A Day of Birding in Eastern Washington
Horned Pygmy-Owl and Purple Cassin’s Finch
by Maurice Vial

On January 19/03, my wife, Laura, and our friends, Kiyomi and Warren Walker, were birding along Chamokane Creek, near its confluent with the Spokane River and Little Falls Dam.

It was about 1:30 pm and birding had been dull so far. There is a small marsh where the road crosses the creek. I made a few half-hearted pygmy-owl toots. No action, so we decided to go on. The car was just starting to roll, when Laura said “Stop! I see something” and there it was, a pygmy-owl, in the open, next to the road at NBA eye level. Owls stare at you, look sideways, then stare at you again to see if you are still there. On one of those profile views, I noticed what looked like a thin spike on the forehead, then came the full-faced view and, to my surprise, there were indeed two “horns,” dark and thin, more like long eyelashes than the tufts of other owls.

I asked some senior birders, including Andy Stepniewski, but none of them had ever seen it. Perhaps some clinical ornithologists are aware of this feature, although it is probably not erected on a dead bird.

The observation lasted about seven minutes, until a truck made the bird fly. Those “horns” were visible to the four of us for about, off and on, twenty seconds during the first three minutes. I was reluctant to submit this article, but I felt duty-bound to do it in the interest of investigative science or on a less lofty level to amuse WOS members!

(Continued on page 3)
**WOS Membership Meetings**

**April 7** – Dr. John C. Wingfield, will present "Territorial Behavior in the Song Sparrow: Changing Contexts and Alliances." Dr. Wingfield’s research focuses on environmental control of reproduction and associated cycles of behavior, migration, molt, and wintering strategies. See his lab’s wonderful website for a sneak preview of his talk at [www.http://faculty.washington.edu/jwingfie/reg_index.html](http://faculty.washington.edu/jwingfie/reg_index.html), and read the Seattle Times’ May 20, 2002, article about Dr. Wingfield’s research. Search the Times’ website for “John Wingfield.”

Dr. Wingfield is a Professor in and the Chair of the University of Washington’s Department of Zoology. He received his Ph.D. in Zoology and Comparative Endocrinology from the University College of North Wales, in the U.K. in 1973.

**May 5** – Tim Cullinan will present "Bird Conservation's Second Revolution," which describes the unprecedented efforts of conservationists to protect entire ecosystems for the benefit of birds. He'll give an eye-opening report on the conservation status of Washington’s bird populations and habitats, and discuss how birders can painlessly contribute their expertise to improve the scientific underpinnings of bird conservation.

Tim is Audubon Washington’s wildlife biologist, with responsibilities for all bird conservation projects, field-based science programs, citizen science projects, and technical assistance to local chapters. He has been active in Partners in Flight and other cooperative bird conservation efforts at both the state and regional levels since 1995. He is the author of *Important Bird Areas of Washington*, and is a member of the National IBA Technical Committee. Before coming to Washington fifteen years ago, Tim conducted research on Canada geese, ruffed grouse, and forest songbirds in the Midwest and Northeast.

**June 2** – Member’s slide night is an always popular event. Bring photos from your trips, your backyards, or your specialties. Programs should be under ten minutes.

**Meetings** are held the first Monday of each month (except July, August, and September) at the Center for Urban Horticulture on the University of Washington campus, 3501 N.E. 41st Street, Seattle, and are open to all. The social begins at 7:00 pm, and the program starts at 7:30 pm.

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**WOS Field Trips**

**Saturday, April 26th: Bottle Beach to Ocean Shores**

Patrick and Ruth Sullivan will lead a trip in Grays Harbor County from Bottle Beach to Ocean Shores. Target birds would include black scoter, snowy plover, wandering tattler, greater and lesser yellowlegs, long-billed curlew, ruddy turnstone, red knot, parasitic jaeger, common tern and Lapland longspur. The itinerary will include a great deal of walking from selected areas at Ocean Shores, including Damon Point and the Ocean Shores Game Range. Limited to 8 participants. Contact Patrick and Ruth for details at godwit@worldnet.att.net.

**Saturday, May 3rd: Columbia Gorge**

Wilson Cady will lead a trip to the Columbia Gorge with target birds of acorn woodpecker, caliope and black-chinned hummingbirds, ash-throated flycatcher, and lesser goldfinch. Stops will include Steigerwald Lake, Bingen Pond, Balch Road, and the town of Klickitat (where it is possible to find all four common Washington hummingbirds). Limited to 10 participants. Contact Wilson at gorgebirds@juno.com.

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**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:

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FROM THE BOARD . . .

by Rachel Lawson

Though the year officially begins in January, for many of us, it really begins in the Spring as we welcome the growth of new green foliage and the return of the season’s first migrating birds. Spring seems to be in a hurry this year, bringing unusually early reports of blooming flowers and returning swallows. If you heard the fascinating talk by guillemot expert George Divoky at our February meeting, you may be wondering whether this early Spring is a symptom of something bigger. Dr. Divoky’s presentation about his research using birds as indicators of climate change was just one of many informative and entertaining programs WOS will offer this year. If you have never been to one of our monthly programs, why not give it a try? It’s a great way to learn more about birds and related issues. Be sure to come early to visit with old friends and make some new ones.

The board’s first meeting of 2003 was in February, and we hope you will enjoy the many programs, field trips, and events we have planned for the rest of this year. Many of you have been asking about the 2003 WOS Annual Conference, and we are pleased to announce that it will be on the Long Beach Peninsula in Southwestern Washington, during the weekend of September 19-21. Save those dates, and watch for more details in coming issues of WOSNews!

Work is almost done on the new membership brochure, which we hope will increase awareness of WOS throughout Washington and help us reach out to potential members. The brochures should be printed soon and will be distributed at various locations and events throughout the state. We also hope each of you will carry a few in your pockets to give to friends and other birders you meet in the field.

As you know, WOS is run completely by volunteers. If you enjoy the many things WOS has to offer, please consider giving some of your time back to the organization. Currently, we need a Program Chair to find speakers for the monthly membership meetings. We need a Merchandise Chair to sell publications and other merchandise at our monthly meetings, the annual conference, and sometimes at other events. There are many things that you can do to help with the big job of planning and running the annual conference. Starting next October, we will need a Hospitality Chair to provide refreshments at the monthly meetings. And, also starting in October, we will have an opening on the board for the position of Secretary. Volunteering for WOS is a wonderful way to serve the birding community and get to know other birders, and we really, really need you, so please contact Kraig Kemper or Brian Bell if you are interested in any of these opportunities.

WHATCOM GREAT GRAY OWL

... continued from page 1

of course, offered that many things are possible when it comes to birds.

Nevertheless, I loaded photo/video equipment into my truck and was there the next afternoon to take advantage of the best light, in the foothills southeast of Sumas. I scouted the area for a while before I located the great gray sitting on a metal fence post, hiding in plain sight! I then employed my oblique technique and set out across the boggy meadow. Eventually, I set up my tripod not thirty feet away from a beautiful and very tolerant — not to mention very large — great gray owl.

The owl and I spent the better part of two hours together until the sun went down and the chill January air filled the meadow. The owl watched patiently as I changed film, switched from photo to video, and moved the tripod a little this way, a little that way. Toward the end of our visit, the owl gave both of us a treat as it stepped off the fence post and nabbed a vole, while the video camera was rolling! Shortly after downing the first vole, the owl found another. The footage tells the tale.

If I ever wonder why I’m so hooked on spending time with birds, the answer was quite evident after spending a little quality time, alone, with a magnificent bird like a great gray owl.

If you’d like more info, e-mail me at joemeche@aol.com.

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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Subscribe to the Tweeters email bird discussion list by emailing listproc@u.washington.edu with a message text of sub tweeters your name
For those of you who have asked about writing guidelines for WOSNews, they are now available on-line, below, and with an e-mail request to me. Please consider sharing your birding experiences with the membership.

**Guidelines for contributors to WOSNews**

The bimonthly newsletter of the Washington Ornithological Society

WOSNews publishes articles about the birds of Washington and the people who enjoy and study them. Articles about Society business, ornithological research, bird observations, sites to visit, books to read, and other topics related to birds are most welcome. Content may be edited with author approval. Length, style, and logic may be edited without consultation.

Contributors grant WOSNews one-time reproduction rights and retain copyright of their work unless otherwise specified. WOS assumes no responsibility for submitted material, however, photos and other printed material will be handled with care and returned if a self-addressed, stamped envelope is provided. Be sure to include your name, address, e-mail, or phone number in case there are questions.

Articles should be submitted electronically, if possible, as a Word attachment or in the body of the e-mail. Very short submissions can be hard copy.

All copy should be flush left. Use italics when appropriate rather than underlining. Use only one space following punctuation. Leave only one space between paragraphs.

Nomenclature of bird species should follow the *American Ornithologists’ Union Check-list of North American Birds,* 7th edition, 1998. Do not capitalize initial letters of common names (e.g., turkey vulture, American crow).

All artwork should be labeled with subject, artist/photographer, date, and where taken. Photographs may be black-and-white or color prints, slides, or digitals. Slides for contribution to the WOS files are always welcome.

Submissions may be sent to: Diann MacRae, Editor, at tvulture@vei.net, WOSNews@wos.org, or to 22622 – 53rd Avenue S.E., Bothell, WA 98021.

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**Killdeer . . . Charadrius vociferous**

Your *Charadrius* name says you’re a Plover-pretender

Since your ancestors strayed from the water

Your vociferating bawl cries out your own name

Egoistical “Killdeer!” like no other.

A pasture bird, lanky body, slender wing

With black-banded chest and straw feet

The super-cilliest arch above your eyes

Entices the female you may greet.

Wide-distributed and so prolific

Mating on baseball diamonds, farmer’s fallow and field

You are usually faithful to just one chick

Lots of gray-buff, spotty, blotched eggs you may yield.

Being noisy, you’re a well known shorebird

Discreet you are not, with the truth

If one ventures near your gravelly nest

You will stumble, feigning injury, uncouth.

When your erratic flight pattern explodes

Your familiar squawk one is able to hear

What would human birding be like

Without the endearing “Killdeer”?

by Pauline Little

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**UPCOMING FESTIVALS:**

**Brant Wildlife Festival, Parksville, BC**, 250-248-4117, 250-752-9171, second weekend in April, http://www.brantfestival.bc.ca, www.brantfestival.bc.ca/introtwo.htm, office@brantfestival.bc.ca, brant@nisa.net, gailbrighton@home.com

**Grays Harbor Shorebird Festival, Hoquiam, WA**, April 25-27th, Contact the Grays Harbor Shorebird Festival at 1-800-303-8498, or contact Sheila McCartan, Festival Director at (360) 753-9467. Online, contact http://www.blackhillsaudubon.org/bowerman/

**Osprey Celebration, Kirkland, WA**, 425-576-8805, May 17 from 10am-2pm at Juanita Bay Park, www.elwas.org/osprey/
THE BIG YEAR OF THE BAR-TAILED GODWIT
by Ruth Sullivan

It all started on 14 July 2002 on Bill’s Spit. My son, Patrick, and I had a stint on our mind since a little stint was reported in Coos Bay, Oregon on 13 July. Bill’s Spit is where you can find many large shorebirds such as marbled godwits, whimbrels, curlews, and other shorebirds during migration. They often gather on a high tide, and this day seemed just right to find a large group of big shorebirds. Looking closely, we saw one bar-tailed godwit. As we approached this bird, we saw there were two birds, almost side by side. As we got closer, the birds started getting nervous and shifted around so we could see the bill on the second bird. It seems that they were adult females. Both had bills about the same size that were fairly long. Migration activity of shorebirds is mostly on the outer beaches between Driftwood, Sound View Drive, and Butterclam where they are found in the thousands. The flocks are mostly sanderlings, some still in breeding plumage, westerns, dowitchers, black-bellied plovers, and a few ruddy turnstones. Later, both Pacific and American golden plovers are seen. Anytime that we visited we had large numbers of shorebirds there including the bar-tailed godwits.

We also had a nice adult female on Damon Point photographed with a surfbird on 23 July 2002. (see photo on page 9)

On 18 August we found a nice young adult male (short bill) also in partly breeding plumage.

On 29 August 2002, when we also had really large groups of shorebirds, there were two other bar-tailed godwits photographed side by side in partial breeding plumage; both were first-year males. Our last bird was on Bill’s Spit on 22 September; it was also an adult female. Jane Watson also found a juvenile bar-tailed godwit on 13 October. We never did find the most-wanted stint, but the season was highlighted with bar-tailed godwits.

PURPLE CASSIN’S FINCH cont. from page 1

We had another interesting sighting about a mile further on the same road. Since I am here already, allow me to share it with you. It is about winter observations of Carpodicus finches. We saw a finch, and had we been in Iowa, it would have been called a female purple finch, without hesitation, but we were in Stevens County, Washington. Even our rare winter purple finches do not have that striking head pattern. First, I must say that our bird was not seen under ideal conditions, but in dim light and along a 30 degree angle. It was not very active. We were all struck by the brightness of the area around the auricular (cheek patch), visible even in flight and when viewed from behind.

The head and bill shape, however, appeared to be all Cassin’s with no clear definition below the malar area in the chin and throat. The body was not sharply streaked over a grayish tan background that was lighter on the flanks, giving the impression of a whitish stripe and crispier streaks along the folded wing. I am uncertain of how diagnostic that can be.

Essentially, it was a female purple finch plumage, suggesting the eastern races, over a female or immature Cassin’s finch head and bill. It was also in the company of another brown finch that was unquestionably Cassin’s, which confirmed our identification but, at the same time, enhanced their difference. We concluded that structural distinctions being less alterable than plumage variations our bird was a Cassin’s finch. It was a stimulating exercise and one for the birding magazine quizzes!
Sibley’s Birding Basics
Review by Brian H. Bell


David Sibley’s years of travel and observations preparing for his series of books stands him in good stead in his newest effort: Sibley's Birding Basics. This slim volume, primarily aimed at the new birder, is one which contains much of value for the experienced birder as well.

Sibley does not go into great detail about specific birds, instead he intends to instill a point of view and methodology that will enable the new birder to go about identifying new birds that may be encountered. While doing this he reminds those of us who have been at this occupation for varying lengths of time, and with varying degrees of expertise, that it is always helpful to go back and refresh our own techniques and points of view.

The book is broken down into a number of chapters, addressing basics which go into learning how to identify birds, including getting started, finding birds, identifying birds, taxonomy, behavior, voice, feathers/colors/bare parts, molt, and ethics and conservation.

In his chapter “Getting Started,” Sibley discusses learning to see details, watching for patterns, gaining experience, and learning from your mistakes. In all of these he stresses the value of learning how to observe and think critically and to apply the results of these endeavors. In a brief section on optics, he wisely stresses the value of buying the best optics that you can afford, as this provides the most rewarding results (optically, and in reliability), enables you to grow your skills, and results in the greatest long term satisfaction. Field guides and additional reading material are addressed briefly. One criticism that can be made is the lack of a bibliography or reference section that includes additional details of the material mentioned in the chapter. Sibley seems to be relying, perhaps justifiably, on the reader being able to track down the titles and sources referenced. For the new birder, just coming to the activity, this assumption may not be justified and additional guidance could be quite helpful.

His sections on “Finding Birds” and “The Challenges of Bird Identification” are very well done with numerous examples and illustrations (by Sibley). Keeping to his theme of building skills, he discusses the value of learning to take notes and of keeping a journal. He covers field and identification skills, comparison of similar species, and pitfalls of which the birder should be aware. Potential difficulties that can be encountered include judgment of size, proportion, and color perception with clear discussions and clear illustration.

The chapters on “Taxonomy” and “Using Behavioral Clues” are both brief but clearly written. Each could have been expanded with more detail and information provided. The shortness of the behavior chapter is puzzling considering the wealth of material in The Sibley Guide to Bird Life and Behavior. This is probably due to Sibley’s desire to provide a small book aimed at beginners.

The chapter on “Voice” is nicely done, addressing a complicated subject well and conveying to the reader the difficulty of learning calls and songs. It suggests some techniques for learning these calls and songs, stresses the worth of learning to hear and identify birds by sound and provides the satisfaction of accomplishing this task. Perhaps he could have spent more time in discussing the value of learning musical terms that apply to what one is hearing, to more accurately describe the call or song. For example, he uses the term “quality” to apply to the voice and says it is very difficult to define. Use of the term “timbre” is a useful way of considering the overall character of a bird’s song, and can be particularly helpful when faced with a species that makes a variety of songs. While Sibley mentions that some birds “...inherit their vocalizations intact”, it would have been helpful to state that most of these birds have their vocalizations hard coded genetically and for that reason they have very little or no variation.

The chapters on “Understanding Feathers,” “Feather Arrangements and Color Patterns,” “Structure of Tail and Wings,” “Bare Parts,” “Molt,” “Feather Wear,” and “Age Variation” are some of the most valuable in the book. Sibley takes a number of complicated topics and with clear, concise writing and very helpful illustrations makes them understandable to both new and experienced birders. His discussion of the Life Year and Humphrey-Parkes systems of molt deals with topics that are recognized to be involved and difficult is particularly clear and should benefit all birders. He stresses that birders should avoid attempting to mix these two systems so as not to confuse appearance changes throughout the year with physical molt sequences that a bird undergoes. Both systems have their strengths and uses if properly applied.

This 154-page book sets a new standard for those wishing to learn how to go about identifying birds, and for those who want to reinforce their already existing skills. Most highly recommended.
The Johnson / DeBay Swan Reserve
by Martha Jordan

This relatively new reserve, created specifically for trumpeter swans, was officially dedicated on 27 January 2001. Up to 1,500 swans, mostly trumpeter but with some tundra swans too, Canada geese, and tens of thousands of ducks make good use of this 331-acre reserve. It’s a safe haven for a night roost after patrolling the fields of the Skagit during the day. Corn is grown on the reserve for the birds. Although wintering waterfowl may be found from October through mid-March, the best time to view large numbers of swans, geese, and raptors is during the first two weeks in February.

Bald eagles, northern harriers, and Cooper’s hawks are common raptors, and songbirds of many varieties are possible during the winter months.

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife through the Pacific Coast Joint Venture purchased the entire site in 1995. The Trumpeter Swan Society, Washington Waterfowl Association, Ducks Unlimited, Skagit Audubon, and the Pilchuck Valley Wildlife Rehabilitation Center joined together as the Johnson/DeBay Swan Reserve Stewardship Group. The group helps to maintain the site, provide educational information, and fundraise.

The Johnson/DeBay Swan Reserve is open from 0800 until dusk. The area is wheelchair friendly with special parking for those with Disability Permits. PETS MUST REMAIN IN THE VEHICLE.

Directions to the reserve which is northeast of Mount Vernon:

- From I-5 at Mount Vernon, take the College Way Exit east.
- Turn left at LaVenture (traffic light, Skagit Valley CC on corner)
- Follow this road and it will drop down into the valley; be sure to obey the speed limit!
- At the bottom of the hill as you come to the valley floor, the speed changes to 50 mph.
- From this speed sign it is about 3.1 miles to the Reserve
- Turn left on DeBay Isle Road. This road is located at the beginning of a major right bend in the main road. If you miss the left turn, go straight into a gravel parking lot and turn around – DeBay Isle Road adjoins this intersection.
- Go on the dike road to a gate.

If the gates are closed, you may still park in the outer lot and walk around the gate to bird within the reserve.

Washington Brant Festival

by Joe Meche

The first Washington Brant Festival will be held on April 12-13, 2003 at the Semiahmoo Resort near Blaine. Washington. The resort is located at the very end of Semiahmoo Spit, a 1.5-mile natural sand and gravel spit. The hotel and three restaurants within the resort are outstanding and the great views of Mt. Baker are to die for!

Come to one of the Northwest’s premier bird-viewing areas, noted for its unique natural setting and easy access. Each spring, thousands of brant and other water birds stage here on their annual migration. Learn more about this spectacular cycle from biologists, see student project displays, take home some of the wildlife art, hand-carved decoys, or many other auction/raffle items offered in an evening banquet at the beautiful Semiahmoo Resort. A recognized expert on brant banding and research will be the featured speaker.

Area highlights include Blaine’s Marine Park, Birch Bay State Park, Drayton Harbor, and Semiahmoo Bay.

The North Cascades Audubon Society will have as many as five viewing/information stations set up to assist visitors throughout the weekend. At the resort, participants will be able to pick up hand-out packets and such in the lobby, complete with maps, bird checklists, etc. North Cascades Audubon volunteers will be everywhere to assist.

The first annual Washington Brant Festival is sponsored by the Washington Brant Foundation. For more information about the foundation or the festival, visit the website at www.washingtonbrant.org.

To get there from Seattle and points south, just head north on I-5 and take the first Blaine exit, #274; go over the freeway and turn right onto Peace Portal Drive. At the first stop sign, turn left onto Bell Road, cross the RR tracks and drive south about one mile to Drayton Harbor Road. Turn right and follow Drayton Harbor Road and watch for many signs that will take you to the Semiahmoo Resort at the end of the spit. By keeping the water on your right, you can't miss. Ignore all the golf course/club signs --unless you're into BIRDIES -- and drive to the very end of Semiahmoo Spit and the resort just sits there....waiting.
Red-throated Loon Uncommon in summer in WA. 6 at Tabolah Grays Harbor on 6/20 (TAv,CFr), 1 at Graysmarsh Clallam on 6/23 (SA), 1 at Kalaloch Jefferson on 7/15 (VA).

Pacific Loon Rare in e WA. 1 off Clallam Co. Clallam on 6/18 (SMi).

Common Loon Reports included 1 at Bennington Lake Walla Walla on 6/10 (MD,MLD), a pair with 1 half-grown chick at Bonaparte Lake Okanogan on 7/10, a pair with 2 half-grown chicks at Lost Lake Okanogan on 7/10 (TAv,SGe), and 30 at Padilla Bay Skagit on 7/11 (SM).

Pied-billed Grebe High altitude nesting location. Pair with young at 3740’ at Molson Okanogan on 7/10 (TAv,SGe). High count: 53 at Ridgefield NWR Clark on 7/27 (SM).

Horned Grebe Uncommon in summer in WA. 1 at Vantage Kittitas on 6/5 (TAv).

Red-necked Grebe Uncommon in summer in w WA. 1 at Hastic Lake Road Boat Landing Island on 6/30 (SM), 1 at Oak Bay CP Jefferson on 7/27 (DMu), 1 at Vashon Island King on 7/28 (ESw), 1 at Morse Creek Bluff Clallam on 7/31 (JMv).

Eared Grebe Reports from e WA included 30 at Soap Lake Grant on 6/12, 14 in a tight flock at Vantage Kittitas on 6/12, 25 at Duley Lake Okanogan on 7/11 (TAv), 36 at Crooked Knee Lake Whitman on 7/21 (MD,MLD), 62 at Sprague Lake Adams on 7/27 and 44 at Sheep Lake Whitman on 7/27 (PS,RS). Uncommon in summer in w WA. 1 at Stanwood STP Snohomish on 6/22 (SM).

Western Grebe Summer reports from w WA included 2 at Oak Bay CP Jefferson on 6/15 (DMu), 1 at Lake Sammamish SP King on 6/17 (Ch), 2 at Padilla Bay Skagit on 6/22, 2 at Vancouver Lake Clark on 6/27 (SM), and 2 at Ocean Shores Grays Harbor on 7/4 (TAv).

Clark’s Grebe Locally uncommon. 1 at Patterson Slough Benton on 7/25 (SM).

Laysan Albatross Rare in early summer in WA. 1 off Clallam Co. Clallam on 6/18 (SMi).

Pink-footed Shearwater High count: 227 on Westport Pelagic Grays Harbor on 6/1 (RSh), and 2 at Hastic Lake Road Boat Landing Island on 7/31 (TAv).

Flesh-footed Shearwater Uncommon in WA. 1 off Clallam Co. Clallam on 6/18 (SMi).
7/17, and 1 at Stanwood STP Snobomish on 7/17 (TAv).

**Blue-winged Teal** High count for e WA. 80 at Othello Adams on 7/25 (SM). Reports from w WA included 3 at Lummi Island Whalton on 6/5 (CB), 2 at Lake Sammamish SP King on 6/17 (CHA), and 35 at Everett STP Snobomish on 6/27 (SM).

**Blue X Cinnamon Teal** Rarely reported. 1 at Everett STP Snobomish on 6/20 (SM).

**Canvasback** Uncommon in WA in summer. Reports included 1 at Stanwood STP Snobomish on 6/22, 2 at Tokeland Pacific on 6/29 (SM) with 6 there on 7/4 (TAv), 4 at English Boom Island on 7/13 and 10 at Padilla Bay Skagit on 7/13 (SM).

**Greater Scaup** Reports included 1 at Vantage Kittitas on 6/5 (TAv), 1 at Home Valley Skamania on 6/5 (WC), 1 at Hoquiam Grays Harbor on 6/20 (TAv), 1 at Stanwood STP Snobomish on 6/22, 2 at Tokeland Pacific on 6/29 (SM) with 6 there on 7/4 (TAv), 4 at English Boom Island on 7/13 and 10 at Padilla Bay Skagit on 7/13 (SM).

**Lesser Scaup** Uncommon in summer in w WA. Reports included 4 at Steigerwald Lake NWR Clark throughout the period (WC), 3 at Ridgefield NWR Okanagan on 6/29 (RKO), 1 at Lake Sammamish SP King on 7/22 (CHA), 1 female with 4 young at Vancouver Clark on 7/27 (SM), and 3 females with 25 young at Stanwood STP Snobomish on 7/31 (TAv).

**Hattequin Duck** Locally uncommon. 1 male at Camas Clark on 6/28 (WC).

**Surf Scoter** Rare in summer in WA. 1 adult male at Duley Lake Okanagan on 6/14 (PS,RS). High count for w WA: 2180 at Stanwood STP Snobomish on 6/14 (TAv).

**Common Goldeneye** Uncommon in summer in WA. 1 female with 3 young near the River Bend Airport Pend Oreille on 6/3 (MaM), 1 female with 4 young at Beth Lake Okanagan on 7/10 (TAv,SGe), and 1 at Stanwood STP Snobomish on 6/22 until at least 7/13 (SM).

**Bufflehead** Reports included 1 at Othello Adams on 6/5 (TAv) with 5 there on 7/25 (SM), 6 at Sprague Lake Adams on 6/5 (TAv), 2 at Spencer Island Snobomish on 6/8 (MaB), 1 male at Steigerwald Lake NWR Clark on 6/15 (WC), 5 at Muskrat Lake Okanagan on 6/15 (PS,RS), 1 at Ridgefield NWR Clark on 6/29 (RKO), 1 male at North River Pacific on 7/4 (TAv), 1 at Stanwood STP Snobomish on 7/6 (SM), 1 at Duley Lake Okanagan on 7/11 (TAv,SGe), 14 at Crooked Knee Lake Whitman on 7/21 (MD,MLD), and 1 at Vancouver Lowlands Clark on 7/27 (SM).

**Hooded Merganser** Unusual breeding location: 2 half-grown juveniles at Hoquiam STP Grays Harbor on 7/12 (BT).

**White-tailed Kite** Rare in WA in summer. 1 at Curtis Lewis on 6/8 (BT).

**Northern Goshawk** Locally uncommon breeder. 4 successful nests located in Olympic NP Clallam/Jefferson throughout the period (SGr).

**Merlin** Rare breeder in WA. A pair nesting Harbor on 7/7 (PS,RS), with 1 adult there on 7/27 (RSh), and 1 at Leadbetter Point Pacific on 7/27 (NB).

**Snowy Plover** Reports included a pair with 3 young at Ocean Shores Grays Harbor on 7/7 (PS,RS), 11 at Midway Beach Pacific on 7/22 (JWa), 5 at Leadbetter Point Pacific on 7/27 (NB), and 20 nests documented north of Willapa Bay Pacific/Grays Harbor by the WDFW (fide BT).

**Semipalmated Plover** Uncommon in e WA. 1 at Mill Creek Walla Walla on 7/13 (MD,MLD), 1 at Iowa Beef Walla Walla on 7/17 (BLa,NLa) with 4 there on 7/27 (MD,MLD), and 1 at Sheep Lake Whitman on 7/27 (PS,RS). Early reports from w WA included 1 at Samish Flats Skagit on 6/22 (SM), and 11 at Ocean Shores Grays Harbor on 6/29 (BW).

**Black-necked Stilt** Increasing reports from e WA included 4 at Alderdale Klckat on 6/5 (WC), 12 near the River Bend Airport Pend Oreille on 6/10 with 4 remaining until at least 6/25 (MaM), 67 adults with 6 young at Iowa Beef Walla Walla on 7/2 (MD,MLD) with 40 there through the end of the period (BLa,NLa), 5 near Lafleur Okanagan on 7/11 (TAv,SGe), and 60 at Othello Adams on 7/25 (SM).

**American Avocet** High count for e WA. 55 at Iowa Beef Walla Walla on 6/25 (NLa,TAv). Rare in w WA. A pair nesting at Crockett Lake Island on 6/1 although the nest was predated in the first week in June (BMe).

**Greater Yellowlegs** Early reports included 1 near Stanwood Snobomish on 6/23 (GG), 1 at Iowa Beef Walla Walla on 6/25 (TAv,NLa) with 8 there on 7/4 (DR), 1 at Columbia NWR Grant on 7/3 (RF), and 4 at Samish Flats Skagit on 7/3 (TAv,SGe).

**Lesser Yellowlegs** Reports included 2 apparent late spring migrants reported at Othello Adams on 6/2 (RH) with 2 returning there on 7/11 (RF), and 11 at Iowa Beef Walla Walla on 7/2 (MD,MLD).

**Solitary Sandpiper** Early reports included 4 at Mill Creek Walla Walla on 7/13 (MD,MLD), 2 at Othello Adams on 7/25, 2 at Iowa Beef Walla Walla on 7/25 (SM), 1 at Ames Lake Lincoln on 7/27 (PS,RS), 1 at Reardan Lincoln on 7/27 (IA), and 1 at Steigerwald Lake NWR Clark on 7/30 (WC).
Washington Field Notes

Willet Early report: 2 at Tokeland Pacific on 7/4 with 6 there on 7/24 (TAv).

Wandering Tattler Late spring migrant, 1 at Westport Grays Harbor on 6/1 (RSb).

UPLAND SANDPIPER Rare in WA. 1 near Lyons Spokane on 7/6 (WH) reported singing on 7/9 (JA) and present at least until 7/23 (DBe).

Whimbrel Reports included 70 at Ocean Shores Grays Harbor on 7/4, 33 at Tokeland Pacific on 7/4 (TAv), and 2 at Discovery Bay Jefferson on 7/16 (DMu).

Long-billed Curlew Reports included 20 at Ocean Shores Grays Harbor on 7/3 (BW), 5 at Lena Lake Grant on 7/6 (MSp), 1 at Bottle Beach Grays Harbor on 7/6 (PS,RS), and 1 fly-by at Edmonds Snohomish on 7/21 (DD).

Bar-tailed Godwit Rare in WA. 1 adult reported at Ocean Shores Grays Harbor on 7/14 through 7/16 and from 7/21 through 7/25 (PS,RS).

Marbled Godwit Rare in e WA. 2 near Cusick Pend Oreille on 6/27 (MaM).

Semipalmated Sandpiper Reports included 1 at Othello Adams on 7/3 (RFi) with 6 there on 7/25, 1 at Samish Flats Skagit on 7/4 (SM) with 4 juveniles there on 7/31 (TAv), 6 at Crockett Lake Island on 7/6 (SM) with 33 there on 7/26 (KA), 2 at Deer Lagoon Island on 7/6, 2 at Useless Bay Island on 7/13, 6 at Stanwood Snohomish on 7/13 (SM), 1 at Iowa Beef Walla Walla on 7/14 (BLa,NLa) with 2 there on 7/25 (SM), 2 at Reardan Lincoln on 7/27 (JA), and 1 juvenile at Steigerwald Lake NWR Clark on 7/30 (WC).

Western Sandpiper High counts from e WA included 150 at Iowa Beef Walla Walla on 7/2 (NLa,ChS) with 400 there on 7/17 (BLa,NLa). Early reports from w WA included 1 at Samish Flats Skagit on 6/22 (SM), 2 at Graysmarsh Clallam on 6/23 (SA), and 2500 at Ocean Shores Grays Harbor on 7/4 (TAv).

Baird's Sandpiper Early reports included 1 at Othello Adams on 7/21 (RFi) with 1 there on 7/25, 1 at Hatton Adams on 7/25 (SMj), and 2 at Crockett Lake Island on 7/26 (KA).

Pectoral Sandpiper Early reports included 1 at Iowa Beef Walla Walla on 7/4 (DR) with 1 there on 7/25, 1 at Lower Crab Creek Grant on 7/4 (SM), 2 at Foulweather Bluff Kitsap on 7/28 (DoW), and 1 at Francis Road Skagit on 7/29 (GB).

Dunlin Uncommon in summer in WA. 1 in breeding plumage at Gibson Spit Clallam on 6/9 (BN), 1 in winter plumage at Crockett Lake Island on 7/11 (SM), and 1 at Ocean Shores Grays Harbor on 7/21 (BLa,NLa).

CURLEW SANDPIPER Rare in WA. 1 adult at Crockett Lake Island on 7/19.

Wilson's Phalarope Early juvenile report: 1 at Oroville Okanogan on 7/10 (TAv,SGe). High counts for e WA included 45 at Iowa Beef Walla Walla on 7/13, 44 at Crooked Knee Lake Whitman on 7/21 (MD,MLD), and 120 at Othello Adams on 7/25 (SM). Uncommon in summer in w WA. 2 near Snohomish Snohomish on 6/8 (SM), 1 at Steigerwald Lake NWR Clark on 6/15 (WC), 1 near Stanwood Snohomish on 6/23 (GG) with 2 apparently defending nest there on 6/26 (BMe).

Red-necked Phalarope Reports included 1 near Cusick Pend Oreille on 6/10 (MaM), 4 at Iowa Beef Walla Walla on 7/2 (NLa,ChS), 2 at Othello Adams on 7/13 with 32 there on 7/21 (RFi), 5 at Columbia NWR Grant on 7/26 (RH), and 10 juveniles at Crockett Lake Island on 7/31 (TAv).

Red Phalarope Rare in summer in WA. 2 off Teawhit Head Jefferson on 6/13 (SM).

South Polar Skua Early reports included 1 on Westport Pelagic Grays Harbor on 6/1 (RSh) with 2 on the 7/13 trip (BL), and 5 off Clallam Co. Clallam between 6/12 and 6/18 (SM). Franklin's Gull Uncommon in e WA. 2 at Detour Road Walla Walla on 6/1 (MD,MLD), 5 adults at Sprague Lake Adams on 6/5 (TAv), and 1 adult at Duley Lake Okanogan on 6/14 (PS,RS).

Bonaparte's Gull Reports from e WA included 2 at Columbia NWR Grant on 6/10 (RH) with 8 there on 7/3 (RFi), and 1 at Iowa Beef Walla Walla on 7/2 (BLa,NLa). Early juvenile report: 1 near Lyman Skagit on 7/31 (TAv).

Heermann's Gull Early reports included 1 at Edmonds Snohomish on 6/19 (TAv,CFr), and 1 at Graysmarsh Clallam on 6/23 (SA).

Black-legged Kittiwake High count: 351 on Westport Pelagic Grays Harbor on 6/1 (RSh).

Sabine's Gull Rare in summer in e WA. 1 north of Rocky Reach Dam Chelan on 6/4 (ChT).

Common Tern Early for WA. 2 adults at Cultus Bay Island on 7/31 (TAv).

Arctic Tern Rare in e WA. 1 adult at Othello Adams on 6/1 (SM). Uncommon in w WA. 2 at Everett Snohomish on 6/3 (GT).

with 4 reported there from 6/4 to 6/29 (fide SM), 2 at Useless Bay Island on 6/30 (SM).

Forster's Tern High count for e WA: 73 at Wanapum Kittitas on 6/5 (TAv).

Black Tern Rare in w WA. 5 at Ridgefield NWR Clark on 6/2 (KK) with 2 remaining until at least 7/27 (SM), 6 at Silver Lake Cowlitz on 6/12 (JSk), and 1 adult 16 miles off Point of Arches Clallam on 6/15 (SM).

Marbled Murrelet High count: 32 at Marbled Murrelet NWR Cowlitz until at least 7/27 (SM), 6 at Silver Lake Cowlitz on 6/12 (JSk), and 1 at Tacoma Pier on 7/12 (fide TAv), and 1 at Tacoma Pier on 7/16 (MR).

Black Swift Locally uncommon. 2 at Tacoma Creek Pond Oreille on 6/10 (MaM), 100 north of Winthrop Okanogan on 7/6 (MD,MLD), 30 at Magnuson Park King on 6/8 (JB), 2 north of Kalaloch Jefferson on 7/15 (VA), and 1 that appeared to fly from cliff below lookout at Cape Flattery Clallam on 7/20 (BLa,NLa).

Calliope Hummingbird Locally rare in w WA. 5 at Ridgefield Okanogan on 6/1 (KK) with 2 remaining until at least 6/10 (DBe).

ALDER FLYCATCHER Rare in WA. 1 reported at Kipling Road Okanogan on 6/14 (PS,RS) until at least 6/19 (DBe).

Least Flycatcher Uncommon and local in WA. 1 near River Bend Airport Pond Oreille on 6/3, 2 singing at Tacoma Creek Pond Oreille on 6/4 with 4 there on 6/10 and at least 2 remaining there until 7/1 (MaM), 1 singing at Central Ferry Canyon Douglas on 6/13, 1 singing at Ephraim Grant on 6/13 (DBe), 1 at Cameron Lake Road Okanogan on 6/14 (PS,RS) and on 6/16 (EH), 1 at Cassimer Bar Okanogan on 6/15 (KK), 1 near Cusick Pond Oreille on 6/17 (MaM), 1 at Hardy Canyon Yakima on 6/18 (AS), and 2 at Old Twisp Road Okanogan on 7/5 (MD,MLD).

Hammond's Flycatcher Reports of late migrants included 1 at Lyons Ferry SP Franklin on 6/1 (MD,MLD), 1 at Wind Dust Park Franklin on 6/1 (RFI).

Ash-throated Flycatcher Rare so far north in WA. 1 near Duley Lake Okanogan on 6/16 (EH).

Western Kingbird Rare in w WA in summer. A pair at Tye Lake Snohomish on 6/27 with 3 young fledged from nest on 7/4 (BBo).

Eastern Kingbird Uncommon in w WA. 1 at Steigerwald Lake NWR Clark on 6/1 (NW), 1 near Concrete Skegits on 6/8 until at least 6/22 (SM), 1 at Tatosh Island Clallam on 6/11 (BPa), and 1 at Corkindale Skegit on 7/6 (SA).

Loggerhead Shrike Locally uncommon. 1 at Lafleur Okanogan on 7/11 (TAv,SGe).

Cassin's Vireo Late migrant reports included 1 at Washtucna Adams on 6/1, 1 at Lyons Ferry SP Franklin on 6/1, 1 at Wind Dust Park Franklin on 6/1 (RFI), and 1 at Newman Lake Spokane on 6/4 (WH).
Warbling Vireo Early fall migrants: 2 at Richland Benton on 7/28 (BW).

PHILADELPHIA VIREO Rare in WA. 1 reported at Crab Creek Lincoln on 6/7 (DnB).

Red-eyed Vireo Reports of late migrants from e WA included 1 at Dusty Lake Grant on 6/4 (DP), 1 at Lyons Ferry SP Franklin on 6/5 (TAv), 1 at Richland Benton on 6/7 (BLa,NLa), and 1 at Crab Creek Lincoln on 6/13 (RFI). Locally uncommon in w WA. At least 2 singing at Sequim Clallam on 6/12 with 1 remaining until at least 7/10 (BoB), and 2 at Ceres Lewis on 7/24 (TAv).

Western Scrub-Jay Reports indicating continued expansion north included a pair and 2 fledged young at Madison Valley King on 6/15 (Ti), a pair with young at Ballard King on 6/19 (KbA) with 1 possible juvenile observed there on 7/21 (RT), 1 at Lummi Island Whatcom on 6/25 and 6/27 (CB).

Horned Lark Reports included a pair at Hurricane Ridge Clallam on 6/19 (TAv,CFr), 8 at Midway Beach Pacific on 7/6 (PS,RS), and 4 at Lillian Ridge Clallam on 7/13 (BN).

Purple Martin Reports included 7 at Ballard King on 6/4 (KL), 19 at Camas Clark on 6/28 (WC), 40 pairs in northern Snohomish County and on Camano Island Snohomish Island throughout the period (SK), 1 at Crockett Lake Island on 7/6, 20 at Ridgefield NWR Clark on 7/27 (SM), and 4 pairs at unusual ledge nests under a pier at Squamish Harbor Jefferson on 7/27 (SK).

Bank Swallow Uncommon in w WA. 2 at Barnaby Slough Skagit/Whatcom on 6/8 (SM), 8 at nest burrows near Castle Rock Cowitz on 6/13 (BT), 1 at Lake Sammamish SP King on 6/29 (ChA), 15 pairs near Sultan Snohomish throughout the period (BoB), 2 at Corkindale Skagit on 7/3 and 7/17, and 1 at Crockett Lake Island on 7/31 (TAv).

Bushtit Locally rare. 1 at Potholes Grant on 6/4 (BT,RoF).

White-breasted Nuthatch Locally uncommon. 1 at Bellingham Whatcom on 6/29 (KK), 7 at Kamiak Butte Whatcom on 7/20 (MD,MLD), and 2 at Steigerwald Lake NWR Clark throughout the period (WC).

Rock Wren Locally uncommon. 1 singing at 6500’ at Burnt Mountain Yakima on 7/5 (CC).

Canyon Wren Locally uncommon so far west. 1 at Elk Heights Kittitas on 6/23 (LBa). Bewick’s Wren Range expansion continues in e WA. 8 at Potholes Grant on 6/4 (BT).

House Wren Locally uncommon. 3 at 5300’ at Colockum Pass Kittitas on 7/18 (TAv,LKi), 1 at Sequim Clallam throughout the period (RR), and 1 at Bald Hill Thurston on 6/14 (CC).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet Unusual locations for summer: 1 at Reiman Adams on 6/15 (RH), and 1 reported at Kala Point Jefferson on 6/24 (RWa).

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER Rare in WA. 1 reported at Sequim Clallam on 7/2 (CTi).

Nashville Warbler Uncommon in w WA. 1 reported at County Line Ponds Skagit/Whatcom on 6/22 (SM).

CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER Rare in WA. 1 second-year male reported at Graysmarsh Clallam on 6/22 (SA) and on 6/23 (BoB).

“Myrtle” Warbler Late migrant. 1 male at Wanapum Kittitas on 6/11 (WC).

Townsend’s Warbler Reports of late migrants from e WA included 4 at Wind Dust Park Franklin on 6/1, and 1 at Crab Creek Lincoln on 6/7 and on 6/13 (RFI).

Hermit Warbler High count: 7 singing males at Capitol Forest Thurston on 7/4 (TAv).

Hermit X Townsend’s Warbler Reports included 1 at Wind Dust Park Franklin on 6/1 (SM), and 1 at Tin Mine Creek Kitsap on 6/27 (TAv).

BAY-BREASted warbler Extremely rare in WA with no previous accepted records. 1 singing male reported north of Red Bridge Snohomish on 6/27 (BoB).

American Redstart Locally uncommon. 2 males at Newman Lake Spokane on 6/4 (WH), 3 at Trout Lake Marsh Klickitat on 6/16 with 3 pairs there on 7/7 (BHa,SJ), 1 adult male at County Line Ponds Skagit/Whatcom on 7/3 (TAv,SGe) and on 7/6 (SA).
**WASHINGTON FIELD NOTES**

**Ovenbird** Rare in WA. 1 reported north of Trout Lake Kittitas on 6/16 (BHa, SJ).

**Wilson’s Warbler** Migrant reports included 2 at Lyons Ferry SP Franklin on 6/5, 1 at Umtanum Canyon Kittitas on 6/6, and 1 at Woodland Park Zoo King on 7/7 (TAv).

**Yellow-breasted Chat** Rare in w WA. A possibly nesting pair at Steigerwald Lake NWR Clark throughout the period (WC), and 1 at Martin Rd. Rockport on 6/8 (DD, SM) until at least 7/4 (GB).

**Western Tanager** Early migrant reports included 1 male at Woodland Park Zoo King on 7/22, 12 males in a flock at Scatter Creek Thurston on 7/24 (TAv), and 1 at Richland Benton on 7/28 (BW).

**Chipping Sparrow** Locally uncommon in w WA. An adult with young at Deer Park Clallam on 7/7 (RR), 3 at Bald Hill Thurston on 6/14 (CC), 1 at Thunder Knob Whatcom on 7/3 (TAv, SG), and 1 at Hurricane Ridge Clallam on 7/13 (BN).

**Clay-colored Sparrow** Rare in WA. 1 near Cusick Pend Oreille on 6/4 with an adult and 2 juveniles there on 7/31 (MaM), 1 singing at Espanola Spokane on 6/16 until at least 6/25 (JA), and 1 near Soap Lake Okanogan on 7/6 (KAl).

**Brewer’s Sparrow** Locally uncommon. 2 at Knotgrass Ridge Asotin on 6/2 (CHa), and 1 singing at 6500’ at Timberwolf Mountain Yakima on 7/6 (CC).

**Vesper Sparrow** High elevation reports included 1 at 7800’ on Freezecut Ridge Okanogan on 7/15 (CWr, SDo), and 1 at 5000’ at Colockum Pass Kittitas on 7/18 (TAv).

**Grasshopper Sparrow** Reports included 2 at Knotgrass Ridge Asotin on 6/2 (CHa), 2 at Columbia NWR Grant on 6/10 (RH), 1 reported singing at night at Biscuit Ridge Walla Walla on 6/24 (MD, MLD), 3 at Conboy Lake NWR Kittitas on 7/11 (DFr), 1 at Palouse River Road Whitman on 7/21 (MD, MLD), and 2 at Lyons Spokane on 7/27 (DR).

**Sooty Fox Sparrow** Uncommon and local in w WA in summer. 4 at Sucia Island San Juan on 6/20, 1 at Patos Island San Juan on 6/21 (CC), and 1 reported at Kalaloch Jefferson on 6/30 (VA).

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak** Rare in WA. 1 adult male at Spokane Spokane on 6/3, a different adult male there on 6/6 until at least 6/10 (JA), and 1 adult male at Cle Elum Kittitas on 6/7 and on 6/8 (fide PM).

**Lazuli Bunting** Uncommon and local in w WA. Reports included 1 at Concrete Skagit on 6/8 and on 6/22, 4 males at Rockport Skagit on 6/8 and on 6/22 (SM), 4 males at Snoqualmie Valley King/Snohomish on 6/13 (TAv) 1 male at Kent King on 6/20 (McB), 2 males at Butler Flats Skagit on 7/3 (TAv, SG), 4 at Corkindale Skagit on 7/6 (SA), 4 males at Grassy Knoll Skamania on 7/10 (CC), and 6 including a nesting pair with 2 fledged young at Scatter Creek Thurston on 7/24 (TAv).

**Great-tailed Grackle** Rare in WA. 1 male at Othello Adams on 7/15 (RF).

**Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch** Locally uncommon. 1 reported at Hurricane Ridge Clallam on 7/19 (KAI).

**Pine Grosbeak** Uncommon and local in WA. 2 at Freezecut Ridge Okanogan on 6/15 (SDo), 2 at Forest Road 39 Okanogan on 7/15 (CWr, SDo), and 2 at Buckhorn Wilderness Jefferson on 7/1 (SuC).

**White-winged Crossbill** Uncommon in WA. 10 at Forest Road 39 Okanogan on 6/15 (BLa, NLa), 1 at Freezecut Ridge Okanogan on 6/15 (SDo), 3 at Rogers Lake Okanogan on 7/17, and 1 at Hart’s Pass Okanogan/Whatcom on 7/18 (KAI).

**Lesser Goldfinch** Uncommon and local in WA. 8 at Maryhill Kittitas on 6/30 (WC).

**Western Meadowlark** Common and local in WA. 5 at Chewuch Grant on 6/1 (RR), 3 at Edwall Grant on 6/27 (SM), 1 reported singing at Newhalem Okanogan on 6/30 (WC).

**SHIPMANER’S WILLOW** Locally common. 1 at King King on 6/1 (ShM), 3 at King/Snohomish on 7/18 (DMi).

**White-winged Dove** Kittitas, WA. 1 at Tatoosh Island Clallam on 7/20 (JWa), and 1 singing at 5000’ at Colockum Pass Kittitas on 7/1 (SuC).

**Mountain Plover** Rare in WA. 1 reported singing at Biscuit Ridge Walla Walla on 6/24 (MD, MLD), and 1 at Lyons Spokane on 7/27 (DR).

**American Dipper** Uncommon and local in WA. 1 reported at Cle Elum Kittitas on 6/7 (fide PM).

**Ross’s Goose** Rare in WA. 1 reported at Cheney Grant on 6/6 (DID).

**Blackbird** Common and local in w WA. A pair nesting at Ephrata Grant on 6/3 (BT) until at least 6/21 when an adult was observed carrying food to the nest (BLa, NLa), 1 at Yakima Yakima remaining from May until at least 6/7 (DG), 1 at Tatooish Island Clallam on 6/24 until 6/27 (BPa), and 1 male reported at Othello Adams on 7/3 (RH).

**White-winged Dove** Kittitas, WA. 1 reported at Hurricane Ridge Clallam on 7/19 (KAI).

**Western Meadowlark** Common and local in WA. 5 at Chewuch Grant on 6/1 (RR), 3 at Edwall Grant on 6/27 (SM), 1 reported singing at Newhalem Okanogan on 6/30 (WC).

**SHIPMANER’S WILLOW** Locally common. 1 reported at Hurricane Ridge Clallam on 7/19 (KAI).

**Pine Grosbeak** Uncommon and local in WA. 2 at Freezecut Ridge Okanogan on 6/15 (SDo), 2 at Forest Road 39 Okanogan on 7/15 (CWr, SDo), and 2 at Buckhorn Wilderness Jefferson on 7/1 (SuC).

**White-winged Crossbill** Uncommon in WA. 10 at Forest Road 39 Okanogan on 6/15 (BLa, NLa), 1 at Freezecut Ridge Okanogan on 6/15 (SDo), 3 at Rogers Lake Okanogan on 7/17, and 1 at Hart’s Pass Okanogan/Whatcom on 7/18 (KAI).

**Lesser Goldfinch** Uncommon and local in WA. 8 at Maryhill Kittitas on 6/30 (WC).


**Washington Field Notes**

Photo by Patrick Sullivan.
### Balance Sheet – December 31, 2002

#### Assets

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#### Total Corporate Equity and Liabilities

**$32,145.35**

#### A Non-profit Corporation Statement of Income and Operating Expenses

On the Cash Basis

12 Months Ended December 31, 2002
(unaudited)

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**Net Income** $(2,261.80)
Report Your Sightings

American crows: Looking for large roosting sites in the Seattle area. The area of interest is north to Snohomish County-Edmonds, Bothell, and the east side of Lake Washington, south to Southcenter area, and west to the sound. Also, the I-90 corridor to the Pass. Information needed is number of crows, location of sighting, time of day, behavior (roosting, staging), direction headed if flying. In terms of numbers, only those that could be potentially headed to/from a roost, or at a roost, in excess of a hundred, at least, not 10 or 20. Report to: John Withey, jwithey@u.washington.edu, phone: 206-543-2764.

Cooper's hawks: Color bands have been placed on over 700 nesting Cooper's hawks in Victoria, British Columbia since 1996. This is part of a long-term study on its urban-nesting ecology. Each color band is uniquely coded with 2 vertical, alphanumeric characters and is placed on the left leg; black bands are on males, red bands on females. Please note band code and color, date, time, and location. Four birds have been reported from Washington, to date. Report all sightings to Andy Stewart, BC Conservation Data Centre, Victoria, B.C. (250) 387-9780, or e-mail to: andy.stewart@gems6.gov.bc.ca.

Merlins: Detailed year-round observations are needed for scientific research on the merlin in Washington. Sightings should include exact location/map, date/time, description of bird(s) and behavior. Send to David Drummond, Coastal Forest Merlin Project, P.O. Box 4123, Bellingham, WA 98227, (360) 671-3804 or e-mail to: merlinoology@hotmail.com.

Mute swans: All encounters. Provide date seen, number of swans, adult or juvenile, location, habitat type, and whether they were in the company of other swans or geese. Report to: Martha Jordan, Washington Swan Working Group, 914 164th St SE, #272, Mill Creek WA 98028 or e-mail to martha@swansociety.org.

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 (yellow, blue, green, or white), which wing it is on, the letter or number printed (in black) on the tag, and if there is a black circle around the letter or number. Note the date and time and the exact location. Report to Jack Bettesworth, 256912th Ave W, Seattle WA 98119, (206) 285-5276. jgbett@attbi.com.

Purple martins: Banding continues this year of western purple martins in the Pacific Northwest and British Columbia, although any observations of martins west of the Rocky Mountains would be appreciated. What to look for: site location, date and time, look for bands and note the sequence of which color on which leg, whether any color band is coded, and read the band, if possible (binos or scope). Report sightings and any banded birds to Stan Kostka at lynnandstan@earthlink.net.

Horned and red-necked grebes: Marked in the 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.

Songbird survey: We have colormarked ~500 crows as well as many other songbirds in the area and would appreciate any sightings of those. Be on the lookout for banded robins, Wilson's warblers, Swainson's thrushes, song sparrows, spotted towhees, and Oregon juncos. Please report any sightings to Dr. John Marzluff, convid@u.washington.edu.

Turkey vultures: Migrating and over-wintering turkey vultures are being tracked by the Olympic Vulture Study. Report weather, time, number of birds, and anything else of interest to: Diann MacRae, 22622 – 53rd Avenue S.E., Bothell WA 98021, or to: tvulture@vei.net.

Western bluebirds in western Washington: Please report any sightings of western bluebirds in western Washington, especially from known breeding sites, to Michael Hobbis, 13506 NE 66th St, Kirkland, WA 98033 or to Hummer@isomedia.com. Sightings from previous years also welcome.

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 to Tweeters@u.washington.edu.
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.

**WOS SALES**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
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<th>By Mail</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Window decal with circle raven logo — static-cling</td>
<td>1.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Field Card of Washington Birds – 3.5&quot;x6.5&quot;, 12 pp. checklist</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>WASHINGTON BIRDS</strong> – Annual Journal – issues # 3, 4, 5, 6</td>
<td>6.00</td>
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<td>issues # 7, 8</td>
<td>8.00</td>
<td>10.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>WOSNews</strong> – Newsletter – Most issues available</td>
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<td>2.00</td>
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<td>T-Shirt — White-headed Woodpecker logo, sizes M, L, XL</td>
<td>15.00</td>
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Orders should be sent to:

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Place an x beside any item you don’t want to appear in the WOS directory.

**NOTE:** WOS does not sell or loan its membership list.