Field Notes: August 2013

- Willet
- Long-billed Curlew
- Dusky Flycatcher
- Whimbrel
- Red Knot
- Clay-colored Sparrow

The weather seemed about normal this year, but the dry winter is catching up with us! Most of the ponds in the southeast corner of Fern Ridge Reservoir are dry as of the end of August, because the reservoir is so low ODFW can’t pump any water into them. The only shorebird habitat in the area for the rest of fall migration will be around the edge of the reservoir instead of the excellent habitat we’re used to in the ponds.

Abbreviations: Fern Ridge Reservoir (FRR), North Jetty of the Siuslaw River (NJSR).

WATERBIRDS

Surf Scoter (1500) Aug 26 Tokatee Klootchman HR, AC A high count for this time of year
Bufflehead July 31 FRR-Royal Ave LF Rarely found in the valley in the summer
Red-necked Grebe (5) Aug 26 Bob Creek HR, AC An early date for this species
Brown Booby (possible) Aug 16 NJSR JS Seen flying north just off the end of the jetty, but not a good enough look for positive ID!
American White Pelican (70) Aug 20 FRR-Royal Ave JS The largest number reported during the month

RAPTORS to ALCIDS

White-tailed Kite (3) Aug 2 FRR-Royal Ave JS An early date – did they breed locally?
Black-bellied Plover Aug 3 FRR-Royal Ave BG Up to 10 birds were seen
Pacific Golden-Plover Aug 1 FRR-Royal Ave JS Up to three birds were seen
American Avocet (2) Aug 5 FRR-Royal Ave DJ Still being seen after breeding
Solitary Sandpiper Aug 4 FRR-Royal Ave RR, DA Becoming more common during the fall
Solitary Sandpiper Aug 12 FRR-Royal Ave TM migration than in years past
Willet (2) Aug 13 NJSR BG Rarely found in Lane Co
Whimbrel Aug 30 FRR-Royal Ave JS, BMc Rarely found inland in Lane Co
Long-billed Curlew Aug 20 FRR-Royal Ave JS Rarely found in Lane Co
Long-billed Curlew Aug 29 Heceta Beach RR Rarely found in Lane Co
Marbled Godwit (6) Aug 24 NJSR DF Uncommon along the Lane Co coast
Red Knot Aug 24 Siltcoos River mouth DF Rarely found in Lane Co
Red Knot (3) Aug 29 Heceta Beach RR Rarely found in Lane Co
Semipalmated Sandpiper August FRR-Royal Ave m.ob. Higher than normal numbers were seen
Pectoral Sandpiper Aug 12 FRR-Royal Ave TM Another earlier than normal report
Stilt Sandpiper (possible) Aug 26 FRR-Royal Ave LF The bird flushed before getting a good look
Buff-breasted Sandpiper Aug 27 Heceta Beach HF Not an annual migrant, but a normal time
Short-billed Dowitcher Aug 11 FRR-Royal Ave JS First inland report for the season
Red-necked Phalarope (4) Aug 9 FRR-Royal Ave JS First inland report for the season
Caspian Tern (28) Aug 25 FRR-Royal Ave JS The largest number reported for the month
Elegant Tern (13) Aug 15 NJSR DP A species that moves north after breeding some years
Black Tern Aug 5 FRR-Royal Ave DJ Last report for the breeding season
Common Tern (13) Aug 29 FRR-dam JS Not uncommon in the late summer
Common Murre (80) Aug 13 NJSR BC Good numbers for the river mouth

SWIFTS to FINCHES

Black Swift Aug 13 Schindler Landing Park BC First breeding season report from the Lane Co Coast Range
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bird</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Observer(s)</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vaux's Swift (40–50)</td>
<td>Aug 13</td>
<td>River Road area</td>
<td>TMe</td>
<td>Roosting in a chimney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dusky Flycatcher</td>
<td>Aug 28</td>
<td>Stewart Pond/Wallis St</td>
<td>BC</td>
<td>A rare nonspring report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank Swallow</td>
<td>Aug 11</td>
<td>FRR–Royal Ave</td>
<td>JS</td>
<td>Found in small numbers this time of year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wrentit</td>
<td>Aug 8</td>
<td>W Eugene</td>
<td>MP</td>
<td>They haven't been found in this area before</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wrentit (2)</td>
<td>Aug 23</td>
<td>Leaburg area</td>
<td>BC</td>
<td>This is a good time for young to be moving around looking for a territory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clay-colored Sparrow</td>
<td>Aug 17</td>
<td>FRR–Royal Ave</td>
<td>LF, BMc, JS</td>
<td>An unusual late summer/early fall report—about a dozen records for the county</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brewer's Sparrow</td>
<td>Aug 2</td>
<td>FRR–Royal Ave</td>
<td>JS</td>
<td>Not uncommon postbreeding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brewer's Sparrow (4)</td>
<td>Aug 30</td>
<td>FRR–Royal Ave</td>
<td>JS, BMc</td>
<td>Not uncommon postbreeding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indigo X Lazuli Bunting</td>
<td>Aug 14</td>
<td>Alton Baker Park</td>
<td>VT</td>
<td>A male that's been on territory the last two years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch</td>
<td>Aug 18</td>
<td>South Sister</td>
<td>TMe</td>
<td>A normal place for this species</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AC Alan Contreras, BC Barbara Combs, BG Brandon Green, BMc Barry McKenzie, DA Dennis Arendt, DF Daniel Farrar, DJ Dave Jones, DP Diane Pettey, HF Harry Fuller, HR Holly Reinhard, JS John Sullivan, LF Luke Ferrenburg, m.ob. many observers, MP Magnus Persmark, RR Roger Robb, TM Tom Mickel, TMe Thomas Meinzen, VT Vjera Thompson