“Owls by Day” Field Trip
Leaders: Mike and MerryLynn Denny

The 21st of February 2004 dawned cool and damp with patches of low fog as we met at Hood Park in northwestern Walla Walla County. Fifteen well-bundled birders started this WOS field trip by meeting each other and getting some information on where we would be going on this unique outing. This was the “Owls by Day” WOS field trip along the lower Snake River. We started in Hood Park and our first great bird of the day was a lone northern saw-whet owl tucked up under the boughs of a thick blue spruce. Everyone had reasonable views of this small owl and this species proved to be a lifer for several participants. The second great find was the yellow-bellied sapsucker that MerryLynn and I had discovered on 19 February. This first-year bird was seen by all and again was both a state and life bird for several participants.

From Hood Park we drove east on S.R.124 to Fish Hook Park along the Snake River. Here we quietly began our search for roosting owls as we walked down into the park. Sixty-plus American robins flew over and about us as we headed for the nearest roost sites. Northern flickers and several juncos along with some California quail made their presence known. Near the west end of the park we again located a single roosting northern saw-whet owl in a thick blue spruce and everyone had great views of this beautiful little owl. Not more than ten minutes later a second saw-whet was located in another dense blue spruce about 170 feet from the first owl. By now the cry was “do we have to look at another saw-whet?”. As we headed back to the cars a single great horned owl was discovered roosting in a poplar; nearby was the adult female sitting on eggs atop an old magpie nest structure.

(Continued on page 5)
Vulture’s Roost
by Diann MacRae

They say our country is becoming more and more rude; that our manners are deteriorating. Perhaps road rage and the like illustrate this, but we birders are of a different ilk, I am sure. Even so, a review of our birding manners isn’t out of line, and WOSNews is presenting a different topic or view each issue.

In the last newsletter, we discussed trespassing. In this issue we tackle the popularity of grouse leks and the damage this popularity can have for the two species involved. We hope all of you will give thought to the points brought out in the article. We are most fortunate in Washington to have both sage and sharp-tailed grouse, let’s be sure they are protected and continue to exist.
FROM THE BOARD by Randy Hill

Who was it that coined the term “just say no!”? It must have been a campaign of some sort, maybe against drugs, a ballot initiative, or a candidate for political office. But if we all did it every time we were asked there would be plenty of work left unfinished or maybe not even started. I guess that is why I am writing this column. First, when asked to consider the vacant WOS VP position, then when all eyes were on the new guy at the board meeting when Diann and Brian mentioned that this column needed to be written. I guess it is a ritual of initiation.

It was my first board meeting and quite enlightening. I confess that the group stayed an hour longer than if I hadn’t been there. When everyone else wanted to chase down a Blue Jay or Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, I started asking questions, finding out what everybody else already knew and finally bringing up some new business that we discussed at length. I’ll discuss all below.

First, I hope every member voted in the Nov. 2 election. Hopefully all races will be decided (even in FL) by the time WOSNews 94 finds your mailbox. Our positions on issues need to be heard. I learned that WOS was established with a sole purpose of education, but we will not be lobbying or taking stands on conservation issues. That is for you birders to address as individuals or through groups with that stated purpose. While WOS membership only reaches several hundred, the birding community that ranges from ABA long-distance travelers to backyard bird feeders is much larger and can have an important voice on issues dear to our hearts.

And speaking of only several hundred members, an evaluation of membership receipts indicated this year we are about $1,000 behind the same time last year for receipts, which may be a function of members not renewing in a timely manner. So let’s try to get membership dues in quickly when informed that your renewal is due.

And speaking of a timely manner, Diann had a difficult time putting together WOSNews 93 because articles or other promised items were either not sent in or were late. In case you didn’t notice, your last issue came with first class postage attached, a decision made to stay on delivery schedule at a significant cost over bulk mailing. I know we’re all busy and things come up but let’s try to meet established deadlines or commitments so we don’t lose dedicated volunteers.

Again, with education being the single mission of WOS, we need to improve our communications among the membership and between committees. A nagging problem identified at the last meeting (and others) was the slow communication between the Bird Records Committee and the general membership. TWEETERS is certainly an avenue for rapid communication but probably not the proper medium. The WOS website is a better option and is not limited by a publication schedule such as WOSNews or WASHINGTON BIRDS. The board will continue to work with the BRC to get results out to the general membership.

An issue that certainly will be discussed more has to do with birding ethics. We have seen recent topics of bird harassment: playing tapes, trespassing, and disclosure of locations for sensitive species. We must determine how to police our own so we don’t reduce or eliminate opportunities for all. Expect a series of articles on this topic. Among the issues are how listed species such as spotted owl and greater sage-grouse are managed whether on public or private lands.

We were able to focus much of our meeting on planning ideas for the 2005 WOS Conference. The preliminary decision is to investigate either the second or third weekend of September with a base of operations in the Bellingham area. Thursday and Monday options, border crossings, and a pelagic trip are all being looked into. The conference will certainly be the main topic of discussion at the next board meeting.

With our next board meeting scheduled for Ellensburg on December 12, I’d like to remind all members that you are welcome to attend these meetings and bring up issues for discussion that you believe are important to WOS and its membership. If you’d like to forward an issue for the agenda contact Brian at President@wos.org and he will bring it forward.

Membership News

Just a little reminder from your membership chair: if you have any changes to your address or email please pass them on to me via email or in writing. Send corrections to Membership@wos.org or to PO Box 31783 Seattle WA 98103-1783.

We are striving to improve our member support which will include publishing the directory on a regular basis. In 2002 we initiated a “Welcome to WOS” letter for new members that includes a complementary checklist and information about membership meetings. We appreciate your feedback. Send us your comments and especially any suggestions you might have to improve WOS.

Susan Fallat, Membership chair

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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Visit the Society’s web site at http://www.wos.org

NEW: Subscribe to the Tweeters email bird discussion list on the Web at: http://mailman1.u.washington.edu/mailman/listinfo/tweeters/.

Questions? Email the list administrator at: tweeters-owner@mailman1.u.washington.edu
**WOS Field Trips**

**Saturday, December 4th**

Kraig and Kathy Kemper will lead a trip to the Waterville Plateau in Douglas County. Areas covered will include Atkins Lake, Mansfield, along Bridgeport Hill Road, and Central Ferry Canyon. Additional areas covered may include Bridgeport SP, the Okanogan River mouth, and Cassimer Bar. An additional morning will be added for those participants willing to stay overnight.

Limit of 8 participants. Contact Kraig at K_Kemper@msn.com or call (206) 789-9255.

**Saturday, January 8th**

Ken Knittle will lead a field trip to Wahkiakum County, including a stop at the Julia Butler Hansen NWR. Target birds include white-tailed kite, red-shouldered hawk, black phoebe and the odd sparrow possible in the sparrow flocks. Time permitting, a stop will be made at Altona for salt water species, where last year the first county record for long-tailed duck was recorded.

Limit of 10 participants. Contact Ken at (360) 574-2590 or email washingtonbirder@hotmail.com.

**Saturday, January 22nd**

Bob Kuntz will lead a field trip to the Skagit and Samish Flats in Skagit County. Our target birds will be raptors (falcons, hawks, eagles and owls), snow geese, trumpeter and tundra swans and sparrows. Bring a scope, lunch and water.

Limit of 10 participants. Contact Bob for details at Robert_Kuntz@nps.gov or (360) 856-5700 ext. 368 work, or (360) 424-9099.

**Saturday, February 12th, 2005**

Patrick and Ruth Sullivan will lead a trip to the Waterville Plateau in Douglas County looking for winter specialties. Target species will include golden eagle, gyrfalcon, sage grouse, sharp-tailed grouse, northern saw-whet owl, long-eared owl, pygmy nuthatch, Bohemian waxwing, American tree sparrow, Lapland longspur, snow bunting, gray-crowned rosy-finch, and common redpoll. Areas covered will include Atkins Lake, Mansfield, along Bridgeport Hill Road, Bridgeport, and Central Ferry Canyon. An additional day will be added for those participants willing to stay overnight in Pateros to cover areas including Leahy Junction, the Cassimer Bar, and along the Columbia River to Oroondo.

Limit of 8 participants. Be prepared for winter driving conditions and be properly dressed for the weather. Contact Patrick and Ruth at (253) 564-7419 or email godwit@worldnet.att.net.

**Saturday, February 19th**

Owls by Day will be led by Mike and MerryLynn Denny with a limit of (13) participants (to include up to 3 non-members that must be invited by an accompanying WOS Member). We’ll look for long-eared, barn, great horned, northern saw-whet, and screech owls plus winter sparrows (Harris, American Tree, and white-throated) as well as gray-crowned rosy finch, northern shrike, merlin, gray partridge and canyon wren. Bring lunch and water for an all day outing along the Snake River, and everyone must be able to walk several miles on foot.

Contact Mike at (509) 529-0080 or email m.denny@charter.net.

**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 Kraig Kemper and Ken Knittle at FieldTrips@wos.org.

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**The BirdBox is Back!**

Rachel Lawson,

BirdBox System Administrator

On the morning of August 22, I went downstairs to check my e-mail, and stepped into a puddle. Seattle’s first big rainstorm of the season had caused a sewer back-up into our basement, and most of the basement was flooded, including the room where the BirdBox resides. Luckily, though it was sitting in a few inches of water, the BirdBox computer was undamaged, but when I disconnected it to move it to a dry place, I had no idea that two months would go by before I could plug it back in. After two frantic days of attempting to clean up the mess, my husband and I gave up and called in a professional crew. Carpet and dry wall had to be torn out, and the whole area disinfected and dried out before repairs could begin. Finally, the walls were repaired and repainted, the new carpet was installed, the BirdBox phone line hooked back up, and, on October 20, the BirdBox was back in operation.

I apologize for the inconvenience and annoyance this long hiatus caused, and I hope that all of you will start using the BirdBox again.

Some of you may think that, with the advent of birding listservs like Tweeters, it’s no longer necessary to call in reports to rare bird alerts like the BirdBox, but this isn’t true. Many birders don’t have computers, and, of those that do, many don’t subscribe to birding listservs. For birders visiting from out of state, the BirdBox is an important source of information. Washington birders, out in the field and away from their computers, call the BirdBox for updates on the rarities they are chasing, or to hear about any unusual birds in the area that they otherwise might miss. This is especially common now that many birders carry cell phones. So, please, help your fellow birders and call the BirdBox with your report of a new rarity or an update on an old one. The BirdBox number is (206) 281-9172.

Most of you know that the BirdBox system is old, a bit complicated to use, and prone to problems, and this may be why you don’t use it. The WOS board is considering hiring someone to rewrite the software and bring the system up to date. If you are a skilled programmer, or if you know a skilled programmer, who is interested in taking on this project, please contact me, at (206) 282-5593 or Rachel.Lawson@sofhome.net.
Lek protection—continued from Page 1

As knowledge of the sites has grown over the years, many people have visited leks without a guide and some conflicts have arisen because of this. There have been reports of people actually walking through the leks! Other disturbances are too much noise and getting too close for a better view or photograph. In addition, trespassing on private land is causing concerns for land owners.

This spring, in an effort to deal with these issues, a land owner requested a meeting with WDFW and Central Basin Audubon Society. As a result of this meeting it was decided that WDFW will no longer disclose lek locations or land owners with leks in Douglas, Grant, and Lincoln Counties. Nor will they endorse field trips to leks in this region.

The CBAS board has already come to a consensus that our Chapter will no longer offer field trips to leks and the Sandhill Crane Festival decided it will no longer offer lek trips in this area. Mike Schroeder, WDFW grouse specialist, will look into the possibility of working with the Yakima Training Center to increase viewing opportunities on the YTC where grouse populations are more stable.

This may best be described as an emergency measure – an attempt to eliminate one factor in the declining populations of these once common birds. This year’s counts of sage and sharp-tailed grouse do not show any increase in numbers and possibly show a decrease.

Owls by Day—continued from Page 1

We next headed on east to C.M. Rice Road and our northward journey into the Skyrocket Hills and the Hollenbeck HMU. We slowly worked our way into this area’s outstanding habitat. Birding here is fun as it in no way resembles the rest of the Palouse region. Vines drape over numerous Russian olives, western junipers, and cottonwoods giving the area a near sub-tropical look. Here we discovered three barn owls, one northern saw-whet owl on roost in a juniper and a second saw-whet calling at mid-day. We also located four long-eared owls in dense Russian olive thickets along one of the many paths. Two white-throated sparrows were found as well as a northern shrike. MerryLynn also found a northern goshawk.

Soon, the clouds and wind stop and the sun warms the day making the temperature perfect. Packing up, we head on east along Sheffler Road and then connect with Lyons Ferry Road, across the Snake River headed north on S.R.261 to S.R. 260, then west to Kahlottu, and finally south on Devils Canyon Road to Windust Park below Lower Monumental Dam in Franklin County.

Windust Park is an island of trees along the shoreline of the Snake River surrounded by thin soils and dry conditions with about ten inches of precipitation a year. Our first discovery was a pair of long-eared owls in a pine near the restrooms. Everyone had outstanding views of these spectacular-looking owls. A lone brown creeper now popped up as did a calling Say’s phoebe. We then located eight more long-eared owls on a winter communal roost in a Russian olive thicket near the park. Not seven minutes later another northern saw-whet owl was located in the lower bough of a pine. This bird was in plain sight and an outstanding view was had by all.

It was now mid-afternoon and we had a ways to drive to our next and final stop. So out across the undulating Palouse hills we headed, west towards Pasco and the Columbia River. Our next stop was Big Flat HMU along the shoreline of the Snake River and directly north of Fish Hook Park. This is a large habitat management unit with miles of trails and patches of great habitat. Our first good discovery in this area was a sub-adult Harris’ sparrow in with 200+ white-crowned sparrows. It was now almost 1645hrs and the end of this fun field trip. This was an outstanding group of birders to spend time with and a quality experience was had by all that came out and supported this WOS field trip. The final tally of owls was as follows: six northern saw-whet, fourteen long-eared, two great horned, and three barn owls for a total of 24 owls!

Please support these field trips and a huge thank-you to those that joined in on this diurnal owling trip.

Searching for a Mailing Assistant

WOS has been fortunate in having Steve Dang doing the mailing of WOSNews. This involves picking up the newsletter, applying the labels and sorting the newsletter for mailing. Steve is finding that he is out of town occasionally when mailing needs to take place, and he has requested that we find someone who is willing to assist him in this task. The job would involve applying the labels and sorting the newsletter for mailing when Steve will be out of town during the mailing period. Steve is willing to help train the assistant in how to perform the sorting so as to meet post office requirements. Since having the newsletter arrive on time is a priority for WOS, we are asking that anyone who is interested in helping us in this important task please contact me and I will forward your name on to Steve.

Brian H. Bell, WOS President
Sun Lakes State Park is located in one of the most interesting geological areas in the western United States. 'Dry Falls,' a 3-mile wide, 400-foot high basalt cliff that was once one of the largest waterfalls known is located within the park. Created by glacial floods originating in Lake Missoula, this geological feature has an interpretive center dedicated to explaining the events that created the geology of the Grand Coulee.

Boasting 4,027-acres and 73,640 feet of freshwater shoreline, the park has nine freshwater lakes and a year-round creek, one of the few in the Coulee Corridor. It encompasses not only the camping and day-use areas, but also many acres of undeveloped lands. Birding opportunities are limitless and it is possible to spend an entire weekend and still not bird all of the area available. It is also one of the busiest in the park system, so birding here is best done early and late in the season. Prior to Memorial Day weekend and after Labor Day weekend is recommended within the developed portion of the park. Weekends and summer are busier and birding more difficult, though early mornings usually find campers still asleep and birds active (respect campers privacy and sleep). Undeveloped areas (these areas are substantial) can provide birding opportunities year-round with breeding birds through the summer and migrants spring, fall, and winter.

Habitat diversity within the park is amazing. The habitat variety creates an area that appeals to a wide range of birds. Deep, clear freshwater lakes and small shallow lakes and ponds are available for birds and birder alike. Large tracts of shrub-steppe lie among the lakes and ponds. Meadow Creek flows two and one-half miles from Deep Lake, emptying into Vic Meyer Lake and finally into Park Lake. This small creek offers a nice riparian zone. Comprised primarily of red ozier dogwood and water birch, this riparian habitat is outside of the high traffic area of the park and is accessible by a paved road its entire length. High basalt cliffs and talus slopes surround the park providing those species that relish the rocky-and-steep ample breeding and roosting sites. Shorelines and marshy areas provide extensive stands of cattail and bulrush. Developed portions of the park offer large forage trees and ample brushy cover areas to attract breeders and migrants alike.

Several roads offer access to satellite park attractions such as Deep Lake, Dry Falls Lake, Camp Delaney Environmental Learning Center (an area that may be reserved for private retreats), and Perch Lake. Parking is limited along these roadways, but there are a few turnouts, and birding is often best on foot. Dry Falls Interpretive Center is located along SR-17 about two miles from the park entrance and is well worth the visit, with fabulous vistas and views of White-throated Swifts at point-blank range.

The developed portions of the park are atypical, with manicured grass areas and large shade trees. These tracts offer exceptional birding during fall and spring migration. Expect most of the common species of warblers and vireos with a good possibility of rarities. American redstart, hooded warbler, black-and-white warbler and red-eyed vireo have been seen here amidst the more common yellow, Wilson’s, Townsend’s, yellow-rumped, MacGillivray’s, and Nashville warblers and warbling and Cassin’s vireo. It is often possible to watch hermit and Swainson’s thrush feeding among the campsites when no campers are present. Robins are ever-present, and in winter varied thrush put in an appearance. Empids show up in spring and fall migration and can be numerous, offering challenging ID dilemmas. Bullock’s oriole, western wood-pewee, and others breed in this area.

The extensive lake shorelines within the developed areas are left natural, with brushy cover and water tolerant trees. This type of habitat is also apparent in the riparian zone of Meadow Creek. Typical species using these habitats include song and white-crowned sparrow, dark-eyed junco, warbling vireo, and black-capped chickadee. Yellow warblers can be quite abundant and breed in the area. Migrants use these brushy areas as well and it is worth the effort to bird the entire perimeter of the lakeshore. Several of the lakes and much of the Meadow Creek drainage offer marshy boundaries that provide cover and breeding habitat for many species that prefer this habitat, including marsh wren, sora, and Virginia rail.

Much of the park’s boundaries are comprised of high basalt cliffs, many of them soaring to over 400’ high. At the base of these cliffs are the talus slopes, formed as the weather and time erodes the cliffs and deposits the rocky debris along the base, both rock and canyon wrens may be heard or seen here, and chukar are possible. Brushy areas among the boulders provide food and cover for a variety of birds. Large feeding groups of cliff and violet-
green swallows swirl overhead and good numbers of white-throated swifts mix with the swallows. In migration it is possible to find six species of swallow and two species of swift in these flocks. Golden eagle, prairie and peregrine falcons, and several other species of raptors are regularly seen soaring or hunting over the park.

The dry land areas of the park are typical of other shrub-steppe habitats in eastern Washington, and host many of the same species as other areas. Watch for California quail, Say’s phoebe, loggerhead shrike, lark sparrow, and other shrub-steppe specialties. Evenings provide common nighthawks as they forage overhead. Common poorwill can be heard calling from the sparse shrub-steppe. Hiking away from roads may provide some surprises that are not available from higher traffic areas. There are 15 miles of trails available but much of it is undeveloped. Bear in mind that this is rattlesnake country and use prudence and keep an eye out. Generally they prefer to exit as peacefully as possible.

With all of the water available waterbirds are in good supply. Good numbers of ducks, geese, grebes, and loons are usual during spring and fall migration. Western and pied-billed are the common grebes, but it is not a surprise to find red-necked, eared, or horned grebes during fall migration. Common loons are common during migration. It would not be a surprise to locate a Pacific loon among the common loons. Several species of dabbler and diving ducks may be found year-round, but migration brings more birds and greater diversity. Gulls are also present and it can pay dividends to browse through them, as the lesser black-backed gull found October 2004 shows (this sighting is pending approval by the WBRC at this writing). Ospreys are often seen hunting over the lakes or perched on power poles near the lake.

While this park can be great birding in its own right, it can also be used as a springboard to areas further away. Park use is low in May and September, but the weather in this area is still wonderful this time of year. Camping here can be an enjoyable experience, offering very good birding in the park and allowing access to areas both north and south.

The majority of my Grant County sightings of both gray catbird and red-eyed vireo have been in the Meadow Creek riparian corridor. Black-capped chickadees nest in this area as do lazuli bunting, though both can be frustratingly difficult to locate. Chokecherry trees offer resident cedar waxwings late summer fare. Bullock’s orioles often join them when fruit is plentiful. Western tanager and varied thrush frequent the Russian-olives during migration.

To get to Sun Lakes State Park via Interstate 90, take the SR-17 exit and go north approximately 36 miles. Turn right into the park. From SR-2, turn south onto SR-17 and go approximately 4 miles. Turn left into the park.

More information about this park can be found at the Washington State Parks web site, URL: www.parks.wa.gov/parkpage.asp?selectedpark=Sun+Lakes

**BOOK REVIEW**

**Common BIRDS of Washington & Oregon**

by J. Duane Sept

Calypso Publishing, Sechelt, B.C; 2003; 8 ½ x 5 ½ , 96 pages, $10.95

The song of the hermit thrush, a common local resident in the Pacific Northwest, is widely considered to be the finest bird song to be heard on the continent. The peregrine falcon, another familiar species in this area, is the fastest bird in the world. These are just two of the hundreds of interesting facts found in this great new book about birds, the perfect companion for anyone spending an afternoon strolling in the park, hiking the wilderness, or just relaxing in the garden.

Each of the 136 featured species is illustrated with one or more bright full-color photographs. Information includes descriptions, notes on similar species, nesting information and little-known fascinating facts on diet, mating and nesting behavior, special identification tips, and more. Species descriptions are accompanied by tips and techniques on observing birds, attracting more birds to your backyard, and other special features. (Press Release from Calypso Publishing)

Editor’s note: I received this book as a review copy and found it quite interesting. For the most part, the photos are quite good. Instead of a Table of Contents, there is a “Quick Photo Guide to the Bird Groups,” with a thumbnail photo and page number for the 24 groups included which is quite nice. With the holidays coming, this would be a nice gift for a beginning or casual birder.

WOSNews 94: December 2004/ January 2005
PHOTO GALLERY


While it might look like this was a Cuban martin taken at Guantanamo, it was actually at Port of Seattle Terminal 5, King, 6/9/2004. Photo by Kevin Li.

PNW VAGRANT PASSERINES

Every year brings new and interesting birds to the far western states: irruptions of snowy owls, exotic visitors from Europe or Asia, or just a change of venue, so to speak, for a common species. Following are some vagrant listings for 2004:

Mountain chickadees *Poecile gambeli* have been wandering all over the lower Puget sound regions this fall. No particular counts, just many reports of this energetic little montane species at various feeders and from various bird trips.

Blue jays *Cyanocitta cristata*, on the other hand, have been counted more carefully. As of 23 October, there were at least 137 different individual blue jays observed from 81 different and separate locations throughout Idaho. This is the largest movement of this species in Idaho since the 1970s. From eastern Washington at about the same time there were over 20 in the Walla Walla Valley. Blue jays are also showing up in Oregon, western Washington, and British Columbia.

Some Washington fall vagrants noted are:

1 first-year male rose-breasted grosbeak at Lyons Ferry S.P. in Franklin Co. on the 6th of September observed by Bill Tweet, Charlie Wright, and Bruce Labar.

A Tennessee warbler at Bassett Park (Washtucna), Adams Co. on the 12th of September by Scott Downes

A female type orchard oriole at Bottle Beach on the 20th of September by Kevin Aanerud, then later that same day relocated and observed by Gina Sheridan, Garrett MacDonald, and Harold and Karen Cottet, all from the Spokane area.

And from Oregon . . .

On August 29 a black-and-white warbler was at the Hot Springs Campground on Hart Mountain., Portland RBA 9-9

On September 3 a probable Canada warbler was seen along the Deschutes River near LaPine, Portland RBA 9-23

Two Canada warblers have been at Malheur NWR Headquarters all week and are still being seen.

On September 18 a juvenile blackburnian warbler was along Bayocean Road near the dike road at the south end of Tillamook Bay.

A chestnut-sided warbler was in Fields [Harney Co.] during the week.

Portland RBA 9-30

A surge of rarities in southeast Oregon during the week brought two Canada warblers, two black-throated blue warblers, two northern parulas, a blackburnian warbler, a prairie warbler, and a chestnut-sided warbler. All disappeared after the week-end [all in Harney Co, most on or near Malheur NWR Sept 25-27 or so].

A magnolia warbler was in Seaside [Circle Creek] September 23.

An adult magnolia warbler was at the north spit Coos Bay] September 28.

A blackpoll warbler was at Circle Creek, Seaside on Oct 2.

Please know that not all of these rarities have been accepted, if submitted, to various bird records committees. Thanks go to Mike Patterson, Doug Schonewald, Patrick and Ruth Sullivan, Mike Denny, and Harry Krueger for the listings. My apologies if anyone was left uncredited. Compiled by Diann MacRae

1 blackpoll warbler at Bassett Park (Washtucna) Adams Co. on the 12th of September by Scott Downes

A first-year magnolia warbler at the Davenport Cemetery on the 28th of September by Charlie Wright, Jim Acton and other birders, through at least the 30th of September by Matt Bartels.

Eastern migrant warblers from Idaho:

9/12 Magnolia warbler (2), Boise
9/12 Tennessee warbler, Boise
9/13 Hooded warbler, Near Boise
9/22 Blackpoll warbler, Boise
9/25 Black-throated blue warbler, Boise
9/26 Worm-eating warbler, Camas NWR
9/30 Pine warbler, Fremont County
10/1 Magnolia warbler, Island Park

Scissor-tailed flycatcher, Randolph Road, Moses Lake, Grant, September 12, 2004. Photo by Doug Schonewald
A fine weather forecast prompted Ellen and I to set off Friday evening to Horseshoe Basin in the eastern Payson Wilderness Area, an area of high summits and basins in the northeastern Cascades. In my mind, this is the most accessible area of really expansive alpine habitat in Washington, the gateway at Sunny Pass, a five-mile hike. Not only is this remote region accessible, but the area is truly beautiful, with alpine terrain mantling the broad, rounded summits all around. It’s a world away from the jagged, wet, snowy, and glaciated North Cascades only 30 miles to the west. This is a long trip for a two-day weekend, though. For us, it is a 275-mile drive to the trailhead at Irongate Campground, the final five miles being on a primitive track.

We arrived at midnight and car camped in a forest of lodgepole pine and Engelmann spruce. I played a tape for boreal owl, but had no response through the night. Before sunrise on Saturday, a pine grosbeak called loudly right above us, a good start to our weekend!

Once along the trail, we soon noted many of the mature Engelmann spruce trees were dead or dying, caused by a spruce bark beetle (Dendroctonus falcipennis) epidemic, as they are in the Tiffany Mountain area just to the south. American three-toed woodpeckers seemed to be everywhere, taking advantage of the obviously diseased trees. We counted at least 12 along the trail on the hike in. We heard pine grosbeaks along the trail, too, but only one small party of boreal chickadees. I heard a spruce grouse “bubbling” from the woods, but we couldn’t find the bird and it shut up as soon as we started crashing about the fallen timber trying to get a view.

At 6,800 feet elevation, below cliffs with whitebark pine, a black-billed magpie called, a rare upslope wanderer in fall. Most notable, though, were three white-breasted nuthatches working the diseased spruce in this area, my first for the upper subalpine in Washington and among the very few I’ve observed in eastern Washington away from ponderosa pine.

We set up camp by the meadow edge in Horseshoe Basin. After a little rest, we took advantage of the beautiful afternoon to hike up Horseshoe Mountain a mile or so to the east. We noted several alpine habitats on this peak. The broad, south slopes were mantled in a dense sward of Idaho fescue grassland, attractive to roving loose flocks of horned larks, American pipits, and lapland longspurs. The localized areas of north-facing slopes on the mountain were typically stony, with Dryas mats and alpine and arctic willows. We missed ptarmigan, the target bird of our hike. Besides lapland longspurs, we saw a number of raptors, including a northern goshawk and our first of the fall rough-legged hawk. Though I’ve heard boreal owl in Horseshoe Basin (twice in July), the only owl we heard Saturday night was a distant barred owl, calling from the lower, wetter dense timber down valley.
25-26 SEPTEMBER 2004

by Andy Stepniewski

Early on Sunday morning, we started up Armstrong Mountain, usually a good bet for white-tailed ptarmigan. On the way up, there was a flurry of activity about 10 am when a number of raptors became visible, including northern harrier, all three accipiters, several golden eagles, and a dashing merlin. Well above timberline, at 7,700 feet elevation, we flushed two blue grouse from the south slopes of Armstrong Mountain. Ellen suggested these grouse were feeding on ripe kinnikinick berries.

Just south of the summit (7,865 feet elevation) in rocky alpine habitat dominated by fescue, I noted a large squirrel which, on first glance, I took to be Columbian ground squirrel (Spermophilus columbianus), the expected species here. It appeared too large and bulky for this species, so I took a closer look and determined it was a yellow-bellied marmot (Marmota flaviventris), unknown at this altitude and habitat in Washington.

As usual, Ellen and I canvassed the alpine separately, but within earshot, while combing the bouldery slopes for ptarmigan. While I was slowly ascending below the summit boulder field, she was above. By and by I heard her holler, so ambled off in her direction. “I just spotted four ptarmigan, off that direction about 50 feet.” I peered in that direction and saw nothing. It turned out I was looking too close in the rocky terrain; the ptarmigan were more like 100 feet. They were mostly white! As the minutes passed, our count increased, as the grouse popped up from the boulder field. Our final tally, 14 birds! Given all the raptor activity, we were both surprised these birds were so casually wandering about the snow-free slopes in the open. In the prior hour, we’d seen at least six potential predators fly over or near the ptarmigan: a number of Cooper’s hawks, one northern goshawk, and two golden eagles. Yet these grouse, as conspicuous as a blazing beacon, were ambling about in the open as if invisible. Hadn’t anybody suggested to these “chickens” this was risky behavior?

On our way out, we lunched in the warm September sunshine at Sunny Pass. This was yet another good vantage to watch migrating raptors and other birds. In addition to northern harrier, sharp-shinned hawk, American kestrel, and several more golden eagles, we noted a distant flock of goose-like birds heading southeast in V-formation. Though far away, several times we heard them utter a garrulous “garr-rooo...garr-rooo” call, sandhill cranes. We also had time to admire the sublime scene here: mile after mile of gorgeous subalpine meadows and forest in the broad valleys, with alpine habitats unequaled in their extent anywhere in Washington. An exaggeration you say? Well, go see for yourself! And, at this time of year, you seem to have the whole half-million acres of the Puyallup Wilderness Area to yourself.

From Sunny Pass down to Irongate trailhead, the trail passes good spruce grouse habitat, so we kept alert for one, but didn’t note any. While driving out, we spotted one by the roadside at Daisy Creek, our final “good” bird for the trip.

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The following bird-related classes are being offered by the East Lake Washington Audubon Society:

December 9 (Thursday) 9:00 a.m.

Des Moines Marina/Saltwater State Park/Redondo

Ducks and other waterfowl, seabirds, and gulls will be the focus of this trip as we scope the water at the marina as well as at the state park. We’ll look for songbirds, too. Washington State Park decal or $5.00 parking fee required. Return early afternoon. Meet before 9:00 a.m. at Newport Hills Park N Ride, I-405, Exit 9. Passenger cost/person $3.00. Joyce Meyer 425-881-5422

December 11 (Saturday) 8:00 a.m. to noon

Green Lake

Walk Green Lake with expert birder, Martin Muller, who has acquired intimate knowledge of this lake and the over 150 bird species found there. Meet by 7:25 a.m. at South Kirkland P&R near the bus stop (on 108th Ave. NE just north of hw 520 and Northup Way) to carpool, or meet at Green Lake. We will park at the west end of Green Lake near the Bathhouse Theater and meet Martin on the lake side of the theatre, between the brick building and the water. No sign-up, just show up. Group size is a maximum of 15.

Passenger cost/person $2.00. Hugh Jennings 425-746-6351
WASHINGTON CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS 2004/2005

More than 50,000 observers participate each year in these all-day censuses of early-winter bird populations. The results of their efforts are compiled into the longest running database in ornithology, representing over a century of unbroken data on trends of early-winter bird populations across the Americas. Simply put, the Christmas Bird Count, or "CBC", is citizen science in action.

Christmas Bird Counts are done in established counting circles. These are 15-mile diameter circles (one covers most of Seattle, and there are over 50 that are at least partially in Washington state). Counting is done only within a circle.

Typically what you do is contact the count coordinator ahead of time for instructions. On the day of that circle's count, groups of birders will meet at various locations, and from those locations, smaller groups will go out to count a particular small area. (There are 47 square miles in one of those circles, so they are far too big for any one group to cover thoroughly). Because each sub-area is covered by a small group (3-4 people, typically) working together, you don't need to be a top-notch birder to help out. Eyes, ears, and pencils are needed. At the end of the day, each group sends its counts to be tabulated. There's usually a potluck where everyone can share stories about the day.

The following is a partial listing of those Washington CBCs for which information is currently available. A complete listing is available at http://www.wos.org/WACBCs.htm. The web site also lists additional information provided by coordinators.

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<td>Sunday, December 19</td>
<td>Joe Meche, <a href="mailto:Joemeche@aol.com">Joemeche@aol.com</a> or 360-738-0641</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRIDGEPORT</td>
<td>Saturday, December 18</td>
<td>Meredith Spencer, <a href="mailto:Merdave@vib.tv">Merdave@vib.tv</a> or 509-686-7551</td>
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<tr>
<td>COLUMBIA ESTUARY (includes Ft Canby, Ilwaco, Ft Columbia, and the Chinook Valley in Pacific County, WA)</td>
<td>Sunday, December 19</td>
<td>Mike Patterson, <a href="mailto:celata@pacifier.com">celata@pacifier.com</a> or 503-325-1365</td>
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<tr>
<td>COLVILLE</td>
<td>Saturday, December 18</td>
<td>Barbara Rasch, <a href="mailto:Barbara_Rasch@fws.gov">Barbara_Rasch@fws.gov</a> or 509-684-8384</td>
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<td>COWLITZ(WA)-COLUMBIA(OR)</td>
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<td>Len Steiner, <a href="mailto:MariLenSteiner@aol.com">MariLenSteiner@aol.com</a> or 425-827-2478</td>
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<tr>
<td>ELENSBURG</td>
<td>Saturday, December 18</td>
<td>Phil Mattocks, <a href="mailto:mattockp@cwu.edu">mattockp@cwu.edu</a> or 509-962-2191 or Steve Hall, 509-925-4877</td>
</tr>
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<td>GRAYS HARBOR</td>
<td>Sunday, December 26</td>
<td>Bob Morse, <a href="mailto:rwmorse@comcast.net">rwmorse@comcast.net</a> or 360-943-8600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOOD RIVER(OR)-BINGEN(WA)</td>
<td>Friday, December 31</td>
<td>Catherine Flick, <a href="mailto:stewart@gorge.net">stewart@gorge.net</a> or 509-493-1195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KENT-AUBURN</td>
<td>Sunday, January 2</td>
<td>Thais Bock, <a href="mailto:tbock29@concentric.net">tbock29@concentric.net</a> or 253-839-2044</td>
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<tr>
<td>KITSAP AUDUBON, Silverdale</td>
<td>Saturday, December 18</td>
<td>Gene Bullock, <a href="mailto:bullockg@earthlink.net">bullockg@earthlink.net</a> or 360-394-5635</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KLICKITAT VALLEY / COLUMBIA HILLS (WA/OR)</td>
<td>Saturday, January 1</td>
<td>Stuart Johnston, <a href="mailto:johnstonstuartf@hotmail.com">johnstonstuartf@hotmail.com</a> or 509-493-3363 (6 - 10 p.m.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LADNER, B.C. (includes all of Point Roberts)</td>
<td>Monday, December 27</td>
<td>Jude Grass, <a href="mailto:jgrass1@telus.net">jgrass1@telus.net</a> or 604-219-2043</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEADBETTER POINT</td>
<td>Saturday, December 18</td>
<td>Alan Richards, <a href="mailto:mrm@willapabay.org">mrm@willapabay.org</a> or 360-484-7119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEWISTON(ID)/CLARKSTON(WA)</td>
<td>Sunday, January 2</td>
<td>Charles Swift, <a href="mailto:charless@moscow.com">charless@moscow.com</a> or 208-883-0553</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LYLE WA/OR</td>
<td>Sunday, December 19</td>
<td>Bob Hansen, <a href="mailto:bobhansen@gorge.net">bobhansen@gorge.net</a> or 509-365-2404</td>
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<tr>
<td>LOCATION</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| MOSCOW (ID)/PULLMAN(WA) | Saturday, December 18 | WA - Tom Weber, tweber@wsu.edu or (509) 334-3817  
ID - Dave Holick, daveholick@moscow.com or 208-882-5556 |
| MOSES LAKE | Saturday, December 18 | Doug Schonewald, dschone8@donobi.net or (509) 766-0056 |
| NORTH CASCADES (Newhalem) | Saturday, December 18 | Bob Kuntz, robert_kuntz@nps.gov or 360-856-5700x368 (work) |
| OLYMPIA | Sunday, December 19 | George Walter, gwalter@nwifc.org or 360-459-8220 |
| PADILLA BAY | Sunday, January 2 | Steve Aslanian, aslanian@whidbey.net or 360-435-9493 |
| PORTLAND, OR | Sunday, January 2 | www.audubonportland.org |
| PORT ANGELES - VICTORIA FERRY | Sunday, December 19 | Scott Atkinson, scottratkinson@hotmail.com or 206-406-2306 (cell) |
| SAN JUAN FERRY (Anacortes to Sidney B.C.) | Friday, December 17 | R.B Porter, rbdemo2@worldnet.att.net or 360-332-6799 |
| SAN JUAN ISLANDS | Sunday, December 19 | San Juan: Barb Jensen, skylark@rockisland.com or 360-378-3068 |
| SATSOP | Monday, December 27 | Tom Schooley, 360-357-9170 |
| SAUVIE ISLAND, OREGON (includes the Ridgefield NWR and Vancouver Lake areas) | Sunday, December 19 | Wilson Cady, gorgebirds@juno.com or 360-835-5947 (Washington contact) |
| SEATTLE | Sunday, December 26 | Seattle Audubon Society, cbc2004@seattleaudubon.org or 206-523-4483 |
| SEQUIM-DUNGENESS | Monday, December 20 | |
| SPOKANE | Sunday, December 19 | Alan McCoy, alanhmccoy@earthlink.net or 509-448-3123 or 509-448-8861 |
| TACOMA | Saturday, December 18 | Faye McAdams, zest4parus@hotmail.com or 253-942-9233 |
| TOPPENISH NWR | Sunday, December 19 | Andy Stepniewski, steppie@nwinfo.net or 509-877-6639 |
| TRI-CITIES | Saturday, January 1 | |
| TROUT LAKE | Saturday, December 18 | Stuart Johnston, johnstonstuartf@hotmail.com or 509-493-3363 (6 - 10 p.m.) |
| TWO RIVERS | Sunday, January 2 | Mike Denny, m.denny@charter.net, or 509-529-0080 |
| VASHON ISLAND | Sunday, January 2 | Sue Trevathan, sue.trevathan@centurytel.net or 206-463-1484 |
| WAHKIAKUM WA/OR | Tuesday, December 28 | Andrew Emlen, aceasp@pacifier.com or 360-795-8009 |
| WALLA WALLA | Saturday, December 18 | Mike Denny, m.denny@charter.net, or 509-529-0080 |
| WENATCHEE | Sunday, January 2 | Dan Stephens, dstephens@wvc.edu or 509-663-5323 (h) or 509-682-6752 (w) |
| WHIDBEY ISLAND (Oak Harbor) | Saturday, December 18 | |
| YAKIMA VALLEY | Saturday, December 18 | Denny Granstrand, dgranstrand@charter.net or 509-453-2500 |
THE BIRDS IN MY RUN-A-WAY DIARY

The year was 1968 b.c. (before computers) and the town was a small, unincorporated South King County community called Federal Way. The unfortunate name was bestowed early in the last century when the area was used as a way-stop for military men and horses traveling Military Road between Seattle’s Fort Lawton (now Discovery Park) and Pierce County’s Fort Lewis and Fort Steilacoom, both south of Tacoma.

At the time, as a fledgling birder with little experience, I was eager to learn as much as possible about birds in this undeveloped environment. Two saltwater state parks, numerous freshwater lakes, and an undisturbed woodland trail leading down to the small saltwater community of Redondo, were all within minutes of home. Under the tutelage of the late Zella Schultz - artist, teacher, authority on gulls, and good friend - the value of note taking in the field quickly became obvious. Some sort of record-keeping for birds in my large backyard planted with native trees and shrubs, eventually attracted serious attention also.

Not quite sure what format to use, I settled on a small five-year diary (now an overflowing, hard-to-contain, falling apart, thirty-year diary). By present-day standards this choice seems very elemental and unsophisticated, but in the late Sixties and early Seventies guidelines for beginners were difficult to find. We had the 1961 Peterson's Field Guide to Western Birds and the 1966 Birds of North America by Robbins, Brunn and Zim, illustrated by Arthur Singer. One other book, Birds of the Pacific States, written by Ralph Hoffman in the late 60s, covered Washington, Oregon, and California. Most importantly for Washington State birders was the 1971 publication of the first edition of A Guide to Bird Finding in Washington by Terry Wahl and Dennis Paulson which defined the region's habitats and climates, plus gave site descriptions and maps to many exciting and unknown places throughout the state. Ten years later Eugene Hunn's Birding in Seattle and King County became indispensable for local birders.

In the late Sixties an exciting new tool for birders was the introduction of bird tapes from Cornell University, narrated by Roger Tory Peterson, covering all bird species in the United States. With time and patience one could locate western birdsongs (except for the omission of the sage thrasher's beautiful song) throughout the tape. How amazing to actually listen to singing birds!

The first entry in my new diary, Fed. 9, 1972 related a few details about an immature Cooper's hawk chasing and finding a way out, but they seemed too busy exploring the grass to pay attention. Where they came from and how they all disappeared remains a puzzle.

The late afternoon of August 8, 1974, was sunny and warm and, sitting very still on the grass, was a small black-and-white bird. Quickly scooping it into my hands, I was unsure what it possibly could be. A few tufts of down on its head and an intact egg-tooth were equally puzzling. A marbled murrelet? But how could that be? And where had it come from? Even though the species was thought to nest in dense forest, a nest had as yet been undiscovered in the Lower 48. Unable to reach any knowledgeable birder by 'phone, I took it to a nearby bird clinic; it survived only a few days. Fortunately, a few snapshots were taken shortly after its arrival at the clinic, but where it came from, near or far, will always remain a mystery. Quite possibly, the young murrelet was aiming towards saltwater over and down the hill to Redondo before landing short of its goal in my backyard.

The long-standing mystery of exactly where this elusive bird nested was solved in August of the same year (1974) in northern California after a tree-cutter and logging crew found a nest in old-growth forest, thus bringing to an end the mystery of the marbled murrelet's nesting habitat. The specimen resides in the Burke Museum on the UW campus.

Now at the beginning of the 21st Century, observing and identifying birds has become mainstream, and the tempo of new bird books, binocs, scopes, digital cameras, etc. appearing regularly, is a far cry from earlier decades. It is truly wonderful to realize how many people of all ages have been "turned on" to birding. The numbers and enthusiasm continue to grow while, at the same time, we as birders recognize, and are ever more aware of, the vulnerability of birds and their habitats surrounding us.
ACCIPITERS: Winter site fidelity study. Cooper's hawks: Blue VID bands (Note right or left leg and engraved number and letter on VID band). Sharp-shinned hawks: either one or two color (only) bands on the same leg (Note right or left leg and top/bottom color if two bands). Other leg has standard aluminum band. Note date, time and location. Report to Jack Bettesworth, 2569 12th Ave W, Seattle, WA 98119, 206-285-5276, jgbett@comcast.net.

AMERICAN CROWS wanted: dead or alive. We still want your observations of color-banded crows. If possible, please record the color and location (top/bottom left leg, top/bottom right leg) of bands. Recently banded crows now have TWO colors AND a metal band on one leg, and two colors on the other. In addition, as part of our West Nile virus monitoring efforts in the Puget Sound area, we would like to know about any dead crows you observe. If they appear freshly dead, your county health agency may also want to test them for the virus. Report to: John Withey, jwithey@u.washington.edu, phone: 206-543-2764.

COOPER’S HAWKS: Color bands have been placed on over 850 nestling 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 two 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. To date, five different birds have been reported from Washington. 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: merlinology@hotmail.com.

NORTHERN HARRIERS: Patagial markers have been placed on northern harriers as part of a long-term study of populations on Whidbey Island and in the Kent Valley. 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 date, time, and exact location. Report to Jack Bettesworth, 2569 12th Ave W, Seattle WA 98119, (206) 285-5276, jgbett@comcast.net.

SONGBIRD SURVEY: We have colormarked ~500 crows as well as many other songbirds in the area and would appreciate any sightings of these. Be on the lookout for banded robins, Wilson's warblers, Swainson's thrushes, song sparrows, spotted towhees, Oregon juncos, winter and Bewick's wrens, and Pacific-slope flycatchers. If possible please record the color and location (top/bottom left leg, top/bottom right leg) of bands. Please report any sightings to Dr. John Marzluff, corvid@u.washington.edu.

STREAKED HORNED LARK RESEARCH: We colormarked ~80 streaked horned larks in Washington and would appreciate any sightings of these birds (coast, Puget trough, Columbia River islands, Willamette Valley, etc.). Please record the color combination (e.g., red over USFWS on right and white over red on left - right and left are the bird's right and left), location and date observed and send to Dr. Scott F. Pearson, scott.pearson@wadnr.gov.

TURKEY VULTURES: Turkey vultures often migrate in large flocks in the fall. The Olympic Vulture Study from Salt Creek County Park has recorded as many as 3,000 birds over a 3-week period. Observations of fall migrating turkey vultures from British Columbia, Washington, Oregon, and Idaho are needed for this long-term study of the Northwest's only vulture. Date, location, and number of birds is needed. If possible, report weather, time, and any aspect of behavior to: Diann MacRae, 22622 – 53rd Avenue S.E., Bothell WA 98021, or to: tvulture@vei.net.

SASKATCHEWAN VULTURES: Information needed on turkey vulture sightings - Green hercule patagial tags were applied to the right wing of fourteen nesting Turkey Vultures in 2003, and to 30 birds in 2004 in central Saskatchewan in August. White numbers are readily visible with binoculars. Sightings of tag numbers can be reported to the banding office, and sightings of a tag, too high to read the number, can be reported to Stu Houston: houstons@duke.usask.ca, Phone 306-244-0742.

Send bird sightings to:

Tom Aversa
305 NW 75th St
Seattle WA 98103
FieldNotes@wos.org

Washington Review Species – Reports of review species (see Washington Birds 5:1-6 or the WOS Field Card) may be sent to the “Washington Field Notes” compiler or directly to the Washington Bird Records Committee, c/o Phil Mattocks, 5421 Hanson Rd., Ellensburg WA 98926.

Please submit detailed descriptions and drawings or photographs, if possible, of unusual birds.

BAND RECOVERIES (“Avise” leg bands) should be reported. Include the band number, along with how, when, and where the band was recovered, preferably with reference to the nearest town. Persons who report bands receive a Certificate of Appreciation telling when, where, and by whom the bird was banded, so be sure to include your full name and address with all reports.

Report to:

Bird Banding Laboratory
12100 Beech Forest Road, Suite 4037
Laurel MD 20708
Phone: (800) 327-BAND
E-mail bandreports@patuxent.usgs.gov
http://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/bbl
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<tr>
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<td>WOSNews – Newsletter – Most issues available</td>
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- Horseshoe Basin, Pasayten Wilderness
- WA Christmas Bird Counts
- The Birds in my Run-a-way Diary

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