• Brown Pelicans late traveling south • Rare Clay-colored Sparrow • Merlins in Alton Baker • Heerman’s Gull on Dexter Lake

The weather was a real mixed bag in November and December. We started with warm, sunny, unusually dry weather before our typical winter rains set in, but then the rains gave way to a very cold snowy spell. The biggest news of the period was the late lingering Brown Pelicans along the coast. Pelicans typically head south before November, but good numbers were observed migrating into December this year.

### WATERBIRDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ross’s Goose</td>
<td>Dec. 19</td>
<td>Canary Rd. area</td>
<td>A rare sighting near the coast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tundra Swan (32)</td>
<td>Dec. 15</td>
<td>Deflation Plain JS</td>
<td>A normal wintering location, but numbers have been quite low the last few years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mandarin Duck (male)</td>
<td>Dec. 7</td>
<td>Delta Ponds area JH</td>
<td>Most likely an escaped bird from “captivity”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eurasian Wigeon</td>
<td>Dec. 2</td>
<td>Alton Baker Park RR</td>
<td>There have been very few reports this winter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-tailed Duck</td>
<td>Dec. 15</td>
<td>South Jetty, Siuslaw R.</td>
<td>JS A normal winter location</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Goldeneye</td>
<td>Dec. 28</td>
<td>Delta Ponds DD</td>
<td>Rarely found at this location</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barrow’s Goldeneye (3)</td>
<td>Dec. 29</td>
<td>Lane Memorial pond PP</td>
<td>Not a normal location for this species</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eared Grebe</td>
<td>Nov. 10</td>
<td>Siuslaw River mouth AC</td>
<td>They normally winter in small numbers here.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown Pelican (220)</td>
<td>Nov. 15</td>
<td>Heceta Head AC</td>
<td>Large number for this late in the year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown Pelican (100)</td>
<td>Nov. 30</td>
<td>Heceta Head AC, RH</td>
<td>Late in the year to sight this bird at all JS An even later date to find any, much less 90!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown Pelican (90)</td>
<td>Dec. 15</td>
<td>South Jetty, Siuslaw R.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Heron</td>
<td>Dec. 2</td>
<td>Alton Baker Park RR</td>
<td>They winter in small numbers most years.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### VULTURES & RAPTORS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Turkey Vulture</td>
<td>Nov. 7</td>
<td>Highway 126 &amp; “Q” St.</td>
<td>TE Late in the year for sightings except in the W. Eugene area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey Vulture</td>
<td>Dec. 17</td>
<td>north Santa Clara MRu</td>
<td>Either wintering numbers are increasing or they’re foraging over a larger area than in past years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Osprey</td>
<td>Nov. 22</td>
<td>Junction City pond DF</td>
<td>Not normally found away from a major river this time of year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Osprey</td>
<td>Dec.</td>
<td>Willamette River m. ob.</td>
<td>Numerous reports of a single bird around Delta Ponds and I-5 along the river</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bald Eagle (pair)</td>
<td>Nov. 24</td>
<td>Alton Baker Park AM</td>
<td>The “Skinner Butte Pair” getting ready for another breeding season?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Rough-legged Hawk
Nov. 3  
Eugene airport area  
DF  
First report for the winter season

### Merlin (3)
Dec. 10  
Alton Baker Park  
LM et al.  
High number for a small area

### Prairie Falcon
Nov. 3  
Eugene Airport area  
DI  
A species that winters in small numbers

### Prairie Falcon
Dec. 30  
Cantrell Rd.  
HR  
A normal location for this species

### SHOREBIRDS & GULLS

#### Wilson's Snipe
Dec. 16  
Skinner Butte  
EC  
Not a normal location for this species, especially in the snow

#### Red Phalarope (6)
Nov. 10  
Klootchman  
AC  
Normal time for their southward migration

#### Heermann's Gull
Nov. 4  
Dexter Reservoir  
RS  
Quite unusual inland

#### California Gull (5000 adults)
Nov. 15  
Siuslaw Estuary  
AC  
An unusually high number

#### Herring Gull (100)
Dec. 15  
South Jetty, Siuslaw R.  
JS  
A large number

#### Thayer's Gull (50)
Dec. 15  
South Jetty, Siuslaw R.  
JS  
A large number

#### Glaucony Gull
Dec. 28  
Florence CBC  
fide RR  
One bird normally found in the area

#### Pigeon Gillemot
Nov. 10  
Siuslaw River mouth  
AC  
A late date for sightings close to shore

### PASSERINES

#### Say's Phoebe
Nov. 4  
Crow Rd.  
DI  
A late report for this late fall migrant

#### Northern Shrike
Nov. 5  
Eugene Airport area  
LM et al.  
The first winter report from the valley

#### Black-throated Gray Warbler
Dec. 28  
Florence CBC  
fide RR  
Very rarely found in winter

#### Summer Tanager
Nov. 12  
Heceta Beach  
DP  
A possible female was briefly seen, but not found on subsequent attempt.

#### American Tree Sparrow
Dec. 15  
South Jetty, Siuslaw R.  
JS  
A rare winter visitor from the north

#### Chipping Sparrow
Nov. 1  
SW Eugene  
DI  
The same bird?

#### Chipping Sparrow
Dec. 2  
SW Eugene  
SG  
Late for this breeding species

#### Clay-colored Sparrow
Dec. 28  
Florence CBC  
fide RR  
Only about ten previous sightings in Lane Co.

#### Fox Sparrow (Red subspecies)
Nov. 9  
SE Eugene  
A&TM  
The subspecies from eastern N. America not commonly found in Oregon

#### Swamp Sparrow (2)
Dec. 8  
FRR–Perkins Peninsula  
A&DH  
A normal location for this wintering species

### Abbreviations:
- **Deflation Plain**: South Jetty of the Siuslaw River deflation plain; **FRR**: Fern Ridge Reservoir; **Klootchman**: Klootchman State Wayside

### Thank you, contributors!
- **EC**: Ellen Cantor, **AC**: Alan Contreras, **TE**: Tom Escue, **DD**: Don DeWitt, **VD**: Vern DiPietro, **DF**: Daniel Farrar,
- **SG**: Steve Gordon, **A&DH**: Anne & Dan Heyerly, **RH**: Rich Hoyer, **JH**: Judy Hubbard, **DI**: Dave Irons,
LM Larry McQueen, A&TM Allison & Tom Mickel, PP Peter Patricelli, DP Diane Pettney, HR Holly Reinhard, RR Roger Robb, MRu Mark Rudolph, RS Randy Sinnott, JS John Sullivan