Pterodroma inexspectata!

by

Alan J. Knue

Pterodroma! ultima! inexspectata! externa! This group of "wing-running", "ultimate" "unexpected", "far out" tubenoses have inspired ornithologists from the get go. Typically deep water species, Pterodromas rarely are seen from boats brave enough to ride the rollers of the Pacific. They typically wing by at fast speeds, sometimes arcing tens of feet over the waves, barely allowing the observer time to overcome a feeling of shock, much less the time to see the crucial field marks needed to identify a species in one of the largest and most challenging groups of seabirds. These fleeting glimpses into the ocean's secrets are part of the lure of pelagic birding, but one need not step on a boat to see these wing-runners…

I almost called it off. Amazingly, I was able to fight the pull of warm blankets, holiday fatigue, and the press of dark clouds and rain to greet Alan Grenon at his door at the appointed hour of 7 am, Sunday, November 26. Two-and-a-half hours later, with hovering gray clouds and spotty rain setting the scene, we pulled into the parking lot at the Ocean Shores jetty and set about watching the ocean. The waves entering the mouth of Grays Harbor were magnificent. They seemed to tower over the jetty rocks as they rolled on by.

(Continued on page 6)

The Buff-breasted Sandpiper in Washington State

By Patrick and Ruth Sullivan

The Buff-breasted Sandpiper is a sought-after shorebird species in Washington. It occurs almost annually, but in very small numbers, being a more inland migrant through central North America east of the Rockies in spring and fall. Most Washington sightings occur mainly in fall at coastal locations. There are at least four inland Washington records, and at least one spring coastal record.

This species migrates from its eastern South America wintering grounds. It is declining throughout its range due to habitat loss and harvesting practices in agricultural areas in its chief migration routes along the Central and Atlantic flyways. Predators on breeding grounds as well as wintering grounds play an important role in their decline as well, as this causes the birds to limit their stay or disperse and form large flocks to lessen the probability of predation. Breeding grounds are also recently limited in Alaska and northern Canada by predators and human disturbances such as building roads for oil exploration and related activities.

In fall migration birds show up along the coastal Pacific states usually in mid-August to early-September, but juvenals have been noted as early as July. Numbers can vary greatly, with usually one to five birds, but as many as 20 were seen at Ocean Shores in 1979. A few adult birds have been seen, which are darker overall and not as buffy as the juvenals. Birds that appear usually don’t stay more than a week, and typically one to four days on average at a given location. Unlike other shorebirds, they can often go undetected as they forage in upper beach and vegetated areas, occasionally coming to the

(Continued on page 4)
Monday, February 5, 2001
Pelagic Birding Off the West Coast will be the featured topic at the February WOS meeting. Mike Donahue will give an overview of seabirds and marine mammals you can see offshore. Tracee Geernaert will give a history of the short-tailed albatross, their recovery and the potential potential for ticking one off on your Washington life list.

Monthly Membership Meetings are held the first Monday of the month (except July, August, & September). They are held at the Center for Urban Horticulture on the University of Washington campus, 3501 NE 41st St., Seattle, and are open to all. The social begins at 7:00 p.m. and the program starts at 7:30 p.m. Directions: From I-5 take SR520 East. Take the Montlake Blvd NE exit and turn North towards the University of Washington campus. Stay in right lane and drive North on Montlake Blvd (over the bridge and past the stadium). The road will curve to the right around the Montlake Fill and merges with NE 45th St. You will quickly approach a 5 way intersection. At the intersection turn right onto Mary Gates Memorial Drive. The Center for Urban Horticulture is 2 long blocks down on the right. There is plenty of free parking at the facility. We use the main meeting room, the backside of which faces the road.

WOS Membership Meetings 2001

The Society
The Washington Ornithological Society was chartered in 1988 to increase knowledge of the birds of Washington and to enhance communication among all persons interested in those birds. WOS is a nonprofit educational organization under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue code. For information about the Society, contact an officer or board member, or write to: Washington Ornithological Society P.O. Box 31783 Seattle, WA 98103-1783

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WOS Field Trips 2001

Saturday, January 27, 2001
Kraig Kemper will lead a trip to the Skagit and Samish Flats. The trip will be limited to eight people. Target birds will include raptors, swans, geese, ducks and sparrows. Specialties could include Prairie Falcon, Gyrfalcon, White-throated Sparrow, American Tree Sparrow, and/or Swamp Sparrow. The group will meet at 8 AM at a place yet to be determined. Please contact Kraig for details at (206) 789-9255 or VP@wos.org

WOS Field Trips allow members to explore places or revisit familiar haunts. Each trip is open to a limited number of participants. Each member may join up to four trips per year (excluding annual conference trips). Non-members may attend as a member’s guest once per year. Questions about field trips should be directed to the trip leader(s). If you would like to lead a field trip, or would like to suggest a location for a field trip, send a note to FieldTrips@wos.org.
Dennis Paulson’s memorable line "there are few terrestrial habitats in Washington as birdless as the shrub-steppe habitat in winter" didn’t deter me from organizing a WOS trip to share the wonderland of landscapes on the Yakima Training Center. To be sure, we saw relatively few species of birds, but we had some great walks, saw beautiful vistas, and even saw some exciting birds.

Freezing rain was in the forecast, but didn’t materialize. Fog, however, did. The drive east along the Cold Creek Rd. yielded difficult views of one each of Rough-legged Hawk, American Kestrel, and Northern Shrike, and 10-15 of the expected Black-billed Magpies. Sage Grouse, the main target species for some on the trip, were not flushed from the roadside until east of Taylor Pond along the road, which is unusual. We then had brief views of this endangered grouse blasting away from us into the fog, like torpedoes on a straight-line trajectory. Next we birded the riparian groves around Greely Pond, again in the fog. We picked up two more Rough-legged Hawks, two Great Horned Owls, one Marsh Wren and several Song Sparrows here.

We had a brief respite from the fog by ascending the south flanks of Hog Ranch Buttes (Umtanum Ridge). The bare, stony landscape atop a knoll here has proven to be a place for Lapland Longspur and Snow Bunting, but none showed themselves or called, not even a Horned Lark! However, a Golden Eagle soaring over the ridge top in the distance - seen through a scope, seemed to prove there might be something living in this desolate and forbidding place.

A walk down into the nearby sage-filled ravines yielded significant negative data and further confirmation of Dennis’ hypothesis: there were virtually no birds here! We noted one Northern Shrike, a bird hovering over the snowy ravine, and one Song Sparrow in the dense tussocks of Giant Wild Rye.

Steadily clearing conditions were encountered as we headed east over the 3,000-foot Cold Creek Divide, but a new challenge arose: wind, though not too bad. The small cattail marsh here had some more Marsh Wrens and Song Sparrows, and one lone male Brewer's Blackbird, seemingly lost. I was so surprised by this bird here that I initially refused to call it a Brewer’s, feeling it might be a male Rusty that had worn off its rufous-edged plumage prematurely, thus appearing similar to a Brewer’s. As it took flight, however, it called a perfect Brewer's call. A pretty flock of American Goldfinch were also new for the day here.

We then again ascended Umtanum Ridge, flushing three more Sage Grouse just south of the ridge, and lunched on the ridge. The fog parted at times, allowing a hazy view down to Priest Rapids Lake; shortly we were once again enveloped in the cold, swirling mists. Some stayed in the car, others braved the cold and even noted a few Horned Larks passing over, a surprisingly scarce species on the YTC this fall.

Farther down and east along Cold Creek, we walked alongside an ancient apple orchard and riparian which had more birds, including a Yellow-shafted Flicker, the third I've noted along Cold Creek (the others in fall - 28 September 1996 and 6 October 1996). Golden-crowned Kinglet, American Robin, Varied Thrush, Dark-eyed (Oregon) Junco White-crowned Sparrow, and House Finch, were new additions to the trip list here. Another Golden Eagle was studied overhead here, this time a well-marked immature; I never tire of admiring this regal bird!

We swung back into the riparian of Upper Cold Creek, where, as we were admiring a distant perched Rough-legged Hawk, another raptor, about Red-tailed Hawk in size suddenly emerged from the cottonwoods making its way swiftly past us, affording beautiful, close views: flap...flap...flap glide, flap...flap...flap glide. Heavily streaked below, somewhat tapered wings, brownish above. An immature Northern Goshawk! Now this got my adrenaline going! Moments later, we spied on a porcupine just above us in a cottonwood, noting how cute a facial expression these guys really have.

It was getting to be mid-afternoon as we headed west over the divide again; the entire Selah Creek Valley was now clear. The fog gone, we could now appreciate the landscape; we were in a wide valley between Yakima and Umtanum Ridge, two prominent anticlines of the "Yakima Fold Belt," with Mt. Rainier looming far off on the western horizon. Various shrub-steppe communities revealed themselves because of the snow cover. Deep-soiled basins especially were mantled in Big Sagebrush/Bluebunch Wheatgrass, the upper north-facing slopes in Threetip Sagebrush/Idaho Fescue. South-facing shallow-soiled communities such as Thyme-leaved Buckwheat/Sandberg's Bluegrass appear as impoverished alpine habitats. How beautiful and inspiring a scene!

At one lucky stop in the upper Selah Creek basin we were treated to a Short-eared Owl dive-bombing a Rough-legged Hawk that was perched on a fence post out in the snowy sagelands. Shortly, another Short-eared appeared and the two owls briefly engaged in an aerial skirmish (or...was it courting?), calling harshly to one another.

Once again heading west to the training center entrance, we kept pace (~ 35 miles per hour) with two more Golden Eagles flying steadily westward, presumably heading to their nightly roost (on a cliff?), an exciting finale to our day on the Yakima Training Center!

It occurs to me this entire installation deserves much more careful stewardship as an environmental treasure than that afforded by the Department of the Army. I hereby propose careful consideration for the needs to national security and then transfer of this crucial cog to Washington's shrub-steppe ecosystem to the Department of the Interior as the "Yakima Folds National Monument." An outlandish proposal? I don't believe so, after all The Nature Conservancy of Washington, after exhaustive study, determined the Yakima Training Center to be critical to maintenance of viable shrub-steppe populations of a significant number of key shrub-steppe plants and animals in the Columbia Basin.

[Editor's note: A “Yakima Folds National Monument” if joined with the newly created Hanford Reach National Monument to the east could create an ecosystem corridor preserving shrub-steppe habitat from the Yakima Training Center to the Columbia River.]

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shoreline to feed. They are alert but quite approachable at this time.

This species is quite distinctive, unlike other resembling shorebirds such as the much larger juvenile Ruff. Their plumage is unmistakable and elegant. Juvenals are overall buffy with a dark scaly back appearance, a streaked crown and bright yellow legs. They often stand upright in posture as in the larger Upland Sandpiper; both are grassland and prairie species, always on the lookout for predators as they can stand motionless or crouch until the disturbance is gone. Birds that are in an area where predators persist often limit their stay in migration as they are less tolerant than other species [citation?]. Buff-breasted Sandpipers also tend to forage alone, or occasionally with other shorebirds.

Our own personal records of this species come from Grays Harbor Co., mainly Damon Point. Our first record was on 28 August 1990 with three birds. On 4 September 1993 we saw seven birds at Damon Point, and then three birds, likely from the same flock, at the Ocean Shores S.T.P. These birds remained for about one week. That same year we had two birds near Westport on 11 September. In August 1995 we saw one bird at Westport, and seven at Damon Point. Our last sighting was in August 2000 with one bird on the 19th, two birds on the 26th, and three on the 27th. These sightings involved fairly extensive searching at times, as the birds often flew from one location at Damon Point to another.

The Buff-breasted Sandpiper is one of our favorite shorebirds, just being so locally rare and an exciting species to observe as it forages throughout its upland habitat. It is unlike most shorebirds that are observed mostly near or on muddy shorelines or beaches, where most birders tend to look. This species is more apt to associate alone, where most shorebirds will gather in mixed flocks. I have seen it with others during a predatory disturbance, as all the nearby birds flocked together, then landed briefly, then lifted again. They are usually silent but in flight can be heard giving their low, grunt-like “pre-ee-eet” as they are agitated being flushed from the ground. The often land nearby soon after being flushed, and will walk toward the nearest cover, not run.

The top photo is a great close-up look at a Buff-breasted Sandpiper, caught on film by Patrick Sullivan on August 19, 2000. Below is another exquisite portrait, this time by Ruth Sullivan, September 2, 1995. Both photos were taken at Damon Point.

Both birds show the characteristic bold (if somewhat fuzzy) eye ring with the dark coma delineating the front edge that give these birds their distinctive appearance.
Recent Sightings of the Snowy and Northern Hawk Owl in Washington and British Columbia

By Brian H. Bell

There have been numerous mentions on Tweeters and other birding e-mail groups of early Northern Hawk and Snowy Owls. The first reports on Snowy Owls came in from the mid-West as early as September. Since then there have been a number of sightings of both owls in the northwest, primarily in Washington and British Columbia.

Northern Hawk Owls were reported from the northeast corner of Washington in the Pass Creek Pass area of Pend Oreille County, from Chelan Ridge in Okanogan/Chelan Counties and from Snow Peak in Ferry County in early and mid-October. In mid-November another Northern Hawk Owl was reported from near Colville in Stevens County.

Starting in early November, Snowy Owls have been sighted from near Davenport in Lincoln County, from near Vancouver B.C. and at Iona, B.C., from Bothell and Newcastle in King County, Tacoma in Pierce County, Nisqually in Thurston County, Ocean Shores in Grays Harbor County and from coastal Oregon.

The Snowy Owl in Bothell was first reported to Seattle Audubon on November 15th by a construction worker working in the North Creek Office Park just east of I-405. The owl was found in an open field just south of the parking lot for one of the major office complexes. When I first saw it in early afternoon it was resting on the ground essentially ignoring what was going on around it. It was alert, quickly swiveling its head around to look at me. The first impression was of an immaculate white bird of the same size as a Great Horned Owl. It was an almost completely white bird with a very white face and breast and brilliant yellow eyes. The rest of the body and flight plumage were white with narrow black edgings to many of the feathers. Because it was basically white I believe it was most likely an adult, quite possibly a female due to the amount of black edging.

It flew twice while I was observing it and the flight seemed strong both times. I saw the bird again in the late afternoon, when it was being harassed by large numbers of crows which it essentially ignored. Both earlier in the day, and during the late afternoon, the owl did not seem to be particularly bothered by people, even when approached fairly closely. When I returned the following morning after a frosty night the owl was not to be found. The entire North Creek parkway-office park area was scoured without locating the owl.

Brian Bell managed to get quite close to this Snowy Owl in Bothell on November 15, 2000 without flushing it. It flew only when others walked along a nearby trail. Lively, and strikingly white, it made a pretty spectacle for those quick enough to get to North Creek that day. The bird could not be located the following day despite extensive searching.
Almost immediately, we spied a Short-tailed Shearwater, crossing from south to north across the jetty tip. An aversion to pitching boats has largely kept Alan from seeing his life Short-tailed before today, so it was good to get this nemesis bird out of the way. Soon we spied several Black-legged Kittiwakes darting about in the spray, including two or three attractively marked first-winter birds. In the next hour, as the tide poured into Gray’s Harbor, we tallied more shearwaters, most too low over the water or too far out to identify. We also recorded our first Northern Fulmar, a fairly dark mottled individual. A short time later a light-phase fulmar flew by in its ‘slow’, albatross-like manner.

Next came an obliging Red Phalarope winging over the waves, giving me my first identifiable view of this species despite numerous pelagic trips over the Pacific. More fulmars, kittiwakes, and then a really good bird - an immature Sabine’s Gull- flying right along the jetty from the harbor towards the jetty point. It's brown back and strongly patterned wings of black, white and brown triangles adding spice to an already interesting morning. At this point we knew it was a red letter day, and decided to hang around to see what else showed up. A decision we would not regret.

Around 11:00 am, a bird flew by swiftly, in a very high arcing manner, its general form suggestive of a fulmar; thicker bodied, bigger headed than a shearwater. However, we didn't get the best look, and this bird had what appeared to be a dark “M” across its gray wings and back. Not long after, another bird flew by in the same swift, roller coaster ride, but this one was much closer, and this bird definitely had a very distinctive dark “M” across its wings and back. I thought I glimpsed a dark smudgy belly, contrasting with a white chin and throat, and I knew what all these observations indicated. I mentioned this possibility to Alan, and we laughed it off as one of those that got away... Boy, were we wrong to jump to that conclusion.

Around noon, as huge waves were crashing over the jetty and the tide surged into the harbor, a group of tubenoses flew toward the jetty, in that high-arcing manner of the two earlier birds. Immediately we noticed these seven birds were of the same species. There was the dark “M” spanning from the outer primaries across the secondary coverts of both wings and meeting over the lower back. The throat, upper chest and undertail coverts were white, sharply contrasting with a smudge of coal gray across the belly. A third distinctive mark was a tapering dark diagonal bar on the underwing, emerging from the primary coverts and ending in the mid-secondary coverts. Mottled Petrels! My earlier hunch was confirmed and reconfirmed as bird after bird made its way across our view of the harbor's mouth.

What brought these birds doing so close to the shore? The morning’s moderate-to-gusty winds could be one possibility. However, the birds seemed to associate with the maximum high tide,
Hope you had a peaceful and happy holiday season, with many good birds seen during the CBC(s).

As described in WOSNews 69, the WOS officers, Board of Directors and the production staff for the newsletter are determined to publish each issue of WOSNews on a regular schedule. Below is the list of this year’s deadlines for submitting articles and information to the editor that will ensure your contribution gets into the next issue.

| WOSNews 71 | January 8 |
| WOSNews 72 | March 5  |
| WOSNews 73 | May 7    |
| WOSNews 74 | July 9   |
| WOSNews 75 | Sept 3   |
| WOSNews 76 | Nov 5    |

We would appreciate getting feedback from you on the ideas for newsletter features, or your ideas of what you would like to see in the newsletter. Suggestions include trip reports, birding hot spots, poetry, regional research, Washington legislative environmental issues that potentially affect our interests and bird quizzes. Knowing what works and doesn’t work will help us publish a more relevant and informative newsletter. So please, take the time and let us know you want to see in your newsletter. Write, email or phone me (360-754-1205). May you a great year of birding!

From The Editor

Be Informed

WOSNews is published bimonthly by the Washington Ornithological Society to inform members about Society business, bird sightings, ornithological research, and the fun of birding. Readers are welcome to submit articles, announcements, illustrations, photographs, and other items for consideration. Contributor guidelines are available.

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Alan J. Knue, bluecrow@home.com, Seattle, WA

ARCTIC LOON The same individual as reported in last WOS Field Notes at Desert Aire reported in last WOS Field Notes at Desert Cove Benton.

Yellow-billed Loon Uncommon in w WA, 1 at Clarkston on 5/7 (PS&RS), and 30 at Pullman on 5/8 (VB).

Horned Grebe High count for w WA, 130 at Morse Creek Clallam on 4/20 (fide BN).

Red-necked Grebe Uncommon in southeast WA, 1 at Texas Lake Whitman on 5/13 (DiW).

Eared Grebe Local high counts, 22 at McCredie Klickitat on 5/7 (PS&RS), and 30 at Roosevelt Klickitat on 5/7 (PS&RS). Uncommon in southeast WA, 1 at Crooked Knee Lake Whitman on 5/13 (DiW). Local in w WA, 2 at Everett Snobomish on 5/16 with 3 there on 5/29 (SM), and 1 at Monroe Snobomish on 5/18 (KK).

Clark's Grebe Reports from e WA include, 1 at Yakima RD Benton on 5/4 (BW), 1 at Richland Benton on 5/6 (DR), 1 at McCredie Klickitat on 5/11 (PS&RS), and 1 at Swanson Lakes Lincoln on 5/29 (fide RR). Uncommon and local in w WA, 1 at Point No Point Kitap on 4/27 and on 4/30 (VN), and 1 at Tapps Lake Pierce on 5/8 (VB).

Laysan Albatross Uncommon in WA, 2 on Westport Pelagic Grays Harbor on 4/22 (BT&BL).

Northern Fulmar Low high count, 2 on Westport Pelagic Grays Harbor on 5/13 (BL). MANX SHEARWATER Rare in WA, 1 at Ocean Shores Grays Harbor on 5/13 (PC).

Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel High count, 304 on Westport Pelagic Grays Harbor on 5/13 (BT).

American White Pelican Reports from e WA include, 1 at Two Rivers CP Benton on 4/7 with 25 there on 5/18 (DR), and 24 at Phillko Lake Spokane on 5/3 (JA). Uncommon in w WA, 1 at Everett Snobomish on 4/20 (BB&DBe), and 2 at Stanwood Snobomish on 5/15 (fide RR).

Brown Pelican Early reports include, 1 at Westport Grays Harbor on 4/15 (BT), 3 on Westport Pelagic Grays Harbor on 4/22 (BL), and 5 at Ocean Shores Grays Harbor on 5/4 (TAv).

Double-crested Cormorant Locally uncommon, 3 at Silkott Asoin on 4/15 (fide MK), 1 at Swanson Lakes Lincoln on 5/5 and on 5/20 (JA).

Pelagic Cormorant High count, 80 at Dungeness Clallam on 5/27 (BN).

American Bittern Reports include, 1 at McNary NWR Walla Walla on 5/25 (TAv), and 1 at Krager Lake Pierce on 5/19 (BL).

Great Blue Heron 6 active nest at Wawai Whitman on 4/7 (fide MK).

Great Egret Reports from e WA include, 1 at Creston Lincoln on 5/19 (JA), 1 at Swanson Lakes Lincoln on 5/20 (JA), 1 at Othello Adams on 5/25 (TAv), 1 at Asoin Asoin on 5/28 (fide MK), and 1 at Richland Benton on 5/30 (BW). Reports from w WA include, 2 at Vancouver Clark on 4/10 (WC), 2 at Montlake Fill King on 5/15 (fide RR), and 8 at Ridgefield NWR Clark on 5/28 (PS&RS).

SNOWY EGRET Rare in WA, 1 at Tokeland Pacific on 5/13 (BL).

Black-crowned Night-Heron Reports from e WA include, 1 at Swanson Lakes Lincoln on 5/5 and on 5/20 (JA), 3 at Two Rivers CP Benton on 5/13 (DR), 1 at Richland Benton on 5/24 (TAv), and 5 at Iowa Beach Walla Walla on 5/24 (TAv).

White-faced Ibis A remarkable high count of 100 at Ridgefield NWR Clark on 5/25 (DYQ), 3 at Othello Adams on 5/27 (SM&BL) and on 5/28 (KK), and 1 at Kingston Kitap on 5/30 (IP&V).

Turkey Vulture Locally uncommon, 1 at Hole-in-the-Ground Whitman on 4/15 (DiW), 1 at Pullman Whitman on 4/27 (DiW).

Mute Swan 1 juvenile at Samish Flats Skagit on 4/13 (TAv).

Greater White-fronted Goose Reports from e WA include, 3 at Reordan Lincoln on 4/9 (JA), and 300 at Umatilla NWR Benton on 4/14 (BW). Reports from w WA include, 7 at Steigerwald Lake NWR Clark on 4/10 (WC), 16 at Brady Grays Harbor on 4/15 (PS&RS), 85 at North Cove Pacific on 4/15 (CC), 6 at Bay City Grays Harbor on 4/23 (GR), 28 at Ocean Shores Grays Harbor on 5/4 with 55 there on 5/11 (TAv), and 1 at Ridgefield NWR Clark on 5/28 (PS&RS).

Snow Goose Uncommon in e WA, 14 at Sprague Lake Adams on 4/7 (AJ). Uncommon in w WA outside of the north Puget Sound, 1 at Montlake Fill King on 4/26 (TAv), and 8 at Point No Point Kitap on 5/31 (VN).

Ross's Goose Uncommon in WA, 60 at Rock Lake Whitman on 4/8 (DiW) with 45 on 4/11 (DaM) and 40 on 4/15 (DiW), and 1 at Phillko Lake Spokane on 5/3 (J&KWH).

EMPEROR GOOSE Rare in WA, 1 at Port Angeles Clallam on 5/6 (SM).

Brant Rare away from salt water, 1 at Vancouver Clark on 4/10 (WC).

Wood Duck Reports include, 2 at Clarkson Asoin on 4/15 (fide MK), 4 at Richland Benton on 4/15 (DR), 3 at Wahluke Grant on 5/26 (TAv), and 1 at Naselle Pacific on 4/1 (AR).

Eurasian Green-winged Teal Uncommon in WA, 1 at Dallesport Klickitat on 4/8 (BT), and 1 at Edmonds Snobomish on 5/2 (DD).

Blue-winged Teal Reports from e WA include, 2 at Columbia NWR Adams Grant on 5/10 (RF), 2 at Two Rivers CP Benton on 5/16 (DR), 2 at Anatone Asoin on 5/20 (DR), 150 at Othello Adams on 5/28 (SM), and 3 at Clarkson Asoin on 5/30 (fide MK). Reports from w WA include, 1 male Ebey Island Snobomish on 4/27 (TAv), 2 at Dungeness Clallam on 5/11 (fide BN), 8 at Montlake Fill King on 5/17 (TAv), 2 at Bethal Pierce on 5/19 (BL), and 2 at Nisqually NWR Thurston on 5/31 (KM).

Cinnamon Teal Reports include, 1 male Toppenish NWR Yakima on 4/6 (TAv), 1 at Two Rivers CP Benton on 5/17 (DR), 1 at Montlake Fill King on 4/8 (DV), 1 at Brady Grays Harbor on 4/15 (PS&RS), 2 at Stanwood Snobomish on 4/16 (DLo), 3 at Nisqually NWR Thurston on 4/18 (SN), and 1 at Krager Lake Pierce on 5/19 (BL).

Eurasian X American Wigeon 1 at Para's Pond Adams on 4/1 (BT).

Eurasian Wigeon Uncommon in e WA, 1 at Para's Pond Adams on 4/1 (BT), 2 at Davenport Lincoln on 4/3 (DaM), 1 at Texas Lake Whitman on 4/15 (DiW), and 2 at Lamont Whitman on 5/5 (DiW).

Canvasback 1 at Stanwood Snobomish on 5/17 (DLo).
Redhead Local in w WA, 1 at Stanwood Snobonish on 4/26 (DLo) with 6 on 5/15 (SM), 7 on 5/17 and 1 on 5/31 (DLo), 1 at Ridgefield NWR Clark on 4/29 (fide RR), 1 at Montlake Fill King on 5/10 and 1 on 5/23 (TAv), 2 at Swantown Island on 5/13 (SM), 7 at Everett Snobonish on 5/16 (SM), 1 at Samish Flats Skagit on 5/20 (SA), and 1 at Monroe Snobonish on 5/20 (SM).

Tufted Duck Rare in WA, 1 at Ridgefield NWR Clark on 5/15 (WC) and on 5/16 (PS&RS).

Harlequin Duck Reports from breeding grounds include, 1 at Rimrock Retreat Yakima on 4/27 (BW), 2 at Becker River Snobonish on 5/8 (KK), and 2 at North Fork Skykomish River Snobonish on 5/8 (KK). High count in w WA, 136 at Sequim Bay Glacial Heritage.

Red-breasted Merganser Co. Pasco and 1 at Yakima RD on 4/5 (BW), 1 at Garfield Co. Garfield on 4/7 (fide MK), 3 at Clarkson Asotin on 4/15 (fide MK), and 1 at Silcott Asotin on 4/15 (fide MK), and 32 (17 nest) at Port Gardner Snobonish on 5/14 (SM).

White-tailed Kite Local in w WA, 2 at Glacial Heritage Thurston on 5/29 (fide RR).

SHOULDERED HAWK Rare and local in WA, 1 at Ridgefield NWR Clark on 4/28 and on 5/28 (PS&RS).

Swainson’s Hawk Rare in w WA, 1 dark phased Nisqually Thurston on 4/18 (SN), and 1 at Carnation King on 5/14 (EH).

Ferruginous Hawk Reports include, 1 at Palouse Falls Sp Franklin on 4/21 (fide MK), 14 at the Hanford Site Benton on 5/25 (TAv).

Rough-legged Hawk Late for e WA, 1 at Rock Creek W Whitman on 5/13 (DIW).

Golden Eagle Locally uncommon, 1 at Ewan Whitman on 4/8 (DIW), 1 at Richland Benton on 4/10 (BW), 1 at Clarkson Asotin on 4/15 (fide MK), 1 at Kanaskat SP King on 4/9 (SP), and 1 at Cedar Creek Mason on 5/22 (BS).

Merlin Late report, 1 at Spencer Island Snobonish on 5/29 (SM).

Mountain Quail Uncommon and local in WA, 2 at Port Orchard Kitsap on 4/2 (BL), and 2 males Kitsap Lake Kitsap on 5/31 (TAv).

Sandhill Crane Reports from e WA include, 1200 at Lower Crab Creek Grant on 4/2 (SP), and 1000 at Browns Lake Lincoln on 4/7 (JA). Reports from w WA include, 1 at Skamokawa Wabikiakum on 4/5 (fide AR), 150 at Snow Creek Clallam on 4/12 (BN), and 1 at Brady Grays Harbor on 5/11 (TAv) and on 5/20 (PS&RS).

Black-bellied Plover Reports from e WA include, 1 at Columbia NWR Adams/Grant on 4/28 (RF), 1 at Toppenish NWR Yakima on 5/6 (DDr), 2 at Swanson Lakes Lincoln on 5/12 (JA) and a high count of 14 there Lincoln on 5/19 (JA). Reports from w WA include, 150 at Brady Grays Harbor on 5/4 (TAv), and 100 at Leadbetter Point Pacific on 5/5 (DP).

Unknown Golden Plover 1 at American Camp San Juan on 4/29 (SA).

American Golden Plover Rare in e WA, 1 at Rock Lake Whitman on 4/29 (DIW). Locally uncommon, 3 at Nisqually Thurston on 5/31 (KM).

Pacific Golden Plover Rare in w WA, 1 at Toppenish NWR Yakima on 5/6 (DDr). Locally uncommon, 6 at Brady Grays Harbor on 5/4 (TAv) with 2 there on 5/11 (TAv).

Semipalmated Plover Reports from e WA include, 12 at Swanson Lakes Lincoln on 5/5 with 3 on 5/12 and 1 there on 5/20 (JA), and 40 at Toppenish NWR Yakima on 5/6 (DDr). Reports from w WA include, 150 at Leadbetter Point Pacific on 5/5 (DP), 1 at Ridgefield NWR Clark on 5/6 (KK), and 18 at Brady Grays Harbor on 5/11 (TAv).

Black Oystercatcher Locally uncommon, 4 at Bainbridge Island Kitsap on 5/16 (IP).

Black-necked Stilt Reports from e WA include, 5 at Yakima RD Benton on 4/4 (BW), 20 at Columbia NWR Adams/Grant on 4/28 (RF), 12 at Swanson Lakes Lincoln on 5/20 (JA), 50 at Lamont Whitman on 5/5 (DIW), and 51 at Othello Adams on 5/28 (SM). Uncommon in w WA, 1 at Ridgefield NWR Clark on 4/29 (fide RR) and on 5/16 (PS&RS).

American Avocet Reports from e WA include, 36 at Yakima RD Benton on 4/4 (BW), 4 at Clarkson Asotin on 4/15 and on 5/30 (fide MK), 3 at Swanson Lakes Lincoln on 5/5 (JA), 10 at Swanson Lakes Lincoln on 5/20 (JA), 1 at Two Rivers CP Benton on 5/13 (DR), and 10 at Lamont Whitman on 5/13 (DIW). Uncommon in w WA, 8-10 at Crockett Lake Island on 5/18 (HJ) with there 4 at Crockett Lake Island on 5/21 (SM&BMe).

Greater Yellowlegs reports include, 8 at Yakima RD Benton on 4/4 (BW), 30 at Nisqually NWR Thurston on 4/18 (fide RR), and 5 at Leadbetter Point Pacific on 5/5 (DP).

Lesser Yellowlegs Reports include, 2 at Columbia NWR Adams/Grant on 4/28 (RF), and 1 at Skagit WMA Skagit on 4/9 (SM).

Solitary Sandpiper Reports include, 1 at Columbia NWR Adams/Grant on 4/28 (RF), 1 at Carnation King on 4/28 (MW), 1 at Spanaway Pierre on 4/30 (BL), and 2 at Ebey Island Snobonish on 5/16 (SM).

Willer Rare in e WA, 1 at Swanson Lakes Lincoln on 5/20 (JA). High count for w WA, 6 at Tokeland Pacific on 4/16 (CC).

Wandering Tattler 2 at Ocean Shores Grays Harbor on 4/26 (BW), and 6 at Westport Grays Harbor on 5/20 (PS&RS).

UPLAND SANDPIPER Rare in WA, 1 at Moses Lake Grant on 5/30 (fide RR).

Whimbrel Reports include, 15 at Leadbetter Point Pacific on 5/5 (DP), 15 at Elma Grays Harbor on 5/11 (TAv), 115 at Ocean Shores Grays Harbor on 5/11 (TAv), 50 at Marymoor Park King on 5/14 (SP), 1 at Monroe Snobonish on 5/20 (KK), and 50 at Nisqually NWR Thurston on 5/31 (KM).

Long-billed Curlew Reports from e WA include, 2 at Richland Benton on 4/15 (DR). Reports from w WA include, 1 at Skagit WMA Skagit on 4/9 (SM), 4 at North Cove Pacific on 4/16 (CC), and 2 at Leadbetter Point Pacific on 5/5 (DP).

Marbled Godwit Rare in e WA, 1 at Swanson Lakes Lincoln on 5/12 (JA), and 1 at Columbia NWR Adams/Grant on 5/20 (RF).

Marbled Godwit High counts include, 142 at Tokeland Pacific on 4/15 (PS&RS) with 273 there on 4/16 (CC).

Ruddy Turnstone Reports include, 12 at Leadbetter Point Pacific on 5/5 (DP), 18 at Penn Cove Island on 5/6 (SM), 29 at Brady Grays Harbor on 5/11 (TAv), and 1 at Everett Snobonish on 5/17 (DD).

Black Turnstone High count for WA, 1000 at Rat Island Jefferson on 4/16 (fide BN).

Red Knot Rare in e WA, 2 at Swanson Lakes Lincoln on 5/19 (JA). Reports from w WA include, 20 at Bottle Beach Grays Harbor on 4/15 (CC) with 150 on 5/4 (TAv), 1 at Ridgefield NWR Clark on 4/28 (PS&RS), 500 at Leadbetter Point Pacific on 5/5 (DP), and 40 at Ocean Shores Grays Harbor on 5/11 (TAv).

Semipalmated Sandpiper Reports include, 1 at Swanson Lakes Lincoln on 5/5 (JA) with 1 there on 5/12 (JA), 1 at Montlake Fill King on 5/10 (TAv), 2 at Ediz Hook Clallam on 5/13 (fide BN), and 1 at Crockett Lake Island on 5/13 (SM).

Pectoral Sandpiper Uncommon in WA in spring, 1 at Swanson Lakes Lincoln on 5/20 (JA), 1 at Ocean Shores Grays Harbor on 4/29 (BB) with 2 there on 5/14 (GRe), and
2 at Samish Flats Skagit on 5/7 (SA).

**Rock Sandpiper** Very high count for WA, 18 at Cape Flattery Clallam on 5/28 (BN).

**Dunlin** Reports from e WA include, 98 at Yakima RD Benton on 4/13 (BW), and 5 at Swanson Lakes Lincoln on 5/5 with 1 there on 5/12 (JA).

**Short-billed Dowitcher** Reports from w WA include, 40 at Brady Grays Harbor on 5/4 (TAv), and 1000 at Leadbetter Point Pacific on 5/5 (DP).

**Wilson's Phalarope** Uncommon in w WA, 1 at Montlake Fill King on 5/7 (ST), 1 at Stanwood Snoboomish on 5/7 (DLo) with 2 there on 5/13 (SM) and 4 on 5/24 (DLo), 1 at Deer Lagoon Island on 5/13 (SM), 1 at Ocean Shores Grays Harbor on 5/14 (GR), 1 at Ridgefield NWR Clark on 5/16 (PS&RS), 1 at Krager Lake Pierce on 5/20 (GR&BL), 2 at Burlington Skagit on 5/20 (SA), and 3 at Kingston Kitsap on 5/31 (IP&VN).

**Red-necked Phalarope** Reports include, 4 at Swanson Lakes Lincoln on 5/20 (JA), 5 at Iowa Beef Walla Walla on 5/25 (TAv), 5 at Othello STP Adams on 5/26 (TAv), 1 at Norman Snoboomish on 5/10 (TAv), and 11 at Stanwood Snoboomish on 5/17 (DLo).

**Red Phalarope** 100 on Westport Pelagic Grays Harbor on 5/13 (BT).

**Long-tailed Jaeger** 1 on Westport Pelagic Grays Harbor on 5/28 (PA).

**South Polar Skua** 1 on Westport Pelagic Grays Harbor on 5/28 (PA).

**Franklin's Gull** Reports from e WA include, 9 at Sprague Lake L Lincoln on 5/13 (JA), 1 at Reardan Lincoln on 5/18 (JA), 3 at Swanson Lakes Lincoln on 5/20 (JA), 3 breeding plumage Walla Walla RD Walla Walla on 5/25 (TAv), and 1 at Asotin Aotin on 5/27 (KK).

**Little Gull** Rare in WA, 1 at Point No Point Kitsap on 4/5 (VN).

**Bonaparte's Gull** High count, 2500 at Point No Point Kitsap on 4/5 (VN).

**Heermann's Gull** 1 at Point No Point Kitsap on 5/31 (VN).

**Glaucous Gull** Uncommon in WA, 1 at Tacoma Pierce on 4/9 (SM), 1 imm Ocean Shores Grays Harbor on 5/4 (TAv) with 1 on 5/7 (SM).

**ICELAND GULL** Rare in WA, 1 first winter bird at Tacoma Pierce on 4/2 (MDo).

**Sabine's Gull** 33 on Westport Pelagic Grays Harbor on 5/13 (BT).

**Caspian Tern** Reports from e WA include, 1 at Columbia NWR Adams/Grant on 4/29 (RF), and 2 at Swanson Lakes Lincoln on 5/20 (JA).

**Common Tern** High counts include, 673 on Westport Pelagic Grays Harbor on 5/13 (BT), and 300 at Ocean Shores Grays Harbor on 5/14 (GR).

**Arctic Tern** 7 on Westport Pelagic Grays Harbor on 5/13 (BT), and 2 at Everett Snoboomish on 5/14 (SM).

**Forster's Tern** Reports from e WA include, 1 at Yakima RD Benton on 4/7 (BW), 24 at Richland Benton on 5/6 (DR), 11 at Two Rivers CP Benton on 5/13 (DR), 6 at Vantage Kittitas on 5/18 (TAv), and 1 at Republic Ferry on 5/25 (DMk).

**Black Tern** First reports from e WA include, 2 at Spokane Spokane on 5/14 (RFI), and 6 at Swanson Lakes Lincoln on 5/19 (JA). Rare in w WA, 1 at Ridgefield NWR Clark on 5/14 (PS&RS) and on 5/15 (WC), and 1 at Montoc Snoboomish on 5/30 (KK).

**Cassin's Auklet** 10 off Nehah Bay Clallam on 5/13 (fide BN).

**Rhinoceros Auklet** High counts include, 1500 at Fort Flagler SP Jefferson on 4/9 (PS&RS), and 485 at Point No Point Kitsap on 5/1 (VN).

**Tufted Puffin** Reports include, 2 on Westport Pelagic Grays Harbor on 4/22 (BL), and 15 at Shi Shi Beach Clallam on 5/6 (MI).

**Long-eared Owl** Uncommon in w WA, 1 at Seacquest SP Cowlitz on 5/28 (PS&RS).

**Common Nighthawk** 1 at Othello Adams on 5/21 (RFI).

**Common Poorwill** Reports from e WA include, 1 at Satus Pass Klickitat on 5/6 (PS&RS), and 1 at Shumaker Rd Aotin on 5/20 (DR).

**Black Swift** 5 at Bremerton Kitsap on 5/31 (TA).

**Vaux's Swift** Reports from e WA include, 10 at Ginkgo SP Kittitas on 4/29 (RF), and 2 at Richland Benton on 5/25 (TAv). Reports from w WA include, 12 at Ridgefield NWR Clark on 5/28 (PS&RS), 1 at Crescent Lake Clallam on 6/30 (fide BN), a high count of 700 at Sumner Pierce on 4/30 (CE), and 30 at Graymarsh Clallam on 5/13 (SA).

**White-throated Swift** Reports from e WA include, 5 at Little Cove Canyon Whitman on 4/8 (DW), and 2 at Palouse Falls SP Franklin on 5/21 (fide MK).

**Black-chinned Hummingbird** Rare in w WA, 1 at Everett Snoboomish on 5/19 (SM).

**Anna's Hummingbird** 1 spent entire winter in Yakima Yakima on 4/1 (DGr). Locally uncommon, 1 at Nisqually NWR Thurston on 4/7 (PS&RS).

**Calliope Hummingbird** Reports from e WA include, 2 at Richland Benton on 5/3 (BW), 1 at Othello Adams on 5/8 (RF), 1 at Montgomery Ridge Rd Aotin on 5/20 (DR). Uncommon in w WA, 1 at Mount Pleasant Skamania on 4/4 (WC), 1 at Steamboat Island Thurston on 4/9 (RoS), and 1 at Gold Barb Snoboomish on 5/19 (KK).

**COSTA'S HUMMINGBIRD** Rare in w WA, 1 at Richmond Beach King on 4/28 until at least 5/10 (DN).

**ACORN WOODPECKER** Rare and local in w WA, 1 at Lyle Klickitat on 5/7 (PS&RS) with 2 there on 5/14 (PS&RS).

**Red-naped Sapsucker** Uncommon in w WA, 1 at Olympia Thurston on 4/8 (PS&RS), 1 at Ridgefield NWR Clark on 5/16 (PS&RS), and 1 at Stampede Pass King/Kittitas on 5/17 (TA).

**Olive-sided Flycatcher** First reports from e WA include, 1 at Richland Benton on 5/25 (TAv) and on 5/26 (BW), and 2 at Palouse Falls SP Franklin on 5/27 (KK). First reports from w WA include, 1 at Ocean City SP Grays Harbor on 5/4 (TAv), 1 at Lake Stevens Snoboomish on 5/5 (SA), and 1 at Lummi Island Whatcom on 5/10 (CB).

**Western Wood-Pewee** Early report for WA, 2 at Lyle Klickitat on 5/7 (PS&RS).

**Willow Flycatcher** Early report for e WA, 1 at Washucuma Adams on 5/4 (RF). Early reports for w WA include, 1 at Fort Flagler Pierce on 5/14 (SM), and 1 at Montoc Snoboomish on 5/15 (KK).

**Hammond's Flycatcher** First reports from w WA include, 5 at Carnation King on 5/14 (EHF), and 1 at Ridgefield NWR Clark on 5/16 (PS&RS).

**Dusky Flycatcher** First reports for e WA include, 1 at Washucuma Adams on 5/4 (RFI), and 1 at Two Rivers CP Benton on 5/12 (DR). First reports from w WA include, 1 at Sequim Clallam on 4/29 (fide RN), 1 at Friday Harbor San Juan on 4/29 (SA), and 1 at Skagit WMA Skagit on 5/2 (DD&SM).

**Least Flycatcher** Rare and local in WA, 1 at Wenas Creek Yakima on 5/26 (fide DGr), and 1 at Palouse Falls SP Franklin on 5/27 (KK).

**Gray Flycatcher** First reports for e WA include, 1 at Umtanum Creek Kittitas on 4/30 (CC), and 1 at Sand Hill Coulee Adams on 5/4 (RFI). Rare in w WA, 1 at Arlington Snoboomish on 5/2 (SM), and 1 at Steigerwald Lake NWR Clark on 5/6 (WC).

**Pacific-slope Flycatcher** First report from e WA, 1 at Columbia NWR Adams/Grant on 5/6 (RF). First reports from w WA include, 1 at Ridgefield NWR Clark on 4/28 (PS&RS), 1 at South Whidbey Island SP Island on 4/29 (fide RR), 1 at Morse Creek Clallam on 5/1 (fide BN), and 1 at Lummi Island Whatcom on 5/1 (CB).

**Cordilleran Flycatcher** 1 at Marengo Columbia on 5/27 (KK).
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Ash-throated Flycatcher Slightly east of its normal range, 1 at Crow Butte SP Benton on 5/13 (PS&RS). Rare in w WA, 1 at Spring Creek Fish Hatchery Skamania on 5/14 (WC).

**Western Kingbird** Reports from e WA include, 1 at Othello Adams on 4/28 (RF), and 2 at Richland Benton on 4/29 (BW). Uncommon in w WA, reports include, 2 at 13th Division Prairie, Fort Lewis Pierce on 4/28 (GRe), 1 at Coupeville Island on 4/29 (fide RR), 1 at Marymoor Park King on 4/29 (EH), 1 at Stanwood Snohomish on 4/29 (DLt), 1 at Muck Creek, Fort Lewis Pierce on 4/30 (GRe), 1 at Olympia Thurston on 4/30 (fide RR), 1 at Steigerwald Lake NWR Clark on 5/6 (WC), 1 at Snohomish Snohomish on 5/6 (SA), 2 at Marblemount Skagit on 5/7 (CB), 1 at Ebey Island Snohomish on 5/16 (SM), and 5 at Point No Point Kitsap on 5/21 with 7 there on 5/22 (VN).

**Eastern Kingbird** First report from e WA, 2 at Yakima RD Benton on 5/26 (BW). Local in e WA, 2 at Spencer Island Snohomish on 5/29 (SM).

**Northern Shrike** Last report, 1 at Stanwood Snohomish on 4/2 (DLt).

**Loggerhead Shrike** Rare in w WA, 1 at Spencer Island Snohomish on 5/13 (BB DB). Cassin’s Vireo Reports from e WA include, 1 at Othello Adams on 4/28 (RF), 1 at Richland Benton on 5/6 (DR), and 1 at Edburn Gulch Asotin on 5/20 (DR). Reports from w WA include, 1 at Tacoma Pierce on 4/6 (TB), 1 at Fort Flagler SP Jefferson on 4/9 (PS&RS), 1 at Olympia Thurston on 4/11 (BS), 1 at Bellingham Whatcom on 4/23 (PHo), 1 at Woodland Park Zoo King on 5/1 (TAv), and 1 at Lummi Island Whatcom on 5/1 (CB).

**Hutton’s Vireo** At its eastern limits, 1 at Trout Lake Klickitat on 5/12 (PS&RS).

**Warbling Vireo** Reports from e WA include, 1 at Umtanum Creek Kittitas on 4/29 (CC), 1 at Two Rivers CP Benton on 5/13 (DR), 2 at Othello Adams on 5/20 (RF), and 1 at Edburn Gulch Asotin on 5/20 (DR). Reports in w WA include, 1 at Woodland Park Zoo King on 4/29 (TAv), 1 at Friday Harbor San Juan on 4/29 (SA), 1 at Lummi Island Whatcom on 5/10 (CB), and 8 at Woodland Park Zoo King on 5/15 (TAv).

**Red-eyed Vireo** Local in WA, 1 at Barnaby Slough Skagit on 5/20 (SA), and 1 at Gold Bar Snohomish on 5/23 (KK).

**Blue Jay** Uncommon in WA, 1 from 3/25 Steamboat Island Thurston on 5/7 (BT), and 1 at Point No Point Kitsap on 5/21 (VN).

**Western Scrub-Jay** Locally uncommon, 1 at Marysville Snohomish on 4/9 (SM), and 2 at Seattle King on 4/10 (fide HO).

“Streaked” Horned Lark Local and declining in w WA, 6 at Ocean Shores Grays Harbor on 5/11 (TAv).

**Purple Martin** Rare in e WA, 1 at White Salmon Klickitat on 5/14 (PS&RS). Reports from w WA include, 1 at Olympia Thurston on 4/11 (fide RR), 1 at Graysmarsh Clallam on 5/6 (SA), 1 at Jorsted Creek Mason on 5/15 (BS), and 1 at Everett Snohomish on 5/21 (SP).

**Bank Swallow** Local in w WA, 2 at Centralia Lewis on 4/28 (PS&RS), 2 at Ridgefield NWR Clark on 5/16 (PS&RS), 10 at Corkindale Skagit on 5/20 (SA), 1 at Useless Bay Island on 5/21 (SM), 1 at Monroe Snohomish on 5/26 (KK), and 1 at Samish Flats Skagit on 5/28 (SA).

**Red-breasted Nuthatch** Late for the Columbia Basin, 1 at Wahluke Slope WMA Franklin on 5/28 (SM).

**White-breasted Nuthatch** Declining in w WA, 1 at Steigerwald Lake NWR Clark on 4/8 (WC).

**Bewick’s Wren** Local in e WA, 4 at Coppei Creek Walla Walla on 5/27 (TAv).

**House Wren** First report from e WA, 1 at Othello Adams on 4/28 (RF). First reports from w WA include, 4 at Ridgefield NWR Clark on 4/28 (PS&RS), and 6 at Weir Prairie Thurston on 4/29 (PS&RS).

**Marsh Wren** High count for w WA, 64 at Spencer Island Snohomish on 5/29 (SM).

**Western Bluebird** Local in w WA, 2 at Cedar Creek Mason on 5/22 (BS).

**Townsend’s Solitaire** Reports from w WA include, 5 at Point No Point Kitsap on 4/4 (VN), 1 at Skamokawa Washkiakum on 4/5 (fide AR), 1 at Kingston Kitsap on 4/8 (IP), 1 at Mount Pleasant Skamania on 4/8 (WC), 3 at Everett Snohomish on 4/8 (SM), 1 at Lummi Island Whatcom on 4/8 (CB), 5 at Hansville Kitsap on 4/9 (PS&RS), 2 at Marysville Snohomish on 4/9 (SM), 1 at Seattle King on 4/10 (fide HO), 5 at Vashon Island King on 4/11 (fide RR), 3 at Kingston Kitsap on 4/12 (IP), and 2 at Cedar Creek Mason on 5/22 (BS).

**Swainson’s Thrush** First reports include, 1 at Mount Pleasant Skamania on 5/1 (WC), and 1 at Lummi Island Whatcom on 5/18 (CB).

**Hermit Thrush** Reports include, 1 at Two Rivers CP Benton on 5/13 (DR), 2 at Woodland Park Zoo King on 4/29 with 1 there on 5/8 (TAv), and 1 at Lummi Island Whatcom on 5/14 (CB).

**Northern Mockingbird** Uncommon in WA, 1 at Lakewood Pierce on 4/18 (fide RR).

**Sage Thrasher** Rare in w WA, 1 at Vancouver Clark on 4/28 (KK) until at least 5/2 (RK), and 1 at Steigerwald Lake NWR Clark on 4/30 (HG).

**Nashville Warbler** Reports from e WA include, 2 at Othello Adams on 4/28 (RF), 1 at Richland Benton on 5/2 (BW), and 1 at Two Rivers CP Benton on 5/13 (DR). Uncommon in w WA, 1 at Seattle King on 4/24 (TAv) and on 4/30 (ST), 1 at Carnation King on 4/28 (MW), 1 at Muck Creek, Fort Lewis Pierce on 4/28 (GRe), 2 at Marymoor Park King on 4/30 with 1 there on 5/3 and 5/19 (MH), 2 at Skagit WMA Skagit on 5/2 (SM), 1 at Gold Bar Snohomish on 5/6 (SA), 1 at Lake Stevens Snohomish on 5/6 (SA), 1 at Marblemount Skagit on 5/20 (SA), and 4 at Rockport Skagit on 5/20 (SA).

**Yellow Warbler** Reports from w WA include, 1 at Columbia NWR Adams/Grant on 5/6 (RF), and a high count of 45 at Coppei Creek Walla Walla on 5/27 (TAv). Reports from w WA include, 1 at Ridgefield NWR Clark on 4/28 (PS&RS), 1 at Point No Point Kitsap on 5/7 (VN), and a high count of 48 at Spencer Island Snohomish on 5/29 (SM).

**Yellow-rumped Warbler** A high count of 250 at Point No Point Kitsap on 5/7 (VN).

**Black-throated Gray Warbler** Uncommon in e WA, 1 at Fort Simcoe SP Yakima on 5/13 (GuH). Reports from w WA include, 3 at Federal Way King on 4/5 (TB), 1 at Lummi Island Whatcom on 4/8 (CB), 1 at Bogachiel River Clallam on 4/14 (fide BN), and 1 at Naselle Pacific on 4/14 (AR).

**Hermit Warbler** 1 at Skamania Skamania on 4/28 (PS&RS).

**Palm Warbler** Rare in spring in WA, 1 in breeding plumage at Ocean Shores Grays Harbor on 4/22 (BW).

**American Redstart** Rare and local in w WA, 1 at Forstom Mills Snohomish on 5/21 (SM), and 1 at Darrington Snohomish on 5/27 (DD).

**MacGillivray’s Warbler** Local in w WA, 1 at Spanaway Pierce on 4/28 (GR), 1 at Olympia Thurston on 4/29 (PS&RS), 1 at Lake McMurray Skagit on 5/7 (SA), and 1 at Woodland Park Zoo King on 5/13 (TAv).

**Common Yellowthroat** Reports from w WA include, 1 at Stanwood Snohomish on 4/5 (DLt), 3 at Auburn King on 4/9 (TB), 1 at Lummi Island Whatcom on 4/7 (CB), and a high count of 38 at Spencer Island Snohomish on 5/29 (SM).

**Wilson’s Warbler** Reports from e WA include, 2 at Washtucna Adams on 5/4 (RF), 1 at Richland Benton on 5/6 (DR), and 1 at Two Rivers CP Benton on 5/13 (DR). Reports from w WA include, 1 at Morse Creek Clallam on 4/24 (fide BN), 1 at South
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Whidbey Island SP Island on 4/29 (fide RR), 1 at Olympia Thurston on 4/29 (PS&RS), and 1 at Lummi Island Whatcom on 5/3 (CB).

Yellow-breasted Chat Reports from e WA include, 1 at Richland Benton on 5/15 (BW), 2 at Edeburn Gulch Asoin on 5/20 (DR), and 1 at Coppei Creek Walla Walla on 5/27 (fide MK).

Western Tanager Reports from e WA include, 1 at Umtanum Creek Kittitas on 4/30 (CC), 1 at Othello Adams on 5/1 (RF1), 2 at Richland Benton on 5/2 (BW), 1 at Two Rivers CP Benton on 5/12 with 3 there on 5/13 (DR), and a high count of 42 at Maryhill Klickitat on 5/14 (PS&RS). Reports from w WA include, 2 at Skamania Skamania on 4/28 (PS&RS), 1 at Morse Creek Clallam on 4/30 (fide BN), 1 at Lake Stevens Snohomish on 5/2 (SA), 1 at Lummi Island Whatcom on 5/6 (CB), a high count of 100 at Point No Point Kitzap on 5/7 (VN), and 12 at Mount Pleasant Skamania on 5/11 (WC).

Chipping Sparrow Locally uncommon, 1 at Kingston Kitzap on 4/4 (IP), 1 at San Juan San Juan on 4/29 (SA), 1 at Spencer Island Snohomish on 4/30 (BB), and 1 at Stanwood Snohomish on 5/21 (DLlo).

CLAY-COLORED SPARROW Rare and local in WA, 3 singing males at Spokane Spokane on 5/16 (JA).

Brewer’s Sparrow Reports from e WA include, 1 at Richland Benton on 4/15 (DR), 1 at Othello Adams on 4/16 (RF1), and 1 at Stegeman Road Klickitat on 5/13 (PS&RS). Rare in w WA, 1 at Marymoor Park King on 4/29 (EH) and on 4/30 (m ob).

Vesper Sparrow Uncommon and local in w WA, 1 at Carnation King on 5/14 (EH), 1 at Sylvan Pierce on 5/27 (SM), 1 at Silvana Snohomish on 5/27 (DD), 1 at Nisqually NWR Thurston on 5/29 (fide RR), and 1 at Sequim Clallam on 5/31 (fide BN).

Lark Sparrow First reports from e WA include, 1 at Ginkgo SP Kittitas on 4/29 (RF1), and 3 at Richland Benton on 5/5 (BW).

BLACK-THROATED SPARROW Rare and local in WA, 1 at Dodson Road Grant on 5/28 (EH).

Sage Sparrow 3 at Stegeman Road Klickitat on 5/14 (PS&RS).

LARK BUNTING Rare in WA, 1 at Lake Ozette Clallam on 5/28 (fide BN).

Grasshopper Sparrow 1 at Appleford Road Asoin on 5/20 (DR).

Lincoln’s Sparrow Reports for e WA include, 1 at Richland Benton on 4/8 (BW) with 5 there on 4/15 (DR), and 1 at Othello Adams on 4/21 (RF1). Reports from w WA include, 1 at Olympia Thurston on 4/8 (PS&RS), 1 at Ocean Shores Grays Harbor on 4/22 (BW), 1 at Lummi Island Whatcom on 5/1 (CB), and 1 at Graysmarsh Clallam on 5/13 (SA).

White-throated Sparrow Reports include, 1 at Skagit WMA Skagit on 4/9 and on 5/2 (SM), and 1 at Steigerwald Lake NWR Clark on 4/28 (PS&RS).

Harris’s Sparrow Uncommon in WA, 1 at Auburn King on 4/5 (fide RR), 1 present most of the winter at Nisqually NWR Thurston was last seen on 5/3 (fide RR), 1 at Steigerwald Lake NWR Clark on 4/28 (PS&RS), and 1 at North Bend King on 5/2 (fide RR).

White-crowned Sparrow Late for Columbia Basin, 1 at Wahluke Slope WMA Franklin on 5/28 (SM).

Golden-crowned Sparrow Uncommon in e WA, 1 at Richland Benton on 4/16 (BW) with there 1 on 5/6 (DR), 2 at Davenport Lincoln on 5/5 with 1 there on 5/12 (JA), 3 at Columbia NWR Adams/Grant on 5/6 (RF1), and 1-3 at Two Rivers CP Benton on 5/6 (DR). Late fore w WA, 1 at Skagit WMA Skagit on 5/21 (SM).

Dark-eyed Junco 1 juvenile at Olympia Thurston on 4/29 (TS).

Laplant Longspur Very late report for WA, 1 male in breeding plumage at Ocean Shores Grays Harbor on 5/11 (TAv).

Black-headed Grosbeak Reports from e WA include, 1 at Richland Benton on 5/4 (BW), 1 at Edeburn Gulch Asoin on 5/20 (DR), and 32 at Richland Benton on 5/24 (TAv). Reports from w WA include, 1 at Lake Stevens Snohomish on 5/4 (SA), and 1 at Lummi Island Whatcom on 5/6 (CB).

Lazuli Bunting Local in w WA, 1 at Steigerwald Lake NWR Clark on 4/30 (HG), 1 at Dungeness Clallam on 5/18 (fide BN), 1 at Sequim Clallam on 5/22 (fide BN), 1 at Sylvan Pierce on 5/27 (SM), and 1 at Ridgefield NWR Clark on 5/28 (PS&RS), and 1 at Point No Point Kitzap on 5/30 (VN).

INDIGO BUNTING Rare in WA, 1 at Puyallup Pierce on 5/11 (LRo), and 1 at Marrowstone Island Jefferson on 5/18 (fide HO).

TRICOLORED BLACKBIRD Rare and local in WA, at Wilson Creek Grant on 5/28 (KK).

Yellow-headed Blackbird Local in w WA, 1 at Marysville Snohomish on 4/11 (SA), 1 at Ebey Island Snohomish on 4/12 (SM), 2 at Dungeness Clallam on 4/21 (fide BN), 1 at Monroe Snohomish on 4/21 (KK), 1 at Ridgefield NWR Clark on 4/29 (fide RR) with at least 10 breeding birds there on 5/28 (PS&RS), 2 at Samish Flats Skagit on 4/30 (SA), 1 at Sequim Clallam on 5/12 (SA), 1 at Point No Point Kitsap on 5/20 (VN), and 1 at Stanwood Snohomish on 5/24 (DLlo).

RUSTY BLACKBIRD Rare in WA, 1 at Ellensburg Kitzap on 5/21 (PS&RS).

COMMON GRACKLE Rare in WA, 1 at Palouse Falls SP Franklin on 5/27 (fide MDo).

Bullock’s Oriole Reports from e WA include, 2 at Richland Benton on 5/7 (BW) with 21 there on 5/25 (TAv), 8 at Two Rivers CP Benton on 5/13 (DR), and 1 at Othello Adams on 5/20 (RF1). Local in w WA, 6 part of big flock Point No Point Kitzap on 5/7 (VN), and 1 at Lummi Island Whatcom on 5/14 (CB).

Purple Finch Uncommon in e WA, 1 at Yakima Yakima on 5/2 (DGr).

Pine Siskin Reports from e WA include, 1 at Richland Benton on 4/10 (BW), 1 at Two Rivers CP Benton on 5/7 (DR), and 1 at Wahluke Slope WMA Grant on 5/28 (SM).

Lesser Goldfinch Reports include, 4 at Maryhill SP Klickitat on 4/8 (BT), and 24 at Maryhill Klickitat on 5/28 (PS&RS).

Report Your Sightings

**Birds of Yakima County** - For a weekly column in the Yakima Herald-Republic newspaper, Denny Granstrand requests reports of recent bird sightings in Yakima county. Please send reports by early Monday evening for inclusion in that week's paper to Denny Granstrand, osprey@nwinfo.net, or post them to Tweeters.

**Red-necked Grebes** - I am searching for wintering Red-necked Grebes - both to find sites for behavioral observations, and to better understand specific features of habitats they use. I am looking for any sites where 10 or more RNGR can be observed from a given location. If you know of any "good" Red-necked Grebe sites I would appreciate the following information on the site(s): location, time of year when the birds are usually present (this can be pretty general), approximate number of grebes which can typically be seen at the site. Please send reports to Bonnie Stout, bestout@sfu.ca. (Originally appeared in WOSNews 66).

**Horned and Red-necked Grebes** – marked in Northwest Territories with unique combinations of color bands. Horned grebes were banded with red, yellow, green, and blue. Red-necked grebes with more obscure colors – burgundy, orange, white (off-white), and light blue. Report to Bonnie Stout, bestout@sfu.ca. (Originally appeared in WOSNews 57)

**Double-crested Cormorants** – with the orange patagial markers were marked and telemetered on their east Sand Island breeding colony in the Columbia River estuary. Somewhere close to 50 were marked. If observers can read the number on tag and report it to Dan Roby (robyd@ucs.orst.edu) the information will be most useful to them. Time to learn something about seasonal movements of cormorants. (Originally appeared in WOSNews 69)

**Brant** - For various research projects, Brant have been tagged with either 3-character leg bands usually placed on the right tarsus and read from bottom to top, or with two yellowish bands with one character each, read top to bottom. (i.e. K over D). Please report sightings of these using the web form at http://brant.bio.uaf.edu/ (Originally appeared in WOSNews 64)

**Harlequin Ducks** – banded and color-marked in Boundary Bay and Washington waters. Leg bands bear character combinations with 2 digits per band. Some also have "nasal disks," small pieces of plastic in various color and shape combinations. Report to Dr. Fred Cooke, fcooke@sfu.ca. (Originally appeared in WOSNews 57)

**Northern Harrier** – patagial markers have been placed on some northern harriers as part of a long-term study of populations on Whidbey Island and in the Kent Valley. One of the study objectives is to learn more about post-nesting dispersal or migration. Please note the color of the tag, which wing it is on, and the letter or number printed on the tag. Note the date and time and the exact location. Report to Jack Bettesworth, 2569 12th Ave W, Seattle WA 98119, (206) 285-5276. jgbett@home.com. (Originally appeared in WOSNews 56)

**Cooper’s Hawks** – Color bands have been placed on over 400 nesting Cooper’s Hawks in Victoria, British Columbia since 1996. This is part of a long-term study on the urban-nesting ecology of this species. Most sightings to date have come from southern Vancouver Island, however, several have been reported from the Boundary Bay area near Point Roberts and a single bird was recovered at Yakima, Washington. Each color band is uniquely coded with 2 vertical, alphanumeric characters and is placed on the left leg. Black bands are on males and red bands are on females. Please note band code and color, date, and location. Report all sightings to Andy Stewart, BC Environment, PO Box 9344 STN PROV GOVT, Victoria, BC, Canada V8W 9M1. (250) 387-9780, or email andy.stewart@gems6.gov.bc.ca (Originally appeared in WOSNews 64).

**American Crows** - John Withey is putting together a year long study of crow numbers in the Seattle Audubon CBC circle. He wants to do monthly counts, with the circle divided into 8 subsectors. He is looking for people who are willing to help. He may be contacted at 206-543-2764 or jwithey@u.washington.edu for more information. (Originally appeared in WOSNews 69)
The Washington Ornithological Society was chartered in 1988 to increase knowledge of the birds of Washington and to enhance communication among all persons interested in those birds. WOS is a non-profit organization under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue code. Memberships extend one year from the month joined. Benefits include:

- **WASHINGTON BIRDS** — annual journal
- **WOSNews** — bimonthly newsletter
- Monthly field trips
- Affordable annual conferences

The Washington Ornithological Society is the premier organization for Washington’s active birders.

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<tr>
<td>Mug with black-billed magpie logo</td>
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<td>Window decal with circle raven logo – static-cling</td>
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December 2000/January 2001

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