam, GR, on 1/20 (MD&MID).

Red-shouldered Hawk 1 at Ridgefield NWR, CK, on 1/22 (KK) and 2/20 (BS&WC). USFWS reported it as being present all winter. This may be the same individual reported from this locality last winter (JEn).

Ferruginous Hawk: First spring migrant reported, 2 near Tucheth, WW, on 2/19 (MD&MID) and 1 Kiona, BE, on 2/22 (BW).

Sharp-tailed Grouse 7 ne of LeFleur, OK, on 12/1 (SR), 10 at Ferry Canyon, DO, on 2/4 (DSt), 2 at Nespelem, OK, on 1/26 (SR).

Sandhill Crane Uncommon in King County, 1 in Kent, KI, on 2/10 (fide TB).

Pacific Golden-Plover 1 on the Samish Flats, SK, on 2/19 (BL&NL) through at least 2/21 (JE, CB).

Great Golden-winged Plover Uncommon in e WA in winter, 1 at Richland, BE, on 1/16 (SR) and nearby in Kennewick, BE, on 1/23 (BW) at the Yakima RD, on 1/30 (BW), and 1 at Bennington L, Walla Walla, WW, on 1/22 (MD&MID).

Willet 1 at Ediz Hook, CL, on 12/27 through at least 2/6 (SS&DS).

Marbled Godwit A high count of 366 near the Norih RD, PA, on 2/5 (MD&MID). Uncommon in winter in the northern reaches of the Puget Sound.

Least Sandpiper A high count for winter, 1 at West Beach in Deception Pass SP, IS, on 1/1 (fide BK), 1 at the Jensen Access, SK, on 1/2 (fide BK), 1 on Dungeness Spit, CL, on 2/19-21 (SS, RR&BR&GR et al).

Surfbird Uncommon in southern Puget Sound, 22 on the Tacoma CBC, PA, on 12/17 (DA) and SS at Alki Point, Seattle, KL, on 2/18 (PC).

Rock Sandpiper 2 at the jetty at Ocean Shores, GH, on 2/6 (MD&MID), 2 at Ediz Hook, CL, on 12/27 (SS&DS), 1/13 (DP) and 2/6 (BS).

Luna Uncommon in e WA in winter, as many as 15 at the Yakima RD, BE, between 12/27 and 1/3 (BW).

Red Phalarope: Seldom reported in winter.

Common Black-headed Gull 1 ad. at Point-No-Point, KS, on 12/25 (JH), 1 at Catala Spit, Ocean Shores, GH, on 1/14 (GH&Wn), and 18 off Westport, GH, on 1/21 (TW).

Laridae Uncommon in e WA in winter, as many as 15 at the Yakima RD, BE, between 12/27 and 1/3 (BW).

Black-headed Gull 1 ad. at Point-No-Point, KS, on 12/3 (VM), 1 at Catala Spit, Ocean Shores, GH, on 1/14 (GH&Wn), and 18 off Westport, GH, on 1/21 (TW).

Littler Gull 1 ad. at American L, Tacoma, PA, on 12/11, 12/29 (RN) and 2/12 (DSt). 1 ad. at Point-No-Point, KS, on 2/28 (VN).

Common Black-headed Gull 1 ad. at Point-No-Point, KS, on 12/23 (VN). 1 ad. at Edmonds, SM, on 12/27 (DD).

Snowy Owl The only report from w WA this season was 1 from Hurricane Hill in the Olympic NP, CL, on 2/3 (DSt). In e WA, 1 near Moses Lake, GR, on 12/15 (MD&MID) and on 2/19 (EH&GG), 1 ad. male near Reardon, LI, on 1/17 (JA), and 1 near Whidbey Island, DO, on 2/19 (EH&GG).

Thayer’s Gull Rare in the Columbia Basin in winter, 1 at Wallula, WW, on 2/11 (PB), 1 third winter bird at Ice Harbor Dam, WW, through out the reporting period (m.ob.).

Glacous-winged Gull Uncommon in e WA in winter, 2 ad. at Ice Harbor Dam, WW, on 12/3 (MD&MID), 15 near Wallula, WW, on 1/4 (AS&SR) and on 1/6 (MD&MID). 3 ad. near Wallula, WW, on 2/10 (MD&MID), and 1 ad. at Mcnary Dam, BE, on 12/31 (DF).

Glaucous Gull There was an increase in reports of this species this winter, as many as 6 near Wallula, WW, on 12/16 through the end of the period (MD&MID, BW), 1 in Renton, KI, on 12/27 (KA), 1 at Kennedy Creek, WA, on 1/4 (CC), 1 first year bird near the Satap R., GH, on 1/8 and 1/16 (BIT), 1 in Richland, BE, on 1/10 (BW), 1 first winter bird at Point-No-Point, KS, on 1/25 through at least 2/20 (VN), 1 at end of Dungeness Spit, CL, on 2/11 (JE), 1 at Anacortes, SK, on 2/11 (BS), 1 at Birch Bay, WH, on 2/19 (cS), 1 on Samish River, near Edison, SK, on 2/19 (JB) and 2/22 (KA), 1 at Olympia, TH, on 2/5 (BR), and 1 at Mount Vernon, SK, on 2/26 (SA).

ancient Murrelet 315 were counted on the Anacortes to Sidney Ferry CBC on 12/21 (JDu).

Cassin’s Auklet A very high count for a Westport pelagic trip, over 500 off of Westport, GH, on 1/21 (TW).

Mourning Dove Noteworthy numbers for w WA were 50+ in File, PA, on 12/11 (BR&GR et al), 57 at Conway, SK, on 1/15 (SM), and 30+ at Curtis, LE, on 1/24 (BR&GR et al).

Snowy Owl The only report from w WA this season was 1 from Hurricane Hill in the Olympic NP, CL, on 2/3 (DSt). In e WA, 1 near Moses Lake, GR, on 12/15 (MD&MID) and on 2/19 (EH&GG), 1 ad. male near Reardon, LI, on 1/17 (JA), and 1 near Whidbey Island, DO, on 2/19 (EH&GG).

continued on next page
Barred Owl 1 on the Washington State University campus in Pullman, WH, on 2/23 (DJo).

Burrowing Owl Uncommon in winter, 1 in North Richland, BE, on 12/8 (FB), 1 apparently wintered at the George exit of I-90, GR, (m.ob.).

Anna’s Hummingbird This species spent the winter on both sides of the Cascades, 1 in Pullman, WH, on 12/24 (HH), and on 2/27 (SS&DS). A first winterer was from Richland, BE, throughout Jan (GA), and 1 at a feeder in Kennewick, BE, on 1/24 (KR) and on 1/27 (MD&MID).

Rufous Hummingbird The first spring report was from Olympia, TH, on 2/27 (LC).

Red-naped Sapsucker Uncommon in winter, 1 at Walla Walla, WW, on 1/2 (RLIE).

Red-breasted Sapsucker Rare in e WA, 1 on the Wenatchee CBC, CH, on 1/1 and on 1/21 (DSt), 1 in Pasco, FR, on 12/17 (TG) for a second county record.

Say’s Phoebe Occasionally winters in Columbia Basin. 1 near Walla Walla, WW, on 1/14 (DSY), 2 on both sides of the Snake R. below Little Goose Dam, WH and CO, on 2/12 (AS&SP), 1 at Little Goose Dam, CO, on 2/18 (MD&MID), and on 1/27 (MD&MID).

Mountain Bluebird The first reports: 2 on the Sequim CBC, CL on 1/27 (BLo), 1 near Montesano, SK, on 12/31 (fide BK), 1 at Skagit WMA, SK, on 1/25 (IS), 1 at Ridgefield NWR, CK, on 2/20 (BSh&WC), 1 at Whinton I, BE, on 2/25 (MD&MID).

Winter Wren Uncommon in lower Columbia Basin, 1 at Two Rivers CP, BE, on 1/22 and in 2/26 (DR).

Mountain Bluebird The first reports: 2 near Field Springs SP, AS, on 2/26 (MK), 3 at Mt. Blues, near Nellese, PA, on 2/26 (JS), and 20+ at Swauk Prairie, near Cle Elum, KT, on 2/26 (BR&GR et al).

Townsend’s Solitaire Uncommon in w WA in winter, 4 reports from Seattle, KL, on 12/11 (DL), 1/2 (KA), 1/10 (DL), and 2/15 (fide EH), 1 at Clallam Bay, CL, on 12/22 (RN), 1 at Washington Park, Anacortes, SK, on 12/31 (fide BK).

Northern Mockingbird 1 near Montesano, SK, from Dec. (RD) through at least 2/28 (RN), 1 near Mcnary Dam, BE, on 1/26 through at least 1/6 (MD&MID), 1 in Olympia, TH, on 1/3 (BT), 1 at Mcnary NWR, WW, on 1/16 through at least 2/3 (BW), 1 imm on the Lummi Flats, WC, on 1/9 (JDu), 1 at Walla Walla, WW, on 1/14 (MD&MID), 1 at Burlington, SK, on 1/16 (BK), 1 at a feeder in Pullman, WH, on 1/17 (ER), and 1 at Nisqually NWR, TH, on 2/25 (BT).

Golden-crowned Sparrow Uncommon in the Columbia Basin in winter, 1 below Mcnary Dam, BE, on 12/6 (MD) and on Richland, BE, on 1/4 (NL).

Harri’s Sparrow 1 at a feeder near Burlington, SK, on 12/14-16 (fide BK), 2 in Kent, KL, on 1/13 (MD&MID) through at least 2/28 (RN). 2 at Walla Walla, WW, on 12/4 (jD).

Harri’s Sparrow 1 at a feeder near Burlington, SK, on 12/14-16 (fide BK), 2 in Kent, KL, on 1/13 (MD&MID) through at least 2/28 (RN). 2 at Walla Walla, WW, on 12/4 (jD).

Snow Bunting High count for e WA was 100+ at Priest Rapids, YA on 1/31 (MD&MID).

Wilson’s Warbler Rare in winter, 1 on the Samish Flats, SK, on 12/3 (fide BK), and on the Sequim CBC, CL on 12/17 (BLo).

Northern Cardinals 1 from reported from Vancouver, CK, in Feb., is undoubtedly an escapee (fide HN).

American Tree Sparrow Uncommon in winter, 1 on the Samish Flats, SK, on 12/3 (fide BK), and on the Sequim CBC, CL on 12/17 (BLo).

Lincoln’s Sparrow A high winter count for w WA was of 20- at the Skagit WMA, SK, on 1/7 (RR&SM). Rare in e WA in winter, 1 at Wenatchee, on 1/3 (AS), 1 at Burbank Heights, WW, on 12/9 (MD&MID), and on the Two Rivers CBC, WW, on 1/2 (MD&MID).

Swamp Sparrow Fewer reports than last winter, 1 at Mcnary NWR, WW, through at least 1/4 (MD&MID), 2 on the Sequim CBC, CL on 12/17 (BLo). 1 on Spencer L, SN, on 12/25 (SM), 1 in the Kent, KL, on 1/1 (TB) through 1/4 (EH). 1 on Fir Is., SK, on 1/2 (fide BK), 1 at Skagit WMA, SK, on 1/25 (IS), 1 at Ridgefield NWR, CK, on 2/20 (BSh&WC), 1 at Whinton I, BE, on 2/25 (MD&MID).

White-throated Sparrow Reported in about average numbers; 1 at a feeder at Mt. Pleasant, SK, on 12/5 through at least 12/4 (WC), 4 at three locations in CK, 11/5 through at least 12/4 (WC). As many as 4 at the Skagit WMA, SK, from 12/4 (fide BK) through at least 2/28 (RN), 1 near Mcnary Dam, BE, on 12/6 through at least 1/6 (MD&MID), 1 in Olympia, TH, on 1/3 (BT), 1 at Mcnary NWR, WW, on 1/6 through at least 2/3 (BW), 1 imm on the Lummi Flats, WC, on 1/8 (JDu), 1 at Walla Walla, WW, on 1/14 (MD&MID), 1 at Burlington, SK, on 1/16 (BK), 1 at a feeder in Pullman, WH, on 1/17 (ER), and 1 at Nisqually NWR, TH, on 2/25 (BT).

Golden-crowned Sparrow Uncommon in the Columbia Basin in winter, 1 below Mcnary Dam, BE, on 12/6 (MD) and on Richland, BE, on 1/4 (NL).

Harri’s Sparrow 1 at a feeder near Burlington, SK, on 12/14-16 (fide BK), 2 in Kent, KL, on 1/13 (MD&MID) through at least 2/28 (RN). 2 at Walla Walla, WW, on 12/4 (jD).

Slate-colored” Junco 1 on the Waterville Plateau, BE, on 1/28 (AS), 500 near Withrow, DO, on 2/19 (EH&GG), 2500 near LaFleur, OK, on 2/19 (HO&TS).

Rusty Blackbird At least 2 at the Walla Walla College Dairy Farm, WW, on 1/7 8 (MD&MID).

Common Grackle 1 at the Walla Walla...
September 11, 7:30 PM, Seattle
Monthly WOS meeting at the Burke Museum

September 12-17, Portland
The Washington and Oregon Chapters of The Wildlife Society co-host their second annual conference, "Excellence in Wildlife Stewardship through Science and Education." The conference will feature symposia, workshops, paper and poster sessions, Working Group meetings, student activities, a Member’s Forum, field trips, and more. Contact: Oregon Chapter, The Wildlife Society, P.O. Box 2214, Corvallis, Oregon 97339.

November 6, 7:30 PM, Seattle
Monthly WOS meeting at the Urban Horticulture Center

November 8-12, Victoria
The Pacific Seabird Group and the Colonial Waterbird Society will hold a Joint Annual Meeting with the theme, "Behavioral Mechanisms of Population Regulation." The meeting will feature invited plenary speakers, workshops, paper and poster sessions, and field trips. Contact: ROB BUTLER, Pacific Wildlife Research Centre. Canadian Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 340, Delta, British Columbia V4K 3Y3 Canada.
Ring-billed Gulls were marked at Cabin Island, near Priest Rapids Dam, with a pink patagial tag on the right wing. Observation information should include date, time, location, number of marked/unmarked gulls, and behavior (foraging, loafing, other). Foraging is defined as searching for, hovering over, capturing, or feeding on a prey item. Loafing is sitting, sleeping, preening, or other non-foraging activity. Other is defined as flying to and from a given point. Send reports to John Cummings, Denver Wildlife Research Center, Building 16, P.O. Box 25265, Denver Federal Center, Denver, Colorado 80225.

Over 300 Western Snowy Plovers have been banded at various sites along the Oregon coast since 1990. Most banded birds have a combination of 2, 3, or 4 of the following colored bands: white, blue, red, yellow, lime, green. In addition, some hatch-year birds were banded with 1 color band containing 3 stripes (for example, white/blue/white). Oregon banders are coordinating their work with other west coast banders and reports of any banded Snowy Plover will be shared. Send reports to Mark Stem, Oregon Natural Heritage Program, 1205 NW 25th, Portland, Oregon 97210. Phone 503-229-5078. Fax 503-228-3153.

Double-crested cormorants, color-banded, sec WOSNews 35:12.
Ian Moul 604-598-3141 or Don Norman 206-542-1275.

POSITION AVAILABLE: Bird banders with experience handling birds and using mistnets are invited to work as volunteers at the Triangle Island Seabird Research Station’s passerine migration monitoring project. Applicants must commit for at least 2 weeks (longer commitments preferred) during September and October 1995. We will cover living expenses while on island and transportation to and from Vancouver, British Columbia.

Triangle Island is 30 miles west of the north tip of Vancouver Island. It is dominated by rugged cliffs with sparse vegetation that offers little shelter to migrant passerines. Mistnetting takes place at a sheltered area around the research station, where two small thickets and a freshwater spring attract migrants. Last year’s birds included Broad-winged Hawk, Boreal Owl, Costa’s Hummingbird, Great Crested Flycatcher, Ash-throated Flycatcher, Rose-breasted Grosbeak & Blackpoll Warbler.

Apply with CV or resume before August 15. For information or to apply, contact Connie Smith, Department of Biological Sciences, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia V5A 1S6 Canada. Fax 604-291-3496. E-mail constans@fraser.sfu.ca.