

1981

Autumn Migration, 1980

NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN - INTERMOUNTAIN REGION /Thomas H. Rogers

The fall season in the Region, insofar as one can generalize over this vast area, was mild, sunny and dry, although many subregions deviated markedly from this pattern. Lack of any major storms allowed the late lingering of many summer residents. Some northern birds seemed in no hurry to move down yet others arrived early and/or in unusual numbers. As the result of a cool, moist growing season, food supplies appeared good and water levels quite high. Many unusual sightings occurred, probably at least partly owing to more people spending more time afield.



LOONS AND GREBES -- Three Arctic Loons were on L. Lenore, Grant Co., Wash, Nov. 8-9 (JA & BW) and a Red-throated Loon was observed at length on Alice L., 8 mi s.w. of Obsidian in Sawtooth N.R.A., Ida., Aug. 12 (DJ *et al.*). Ten Red-necked Grebes, including immatures, were on Spectacle L., near Loomis, Wash., Aug. 19 (EH) and one was on Conconully Res., Conconully, Wash., Sept. 7 (GB & DH). At Kootenai N.W.R., Bonners Ferry, Ida., the species tarried until Sept. 20, a late date there (LN). A Horned Grebe, seldom seen in s.w. Idaho, appeared Oct. 18 at Boise (MC). The largest gathering of W. Grebes was of 47 on Winchester Wasteway w. of Moses L., Wash, Oct. 11 (RF).

PELICANS THROUGH IBISES -- The highest count for the year for White Pelicans at N. Potholes-Potholes Res., s.w. of Moses L., was 150 Aug. 22 (RF). Hadley Roberts had his second sighting ever of the species at Salmon, Ida. Oct. 31-Nov. 3. About 100 dropped into Umatilla N.W.R., Umatilla Co., Ore., in late September and stayed through mid-October (CC *et al.*). Nesting pairs of Double-crested Cormorants at Malheur N.W.R., Burns, Ore., numbered 180 vs 80 in 1979. Cattle Egrets continued to spread into the Region. One was sighted near Paterson, Wash., Oct. 28 (FM) and one was in W Richland, Wash., Nov. 13-Dec. 4 (RW *et al.*). At Wapato, Wash., two stayed for several weeks in November (W.D.G., Y.A.S.). Nampa, Ida. had five, the largest group so far for that area, Nov. 10-15 (A & HL, NS). One was near Helena, Mont., Sept. 20-22 for that area's first (AH & PDS) and one at Townsend, Mont., Oct. 4 was the second there (PN *et al.*). Malheur N.W.R., had two Aug. 14. In British Columbia four were at Nakusp on Upper Arrow L., s. of Revelstoke Nov 9 (GD), two appeared at Genelle near Trail Nov. 10 (ME), one at Golden Nov. 9 (FK) and one at Oliver in mid-November (SC). Great Egret sightings were becoming more common in s.w. Idaho. One was at Ft. Boise Aug. 9 (AL) and Deer Flat N.W.R., Nampa, hosted five Aug. 27 with one until Nov 30 (EB). That refuge also had a Snowy Egret Aug. 17 (EB) and three were at C.J. Strike Res., near Bruneau, Ida. Sept. 13

Volume 35, Number 2 205

(AL, G.E.A.S.). One was at McNary N.W.R., Burbank, Wash., Sept. 13 for Woodley's second local record and another was along the Columbia R., a few mi below the Vernita Bridge Oct. 7 (AM). One at Red Rock Lakes N.W.R., Lima, Mont., in late August was a rarity there (RS). White-faced Ibis did extremely well at Malheur with 600 nesting pairs, up from 150 in 1979. An Am. Bittern at Wallowa L., Wallowa Co., Ore., provided only the second county record in the last 5 years (FC).

WATERFOWL -- Whistling Swan numbers at Malheur peaked at 5000 in late November. Trumpeter Swans there had an average nesting year with 15 young produced. Trumpeters' success at Red Rock Lakes N.W.R., was the lowest on record, with only six cygnets fledged, compared to 52 last year. Cold, wet weather, with many nests flooded, was blamed. The tri-state aerial survey in that area Sept. 2-5 found 462 adults and 23 cygnets compared to last year's 403 and 86. An orange-collared bird from Alberta remained on the refuge during the summer and a green-collared bird from Red Rock Lakes was reported paired with an unmarked swan on Albino L., in Gallatin N.F., n.w. of Yellowstone N.P. (RS). Three Trumpeters stopped at sewage ponds at St. Joseph Ore., Nov. 1 (FC). Canada Geese numbers peaked at 9110 in October at Columbia

N.W.R., Othello, Wash., and at 9350 at Deer Flat N.W.R., Nov. 30. White-fronted Goose numbers at Malheur reached 3000 in late September. Several Tule White-fronted Geese, some with blue collars, from the recently-discovered Alaska colony, appeared at Turnbull N.W.R., Cheney, Wash. (JR). Three White-fronteds were at Tranquille, B.C., Sept. 21 (RH) and Deer Flat had up to eight (EB). Snow Goose numbers were down at Malheur, the highest number was 850 Nov. 6. Mallard numbers at Deer Flat were slightly lower than last year, with 205,000 at November's end, probably owing to warm weather in Alberta. Lake Helena, Mont., had 10,000 ducks, mostly Mallards, in late November (SM). On the n. Idaho aerial count Nov. 15 Mallards peaked at >10,000 on the Coeur d' Alene, Pend Oreille and St. Joe Rivers (I.F.G.). Total duck numbers at Columbia N.W.R., reached >72,000 in November. At Minidoka N.W.R., Rupert, Ida., ducks totaled 81,000, close to normal, but Pintails were down, with only 11,000 (JHi). Duck production at Turnbull was down about 33%, probably due to the ashfall from Mt. St. Helens (JR). Three Eur. Wigeon were on Carty Res., at the Boardman, Ore., power plant the only ones reported (RK). A Ring-necked Duck at Bruneau Sand Dunes S.P., Bruneau, Ida., Nov. 1 was the first for s.w. Idaho (A & HL). Canvasbacks at Minidoka showed a good 4200 and 200 at Bruneau S. and Dunes S.P. made good news (CH). A Greater Scaup was on the Chewelah, Wash., sewage ponds for the first positive record there (EH & JN). McNary N.W.R. had an ad. male White-winged Scoter Oct. 11 (WS & GV) and one was at Kootenai N.W.R., Oct. 29 (LN). Two of this species at Minidoka Oct. 16 were noteworthy (WHS). Up to 12 were on L. Lenore, Grant Co., Wash., Nov. 6-9 along with 1-6 Surf Scoters (JA, RF, BW) and one of the latter was on the Methow R., n. of Pateros, Wash. (GB). A female Harlequin Duck and six young were on Sullivan Cr., e. Metaline Falls, Wash., Aug. 3 (BW), and one stopped at a pond near Ellensburg, Wash., Nov. 28 (Y.A.S.). In s. Idaho three Hooded Mergansers were on L. Walcott on the Snake R., Nov. 22 (CT) and five were on the Weiser R., Nov. 22 (CT) and five were on the Weiser R., near Weiser Nov. 15 (CHO *et al.*). Saddle Mountain N.W.R., w. of Othello, Wash., hosted 2000 Com. Mergansers, Oct. 26 (EH).

VULTURES AND HAWKS -- A Turkey Vulture flew over downtown Kamloops, B.C., on the late date of Oct. 28 (AF) and a concentration of at least 15 was between Valley and Springdale, Wash., in mid-August (JN). A minutely described **Broad-winged Hawk** was observed n.e. of Sullivan L., in Pend Oreille Co., Wash., Aug. 31 (JA & RWi) for apparently the first state record. The Bridget Mt. hawk watch 10 mi n.e. of Bozeman, Mont., counted two of these birds Sept. 17 (FT) and three Sept. 26 (FT, DS, PDS). Most of the Ferruginous Hawk sightings were at Henry's L., n.e.

Fremont Co., Ida. with 56, mostly immatures there Sept. 1. They apparently gathered there rather than at Kilgore, another staging area to the w., where only five were found (CT). A very few of the birds appeared in c. Washington and e. Oregon and two were seen over Boulder, Mont., Nov. 10 & 12 (G & NN). By mid-November up to 17 Bald Eagles were feeding on whitefish along the Kootenai and Fisher Rivers in Lincoln Co., Mont., and by late November 200-300 had migrated through the area (CW). Bald Eagle numbers on lower McDonald Cr., Glacier N.P., Mont., reached a peak of 377 Nov. 5 (JD). The Bridget Mt. hawk watch Sept. 16-Nov. 4 recorded a total of 563 raptors of 14 species. Golden Eagle came up with the top number of 211 and Sharp-shinned Hawk was second with 152. The biggest day, Sept. 17, had 45 Sharp-shinneds and 17 Cooper's hawks and the runner up was Sept. 26 with 30 Golden Eagles and 25 Sharp-shinneds (FT, DS, PDS, JS). The Region produced only one Gyrfalcon and three Peregrine reports.

GROUSE THROUGH TURKEYS -- Blue, Spruce and Ruffed grouse evidently had a poor hatch in Kootenai N.F., and the last species showed poor success at Kootenai N.W.R., and in n. Pend Oreille County, Wash. Cool, wet weather and possibly volcanic ash were involved. However, the Ketchum, Ida., area was reported as having an increase in Ruffed and Blue grouse (WHS). Blue Grouse showed high numbers in the mountains of n. Pend Oreille County (JN) but the hatch of this species in the Salmon, Ida. area was down (HR). Sage and Sharp-tailed grouse were considered quite plentiful in the Rupert, I. vicinity (WHS) but Sage Grouse numbers s. of Twin Falls, Ida., seemed to have decreased markedly (EBa). There were three reports of Turkeys 5 mi s. of Kimberly, B.C. (MW).

CRANES THROUGH COOT -- The earliest Sand Hill Crane movement noted was at Salmon, Ida. with 17 birds Aug. 7 (HR) but the migration was mostly in September and October. At Penticton, B.C., 1200± flew past in about 1.5 hrs Sept. 21 (JG). Their numbers reached 2157 at Malheur N.W.R., Oct. 19. Only M young were produced there this summer. At least two Sandhills summered in a swampy meadow w. of Rogerson, Ida. (EBa) and two were seen near Seneca, Ore., July 15 (RP).

S.A.

Of the 15 Whooping Cranes known to have migrated in from their New Mexico wintering grounds, eight were found summering in s. Idaho, three were in the Upper Grin R. drainage w. of Pinedale, Wyo., one was in the Bear R. Valley near Cokeville, Wyo., and one summered at Antero Res., Park Co., Colo. Five young reared by Sandhill Crane foster parents at Grays Lake N.W.R., Caribou Co., Ida., departed with their foster parents Oct. 1-9. Four had reached wintering grounds at or near Bosque del Apache N.W.R., N. Mex., by Nov. 30. Sub-adult Whoopers migrated almost a month later than the young of the year and 12 had reached the wintering area by Nov. 30 (RD).

Top "rarity" honors went to the **Common Gallinule**. One was picked up dead on the road near Castleford, Ida. Aug. 15 (NO & JRu) and another was sighted at a pond on Skookumchuck Prairie near Kimberley, B.C., Aug. 14 (MW). American Coot numbers on aerial surveys of the Coeur d' Alene, Pend Oreille and St. Joe Rivers in n. Idaho showed a big decline, with only 5000 recorded, the lowest in at least the last 6 years (I.F.G.).

206 *American Birds*, March 1981

SHOREBIRDS -- A Semipalmated Plover at Wasa Sloughs near Kimberley, B.C., apparently a new locality for the species, appeared Aug. 13 and stayed about a week (MW). One was seen near Cataldo Sept. 21 for the first fall record for n. Idaho since 1953 and one of very few for that part of the state (SGS). The only Washington report was of one at Reardan Aug. 31 (BJ). The only Am. Golden Plovers reported were three at Penticton, B.C., Sept. 23 (SC) and at least six at Cold Springs N.W.R., Umatilla Co., Ore., Sept. 21 (JE, MCo *et al.*). A few Black-bellied Plovers were seen moving down from the s. Okanagan at Penticton, through e. Washington to n.e. Oregon (Cold Springs). A notable concentration of at least 20 was at N. Potholes Res., Sept. 21-22 (GSB, SR). Trail, B.C., had a Ruddy Turnstone Sept. 1 (ME). An impressive flock of 200 Com. Snipe was at Rocky Pt., Upper Klamath L., Ore., Oct. 26 (SS). Up to 600 Long-billed Curlews were gathering for migration at the Boardman, Ore., power plant July 8; 200 were still there July 29 (RK). The last fall birds at Malheur were seen Aug. 25 but the Yakima R. delta near Richland, Wash., had one Sept. 14, about 6 weeks later than any previous date there (RW, Y.A.S.). Whimbrel, very rare in the Region, appeared at 2 localities. Five were at McKay Creek N.W.R., Umatilla, Co., Ore., Aug. 13 (SG) and one stopped at L. Helena Sept. 24 for the second record there (SM). The only Upland Sandpiper report was of one in Logan

Valley, Grant Co., Ore., Aug. 11, apparently a late date (SG). Willets were reported only at Malheur N.W.R., eight including four young Aug. 2 (RP). The N. Potholes had at least 20 Pectoral Sandpipers Sept. 21-22 (GSB & SR). A few other sightings were mostly in e. Washington. A few Baird's Sandpipers were noted moving through e. Washington and Oregon. The largest concentration was of 15 at the mouth of Ladd Cr., near La Grande, Ore., Aug. 11 (JE & GS). Malheur had ten Aug. 6 and the N. Potholes had six Sept. 21-22 (GSB & SR). Seven were at Wenas Res., n.w. of Yakima Aug. 27 (EH) and the Yakima delta had one Sept. 14 (Y.A.S.). Three sightings of Stilt Sandpipers were apparently the first ever for e. Oregon. One was at Cold springs N.W.R., Sept. 6 (CC, MCo, NB); one was photographed at Miller I., near Klamath Falls Sept. 13-18 (SS), and one was sighted at Summer Lake N.W.R., Lake County Sept. 28 (DI). One was at Harrison, Mont., Aug. 27 and 2-3 were at Belgrade, Mont., Sept. 10-24 (PDS & SC) for the only other records. A winter-plumaged Semipalmated Sandpiper at the mouth of Ladd Cr., La Grande Aug. 11 (JE & GS) and one at Cold Springs N.W.R., Aug. 26 (CC, MCo, NB) were supposedly the first for e. Oregon. A **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** at Knutsford, B.C., Sept. 14 was apparently the first ever for that area (RH). Single Marbled Godwits, rare in the Region, were sighted at Malheur Aug. 1 (RP), at Cold Springs Sept. 6 (CC, MCo, JE, RW), at McKay Creek N.W.R. Aug. 13 and in the Nampa area (G.E.A.S.). Impressive numbers of Sanderlings showed up, N. Potholes Res. recording 80 Sept. 21-22 (GSB & SR). The Yakima delta had a "large flock" Sept. 14 (Y.A.S.) and nine Sept. 20 (RW). Cold Springs counted eight birds Sept. 14-21 (CC, MCo, JE) and two at Wallowa L. furnished the county's first record (FC). Harrison L., Harrison, Mont., had six Sept. 24 (FT, PDS, JS). At least 2000 Am. Avocets were at Malheur N.W.R., Aug. 6. Thirty lingered at N. Potholes Res., until the late date of Sept. 22 (GSB & SR). Black-necked Stilts were reported only for Malheur (RP) and the Rupert, Ida. area (WHS). A **Red Phalarope** was identified at the mouth of the Walla Walla R., Wallula, Wash., Oct. 11 (WS & GV) and one was collected at the N. Potholes Sept. 21 or 22 (*W.S.U., GSB & SR).

JAEGERS THROUGH TERNS -- A **Parasitic Jaeger** at Wallowa L., Sept. 10 was the first for n.e. Oregon (CCa). Three were at Malheur Aug. 31 (JB) and one was sighted Oct. 8 there. A "huge, dark" imm. jaeger on the n. edge of Am. Falls Res., near Springfield, Ida., Sept. 20 was suspected of being Pomarine (CT *et al.*). It would be the state's third.



A Long-tailed Jaeger, Wilsall, Mont., Sept. 21, 1980. Photo/P.D. Skaar.

An ad. **Long-tailed Jaeger** photographed at Wilsall, Mont., Sept. 21 furnished the state's fifth record and the first for s.c. Montana (PDS, JS, ETH, SCo). A Glaucous-winged Gull, rare inland, was at Kamloops, B.C., Nov. 30 (RH). Herring Gulls were reported for the Nampa area, two Aug. 5 and eight Oct. 25 (G.E.A.S.). Libby Dam n.e. of Libby, Mont., had up to 17 Ring-billed Gulls during late summer-early fall (CW). Twenty-five were along lower McDonald Cr., below L. McDonald, Glacier N.P., until about Nov. 12 (JD). A Mew Gull was sighted at Kamloops Nov. 9 (RH) and an adult appeared at Klamath Falls Nov. 7-22 (SS). A Franklin's Gull was at the mouth of the Walla Walla R., Oct. 11 (WS & GV) and an imm. bird was sighted s. of Klamath Falls Sept. 29 (SS). Bonaparte's Gulls appeared briefly at Kootenai N.W.R., with five there Oct. 10 and 30 arriving in early November stayed 2 weeks (LN). A single bird was sighted at Rocky Reach Dam on the Columbia R., n. of Wenatchee Oct. 22 (PC) and one was seen 7 mi w. of Davenport, Wash., Nov. 6 (JH). Ennis, Mont., had ten Nov. 2 (PDS & DS). A Sabine's Gull was photographed at the Boardman power plant Sept. 12 (RK) and one was collected at the N. Potholes Sept. 21 or 22 (*W.S.U., GSB & SR). Summer Lake N.W.R., had one Sept. 28 (DI). A Com. Tern at Cold Springs N.W.R., Sept. 13 was the first for n.e. Oregon (CC, NB).

PIGEONS THROUGH HUMMINGBIRDS: -- The only Band-tailed Pigeon report was of one along the Link R., at Klamath Falls Oct. 24 (SS). Oregon had three sightings of Yellow-billed Cuckoos. One was at Adrian Aug. 3 (*fide* RP) and two that appeared Aug. 6 in La Grande remained through the month for the second county record (SCr, m.ob.). One 5 min. of Imnaha Aug. 31 was the first for Wallowa County (JE). Two observations of Flammulated Owls were made in Wallowa County (SG & MM) and one in Union County, Ore. (RR). One was photographed at the

Davenport, Wash. cemetery, an unlikely spot Sept. 21 (JA). Upper McDonald Cr., Glacier N.P., had an imm. Snowy Owl Nov. 18-21 (JD) and another was found dead on a road between Reardan and Davenport, Wash., Dec. 1 (JA) for the only reports. Kootenai N.W.R. had a rare observation of a Barred Owl Nov. 16 (LN). The first Great Gray Owl record for the Klamath Falls area was of one at Lake of the Woods Sept. 23 (SS). Sightings were also obtained near Henry's L., Ida. (CT), at Spanish Cr., s.w. of Bozeman (MEM), in the Blue Mts., n. of Enterprise, Ore. (MCo) and at Otter L., near Vernon, B.C. (KG). Single Saw-whet Owls showed up at Cheney, Ellensburg, Ephrata and Quincy, Wash., and at Bozeman. A few Poor-wills were sighted in e. Washington in a strip extending from Yakima n. to Pateros, and Oregon had one at Irrigon (LG). An estimated 1500-2000 Vaux's Swifts were again using the chimney at the old ice plant near Klickitat, Wash., Aug. 24 (Y.A.S.) and at least 270 Black Swifts were feeding low along Hwy 97 near Brewster, Wash., Aug. 30 (NM). White-throated Swifts were observed at Alkali L., Grant Co., Wash., on the astonishingly late date of Nov. 30 (RF). At least three Black-chinned Hummingbirds were sighted at Meadow Brook Pass s. of Dale, Ore., in mid-September (SG). Anna's Hummingbirds continued to move into the Region. One visited a feeder at Spokane Sept. 28 (JA), Yakima had one Nov. 3 (EC) and Leavenworth, Wash., had one Aug. 7 (LG). One **Anna's Hummingbird** photographed at a Boise feeder Nov. 6 was apparently Idaho's first (AL, MC, EY, BH).

WOODPECKERS THROUGH BUSHTITS -- Noteworthy were the appearances of a White-headed Woodpecker in Kootenai N.F., Mont. (CW) and of three at Daggett Cr., n.e. of Boise (A & HL). The northernmost record ever of a **Gray Flycatcher** was of three at Leader L., near Omak Aug. 20 (EH). Blue Jays kept pushing into the Region. Libby, Mont., had one and a second bird believed to be a Blue x Steller's appeared there at midsummer and remained through the fall (CW & WW). One Blue Jay was sighted at Golden, B.C., Nov. 2 (FK), at least two stayed all Fall at Turnbull N.W.R. (JR) and one turned up at Chewelah, Wash., Nov. 27 for the second county record (JN). The Helena area had a positive record of Chestnut-backed Chickadees. One visited a feeder in late November (and also last winter November-March) (AS). A new locality for Bushtits was Dierkes L., near Twin Falls, Ida., where 60 were found Nov. 14 (JRu).

Volume 35, Number 2 207

MIMIC THRUSHES THROUGH SHRIKES -- Late-nesting Sage Thrashers had three nestlings Aug. 1 at White L., near Penticton (SC). The bluebird nest box project at Spokane showed poor success for W.

Bluebirds, apparently largely because of the Mr. St. Helens ashfall. Of 336 eggs only 32% resulted in fledglings, compared to 1979's 292 eggs, 57% of which produced fledged young (DP). A Blue-gray Gnatcatcher was spotted Aug. 3 on Stukel Mt., just s.e. of Klamath Falls (SS). About ten Bohemian Waxwings were seen at Rainy Pass, a possible nesting locality, in the Cascade Mts., w. of Winthrop, Wash., Aug. 21 (BW). Bozeman had high numbers of these birds with up to 1000 in a flock by Nov. 9 but they put in sparse appearances or were absent elsewhere. A Loggerhead Shrike was sighted at Thompson L., in November and another was found on Little Wolf Mt., e. of Libby, both in Lincoln County, Mont. (CW).

WARBLERS THROUGH BLACKBIRDS -- Two **Black-and-white Warblers** appeared near the mouth of the Weiser R., Weiser, Ida. Nov. 22 for apparently the first state record (CHo *et al.*). One each ad. and imm. Tennessee Warblers in La Grande, Ore., Aug. 20-22 provided the second county record (JE & JSc) and an adult at Wallowa Lake S.P., near Enterprise, Ore., Aug. 31 was the first for the county (JE). Oregon had "tremendous" concentrations, often of 75-100 birds in a flock, of Yellow-rumped Warblers moving through Umatilla, Union and Wallowa cos., in September but a storm Oct. 12 drove them all out (JE). The Bitterroot Valley around Hamilton, Mont., had unusual numbers also, apparently held by an outbreak of skeletonizer moths (CP). An Ovenbird was heard singing Aug. 27 at the Hardy Canyon site in Yakima County where the July bird was found (EH). The only Com. Yellowthroats reported were one a mile e. of Creston, Wash., Sept. 18 (JH) and one at Silver Cr., near Carey, Ida. Oct. 16 (WHS). A mystery orphan from near Boise had many birders guessing. Its nest, supported on marsh grass stems, had been destroyed and the nestling was reported as being defended by a female Brewer's Blackbird. Hand-reared and regularly photographed, the bird eventually came to look much more like a W. Tanager or an oriole than a blackbird (RM, *vide* MC).

FINCHES AND SPARROWS -- Malheur N.W.R. was favored with a visit from a Rose-breasted Grosbeak Aug. 30 (Ref. Pets.). A "northern finch" winter seemed in the offing. From a few individuals to sizable flocks of Com. Redpolls had appeared in British Columbia's s. Okanagan Valley, e. Washington, s. Idaho and at Bozeman. Pine Siskins were surging in s.e. British Columbia and in coniferous forest in n.e. Washington and w. of Yakima. They lingered at Fortine, Mont., where they are rare in winter. The Kimberley area, n. Washington, n.w. Montana and the Salmon, Ida. area reported many Red Crossbills. White-winged Crossbills were reported in the mountains of n. Washington and n.w. Montana and around Kimberley to the n. They also visited the Blue Mts. n. of Enterprise, Ore., and in

the Wallowa Mts., between that city and Union. Prairie, in the s.w. corner of Idaho, apparently was a new area for the species. By contrast, the s. Okanagan of British Columbia found both crossbill species very scarce.



"Mystery" bird, near Boise, Ida., Autumn, 1980.
Photo/Ruth Melichas.

A well-described Gray-headed Junco at Boise Nov. 2 was the first for that area (MC). The only Harris' Sparrow to be recorded was at a Hermiston, Ore. feeder Nov. 11 (CC). Golden-crowned Sparrows were moving through the Yakima and Wenatchee areas, apparently in rather good numbers, Sept. 4-Nov. 4. Previous reports have indicated the species as scarce or at best uncommon along the e. base of the Cascades. Single White-throated Sparrows were noted at Tranquille, B.C., Sept. 21 (RRi), at Boise Nov. 3 (MC) and at Rupert Oct. 26 (WHS). A few Lapland Longspurs had appeared. Penticton had 30+ Sept. 16 (SC), Saddle Mountain N.W.R. hosted 12 Oct. 26 (EH) and Reardan and Davenport, Wash., provided single birds Sept. 20 and Oct. 31 respectively (JA). Snow Buntings were already appearing, as far s. as s. Idaho. An appearance of the species at Chewelah apparently made the first county record there (JN).

CORRIGENDA -- In AB 34:183 "Sharp-tailed numbers... w. of Rogerson..." should read "Sage Grouse...", and on p. 799 the Black-and-white Warbler in La Grande May 17, 1980 was *not* the first for n.e. Oregon. See AB 34:184.

OBSERVERS CITED -- James Acton, Ethlyn Barneby (EBa), Eugene Barney (EB), Nancy Bock, George Brady (GB), Gregory S. Butcher (GSB), John Bulger, Steve Cannings (SC), Chris Carey (CCa), Phil Cheney, Mark Collie (MC), Frank Conley, Craig Corder (CC), Marion Corder (MCo), Sharon Cotterell (Sco), Emily Cragg, Stuart Croghan (SCr), Gary Davidson, Joe Decker, Rod Drewien, Maurice Ellison (ME), Margaret Emerson (MEEm), Joe Evanich, Ron Friesz, Al Frisby,

Golden Eagle Audubon Society (G.E.A.S.), Larry Goodhew, Steven Gordon, James Grant, Kurt Gruener, Brad Hammond, Colleen Harden (CH), Eve T. Hays (ETH), Jerry Hickman (JH), John Hill (JHi), Del Holland, Curtis Holmen (CHo), Abe Horpestad, Rick Howie, Eugene Hunn (EH), Idaho Fish & Game Dept. (I.F.G.), David Irons, Bert Jahn, Dean Jones, Frances King, Ronald Klein, Al & Hilda Larson, Ann Mahnke, Mike Mahoney, N. Marr, Sid Martin, Mr. & Mrs. Fred Milliman (FM), Ruth Melichas, Larry Napier, Pat Nichols, Jack Nisbet, Gene & Norma Nixon, Norma Owens, Richard Palmer, Dave Plemons, Colleen Powell, James Rees (JR), Ralph Ritcey (RRi), Hadley Roberts, Ron Rohweder (RR), Sievert Rohwer, Jeff Ruprecht (JRu), Georgia Sanderson, Ann Scofield, John Scott (JSc), W.H. Shillington (WHS), Richard Sjostrom, Don Skaar, P.D. Skaar, Nettie Smoot, Jim Sparks (JS), Shirley G. Sturts (SGS), Steve Summers (SS), Wally Sumner (WS), Fred Tilly, Charles Trost, Glen Volyn, Washington Dept. of Game (W.D.G.), Winton Weydemeyer, Bart Whelton, Mildred White, Robert Wilson (RWi), Carl Wolf, Robert Woodley (RVO), Eric Yensen, Yakima Audubon Society (Y.A.S.).

Autumn Migration, 1980

NORTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION / Eugene S. Hunn and Philip W. Mattocks, Jr.



August through October was uniformly warmer and much drier than usual, based on the Medford, Portland, and Seattle weather stations. Then November rainfall was double the total precipitation during the previous three months. Most fell during scattered storms,

however, and the overall temperature remained above average. The usual vagrant concentration in late August-early September included Hudsonian Godwit, Say's Phoebe, Ash-throated Flycatcher, N. Parula, Brewer's Sparrow, and Smith's Longspur. Then in mid-October most of the vagrant warblers occurred, with Black-and-white, Blackpoll, and Cape May noted. Despite these birds, and eleven Ruffs, the season seemed quiet, generally matching the weather.

LOONS THROUGH HERONS -- The first Yellow-billed Loon reported this season was in the Westport, Wash., harbor Oct. 5 (TW *et al.*). The 318 Red-necked Grebes off s. Vancouver I., (hereafter, V.I.), Sept. 7 (MS, J & RS, *fide* VG) was a relatively high count. So too were the 30+ Eared Grebes on the Everett, Wash., sewage ponds Oct. 19-26 (MiM *et al.*), and the seven Eareds at Ocean Park, B.C., Oct. 26 (JWi, *fide* WVO). Flocks of 3000+ W. Grebes were found in early October at Iona I., near Vancouver, B.C. (WW), and off Crofton, V.I. (JC *et al.*). In Oregon the species was considered to be in lower numbers than in recent years (HN). As usual all individuals examined were of the dark phase. With one exception observed numbers of N. Fulmars remained low. Three were seen off Westport Aug. 17 & Oct. 5 (TW, DP *et al.*), and four were blown in by a storm to Netarts Bay, Oreg. Nov. 1 (TC, RP). One trip off Newport, Oreg., however, found 200± N. Fulmar Oct. 18 (TC *et al.*). Observed numbers of Pink-footed, Flesh-footed, and New Zealand shearwaters were very low, continuing the pattern of the previous two autumns. High counts of Pink-footeds were 64 off Westport Sept. 8 (TW *et al.*), 75± off Newport Sept. 27 (TC, SG *et al.*), and 85 off Westport Oct. 5. The high count of New Zealand was 24 off Westport Oct. 5 (TW, DP *et al.*). The only Flesh-footeds noted were singles Aug. 17 off Westport (TW *et al.*) and Sept. 20 off Brookings, Oreg. (†SS *et al.*). No Short-tailed Shearwaters were reported. The N influx of Brown Pelicans peaked at 200 in Tillamook Bay, Oreg., during September (DF *et al.*) and 250 at nearby Netarts Bay Nov. 1 (TC, RP). Twenty were n. to the n. jetty of the Columbia R., Wash., Sept. 10 (RW). One at Netarts Bay Nov. 21 was the last reported (TC, RP). Green Herons were widely reported and were in above-normal numbers in at least the Bellingham area (TW). One Great Egret was found in s.w. British Columbia Sept. 3 & Oct. 6 (†JWi, †MP), and two were seen in w. Washington in November (RRy, DGa, JD, G & WH). In contrast, 130± Great Egrets were widespread in w. Oregon throughout the period.

S.A.

There was a record invasion of Cattle Egrets n. of the Columbia R. This influx provided several times as many records for British Columbia as had ever been found there. Strangely, the first one was reported Oct. 8 from Tlell, on the Queen Charlotte Is., at the n. edge of the Region (*fide* WMr, MMc). Nine were near Nanaimo, V.I., Oct. 25-26 (*fide* WMr, MMc), and by Nov. 7-8 ten were on Reifel I., near Vancouver, B.C. (B & DDa, ST, *fide* WW), one was near Hoquiam, Wash. (G & WH), and 14 were in Newport, Oreg. (FS, BO, RB-ph., *fide* E & EE, HN). On Nov. 16 six were near Bellingham, Wash. (TW) and Nov. 21+ three were near Sumner, Wash. (†EH, †AR). There were many reports of one-two birds, and organized censuses Nov. 30 tallied 20 in s.w. British Columbia (DK *et al.*) and three in n.w. Washington (TW *et al.*).

About five Snowy Egrets were found in s.w. Oregon, as usual. A group of 14 Black-crowned Night Herons, including both adults and juveniles, was found Oct. 4 at a sand and gravel pit just w. of Roseburg, Oreg. (MJ, MSa, *fide* FP). An imm. Black-crowned Night Heron was noted at Reifel I., B.C., Nov. 16 (ST, DK, MF, *fide* WW).

WATERFOWL -- Trumpeter Swans arrived s. V.I., s.w. British Columbia, and w. Washington on schedule in late October and early November. The 111 Mute Swans in the Duncan, V.I., area Nov. 22 was a high count (JC). One Mute Swan was at Iona I., near Vancouver, B.C., Nov. 1 (KBe, *fide* WW). The only Emperor Goose reported was on the beach at Cape Arago, Oreg. Nov. 11 (MGr, JH, *fide* AM). Thirty White-fronted Geese over the John's R., near Grays Harbor, Wash., Aug. 18 (TB, IK) were the earliest ever for w. Washington by about 3 weeks. Other early White-fronteds were on Sauvie I., near Portland, Oreg. Aug. 25 & 31, (RSm, *fide* HN), and on the beach at Tatoosh I., Wash., Sept. 7, (DB *et al.*). From Sept. 14-Nov. 24 a White-fronted Goose with a rich dark brown head and neck and wearing a blue collar was present in Sooke, V.I. (BMu, M & VG *et al.*). The bird was considered to be of the "Tule" race (see AB 32:164, 1978). About 20 Black Ducks, presumably from the introduced populations, were on the Everett sewage ponds during September and October (m.ob.). A downy young Gadwall was with a few adults Aug. 21 in Everett (EH). The 76 Blue-winged Teal Aug. 30 at the Duncan, V.I., sewage ponds (JC) and 40 at the Nehalem, Oreg., sewage ponds Sept. 20 (DF, KA) were exceptionally high counts. Some of those at Duncan stayed through Oct. 11, and some at Nehalem until Oct. 19 (JG). A male "Eur." Green-winged Teal was

found in Vancouver, B.C., Nov. 6 (FH, *fide* WW). Several Am. Wigeon were early at Oak Bay, V.I., Aug. 5 (*fide* VG), at Tukwila, Wash., Aug. 8 (BHT), in Seattle Aug. 18-19 (ES, ER), and at the S.J.C.R., Aug. 23 (HN). A female Wood Duck with four young was seen in Saanich, V.I., Aug. 8 (GC, *fide* VG), and 53 were present on the Duncan, V.I., sewage ponds Oct. 25 (JC). Greater Scaup were considered rather uncommon along the Oregon coast this season (HN), and both Greater and Lesser scaup were unusually scarce on s. V.I. (VG). A male Tufted Duck was at Crescent Beach, s.e. of Vancouver, B.C., Nov. 16-26 (JSv, *fide* WW). The local gathering of Barrow's Goldeneyes on Capitol L., Olympia, Wash., had reached 1000+ by early November (G & WH). A dead **King Eider** was found on the beach at Cape Arago, Oreg. Nov. 18 (†MGr, *fide* AM, CWa). A brood of 7-10 day old Ruddy Duck ducklings was on the Everett, Wash., sewage ponds Sept. 26 (PM).

RAPTORS THROUGH COOT -- From Sept. 20 through Oct. 13 flocks of several dozen Turkey Vultures were tracked across s. V.I. (*fide* VG). Many of these were ultimately seen heading out over the Straits. The high daily counts were 191 Sept. 21 and 155 Oct. 3. Farther s. a flock of 43 was seen over Sutherlin, Oreg. (MaM), and 300 passed S over

216 *American Birds*, March 1981

Silverdale, w. of Seattle (HNo), both on Oct. 5. About ten White-tailed Kites at 5 Oregon locations were a few more than last fall. One was n. to Willapa Bay, Wash., Sept. 21-Oct. 15 (D & MEm, *fide* E & EE; JWe, *fide* RW). Despite last year's promising beginning, there were no reports this year of ridgetop hawk watching in the Region. A few more Goshawks than usual were reported. The observed lowland ratio of Sharp-shinned Hawks to Cooper's was about 1:1. A "Harlan's Red-tailed Hawk" was seen Oct. 26 at the Everett sewage ponds (†MiM, MEg *et al.*). Three Red-shouldered Hawks were noted in s. Oregon. Two were near Port Orford in early September (JG, DI) and one was near Eugene Oct. 1 (LM *et al.*, *fide* CWa) and Nov. 22 (FR, *fide* E & EE). The latest Ospreys were one Oct. 20 on the Queen Charlotte Is. (TS, MEs, *fide* VG), and one Nov. 8 in Corvallis (JK, *fide* E & EE). A gray-phase Gyrfalcon was reported Nov. 2 over the surf off Bayocean spit, Oreg. (HN). Four Prairie Falcons were found w. of the Cascades in Oregon this season. One stayed Aug. 28+ at Agate L., near Medford (OSw, MaM, SG). There were reports of 55± Peregrines and 85 Merlins from throughout the Region. Even allowing for some possible duplication of migrant birds these totals are distinctly higher than those for the last several years. A Ruffed Grouse Sept. 14 at Iona I., B.C., was only the second record there (KH, *fide* WW). Another

was drumming Oct. 18 near Fall C., Lincoln Co., Oreg. (R & JK, EEL Two Sofas and eight Virginia Rails were near the Anacortes, Was., ferry landing Sept. 13 (EH *et al.*), and another Sofa was on the Nisqually N.W.R., Wash., Oct. 19 (*fide* TB). Two imm. Am. Coots were in Saanich, VA., Sept. 6 (RS, *fide* VG), and four downy young coots were in Seattle Sept. 14 (EH *et al.*).

SHOREBIRDS -- A Snowy Plover nest with three eggs was found Aug. 2 at Tillamook, Oreg. (JG, TC, OSc, *fide* HN), and two adults with eight immatures were seen there Sept. 11 (HN). One adult and two imm. Snowies were seen Aug. 24 on dredge spoil on the n. spit at Coos Bay, Oreg. (AM). Groups of 50-150 Am. Golden Plover were at Ocean Shores and Leadbetter Pt., Wash., Sept. 2- Oct. 4 (MC, DP, EH *et al.*). About 20 of those seen Sept. 27 were believed to be of the race *fulva* (BHT). Elsewhere the largest flock was of 12 at Coos Bay Sept. 8-13 (AM, JG, HN, RP). Many others were scattered throughout the Region. The high counts of Ruddy Turnstones were Sept. 2, with 27 at Dungeness Spit, Wash. (KG) and 24 at Ocean Shores (MC). Single Ruddies were late at Beach Grove, B.C., Nov. 10 (BK), Bandon, Oreg., Nov. 23 (SG), and Port Angeles, Wash., Nov. 30 (WS, KK). A large flock of 27+ Long-billed Curlews was in the Tokeland-Leadbetter Pt., area Sept. 7-11 (MC, CWe). Two Upland Sandpipers were found Sept. 14 in a gravel pit pond just s. of Cowichan Bay, V.I. (B & WMe, *fide* VG). About 17 Solitary Sandpipers were scattered through the Region. A **Spotted Redshank** briefly appeared Nov. 29 at the Reifel Ref., near Vancouver, B.C. (†BK), for only the second record for the Region. The first was also at Reifel Ref. (AB 25:97, 1971). The 190 Greater Yellowlegs at Ocean City S.P., Wash., Sept. 13 was a high count (DP *et al.*). The 96 Lesser Yellowlegs at Nehalem, Oreg, Aug. 23 (TC) and the 75 at Iona I., Aug. 26 (DK, GA, *fide* WW) were extraordinary concentrations. Thirty were still in the Dungeness, Wash., area in early Oct. (KK), and one Nov. 4 at Siletz Bay, Oreg. was late (JG *et al.*, *fide* HN). About a dozen Willets stayed at both Yaquina Bay, Oreg., (m.ob.), and the mouth of the North R., Willapa Bay, Wash. (EH, GB), through the season. One strayed N to Tatoosh I., Wash., Sept. 6 (DB, PS, TFr). Semipalmated Sandpipers were recorded at only four localities: Point Gray and Iona I., B.C., the Montlake fill in Seattle, and Tillamook Bay, Oreg. Nine at Iona I., Aug. 14 (TW), ten at Seattle July 30 (DP) and seven there Aug. 9 (ER, †EH, †BHT), and seven at Tillamook in mid-August (DI) were the high counts. One Sept. 18 at Tillamook was the latest (JG). All for which age was reported were considered to be juveniles. Three Baird's Sandpipers at Leadbetter Pt., Sept. 28 (MC) and one Oct. 4 at Tillamook (HN), and two Pectoral Sandpipers Nov. 9 at Kent, Wash. (AR), were somewhat late. About 18 Sharp-tailed Sandpipers in six localities Sept.

7-Oct. 13 were normal. The only reports away from the coast were of one at the Corvallis, Oreg., sewage ponds Sept. 30-Oct. 8 (RK *et al.* *fide* E & EE), and three on Sauvie I., Oct. 8-17 (HN, OSc). Groups of 1-6 Dunlins were widely scattered after mid-August, and groups of 15-50 were found after Sept. 14. Flocks of 1200 at Ocean Shores (DP *et al.*) and of 100+ elsewhere Oct. 4 apparently marked the major arrival of the species. Five Silt Sandpipers Aug. 25 at Iona I., (BK, *fide* WW) and three at Tillamook Bay Aug. 23-31 (JG, HN *et al.*) were the high counts for the species Singles Sept. 23 at Iona I., (*fide* WW) and Oct. 8 at Serpentine Fen, near Vancouver, B.C. (JWi) were both later than usual.



A Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Tillamook, Ore., Aug. 23, 1980. Photo/Owen Schmidt.

In contrast to the last two exceptional fall seasons the Buff-breasted Sandpiper total for the Region was a more normal 14 individuals. The first was one Aug. 18-21 at Sauvie I. (DI, HN and the last, one, at Ocean Shores Sept. 26-27 (DP *et al.*), a late date. One of the three Buff-breasteds present at Tillamook Aug. 21-Sept. 11 (JG *et al.*) was banded there Aug. 28 (AC). Six at Leadbetter Pt., Sept. 8-11 was the high count (MC, CWe *et al.*). As last year, most of the Marbled Godwits reported were in one flock on Willapa Bay. This year the count was 137 Sept. 9 (MC). The next largest group was of 19 at Bandon, Oreg. Aug. 24 (JCa). Bar-railed Godwits in the Region continue to require careful verification. Most West Coast individuals have been of the race *baueri*, which lacks the white rump typical of the species. This season singles ere reported from Coos Bay and Bandon, Oreg. and Dungeness, Wash. At Tillamook Bay Aug. 17, during a morning of light rain, a flock of 16 **Hudsonian Godwits** flew in with a Whimbrel,



Hudsonian Godwits, Tillamook Bay, Ore., Aug. 17, 1980. Photo Owen Schmidt.

stayed a half-hour, then flew off. At least eight observers got good views and several photographs (†JG *et al.*) for the second record for w. Oregon. A single Hudsonian Godwit was seen Sept. 9 on Leadbetter Pt., (†CWe) for the fourth record for w. Washington. Eleven Ruffs were noted, which continues the trend of annual increases since 1976. One on the n. Spit of Coos Bay Aug. 25-Sept. 13 (TFi, RP *et al.*) and two at the mouth of the Coquille R., near Bandon Sept. 12+ (†JG, DI, SG *et al.*) provided Oregon's third and fourth records. Single Ruffs were at Iona I., Aug. 4 (†DK *et al.*), Sept. 21-23 (†BK *et al.*), and Oct. 12-14 (†DM, DK *et al.*). The descriptions indicated that separate individuals were involved. Three were at Leadbetter Pt., Sept. 8-20 (MC, CWe, RE *et al.*) and others were at Ocean Shores Sept. 2-8 (MC, EH *et al.*) and at Dungeness Sept. 10 (†EH *et al.*). Pelagic trips offshore Westport Sept. 7 and Brookings, Ore. Sept. 20 found 317 and 500 Red Phalaropes, respectively. These are high counts. A storm Nov. 1 blew 150 into Netarts Bay (TC, RP). Individuals were found along the c. Oregon coast for the next 2 weeks. The count of 1957 N. Phalaropes off Westport Sept. 7 (TW, DP *et al.*) was the highest ever for this species in many years of offshore trips from Westport.

JAEGERS THROUGH ALCIDS -- The pelagic crew 20 mi off Brookings, Ore. Sept. 20, encountered an extraordinary concentration of jaegers around the Russian fishing fleet. There were at least 40 Pomarine, 40 Parasitic, and five Long-tailed jaegers, and one skua (DR *et al.*). The 43 Pominers off Westport Oct. 5 was a very high count there (TW, DP *et al.*). One at Pt. Roberts, Wash., Nov. 8 was both late and unusually far inshore (†DK). Eight of nine pelagic excursions failed to find Long-tailed Jaeger. Two sightings were reported from shore; one Aug. 31 near Victoria (BH, KT, *fide* VG), and one Sept. 13 at Ocean Shores (G & WH). A third was found dead Sept. 7 at the S.J.C.R. (HN). Five

skuas were reported on 3 of 9 pelagic trips. All were apparently dark juv. South Polar Skuas.

Volume 35, Number 2 217

S.A.

A massive migratory movement of gulls was reported on the n. Oregon coast Oct. 28-Nov. 10. Along the 18 mi of Sunset Beach Oct. 28 HN estimated 6500 combined Glaucous-winged and Western gulls, 1500 Herring, 800 Thayer's, 8000 California, 7000 Mew, and 1200 Heermann's. Bonaparte's were not numerous, and Ring-billed Gulls were notable by their absence. No comparable movement was noticed n. of the Columbia R., although coastal locations were checked regularly during that time

Four Glaucous Gulls were reported. Singles at Ambleside P., Sept. 6 (MD) and at Delta Sept. 28 (RPh), both near Vancouver, B.C. (*fide* WW), were almost 2 months ahead of scheduled Single Herring Gulls Aug. 20 at Iona I. (BK, *fide* WW), Aug. 27 at Victoria (an immature) (RS, *fide* VG), and at Ocean Shores Sept. 6 (DP, AR) were very early, as most arrive here after late October. An imm. Thayer's Gull Aug. 23 at Vancouver, B.C. (BK, *fide* BK) was also early, although a dozen adults had arrived at Victoria by Sept. 17 (RS, *fide* VG). At least 27 Franklin's Gulls were reported Aug. 9-Nov. 15, all but three from the shore of the "inland sea," Puget Sound and the Straits of Juan de Fuca and Georgia. An ad. **Black-headed Gull** in winter plumage was closely studied at Oak Bay, Victoria, V.I., Oct. 17-21 (†RS, †JT, DC, *fide* VG). This rarity has been seen in the Victoria area 5 of the last 7 years, accounting for two thirds of the Region's recorded sightings. The only Little Gull found this season was an adult Sept. 25-26 & Oct. 19 at the Everett sewage ponds (†AR, †SA, B & PE). The species has been of annual occurrence in the Region since 1972. TW found fewer than usual Arctic Terns on pelagic trips off Westport. Five were seen Sept. 7, one Oct. 5, and none Aug. 17, Sept. 6 & 8. A single Cassin's Auklet Nov. 6 off Pt. Roberts (BK, *fide* WW) was the first for the Vancouver, B.C., area, and was a rare inshore sighting of this highly pelagic feeder. One-three were also noted Nov. 9-10 at Victoria (RS, *fide* VG). All were on late dates.

OWLS TO WRENTIT -- On Oct. 2 DD had a close encounter of the owl kind with a tiny, dark-eyed short-tailed, grayish owl roosting near his backyard feeder on Mercer I., Wash. Judging by the description this is the first Flammulated Owl ever recorded in the Region. The species is not uncommon as a breeder on the Cascade e. slope and is highly migratory. Snowy Owls were few and tardy, as has been the case since the fall of 1975. The first appeared Nov. 15 at Victoria (GHu,

RS, *fide* VG), and Nov. 16 at Delta, s. of Vancouver, B.C. (DK, MF, *fide* WW). One reached the S.J.C.R., Nov. 22 (DA, RSm, HN *et al.*) for the only report from Oregon this season. The **Hawk Owl** family found this summer in Manning P.P., B.C., remained to at least Aug. 10. Thereafter one was seen Oct. 5 in Garibaldi P.P., in the Coast Range n. of Vancouver (D & MGo, *fide* WW), and another took up residence Nov. 29 in Pitt Meadows, e. of Vancouver (A & JGr, m.ob.) and was still present there in early February. Burrowing Owls strayed to Roberts Bank, s. of Vancouver, B.C., Nov. 22 (†DJ), and to American Camp, San Juan I., Wash., Nov. 24 (BHT). A pair of Spotted Owls was seen and heard Aug. 30, 7± mi e. of Marblemount, Wash. (C & PB), near the n. extremity of that species' range. Two White-throated Swifts Aug. 8 at Stevenson, Wash., in the Columbia gorge (DE) furnished only the second record for w. Washington. Seven Lewis' Woodpeckers were noted Sept. 10-Nov. 28 from Reifel I., and at Victoria, to the Willamette Valley of Oregon, where small numbers regularly winter. Vagrant kingbirds included one Eastern Aug. 9 at Saanich, V.I. (HH, *fide* VG), and single Westerns Aug. 31 at Kent, Wash. (TB, RC) and Sept. 10 at Euchre Cr., on the s. Oregon coast (JG, DI). An Ash-throated Flycatcher showed up in Vancouver, B.C., Sept. 13 (†BK) and at nearby Iona I., Oct. 31 (†DHa, †WW *et al.*) for the ninth and tenth Vancouver area records. A Say's Phoebe Sept. 8 at Ocean Shores (CS, CN) provided only the second fall record for w. Washington. Late *Empidonax* departures were: Hammond's Sept. 20, Victoria (MS, *fide* VG), and Western Oct. 2, Saanich, V.I. (A & ED, *fide* VG). A W. Wood Pewee at Eugene, Oreg. Oct. 2 (SG), was late. Two-three Bank Swallows fed over the Iona I. sewage ponds Aug. 10-Sept. 2 (*fide* WW). Elsewhere there were singles Aug. 3 at Leadbetter Pt., (RW), and Aug. 21 at Everett (EH). The high count of Purple Martins at Seattle was 32 Sept. 6 (DHu). This may be compared with fall concentrations there estimated at 12,500 in 1945 (E. Larrison, *Murrelet* 26:45-46)! Scrub Jays spent the fall at Stevenson and Carson, Wash., in the Columbia gorge at the n.e. edge of the species' range (DE). Single Black-billed Magpies ranged W of the Cascades to Port Coquitlam, e. of Vancouver, B.C., Aug. 29 (JCh, *fide* WW), to Morton, Wash., Nov. 3 (RRy), and to Saanich, V.I., Nov. 29 (BHu, *fide* MG). This latter sighting was the first for s. Vancouver I. Two Wrentits Aug. 30, at Dallas, Oreg., suggest this species may be expanding its Willamette Valley range toward Portland (RP).

THRUSHES TO BLACKBIRDS -- A Veery Aug. 24 at Leadbetter Pt. (†RW) provided w. Washington's second fall report. Western Bluebirds were noted only in the Corvallis area and about Victoria, V.I., with 12 the high count. Ruby-crowned Kinglets first appeared Sept. 9 at L. Quinault on the Olympic Pen. There were

widespread after mid-September. Water Pipit migration began Aug. 31 with 17 near Victoria (RS, *fide* VG), and peaked in mid-September with 500 at Ocean Shores Sept. 21 (KBr), with the usual few lingering flocks after late October. Several flocks of Bohemian Waxwings of 15-200 were conspicuous in the mountains of n. Washington and s. British Columbia including four Oct. 10 on Granite Cr., V.I. (KT, BHa, *fide* VG). A single Nov. 23 at Reifel I., B.C., (BK, *fide* WW), was the only lowland report. One Loggerhead Shrike was identified Nov. 2-5 at Beach Grove, B.C. (†BK *et al.*). Vireos departed in order: the last Red-eyed Aug. 27, Olympia, Wash. (JD), the last Warbling Sept. 27 at Ocean Shores (BHT), and the last Solitary, a late straggler at Salem, Oreg., Oct. 18 (RP). A fair variety of vagrant warblers added spice to the season in Oregon. A Black-and-white Warbler was in Roseburg Oct. 20-23 (†FP). A **Northern Parula** Sept. 4 at Cascade Head, Tillamook Co. (TJE) represented the fourth Oregon record. A **Cape May Warbler** Oct. 19 was at Bayocean Spit (†JG, †OSc, ph.) for the second state and first w. Oregon record. A **Blackpoll Warbler** Oct. 10 at Cape Blanco (JR, TDR) was the third for w. Oregon. A N. Waterthrush was at Pamelia L., on Mt. Jefferson Sept. 12 (MZ, *fide* HN), and an Am. Redstart was at Tillamook Sept. 13 (TFi, *fide* HN). The total of six Palm Warblers was down considerably in comparison to last fall. Five appeared on the Oregon coast Sept. 13-Nov. 25, from Tillamook Bay to the Sixes R. mouth. One was at Blackie Spit, s.c. of Vancouver, B.C., Oct. 18 (†BK). Two Yellow-breasted Chats at Pt. Roberts, Wash., Sept. 13 (†MD) were uncommonly far n. and w., as the species is scarcely known n. of the Columbia R., in the Region. Three vagrant Bobolinks appeared, one Sept. 1 at Fern Ridge Res., near Eugene (SG), and one-two Sept. 26 to late October at Yaquina Bay (JEv *et al.*). These were on the heels of last fall's surprising total of 13. Two Yellow-headed Blackbirds Nov. 12 at Sea I., s. of Vancouver, B.C. (BK, *fide* WW), were quite late. A single Rusty Blackbird appeared at Duncan, V.I., Nov. 22 & 30 (JC).

FINCHES AND SPARROWS -- A male Rose-breasted Grosbeak Aug. 2-12 at a Gold Beach feeder furnished the sixth record for w. Oregon (LB, *fide* DR). A flock of 14 Gray-crowned Rosy Finches Nov. 3 at 4400 ft in the Yacolt Burn on Silver Star Mt., n. of Washougal, Wash. (DE), were in an unusual location. All were Hepburn's, the breeding race of the Cascades. The Red Crossbill nested successfully near Corvallis, Oreg. an unusual lowland site, as a nestling was found there Aug. 30 (E & EE). The species was otherwise scarcely noted away from the Cascades. A few White-winged Crossbills were noted in the Cascades of s. British Columbia and n. Washington. Five at Mt. Rainier N.P., Aug. 3 (RT) were the only ones reported farther s. An imm. **Lark Bunting** at North Bend,

Oreg., Sept. 12 (†DI, †JG, ph.) represented the fifth record for Oregon, and the second fall appearance in a row at this locality

218 *American Birds*, March 1981

Three Lark Sparrows in w. Washington were one short of last fall's total. Singles were noted Sept. 8 (EH *et al.*) and Oct. 4 (DP, JEr) at Ocean Shores, and Nov. 29 at



Lark Bunting, Oak Bay, V.I., June 7, 1980.
Photo/Bertha Goss.

Ft. Canby S.P., Pacific County (†BS). A Brewer's Sparrow at Sea I., Sept. 14 (†BK) was the second for the Vancouver, B.C., area. This fall ten White-throated Sparrows were reported Sept. 21+. The early bird was at Metchosin, V.I. (M & VG). A single Harris' Sparrow was found Nov. 26 at a Douglas County, Oreg. feeder which has hosted this species for 5 consecutive years (KGe, *fide* FP). Reports of White-throated Sparrows have averaged about 5.7/fall, and Harris' 3.2 over the last 10 years, with the former decidedly more variable from year to year. Lincoln's Sparrows moved through in larger than normal numbers. High counts were 25 on Aug. 30 about Victoria, V.I. (RS, *fide* VG), 36 Aug. 31 at Somenos L., V.I. (JC), and an estimated 50+ Sept. 21 at Sea I., near Vancouver, B.C. (BK, *fide* WW). Outstanding were two **Smith's Longspurs**, both males in breeding plumage on Vancouver I. The first was seen Aug. 26 at Sooke (†R & VR, *fide* VG), the second Oct. 18 near Bamfield on the s.w. coast (KT, *fide* VG). WC reports that the species has been discovered breeding this past summer in n. British Columbia which may represent a range expansion in our direction. The only previous regional report was of one on Cortez I., B.C. (AB 31:216, 1977).

CITED OBSERVERS and ABBREVIATIONS:, with sub-regional editors in boldface. Dave Anderson, Keith Anderson, Gerry Ansell, Scott Atkinson, Range Bayer, Kevin Bell (KBe), Chuck & Pam Bergman, Thais Back,

Dee Boersma, Lois Brooks, Ken Brown (KBr), Greg Butcher, Gift Calvert, Wayne Campbell, Jim Carlson (JCa), Mike Carcody, Donald Carruthers, Ruth Carson, James Christensen (JCh), John Comer (JC), Alan Contreras, Tom Crabtree, Mark Daley, Albert & Eleanore Davidson, Brian & Dorothy Davies (B & DDa), Jack Davis. Dudley Doe (DD), Mark Egger (MEg), Marj Elston (MEs), Elsie & Elzy Eltzroth, Don & Marcie Emenhiser (D & MEM), Jim Erckmann (JEr), Joe Evanich (JEv), Bob & Pat Evans, Tad Finnell (TFi), **David Fix**, Mike Force, Terry Friedman (TFr), Dave Galvin (DGA), Jeff Gilligan (JG), Dudley & Monica Godfrey (D & MGo), Margaret & **Vic Goodwill** (M & VG), Steve Gordon, Al & Jude Grass (A & JGr), Mike Graybull (MGr), Ken Green (KGe), Karl Gruebel (KGu), Douglas Haddow (DHa), **Bill Harrington-Tweit** (BHT), Bob Hay (BHa), Keith Hobson, Jan Hodder, Glen & Wanda Hoge (G & WH), Harold Hosford, G. Houston (GHu), Rich Howard, Barbara Hughes (BHu), David Hutchison (DHu), Frank Hyde, David Irons, Dale Jensen, Meredith Jones, Brian Kautesk, Irene Klevens, Ken Knittie, Rick & Jan Krabbe, Doug Kragh, Dave Mark, Alan McGie, Michael McNall (MMc), Larry McQueen, William Merilees (WMr), Bill & Wilma Meteer (W & BMe), Marjorie Moore (MaM), Mike Moore (MiM), Bill Munro (BMu), Charles Naeseth, **Harry Nehls** (HN), Helen Norton (HNo), Bob Olson, Richard Palmer (RP), Fred Parker, Mary Pastrick, **Dennis Paulson** (DP), Roy Phillips (RPh), Fred Ramsey, Ellen Ratoosh, Alan Richards, Dennis Rogers, Jim Rogers, Ruth & Victor Rogers (R & VR), Ronnie Ryno (RRy), Joy & Ran Satterfield (J & RS), Jean-Pierre Savard (JSv), Martha Sawyer (MSa), Owen Schmidt (OSc), Floyd Schrock, Paul Schroeder, Brian Sharp, Michael & Theresa Shepard (T & MS), Eugene Smirnov, Richard Smith (RSm), Steve Summer, Wally Sumner, Carrie Swink, Otis Swisher (OSw), Jeremy Tatum, Keith Taylor, Ran Toonen, Sharon Trefry, **Terry Wahl**, Clarice Watson (CWa), **Wayne Weber**, Joe Welch (JWe), Cathy Wentworth (CWe), Ralph Widrig, Jack Williams (JWi), Mike Zanrenzelen, (†) = written description on file, S.J.C.R. = South jetty of the Columbia R., Oregon.

The Winter Season, 1980-81

NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN - INTERMOUNTAIN REGION /Thomas H. Rogers

Weather played an extremely important role in influencing bird activity during the Region's phenomenally mild winter season. Except for some cold weather in December, it was more like spring. Precipitation was generally sparse and fell mostly as

rain, even into the lower mountains. Most bodies of water remained unfrozen and the lowlands had little or no snow cover. Birds exploited these conditions, with numerous late lingerers, semi-hardy species wintering, and very early spring arrivals, only the more notable of which can be included here. With much open water and apparently abundant and readily available food supplies, many species tended to remain scattered. Waterfowl wintered abundantly and farther north than normally. The "northern" finches were generally plentiful, taking advantage of an apparently excellent cone crop, which may have been better in the United States portion than in Canada. Most northerly species moved down as usual but there was some evidence that mountain species remained at higher elevations than normally. There is some concern that it will be a hot, dry summer.

LOONS THROUGH CORMORANTS -- A meager scattering of Com. Loons, Horned and W. grebes wintered in the Region, in addition to the usual Pied-billed Grebes. Four White Pelicans apparently wintered on Am. Falls Res., in s. Idaho, a highly unusual event (CHT) and eight stayed on the Hanford Reach of the Columbia R., near Pasco, Wash., for the third winter (RP). A Double-crested Cormorant was seen flying around the N. Potholes, s.w. of Moses L., Wash., Jan. 8 (DZ). In Idaho one was along the Spokane R., near Post Falls Jan. 10 (SGS & ES) and two imm. birds were at Massacre Rocks S.P., Power Co., Jan. 31 (DT). One wintered at Kelowna, B.C. (JB).

HERONS AND EGRETS -- British Columbia had four Cattle Egrets at Nakusp Nov. 9 (GD) and two at Oliver Nov. 1 (TF). One was sighted at a pond at the Idaho Nat'l Energy Lab, Arco, Ida. Dec. 4 (HB, *fide* EC) and the bird at Richland, Wash., was last seen that same day (REW). A new locality for the species was St. Regis, Mont., where one bird appeared Nov. 13 (DA, *fide* PLW). A Great Egret sighted at Emmett, Ida. Dec. 6 & Jan. 7 apparently wintered (A & HL). An Am. Bittern was still at Umatilla N.W.R., Umatilla, Ore., Dec. 4 (MC & NB) and one seen Dec. 11 at Malheur N.W.R., Burns, Ore., presumably wintered (ST *et al.*).

WATERFOWL -- Three Mute Swans wintered on L. Okanagan at Vernon, B.C. (JG) and one was with Whistling Swans on the Columbia R., at Brewster, Wash., Dec. 24 (GB). A pair of Whistling Swans wintered at Red Rock Lakes N.W.R., Lima, Mont., where up to 317 Trumpeter Swans were counted. The Feb. 10-11 aerial survey in that area revealed a record 1247 swans, up 35% over 1980. Ground checks indicated over 98% were Trumpeters. An excellent production of cygnets in Canada was indicated. Substantial numbers of Whistlers wintered in e. Washing- m ton and s. Idaho. The Columbia Basin

Waterfowl Survey in e. Washington, n.c. Oregon flown Feb. 10-11 showed increases over 1979--1980 coverage was not comparable-- as follows: ducks up 444%; geese up 320%; and swans up 379%. Canada Geese numbers at Am. Falls Res., peaked at 44,000, the highest ever, and Mallard- Pintail numbers exceeded 100,000. Conversely, waterfowl numbers at Deer Flat N.W.R., Nampa, Ida. were far below normal, Canadas numbering only about 1100 (usually 9-10,000) and Mallards, 71,000 (normally about 0.5 million). Minidoka N.W.R., Rupert, Ida. had peaks of 1500+ Canadas and 20,000+ ducks, mostly Mallards, in January and Idaho's three northernmost counties' midwinter count showed nearly 14,000 ducks, mostly Redheads, and 860 geese. Calispell L., Pend Oreille Co., Wash., had 1400 Canadas Jan. 10. The spring buildup of white geese at Miller I., s. of Klamath Falls, Ore., was early with 6800 Snow Geese and 1200 Ross' (SS). One of the latter accompanied Canadas near Kelowna, B.C., Dec. 20 up to mid-February (JB, m.ob.) and the same area had an **Emperor Goose** Feb. 23 (BH). About 200 White-fronted Geese appeared at Conley L., e. of La Grande, Ore., Feb. 15 and 12 were with a large flock of Canadas at the Yakima R. mouth, Richland, Wash., Feb. 15. A record number of Mallards, 10,000, wintered in the Helena, Mont. area. The Lower Klamath L. area, Ore., had thousands of Pintail and Am. Wigeon in late February, 2-3 weeks early. By Feb. 20 Malheur N.W.R., had over 70,000 Pintail. A **Common (Green-winged) Teal** was identified at the mouth of Ladd Cr., Union Co., Ore., Feb. 15 (JE, LT). A very few Eur. Wigeon and White-winged Scoters appeared in e. Washington and a few of the former were in the Lower Klamath Falls area (SS). An unusual concentration of up to 38 Wood Ducks was on the Little Spokane R., n. of Spokane, Wash., during the winter (MHa) and ten wintered at Enterprise, Ore. (JE). A male duck on a pond near Pocatello, Ida., was suspected of being a Tufted Duck, although the possibility existed that it might have been a Ring-necked Duck X Lesser Scaup (CHT). On L. Entiat n. of Wenatchee the large flocks of Ring-necked Ducks, normally second only to Ruddy Ducks in winter numbers, moved out about Christmas and were replaced by large flocks of scaup. McNary N.W.R., Burbank, Wash., had "thousands" of Canvasback Feb. 7 (B.M.A.S.).

VULTURES THROUGH EAGLES -- Fort Simcoe, Wash., had a Turkey Vulture Jan. 24 (Y.A.S.) and one was near Cove, Ore., Feb. 8 (MK). Seven Swainson's Hawks were reported at Market Lake W.M.A., Roberts, Ida. Feb. 28 (EC). Several January and mid- February reports of Swainson's in c. Washington are problematical. They very well may have been Red-tailed Hawks. Washington's mid-winter Bald Eagle count was 3197, up from last year's 2564. Probably 70+ wintered at Am. Falls Res. Northern Idaho from Coeur d'Alene

n. counted 169, the highest yet and the Salmon R., above and including the Middle Fork, in Idaho, had 37, compared to seven the 2 previous years. Some 10-15 wintered along the Kootenai R., in Lincoln County, Mont., and a N movement there starting about Feb. 10 produced up to 40 a day. Several appeared along the Kootenay R., near Kimberley, B.C., in late February. Some 40-50 wintered in Wallowa County, Ore., and Malheur N.W.R.,

Volume 35, Number 3 319

had up to 35 on Feb 20 The mid-winter census in the Klamath Basin totalled 500+. Ice-free conditions and low water levels apparently were mainly responsible for the high eagle numbers, as food in the form of ducks and fish was plentiful.

GALLINACEOUS BIRDS -- Four White-tailed Ptarmigan in nearly full winter plumage were sighted in the Elk Cr. area of the s. Wallowa Mts., Baker Co., Ore., Nov. 2. The species was introduced into the Eagle Cap Wilderness in 1967 (JE). The only Turkeys reported were 25 near Prairie, Ida. Dec. 1 and Feb 26 (PC).

CRANES THROUGH RAILS -- A Greater and a Lesser Sandhill Crane wintered at Malheur for the first winter records for healthy cranes there (ST *et al.*). The Wallowa Fish Hatchery, Enterprise, Ore., had two Virginia Rails through the winter (JE) and Washington had single birds Dec. 8 near Beverly and Dec 16 s. of Basin City w. of Mesa (JT). Two Soras lingered near O'Sullivan Dam, s. of Moses L., Wash., until Nov. 6 (JT).

SHOREBIRDS AND GULLS -- Greater Yellowlegs wintered in unusually high numbers at Klamath Falls and two Spotted Sandpipers remained through December in that area along the Link R. (SS). Two or three of the latter species were along Mill Cr., e. of Walla Walla, Wash., Feb. 28 (DM). The Yakima Delta had two Least Sandpipers and 26 Dunlin Dec. 14 (REW) and one of the latter was at McNary P., Umatilla, Ore., Feb. 11 (MC). A small flock of W. Sandpipers was at Vantage, Wash., Dec. 5 (L & JG). Three first year Glaucous Gulls appeared at Richland Dec 14 and in Pasco Jan. 10 (REW) and three first-year birds were at the Coeur d' Alene dump Jan. 18 along with an ad. **Thayer's Gull** (JA). A Thayer's was spotted among 2000± gulls on L. Ewauna, Klamath Falls Jan 30 for apparently the first record for the Klamath Basin (SS). A few Ring-billed Gulls stayed through the winter on the Clark Fork R., at Noxon, Mont. (CW) and a single adult and an imm. California or Ring-billed Gull were sighted at Helena in January (SM). Klamath Falls had an ad. **Mew Gull**, in December and January, the third consecutive winter for the species there (SS).

OWLS THROUGH FLYCATCHERS -- Barn Owls apparently wintered at Malheur and one-two were sighted at Nampa during the winter. A road-killed bird was picked up Dec 5 near Stratford, Wash., for a new location (RF) and one was near George, Wash., Nov 6 (L & JG). Eight Barn Owls were found at 8 different barns in the Twin Falls area Dec 14 (JR). Eastern Washington had many reports of Snowy Owls. One was seen repeatedly in the Coeur d'Alene area and single birds were reported for the Libby and Helena, Mont. vicinities. The only Burrowing Owl report was of one 10 mi e. of Moses L., Feb 28 (BW). An imm. Barred Owl was photographed at the Wallowa Fish Hatchery Jan 11 (VC, RA, FC *et al.*) and perhaps the same bird appeared again Feb. 16 & 22 for only the second winter occurrence for Oregon. Vernon, B.C., had one Nov. 15 (JG) Lincoln County, Mont., had several sightings (CW) and one appeared at Kootenai N WR, Bonners Ferry, Ida, Nov 16 (LDN). An owl found dead near Sandpoint, Ida. Dec. 5 was thought to be a Barred (JM). A Great Gray Owl was reported at Otter L., near Armstrong, B.C., Dec. 21 (RB) and a female had returned to last year's nest site in the Spring Cr. area of w. Union County, Ore., by Feb. 27 (RR). Lincoln County, Mont., had two sightings of single birds in February (CW). The only Saw-whet Owls to show up were one near Selah, Wash., Jan. 31 (Y.A.S.); one found road-killed near Quincy, Wash. (L & JG), and one s. of Walla Walla in December (D & KW, PH). Helena had an amazing Com. Nighthawk seen at close range Dec. 17 (JC, *fide* SM). A female Anna's Hummingbird frequented a Boise feeder at least until Feb. 1 (A & HL, EY, m. ob.) Four at Vernon feeders disappeared in early December with the onset of colder weather (MP) and one visited a feeder in the Spokane Valley during much of December (JA, WH, THR). A Lewis' Woodpecker was seen along the Fisher R., e. of Libby Feb. 8 (CW) and very late single Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were sighted w. of Nile, Wash., Jan. 1 (Y.A.S.) and near Walla Walla (a "Red-breasted") Dec. 12 (CS). A W. Kingbird was positively identified in Colorado Gulch 8 mi s.w. of Helena Dec. 8 after nighttime temperatures as low as -6°F (GN).

JAYS THROUGH WRENS -- Only two Blue Jays were reported, one that wintered at Libby (CW) and one sighted at Spokane Dec. 21 (WH). A wandering Steller's Jay showed up at Frenchman Hills Wasteway w. of Potholes Res., 50 mi from any coniferous forest Feb. 20 (GC). A Com. Crow, rare in the Klamath Falls vicinity, appeared there Feb. 25-26 (SS). About 20 stayed through the period in the Wallowa Valley, where they very rarely winter (FC). A 5-hour hike along Frazer Cr., e. of Twisp, Wash., Dec. 15 revealed 75± Clark's Nutcrackers feeding on ponderosa pine seeds (RF) and the species was abundant in Lincoln County, Mont., through the winter (CW). Four Black-capped

Chickadees, rare in the Klamath Basin, were sighted along the Wood R., s. of Ft. Klamath Jan. 24 (SS) and one in Richland Jan. 1 was a rare occurrence (REW). Boreal Chickadees appeared at several spots in Lincoln County, Mont. (CW). Two Wrentits were along the s. end of the Link R., Klamath County Jan. 30 for a new locality (SS). At least eight Bewick's Wrens were observed Feb. 7 on McNary W.M.A., at the mouth of the Walla Walla R., near Wallula, Wash., Feb. 7 (B.M.A.S.).

THRUSHES THROUGH WAXWINGS -- American Robins were common to abundant in the Helena and Bozeman, Mont. vicinities but apparently were scarce elsewhere, perhaps because n. birds did not move down. A male Varied Thrush passed through Pocatello, Ida. Feb. 27 (JJ). A few W. Bluebirds apparently wintered at Spokane, the highest number, nine, Jan. 12. A male was near Imnaha, Ore., Jan. 25 (JE, *et al.*) and four were at Penticton, B.C., Jan. 31 (TW). A group of six Mountain Bluebirds was in sagebrush between Burns, Ore., and Malheur N.W.R., Jan. 5 (DT). Some Ruby-crowned Kinglets wintered in the Troy and Libby areas of Lincoln County, Mont. (CW). The Lower Klamath L area had an unexpectedly high count of Water Pipits with 78 Jan. 31 (SS). The species was noted near Leavenworth, Wash, Dec. 3 (L & JG) and was reported at Rupert, Ida. (WHS). In Montana Bohemian Waxwing numbers were high in Lincoln County and at Helena but average at Bozeman. They were scarce in the Spokane area, but Walla Walla had large flocks mixed with Cedars and n.e. Oregon had many Bohemians, including a flock of 1300 at Joseph during December. Cedar Waxwing numbers in the latter area and at Wenatchee, Wash., were well above normal. Cedars outnumbered Bohemians in the Rupert area. Small numbers of both species wintered at Pocatello, where Cedars seldom winter.

WARBLERS AND BLACKBIRDS -- An Orange-crowned Warbler again wintered along the Link R., in the Klamath Falls area (SS) and one appeared in Richland Dec. 14 and 25 (REW). One was sighted at Umatilla N.W.R., Feb. 10 (MC). A Jan. 15 sighting of 300± 100 male Yellow-headed Blackbirds in a stubblefield near the N. Potholes Res. was unprecedented. They were mixed in with 4000 male Red-winged Blackbirds (RF). Tricolored Blackbirds were much more numerous than normal in the Klamath Falls area. Besides 810 on the CBC, 750 were found at a different location Jan. 29. The species normally returns in early to mid-February (SS).

FINCHES -- Evening Grosbeaks appeared in high or at least normal numbers in the Libby-Fortine area, and in n.e. Oregon around Enterprise, around Klamath Falls and at Kimberly but were scarce or absent

elsewhere. A Purple Finch visited a Livingston, Mont., feeder Jan. 11 for the only report (PDS, EH, RW, JS). Very few Cassin's Finches were reported except for n.e. Oregon, which had more than usual, and Lincoln County, Mont., where Fortine had its first winter record (WW) and Libby, a few sightings (CW). A small flock of House Finches was around Bozeman all winter (JS). Pine Grosbeak appearances were sparse except in the Libby and Troy areas of Montana and in the Wallowa Mts., Union Co., Ore., which had 5 observations totaling 11 birds (JE). The Grand Coulee-Moses Coulee area of c. Washington and the Enterprise, Ore. areas had good numbers of Gray-crowned Rosy Finches and a mixed flock of Gray-crowned and Black rosy finches found shelter among the basalt cliffs along the Boise R., below Lucky Peak Dam in January (A & HL, J & NH, MRC, m.ob.). Common Redpolls made a good showing at Libby, with three believed to be Hoaries (CW); at Waits L., near Valley, Wash.; at Mt. Spokane, and on the Yakima CBC. The species, very rare in Oregon, appeared at Wallowa L., a flock of 40+ Dec. 6 (MH); a flock of 45+ was at Lostine Canyon, Wallowa County Dec. 12, and two were in a flock of Pine Siskins near Catherine Creek S.P., Union Co., Feb. 28 (JE, JJo, BD). Very few appeared elsewhere. Pine Siskins wintered in abundance in the n. part of the Region and in n.e. Oregon and even at Lakeview, Ore. Red Crossbills were in good numbers in the conifer belt from the Okanogan Valley of Washington e. through Spokane into Kootenai County, Ida., into Lincoln

320 *American Birds*, May 1981

County, Mont., and the Helena area and also in n.e. Oregon. Up to 20 White-winged Crossbills were sighted at Mt. Spokane in December and January (JA, BW).

SPARROWS -- Brown Towhees were found at two locations near Klamath Falls Dec. 27 and Jan. 27 for the first winter records there (SS). A Rufous-sided Towhee stayed at Libby until about Feb. 10. The species seldom winters there (CW). Umatilla N.W.R. had two Savannah Sparrows Dec. 14 and one Feb. 10 (MC, NB). A Lark Sparrow visited a Walla Walla feeder Dec. 9 (RM). Dark-eyed Juncos stayed at Libby and Fortine in unusual numbers and were the most abundant bird in riparian habitat in the Columbia Basin of Washington. A flock of eight wintered at Kimberley, B.C. (MVW). Three or more Sage Sparrows were back in the Dodson Road area by the N. Potholes by Feb. 28. Their sagebrush habitat in e. Washington apparently is being rapidly converted to wheat land (BW). Tree Sparrows were reported as quite common in n.e. Oregon especially in Wallowa County (JE) and up to 20 were seen at Umatilla N.W.R., during the winter.

Bruneau Dunes S.P., Bruneau, Ida., had a few Jan. 17 and in February (MRC, A & HL, m.ob.) for the only other records except the Chewalah CBC. The only Harris' Sparrows besides the Chewalah CBC bird were three at Vernon most of the period (JQ) and an imm. bird with juncos near Joseph, Ore., Jan. 25 (JE,NB). White-crowned Sparrows were abundant in the Yakima vicinity and common at Rupert. In the Nampa area up to 53 were counted Jan. 4 and a few appeared at Spokane. Yakima, Wapato and Gleeed, Wash., had a few sightings of Golden-crowned Sparrows, and in the same general area were a few Fox Sparrows (Y.A.S.). A Lincoln's Sparrow appeared near Union, Ore., Feb. 7 (JE, JGi) and species, normally very rare in the Klamath Basin in winter, numbered six on the Klamath Falls CBC. One wintered in Harrison, Mont. (PM). Two **Swamp Sparrows**, well identified by an observer fully familiar with the species, were at L. Lowell near Nampa Dec. 23 (DT). A male **McCown's Longspur** in winter plumage was studied at length Jan. 31 at Lower Klamath N.W.R. This sighting was preceded by sightings of three on the California side of the state line Jan. 9-14 (SS). The Klamath Basin had normal numbers of wintering Lapland Longspurs with a high count of 110 on Lower Klamath N.W.R., Jan. 31. Flocks of 300-500 were seen on the California side. The Helena Valley had a single sighting of a flock of 25 in early February (SM). "Tremendous numbers" of Snow Buntings were reported in Wallowa County, Ore. A flock of 1200 wintered near Zumwalt and 400 frequented the Imnaha vicinity (JE, FC *et al.*). The Reardan-Davenport, Wash. area had flocks all winter, the largest, 375 Jan. 2 and the last sighting 250 Feb. 21 (JA). A few were in the Libby area in December and January (CW) and three flocks of 20± each were sighted on Monida Pass, Monita, Mont., Feb. 14 & 16 (GH).

OBSERVERS CITED -- James Acton, Ralph Anderson, Deborah Anson, Ruth Blattner, Nancy Bock, Blue Mountain Audubon Society (B.M.A.S.), George Brady, Howard Brower, Jim Burbidge, Gretchen Call, Eddie Chew, Vic Coggins, Mark R. Collie, Frank Conley, Priscilla Cook, Craig & Marion Corder, Jim Cornish, Gary Davidson, Bill Dowdy, Joe Evanich, Thelma Forty, Ron Friesz, Jeff Gilligan (JGi), Larry & Jacque Goodhew, James Grant (JG), Warren Hall, Morey Haggin (MHa), Eve Hayes, Mac Huff (MH), James & Naomi Heckathorn, Paul Hoeter, Brian Holman, George Holton, Joe Jeppson (JJ), John Johnson (JJo), Marianne Kaplan, Al & Hilda Larson, Pat McKinney, Jack McNeel, Rose Marsh, Sid Martin, Dirk Muse, Larry D. Napier, Gene Nixon, Mary Paul, Rich Phillips, John Quirk, Thomas H. Rogers, Ron Rohweder, Jeff Rupprecht, Connie Sherer, W.H. Shillington, P.D. Skaar, Jim Sparks, Esther Stewart, Shirley G. Sturts, Steve Summers, Jim Tabor, Dan

Taylor, Steve Thompson, Larry Thornburgh, C.H. Trost, Don & Kathy Webster, Ron Weeks, Winton Weydemeyer, Bart Whelton, Mildred V. White, Ted Whiting, Carl Wolf, Robert E. Woodley, Philip L. Wright, Yakima Audubon Society (Y.A.S.), Eric Yensen, Don Ziegler.

The Winter Season, 1980-81

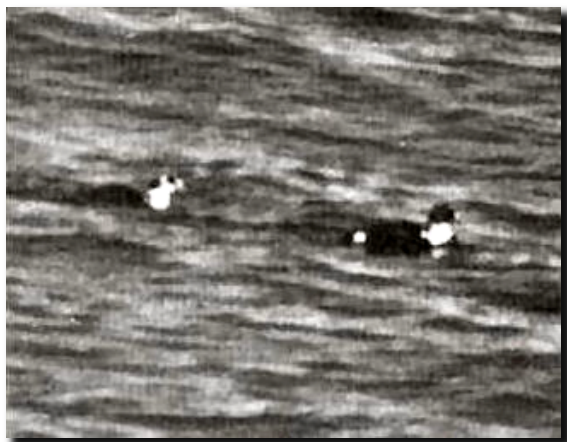
NORTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION /Philip W. Mattocks, Jr. and Eugene S. Hunn

Several more inches of rain than usual fell in December on the Seattle and Portland weather stations, with two thirds of this between Dec., 20-30. Many choice Christmas Bird Count locales were found flooded. Thereafter rainfall was below normal with both January and February being relatively balmy and dry. The Medford area had less rain than usual throughout the winter, although perhaps slightly more fog, and all three stations averaged just over 3°F warmer than the long term averages. First state or provincial records were established (subject to approval by the appropriate Records Committees) for the King Eider and Spotted Redshank in Oregon, the Sinew in Washington, and the Temminck's Stint in British Columbia.

LOONS THROUGH HERONS -- There were only seven reports of Yellow-billed Loon this season, which is slightly fewer than normal. Arctic Loons were apparently absent along the Oregon coast (JG *et al.*). In contrast, several s. British Columbia Christmas Bird Counts (hereafter, CBC) had all-time high counts of Common and Arctic loons (*fide* WW). On Jan. 13 two rafts of 15,000 W. Grebes each were observed (M & VG) in Saanich Inlet and Satellite Channel off s. Vancouver Island (hereafter, VA.). A few dead N. Fulmar were found on coastal Oregon beaches through December (HN). Otherwise no shearwaters or petrels were reported. A Green Heron was n. to the Reifel Ref. on Westham I., near Vancouver, B.C., Dec. 28-Jan. 10 (JTo, †JS, †BK). The usual few wintered in w. Washington and w. Oregon. Few Cattle Egrets from last fall's invasion appear to have survived. One stayed along Cowichan Bay, near Duncan, V.I., until Jan. 31 (†VG, BHy, JC). Others were in Delta Jan. 10 (WC) and in Pitt Meadows Feb. 10-12 (TBu, *fide* WW). Both locations are near Vancouver, B.C. Apparently a few stayed through the winter at Coos Bay and Nehalem meadows, Oreg. (AC, JO, HN). The 91 Great Egrets on w. Oregon CBCs, and the one at Olympia, Wash, throughout the season (G & WH), were about normal for recent years. Also as usual two Snowy Egrets wintered at Coos Bay (AMc). Black-crowned Night Herons appear to be increasing as a wintering bird in w.

Oregon. Twenty-eight at their regular roost along the Columbia R., in Portland Jan. 3 compares with two there last winter and eight the year before. Thirteen on the Roseburg CBC follow the report of 14 there last October. Also two ad. and two imm. Black-crowns were in Olympia, Wash., Feb. 20-27 (J & AD, BHT, G & WH), where two adults wintered last year.

WATERFOWL -- Mute Swans were in their normal numbers on V.I. (VG). The 127 in the Duncan-Cowichan Bay area Dec. 31 was the high count (VG). The Whistling Swan tally for the w. Oregon CBCs was only three quarters that of the last 2 years. Trumpeter Swan reports were widespread in their usual numbers in w. Washington and s. British Columbia. Reports of one to four White-fronted Geese were widespread n. to Vancouver, B.C. (*fide* WW) and Duncan, VA. (JC, M & VG). The first migrants arrived on Sauvie I., near Portland, in late February (JG, HN). Record high counts of Mallards were set on 3 CBCs in s.w. mainland British Columbia, and on the Victoria CBC. The new high count for Canada of 23,637 Pintail on the Ladner CBC and the highest ever local count of 861 Gadwall on the Seattle CBC were by far the largest concentrations reported of these species. The 11 male (Eur.) Green-winged Teal reported is over twice as many as in any of the past few winters. The two at the Montlake fill in Seattle had distinct plumage patterns identical to the two there last winter (†EH). A male Cinnamon Teal was on Bumaby L., Jan. 24 & Feb. 28 (MP, *fide* WW), both near Vancouver, B.C. Two male Blue-winged Teal were in Saanich, V.I., Dec. 20 (MMc, *fide* VG). About 300 N. Shoveler on Pony Slough at Coos Bay, Ore., Jan. 10 was an unusual concentration there (AMc).



*King Eiders, Seaside, Ore., January, 1981.
Photo/Owen Schmidt.*

Greater Scaup continued scarce on s. Vancouver Island. Numbers there this winter were considered to be only about 10% of former levels (VG). A male Tufted Duck was at American L., in Tacoma, Wash.,

Nov. 26-Dec. 15 (WWi). This bird had slightly whiter sides and a longer tuft than the male at that lake last December. Another male Tufted Duck was at the Maplewood Flats, N. Vancouver, B.C., Dec. 13 ([D]). Two Oldsquaws were present at Tillamook during January and February (JG, TC et al.) and another wintered on Yaquina Bay, Ore. (HN, R & JK, *fide* E & EE). This species is scarce on the outer coast. A first-year male **King Eider** found off Seaside, Ore. Feb. 16 (TWi, *fide* HN) was joined by another young male Feb. 21 (*fide* JG). The two were seen through at least March 7 (m. ob., ph. TC & OSC) for the first undisputed records of live birds of this species for Oregon. Earlier reports are of a male found dead on the beach in s.w. Oregon last November, and a female seen on Tillamook Bay Mar. 10-20, 1976 (AB, 30:756). Earlier this season a first-year male King Eider was seen off Restoration Pt., near Seattle Jan. 3 & 4 (†DP, MMo, RT) and a deadfly marked female was seen at 30 m off Rosario Beach, near Anacortes, Wash., Feb. 3 (H & MF). These were the 11th and 12th Washington records. The 493 Black Scoters on the Ladner CBC was almost twice the previous local high and was by far the largest concentration reported in this season. Two male **Smew** were seen Feb. 22 at 30-100 m from the Friday Harbor ferry dock, San Juan I., Wash. (†PI, KGa). The thorough description made careful comparison with nearby Oldsquaws, and the thin dark bill, black eye patch, dark back, and fine black

328 *American Birds*, May 1981

lines on the otherwise white sides, breast, and head were well noted. This is the first record for Washington and only the fourth for the West Coast s. of Alaska. The three earlier reports are all from s.w. British Columbia and two of those were during February and March (Roberson, *Rare Birds of the West Coast*, p. 93-95).

RAPTORS THROUGH RAILS -- On Dec. 6 a Turkey Vulture was in Burnaby, B.C. (WHe), and another, marked by broken feathers in its left wing, in Stanley P., Vancouver, B.C. (BK). The Stanley P. individual was seen the next day about 30 min. at the mouth of the Squamish R. (De, *fide* WW). Two late Turkey Vultures were also in Whatcom County, Wash. in early December (P D, *fide* TW). The species returned by Feb. 2 to Coos Bay (AMc), and by Feb. 7 to Malahat Summit, w. of Saanich (JTa, *fide* VG). There were three other February records for s. Vancouver Island, all very early. Last year's thorough search for White-tailed Kites in w. Oregon by (DF & TL) was not repeated this season. Thus the report of about 20 kites, for 40% of last year's total, in that state this winter could be owing to either a decreased population or to the reduced search effort. However, none was seen at the once regular roosting area near Fern Ridge Res., at Eugene

(TL, *fide* CW & DF). Farther n., the White-tailed Kite at Willapa Bay, Wash., last fall was seen again there Dec. 9 (SSa). An immature was at Ocean Shores Nov. 22 & Jan. 9 (G & WH), and an adult was near the Toledo, Wash., airport Jan. 31 (†R & IRy, B & DWo). For the third winter in a row a Red-shouldered Hawk was found near Eugene. One stayed around the Fern Ridge Res. until at least Dec. 21 (AP, *fide* CW). The numbers of Rough-legged Hawks reported in w. Oregon remained at last year's very low levels, much below those of just a few years ago. Ospreys were reported over L. Sammamish near Seattle Dec. 12 (Mrs. H. Smith) over N. Seattle Dec. 25 (EP), in Olympia Feb. 5 & 23 (J & AD, BHT), and on the Salem, Oreg. CBC. Single gray-phase Gyrfalcons were found in C. Saanich almost daily throughout the period (*fide* VG), in Skagit County, Wash., in early December (TW), between Westham I. and Delta, B.C., Dec. 19 through February (BK, †IRo, BD, *fide* WW), at the Victoria airport Feb. 28 (DD, *fide* VG), and at Finley N.W.R., near Corvallis, Oreg., Feb. 24 (†PI, BB). This latter individual was observed and photographed as it killed and ate an imm. Canada Goose. Five different Prairie Falcons were noted Jan. 17 on a raptor census in the Medford area (*fide* OSw). Elsewhere the only reports were Jan. 3 & 10 at Leadbetter Pt., Wash. (TRW) and Jan. 18 at Lynden, Wash. (PD, *fide* TW). About 36 Peregrines were reported which is the usual number for the past few winters. One Jan. 4 near the Tacoma bank building used last winter (*fide* TBo) and two others Feb. 2 & 3 over Tatoosh I., Wash. (BP) were in interesting locations. The count of 111 California Quail Dec. 20 on the Victoria CBC was a new low for the census. A population decline apparently began in nearby Duncan, V.I., in the fall of 1979 and only one was seen there during January 1981 (JC). Four Sandhill Cranes wintered well n. of their usual Sauvie I. locale at Delta, B.C. (†MSc, RB, *fide* WW), and one seen Feb. 24 near Sedro Woolley, Wash., had apparently wintered there (JW, *fide* TW). The 13 Virginia Rails on the Vancouver CBC and the 10 on the Seattle CBC were the high counts. There were also reports after the CBC season, particularly from VA. Two Sofas at Yarrow Bay, Bellevue, Wash., Jan. 3 (PM) and one on the Sauvie I. CBC were the only ones reported.

SHOREBIRDS -- Seven Semipalmated Plovers returned early at the S.J.C.R., Feb. 17 + (HN, JG). Nine Snowy Plovers stayed at Leadbetter Pt., until Dec. 20 (RW), and a flock of about 35 Snowies was on the Bayocean Pen., at Tillamook Feb. 7 (LP, *fide* HN). Five Long-billed Curlews were on Leadbetter Pt., Jan. 25 (RW). Five Whimbrel were n. to Ediz Hook, near Port Angeles, Wash., Jan. 10 (LK, HC), and one was in Saanich Feb. 3 (CS, *fide* VG).

S.A.

The excitement of the season was generated by the first Oregon and third and fourth Regional records of the **Spotted Redshank**. The first was found at the S.J.C.R., Feb. 21 (DHo, MCo), relocated there Feb. 23 (E & EE, R & JK), and then seen daily (m.ob., ph. TC & JG) until 8:30 a.m., Mar. 1 (CW). At 11:30a.m. Mar. 1 it or another Spotted Redshank was found at Reifel Ref., near Vancouver, B.C. (RF). Comparison of the close range photos of both birds has not yet been made, and the argument continues as to whether a 200 mi flight, if direct over the Olympic Mts., in three hours is too much for even one of these strong flyers.



Spotted Redshank, South jetty, Columbia River, Ore., Feb. 24, 1981. Photo/Tom Crabtree.

Two Lesser Yellowlegs were reported Dec. 1 & 8 in Oak Bay, V.I. (LR, *fide* VG). A few Willets wintered as usual at Coos Bay and Yaquina Bay, Oreg. and around Willapa Bay, Wash. (RW, G & WH). Single Red Knots, unusual in winter, were seen on Dungeness spit, Wash., Dec. 7 and at nearby Port Angeles Feb. 3 (both WS). Another Red Knot was well described from Delta, B.C., Jan. 25 (†BK). A yellow-legged peep, larger than adjacent Leasts with a dull gray back, the feathers of which had narrow dull gray edgings and were without distinct black centers, a gray brown head and nape with no supercilium, a dull gray pectoral band, and very white tail edges was seen Dec. 14 on Blackie Spit, s.c. of Vancouver, B.C., by †BK and considered to be a **Temminck's Stint**. This is the first report for British Columbia. Four Least Sandpipers and one W. Sandpiper lingered at Blackie Spit through Dec. 27 (BK, *fide* WW). Two other Westerns were near Vancouver, B.C., Jan. 4 (MSc, *fide* WW) and nine Leasts were on Reifel I., B.C., Dec. 31 (BK, *fide* WW). Nine Marbled Godwits at Leadbetter Pt., Dec. 20 (CBC) and 29 at the nearby North R. mouth Jan. 16 (G & WH) were the only reports. Two Am. Avocets were found Dec. 12 at the North Slough in Coos Bay (LT, *fide* AMc), but were absent the next day.

GULLS THROUGH ALCIDS -- The 16+ Glaucous Gull reports were two-thirds those of the past 2 winters, and were concentrated about Vancouver and Victoria, B.C. The Regional CBCs tallied some 130,000 Glaucous-winged Gulls. Western Gulls outnumbered Glaucous-wingeds only on 3 s. coastal Oregon counts: Gold Beach, Coos Bay, and Port Orford. This reflects a s. shift during winter of about 250 mi in the Glaucous-winged/ Western transition zone. The 2000 + Thayer's Gulls wintering at Duncan, V.I. (JC), was the largest concentration reported by a wide margin. There were 20,000 Mew Gulls at Tillamook Bay Dec. 28 (DI, HN), and an estimated 50,000 feeding along the 60 mi of the Columbia R., between Astoria and Longview Feb. 26 coincident with the smelt (*Thaleichthys pacificus*) run (EH, AR). A Franklin's Gull at Bellingham, Wash., Dec. 27 (MCh, *fide* TW) was very late. A total of one Black-legged Kittiwake at the Columbia R. mouth Dec. 21 (CBC) increased to a dozen by the end of February (EH, AR, DF), for the only ones reported. As is usual Ancient Murrelets wintered in good numbers only in the Straits of Juan de Fuca between Victoria, where 640 were counted Dec. 20 (CBC), and Port Townsend, Wash., where DP noted "hundreds" Jan. 2. A Horned Puffin washed up dead Jan. 27 near Newport, Ore. (BL *fide* HN), and two Tufted Puffins were seen just off Newport Jan. 24 by a whale-watching crew (R & JK, *fide* E & EE).

OWLS THROUGH PHOEBES -- Snowy Owls were nowhere in large numbers, but were widely scattered s. to the S.J.C.R., where one was noted throughout December (m. ob., *fide* HN). At least 25 individuals were reported, nearly three times last year's total. The **Hawk Owl** discovered in Pitt Meadows, e. of Vancouver, B.C., in late November was regularly noted through at least Feb. 4 by an army of observers. Vancouver area observers also reported Pygmy Owls in above-normal numbers, with at least eight seen Dec. 21-Jan. 31 (*fide* WW). A **Great Gray Owl** on the Pitt Meadows CBC, Dec. 27 (RRo, VT, *fide* WW) was one of fewer than 10 Vancouver area records. Four Burrowing Owls in the Rogue R. valley may represent a corner of their normal winter range. The individual found shot Jan. 4 near Halsey, s.c. of Corvallis, had wintered at that outpost for several years (DMe, HT, *fide* E & EE). Two Barred Owls in Seattle city parks this January is now commonplace (DHu, DSi), as was the single in Saanich, V.I., Jan. 19 (MSh, *fide* VG). An injured Spotted Owl was rescued Dec. 18 near Monroe, Wash., and scheduled for rehabilitation (DSi). Seven Spotteds were counted on the Alma, Oakridge, and Upper Nestucca CBCs

in Oregon Three Long-eared Owls were reported, one Dec. 28 at the Reifel Ref., B.C. (JS *fide* WW), and the other two Dec. 31, one at Saanich (BA, *fide* VG) and the other at L. Tennant n. of Bellingham, Wash. (HC, BHa, *fide* TW). These were noteworthy as this species has not been proven to winter regularly in the Region. A record 56 Short-eared Owls on the Ladner CBC Dec. 28 was heartening Rufous Hummingbirds reached Coos Bay, Ore. by Feb. 21 (*fide* AMc) and were numerous at Olympia, Wash., by Feb. 28 (SC, *fide* IA). Lewis' Woodpeckers wintered in small numbers as usual in the Rogue R. valley (MM, OSw). One Lewis' n. as far as Rickreall, near Salem, was described as "the first in a long time" there (A & DM, *fide* E & EE). Seven Black Phoebes were reported in Curry and Jackson Cos., Ore., at the n. limit of the species range (Gold Beach CBC, MM, EWS). Two vagrant Say's Phoebes which appeared Feb. 23-28 at Coos Bay (RI, *fide* AMc) and another at Gaston, w. of Portland, Feb. 25 (JGa *et al.*, *fide* HN), were likely displaced spring migrants, as this species normally arrives on territory e. of the Cascades in February (see also Sage Sparrow below).

SWALLOWS THROUGH WAXWINGS -- The first Tree Swallows reported were a flock Feb. 18 at Eugene, Ore. (TF, *fide* HN). By Feb. 21 they were N to Washington and British Columbia (GR, RP). Violet-greens arrived Feb. 21 at Coos Bay (AMc), Feb. 22 near Corvallis (R & JK), and Feb. 21 at Victoria (JTa, AMA, *fide* VG) and Langley B.C. (RP, *fide* WW). These are normal dates for the spring vanguard. A laggard Barn Swallow was still in Seattle Dec. 5 (WB) A single Blue Jay appeared Dec. 2 at a Bellingham, Wash. feeder (Mrs. R. Odell, *fide* TW). A Scrub Jay was noted Feb. 26 as far w along the Columbia R. as Cathlamet, Wash. (EH, AR). The usual few Black-billed Magpies wintered: a single all season at Langley, B.C. (KC ph., *fide* WW), one Dec. 18 at Oak Bay, V.I. (Mrs. J. Galbraith, *fide* VG), and one Jan. 24 just w. of Newhalem, Whatcom Co., Wash. (FK). A Clark's Nutcracker was noted Dec. 26 at 800 ft on Larch Mt., e. of Portland in the Columbia R. gorge (LA, *fide* HN). Bushtits were in record numbers on many CBCs throughout the Region. There were 366 at Pitt Meadows, 459 at Ladner, a Canadian record of 534 at White Rock, 1157 at Seattle, and 666 in Salem, Ore. Long-billed Marsh Wren numbers were high on s. V.I. (*fide* VG) and on the Vancouver, B.C., CBC A single Mockingbird Dec. 23 at Coos Bay (BG, *fide* AMc) was the only report. The only W. Bluebirds reported n. of Oregon were three at Saanich, V.I., Jan. 30 (RWa, *fide* VG) and four at Metchosin, VA., Feb. 25 (M & VG). This Blue-listed species was noted on 9 w. Oregon CBCs n. to s. Tillamook County. The total of 447 individuals compares with 553 last year and 426 the year before on these same counts. Three Mountain

Bluebirds noted in January and February in the Medford area (MM) were the only reports. Single Townsend's Solitaires were on the Sauvie I. CBC and on Dungeness Spit, Wash., Dec. 18 (D & SSm). Up to 35 Bohemian Waxwings were found at Pitt Meadows, B.C., in December (TW; WR, JM, *fide* WW), and a few stayed until mid-January in the Bellingham area (TW). Twelve on the Tacoma, Wash., CBC Jan. 4 were the southernmost.

WARBLERS THROUGH SPARROWS -- A Black-and-white Warbler in N. Vancouver, B.C., Dec. 3 was well described (†CB) for about the fifth Vancouver area record (*fide* WW). Orange-crowned Warblers were found n. to N. Vancouver Feb. 3 (†WW), and Saanich, V.I., Dec. 20-Jan. 17 (RMG, *fide* VG). A Black-throated Gray Warbler was in Portland Jan. 3 (DI, DF), and a **Hermit Warbler** was present there Dec. 1 - Jan. 10 (HN, TC *et al.*). Another Hermit Warbler was seen in Salem Jan. 11 (TC). Both Hermits were with small flocks of Townsend's Warblers. Six Palm Warblers, a normal number, were noted from Coos Bay n. to Grays Harbor. All were probably wintering, although the latest reported was on e. at Leadbetter Pt., Feb. 6 (RW). A Com. Yellowthroat, rare in winter here, was seen on Sauvie I., Jan. 25 (LP, MCA, *fide* HN). Eight w. Oregon CBCs recorded 254 Townsend's Warblers. This compares to 52 on the same 8 counts last year and 39 the year before. Flocks of several dozen were encountered by several observers, and the species was widely described as more prevalent than normal. North of the Columbia R., Townsend's are usually rare in winter, although they may be regularly found in favored localities. This winter the species was found in better-than-average numbers n. to Puget Sound and s. V.I. Two Yellow-headed Blackbirds Dec. 28 on the Ladner, B.C. CBC were only the second occurrence ever for that count (*fide* WW). Three were reported from s. V.I., Dec. 11 & 13 (EM, MMc, *fide* VG). Rusty Blackbirds were noted in the Vancouver, B.C., area, with four on the Pitt Meadows CBC Dec. 27 (†DB, MW, *fide* WW) and two at Maple Ridge Jan. 8 (GA, *fide* WW). A Blue Grosbeak seen at Fern Ridge Res., near Eugene represented the second record for Oregon. It was a carefully described (†AC) female-plumaged individual. The first state record was also of a female-plumaged bird, at a feeder in Corvallis Jan. 4-17, 1975 (M. Eltzroth, R. Jarvis, see, (AB 29:734). Evening Grosbeaks were reported as scarce from several well birded localities around Puget Sound and in w. Oregon (TW, EH, G & WH, HN, JG). Purple Finches were noted as very scarce in King County, Wash. (EH). Pine Grosbeaks were found only at the Squamish R. mouth, n. of Vancouver, B.C. Seven were there Dec. 7 (DC, *fide* WW). A single Gray-crowned Rosy Finch at Victoria Dec. 7-8 (RS, *fide* VG) and three Dec. 27 at Pitt L., e. of Vancouver, B.C. (SR, AB, *fide* WW)

represent the pattern of normal occurrence. The flock in early December on Mary's Peak in the Oregon Coast Range w. of Corvallis was well w. of the usual rosy finch winter haunts (TMO, DPi, *fide* CW & E & EE). A single Com. Redpoll with siskins at Woodinville, n.e. of Seattle Dec. 13 was the only one reported (†MEg). Pine Siskins were reported as "scattered and scarce" in Oregon (*fide* HN) and "in very low numbers" in the Bellingham area all winter (TW). Lesser Goldfinches were at the n. limit of their normal range at Portland throughout the period (DF; MK, *fide* HN). Fifteen there Feb. 27 was the high count (MK, *fide* JG) In keeping with this winter's dearth of finches, Red Crossbills were everywhere reported absent or in small numbers The White-winged Crossbill was noted twice. A single was on the Squamish, B.C., CBC Jan. 3, and three were at Leadbetter Pt., Jan. 25 (RW). Coastal records this far s. are unusual even in irruptive winters. A **Sage Sparrow** Feb. 22 at the S.J.C.R. (JG, TF, HN) matched arrival dates for this species on its breeding grounds e. of the Cascades. An odd junco seen often throughout the winter at a Metchisin, V.I., feeder was judged intermediate between Pink-sided and Gray-headed forms (†M & VG). Tree sparrows were noted in numbers up to four s. to Dungeness, the Skagit flats, and Seattle, Wash. Oregon's sixth **Clay-colored Sparrow** was found Jan. 17-25 on Sauvie I. (TM *et al.*, ph. OSC). Six Harris' and 24 White-throated sparrows were reported. All but two White-throateds were in Oregon. The exceptions were in Olympia, Wash., Jan. 15 (G & WH) and Saanich V.I., Dec. 1-19 (Mrs. I. McTaggart-Cowen, *fide* VG). This concentration of White-throated Sparrows in w. Oregon has been a consistent pattern for the last several years. A **Swamp Sparrow** found Dec. 31 on Samish I., Skagit Co., Wash. (†MD, MEi *et al.*) provided the sixth state record. The bird was seen often through Feb. 8 (†TW, †WW *et al.*). A Swamp Sparrow reported Feb. 14 on the Skagit R. delta 15 mi s. of Samish I. (BH, *fide* TW) could have been the same individual. In sharp contrast to last year, none were found this season in w. Oregon.

CITED OBSERVERS and ABBREVIATIONS: with Sub-Regional Editors in boldface. Ilse Allen, Loraine Anderson, Bill Anker, Gerry Ansell, Ann Bailey, Ward Beecher, Thais Bock (TBo), Bob Bromley, Doug Brown, Tom Burgess (TBu), Rob Butler, Colin Butt, Kay Cairns, Wayne Campbell, Dick Cannings, Mike Carmody(MCa), Stan Cecil, Mary Chapman (MCh), Howard Cockerham, Mark Colwell (MCo), John Comer, Alan Contreras, Tom Crabtree, Herbert Curl, Brian Davies, Jack & Ada Davis, Paul DeBruyn, Dick Decker, Michael Donahue, Mark Eisdorfer(MEi), Mark Egger (MEg), Elzie & Elsie Eltzroth, Tad Finnell, **David Fix**, Roger Foxall, Hal & Martha Fray, John Gatchett (JGa), Jeff Gilligan (JG), Margaret & **Vic Goodwill**, Kate Graham (KGa), Barbara Griffin, Karl

Gruebel (KGu), Bob Hamlin (BHa), **Bill Harrington-Tweit** (BHT), Bob Hay (BHy), Werner Hesse (WHe), Dave Hoffman (DHo), Glen & Wanda Hoge (G & WH), Dave Hutchinson (DHu), David Irons, Pete Isleib, Dale Jensen, Brian Kautesk, Lois Killewich, Mark Koninendyke, Rick & Jan Krabbe, Fayette Krause, Rob Lawrence, Bob Loeffel, Tom Lund, Rob Mackenzie-Grieve (R MG), Alan MacLeod (AMa), Jack Major, Arnie & Debbie Martin (A & DM), Alan McGie (AMc), Mike McNall (MMc), Don Menefee (DMe), Marjorie Moore (MM), Mike Moore (MMo), Terry Morgan (TM), Tom Morgan (TMO), E. Munde, **Harry Nehls**, Jim Olson, Bob Paine, Leonard Paul, **Dennis Paulson** (DP), Evelyn Peaslee, Roy Phillips, Dave Pikula (DPi), Michael Price, Al Prigge, Georgia Ramsay, Alan Richards, Leila Roberts, Ian Robertson (I Ro), Robin Robinson (RRo), Steve Robinson, Wilma Robinson, Ronnie & Ivy Ryno (R & IRy), Ron Satterfield, Susan Saul (SSa), Jean-Pierre Savard (JS), Owen Schmidt (OSc), Madelon Schouton (MSc), Chris Shepard, Michael Shepard (MSh), Dorothy Siewers (DSi), Dory & Start Smith (D & SSm), Wally Sumner, Otis Swisher (OSw), Vern Tamke, Jeremy Tatum (JTa), Howard Taylor, Larry Thornburgh, John Tootchin (JTo), Ron Toonen, Jamie Wahl, **Terry Wahl** (TW), Ruben Ware (RWa), Clarice Watson, **Wayne Weber** (WW), E. White-Swift (EWS), Ralph Widrig (RW), Wally Wilkins (WWi), Doug Wilson (DWi), Tom Winter (TWi), Brad & Debra Wood (B & DWo), Margaret Wyborn (†) = written description on file, S.J.C.R. = South jetty of the Columbia R., Oreg.

The Spring Migration, 1981

**NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN
INTERMOUNTAIN REGION**
/Thomas H. Rogers

The extremely mild "non-winter" carried over into March, although precipitation varied from very wet to very dry in the subregions. April varied from cold and wet to normal temperatures and normal to low precipitation but May was cool and wet practically Region-wide. Bozeman, Montana,

Volume 35, Number 5 843

reported an unusually large number of record early arrivals in May. Fortine, Montana, had many early arrival dates for March and April and the South Okanogan Valley of British Columbia also listed several early arrivals among the earlier migrants. Elsewhere timing apparently was near normal. Heavy May precipitation appeared to make up for the severe moisture deficiency of the winter.

LOONS AND GREBES -- An **Arctic Loon** was photographed on Catty Res., at the power plant at Boardman, Ore., May 5 (RJK). A pair of Red-necked Grebes was nesting at Wilmer, B.C., May 28 (LH) and a pair was on Spectacle L., Okanogan Co., Wash., May 12 (JD). Seven of this species were back on their Upper Klamath L., Ore., breeding area by Apr. 4 (SS) and on the same date the birds had returned to Kootenai N.W.R., Bonners Ferry, Ida. (LDN). The species appeared to be 2-3 times as numerous as in 1980 in Lincoln County., Mont. (CW). One at Salmon, Ida., May 7 was the second ever there for Roberts. Lake Windermere, B.C., had at least 1100 W. Grebes May 11 (LH) and Moses L., Wash., had 57 nests of the birds May 14 (JT).

PELICANS THROUGH IBISES -- White Pelicans numbered 100 on Am. Falls Res., on the Snake R., in Idaho Apr. 23 (CHT) and four were at Deer Flat N.W.R., Nampa, Ida. May 23 (EB). Up to 35 were along the Portneuf R., below Pocatello, Ida. in May (DT). About 30 were present on Frenchman Hills Wasteway w. of Potholes Res., s.w. of Moses L., May 8 (RF). A Brown Pelican flying along the Boise R., Mar. 19 furnished the third sighting for the area from near Eagle, Ida. to Lucky Peak Res. CLK). Potholes Res., listed ten nesting pairs of Double-crested Cormorants May 2 (RF). Mann's L., near Lewiston, Ida., listed a single bird of this species May 31 (R & GB) and the Kootenai R., above Libby, Mont., harbored a pair May 21-28 (CW). Six were at the mouth of Ladd Cr., near La Grande, Ore., Apr. 24-May 4 (BR, GS *et al.*). A Great Blue Heron colony discovered at the e. end of Moyie L., w. of Cranbrook, B.C., comprised 13 nests May 5 (MVW). The colony at Otter L., near Armstrong, B.C. comprised 41 birds Mar. 8 (JG) but the heronry at Wilmer, B.C., was unoccupied (LH). Potholes Res., listed about 400 nesting pairs of Great Blues and 800 pairs of Black-crowned Night Herons (RF). A Cattle Egret appeared near Hermiston, Ore., Apr. 23 (C & MC, NB) and four were in the Rupert, Ida. area (WHS). A single bird was at Calispell L., Pend Oreille Co., Wash., March-May 10 (JN) and up to three in breeding plumage were s. of Merrill, Ore., May 8-9 (SS). Nine Great Egrets were back at Potholes Res., Apr. 26 (S J) and one was along the Columbia R., near Umatilla, Ore., Apr. 23 (MC) and Apr. 25 (B.M.A.S.). A single bird upriver from Walter's Ferry, Owyhee Co., Ida., May 6 was the first ever recorded there in spring and only the second ever (JSM) and one in the Rupert area was noteworthy (WHS). One appeared at Pend Oreille L., just s. of Sandpoint, Ida. May 11 (KH). Snowy Egrets in the Pocatello area were down to only three; Mexican pesticide use was suspected (CHT). Three White-faced Ibises fed in an irrigated pasture along Hwy. 28, 4 mi e. of Winchester, Wash., June 3-8 (RF).

WATERFOWL -- The largest concentration of Whistling Swans reported was 1000 at Calispell L., in early April (*vide* DD). Trumpeter Swans at Turnbull N.W.R., Cheney, Wash., were down to four birds (JRR). Ennis L., near Ennis, Mont., listed perhaps 50 in a flock of about 500 swans (PDS). Red Rock Lakes N.W.R., Lima, Mont., censused 247 Trumpeters in Centennial Valley May 5 for a 25% decrease from last year but nesting there looked good with 42 active nests (RRS). Many Canada Geese were nesting on boxes set up for them at Wilmer Wildlife Area, Wilmer, B.C. (LH). Canadas peaked at 7000 at Columbia N.W.R., Othello, Wash.; 250 at Turnbull; 415 at Kootenai N.W.R., and 150 at Deer Flat N.W.R. A field near Carry Res., had four White-fronted Geese Apr. 28 (RJK). Some 15,000 Snow Geese were migrating over Council Valley, Council, Ida. Mar. 28 (G.E.A.S.). A Snow Goose stopped at Carty Res., Mar. 26 (RJK). Kootenai N.W.R. had an unusual visit by two Snow Geese in April. They were joined for a week in late April by a Ross' Goose (LDN). One sub-ad. Snow Goose and two Ross' were near Reardan, Wash., Apr. 26 (WH & BW) and another Ross' joined them Apr. 29; one Ross' was still there May 3 (JA). One Ross' with a broken leg was at Ladd Marsh W.M.A., La Grande May 5 (JE). Ducks peaked at 15,000 in March at Columbia N.W.R., the late May breeding pair survey there indicating a 10% increase over 1980 (JC). At Turnbull N.W.R., duck pair counts indicated 30-40% more pairs than before the May 1980 ashfall. Duck production there last year was 50-60% below that expected (JRR). The pair of Eur. Wigeons that wintered at Walla Walla, Wash., was last seen Apr. 5 (B.M.A.S.). A male was at Armstrong, B.C., Mar. 31 (EL) and another was on W. Medical L., Spokane Co., Wash., Apr. 15 (JA). One of this species appeared on Carty Res., Mar. 26 (RJK) and a male was seen at Kootenai N.W.R., Apr. 9 & 19 (LDN). Four vagrant Ring-necked Ducks stopped at Grays L., Apr. 23 (DT). A Greater Scaup appeared on L. Entiat, Entiat, Wash., Apr. 8 (PC). Harlequin Ducks in the Libby, Mont., area were at least 3 times as numerous as in 1980 and more widespread (CW). A pair appeared on the Chewelah, Wash., sewage ponds Apr. 18 (JN). Three ad. males were sighted on upper McDonald Cr., Glacier N.P., Mont., Apr. 30-May 4. One wore a red band on the left leg and another, a yellow band on the right (JDe). The only White-winged Scoters reported were two on the duck count, Hatch L., Colville, Wash. (first spring record in 5 years' counts--(SZ, W.D.G.); two males and a female on the Colville sewage ponds May 25 (JN), and a female on the Link R., Klamath Falls, Ore., May 9 (SS). A pair of Hooded Mergansers was nesting in a Wood Duck nest box near Cardwell, Mont., in late May for the first breeding record for that area (RLE). A female Red-breasted Merganser was carefully observed on the Columbia R., at Priest Rapids Dam e. of Yakima

Mar. 17 (EH) and a female was in the Link R.- Ewauna, Ore. vicinity May 2-9 (SS). One was on Catty Res., May 5 (RJK). Several of the species were on the Snake R., below Am. Falls Res., Apr. 2 and three males were on Blackfoot Res., Apr. 25, both in Idaho (DT). Alkali L., Grant Co., Wash., had four males and two females Apr. 19 (JA).

VULTURES AND HAWKS -- A Turkey Vulture n. of Eureka, Mont., Apr. 12 and again a week later was one of very few ever reported for Lincoln County (CW). Five active Goshawk nests were found in Lincoln County (CW). Three sightings of Swainson's Hawk were in the Yakima area (Y.A.S.), one near Telford, Wash. (W.D.G.) and two in s.w. Idaho (G.E.A.S.). Four nesting pairs were in the Walla Walla vicinity (B.M.A.S.) and two active nests were located in the Boardman area (RJK). Ferruginous Hawks had two nests in the Boardman vicinity (RJK) and 18 nesting pairs were reported in Franklin County, Wash. (W.D.G.). Sixteen active Golden Eagle nest sites were found in Okanogan County, Wash. (W.D.G.). A few Bald Eagles, including three pairs at nests, were noted in the Brisco-Radium Hot Springs-Wilmer, B.C., area (LH). Four pairs of Ospreys were also nesting in that area (LH). A rare sighting of an Osprey was made at Columbia N.W.R., Apr. 6 (JR) and two appeared near Crow Butte S.P., w. of Paterson,

844 *American Birds*, September 1981

Wash, Apr. 27 (REW) The Okanogan R., below Oroville, Wash., had three nesting pairs (RF) and a pair was nest building on the Salmon R., near Salmon, Ida., for apparently a new breeding locality (HBR). Only one Peregrine Falcon was reported.

GALLINACEOUS BIRDS -- Sharp-tailed Grouse numbers in Lincoln County, Wash., were comparable to last year's, despite volcano and heavy rain problems (JN). About 100 were near Twin Springs C.G., Oneida Co., Ida. Apr. 16 (DT). In the Eureka, Mont., area the species' numbers were about double those of 1980 (CW). A Sage Grouse lek, one of many in the Shoshone, Ida., area had 20 birds Apr. 4 (JR). The lek at Virtue Flat e. of Baker, Ore., had a peak population of about 75 Apr. 20 (JE) and five were seen on Crescent Valley Ranch s. of Wilbur, Wash. (JHi). At Rupert, Sage Grouse numbers were believed to be one third of last year's (WHS). A pair of Scaled Quail was sighted Mar. 14 just n. of the Juniper Forest n.e. of Pasco, Wash., Mar. 14 (WH & REW) and a single bird was found there May 25 (REW & CWo). Scattered reports of 1-30 Turkeys came from Lincoln County, Mont. (CW) and up to 23 were seen in the Prairie, Ida. area (PCo).

CRANES THROUGH COOTS -- Three male Whooping Cranes were back at Grays Lake N.W.R., s.e. Ida. by Apr. 23. Plans were for a female to be introduced from the captive flock at Patuxent Research Ref., Md., (DT). A banded imm. Whooper, presumably from Grays L., dropped in with Sandhill Cranes at Red Rock Lakes N.W.R., in mid-April and remained into May (RRS). A rare occurrence was of 200 Sandhills feeding on Columbia N.W.R., for about 5 weeks (JC). Pleasant Valley between Libby and Kalispell, Mont., had two pairs of ad. Sandhills, plus a single bird. One pair was feeding an imm. bird. Last year only three adults were seen and their young were killed by vandals (CW). Ladd Marsh W.M.A., the only e. Oregon locality with Sandhills, saw about five of the birds arrive Mar. 3 (JE.). Malheur N.W.R., Burns, Ore., had a **Common Gallinule** May 23 (AC). American Coot numbers peaked at 11,000 at Turnbull N.W.R., Apr. 10.

SHOREBIRDS -- A remarkable occurrence of an **American Oystercatcher**, described in detail, was 3 mi. n. of Fruitland, Ida. Apr. 18 (D & JS). A flooded field s. of Merrill, Ore., hosted a flock of 100 Black-bellied Plovers May 3 (SS). A pair at the Yakima R. mouth Apr. 29 provided Bob Woodley's second-ever spring record and one at Rupert, Ida. was Shillington's first-ever. On the Black Canyon nesting grounds in the Snake R. valley n.w. of Caldwell, Ida. only 69 Long-billed Curlews were counted., vs. 350 three years ago. Agriculture has made some encroachment; the Bureau of Land Management has sponsored a study during the last three seasons (G.E.A.S.). The species was believed to be stable in the N. Okanagan Valley from Vernon to Grindrod, B.C.; 46 adults and two chicks were counted May 18 (N.O.N.C.). Two **Whimbrel** were sighted s. of Merrill, Ore., May 9 (SS). No more than two Upland Sandpipers were sighted on the nesting grounds in the Spokane Valley e. of Spokane (JA, JAd) Three Solitary Sandpipers at the Joseph, Ore., sewage ponds were noteworthy (FC). A Pectoral Sandpiper at a marsh 7 mi s. and 5 mi e. of George, Wash., May 9 was the first in spring for that area (PA). The Yakima R. mouth had up to 70 Dunlin with the peak Apr. 5 (REW); one, with a Sanderling, at the Joseph sewage ponds, was unusual (FC). A flock of 30 Short-billed Dowitchers stopped in a flooded field s. of Merrill, Ore., May 3 (SS). Two Semipalmated Sandpipers at Fortine, Mont., May 6 were Weydemeyer's first since 1928 and provided only his second record ever there. Nine at Indian Creek Res., s.e. of Boise May 3 apparently furnished the second record for s. Idaho (J & NH). Fifty Am. Avocets at the Yakima R. mouth Apr. 19 were Woodley's highest number ever there and one s. of Chewelah, Wash., May 23 was the first for that latilong (JN). A remarkable 33 Black-necked Stilts appeared n. of Winchester Wasteway w. of Moses L., May 10 (JT) and four were s. of Frenchman Hills Wasteway s.w. of

Potholes Res., May 2 (RF). Seven were sighted at the Potholes Res., Apr. 12 (Y.A.S.). Two were near Hermiston, Ore., Apr. 23 for Corder's first n.e. Oregon record; four were near Boardman Apr. 15 (RJK), and nine were at Ladd Cr. mouth, La Grande May 26-28 for n.e. Oregon's second record (JE). Two were seen Apr. 30 at Red Rock Lakes N.W.R., for a rare sighting (RRS). Priest Rapids Dam on the Columbia R., had an imm. Glaucous-winged Gull Mar. 17 (EH). A Herring Gull at the Joseph sewage ponds May 20 was n.e. Oregon's first (FC) and a Franklin's there May 12 & 17 provided the county's second and third sightings (B J, FC). Four Bonaparte's Gulls, unusual in spring in Idaho, were on Stone Res., near Holbrook (CHT) and three were at Fortine May 6 for the second spring record there (WW). Unusual were two Caspian Terns at Enterprise, Ore., and three at Joseph's sewage ponds both Apr. 26 (FC). Rare sightings were of four Black Terns at La Grande May 5 (JE, GS) and three at Joseph May 14 (FC).

PIGEONS AND OWLS -- Sightings of Band-tailed Pigeons increased. One was 3.5 km n. of Bruneau Sand Dunes S.P., Owyhee Co., Ida. Apr. 28 (JSM). In Oregon four appeared in a city park at La Grande May 2 (JE) and the species was seen near Hermiston Mar. 25 (CC). Washington Hardy Canyon along Wenas Cr., s.w. of Ellensburg had one Apr. 28 (PH & MR) and one was in Cheney Apr. 18 (FBH). Vernon, B.C., had one May 16 (MCo). A Barn Owl nesting burrow in the Okanogan R. bank at the river's mouth, n.c. Washington, with five young May 27 and a nesting burrow in a bank above Chief Joseph Dam to the s.e., Apr. 9 provided the first conclusive evidence of breeding in that area (VM, PF). The only Flammulated Owl reported was of one heard May 12 at Freezeout Saddle s.e. of Imnaha, Ore., sec. 19-20, T2s R49E Wallowa Co., Ore., (JAp). A pair of Great Horned Owls was found Mar. 9 nesting in a hole in a clay bank along the Columbia R., near Athamer, B.C. (LH). Burrowing Owls in the Boise-Nampa area were reported suffering from off-road vehicles and a last year's nesting area in now a feed lot (G.E.A.S.). A Barred Owl was found about May 1 and again May 7 & 9 just outside Mountain Lakes Wilderness, 19 mi w of Klamath Falls, for the first county record and apparently the southernmost for the Pacific states (EF, SS). One was calling on Mt. Harris near Elgin, Ore., Apr. 4 (RR) and a fledgling was picked up near Sherman Pass, Ferry Co., Wash. (*vide* JN). In Montana one was heard at Glacier N.P. headquarters Apr 29 (JD) and seven pair locations in Lincoln County were confirmed (CW). A Great Gray Owl appeared on several dates in March-April near Pinantan, n.e. of Kamloops, B.C. (GB). A lone bird was at the nesting area on Spring Cr., n.w. of La Grande; the nesting platform there has been continually vandalized this

spring while U.S.F. & W.S. personnel attempt to restore it (JE). Saw-whet Owls appeared more common than previously thought in Lincoln County, Mont., where firewood cutters were falling dead trees and finding helpless young (CW). Three nesting pairs occupied nest boxes put out for Am Kestrels in Cold Springs Canyon, n.c. Ore, (PD, LC, SM). At Boise-Cascade C.G., on Wenas Cr., s.w. of Ellensburg, three young perched near a nest hole May 24 (Y.A.S) and two adults were being scolded by smaller birds in Davenport, Wash. cemetery May 9 (JA). The species was believed breeding in the Chewelah area (JN).

POOR-WILLS THROUGH HUMMINGBIRDS -- A Poor-will was calling at Kinny Cr., Bannock Co., Ida. Apr. 30 (DT) and two were near Brooks Memorial S.P., Satus Pass, Klickitat Co., Wash., May 20 (Y.A.S.) for the only reports. The third sighting of the Black Swift for n.e. Oregon was at Imnaha May 15 (JAp) and a probable sighting of one over Bozeman would be only the second for that latilong (JS & RW). White-throated Swifts appeared again around the cliffs along the Spokane R., just below Spokane; three were sighted May 23 (JA). Ten were seen in Snake R. Birds of Prey Natural Area s.w. of Nampa Apr. 25 (NH) and several appeared near Twin Falls, Ida. May 16 (JR). Up to four Black-chinned Hummingbirds were reported in the Boise-Nampa area in May (LM, J & NH, BS). A very rare sighting of the Broad-tailed Hummingbird was of a male at a La Grande feeder May 19-20 & 30 (J & WB *et al.*).

WOODPECKERS AND FLYCATCHERS -- Lewis' Woodpecker numbers looked encouraging, with possible increases in the Rupert, Ida. area (WHS) and apparently steady numbers in e. Washington, n c Oregon and n.w. Montana. One at Fortine May 10 was the first sighted in about 10 years; they formerly were common breeders there (WW). Two singing male Least Flycatchers were carefully observed and their songs recorded May 10-31 at Sun Mt. Lodge 8 ml s of Winthrop, Wash. (EH) and one was found at Okanagan Falls, B.C., May 22 (SRC) Three male Gray Flycatchers were heard May 23 on the Colochkum Pass road n.e. of Ellensburg for a new locality for the species (EH).

JAYS THROUGH THRUSHES -- A Blue Jay lingered at a feeder near Chewelah, Wash., until early March (JN) and one was heard and seen in Omak, Wash., Mar.

Volume 35, Number 5 845

11 & 13 (SJo). One was sighted near Fortine May 4 (WW) and one stayed at Half Round Bay 10 min. of Harrison, Ida., for a month in late March-early April (GN). Plain Titmice were common in the Rupert area for the only report (WHS). a pair of Bushtits was nest

building May 16 along Poison Cr., 42 km. s. of Grandview, Ida. (JSM). On the Birds of Prey Study Area along the Snake R., s.e. of Swan Falls Dam, Owyhee Co., Ida., a **Mockingbird** was sighted for the third record there (JSM). Many sightings were made of both Mountain and W. bluebirds in the Yakima area, particularly in the foothills to the w. Nest boxes in the Wenas Cr. area were major attractions. Mountain Bluebirds appeared to be doing well in the Kimberley, B.C. area (MVW). However, W. Bluebirds were completely missing in Lincoln County, Mont., and Mountain Bluebird sightings there were down 75% from last year (CW).

GNATCATCHERS THROUGH BLACKBIRDS -- A Blue-gray Gnatcatcher appeared at Massacre Rocks S.P., Power Co., Ida., May 3 & 21 (DT) and a pair was seen near Twin Falls May 17 (JR). A male Black-and-white Warbler near Fortine May 11-12 was the first ever for that part of Montana (WW). A female Black-and-white and one or two Tennessee Warblers appeared at Malheur N.W.R., May 22 (AC) and a Tennessee was near Vernon, B.C., May 11 (MCo). Single Virginia's Warblers were sighted at Kinny Cr., Bannock Co., Ida. Apr. 30 & May 17 (DT) and at least a dozen were observed at Silent City of Rocks, Cassia Co., Ida. May 29-30 (JSM). A Black-throated Blue Warbler showed up at Malheur N.W.R., May 19 (NB). An ad. female Black-throated Green Warbler at Bozeman May 17 was the first for mountainous Montana (PDS, RW, JS) and an ad. male Blackburnian Warbler s. of Bozeman was the second for Montana's mountains and the state's sixth (JS, PDS, RW, ETH, SC, WB). Ovenbirds were found in summer habitat at Bozeman May 31 (PDS) and one was sighted along the Bruneau R., 2 km n.w. of Bruneau May 28 (JSM). Common Yellowthroats were reported only from the Nampa area (G.E.A.S.), Rupert (WHS), and the mouth of the Walla Walla R., near Wallula, Wash., (B.M.A.S.). Very unusual was a male Bobolink near Trail, B.C., May 17 (ME). In Montana two males were on territory, one in Tobacco Plains n. of Eureka and one near the Clark Fork R., near the Idaho-Montana border (CW). One near Twin Falls, Ida. was apparently the first for the latilong (JR).

FINCHES AND SPARROWS -- A male Rose-breasted Grosbeak near Nakusp, B.C., May 16 was highly unusual (GD). One was sighted in Bozeman May 16-17 (ETH, SC, JS, PDS, RW) and a male was photographed in Boise May 25 (BK & JSM). A Blue Grosbeak was reported near Buhl, Ida. in May (*vide* JR). Two Indigo Buntings, one with some white in its breast, were in flocks of Lazulis the third week of May at Pocatello (JJ, CHT) and one visited a Rupert feeder for 3 days (WHS). A Purple Finch was noted in Helena where it is very rare (PM) and near Dixie, Wash. (PD,

SM). One or two appeared at 3 locations in the foothills w. of Yakima (Y.A.S.). House Finches were reported as uncommon at Helena (GH) and were seen May 2 near Fortine (WW). A Green-tailed Towhee in La Grande May 3-4 was the first in more than 10 years (JE, GS). One was observed s.w. of Oreana, Ida. May 23 (A & HL). A field near Libby, Mont., hosted an ad male Lark Bunting in mid-May (CW). A singing Baird's Sparrow on the Tobacco Plains n. of Eureka May 10 was the first ever for the latilong (WW). An ad. Black-throated Sparrow at Wallowa L., Joseph May 9 and 12-13 was the first ever for n.e. Oregon (BJ, LG *et al.*) and a sagebrush area near Ephrata, Wash., had a singing male May 27 for apparently the third state sighting (RM & PE). Mink Creek R., s. of Pocatello had two Gray-headed Juncos May 7 (DT). Clay-colored Sparrows arrived at Vernon May 16 (JG) and a singing male was closely observed in La Grande May 26 in the company of many Brewer's Sparrows, which normally are only vagrants there (JE). An imm. Harris' Sparrow at Walla Walla May 10 (SM) and an adult at Pullman, Wash., May 19 (JW W) were the only ones reported. A few Golden-crowned Sparrows migrated through e. Washington, with sightings in the Yakima area, at Boise-Cascade C.G., Wapato, Davenport, and Richland. They were also seen at Hermiston, Ore.

CONTRIBUTORS CITED -- James Acton (JA), Jack Adkins (JAd), Jim Applegate (JAp), Peter Arcese, Eugene Barney, Wes Bell, Jerry & Winnie Bingner, Blue Mt. Audubon Society (B.M.A.S.), Nancy Buck, Geoff Budman, Robert & Georgene Bond, Lois Campbell, S.R. Cannings, Phil Cheney (PC), Mary Collins (MCo), Frank Conley, Alan Contreras, Priscilla Cook (PC.), Craig & Marion Coder (MC), Sharon Cotterell, John Coykendall, Dennis Dahlke, John Danielson (JD), Priscilla Dauble, Gary Davidson, Joe Decker (JDe), Maurice Ellison, R.L. Eng, Joe Evanich, Robert M. & Patricia Evans, Paul Fielder, Eric Foresmen, Run Friesz, Leo Goebel, Golden Eagle Audubon Society (G.E.A.S.), James Grant, Pauline Hager, Warren Hall, Larry Halverson, Keith Hawn, Eve T. Hays, Jim & Naomi Heckathorn, Jerry Hickman (JHi), George Holton, Eugene Hunn, Frances B. Huston, Bob Jackson, Steve Jackson (SJ), Joe Jeppson, Stuart Johnston (SJo), Lydia Kading, Ronald J. Klein, Bob Kuntz, Al & Hilda Larson, Edith Levey, Patricia McKinny, Jeffrey S. Marks, Vern Marr, Levi Mohler, Shirley Muse, Larry D. Napier, Gloria Neff, Jack Nisbet, North Okanogan Naturalists' Club (N.O.N.C.), Bob Ratcliff, James R. Rees, Hadley B. Roberts, Run Rohweder, Marian Rossman, Jeff Ruprecht, Georgia Sanderson, Belle Shaw, W. H. Shillington, Richard R. Sjoström, P.D. Skaar, Jim Sparks, (JSp), Dan & Jim Stevens (D. & JS), Steve Summers, Jim Tabor, Dan Taylor, C. H. Trust, Washington Department of Game (W.D.G.), John W. Weber, Run Weeks, Winton

Weydemyer, Bart Whelton, Mildred V. White, Carl Wolf (CWo), Robert E. Woodley, Yakima Audubon Society (Y.A.S.), Steve Zender, Abbreviations: C.G., campground.

Spring Migration, 1981

NORTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION
/Eugene S. Hunn and Philip W. Mattocks, Jr.

March was several degrees warmer and slightly drier than usual at the Medford, Portland, Seattle, and Vancouver weather stations. Then during April and May rainfall in Vancouver was about twice normal. Farther south, however, there was less than normal rain throughout the period. Passerine migration was particularly noted May 2-13, with unusually large numbers of Warbling Vireos, Orange-crowned Warblers, Wilson's Warblers, and Western Tanagers being widely reported. The unusual Regional records of White-faced Ibises, Common Gallinule, Black-necked Stilt, American Avocet, and Black-throated Sparrow should indicate very dry conditions to the south and east of us.

LOONS THROUGH IBISES -- Only two Yellow-billed Loons were reported; one at Orcas I., in the United States San Juans Mar. 3 (TW), the other a breeding plumaged bird in Satellite Channel near Victoria, V.I., May 8 (WC, *fide* VG). Arctic Loons were noted moving in large numbers in early May, with "thousands" off Pt. Roberts, Wash., May 6 (MMc, VN, *fide* WW), 700+ off the S.J.C.R., May 9 (DFi), and "large numbers" just offshore from Westport, Wash., May 10 (BHT). One light phase **Western Grebe** at Seattle Apr. 18 (†WHo) was the first report of this form we have received for the Region. A **Laysan Albatross** 14 mi s.w. of Torino, V.I., May 21 provided one of very few Regional records within the continental shelf (MaS, *fide* VG). TW's 3 early May pelagic trips off Westport found good numbers of the regular tubenoses, closely comparable to the high counts of last spring. Two dark N. Fulmars May 5 provided the first spring reports here in several years. The one-two Flesh-footed Shearwaters each trip represented a minor comeback for that species which has been unreported in the Region in spring since 1978. Nineteen Brandt's Cormorants lingered at Active Pass in the Georgia Straits until May 28 (RS, MiS, *fide* VG), and 40 remained at Olympia, Wash., May 16 (BHT). Very few remain to breed n. of the Columbia R. The scant winter Green Heron numbers were augmented throughout to s. British Columbia by migrants arriving in early April. Definite reports of nesting came from near Portland (DFi) and from Seattle (ER, MD). Eighteen Great Egret reports were received from 7 Oregon localities.

All were before Apr. 6, except one May 2 on the Pistol R., in extreme s. Oregon (*vide* HN). Coos Bay's Snowy Egret stayed through Apr. 5 as usual (*vide* AMc). The seven **White-faced Ibises** May 25 at Eugene, Ore. (SG, SSu, CW), furnished an extraordinary Regional record.

GEESE AND DUCKS -- DFi estimated the Black Brant migration at 500/hr passing N off the Lincoln County, Ore. Coastline Apr. 5. A peak count of 10,000 came from Willapa Bay Apr. 11-12 (DAL, KBe, KH, *vide* WW). The few wintering White-fronted Geese departed by early April. Late April saw a passage of birds from farther s., with the high count of 200 over Leadbetter Pt., Wash., Apr. 29 (RWi). The 3000 Snow Geese wintering at Reifel I., near Ladner, B.C., departed about Apr. 26 for their Wrangell I. breeding grounds (WW). A Gadwall brood e. of Ladner, B.C., Apr. 26 was very early (WW). Five "Eurasian" Green-winged Teal were reported, with one wintering bird remaining in Seattle until Apr. 26 (ER). Blue-winged Teal reports continued to increase. They were widely noted after Apr. 24, with peaks of 86 May 23-25 in Saanich, V.I. (RS, *vide* VG), and of 157 May 21 on Sea and Iona Is., B.C. (WW). Blue-wingeds now outnumber Cinnamon Teal in spring n. of the Columbia R., almost 10:1. A hybrid of these two species was described from Iona I., May 14-22 (BK, DK, *vide* WW). One female Tufted Duck turned up in Vancouver's Stanley P., Mar. 18-30 (†BK, †WW *et al.*). Harlequin Duck pairs on the Kalama R., and the s. fork of the Toutle R., both draining Mt. St. Helens' w. flank, were likely nesters there (BL *et al.*, *vide* SSa). The two **King Eiders** at Seaside, Ore., were last reported Mar. 8 (JGi, HN).

KITES TO GALLINULES -- White-tailed Kites again proved scarce in spring. Six individuals were reported at 5 Oregon sites n. to the S.J.C.R. The single bird present there Mar. 1 (DFi), may have been moving S, as all later reports were from s. of Eugene. Accipiters made another strong showing, although slightly off last spring's totals. Eight Goshawks and 48+ each of Sharp-shinned and Cooper's hawks were reported from throughout the Region. A Goshawk pair nested in a remnant gallery forest along the Black R., in Renton, Wash., at a site scheduled for development (KBn). Pairs of Cooper's Hawks nested at Victoria (HA, *vide* VG) and at Pitt Meadows, e. of Vancouver, B.C. (WR, *vide* WW). The **Red-shouldered Hawk** has established a beachhead in the Region as up to five birds were seen Mar. 22-Apr. 26 at the Winchuck R. mouth at Brookings, Ore. just n. of the California border. Another individual was 20 mi farther n. at Pistol R. (TC, JGi, OSc, DAn, TM, DE). The Swainson's Hawk, a rare spring migrant, was reported Apr. 23 at Sutherlin, Ore. (MHu, *vide* CW), and Apr. 26 on Whidbey I., Wash. (†PA, RR). The last Rough-legged Hawk

lingered at Ocean Shores until Apr. 26-May 2 (KBn, KBo). Golden Eagles had young in the nest by Apr. 23 in Douglas County, Ore. (MHu, *vide* CW). Six Bald Eagle nests were reported from Siletz Bay, Ore. n. to

854 *American Birds*, September 1981

Victoria and Vancouver, B.C. This represented only the tip of the iceberg as a survey of w. Washington in the early 1970s counted 100 active nests (Grubb *et al.*, *Murrelet* 56:2-6, 1975). Sixteen active Osprey nests were reported, including one in a Seattle city park (EH, BMe, DHu) and 7 about Victoria (*vide* VG). A gray Gyrfalcon in C. Saanich, V.I., was observed repeatedly Mar. 1-21 (AK, LR, *vide* VG). Another gray Gyrfalcon was seen at Tillamook, Ore. Apr. 5 (DFi, HN, DHo). The 17 Peregrine and 26 Merlin reports were slightly below last spring's record totals. Captive Sandhill Cranes have been released at Pitt Meadows to augment the frail breeding population there. A **Common Gallinule** photographed at Iona I., B.C., remained there May 26-June 3 for a first Regional record (†BK, †WW *et al.*).

SHOREBIRDS -- Territorial Black Oystercatchers on Dungeness Spit, Wash. (D & SS), Chuckanut Bay near Bellingham, Wash. (GG, *vide* DV & TW), and in Lighthouse P., W Vancouver, B.C. (WW), may mark a range expansion in this area. The Blue-listed Snowy Plover is holding on. One was incubating at Newport, Ore. Apr. 4 (OSw, FR, DFi, *vide* EE). Eleven pair nested on Leadbetter Pt., Wash., in late May. This success was attributed to the strict beach closures imposed on their behalf (RWi). One pair was at the species' n. outpost at Ocean Shores Apr. 19-May 2 (G & WH; CB, *vide* TBo). Eight Am. Golden Plover, rare in spring, were noted at 4 locations, Apr. 26-May 30. Two Long-billed Curlews were seen Apr. 19 at Coos Bay, Ore. (AMc) was the sole report. An **Upland Sandpiper** May 31 on a stretch of lawn at Lightning L., Manning P.P., B.C., high in the Cascades, was definitely displaced (WS). Oregon observers reported 18 Solitary Sandpipers, including seven at Gaston, w. of Portland, Apr. 26-27 (JGa, *vide* HN), and one very late bird May 28 at Eugene (SHi, *vide* AC). The **Spotted Redshank** at Reifel I., B.C. (†WW, †RC, †DK) stayed with a flock of Greater Yellowlegs generally far out on the tide flats until Apr. 1 (RF), at which time it had molted into partial breeding plumage. Red Knots refueled in s.w. Washington as usual, with 400 on Bottle Beach, e. of Westport, Apr. 24 (G & WH), an early date. The 275 near Westport May 10 (BHT), and the 550 on Leadbetter Pt., May 13 (RWi) marked the usual peak. The high count in Oregon was the 15 at Tillamook May 10 (LP, *vide* HN). The single at Reifel I., Apr. 20 (MPr, *vide* WW) was the only British Columbia report. Most W. Sandpipers passed through Apr. 12-May 10, with high counts of 30,000 on Roberts Bank, w. of

Ladner, B.C., Apr. 19 (DAL, BK, *fide* WW) and 100,000 Apr. 26 at Bowerman Basin on Grays Harbor (KBn *et al.*). The only Semipalmated Sandpipers this spring were seven-ten individuals on Iona I., May 10-28 (BK, DJ, WW). The usual few Baird's and Pectoral sandpipers were sighted. Baird's were at 4 locations Apr. 12-29 with a high count of eight, and Pectorals were at 4 locations Apr. 29-May 24 with a peak count of six. The Short-billed Dowitcher passage was concentrated on salt water shores Apr. 12-May 14, with a peak Apr. 19 of 200+ on Boundary Bay, B.C. (BK, *fide* WW) and 800-1000 at Ocean Shores (KBo) Long-balled Dowitcher migration in the Region is more protracted and less habitat specific. The 200 in Seattle May 13 (ES, ER) was the maximum. A **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** with a flock of Whimbrel Apr. 12 (†MSm, *fide* HN) provided the first spring record for the West Coast of North America (Roberson, *Rare Birds of the West Coast*, p. 181, 1980). A storm apparently precipitated the flock of 145 Marbled Godwits at Ashland high up on the Rogue R. valley in s. Oregon, Apr. 25-26 (MMo, VZ, JSw). Otherwise the high count was of 25 at the more typical coastal location of Waldport, Oreg. (R & JK, *fide* EE).

S.A.

Black-necked Stilts invaded in unprecedented numbers. There were six at Brownsville, near Corvallis, Oreg., Apr. 15 (*fide* CW), then 11 were found at Finley N.W.R., Apr. 18-23 (DP, TB1, *fide* EE), and three found their way to Medford Apr. 18 (MPa, *fide* MMo) and Ashland Apr. 26 (OSw, VZ, MMo). Two appeared on the Nisqually N.W.R., Wash., Apr. 17 (JSI, *fide* TBo) for only the second record for w. Washington. Three came to Reifel Ref., in s.w. B.C., where they remained Apr. 21-May 4 (†WW *et al.*) for the fourth Provincial record. At least 24 individuals were involved. The 1977 invasion of Black-necked Stilts into e. Washington resulted in persistent breeding colonies. That movement was correlated with extreme drought conditions w. of the Rocky Mts., earlier that year (Rohwer *et al.*, *Murrelet* 60:67-71, 1979)

American Avocets were likewise more numerous than usual, with eight individuals reported from 4 locations. Two were on the Nisqually N.W.R., Apr. 17-20 (JSI, BHT, SHr), one-two at Dungeness Apr. 27 and May 17-18 (WS), and four were at Iona I., and Reifel I., May 20-24 (ST, BK *et al.*, *fide* WW).

JAEGERS THROUGH PUFFINS -- Four Pomarine Jaegers Apr. 24 in Hecate Strait n.e. of Sandspit, Queen Charlotte I., furnished an early date for so far n. and constituted the only report received (MiS, *fide* VG).

Parasitic Jaegers were noted only at Grays Harbor May 5-10 (TW, EH). The five Glaucous Gull reports matched last year's total. The first Bonaparte's Gulls returned to Clover Pt., Victoria, Mar. 24 (RS, *fide* VG), and to Iona I., Apr. 1 (*fide* WW). Peak counts of 2000 were made at Active Pass Apr. 29 (J & RS, *fide* VG) and on the lower Fraser R., May 9 (BK, WW). Smaller numbers continued past Victoria throughout May. Seattle's Green L. had hosted 100+ on the early date of Mar. 14. This built to 500 Mar. 18-25, and declined sharply thereafter (EH). With the flock Mar. 18-24 were two ad **Little Gulls**, (E & NH, m.ob.), only the third Regional spring record. Another ad. Little Gull was in Tacoma, Wash., Mar. 25 (CC). Common Tern migration was brief. The species passed May 2-17, with the 500 at Ocean Shores May 9 the peak count (EH). Early Caspian Terns were reported along the Oregon coast Mar 21-22 (HN, DI, TC), and one at Pt. Roberts, Wash., Apr. 12 (BK, *fide* WW) was early for so far n. The species is known to breed in the Region only in Willapa and Grays Harbors on the s. Washington coast. However, two pairs were copulating May 9 at the S.J.C.R. (DFi), and groups of one-three dozen were observed daily near Bellingham and Iona I. (TW, WW), in addition to more widespread reports of one-six birds. One Black Tern was at Sumas Prairie, e. of Vancouver, B.C., May 13 (MiS, *fide* VG). An Ancient Murrelet persisted in courting a Pigeon Guillemot until Apr. 5 off Yaquina Head, Oreg. (CM *et al.*, *fide* EE) A Horned Puffin appeared off Smith I., n.w of Whidbey I., May 30 (J & SVN, PCa). This location is very near the Protection I. site frequented the past 2 summers.

OWLS THROUGH WOODPECKERS -- The last Snowy Owl sightings were of a single at Dungeness Spit Mar. 21 (BMc, *fide* DS), four in Delta, B.C., Mar. 28 (AG, *fide* WW), and one at Iona I., Apr. 12 (BK, *fide* WW) Single Barred Owls spent the spring at 2 locations near Victoria (*fide* VG), and possibly in Stanley P., Vancouver, B.C. (*fide* WW) A pair was seen often in Discovery P., in Seattle (m.ob.), and a possible young bird was found there May 30 (J & MW). Another Barred Owl was rescued from tangled fishing line at Nolte S.P., King Co., Wash., Mar. 2 (*fide* TBo) Spotted Owls remained elusive. D & SS reported none found on 9 trips this spring into the n. edge of the Olympic N.P., although the U.S.F.S. has "recorded a fair number" on the Park's periphery (*fide* D & SS). The Long-eared Owls that wintered at Sea I., B.C., were last seen there Mar. 15 (*fide* WW). Black Swifts checked in early, with singles noted May 3 along the Umpqua R., Oreg (MHu, MSa, *fide* CW) and near Victoria (BHa, *fide* VG), and another May 8 over Tatoosh I., Wash. (BP). Vaux's Swifts were seen first in Corvallis Apr. 14 (EE), with many over Portland Apr. 17 (MHo, *fide* HN). Two were along the N. Fork of the Snoqualmie R., Wash., Apr. 25 (EH) and 48 were noted at Saanich and

Metchosin, V.I., May 1 (BHa, LR, *fide* VG). On May 6, 1000 were at a Corvallis chimney roost (P & KC, DM, *fide* EE) and a large flock plugged a house chimney in Portland (MU, *fide* HN). A **Black-chinned Hummingbird** was reported at a feeder in N. Bend on the s. Oregon coast Mar. 28 (AMc), and two were there Apr. 21-24 (EW, *fide* AMc). One, present for 3 weeks in April at Ashland, Oreg., (D & MN, *fide* MMo), was closer to the species' normal breeding range. The first nest of the Anna's Hummingbird in Oregon has been located at last, in Portland. The nest held two young Mar. 30 (JMo, *fide* HN), and they fledged Apr. 18 (m. ob., ph., OSc). Fifty Allen's Hummingbirds were counted Mar. 21-22 from the California border n. to the Pistol R., with six at Arizona Beach the northernmost (TC, JGi, TM, *fide* HN). No Rufous Hummingbirds were noted there, but they were common at Coos Bay, 50 min. A male Calliope Hummingbird was at a Poulsbo, Wash., feeder May 11 (JoC). A freshly dead Williamson's Sapsucker was found Mar 15 in Seattle (PN, *to U.W. Museum) for one of very few w. Washington records.

Volume 35, Number 5 855



View of female Anna's Hummingbird near nest, Multnomah County, Ore., Apr. 4, 1981. Photo/Owen Schmidt.

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH DIPPER -- The W. Kingbird rarely nests n. of the Rogue R. valley of s. Oregon. Twenty-two individuals were noted this spring, Apr. 20-May 27, n. and w. of the Rogue R., compared to ten in 1978, 15 in 1979, and nine in 1980. Black Phoebe were found nesting at a new location near Central Point, Jackson Co., Oreg. (MPa, OSw, *fide* MMo). Twelve individuals and one nest were located along the coastal strip from the California border n. to the Pistol R. (TC, JGi, OSc, DAn, *fide* HN). A Say's Phoebe was observed May 17 on Iona I. (†BK, †WW *et al.*). The first Hammond's Flycatchers were noted Apr. 21 at Portland (RSm, *fide* HN), Apr. 25 at Reifel I., B.C. (GA, *fide* WW), and Apr. 26 at Sequim, Carnation, and Issaquah, Wash. (WS, ME, EH). First arrival dates for

W. Flycatchers were Apr. 15-19 in Seattle, and Saanich and Coquitlam, B.C. Both species were widespread by the end of April. A singing male **Least Flycatcher** at Pitt Lake, B.C., May 31 (WW) furnished only the second valid Vancouver area record. Very early W. Wood Pewees were reported at Mt. Erie, near Anacortes, Wash., Apr. 19 (SA, FSA) and in Seattle Apr. 23 (JV, *fide* DHu). Otherwise arrival was in early May as is more typical. One Bank Swallow straggled through Seattle Apr. 24 (JAR), and three were on Iona I., May 21 (WW). A Rough-winged Swallow Mar. 26 at Victoria (AMa, *fide* VG) was 2 weeks ahead of the main influx. The first Barn Swallow was one Apr. 1 at Seattle (SA, GVV). The species was widespread within 2 weeks. Two Cliff Swallows Mar. 29 at Nehalem meadows on the n. Oregon coast (JGi, *fide* HN) were 2 weeks ahead of the main influx. Two pairs of Purple Martins arrived at Fern Ridge Res., w. of Eugene Apr. 9 (TL, *fide* DFe), but the species was not noted in Washington until Apr. 24 when three pairs were at nest boxes in Redmond (FE, *fide* DFe). A Clark's Nutcracker May 3 along the Rogue R., w. of Grants Pass, Oreg. was well w. of the Cascade crest (*fide* HN). Bushtits were nest-building near Vancouver, B.C., by Mar. 11, (MMc, VN, *fide* WW), near Seattle by Mar. 14, (K & PM), and at Saanich by Mar. 26, (J & RS, *fide* VG). Two Wrentits n. of Corvallis were at the n. vanguard of the species' expanding Willamette Valley range (AS, *fide* EE). White-breasted Nuthatches were noted Mar. 28 at the n. edge of their range near Tacoma, Wash. (NC). Red-breasted Nuthatch numbers were considered low in s. Oregon (*fide* MMo & AMc) and on s. V.I. (VG). Dippers were constructing an early nest in Goldstream P.P., V.I., Mar. 13 (EF, *fide* VG).

THRASHERS THROUGH WARBLERS -- A stray Sage Thrasher turned up at Tillamook Bay May 17 (DHo, *fide* HN). A Mockingbird built a nest at Medford, Oreg. during May, but failed to find a mate (MMo). Three other Mockingbirds were reported in Oregon, all in early March, and another was in Manning P.P., B.C., May 27 (RH, RWe, *fide* WW) for the first record for the park. The robin's reputation as an early bird was upheld by a pair defending a newly fledged young Mar. 11 near Seattle (MD). Varied Thrushes were "very scarce" on s. V.I. (VG) and little noted elsewhere. Swainson's Thrushes at Gaston, w. of Portland, Apr. 11 (JGa, *fide* HN), on the U.B.C. campus in Vancouver Apr. 16 (JSm, *fide* WW), and at Salem Apr. 18 (TC) were several weeks early. The first substantial nocturnal passage was noted May 8-12 over Corvallis and Portland (DI, HN). Western Bluebirds maintained their foothold. Three nests were found at Agate L., near Medford (MPa, *fide* MMo), 8 pairs were nesting by the end of April along the Corvallis bluebird trail (*fide* EE), and four pairs plus one nest were found this spring on Ft. Lewis, near Tacoma, Wash. (BHT).

Some two dozen individuals were reported, but no nests, at various locations in the Victoria area (*fide* VG). Two Loggerhead Shrikes straggled W of the Cascades. One was found Mar. 22 at Crescent Beach, s.c. of Vancouver, B.C. (†BK), and the other Mar. 27 at the Nisqually N.W.R., Wash. (HC, LK). Fifteen Hutton's Vireos were counted Mar. 8 on the monthly Discovery Park census, Seattle, and a nest was under construction there the same day (EH). Red-eyed Vireos had just arrived by the end of May, with two along the Coquitlam R., B.C. (WW) and one at Sultan, Wash. (ME), all May 30. Oregon again attracted the vagrant warblers for the Region. Two Black-and-white Warblers were well described. Single males were at Cornelius, w. of Portland, Apr. 23 (GW *et al.*, *fide* HN) and May 20 near Ashland (†MMo *et al.*). A wave of **Tennessee Warblers** hit the Portland area May 3-8, with six individuals found in 5 days. Five were in Portland itself (†PT, RSm, MHo *et al.*, *fide* HN), and was one 30 mi s. in Salem May 8 (TBl, *fide* HN). There is but one previous spring record for either w. Washington or w. Oregon, and most spring vagrants are found much later in the season. A Palm Warbler, scarce in spring, was closely studied Apr. 4 at Newport, Ore. (m.ob.), and another was near Leadbetter Pt., Wash., Apr. 12 (DAI, KBe, JMc, *fide* WW). About 50 Townsend's Warblers were found at Corvallis Mar. 31 (EE). Farther n., about 40 were at Pitt L., B.C., Apr. 26 (MPr, *fide* WW). Black-throated Gray Warblers arrived in force on the s. Oregon coast Apr. 11-12 (*fide* HN), and in the Puget Sound, Victoria, and Vancouver, B.C., area Apr. 15-19 (m.ob.).

BOBOLINK THROUGH BUNTINGS -- Three male Bobolinks were reported: one May 25 at Iona I., B.C. (†BK, RP), and one May 26 on the U.W. campus in Seattle for the third year in a row at this season (ER), and one May 31 at Reifel I., B.C. (†MPr, WK). A N. (Baltimore) Oriole May 30-June 2 at Saanich, V.I., supplied one of very few Regional records for this near species (JMa, EC, RWI, *fide* VG). A female **Rusty Blackbird** at Westham I., B.C., Mar. 21 (†BK) provided a most unusual spring report. Evening Grosbeaks exhibit an odd migratory pattern, not yet adequately defined. They appear in Seattle each year by the hundreds within a few days of May 1 to feast on flowering ornamental maples. Reports from Oregon this spring suggested an earlier influx there, after Apr. 10 at Corvallis (*fide* EE), Apr. 18 at Portland (DFi), and Apr. 19 at Ashland (*fide* MMo). The question is where do these large numbers of Evening Grosbeaks winter? Christmas Bird Count data indicate that it is not to the s. of our Region. Pine Siskins were reported in good numbers throughout the Region. Red Crossbills nested at Philomath, near Corvallis (R & JK, *fide* EE), and at Eugene (JiC, *fide* EE). The species was reported as very scarce in w. Washington (DS, BHT, EH), and as absent

on s. V.I. (VG) and in the Vancouver, B.C., area before May 31 (WW). Vesper Sparrows arrived at nesting sites in the Willamette Valley Apr. 7-18, and were "abundant" s.w. of Tacoma, Wash., by Apr. 19 (BHT). A Lark Sparrow, which is rare w. of the Cascades, nested at Agate L., near Medford in early May (VZ, *fide* MMo). A **Black-throated Sparrow** strayed to Medford May 20 (CR, *fide* HN) probably as an overshoot from the n.w. periphery of its range in the Malheur basin of e. Oregon. Wintering White-throated Sparrows were last seen at Newport, Ore., Apr. 18 (FSr, *fide* CW), at Corvallis Apr. 26 (K & SL, *fide* EE), and at Eugene May 2 (TF, SG, *fide* CW). A few Lapland Longspurs were noted in passage at Ocean Shores Apr. 19-May 2 (KBo) and at Seattle May 5-14 (ER, B & PE). The last Snow Bunting was at Delta, B.C., Mar. 28 (AG, *fide* WW).

CITED OBSERVERS and ABBREVIATIONS, with sub-regional editors boldfaced.--Dave Aldcroft (DA1), David Anderson (DAn), Harvey Anderson, Gerry Ansell, Pete Arcese, Scott Atkinson, Carla Baugher, Kevin Bell (KBe), Tim Blount (TBl), Thais Bock (TBo), Ken Brown (KBo), Ken Brunner (KBn), Wayne Campbell, Richard Cannings, Jim Carlson (JiC), Joan Carson (JoC), Paul Cassidy (PCa), Chris Chappell, Nathan Chappell, Ed Coffin, Paul & Kathy Coleman, Alan Contreras, Tom Crabtree, Herbert Curl, Michael Donahue, Francis Edwards, Mark Egger, Elzy Eltzroth, Dick Erickson, Bob & Pat Evans, Dave Fehling (DFe), Tad Finnell, **David Fix** (DFi), Ethel Fogarty, Roger Foxall, George Garlich, John Gatchett (JGa), Jeff Gilligan (JGi), Steve Gordon, **Vic Goodwill**, Al Grass, **Bill Harrington-Tweit** (BHT), Bob Hay (BHa), Steve Heintz (SHi), Steve Herman (SHr), Wendell Hoag (Who), Keith Hobson, David Hoffman (DHo), Glen & Wanda Hoge (G & WH), Beryl Holt (BHo), Mike Houck (MHo), Rick Howie, Nancy Hunn, Matt Hunter (MHu), David Hutchinson (DHu), David Irons, Dale Jensen, Brian Kautesk, Lois Killewich, Walter Kiryck, Anne Knowles, Rick & Jan Krabbe, Doug Kragh, Kristi & Swede Larson, Bob Lucas, Tom Lund, Jo MacGregor (JMa), Alan MacLeod (AMa), Chris Marsh, Debbie Martin, Karen Mattocks, Bob McCormack (BMc), Marjorie McFeat (MMc), Alan

856 *American Birds*, September 1981

McGie (AMc), John McMahon (JMc), Brien Meilleur (BMe), Marjorie Moore (MMo), Joe Morawski (JMo), Terry Morgan, Pam Negri, **Harry Nehls**, Verna Newson, Don & Marjorie Newson, Mike Paczolt (MPa), Bob Paine, Dick Palmer, Leonard Paul, Roy Phillips, Michael Price (MPr), Fred Ramsey, Ellen Ratoosh, Alan Richards, Robyn Ricks, Craig Roberts, Leila Roberts, Wilma Robinson, Joy & Ron Satterfield (J & RS), Susan Saul (SSa), Martha Sawyer (MSa), Owen Schmidt (OSc), Fred Sharp (FSa), Mark Shepard

(MaS), Michael Shepard (MiS), Floyd Shrock (FSr), Aaron Skirvin, John Slipp (JSl), Eugene Smirnov, Dory & Stan Smith (D & SS), Jamie Smith (JSm), Mark Smith (MSm), Richard Smith (RSm), Steve Summers (SSu), Wally Sumner, Otis Swisher (OSw), Sharon Trefrey, Peter Turnbull, Mike Uhtoff, Doris Vanderway, Jan & Sally Van Neil (J & SVN), Gus Van Vliet (GVV), John Varekamp, **Terry Wahl**, Glenn Walthall, Clarice Watson, Robin Weber (RWe), **Wayne Weber**, Ralph Widrig (RWi), Ray Williams (RWI), John & Marilyn Wingfield, E. Wisti, Vince Zauskey, (†) written description on file; S.J.C.R.-South jetty of the Columbia R., Oreg.; V.I.-Vancouver I.

The Nesting Season, 1981

**NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN -
INTERMOUNTAIN REGION**
/Thomas H. Rogers

Eastern Washington, northern Idaho and northwestern Montana had a cool, wet June that interfered somewhat with nesting success but the rest of the Region generally reported normal weather and good-to-excellent nesting conditions. Southern Idaho had a hot, dry summer with extensive fires that consumed over 400,000 acres of desert.

LOONS AND GREBES -- A pair of Com. Loons spent the summer on L. Wenatchee, Chelan Co., Wash. (WD) and a few of the birds appeared on lakes in Okanogan and Grant cos., Wash. Coeur d'Alene L., Ida., had one July 13 (AT) and "very few" were reported for Kootenai N.F., in n.w. Montana (CW). Spectacle L., e. of Loomis, Wash., had an ad. Red-necked Grebe June 3 (RF) and an ad and two imm of the species were on Fish L., n. of Conconully, Wash., on the same day (JK). A small lake 10 mi s. of Chewelah, Wash., supported two ad. and three imm. Red-necked Grebes July 13 (JN) and one was seen on Duck L., 8 mi w. of Harrington, Wash. (JAd, SZ). Three or four times the usual number of the species was sighted on Kootenai N.F. lakes (CW) and five were near the s. end of Flathead L., in w. Montana in June (BD). A hundred W. Grebes were on C.J. Strike Res., w. of Bruneau, Ida. July 3 (J & NH). Western and Pied-billed grebes nested successfully at Carty Res., Boardman, Ore. (RJK) and a Western on Wenas Res., n.w. of Yakima, Wash., June 21 was unusual (Y.A.S.).

PELICANS THROUGH IBISES -- Lake Walcott and Am. Falls Res., on the Snake R., s.c. Idaho had "hundreds" (WHS) and "flocks of 60-70" (CHT) White Pelicans, normal for the area. Two addled eggs, not in a nest, on the gull island in L. Walcott suggested an incipient breeding colony but Double-crested

Cormorants and California Gulls have preempted the space (CHT). Twenty White Pelicans were on the Columbia R, near Umatilla N.W.R., Ore., June 26 (RJK) and 18 were on Frenchman Hills Wasteway w. of Potholes Res., s. Grant Co., Wash, July 13 (GC). Highly unusual were two on

960 *American Birds*, November 1981



White-faced Ibis, near Ephrata, Wash., June 6, 1981. Photo/Edward Miller.

Sullivan L., Pend Oreille Co., Wash. (*vide* JAd). Double-crested Cormorant colonies at Am. Falls Res., Blackfoot Res., and Mud L., Hamer, Ida, were expanding (CHT). The colony at the N. Potholes comprised 25± adults with at least 23 nestlings in a minimum of 9 nests (RF). The pair on the Kootenai R., near Libby, Mont., stayed into early June (CW). Miller I., s. of Goldendale, Wash., had 6 active Great Blue Heron nests (BE, PMi). New colonies were developing in the Libby area (CW). Single Green Herons were sighted along the Yakima R., w. of Cle Elum, Wash., June 7 (EH) and at Lake of the Woods, w. Klamath Co., Ore., along Hwy. 140 June 21 (SS). Two nestlings believed to be Cattle Egrets were banded on L. Walcott's gull island (CHT). The Great Egret colony at the N. Potholes had at least five nesting pairs; 4 nests averaged three young per nest (RF). Only one bird was seen near Pocatello, Ida. but a presumed nesting bird was at Mud L., Hamer, Ida., June 26 (CHT). Snowy Egret numbers showed severe declines in colonies in the Pocatello-Hamer area (CHT). Two Black-crowned Night Herons near Cataldo were n. Idaho's first (GHa, *vide* SGS) and one imm. bird at Chewelah, Wash., July 29 was Nisbet's second for the county. Trost banded 350 in s.e. Idaho, yet the number of imm. birds was down and several thin-shelled eggs were found. White-faced Ibis seemed to be doing well in s.e. Idaho. A flooded field near Mud L., yielded 200 and Trost

banded 141 at Market L., Roberts June 28. Sightings of up to five were made in June in the Ephrata-Quincy-Winchester-Potholes area of Washington (JA, RF, EH, BM *et al.*). One at Red Rock Lakes N.W.R., Lima, Mont., was the first since 1976 (RS).

WATERFOWL -- Two Whistling Swans spent 2 weeks in mid-June at Minidoka N.W.R., Minidoka, Ida. (JHi). Trumpeter Swans at Red Rock Lakes and vicinity produced 116 cygnets; the early July swan population there was 357 (RS). A pair that nested again at Market L., had three young June 28. Turnbull N.W.R., Cheney, Wash., counted eight trumpeters (JRR). Canada Geese numbers were definitely up from last year at Minidoka and Turnbull and at Deer Flat N.W.R., Nampa, Ida. Nesting of the species continued to climb in Boundary County, Ida. in response to erection of nest structures (JM). The ad. Ross' Goose at Ladd Marsh W.M.A., Union Co., Ore., remained at least until June 12 (JE). Total duck numbers were up at Turnbull, down at Minidoka and near average at Columbia N.W.R., Othello, Wash. In the Fortine, Mont., vicinity duck numbers were decidedly down (WW) but ducks enjoyed excellent success around Chewelah, Wash. (JN). About 12 pairs of Ring-necked Ducks nested at Morgan L., s.w. of La Grande, Ore. (JE). An ad. male White-winged Scoter was spotted on Sidley L., near Molson, Wash., July 8 (JK). Hooded Merganser eggs were found in 2 Wood Duck nest boxes near Cardwell, Mont., for the first evidence of breeding or even summering in the Bozeman latilong (RLE).

VULTURES AND HAWKS -- A count of Turkey Vultures at P-Ranch, Malheur N.W.R., Burns, Ore., June 9-11 found about 50, down 50% from 1976 (CHT). A nest found at Coeur d'Alene L., Ida. contained two young (PH). Goshawks "seemed to be everywhere" in the Kootenai N.F. (CW). In Grant, Baker, Union and Malheur Cos., Ore., 23 different Swainson's Hawks were counted, up from last year (RDP) and two sightings were made at Salmon, Ida. where the birds are rare (HBR). The Dept. of Game found 30 successful breeding pairs of Ferruginous Hawks on an intensive survey in s.e. Washington but the species was reported "hard to find" in n.e. Oregon; a pair appeared near Pilot Rock July 5 (RDP) and a pair was near Enterprise June 13 (B.M.A.S.). The species was a successful breeder in the Boardman, Ore. area (RJK). Kootenai N.W.R., Bonners Ferry, Ida. reported the first summer use by Bald Eagles, an ad. and an imm. bird (LDN). In Oregon an adult was soaring over Summer L., Lake Co., July 24 (SS) and an adult was near Starkey June 25 (VS). In n.w. Montana the species reestablished a nest on L. Kookanusa near the Canadian border and a completely new nest at Bull L., s. of Troy produced two young. A mature bird was established at Libby Dam, another just down river

from Libby, and a third in Pleasant Valley n. of the Thompson Lakes (CW). A pair attempted to nest in the Salmon, Ida. vicinity gave up around mid-June (HBR). An Osprey carrying a fish over Richland, Wash., July 6 made Woodley's first observation there for that month; he also saw one over The Dalles, Ore., July 19. One Peregrine Falcon and two Merlin sightings were reported for the Region.

GALLINACEOUS BIRDS -- The cold, wet summer was hard on broods of Blue, Spruce, and Ruffed grouse in Kootenai N.F.; at Kootenai N.W.R., and in Pend Oreille County, Wash. Broods of two were usual six to eight is normal for Kootenai N.F., where Sharp-tailed Grouse broods were also small. A single White-tailed Ptarmigan was observed on Mt. Nebo in the Eagle Cap Wilderness s. of Joseph, Ore., July 25 (U.S.F.S. workers, *fide* JE). In the Mahogany Mts., n. of Jordan Valley, Ore., three Sage Grouse and four ad. and 16 imm. Mountain Quail were observed July 13 (RDP). A Bobwhite was found along Wild Horse Cr., n. of Pendleton, Ore., July 3 (CC). California Quail showed up in and near Coeur d'Alene; they had not been noted there previously and the game department has not released any (SGS). A Turkey was observed in Cochran Gulch 15 mi n.e. of Helena, Mont.; the species was planted there several years ago (CB, *fide* GH).

CRANES THROUGH TERNS -- The 2- year-old Whooping Crane from Grays Lake N.W.R., s.e. Idaho, remained at Red Rock Lakes N.W.R., through the summer (RS). A female Whooper from the Patuxent, Md. Wildlife Research Center was released near Grays L., in hopes she will mate with one of the males there (Ornithological Newsletter of Am. Ornithologists' Union *et al.*). A flock of Sandhill Cranes was sighted near Wiley City w. of Yakima, Wash., June 8 (Y.A.S.) and the species was seen in the Salmon, Ida. vicinity June 27 (HBR). Sandhills produced young at Pleasant Valley, Kootenai N.F.; seven or eight cranes were present there in June-July (CW). Snowy Plovers were reported only at Summer L.; ten birds June 20 (RDP). Only two Upland Sandpipers were found at the little breeding colony in the Spokane Valley e. of Spokane (JA). The species was again found in Bear Valley 30 mi s.w. of John Day, Ore. (C & MC). The first "fall" movement of shorebirds at the Joseph, Ore., sewage ponds came July 7 with a big thunderstorm. It included a Greater and a Lesser Yellowlegs, five Leasts

Volume 35, Number 6 961

and 150 W. Sandpipers, two Longbilled Dowitchers, and a Marbled Godwit (FC). Toppenish N.W.R., Wash., had a Willet June 17 (ERC). A Sanderling in partial summer plumage was at Summer L., July 24 (SS). Black-necked Stilts have rebounded from the effects of Mt. St. Helens' ash in the breeding territory in

the Potholes Res. area; at least six were along Dodson Road in June (JA, EH, BM m.ob.). In Whitman County, Wash., one was sighted at Texas L. 5 mi s.e. of Revere (JA, SZ). An estimated 50,000 Am. Avocets were distributed along 10-15 mi of shore at Summer L., July 24 (SS). A female Red Phalarope in breeding plumage photographed on a small pond near Anatone, Wash., June 14-15 made the fourth sighting for the area and the first in summer (SM, PD, LC *et al.*).



Red Phalarope, near Anatone, Wash., June 14, 1981. Photo/Shirley Muse.

Glaucous-winged Gulls were reported breeding on Miller I., in the Columbia R., along with California and Ring-billed gulls (BE). The gull colony at Deer Flat N.W.R. produced 3000 California and 1000 Ring-billed young (ECB). Ring-billed Gull numbers in the Libby Dam vicinity were twice last year's; the birds found much food in turbine-killed fish (CW). A Bonaparte's Gull appeared at Helena July 1 (G & NN) and two in breeding plumage were at Summer L., July 24 (SS). A Com. Tern was along the Columbia R., at Boardman July 5 (RDP). Some 220 pairs of Caspian Terns at N. Potholes Res. produced $150 \pm$ young (RF). Five, an increase, were at Blackfoot Res., on the Snake R., but none were found on Am. Falls or Island Park Res., Ida. (CHT). A Caspian at Warm Springs and another at Silver L., w. of Anaconda in mid-July were the first for that part of Montana (JVH, DS, LJ).

DOVES THROUGH OWLS -- Single Band-tailed Pigeons were discovered at Klamath Falls, Ore., July 18 (SS); at Calispell L., Pend Oreille L., Wash., June 5 (JN & SZ) n. of Chewelah, Wash., July 15 (JN), and in Gallatin Canyon 25 mi s. of Bozeman, Mont., June 17 (PDS) for the first local record.



Band-tailed Pigeon, Gallatin Canyon, south of Bozeman, Mont., June 17, 1981. Photo/P.D. Skaar.

The species was also reported at Tucannon Game Range e. of Dayton, Wash. A Yellow-billed Cuckoo was heard along the Portneuf R., near Pocatello, July 3 (CHT) and one was found the same day 16 mi e. of Pendleton (C & MC). A Black-billed Cuckoo was reported for the Boise area July 11 (A & HL). It was an excellent summer for finding Flammulated Owls in n.e. Oregon. One was heard June 8-12 at Spring Cr., w. of La Grande (JE). In the Starr Campground vicinity 9 min. of Seneca at least three calling in early June (m.ob.) and one suspected of nesting was in a snag June 26 (JG *et al.*). A nest with three nearly fledged young was found along Big Cr., 4 mi n.e. of Medical Springs, Union Co., July 10 (JE). One or more of the species was calling at Loup Loup Campground w. of Okanogan, Wash., the night of June 17 (BW) and in the Rupert, Ida. area a Flammulated Owl nest held two young July 25 (WHS). Two ad. and two imm. Burrowing Owls were observed at Jordan Valley, Ore., July 13 (RDP). Two juv. Barred Owls with downy white feathers on the head were attracted by taped calls of ad. birds at Calispell Bog, Pend Oreille Co., Wash., July 3 (JA). A pair was observed at Loup Loup Campground June 6 & 17-18 (B & GR; BW). At Crawfish L., 15 mi n.e. of Omak, Wash., one was observed; its calling was answered by another in the distance (RF). The species appeared to be spreading in Kootenai N.F., and one was sighted at Lolo Pass on the Montana-Idaho border June 14 (BD). Two Spotted Owls were found in Gifford Pinchot N.F., Wash., July 18 (EM, RJ). The Great Gray Owl at the nesting site on

Spring Cr., Union Co., Ore., was seen again June 10-13 but apparently had not found a mate (LPa, MCa). An imm. Saw-whet Owl was found along the road 16 mi e. of Pendleton July 3 (C & MC).

POOR-WILLS THROUGH HUMMINGBIRDS -- The only Poor-wills reported were in the Nampa, Ida. area; near Selah, Wash.; w. of Spokane, and n. of Ennis L., Ennis, Mont. (WEH, ETH, PDS). Several hundred Com. Nighthawks were over Bridgeport, Wash., the evening of July 15 (RF). Flocks of 15-75 Black Swifts were active over Wenatchee June 15-July 31 (PC). A loose group of 400± was low over the orchards 6 mi w. of Bridgeport June 18 in 50°F., cloudy, rainy weather (BW). Four Chimney Swifts over Livingston, Mont., July 2 were well west of previous sightings (WEH). About 50 White-throated Swifts were in the colony at Succor Creek S.P., s. of Adrian, Ore., July 13 (RDP). The species was seen at Salmon June 21 & 23 (HBR). Anna's Hummingbirds were present in good numbers in Klamath Falls where they are now regular (SS). A male was on territory at Hood River, Ore., May 31 (RDP) and a female visited a Nampa feeder July 16 (J & NH).

WOODPECKERS AND FLYCATCHERS -- Six Lewis' Woodpeckers were seen on Magic Mt., 28 mi s. of Hansen, Ida., an unusual location July 29 (JR). Very few of the species were noted anywhere; most of the reports were from the Yakima and Salmon areas. Single "Red-breasted" Sapsuckers were sighted at Clear L., between Yakima and White Pass June 14 and at L. Kachess near Easton, Wash., June 24 (Y.A.S.). In the Ketchum, Ida. area at 8000 ft. Williamson's Sapsuckers were feeding nestlings and White-headed Woodpeckers were nesting in the same tree (EZ, WHS). A N. Three-toed Woodpecker was sighted on Mt. Fanny near Cove, Ore., July 5 (RDP). An Ash-throated Flycatcher s. of Moses L., Wash., June 11 was the only one reported (JA). Up to three singing male Least Flycatchers were observed several times at the beaver pond along the road to Sun Mr. Lodge near Winthrop, Wash., in June (EH, B & GR, RT, m.ob.). A nesting pair of W. Flycatchers at Hilgard Junction S.P., Union Co., Ore., June 10 provided the first evidence of breeding for the county (JE *et al.*). An Olive-sided Flycatcher on Mt. Harrison July 31 was apparently the first ever reported for Cassia County, Ida. (JR).

SWALLOWS THROUGH WRENS -- Two hundred pairs of Bank Swallows were frequenting the mouth of the Okanogan R., n.e. Washington June 12 (RF). A few White-breasted Nuthatches reappeared in the Fortine area after several years' virtual absence (WW). Four B.B.S.s in n.e. Washington and n. Idaho indicated continuing increase in Red-breasted Nuthatch numbers there and the species was "extremely common" in

Kootenai N.F. The first summer records of Wrentits for the Klamath Falls area were of one along the Link R., July 14+ and two in Klamath Falls July 18 (SS). A Bewick's Wren along the s.w. shore of Summer L., in Oregon July 24 was out of the species' normal range (SS). Rock Wrens may have reached a low point in n.e. Washington. None have been found on the Keller B.B.S., for the last 2 years and none on the Reardan B.B.S., reactivated this year. The Dishman Hills-Tower Mt. area at Spokane yielded only one sighting. A pair nested n. of Chewelah, however, for apparently the first breeding record for that latilong (JN).

MIMIDS AND THRUSHES -- A Mockingbird was observed July 15, 10 mi s. of Othello, Wash. (JC). In Boardman, Ore., one that had established a territory was photographed June 22 (RJK); probably the same bird was seen there July 14 (MC). Gray Catbirds were sighted in 3 places in Okanogan County, Wash., June 4: two at Palmer L. (RF), one 2 mi s. of Winthrop, and one 3 mi s. of Twisp (GB). The next box project at Boise-Cascade Campground on Wenas Cr., n.w. of Yakima provided homes for 20 broods of Western and 25 broods of Mountain bluebirds (BT).

VIREOS AND WARBLERS -- Solitary Vireo numbers dropped sharply on the Keller, Wash., Mivoden B.B.S.s

962 *American Birds*, November 1981

(Coeur d'Alene latilong) but Warbling Vireos plunged only on the Keller route. Red-eyed Vireo numbers remained steady for Keller and Mivoden. Yellow Warbler totals have declined quite steadily over the last 4 or 5 years on the Mivoden, Keller and Reardan, Wash. surveys but were steady for the Avery, Ida. B.B.S. The trend for Townsend's Warbler was definitely down for Mivoden and Avery. Wilson's Warbler numbers on the Avery B.B.S., dropped sharply (a clear day) but climbed somewhat on the Mivoden route (cloudy and cold), causing one to wonder about possible weather effects. A well described singing male **Northern Parula** at Kamiak Butte, Whitman Co., Wash., June 21 was apparently the state's first (RSc). Ovenbirds again summered at Cottonwood Cr., s. of Bozeman (PDS). A N. Waterthrush was again found along the Little Deschutes R., near Gilchrist, Ore., June 20 (RDP). The first Am. Redstart nest for n.e. Oregon was found along the Grande Ronde R., w. of La Grande; it contained four nearly fledged nestlings (JE).

BLACKBIRDS -- Bobolinks s. of Chewelah, Wash., apparently left without breeding but Calispell L., to the e. had possibly as many as 28 (JN). A few were in the usual area near Cusick, Wash., and one was sighted between Springdale and Hunters, Wash., June 18 (JA). A few were noted at Toppenish N.W.R., Wash. June 17 (Y.A.S.). In Oregon a few pairs were again nesting near

Enterprise and Union (FC, JE, CC). In Idaho three were sighted near Bruneau June 21 (A & HL), the species was seen at Salmon June 26-27 (HBR), and 2 small nesting colonies were again found on the Pocatello B.B.S. apparently nesting in wheat fields (CHT). Tricolored Blackbirds were locally common in flocks up to 500-1000 in the Klamath Basin throughout the summer and a flock of 200± was at Summer L., July 24 (SS). A Scott's Oriole was banded at Pocatello June 2 (JJ).

FINCHES -- A male Rose-breasted Grosbeak put in an appearance at Spokane July 4 for the lat-long's second record (JA). A pair of Blue Grosbeaks again nested near Buhl, Ida. two-three fledglings attended by both ad. birds were observed July 22 (TR). An Indigo Bunting was photographed at Idaho Falls, Ida. May 20. It stayed a week in company with three Lazuli Buntings (LP). Three Purple Finches along the Lost R., 15-20 mi e. of Klamath Falls were e. of their normal range (SS). Singles of the species were sighted at Nile, Wash., and to the w. at Clear L. (Y.A.S.). Many flocks of Cassin's Finches and Pine Siskins were seen in the mountains w. of Yakima and the former species was "literally everywhere" in Kootenai N.F.; 50 were banded in one hour in the latter area (CW). Pine Siskins were far more numerous than usual in the Helena area and many were found on Mt. Harrison, Ida. July 31 (JR).

SPARROWS -- Up to four Grasshopper Sparrows, some singing, were observed in the Pilot Rock, Ore., vicinity July 5 (RDP) & 26 (CC). About eight singing males and three believed to be females were found in Esquatzel Coulee 3 mi n.e. of Mesa, Wash., June 10 (RF), and a singing male was at the Moses L., Wash., airport June 7 (EH). A small population of Black-throated Sparrows was discovered 4 mi e. of Carey, Ida. two males were present May 22 and the last seen, a male July 1, was territorial on every visit. No breeding was noted there but the birds were there last summer also (TR). One of the species was sighted at the Boardman, Ore., Navy Bombing Range July 10 (GG). Several singing male Sage Sparrows were in sagebrush e. of Columbia N.W.R., and s. of the O'Sullivan Dam road, Grant Co., Wash., June 23 (PC, HO) and five were found n.w. of Ephrata, Wash., June 7 (EH). The species was also seen near Anatone, Wash., June 14 (B.M.A.S.). Gray-headed Juncos were more common than Dark-eyed on Magic Mt., and Mt. Harrison in s.c. Idaho at July's end (JR). This is apparently the first record of the former species in that area. A Swamp Sparrow, new to the park list, was carefully identified at L. McDonald, Glacier N.P., Mont., June 26 (TS).

OBSERVERS CITED -- James Acton, Jack Adkins (JAd), Eugene C. Barney, Charles Beveridge, Blue Mt. Audubon Society (B.M.A.S.) George Brady, Gretchen

Call, Lois Campbell, Mike Carmody (MCa), Phil Cheney, Frank Conley, Craig & Marion Corder, Emily R. Cragg, John Coykendall, Priscilla Dauble, Brennan Davis, Wayne Doane, Mark Egger, R.L. Eng, Joe Evanich, Bob Everitt, Ron Friesz, Jeff Gilligan, Greg Green, Gertrude Hanson (GHa), W.E. Harper, Paul Harrington, John V. Hartman, E.T. Hays, James & Naomi Heckathorn, John Hill (JHi), George Holton, Eugene Hunn, Lois Jenkins, Joe Jeppson, Ray Johnson, Jerry King, Ronald J. Klein, Al & Hilda Larson, Jack McNeel, Phil Mattocks, Ed Miller, Pat Miller (PMi), Bob Morrison, Shirley Muse, Larry D. Napier, Jack Nisbet, Gene & Norma Nixon, Howard Oswood, Richard D. Palmer, Leonard Paul (LPa), Lona Pierce, James R. Rees, Bill & Geness Reichert, Terrell Rich, Hadley B. Roberts, Jeff Ruprecht, Rusty Scalf (RSc), Terrence Schiefer, W.H. Shillington, Richard Sjostrom, P.D. Skaar, Verna Slane, Eugene Smirnov, Don Stoecher, Shirley G. Sturts, Steve Summers, Bill Thoren, Allen Toole, Ron Toonen, C.H. Trost, Winton Weydemeyer, Bart Whelton, Carl Wolf, R.E. Woodley, Yakima Audubon Society (Y.A.S.), Steve Zender, Eleanor Zimmerly.

The Nesting Season, 1981

NORTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION

/Bill Harrington-Tweit, Philip W. Mattocks, Jr., and Eugene S. Hunn

With the exception of the balmy valleys of southern Oregon, the Region endured a cool, wet June. Observers indicated that this remnant of the wet spring retarded nesting of several species. However, at least south of British Columbia, July was warm and dry, and re-nestings were generally successful. There was a

970 *American Birds*, November 1981

probable breeding record for the Solitary Sandpiper in the Oregon Cascades, and exciting records of the Curlew Sandpiper, White-eyed Vireo, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, and Chestnut-collared Longspur were clustered in mid-July.

GREBES THROUGH HERONS -- An Eared Grebe was on the Kent sewage ponds, King Co., Wash., July 26 (EH) for only the second summer record for w. Washington. A single Eared Grebe in breeding plumage was at the Ladner, B.C., sewage ponds June 11 & 14 (MMc, VN. BK), and two were off Sea I., near Vancouver, B.C., June 19 (WW). Up to 30 W. Grebes were reported in British Columbia coastal waters (*vide* VG), and 700± summered on Bellingham Bay, Wash. (TW). These large numbers were not noted elsewhere. Pied-billed Grebes were found nesting at Ocean

Shores, Wash., July 17 (G & WH) for the first time in 10 years. After a 2-year absence during summer, N. Fulmars were found off the Washington coast July 19 (BHT) & 26 (TW). Onshore, one was found dead on a N. Seattle beach June 17 (MDo). Double-crested Cormorant colonies continued to increase in size. Seventy-nine pairs nested on the Chain Is., V.I. (WC, *fide* VG), where only 21 nests were found in 1979. Similarly, the Grays Harbor, Wash., colony increased to 376 nests this summer, up from 300 last summer (Wash. Dept. of Game). Single Cattle Egrets were found May 15 near Hope, B.C. (TBu, *fide* WW), and May 17 at Serpentine Fen, B.C. (JWi, *fide* WW), for the first spring record for the Vancouver area. Great Egrets summered on the s. Oregon coast (*fide* DF), but no breeding evidence was obtained to add to last summer's first such record for the Region. Nor were there any records of the Black-crowned Night Heron, a rare breeder in our area.

WATERFOWL -- Gadwall were found breeding at 2 locations in the Seattle area (R, EH). A pair of Blue-winged Teal nested at the Tacoma sewage ponds (TB). Green-winged Teal bred near Yelm, Wash. (BHT), and at Saanich, V.I. (RS). Cinnamon Teal nested at Renton and Kent, Wash. (EH). Three broods of Am. Wigeon were found in the Vancouver, B.C., area (WW). Northern Shovelers nested at Dungeness (D & SS), Renton and Kent (EH), Wash., and Cowichan Bay, V.I. (VG). All of these dabblers are scarce or very local breeders in the Region. Lesser Scaup have seldom been reported breeding in the Region. This summer a brood was found on the sewage ponds at Kent, Wash. (EH). Twelve ad. Lesser Scaup were found on the Green Lakes in the Oregon Cascades in late July (JO). Both Barrow's Goldeneye and Bufflehead nested in July at a new locale, Gold L., in the Oregon Cascades of e. Lane Co. (TL, SSu). Three broods of Ruddy Ducks were found in late July in the Kent-Renton area (EH), and a pair at Dungeness, Wash., raised 2 broods (WS).

KITES THROUGH QUAIL -- Three White-tailed Kites were reported this season from Oregon, one at Ashland June 7 (MMo), an immature n. of Tillamook July 25 (JG, *fide* HN), and an adult at the south jetty of the Columbia R., July 26 (HN), for a larger number of reports than in the last two summers. Sharp-shinned Hawks were reported 8 times, and Cooper's 14. A pair of Cooper's Hawks raised three young at Victoria (*fide* VG). Golden Eagles were reported from s. V.I., Vancouver, B.C., and s. Oregon, where they are not uncommon, and also from Hurricane Ridge in the Olympic Mts. of Washington (D & SS). Marsh Hawks were seen in 12 areas, mostly coastal. Osprey reports continue to be a delight to summarize. Of 13 nests monitored, 12 appeared to be successful. Five young Peregrines were produced from the 2 known nests in

Washington, and there may have been a third successful nest (BA). Illegal capture of young Peregrines is still a major problem in the Queen Charlotte Is., B.C., where 79 ad. pairs were found in 1980 (AB, *Vancouver Sun* Aug. 11, 1981). A Prairie Falcon was seen July 26 in Manning P.P. (R & SC, *fide* WW). Two California Quail were found June 11 just e. of River Jordan, which is w. of their currently limited area of abundance on s. V.I. (MS, *fide* VG).

SHOREBIRDS -- A Black Oystercatcher chick was with two adults June 24 on Grebe Is., Lighthouse P., W. Vancouver, B.C. (WW), to confirm nesting in that area. A pair of Semipalmated Plovers and a chick was at Iona I., B.C., June 9 (JT *et al.* *fide* WW). The closely monitored Snowy Plovers at Leadbetter Pt., Wash., had their best season in 4 years, with 11 pairs producing 18 young (RW). A nest was found at Tillamook, Oreg. and two pairs were believed to be breeding at Sunset Beach, Oreg. (HN). The 200± Ruddy Turnstones at Bandon, Oreg. July 18-19 (TC, *fide* HN) was a large number for fall migration here. A Long-billed Curlew June 7 on Boundary Bay, B.C., provided the first summer record for the Vancouver area (RWe, *fide* WW). The Upland Sandpiper at Manning P.P., B.C., May 31 was found and photographed by DJ and furnished the first spring record for s.w. British Columbia (*fide* WW). A pair of **Solitary Sandpipers** was defending territory June 28 at Gold Lake Bog in the c. Oregon Cascades of e. Lane Co. (MSa). Thereafter one to two birds were seen by several observers (†HN, DF, TL), but no nest was found. On July 25 four birds were present, two of which appeared to be young of the year (MSa). Further details and photos have been submitted to *Oregon Birds*. Willets were seen in the Vancouver, B.C., area June 14 (†DK, †MDa) and July 26 (†DK), for the seventh and eighth records there. A 2-day count of 145+ Surfbirds in Coos County, Oreg. was on the early date of July 11-12 (LD). A breeding-plumaged **Curlew Sandpiper** was found n.e. of Comox, V.I., July 11 (†JH, †MN). One, possibly the same bird, stayed July 14-24 near Victoria while it molted into basic plumage (†VG *et al.*). This established the third confirmed record from British Columbia, and the 2 previous were also in July. Stint madness has struck the Pacific Northwest, leaving no specimens or photographs in its wake. This summer's manifestations were all from the famous Iona I. sewage ponds, near Vancouver, B.C., at which several hundred to several thousand peep were examined daily. Adult **Long-toed Stints** were reported twice; one from June 27-July 1 (†BK, †DK, †MDa, †BS), and another July 30 (†BK). A juv. **Rufous-necked Stint** was reported July 19 & 25 (†BK). This was an extremely early date for a juvenile of this species. Hopefully, these written descriptions will be well studied by observers who have field experience with stints. We would feel far more comfortable discussing reports of Long-toed,

Temminck's, and Little Stints if specimens or photos of high quality (e.g., *Am. Birds* 32: 1062, 1978 and 34: 850, 1980) existed for records s. of Alaska. We also note that controversy surrounds field identification of juv. Rufous-neckeds (*Br. Birds* 72: 264, 1979). An ad. White-rumped Sandpiper appeared at Iona I., June 15-16 (†BK, †WW, †DK *et al.*) for the second record for coastal B.C. (see *Am. Birds* 28: 940, 1974). An Am. Avocet was seen in Saanich, V.I., May 17-20 (Mr. & Mrs. J. Dunlop, *fide* VG). One Am. Avocet from the spring flight to w. Washington graced the Nisqually N.W.R., until at least June 14 (TB) & 19 (DC, *fide* IA). A male Wilson's Phalarope was at Dungeness June 6 (EH), a juvenile was at the mouth of the Elk R., Coos Co., Oreg. July 15 (DR), and three juveniles were at Finley N.W.R., Oreg. July 19 (CW).

Volume 35, Number 6 971

GULLS THROUGH ALCIDS -- Records of Glaucous-winged Gulls breeding in s. Puget Sound, an area colonized relatively recently, included a count of 170+ adults at Tacoma (TB), and downy chicks noted at West Pt., Seattle (EH), and Olympia (BHT). The Ring-billed Gull colony in Grays Harbor showed an increase for the fifth straight year, with 53 nests counted (Wash. Dept. of Game). There are no other known colonies for the Region. The only large flocks of Bonaparte's Gulls noted were the 500-1500 during June at Iona I. (WW, DK). Blacklegged Kittiwakes were reported in low numbers for the third straight summer. Forster's Terns, rare in the Region, were reported during July from Vancouver, B.C. (†BK), and from Fern Ridge Res., Eugene, Oreg. (DF). Coastal observers are watching the continuing increase of the Caspian Tern population for possible expansion of the breeding range. As expected, individuals were found at nearly every visited locale on the coast, n. to Port Hardy, V.I. (S J). Observers should be aware that young from the Grays Harbor colony (2157 nests this year--Wash. Dept. of Game) have been banded for many years now, and in some years color banded. If the source of many of the terns seen throughout the Region is indeed this large colony, the probability of finding banded individuals should be relatively high. Four ad. and three juv. Black Terns seen along the Willamette R., near Salem, Oreg. July 15 (FR) may have indicated that a small breeding population has been rediscovered in w. Oregon. A single Black Tern was at Iona I., B.C., June 19 (DK, WW, BK *et al.*). Beginning in late June, rather large numbers of Com. Murres were found dead on Oregon beaches (HN). This presaged even larger numbers found dead in early autumn. This mortality may be linked to abnormally warm (60-65°F) sea surface temperatures just offshore this summer. Four Horned Puffins were found near Anthony I.,

Queen Charlotte Is., July 19 (MS, *fide* VG), where they are regular.

PIGEONS THROUGH WOODPECKERS -- Two Band-tailed Pigeons at Alert Bay, V.I., June 3 (SJ) were near the n. edge of the range of this species. A pair of Barn Owls nested for the third successive year in a cavity in a fir tree near Victoria and raised five young this season (*fide* VG). Another pair in Auburn, Wash., raised three young, also in a non-barn situation, a cavity in a large cottonwood (P & PT, *fide* TB). The pair of Barred Owls seen throughout the spring in Discovery P., Seattle, was found again June 7 (MV). Another Barred Owl was near Mt. Seymour P.P., B.C., July 20 (JWh, *fide* WW). This is also a regular site for this species. Oregon Forest Service biologists located 41 pairs of Spotted Owls this summer, up from the 28 found in 1980 (CP, *fide* JN). In Washington a family group was on the n. side of Mt. Rainier, a single was on the N fork of the Snoqualmie R., King Co., and a nest was located in the Darrington Ranger District (*fide* WB). Completing the *Strix* triad, two Great Gray Owls were found June 2 at Hyatt L., near Ashland, Oreg. (JB, *fide* MMo). The spring arrival of Com. Nighthawks is nearly simultaneous in all parts of the Region. This summer the first arrivals were at Alert Bay, V.I., June 3 (S J), and at Victoria, 220 mi to the s., June 5 (*fide* VG). Nighthawks were locally common at Olympia, Wash. (BHT, JD), but were scarce in the Seattle area (EH, PM), and were considered to be definitely decreasing in the Vancouver, B.C., area (WW). A female Com. (Yellow-shafted) Flicker was accompanied by a male Red-shafted and two immatures of unspecified plumage on Moresby I., Queen Charlotte Is., July 15 (MS, *fide* VG). The report of a nest box trail in the Rogue R. valley of s. Oregon included three young Acorn Woodpeckers hatched at one box (MPa, *fide* MMo). A male Yellow-bellied (Red-naped) Sapsucker was attending a nest hole with a female Red-breasted at 4000 ft in the Cascades of e. King Co., Wash., during June (EH). Several Oregon observers noted that both species of three-toed woodpeckers seemed unusually widespread and visible (DF, CW, MSa). Two N. Three-toed Woodpeckers were seen July 28 at Cypress P.P., B.C., for only the second well-documented sighting for the Vancouver area (WW).

TYRANNIDS THROUGH MIMIDS -- Ash-throated Flycatchers were found in their usual numbers in the Rogue R. drainage of s. Oregon, including four hatched from a nest box there (MPa, *fide* MMo). One Ash-throated was found to the n. at Canyonville in the Umpqua R. valley June 6 (HN, OS, EP). Willow Flycatchers and Olive-sided Flycatchers were in very low numbers in the Olympia area (JD), as were also W. Wood Pewees there and at Victoria (VG). A Rough-winged Swallow pair nested in a martin box in Saanich,

V.I., and was seen feeding young July 21 (GC, *fide* VG). In the n. part of the Region there are very few Purple Martins remaining, and few of these nest away from man-made structures. The 12 Purple Martins seen in early July on San Juan I., Wash., with "no human colonies around" may have been from such a group (DP). Elsewhere, the rainy June weather retarded martin nesting, but apparently without greatly affecting nesting success. The 65 pairs on Fern Ridge Res., Eugene, Oreg., raised 250 young (TL, DF). In Thurston and Mason Cos., Wash., there were at least 18 successful nests (JD). Along the Columbia R., near Portland there were 24 nests, including one with a female still incubating Aug. 7 (DW). A pair of Gray Jays was suspected of nesting in the lowlands near Olympia, Wash. (JD). This could have represented an E extension of the coastal race, *obscurus*, which breeds down to sea level. A nest box in the Rogue R. valley fledged five White-breasted Nuthatches (MPa, *fide* MMo). Wrentits, probably of the form *henshawi*, were found at Azalea and at Graves Cr., in the Umpqua R. drainage this summer (HN, OS, EP). This is n. of the historical range of this race and s. of the recent incursion of the coastal form into the Willamette Valley. The mateless male Mockingbird at Medford, Oreg., disappeared in July (MMo). Mockingbird reports during summer in w. Washington were nonexistent until last year, hence one in Seattle June 6 and one on Tatoosh I., July 19 (CO, *fide* BP) fuel hopes of a N extension of their breeding range.

BLUEBIRDS THROUGH BLACKBIRDS -- Western Bluebirds had a good season along 2 nest trails in s. Oregon (MSa, MP, *fide* MMo). The few reports from the Roy prairies, e. of Olympia, where most of the remaining bluebirds in w. Washington reside, indicated mixed success. No nests were found in the Victoria area. Townsend's Solitaires were sighted regularly in the Coast Range w. of Eugene this summer (TM, *fide* DF). They have only recently been shown to nest in this area. Ruby-crowned Kinglets found July 17 at Ocean Shores, Wash (G & WH), and July 20 at Victoria (VG), were at unusually low elevations and s. locations for these dates. About 25 adult and juv. Water Pipits were observed July 24-26 in the Green Lakes area of the c. Oregon Cascades (JO). A recent nesting record in the same region documented the known s. extent of the species' breeding range in the Cascades (AB 34: 924, 1980). A White-eyed Vireo was seen briefly and heard singing for about an hour on Vashon I., Wash., July 11 (†PM). Numbers of Hutton's Vireos in the Vancouver area appear to be increasing (WW). The Hutton's Vireo found June 3 at Alert Bay, V.I., was at the n. edge of the species' known range (SJ). A male Black-and-white Warbler June 20 near Pemberton Meadows, B.C., was apparently a vagrant (†DA). A male Hermit Warbler found July 4 on Schome Hill in Bellingham, Wash., was

at an unusual location and was quite far n. for the species (JDu). Several Am. Redstarts resided June 14-29 in an alder swamp near Newhalem, in the Skagit R. valley of Washington (TW). A male and a female-plumaged bird were present May 31 (ME) and June 20 (B & PE) in Sultan, Wash., where territorial birds were found last summer. Another redstart, a young male in full song, was at Dungeness Spit, Wash., June 6 (†EH, AR), but could not be found there subsequently. Two active nests of Yellow-headed Blackbirds were located at Iona I., B.C., in early June (WW, MPr).

FINCHES AND SPARROWS -- The male Rose-breasted Grosbeak near Long Beach July 16 (†JWe) provided only the second record for w. Washington. Two others were reported without details from Oregon. The largest Red Crossbill numbers were in the Vancouver, B.C., area (*fide* WW) and in Eugene, Oreg. (DF, AC). A White-winged Crossbill May 22 in Eugene (†CW) was exceptionally far s. for this species. Other White-wingeds were seen July 25 at Gold Lake Bog in the c. Oregon Cascades (†AP, *fide* CW), July 26 in Manning P.P., B.C. (R & SC, *fide* WW), and in late July in Olympic N.P., Wash. (KK). Brown Towhees were found nesting in a large *Ceanothus* patch near Myrtle Cr., Oreg. (MSa, MH). This site is within the species' historical range (Gabrielson and Jewett, *Birds of Oregon*, 1940) but is about 40 mi. n. of their more regular Rogue R. valley sites. A male **Lark Bunting** June 5 at Sequim, Wash., furnished the fourth record for the state and the first to be photographed (DO). Vesper Sparrows are uncommon and very local n. of Tacoma, Wash. One at Vancouver, B.C., June 8 (†MPr, LK) was a rarity there. Several pairs of Lark Sparrows

972 *American Birds*, November 1981

also nested on the *Ceanothus* hillside near Myrtle Cr., Oreg. (MSa). A **Black-throated Sparrow** at Redmond, Wash., June 14 (†TWe) was the sixth sighting for the state, not all of which have been so well documented. Vagrancy in this species in late May and early June is quite pronounced in some years, and often correlates with drought conditions in the Great Basin (West Birds 9: 85, 1978). An ad. male **Chestnut-collared Longspur** at Vancouver, B.C., July 8-10 (†WW, †MDa) furnished the fourth summer record for the Region. The previous 3 were each also ad. males.

CORRIGENDA -- The Yellow-billed Loon at Vancouver, B.C., Mar. 23-24, 1980 (AB 34: 807, 1980) stayed to at least Apr. 15 (BK, MPr *et al.*, *fide* WW). The Horned Puffin reported June 9, 1977, at Cape Lookout, Tillamook Co., Oreg. (AB 31: 1181, 1977) was first found there May 14 (CR, SD). Please delete the Burrowing Owl reported from the U.B.C. golf course in Vancouver Aug. 30, 1979 (AB 34: 193, 1980). The bird had been injured and became a specimen, which

was then identified as a juv. Screech Owl (*fide* WW). The Black Phoebe found in Stanley P., Vancouver, B.C., Apr. 26, 1980 (*AB* 34: 809, 1980) was found there by BK (not WW) and was seen also Apr. 27 (m. ob., ph. RWe, RC) for only the second positive British Columbia record (*fide* WW). The Hermit Warbler found in Portland Dec. 1, 1980 (*AB* 35: 330, 1981) was initially located by DF.

CITED OBSERVERS AND ABBREVIATIONS: --
with Sub-Regional editors in boldface. David Aldcroft, Ilse Allen, Bud Anderson, Judy Bjorlie, Thais Bock (TB), Al Breitreutz, William Brintesen, Tom Burgess (TBu), Giff Calvert, Wayne Campbell, Doug Canning, Richard & Sydney Cannings, Alan Contreras, Tom Crabtree, Mark Daly (MDa), Jack Davis (JD), Linda Doerflinger, Michael Donahue (MDo), Jim Duemmel (JDu), Steven Duke, Mark Egger, Bob & Pat Evans, **David Fix**, Jeff Gilligan, **Vic Goodwill**, Jenny Hards, Glen & Wanda Hoge, Matt Hunter, Dale Jensen, Stuart Johnston, Brian Kautesk, Ken Knittie, Linda Koch, Doug Kragh, Tom Lund, Marjorie McFeat (MMc), Tom Mickel, Marjorie Moore (MMo), May Narod, **Harry Nehls**, Verna Newson, Jack Nisbet, Doris Olson, James Olson, Colin Orians, Mike Paczolt (MPa), Bob Paine, Alice Parker, **Dennis Paulson**, Charles Phillips, Michael Price (MPr), Eleanor Pugh, Fred Ramsey, Ellen Ratoosh, Alan Richards, Craig Roberts, Dennis Rogers, Ron Satterfield, Martha Sawyer (MSa), Brian Self, Michael Shepard (MS), Dory & Stan Smith (D & SS), Steve Summers (SSu), Wally Sumner, Otis Swisher, Paula & Peter Thrush, John Tootchin, Mary Vincent, **Terry Wahl** (TW), Clarice Watson, Robin Weber (RWe), **Wayne Weber**, Tom Weir (TWe), Joe Welch (JWe), Darrel Whipple, John Whittall (JWh), Ralph Widrig (RW), Jack Williams (JWi), (†) = written description on file, V.I. = Vancouver I., B.C.

End 1981

1982

Autumn Migration, 1981

NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN INTERMOUNTAIN REGION

/Thomas H. Rogers



Fall weather over the Region was in general warmer and drier than normal. What little snow fell in a few higher and more northerly valleys did not persist. As a result a large number of birds lingered much later than usual, particularly waterfowl, which took advantage of lakes and ponds that remained unfrozen until nearly the end of November.

LOONS AND GREBES -- Two Arctic Loons on L. Lenore, Grant Co., Wash., Nov. 29 were 3 weeks later than usual (JA). Single birds were seen in the Nampa, Ida. area Nov. 8-17 (A & HL). Broods of Red-necked Grebes were on Conconully L., Okanogan Co., Wash., Aug. 3 and on Swan L., s.w. of Republic, Wash., Aug.

4. Western Grebes moved through Kootenai N.W.R., Bonners Ferry, Ida. Sept. 15+, 4-5 weeks earlier than usual, and peaked at 40, compared to ten last year.

PELICANS AND CORMORANTS -- The largest number of White Pelicans sighted in the Potholes Res., s. of Moses L., Wash. was 85, down from last year's 250. Hundreds were on Am. Falls Res., w. of Pocatello, Ida. Aug. 27. Nesting pairs of Double-crested Cormorants continued to increase at Malheur N.W.R., Burns, Ore., with 235 pairs at Malheur L. Last year's count there was 180 and 1978's, only 20. One bird was around Libby Dam on the Kootenai R., Lincoln Co., Mont., Oct. 11+ (CW); one was on the river near Kootenai N.W.R., Aug. 12, and one was seen on the refuge Oct. 24 (LDN). An imm. Double-crested appeared on the Green Lakes, Three Sisters Wilderness, Ore., at 6500 ft. elev., July 25 (JGO).

HERONS THROUGH IBISES -- Great Blue Herons have established a colony of 11 nests at the e. end of Moyle L., s. of Cranbrook, B.C. and a heronry with 5 nests was found at Downs L., 8 mi e. of Sprague, Wash. (DTa). A Green Heron was along the Snake R., near the upper end of Am. Falls Res., Aug. 15 (CHT). Unprecedented numbers of Cattle Egrets appeared in s. British Columbia: one at Vernon Nov. 1-21; two at Nakusp Nov. 8-25 (GD); three at Grindrod Nov. 21 (MM); 15 at Revelstoke Nov. 15-24 (JW), and one at Balfour, Nov. 27 (MM). One was sighted at Kootenai N.W.R., Nov. 19 (LDN) and five were photographed near Lewiston, Ida. Nov. 18 (*fide* MK). Great Egret nesting pairs continued their decline at Malheur N.W.R., with only 170 *cf.* to 400 in 1978. However 450+ of the birds were feeding at Malheur L., Sept. 1. Snowy Egret numbers there were about average. Black-crowned Night Heron numbers there continued to drop from a high of 730 pairs in 1979 to 270 this year. Osoyoos, B.C., had three birds Sept. 9-12 (JK). An ad. and two imm. **Least Bitterns** were found in the Malheur nesting colony for the first sighting since 1977 (ST). White-faced Ibis continued its phenomenal success there with 650 pairs, up from 190 in 1978.

198 *American Birds*, March 1982

WATERFOWL -- Whistling Swan numbers on the Pend Oreille R., in n. Idaho were 214 Nov. 11, 2-3 times normal (I.F.G.). Trumpeter Swans were in for the Centennial Valley. Red Rock Lakes N.W.R., Lima, Mont., averaged 330. Fledged cygnets on and off the refuge there numbered 50. Two Trumpeters were on the Clark Fork R., near Noxon, Mont., Nov. 16 (CW). At Malheur N.W.R., nine cygnets fledged but only two survived to Oct. 6, when the total Trumpeter count was 62. Henrys L., to the e. in Idaho had eight Nov. 14 and Turnbull N.W.R., Cheney, Wash., had a peak of 15 on Oct. 26. Canada Geese peaks at November's end were 3330 at Turnbull and 9430 at Deer Flat N.W.R., Nampa, Ida. both somewhat above normal. The Canada Geese peak at Minidoka N.W.R., Rupert, Ida. was 3800, highest in 10 years. In n. Idaho their numbers were decidedly up, with a peak of 500+ Nov. 13 on the Pend Oreille, Lower Coeur d'Alene and Lower St. Jo R.s; a peak of 3900 at Kootenai N.W.R., in late September was 105% over last year's. At least 13 Cackling Geese were on Park L., Grant Co., Wash., Oct. 25 (JA). The only White-fronted Geese reported were: up to ten at Stratford, Wash. (JA, BW); up to eight at Bend, Ore. (TC), and only one at Richland (REW). A massive movement of many hundreds of Snow Geese passed over Bozeman, Mont., the night of Nov. 4 and a flock passed over Bend the night of Oct. 8. A single blue-phase bird was seen at Richland for the fourteenth consecutive year (REW). A **Ross' Goose** was shot by a hunter at Metcalf N.W.R., Stevensville, Mont. (*fide* CP). Deer Flat's Mallard peak of 375,000 was well above the ten year average. Duck numbers on the Pend Oreille, Lower Coeur d'Alene and St. Jo R.s were for most species well above normal; most impressive were the nearly 43,000 Mallards Oct. 16, >38,000 Am. Wigeons on the same date, and 21,500 Redheads, Canvasbacks numbered 500 there, the highest ever, but Lesser Scaup and Com. Goldeneye counts were very low. Minidoka N.W.R. had a peak of 13,100 Mallards (low) and Turnbull 12,000 (above average). Kootenai N.W.R., and Creston W.M.A., to the n. in Canada reported low duck numbers, the birds apparently overflying those areas. Duckling production at Malheur N.W.R. was down to 30,000, the lowest in 4 years; last year's was 50,000. Of the 5 major nesting species there, Redhead and Ruddy Ducks had the greatest percentage decline. Canvasback total numbers there dropped to 2070 from last year's 15,375,

supposedly because of high water levels and an excessive carp population. The count of 1900 Canvasback at Minidoka was decidedly low. Among the rarities a Wood Duck bagged by a hunter near Red Rock Lakes N.W.R., was very unusual there (RRS). Single male Oldsquaw appeared at Obed L., 30 km e. of Hinton, Alta., Oct. 31 (BWY); on Browns L., s. of Ovando, Mont. (SF), and on the W. Richland, Wash. sewage pond in late October (TG, REW). One bird was sighted at Deer Flat N.W.R., Nov. 17 (A & HL). White-winged Scoters were becoming a bit more common at Kootenai N.W.R., with three Oct. 7 and two Nov. 13 & 21 (LDN). On the Snake R. near Homedale, Ida., a hunter shot one in November (*fide* ECB). A few were on L. Lenore, Grant Co., Wash., Oct. 25-Nov. 29, 12 on the latter date (JA, BW, RF); one was on the Columbia R., at Bridgeport Nov. 4 (VM) and another on Patterson L., near Winthrop, Wash., Nov. 11 (GB). The Link R., Klamath Falls, Ore., had one Nov. 14-22 (SS). Surf Scoter records were up. One at Malheur N.W.R., Oct. 15 was the first there since 1943. (MA, CDL) and one was sighted on L. Helena in Montana Nov. 14 (GH *et al.*). In Washington, Bridgeport had one Nov. 4 (VM); L. Lenore one Oct. 25, and the Spokane R., in downtown Spokane, one Oct. 7 (JA). Four Red-breasted Mergansers stayed on the s. end of Upper Klamath L., Klamath Falls Nov. 14+ (SS). A male and possibly three female Hooded Mergansers were on the Grand View sewage pond and five males on ponds near Bruneau, Ida. Nov. 29 (DT).

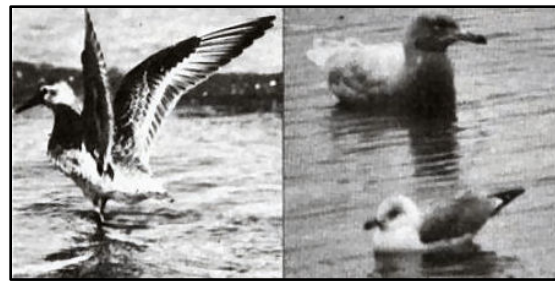
VULTURES AND HAWKS -- An unusual concentration of Turkey Vultures, 40 in one tree, was sighted at Fish L., near L. Wenatchee, Chelan Co., Wash., Sept. 16 (Y.A.S.). A White-tailed Kite perched on a fence post in Klamath Marsh n. of Klamath Falls Oct. 24 (JGO). Red-tailed Hawks, mostly immatures, numbered 135 in the Henrys L., Ida. vicinity Aug. 29; they gather there to feed on late-to-hibernate ground squirrels. In the area also were 21 Ferruginous Hawks. A Red-shouldered Hawk near Klamath Falls Nov. 13+ furnished the first county record and only the second or third for e. Oregon (SS). The Bald Eagle conclave on Lower McDonald Cr., Glacier N.P., Mont., reached an all-time high of 639 in mid-November. Banks L., Grant Co., Wash., had 75 of the big birds Nov. 24. Idaho had a Gyrfalcon report and two Peregrine

Falcon sightings were reported in e. Washington, three in Idaho and one in Alberta.

GALLINACEOUS BIRDS -- Numbers of Blue, Spruce, Ruffed and Sharp-tailed grouse were definitely down in Lincoln County, Mont. (CW). Drought and extensive range fires in s. Idaho during the summer forced Sage Grouse into farming areas and even within Twin Falls city limits (WHS, JR). Five Turkeys were sighted e. of Tupper Guard Station 20 mi w. of Ukiah, Ore., Nov. 26 (C & MC) and eight near Creston, B.C., had spread from a n. Idaho introduction (JG).

CRANES AND COOTS -- Greater Sandhill Cranes at Malheur N.W.R., peaked at nearly 2200 Oct. 11, about the same as last year but down from 1979's 3400. Immature birds comprised only 4.4%, indicating continuing production failures: only 23 reached flight stage on the refuge this year. Six Sandhills stopped on an island in the Kootenai R., upstream from Libby, Mont., Oct. 10 and the one imm. bird hatched in Pleasant Valley, 50 mi s.e. of Libby, fledged and flew off (CW). American Coot reached an astounding 13,000, perhaps the highest ever, at Turnbull N.W.R., Oct. 8. The n. Idaho count over Pend Oreille, Lower Coeur d'Alene and St. Jo R.s, Oct. 16 was 47,000+, nearly twice the previous high count (I.F.G.)

SHOREBIRDS -- Worthy of note were 1-2 Semipalmated Plovers at Deer Flat N.W.R., Sept. 5-7 (JSM). Of special interest was a Killdeer at 6500 ft elev. at the Green Lakes, Three Sisters Wilderness (JGO). Sightings of Am. Golden and Black-bellied plovers were sparse. Knutsford, B.C., had two Am. Golden and one Black-bellied Sept. 26 (RH). One Am. Golden was at the Yakima R. delta, Richland, Wash., Sept. 7 (REW); Trail, B.C., had one Oct. 7-9 (ME), and two were at Lower Klamath N.W.R., Oregon side, Sept. 4 (SS). One was sighted 5 mi n.w. of Coeur d'Alene, Ida. Oct. 4 (SGS). One Black-bellied appeared at Banks L., Oct. 25 (JA). A Red Knot photographed at Deer Flat N.W.R., Sept. 5 was apparently the first



Left photo: Imm. Red Knot, Lake Lowell, Canyon Co., Ida. Sept. 5, 1981. Photo Jeff Marks. Right photo: Glaucous Gull (possibly barrovianus subspecies), Harrison, Mont. Nov. 15, 1981. Ring-billed Gull in foreground. Photo/P. D. Skaar.

for that area and the second for Idaho (JSM, AL, BK). Excellent numbers of Pectoral Sandpipers were sighted in e. Washington, with 25 + at Stratford Sept. 6 and 30 at Reardan Sept. 19 (JA), and a peak of 30 at the Yakima delta Sept. 13 (REW). Two were at Am. Falls Dam on the Snake R., Sept. 13 for apparently the first record for the latilong (DT). A **White-rumped Sandpiper** sighted along the Palouse R., near Harvard, Ida. July 25 would be only the second for the state (JL in *Prairie Owl*, P.A.S.). A Dunlin was sighted at the mouth of Tammany Cr., 5 mi s. of Lewiston, Ida. Oct. 24 (PS, MK). Three hundred Baird's and 13 Stilt sandpipers were observed at Ninepipe N.W.R., Lake Co., Mont., Aug. 25 and another 300 Baird's were seen at nearby Pablo N.W.R., the next day (BW). One of the latter was at Blackfoot Res., Blackfoot, Ida. Sept. 19 (CHT). A Semipalmated Sandpiper was at Richland Aug. 2 for Woodley's first sighting there.

GULLS AND TERNS -- An imm. **Glaucous Gull** found at Harrison L., e. of Harrison, Mont., Nov. 13 (ph. Nov. 15) provided the second local record and the third state observation away from Ft. Peck Res. (LM, RW, PDS). An imm. Herring Gull was noted at Harrison L., Nov. 15 (RW, PDS); four immatures were at Canyon Ferry Res., Helena in late November (SM), and an imm. bird was on Am. Falls Res., Nov. 12 (CHT). An imm. Thayer's Gull was seen at

Volume 36, Number 2 199

the s end of Upper Klamath L., Nov 22 & 27 for the second e. Oregon record (SS, JC) An ad. Mew Gull there on Nov 14 was joined by another Nov. 30 (SS). Richland had an imm. Franklin's Gull Aug. 29 & Sept. 6, Woodley's first local records and one was sighted at Nampa, Ida. Sept. 6 (VC). An ad. Bonaparte's Gull appeared at Grandview, Ida. Aug. 28 (JSM). A Sabine's Gull on the Columbia R., just n. of Richland Sept. 26 provided the fourth record there (EH) and two were at Wallowa L., Joseph, Ore., Sept. 16 (BJ). Twenty Forster's Terns were below Am. Falls Dam Sept. 11 (DT). Three Com. Terns were at Cold Springs N.W.R., Aug. 22 (C & MC) and six were at Clarkston, Wash., Sept. 30 (PS, MK). The Yakima delta had two Sept. 19 and 15 on Sept. 27 (REW).

PIGEONS AND OWLS -- A Band-tailed Pigeon along the Spokane R., at Spokane Oct. 24 furnished the seventh latilong sighting (JA). Presumably the third Barn Owl record for the latilong was supplied by one bird at Davenport Cemetery Sept. 20 (JA) and one was sighted in Strawl Canyon 12 mi n.w. of Coulee Dam, both in Washington (VM). An ad. and one or two imm. Flammulated Owls were seen at their nest site near Kamloops, B.C., Aug. 4 for the first breeding record n. of Penticton (RH). A Barred Owl was heard at a new Montana locality, Ross Cr., Cedar Grove, between Troy and Noxon Aug. 2 (BW). Sightings of Great Gray Owls were made near Kamloops (RH), Knutsford (DW), Kelowna (BH, m.ob.), Cranbrook (GD) and Kimberley (*vide* MVW), B.C. One was observed in the N. Fork Valley on the w. edge of Glacier N.P., Mont. (WW) and four sightings were obtained in Lincoln County, Mont. (CW *et al.*). Short-eared Owls were observed many times in the Vernon area, where voles were plentiful, and were abundant in the Columbia Basin of c. Washington. The only Saw-whet Owls reported were one at Spokane Oct. 1 (JA) and one in Robinson Canyon w. of Ellensburg, Wash., Aug. 11 (RS *et al.*).

HUMMINGBIRDS -- At Malheur N.W.R., two Black-chinned Hummingbirds May 13 and one found dead May 17 represented the sixth and seventh records there

(ST). An ad. male Anna's Hummingbird visited a Kelowna, B.C. feeder through November, only to be killed by a cat Dec. 5 (JG). Single hummingbirds at Yakima Oct. 30 and Wapato, Wash., Nov. 14 most likely were Anna's. Two imm. Rufous Hummingbirds frequented a Helena feeder in October, one, a male remaining at least to Oct. 22, and surviving nighttime temperatures as low as 15°F. Feeders were then removed in hopes the birds would migrate (WH).

WOODPECKERS AND FLYCATCHERS -- One, possibly two, "Yellow-shafted" Flickers were in E. Helena in late November along with one "hybrid" (PM; AW) and Nampa had one Sept. 19 (MF). A flock of 25 Lewis' Woodpeckers, the most reported, was at the Nat'l Bison Range, Moiese, Mont., Aug. 25. A "Red-breasted" Sapsucker was sighted 20 mi e. of Wenatchee, Wash., Oct. 8 (RF). A White-headed Woodpecker was found Sept. 7 n.e. of Hayden Lake, Ida. a new locality for this rather rare bird (MMA). The Tollgate, Oreg. area was apparently a new location for sighting the N. Three-toed Woodpecker Oct. 28 (MC). An Ash-throated Flycatcher at Deer Flat N.W.R., Sept. 1 (DT) and one on the Snake R. Birds of Prey Area s.e. of Swan Falls (JSM, JD, BK, MAm) were apparently the first for that part of Idaho. A W. Flycatcher was at Klamath Falls Sept. 13, where it is a rare migrant (SS).

JAYS THROUGH WRENS -- A Blue Jay was reported for a few days, late October-early November at a feeder in Canoe Gulch, 12 mi n e. of Libby (CW), and the Missoula, Mont. vicinity had several reports (SF). Impressive flocks of Clark's Nutcrackers were encountered in e. Oregon: 40 passing over Calamity Lookout, 30 mi n.n.e. of Burns Sept. 9 and 45 at the Green Lakes, Three Sisters Wilderness Oct. 26. The species was "very plentiful" in the Ketchurn-Sun Valley area of Idaho. A new, readily accessible locality for Boreal Chickadees was found at Tiffany Mt., 20 mi w. of Tonasket, Wash., where 22 were counted Aug. 2-3 (EH). A White-breasted Nuthatch at Williams L., in early October was far n. of its normal range in British Columbia (JWa). A Canyon Wren showed up at Kalamalka L. Park near Vernon Oct. 11- 12; the species is very rare n. of Penticton (MCo). One was found on Horse Ridge 22 mi e. of Bend, Ore., Oct. 24 (JGO).

THRASHERS AND THRUSHES -- A Sage Thrasher was sighted near Lostine, Ore, Sept 28 (PS) A migrating Varied Thrush was noted Nov. 29 at C.J. Strike Res., Bruneau, Ida. (DT) and another near the coal-fired plant at Boardman, Ore., Sept. 30 (RJK). A snow storm grounded Hermit Thrushes at Bend, Ore., with at least a dozen in one backyard Oct. 11 and many in and around the city the next 4 days. Mountains Bluebirds were seen regularly in the Green Lakes area with a high of seven Oct. 3-4. In the Kimberley, B.C., area flocks of 30 or more appeared near September's end and 25 were seen in the Winas Cr. area s.w. of Ellensburg. A flock of about 25 Townsend's Solitaires was on Mt. Spokane, n.e. of Spokane Sept. 3 and 15 were counted on 2 dates in October on Horse Ridge, e. of Bend, Ore

PIPITS AND WAXWINGS -- Water Pipits were abundant at a few localities. In Idaho they were "all over the place" on plowed land near Twin Falls, Oct. 17; and were "very common" in the Rupert area In Oregon they were migrating as early as Aug. 10 over Calamity Lookout and near Boardman 600± were in fallow fields Sept 22 In Washington flocks of 100 or more were observed in the Horseshoe Basin area, Pasayten Wilderness Sept. 8-10 and were abundant in the Ephrata area in September and October. Several flocks were near White Swan, Wash., Nov. 1. A **Sprague's Pipit**, carefully identified, was sighted at Hart Mountain N.W.R., Lake Co., Ore., Sept. 22 (PS) Very few Bohemian Waxwings had arrived by the end of November

WARBLERS AND BLACKBIRDS -- A Tennessee Warbler at Malheur Sept. 24 was the refuge's ninth (ST); another sighting was made there Oct. 2 (TC). A meticulously described Tennessee was observed on Jumbo Mt., 6 mi e. of Orient, Wash., Aug. 26 (ATR, AM) and one was sighted at Lavington, B.C., Oct. 5-6 (MCo). A Magnolia Warbler seen Sept. 30 & Oct. 2 at Malheur was the refuge's second and Oregon's eighth (CDC, MLB, ST, TC) and one was sighted at Cherry Springs, Ida. Sept. 7 (DT). An imm. 9 Cape May Warbler, the second for the refuge, was mist-netted at Malheur Sept 9 (ST). "Audubon's" Warbler bandings at Troy, Mont., rebounded to 846 after the post-Mt. St.

Helens low of 27 (KB). A Black-throated Gray Warbler showed up at Malheur Oct. 2 and one was near Bend Sept. 20-22 (TC). Atomic City, Ida, had a Palm Warbler Sept 20 (DT, RK, MR). A window-killed N. Waterthrush was obtained at Ketchurn, Ida. Oct. 20 (WHS). Apparently a breeding pair of these birds was along the San Poil R., s. of Republic, Wash., Aug. 5 (EH) An **Orchard Oriole** appeared at Townsend, Mont., Aug. 4 for the second state record w. of the 108th meridian (SM) and a Com Grackle was in Hines, Ore., July 12-26 (ST).

FINCHES -- An imm. male Rose-breasted Grosbeak was sighted Sept. 20 at Atomic City (DT, MR, RK, MD) and a well-described imm. **Painted Bunting**, Oregon's second, was at Tumalo S. P, Tumalo, Ore., Oct. 4 (TC). What was believed to be a Ø Purple Finch was observed in Cheney, Wash., Sept. 3 (FBH). The only report of Black Rosy Finches was from Devil's L., 45 mi s.e. of Salmon, Ida (HR). The appearance of Com. Redpolls at Spokane and in Lincoln County, Wash., as early as Nov. 7 and at Harrison, Mont., Nov 15 suggested a possible invasion this winter. A flock of 200+ was at Revelstoke Nov. 23 and a few showed up in Kimberley in late November but otherwise reports were scant from British Columbia Two-three goldfinches believed to be Lawrence's were photographed in Dietrich, Ida., Oct. 1. If confirmed, this would be the first state record (*fide*, TR). The sighting of many White-winged Crossbills in n Okanogan County and near Chewelah and Republic, Wash., may indicate the start of an incursion. A pair of this species was at Lost L Camp, extreme n.w. Deschutes Co., Ore., near the s. limit of the species' winter range Sept. 28 (TC).

SPARROWS -- Five Savannah Sparrows were in a meadow at the Green Lakes at 6500 ft. July 25 (JGO). A Sage Sparrow, accidental in British Columbia, was sighted at White L., near Penticton Sept 25 (A & JG). Two Golden-Crowned Sparrows were reported at Calamity Lookout Sept. 22 (MA) and an imm. bird was seen near Troy, Mont (KB). Single White-throated Sparrows appeared at Nakusp, B.C., Oct. 4 (GD); near Helena Oct. 24 (LT *et al.*), and at Pocatello Sept 11 (JJ). In Washington singles of this species were sighted at Spokane Oct. 19-20 (JA) and at Yakima Oct. 20+ (EC);

three appeared at Richland Oct. 31 for Woodley's first local record. Lincoln's Sparrows were reported at Malheur (MA), Tumalo S.P. (TC), Spokane (THR), and Omak, Wash. (S J). Knutsford, B.C., had two Lapland Longspurs Sept. 2 & 13 (RH); in Washington the species was observed at

200 *American Birds*, March 1982

Reardan, Aug. 30, and at Banks L. were two Oct. 25 (JA). With Lapland Longspurs on Lower Klamath N.W.R., Nov. 14 was a **Chestnut-collared Longspur**, the county's first and Oregon's second (SS, JGi). Snow Buntings had scarcely showed at all. One was at Vernon Oct. 16 and four were at Kimberley Oct. 13. Surprisingly, a few had already reached s. Idaho with four on Michaud Flats near Am. Falls Res., Oct. 22 and some near Shoshone on about the same date.

CORRIGENDA -- The bird that wintered at Kelowna, B.C. (AB. 35:319, 1981) was a White Pelican, not a Double-crested Cormorant. For the Vernon, B.C. CBC (AB 35:412, 1981), change W. Grebe from "46" to "1" and add "Pied-billed Grebe 46".

OBSERVERS CITED -- James Acton, Mike Amicangelo (MAm), Merle Archie (MA), Eugene C. Barney, Michael L. Bier)y, George Brady, Kay Burk, Jim Carlson, Mary Collins (MCo), C. Dwight Cooley, Vera Coons, Craig & Marion Corder (C & MC), Tom Crabtree, Emily Cragg, Gary Davidson, Mike Delate, John Doremus, Maurice Ellison, Mike Ferdinand, Ron Friesz, Sidney Frissell, Jeff Gilligan (JGi), James Grant (JG), Al & Jude Grass (A & JG), Tony Greager, Wayne Hadley, Brian Holmes, George Holton, Rick Howie, Eugene Hunn, Frances B. Huston, Idaho Fish & Game Dept. (I.F.G.), Bob Jackson, Joe Jeppeson, Stuart Johnston, Joan King, Ronald J. Klein, Roll Koford, Merlene Koliner, Bob Kuntz, Al & Hilda Larson, Carroll D. Littlefield, Jack Lord, Pat McKinney, Mary Mack (MM), Mary Manning (MMA), Jeffrey S. Marks, Vern Marr, Sid Martin, Megan Moorcroft (MMo), Louis Moos, Ann Musche, Larry D. Napier, James G. Olson, Palouse Audubon Society (P.A.S.), Colleen

Powell, Mark Reynolds, Terrell Rich, Alan T. Richards, Hadley Roberts, T.H. Rogers, Jeff Ruprecht, W.H. Shillington, Richard R. Sjoström, P.D. Skaar, Richard Stallcup, Shirley G. Sturts, Paul Sullivan, Steve Summers, Dan Taylor (DT), Don Taylor (DTa), Larry Thompson, Steve Taylor and/or refuge personnel, Malheur N.W.R. (ST), C.H. Trost, Jean Waite (JWa), Doug Walkley, Ron Weeks, Winton Weydemeyer, Bart Whelton (BW), Mildred V. White, Art Whitney, Carl Wolf, R.E. Woodley, John Woods (JW), and Brian Wylie (BWY), Yakima Audubon Society (Y.A.S.).

Autumn Migration, 1981

NORTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION /Eugene S. Hunn and Philip W. Mattocks, Jr.



The first fall storm front came on shore Sept. 17-18, grounding vagrant Western Kingbirds and Bobolinks. The previous day, with strong winds, a heavy alpine zone migration was noted by Hunn above timberline on Mt. Adams, Washington, including a Prairie Falcon at 7000 feet, ten Townsend's Solitaires at 10,000 feet,

and a Golden-crowned Sparrow at 11,000 feet. Heavy storms in October and November drove a variety of pelagic birds inland. Only the Bohemian Waxwing gave any indication of impending winter invasions. While the shorebird migration was anemic, "stint fever" assumed epidemic proportions. We have in hand detailed reports of four Rufous-necked Stints, three Long-toed Stints, two Temminck's Stints, and two Little Stints. We have received photos in support of only two of these sightings. After careful review of all supporting data and comparison with photographs and specimens of the regularly occurring species, we have concluded that, with the one exception treated in the text, none of the reports is conclusive and most are clearly attributable to more familiar species. We remain to be convinced that it is normally possible to identify immature Long-toed, Rufous-necked, and Little stints in the field. All reports received will be saved until our knowledge of stint identification evolves. Special thanks are due Dennis Paulson for consultation on these reports.

208 *American Birds*, March 1982

LOONS THROUGH PELICANS: -- An ad. Yellow-billed Loon in breeding plumage was seen Oct. 24+ at Sequim Bay, Wash. (WS, D & SS, CF). An immature was at Victoria, VA., Nov. 22-24 (RS *et al.*), and another was at Yaquina Bay, Oreg. Nov. 11 (FW). A light phase W. Grebe, found Aug. 23, at the Necanicum R. mouth, Oreg. (JG, ph., DI), was described as the first found alive on the n. Oregon coast (*fide* HN). Another light-phase bird was seen Sept. 9 at Victoria, V.I. (†RS). An apparent intermediate-phase W. Grebe appeared Oct. 31 among 800 dark-phase birds at West Pt., Seattle (†TSc, †BBr, MB). Black-looted Albatross counts peaked at 65 on Aug. 19 off Westport, Wash. (TW *et al.*), with two still there Nov. 7 (DP, TSm). On the latter date three Laysan Albatrosses were also seen, 38 mi offshore, perhaps representing normal winter numbers. Northern Fulmar came in numbers by Sept. 26 when 50 were counted en route to LaPerouse Banks off s. V.I. (MSh, AE, *fide* VG). TW reported 335 off Westport Oct. 10, and 359 were counted there Nov. 7 (DP, TSm), of which 5% were light-phase. Severe storms drove large numbers within sight of shore in

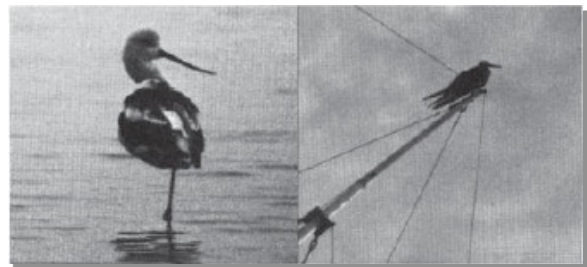
early October (DP, HN) and again in mid-November (JG, HN), with many found dead on Oregon beaches in November (*fide* HN). Also storm-blown were seven Short-tailed Shearwaters, one Fork-tailed, and three Leach's Storm-Petrels spotted from the Port Angeles-Victoria ferry Nov. 15 (WC, *fide* VG). Numerous Leach's Storm-Petrels were driven inland by that same storm to Fern Ridge Res., Eugene, Oreg., (TL, DF, SG, CW), to the S.J.C.R. (PMu, *fide* HN), to Willapa Bay, Wash. (TB *et al.*), and to Quilcene, Wash. (*fide* ES*). A Nov. 7 pelagic excursion off Westport produced several late records for Washington, including one Flesh-looted Shearwater and five New Zealand Shearwaters (DP, TSm). Two Pink-footed Shearwaters Nov. 21 off n. Lane County, Oreg., were also unusually late (SH, DR). The count of 425 Pink-footeds off Westport Aug. 19 (TW *et al.*) was more than double any single-day maximum since 1978. New Zealand Shearwaters remained scarce with 14 off Westport Oct. 10 the high one-day count (TW). The 30 Short-tailed Shearwaters reported was above average. The high one-day count was 20 off Westport Oct. 10 (TW). Am imm. **Magnificent Frigatebird** Aug. 25 resting on fishing boat off Coho Pt., Langara I., Queen Charlotte I., B.C. (GDe, *fide* WC, VG), was the first recorded for British Columbia, and the seventh n. of California on the West Coast (Roberson, *Rare Birds of the West Coast*, 1980: 46-47). Brown Pelicans were well represented n. to the Columbia R. mouth. One Aug. 25 near Sail Rock in the Strait of Juan de Fuca, Wash., was the only one reported from farther n. (SM). A ratio of eight immatures to each adult was estimated among "hundreds" feeding on anchovies offshore Oregon, Aug. 30, (JG, DI, *et al.*), with "many dead on these beaches" in the wake of the severe storm Nov. 14, (JG, *fide* HN).

EGRETS THROUGH DUCKS -- The count of Great Egrets peaked at a record 71 at Fern Ridge Res., near Eugene Nov. 5 (DF, TL). Just eight Cattle Egrets were reported, considerably off last year's invasion totals. Seven of these were n. of the Columbia R., and, as expected, were all in November. Five Black-crowned Night Herons were reported, from Reifel I., B. C., Olympia, Wash., and Roseburg, Coos Bay, and Brookings, Oreg. An imm. **ibis**, presumably a White-faced, stayed Nov. 20-23 at the Humptulips R. mouth, on Grays Harbor, Wash., (RC, ph., *et al.*) for the first w.

Washington record. This comes on the heels of several extralimital sightings of White-faced Ibis in the Pacific Northwest this past spring and summer. "Some" Trumpeter Swans were noted with a flock of 1000 Whistling Swans s. of Forest Grove, Oreg., in late November (*fide* HN), and 5-7 Trumpeters were between Dallas and Corvallis Nov. 16-26 (D & MEM, R & JK, *fide* EE). This species returned as usual to its n. Washington and s. British Columbia winter haunts. An imm. Emperor Goose was at the Veneta sewage ponds, near Eugene, Oreg. Nov. 21+ (RP, †DF, TM, ph., m.ob.) was the only one reported. Wintering Snow Geese numbered 70,000 by early November, based on a census from the Fraser R. delta of British Columbia to the Skagit R. delta of Washington (*fide* FM, Wash. Dept. of Game). This count exceeds the previous 30-year high by 40%, and the increase is credited to careful Russian management of the Wrangell I. breeding habitat. Late broods of Blue-winged and Cinnamon teal were out Aug. 1 at the Nehalem sewage ponds, Oreg. (DI). Few of either species were noted after mid-September. Arrival dates of Eur. Wigeons were somewhat early: Sept. 20 at Victoria (RWa) and Oct. 10 at Seattle (ER). There were only 11 Redheads reported this fall. A male **Tufted Duck** at Green I., Seattle 2, Oct. 3-18 (†ESH *et al.*) was the earliest ever Washington record for the species. A female Ruddy Duck had a late brood out Sept. 12 at the Everett, Wash., sewage ponds (ESH).

VULTURES THROUGH CRANES -- Victoria observers again monitored the Turkey Vulture passage over s. V.I., Aug. 30-Oct. 27, with a peak of 445 Sept. 26 (*fide* VG). High daily counts of 30-50 were noted elsewhere Sept. 7-Oct. 4. *Forty* White-tailed Kites were tallied in Oregon with concentrations of 13 in the Rogue R. valley, including three young from a successful local nesting (*fide* OSw), ten of which had gathered at Fern Ridge Res., by the end of November (DF, TL), and two adults with four young along the Coquille R., e. of Bandon (CW). A single bird was n. of the Columbia R., on Leadbetter Pt., Oct. 7-Nov. 5 (RWi, B & GR). Accipiters were reported in normal numbers with 25 Goshawks, 80 Sharp-shinneds, and 102 Cooper's well distributed through the season. Southern Oregon's Red-shouldered Hawk population was closely scrutinized, with three counted near Brookings (DI, JG, RP), and singles noted n. to Bandon

Sept. 19 (AC) and near Lebanon Sept. 13 (BTh, *fide* HN). A dark Red-tailed (Harlan's) Hawk remained at Kent, Wash., Oct. 25+ (†ESH, m.ob.). Rough-legged Hawks were first noted Oct. 3 at Sea I., Vancouver, B.C. (HH, *fide* WW), and Oct. 16 at Tillamook, Oreg. (HN), and were in average numbers thereafter. The last Osprey reported was Nov. 8 at Stanwood, Wash. (*fide* PWM). Three Gyrfalcons were reported. Each was a typical "gray phase" bird. One was found Nov. 3+, and it and another seen Nov. 10 & 22 in C. Saanich, V.I. (AK, DFr, m.ob. *fide* VG). An immature



Left photo: Imm. male Am. Avocet, L. Meares, Tillamook Co., Ore. Aug. 15, 1981. Photo/Owen Schmidt. Right photo: Imm. Magnificent Frigatebird, Cobo Pt., Langara I., Queen Charlotte I., B.C.

Volume 36, Number 2 209

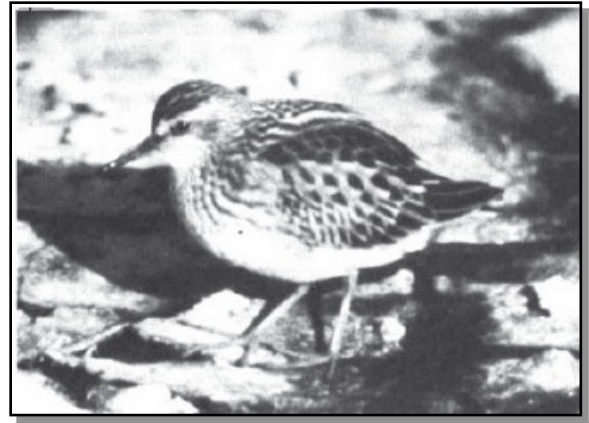
frequented the Kent, Wash., sewage ponds Nov. 7-27 (†ESH, m.ob.). The 46 Peregrine and 55 Merlin sightings were less than last fall, but near recent averages. The first few migrant Sandhill Cranes arrived Sept. 12-14 at Dungeness and the Nisqually N.W.R., Wash., and at Sauvie I. near Portland. Numbers at Sauvie I. increased to 1000+ by Oct. 10. Several flocks were noted thereafter in Oregon, including one of 410 over Springfield Nov. 3 (DF, TL).

SHOREBIRDS -- American Golden Plover numbers were decidedly down at coastal points this fall. The Ocean Shores, Wash., count reached 40-47 Sept. 1-6 (MC, DP, ESH), which is about 30% of normal. The usual 10% or so were the small bright race *fulva*.

Whimbrels were scarce in Oregon and were at 10-20% of normal numbers at Ocean Shores (*fide* DP, ESH). The high count was 50 at Ocean Shores Aug. 15 (BHT) and at Tillamook Bay Sept. 2 (HNL). The two Long-billed Curlews at Leadbetter Pt., Aug. 27 (RWi) increased to 20-27 at nearby Tokeland Sept. 21-Nov. 14 (ME. TB *et al.*). The only other reports were two Aug. 23-29 in Delta, B.C., (BK, DK *et al. fide* WW), and a single Oct. 4 at Yaquina Bay, Oreg. (JG *et al. fide* HN). Solitary Sandpipers were also scarce, with only eight reported, about 50% of normal. Willets were beyond their normal range at Ocean Shores, with 13 Aug. 15-18 (BHT, ESH *et al.*) and another there Oct. 16 (MC, SA, G & WH), and at Dungeness, Wash., which had a single Aug. 10-Sept. 26 (MC, m.ob.). One Semipalmated Sandpiper was well photographed this fall, an immature Aug. 15 at Tillamook Bay (JG). About 30 other individuals were reported.

S.A.

Oregon observers have documented the first **Long-toed Stint** s. of Alaska. The bird was first noted at the S.J.C.R. Sept. 3 relocated and identified Sept. 5 (†JG, †HN, †AC. m.ob.) and subsequently photographed and tape-recorded. It was last reported Sept. 12 (RP). The photos show the bright chestnut feather margins, long central toe, and pale base to the lower mandible. It was also definitely larger than an adjacent Least Sandpiper. We have compared these photos to a series of photographs (DP) of imm. Least Sandpipers and have found several that appeared virtually identical. However, the call, a deep "chortling" trill, seems to be conclusive.



Long-toed Stint, S.J.C.R., Sept. 5, 1981. Photo-Jeff Gilligan.

Some 21 Sharp-tailed Sandpipers were located throughout the Region, a normal number. A **Curlew Sandpiper** at Iona I., Aug. 31- Sept. 1 (†WW, †BK *et al.*) furnished the fifth provincial record and the eighth for the Region. Twenty Stilt Sandpipers were reported Aug. 16-Sept. 22. as is normal. Eight Buff-breasted Sandpipers at 6 locations was a reduction from last year's total of 14 and well below the counts during the invasion years of 1978-1979 (28 and 47. respectively). All were reported Aug. 27-Sept. 10. the Buff-breasted's usual migration "window." A Marbled Godwit was in Delta, s. of Vancouver, B.C. Aug. 24- Sept. 1 (BM, †JW, †DK, m.ob.). Four appeared in Oak Bay, V.I. Oct. 1 (RS, m.ob. *fide* VG), with one staying until Oct. 11 (JTa). The species is very rare in coastal British Columbia. Single **Bar-tailed Godwits** were reported from Dungeness Sept. 11, 26, & Oct. 9 (†WS, †KK, †D & SS), with two different birds likely involved. Two **Hudsonian Godwits** were at Mud Bay in Delta, B.C., Aug. 25-Sept. 2 with one remaining until Sept. 12 (BM. †WW, †DK. m.ob.). Approximately 13 Ruffs were reported. This is the sixth consecutive year in which the number of Ruff sightings has increased. Three Am. Avocets ranged W to our area. One was at Reifel I., B.C., Aug. 5-6 (*fide* WW), one was at Tillamook, Oreg. Aug. 11-30 (JG, OSc, ph., m.ob.), and the third was at Nisqually N.W.R., Wash., Aug. 16 (KB *et al.*).

JAEGERS THROUGH ALCIDS -- Pomarine Jaegers passed offshore in unusually large numbers. TW

counted 34 off Westport Aug. 19, and 34 were again tallied there Nov. 7 (DP, TSm). One Pomarine at Pt. Roberts, Wash., Oct. 24 provided a rare onshore sighting (†BK). One Parasitic Jaeger lingered into early December off Seattle, several weeks later than normal (†DH, m.ob.). Only five Long-tailed Jaegers were counted. One ad. Long-tailed was at White Rock, B.C., and Blaine, Wash. Sept. 11 for a rare sighting there (†JW *et al.*). Skua reports were also infrequent, with but six individuals found, including three off Ocean Shores Sept. 7 (ESH *et al.*). One was off Brookings, Oreg. Aug. 29 (JG, DI), and a storm-blown skua was seen from the Port Angeles-Victoria ferry Nov. 22 (WC). None of the skuas could be identified more precisely. Two Glaucous Gulls had appeared by late November. One was near Eugene, Oreg. (TL), and a first-year bird was at the S.J.C.R., Nov. 25 (HN). A large concentration of 26 imm. Franklin's Gulls was present at the Snohomish and Everett sewage ponds Sept. 24-30 IDP, B & PE). **Little Gulls** were almost numerous with 5-6 birds noted. Washington sightings included one sub-adult Sept. 18 at Port Angeles (†WS, KK), one Sept. 23 off s. Whidbey I., (BR) and perhaps the same bird at the Everett sewage ponds Sept. 26 (B & PE). Another was seen off Seattle Oct. 16-30 (†DH, †TSc, EPe). The third and fourth documented records for Oregon were singles Oct. 10 on Tillamook Bay (†JG, †AC, OSC, ph., m.ob.) and Oct. 13-18 at Newport RB). None was a first year bird. Heermann's Gulls are rarely seen away from the saltwater shoreline. Storms blew nine inland to Roseburg, Oreg. (MSa, *vide* HN), and one to Eugene (AC) Nov. 14- 15, and DP noted ten about 25 mi offshore from Westport Nov. 7. This fall brought an unusual number of reports of Sabine's Gulls inshore. These occurrences were not clearly storm-related. Two Forster's Terns were reported Aug. 26 at Pt. Roberts, Wash. (†BK), and 2-3 were seen at Forest Grove, Oreg, Aug. 31-Sept. 7 (†DI, JG). Three Arctic Terns seen Oct. 10 off Westport (TW) were the latest ever for Washington by 2 days. An imm. Caspian Tern on Green L., in Seattle Oct. 8-18 (FK, ER, ESH) was very late although some remained at Tillamook, Oreg, throughout the month (HNL). One-two Black Terns were at Iona I., near Vancouver, B.C., Sept. 19 (BK, BM *et al.*). Ancient Murrelets were reported only about s. V.I., Sept. 16-Nov. 11, with a high count of 25 (*vide* VG), and in Puget Sound Oct. 23+, with a high count of only eight (PWM). Single Horned Puffins were at Cape Lookout, near Tillamook Aug. 23 (OJSc, *vide* HNL and off Pt. Partridge, Whidbey I., Wash., Sept. 3

(†CP, BBe). both in areas frequented by this n. straggler in recent summers.

OWLS THROUGH FLYCATCHERS -- Single Snowy Owls Nov. 16+ in Delta B.C. (*vide* WW). and Nov. 22 over N. Saanich, V.I. (DFr), were the only ones reported. A pair of Barred Owls appeared during October along the Umpqua R., above Glide. e. of Roseburg marks the expanding s. frontier of this specie's range (MSa, *vide* HN). A Spotted Owl seen Sept. 11 in the Chilliwack R. valley e. of Mt. Baker was near this specie's n. limit (PSc, DW). Barred and Spotted Owls ranges now overlap on a 400-mi front in the Cascade Range. A poorwill Oct. 14 near Wolf Cr., Oreg, was late (EPu). There were several early October records of Com. Nighthawks, with singles Oct. 11 in Vancouver, B.C. (*vide* WW), and Sequim, Wash. (JTo, *vide* SA) the latest. There were many late reports of Vaux's Swifts from Washington, with ten over Pt. Townsend Oct. 11 the latest on record (†DP *et al.*). About 2000 Vaux's Swifts were still present in a chimney in Lake Oswego, Oreg. Oct. 12 (HN) with a flock of 1000 still in Eugene Oct. 13 (DF, TL). All disappeared following the first frost Oct. 15. Single Rufous Hummingbirds lingered until Nov. 4 in Roseburg, Oreg, (FP, *vide* MSa), and until Nov. 30 in Saanich, V.I. (*vide*, VG). Single Lewis' Woodpeckers strayed W of the Cascades to Saanich Sept. 12 (*vide* VG), to near Redmond, Wash., Sept. 25 (A & NL, *vide* B & PE), and to Pt. Roberts, Wash., Sept. 26-27 (BK, DK, WW). A

210 *American Birds*, March 1982

"Red-naped" Yellow-bellied Sapsucker Oct 9 at Vancouver, B C., provided the third local record of this form (†BK) Three **Tropical Kingbirds** were found in Oregon in the span of 8 days in mid-October. One was at Newport Oct. 14 (†R & JK, ph., *vide* EE), another at Garibaldi near Tillamook Oct. 17 (†BTe, ph.), and a third at Langlois Oct. 22 (†GS *et al.*, *vide* DEr). Twelve W. Kingbirds were reported, with five Sept. 18-20 in the wake of the first frontal passage of the month. A *Myiarchus* flycatcher was found Oct. 4 in Langley, B.C. (ph., *vide* WW). Single Say's Phoebes Aug. 26 at Sauvie

I., near Portland (JE), and Sept. 16 near Brookings, Oreg. (JG, DI, *fide* HN) were w. of their usual range, while the Black Phoebe at Roseburg Sept. 22-26 (MSa *et al.*, *fide* JE) was a bit far n. Last *Empidonax* departure dates were: Hammond's Sept. 27 at Ladner, B.C. (BK); Willow, Oct. 13 at Leadbetter Pt., Wash. (RWi); and W. Flycatcher Nov. 13 in Beaverton, Oreg. (ALa, *fide* HN). An Olive-sided Flycatcher Sept. 22 at Dungeness, Wash., was the latest ever for the state (WS).

MARTINS THROUGH SHRIKES -- The largest migratory concentrations of Purple Martins reported were of only 12 birds Aug. 25 in Seattle (DH) and Aug. 30 at Nehalem, Oreg. (R & JK, *fide* EE). A **Scrub Jay** found Nov. 15 in S. Langley, B.C., represented the first record for British Columbia and for Canada (WC, ph., *fide* WW). Two Black-billed Magpies at the Nisqually N.W.R., Wash., Sept. 26- 29 (BHT *et al.*), and another at Ashland, Oreg. Nov. 2 (MM) were displaced from e. of the Cascades. A Cañon Wren closely studied Oct. 10-15 at North Head, a rocky coastal promontory w. of Ilwaco, Wash. (*fide* RWi), was astounding, as the species is sedentary and breeds no closer than 130 mi to the e. The eight Mockingbird sightings span the period and the Region from Medford, Oreg., n. to near Vancouver, B.C. Late Swainson's Thrushes include singles Oct. 2 in Seattle (MDo*), and Nov. 25 at Springfield, Oreg. (IL). A **Veery** was reported at Tillamook Bay Oct. 4-5 (JG, OSc, *fide* HN). Western Bluebirds were noted n. of s. Oregon only at Ft. Lewis, Wash., where two immatures were present Sept. 4 (BHT), and on s. V.I., where flocks of up to eight birds were noted Sept 21-Oct. 19 (*fide* VG). A **White Wagtail** paid a brief visit to Seattle Nov. 8-9 for the first state record (†B & JMc, †DH). The individual was apparently an imm. male of uncertain racial origin (see *Continental Birdlife* 2:37, 1981). A Cedar Waxwing fledged a late brood Aug. 25 near Vancouver, Wash. (DJ) A migratory concentration of 1400 waxwings at Eugene Nov. 24 contained one Bohemian (DF, TL). Another flock on Mary's Peak w. of Corvallis, Oreg., Nov. 28 (R & JK, *fide* EE) and 40 above Skykomish, Wash., Nov. 7 (DD) were the vanguard of a heavy winter movement. Single Loggerhead Shrikes strayed W to Ridgefield N.W.R., Wash., Oct 18 (GDa, *fide* HN), and to Sutherlin, n. of Roseburg, Oreg. Oct. 24 (MHu, *fide* MSa).

VIREOS AND WARBLERS -- A Solitary Vireo Oct. 25 at Tillamook Bay (RP) was late, and a Warbling Vireo Oct. 11 at Leadbetter Pt (RWi) was the latest ever for Washington. An imm. Black-and-white Warbler was at Tillamook Bay Sept. 26 (OSc, ph., *fide* DI, HN) A Tennessee Warbler was reported Sept. 2 at Fern Ridge Res. (BO, *fide* JE). A few Yellow Warblers stayed late with singles Oct. 11 at Leadbetter Pt., Wash. (RWi), Oct. 12 at Torino, V.I. (MSh, *fide* VG), and Nov. 7 at Eugene, Oreg. (DR). An imm. **Blackburnian Warbler** at Leadbetter Pt., Oct. 4 (†RWi) was the third single-person sighting from Washington, all since 1979. Hermit Warblers lingered near Eugene until Oct. 20 (DF) and Nov. 5 (TM). An imm. **Chestnut-sided Warbler** Sept. 15 at Florence constituted the first in fall from the Oregon coast (†DF). An obscure imm. Prairie Warbler reported from Yaquina Bay Sept. 27 (†JG, OSc, DI, m.ob.) is being considered by the Oregon Bird Records Committee as a possible first state record. Palm Warblers were located as usual at coastal points from Rofino, V.I., s. to the California border. The first appeared Sept. 17 near Brookings, Oreg. (JG, DI, *fide* HN). One at Kent, s. of Seattle, Oct. 25 (†ESH) was the only record away from the immediate coast. Vagrant N. Waterthrushes turned up Aug. 19 on the Westport, Wash. jetty (WHa, *fide* G & WH) and Sept. 26 near Bellingham, Wash (†SVN). A Com. Yellowthroat Nov. 15 at the Skagit Game Range near Mt. Vernon, Wash. (BHT), was the latest-ever for Washington. Late Wilson's Warblers include one at Seattle Oct. 11 (ER) and a pair on s. V.I., Oct. 20 (J & RS, *fide* VG).

BOBOLINK THROUGH SPARROWS -- Four Bobolinks appeared in September during a period of high pressure with N winds. Singles were at Seattle Sept 3 & 14 (DP, NC), and in Oregon at Newport (MN, *fide* JE), and at Gold Beach sewage ponds, Sept 17 (JG, DI, *fide* HN). A late Bobolink was killed Nov. 7 by a N. Shrike in C. Saanich, V.A. (ML, JH*, *fide* VG). A Yellow-headed Blackbird Nov. 7 in Kent, Wash., was also late (ESH *et al.*). The first **Orchard Oriole** recorded for Oregon was at Yaquina Bay Sept. 27 (†JG, OSc, ph., m.ob.). It was an immature, bright yellow below, and scarcely larger than accompanying White-crowned Sparrows. *Three* Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were found at Tillamook this fall, one Sept. 6 (JG, OSc) and two Oct. 5 (JG, OSc, ph.). Several Pine Grosbeaks

were noted in the lowlands w. of the Cascades where they are normally noted only during winter finch invasions. Singles were in Vancouver, B.C., Aug. 4 (MDa, *fide* WW), between Chimacum and Center, Jefferson Co., Wash., Sept. 24 (KK), in the Sooke Dist., V.I. Oct. 14 (J & RS, *fide* VG), and in Saanich, V.I., Nov. 1 (*fide* VG) Several flocks of up to 30 **White-winged Crossbills** appeared in the c Oregon Cascades at Waldo L., and Gold L., Sept. 1-18 (†T & AM, †AC, MSa, ph., m.ob.), and two were 20 mi n.e. at Lava Camp L, Aug. 29-late Sept. (FR *et al.* *fide* HN). Ten White-wingeds were also seen below Hurricane Ridge, above Port Angeles, Wash., Sept 9 (ESH, RSt *et al.*). A Green-tailed Towhee Aug. 22 at 5000 ft on Mt Hood (GW, *fide* HN) was both n. and w. of its usual range. A late Vesper Sparrow was at the Montlake Fill in Seattle Sept. 23- 29 (TW, SA). A Tree Sparrow was at the same location Oct. 15 and Nov. 7 (†ER) for the only report this fall. An imm. **Clay-colored Sparrow** found Oct. 18 at Cannon Beach, Oreg. (JG, OSc, ph.), provided a sixth state record. The only Harris' Sparrows reported were singles Oct. 1 at Langford, V.I. (†VB), and Nov. 23 at N Saanich, VA. (†LR). Thirty White-throated Sparrows turned up. Eighteen were in Oregon and seven on s. V.I. The earliest was Sept 7, at Leadbetter Pt., Wash. (RWi), nearly a month before the next sighting. An extraordinarily early Swamp Sparrow was seen at Jericho P., Vancouver, B.C., Aug. 26 (†MP) for only the second local record.

CITED OBSERVERS and ABBREVIATIONS: **with Sub-Regional editors in boldface**. Scott Atkinson, Virginia Bartkow, Range Bayer, Mark Belanger, Bobby Berge (BB), Thais Bock, Bill Brynteson (BB), Wayne Campbell, Ralph Carlson, Mike Carmody, Nancy Colton, Alan Contreras, Mark Daly (MDa), Gordon Dawson (GDa), George Deagle (GDe), Michael Donahue (MDo), Dennis Duffy, Mark Egger (ME), Alice Elston, Elzy Eltzroth, Don & Marie Emenhiser (D & MEm), Dick Erickson (DEr), Joe Evanich, Bob & Pat Evans, *David Fix* (DF), Chuck Flaherty, David Fraser (DFr), Jeff Gilligan, **Vic Goodwill**, Steve Gordon, Warren Hall (WHa), **Bill Harrington-Tweit** (BHT), Steven Heintz, J. Hitchmough, Glen & Wanda Hoge (G & WH), Harold Hosford, Matt Hunter (MHu), David Hutchinson, David Irons, Don Jole, Brian Kautesk, Ken Knittie, Anne Knowles, Rick & Jan Krabbe, Doug Kragh, Fayette Krause, Art & Nancy

Lang (A & NL), Al Larrabee (ALa), M. Lee, Tom Lund, Bruce Macdonald (BM), Fred Martinsen, Steve Matthews, Bob & Judy McMurtrie (B & JMc), Tom & Allison Mickel, Marjorie Moore, Pat Muller (PMu), Mark Nebeker, **Harry Nehls**, B. Ostin, Richard Palmer, Fred Parker, **Dennis Paulson**, Curt Pearson, Evelyn Peaslee (EPe), Michael Price, Eleanor Pugh (EPu), Fred Ramsey, Ellen Ratoosh, Bill & Geness Reichert, Leila Roberts, Dennis Rogers, Joy & Ron Satterfield (J & RS), Martha Sawyer (MSa), Owen Schmidt (OSc), Pat Schneider (PSc), Tom Schooley (TSc), Floyd Schrock, Michael Shepard (MSh), Dory & Stan Smith (D & SS), Mark Smith (MSm), Terry Smith (Tsm), Rich Stallcup (RSt), Eleanor Stopps, Gary Strachan, Wally Sumner, Otis Swisher (OSw), Jeremy Tatum (JTa), Berta Teale (BTe), Bill Thackaberry (BTh), Jeff Tosh (JTo), Sally Van. Niel (SVN), Frank Wagner, **Terry Wahl**, Glenn Walthall, Ruben Ware (RWa), Clarice Watson, **Wayne Weber**, Debra Wessel, Ralph Widrig (RWi), Jack Williams, (†) = written description on file, (*) = specimen, S.J.C.R. = South Jetty of the Columbia R., Oreg , V.I., = Vancouver I., B.C.

Volume 36, Number 2 211

The Winter Season, 1981-82

NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN - INTERMOUNTAIN REGION

/Thomas H. Rogers

Winter over the Region, although with no prolonged bitter cold spells, was, in most areas a snowy one, with standing water frozen most of the season. Eastern Oregon was particularly hard hit by snow and ice, making it difficult for birds. To a lesser extent this was true of southern interior British Columbia, extreme northern and southeastern Idaho and northern Washington. The first week of January brought temperatures far below zero to more northerly areas for a few days. A mild late February brought many early migrants in ahead of schedule.

LOONS AND GREBES – A Com. Loon was still on Windermere L., B.C., Jan. 24 (LH). Wells Pool, Azwell, Wash., had two Jan. 16 (RF) and one was on the Snake R., below Am. Falls Dam, Ida. Dec. 11 (DT). A Red-necked Grebe was on the Columbia R., near Bridgeport, Wash., Feb. 9 (BH-T). Eared Grebes remained at Klamath Falls, Ore., through December and the species was noted at Rupert, Ida. in December and February (WHS).

PELICANS AND CORMORANTS -- Ten White Pelicans wintered on the Hanford Reach of the Columbia R., Wash. (REF) and the species was sighted at Malheur N.W.R., Burns, Ore., Dec. 19 for the third winter record there. A few Double-crested Cormorants wintered at Malheur and at Rupert. Thirty were at L. Lowell, Canyon Co. Ida. Dec. 24 and one was on the Clearwater R. at Potlatch, Ida. Feb. 21 (FJ, RN).

HERONS -- Great Blue Herons wintered in better-than-normal numbers. A concentration of 300 was at Malheur in December. The species suffered losses in the Colville, Wash. area apparently because of the freezeup (SZ). A **Green Heron** appeared at Lewiston, Ida. Dec. 2 (PH, *fide* JW). Malheur had its first winter records of Great Egrets with single birds in January and February. The winter roost of Black-crowned Night Herons on the Link R., Klamath Falls, held 139 birds Jan. 31 for a high winter count (SS). The species wintered at Summer L., Lake Co., Ore. (MSL) and stayed late at Malheur with 50 Dec. 2 and two yet Dec. 22. An Am. Bittern lingered at Malheur until Dec. 21.

WATERFOWL -- Wintering Whistling Swan numbers were high with up to 271 on Pend Oreille L. and R., n. Ida. and 376 in the S. Thompson-Shuswap R. drainages, B.C. A scattering wintered elsewhere. The birds' spring migration was impressive with 5000 at Klamath Falls; 2000 near Marlin, Wash., and large concentrations in the Harney Basin, Burns. The wintering population of Trumpeter Swans at Red Rock Lakes N.W.R., Lima, Mont., varied from 118-396. The midwinter aerial survey Feb. 3-5 in the Yellowstone

area counted 1218 Trumpeters including 266 cygnets. Up to 51 wintered at Malheur N.W.R. Four returned to Turnbull N.W.R., Cheney, Wash., in February. The Coeur d'Alene L. and R., Pend Oreille L. and R., and lower St. Jo R., n. Idaho had nearly 15,000 Canada Geese Dec. 12 and 3400 as late as Jan. 8. Their numbers reached 6000 at Columbia N.W.R., Othello, Wash., and 3300+ at Turnbull in December. Twelve White-fronted Geese near Spokane were noteworthy (JA). The Harney Basin has large numbers of White-fronted and Snow geese by late February. A single Snow Goose stayed at Lewiston Jan. 10-23 (RN *et al.*) and one was at L. Lowell Dec. 24 (DT). Ross' Geese arrived at Malheur Feb. 17. Single birds were at Summerland, B.C., Feb. 8 (SC); at Lewiston Nov. 21-Jan. 30 (JWW), and at Helena in early December (GH). Waterfowl densities reached record levels on Carry Res. near the Boardman, Ore. coal-fired plant, with 440,000 ducks Jan. 14. Mostly Mallards, they foraged in nearby Corn fields. Ten days later most of them had left. (RJK, JAn). Duck numbers were very high in the Coeur d'Alene-Pend Oreille area, particularly Mallards, Am. Wigeon, and Redheads but Canvasbacks were absent and goldeneyes down. Snow and ice drove most waterfowl out of the Malheur-Harney Basin area. Columbia N.W.R., had a big 165,000, mostly Mallards, in December but numbers dropped to 30,000 in January. Crab Creek, Grant Co., Wash. had 100,000 waterfowl, mostly Mallards, Pintail and Canada Geese, and 2000 Canvasback Feb. 26 (RF). Single Eur. Wigeons showed up at Kennewick, Wash., Feb. 15 (REW) and at Malheur Feb. 12. Five female ducks believed to be Greater Scaup were sighted at Somers, Mont. Dec. 24 (EH). Two Oldsquaw fed on spilled grain at an elevator near Umatilla, Ore., January-early February (CC, REW). Two were at Lewiston Orchards. Ida. Dec. 5 (PS *et al.*) and one was near Beverly, Wash., Feb. 2 (Y.A.S.). A male White-winged Scoter was at Klamath Falls in December (SS) and a male Hooded Merganser appeared in January near Canyon Ferry Dam, Mont. (GH).

HAWKS -- An early Turkey Vulture was over Moses Coulee, Douglas Co. Wash., Feb. 20 (N.C.W.A.S.) and one was near Vernon, B.C., Jan. 16 for an unprecedented winter record (KG). The species arrived near O'Neil, Ore., Feb. 28 for the only other report (TC). An unusual number of Goshawk sightings came

in from every subregion except Idaho. Buteos were numerous in the w. part of the Region. Up to 25 Red-tailed Hawks were sighted near Prineville, Ore., in early February. In the Malheur area 225 mi of raptor transects yielded 32 Red-tailed and 179 Rough-legged hawks. The Terreton-Montevue area of Idaho had heavy concentrations of Rough-leggeds; both there and in e. Oregon they were attracted by the very high black-tailed jackrabbit numbers. A few Ferruginous Hawks apparently wintered in s. Idaho where jackrabbit numbers were high (CHT) and three pairs remained in the Peola, Wash. area during the winter (MPF). The Catlow Valley, Harney Co., Ore., had sightings Dec. 19, and Malheur Feb. 15; one was near Orondo, Wash., Feb. 7 (ME *et al.*). The Red-shouldered Hawk at Klamath Falls lasted out the winter (SS). Many Golden and Bald eagles were taking advantage of the jackrabbits in s. Idaho. Bald Eagles wintered in high numbers w. of the Continental Divide. There were at least 19 (!) sightings of Gyrfalcons, apparently because of the jackrabbits, and five of Peregrines. A dozen or more Merlin sightings were reported.

GALLINACEOUS BIRDS -- At Malheur, California Quail, abundant during the fall, were decimated by the weather, few surviving except at feeding stations, but Ring-necked Pheasants fared somewhat better. Chukars apparently survived well there but experienced a large die-off below Salmon, Ida.

CRANES THROUGH COOT -- The first Greater Sandhill Cranes arrived at Malheur Feb. 10, the second earliest date there but the big movement into the refuge occurred Feb. 17. Lesser Sandhills arrived there Feb. 23. Three Virginia Rails were sighted at a swamp near Mabton, Wash., about Jan. 1 (F & GR) and three were flushed from a marsh near Beverly Dec. 17 (RF). One became a victim of a window in Trail, B.C., Dec. 17 (AG). Turnbull N.W.R., had a peak of 1020

mid-February and numbered 790 by Feb. 23. About 60 wintered there.

SHOREBIRDS -- Two Greater Yellowlegs were found at the mouth of Asotin Cr., near Lewiston Jan. 10 (PS) and 4-5 were there Feb. 15-16 plus one at nearby Hells Gate S.P. (WHe. MK, CV). The Yakima R. mouth, Richland, Wash. had 70 Dunlin Dec. 21 and Jan. 1 and the same spot had eight Long-billed Dowitchers yet on Dec. 6 (REW).

GULLS -- A Glaucous Gull appeared at Nelson, B.C. Dec. 5 (MEI, GD) and up to four, one an adult, were at the Yakima R. mouth in January and February (WH, REW). One-two Glaucous Gulls were at Spokane Jan. 31 and Feb. 7 (JA, BW) and an imm. bird was at Umatilla Feb. 8 (MC). A second-year Glaucous was on Am. Falls Res., Ida. Dec. 20 (DT, CHT). Single Glaucous-winged Gulls were sighted in December at Kelowna and Osoyoos, B.C., where they are very uncommon (JG, MCo. DB) and one wintered at Klamath Falls (SS). An ad. Herring Gull was spotted on Okanogan Flats Wash., Feb. 9 (BH-T) and one was at Malheur Feb. 28 for the refuge's second sighting. Klamath Falls had up to three Thayer's Gulls in December (SS) and one was photographed at Spokane Jan. 31 for the first record for that area (JA). Woodley's second and third records of the Mew' Gull at the Yakima mouth occurred Jan. 10 & 23 and one was at Umatilla Feb. 15 (C & MC).

DOVES AND OWLS -- Fourteen late-staying Mourning Doves were found w. of Bozeman, Mont., Dec. 26, some staying at least until Jan. 2 (PDS). Two near Tendoy, Ida., were 2 months later than Roberts' previous late date. Many wintered around feed lots at Vernon: a flock numbered 90 Jan. 30 (†JG).

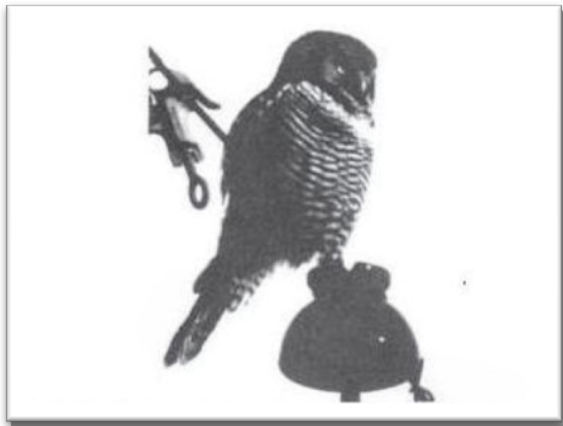
Volume 36, Number 3 313

Am. Coot in December: Columbia N.W.R.'s high was 500, also in December. Coot returned to Malheur in

S.A.

Two sightings of Barn Owls, very rare, in interior British Columbia were obtained. One was living in a barn at Osoyoos Jan. 8-17 (DB. SC, m.ob.) and one was found frozen in a barn at Vernon Feb. 12 (JG). Many of the species were found dead around potato cellars and haystacks in the Rupert area in January and February (WHS). A similar die-off was noted in the Twin Falls, Ida. area (I.F.G.). In s.e. Oregon severe weather resulted in many casualties for the species, with at least 18 found dead. Deep snow' presumably made small mammals unavailable. Other reports from the n. Great Basin indicated the mortality was widespread. The birds were twice seen attacking California Quail

It was a good winter for seeing Snowy Owls in e. Washington. Eight were seen from one observation point Feb. 21 (JA). The birds were very scarce in interior British Columbia; however, with only two observations Jan. 23-24 at Kamloops (RH), One appeared near Bonners Ferry, Ida. in late January (*vide* LDN). A **Hawk Owl** at Bridgeport Jan. 20-Feb. 14 became a celebrity (RB. m.ob.). In British Columbia one was sighted Jan. 11 & 23 at Windermere L. and one was at Invermere Feb. 2 (LH). One wintered in Glacier N.P. (MD), one was seen at Wells Gray N.P., Jan. 30 (RH), and one was at Vernon Feb. 7 (PR). One was photographed at Pablo N.W.R., Lake Co., Mont. Dec. 15 (WJH).



*Hawk Owl, Bridgeport, Wash., Feb. 10, 1982.
Photo/K.B runner.*

Barred Owls were unusually common in the N. Okanagan of British Columbia and an increased number of sightings came from below the border. Single birds appeared at Asotin, Wenatchee, Pasco, and Spokane, Wash., and Lewiston in January and February. In s. interior British Columbia there were four sightings of Great Gray Owls in different localities of the Kamloops region (RH), one in the Clearwater Valley (RH), and one at Penticton (SC). In the Invermere vicinity two sightings were obtained Feb. 1 & 6 (LH). In Idaho one was found near Cottonwood Dec. 8 (MH. *vide* DK). The n. edge of Yellowstone N.P., had one in February (DRS) and one was found in the Absaroka Mts., s. of Big Timber. Mont. Dec., 11, (PE). In s. interior British Columbia several Saw-whet Owls were found in barns and outbuildings: one picked up starving at Revelstoke soon recovered (JWo). Single birds were found in Washington at Selah (Y.A.S.). Moses L. (RK), and Ephrata (RF).

HUMMINGBIRDS THROUGH JAYS -- Single Anna's Hummingbirds at feeders at Vernon (JG) and Kamloops (RH) disappeared Dec. 31. A large colony of Lewis' Woodpeckers was reported along the White R., Wamic, Ore. (RDP). A few were reported in the Yakima area and one was near Boardman Jan. 25 (RJK). Yakima had a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker Jan. 10 (Y.A.S.) and Umatilla hosted one Jan. 10-Feb. 8 (MC). The only White-headed Woodpeckers reported were one in January at Rimrock L. Yakima Co., Wash. (Y.A.S.) and one Jan. 8 at Sisters, Ore. (R & GS). Over 10,000 Horned Larks were in the Crooked R. grasslands near Bend, Ore. Feb. 28 (TC). A Blue Jay remained at Nelson. B.C., until Feb. 16 (MHo) and one wintered at a feeder at Edgewood, B.C. (A J). One was at Three Forks, Mont., Dec. 2-Feb 12 (RL *et al.*). At least six Com. Raven roost sites were active at Malheur, each site numbering about 200 birds. A flock of 150+ P₁ on Jays frequented the Bend area through the winter (TC) and a flock of 140 was sighted near Pocatello, Ida. in late February (DT).

CHICKADEES THROUGH WRENS -- American Falls Res. provided remarkable out-of-habitat sightings of six Mountain Chickadees, four Bushtits and a

Golden-crowned Kinglet Dec. 20 (CHT). Boreal Chickadees appeared in late December near Troy, Mont., and up Pipe Cr., n. of Libby, Mont. (CW). Red-breasted Nuthatches were decidedly scarce in s. interior British Columbia and in the Bozeman area; numbers were down at Fortine, Mont. also. A **Bewick's Wren** near Frenchglen, Ore., Jan. 9 was the first for that area since 1876 and the first for Malheur N.W.R. (MA). Three Rock Wrens were sighted there Dec. 19 and one was at Smith Rock S.P., n. of Redmond. Ore. Feb. 28, (TC).

CATBIRDS THROUGH STARLINGS – Nakusp, B.C. had a remarkable visit by a Gray Catbird eating raisins and suet at a feeder until Jan. 1: it reappeared nearby Feb. 15 (DG, CS). Some 1000 Am. Robins were frequenting Russian olive plantings at Satus, Wash., in late December (B & GR). Three Hermit Thrushes appeared at Klamath Falls in January (SS). A few' Ruby-crowned Kinglets wintered in the Yakima area. Bohemian Waxwings appeared in very large numbers in e. Washington and Idaho and showed up in several Oregon localities as far s. as Klamath Falls, where they appear only every 5-10 years. Bozeman had good numbers but the birds' numbers were apparently low' in other parts of w. Montana and in s. interior British Columbia. Cedar Waxwings were scarce or absent at most localities. A late Water Pipit was at Malheur Jan. 9 (MA). Bend had a Loggerhead Shrike Feb. 18 (F & WVH) and Salmon had one Dec. 19 (HR). Starlings appeared in flocks up to 5000 in e. Washington in December (RF).

WARBLERS AND BLACKBIRDS -- Twin Falls had two Yellow-rumped Warblers Jan. 2 (JR) and one was seen several times Jan. 4-11 in Idaho Falls, Ida. (RLe). Two of the Myrtle race were found at Satus about Jan. 1 (B & GR) and one was sighted near Vernon Dec. 27 (RH). Vernon also had a Com. Yellowthroat that day (RH). A male Yellow-headed Blackbird was spotted at Blue L., Grant Co., Wash. Jan. 30 (BW) and about ten were in a large flock of Red-winged and Brewer's blackbirds and Starlings at a .feedlot near Moses L., Jan. 15 (RF). At Malheur about 2000 blackbirds, 60% Red-winged and 40% Brewer's concentrated in a livestock feeding area and 400 Brewer's stayed in another. A Brewer's appeared at Fortine Dec. 8 & 11 (WW). Two

Brown-headed Cowbirds were found Jan. 30 near Okanogan, Wash. (ME, EH *et al.*).

FINCHES -- A **Black-headed Grosbeak** remained at a Livingston,

314 *American Birds*, May 1982

Mont. feeder until Feb. 6, for the state's first winter record (CL). Evening Grosbeaks showed in good numbers at Wenatchee and in above normal numbers at Klamath Falls, one flock containing 175. The species was reported at very few other localities. A female Purple Finch at a Vernon Feeder December-mid-February was photographed for the first record for the area (MCo). Pine Grosbeaks appeared more often this winter in the Okanogan Valley but were sighted at only 2 other places, Winesap and Wenatchee, Wash. Gray-crowned Rosy Finch sightings were spotty. By far the largest number, 3000, was reported near Chelan, Wash., Dec. 3 (TS). Flocks totaling 285 were at Battle Mountain S.P., Umatilla Co., Ore., Jan. 23 (C & Mc) and 300 were near Menan Buttes, s.c. Ida. Dec. 31 (Ec). The species appeared in good numbers at Salmon and Ketchum, Ida. A flock near Bozeman contained a partial albino. It was truly a redpoll winter across the Region. Practically every reporting locality had Com. Redpolls, often in high numbers. Only s. and extreme n. Idaho and the Burns and Klamath Falls areas had none. A few Hoary Redpolls appeared. Two were identified in Glacier N.P., Canada in February (MD) and groups up to 10-12 were seen in Lincoln and Sanders Cos., Mont. (CW). In Washington one was sighted at Bridgeport Feb. 11 (KB), one was near Twisp Jan. 20 and near Tonasket Jan. 31 (ME, EH). Pine Siskins were scarce or absent nearly everywhere. About 150 frequented feeders at Rupert however (WHS). Red Crossbills were virtually absent: only Coeur d'Alene and Potlatch, Ida. Spokane and Chewelah, Wash., and Bend reported them.

SPARROWS -- A Rufous-sided Towhee at Vernon Feb. 23 may have been an early migrant; none are known to have wintered there (JB). Sage Sparrows

arrived at Malheur Feb. 22. much earlier than previously thought to. Tree Sparrows wintered in many localities, all w. of the Continental Divide. A lone Chipping Sparrow was found at Smith Rock S.P., Feb. 10 (GW). Single Harris' Sparrows appeared at Umatilla and Umatilla N.W.R. (C & MC, RDP) and at McKay N.W.R., s. of Pendleton (C & MC). One was sighted near Malaga, Wash., in January (SCo) and one was near Bozeman most of the winter (GK). Many Golden-crowned Sparrows were sighted in the Yakima area in December and January (Y.A.S., B & GR). Richland, Rogersburg, and Peshastin, Wash. had single birds (WH, AM, Ro-T) and four were seen in Umatilla (C & MC). A few Fox Sparrows wintered in the Yakima-Wapato area (Y.A.S.). A Lincoln's Sparrow was found Jan. 6 near Midland, Ore. (SS). Lapland Longspurs were very scarce. They were noted in the Klamath Falls area (SS) and single birds were seen near Davenport (BW) and Reardan, Wash. (JA)) and near Am. Falls (JBr, MU). Four were sighted at Malheur, the first ever there and the first since 1876 for the area. Snow Buntings put in a few appearances, mostly in Washington but a few at Fortine, Vernon and Burns. Two moderately large flocks were sighted, 400 in the Davenport-Reardan area (BW) and 250 n.w. of Spokane (JA).

ADDENDA -- A road-killed Barn Owl was picked up near Libby in April, 1981 (CW). A flock of Blue Jays, estimated at 100, was near Three Forks about Dec. 8, 1980 (VC). The nest box project at Spokane showed a definite recovery from the 1980 season, when Mt. St. Helen's ash devastated nesting attempts. From a total of 77 boxes W. Bluebirds fledged 175 young, Tree Swallows nine, Mountain Chickadees 32, Pygmy Nuthatches eight, and House Wrens 131 (DP). At Oakley, Ida., a male **Blue-winged Warbler** was well seen May 23, 1981, and two male Bobolinks and a male **Indigo Bunting** were found near Oakley May 19, 1981 (MJS).

CORRIGENDA -- The birds attempting to nest in the Salmon vicinity in 1981 were Ospreys, not Bald Eagles (AB 35:963). The N. Parula reported at Kamiak Butte, Wash., in June 1981 (AB 35:963) was not the state's first (see AB 29:719).

CONTRIBUTORS CITED -- James Acton, John Annear (JAn), Merle Archie, John Baumbrough (JB), Joe Brown (JBr), Doug Brown. Ken Brunner, Steve Cannings (SC), Eddie Chew, Mary Collins (MCo), Sue Conklin (SCo), Craig & Marion Corder (C & MC), Tom Crabtree, Vernon Craig, Gary Davidson, Michael Dyer, Mark Egger (ME), Maurice Ellison (MEI). Paulette Epple, R. E. Fitzner, Margaret P. Flerchinger, Ron Friesz, James Grant, Karl Gruener, Amy Guidone, Warren Hall (WH), Larry Halverson, Bill Harrington-Tweit, Mel Hedburg (MHL Winnie Hepburn (WHe). Willis J. Heron, Phil Hixon, Madge Hollington (MHo), George Holton, Rick Howie, Eugene Hunn, Adeline Jackson, Fred Joyce, Idaho Fish & Game Dept. (I.F.G.), Robert Kent, Dwight Kilgore, Ronald J. Klein, Merlene Koliner, George Kelly, Ron Lang (RL), Rhodora Leyse (RLe), Cary Lurid, Alice Montag, L. D. Napier, Ron Neu, N.C. Wash. Aud. Soc. (N.C.W.A.S.). Ruth Ortiz-Torres, Richard D. Palmer. Dave Plemons, Bob & Georgia Ramsey, Phil Ranson, Hadley Roberts, Jeff Ruprecht, Marty St. Louis, Chris Spicer, Rod & Gail Stebbins, W. H. Shillington, P. D. Skaar. D. R. Skaar. Ted Smith, Miriam J. Spencer, Paul Sullivan, Steve Summers, Dan Taylor, C. H. Trost, Monica Urtis, Carole Vande Voorde, Faye & Wally Van. Hise, John W. Weber, Bart Whelton, Gene Wilton, Jim Wolcott (JW) John Woods (JWo), Carl Wolf, R. E. Woodley, Yakima Aud. Soc. (Y.A.S.), Winton Weydemeyer, Steve Zender.

The Winter Season, 1981-82

NORTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION

/Philip W. Mattocks and Eugene S. Hunn

December in the Region was warmer and wetter than the long term averages, based on the Medford, Portland, and Seattle weather stations. A cold wave in early January held temperatures below freezing throughout January 5-6 in Seattle, January 6-9 in Portland, and January 9-15 in Medford. Thereafter

temperatures generally returned to the normal range of 40-50°F. and February was slightly wetter than usual. The January freeze drove sapsuckers and Varied Thrushes conspicuously into the lowlands. An extensive invasion of Bohemian Waxwings and Common Redpolls was also primarily in January. First state records were established for the Black-headed Gull in Oregon and the Brambling in Washington.

LOONS THROUGH IBISES -- There were only two reports of the Yellow-billed Loon this season, both from Washington during December. This is fewer than usual and follows a below normal count for last year also. A light-phase W. Grebe was found Jan. 31 on Yaquina Bay, Ore. (JGi, OS). The 44 Eared Grebes on Cordova Bay, Saanich, V.I., Jan. 14 was a high count (RS, *fide* VG). Twenty N. Fulmars were seen off Tillamook Dec. 12 (HN), and others were reported off the n. Oregon coast into January (*fide* JE). Three dark-phase N. Fulmars were off Race Rocks, Metchosin, V.I. Jan. 29 (L. McIntosh, *fide* WC), and in the middle of the Strait of Juan de Fuca Feb. 19 (KT, *fide* VG). A late Sooty Shearwater Dec. 10 off West Pt. in Seattle established the first King County record (†DH). A few dead Short-tailed Shearwaters and Fork-tailed Storm-Petrels were found on n. Oregon beaches (HN). Seven Brown Pelicans Dec. 20 at Cape Arago, Ore., (AC) were late. In contrast to the distribution of Cattle Egret reports last fall, one on Cortes I., near Campbell River, V.I., in December (*fide* HT) was the only report n. of the Columbia R. Up to six Cattle Egrets were at Tillamook, Ore., Dec. 19 (*fide* HN), and others were scattered along the Oregon coast throughout the period (*fide* JE). Three Snowy Egrets wintered as usual at Coos Bay, Ore. (*fide* JE) and a Great Egret wintered for the fourth consecutive year at Olympia, Wash. (BHT *et al.*). Great Egrets in ones and twos were found as usual at numerous locations in w. Oregon (*fide* HN), and 20-30 spent the season near Roseburg (MS). Three ad. Black-crowned Night-Herons were present through the winter at Olympia, Wash. (BHT, J. Davis) where several had been found the previous 2 years. The wintering flock of Black-crowned Night Herons returned to the Umpqua R. site near Roseburg, Ore. with 28 counted there Feb. 17 (MS). There were also 28 Black-crowns counted on the Portland CBC at their regular roost along the Columbia R. (*fide* HNI). Four imm. ibis sp., presumably White-faced, were found

Dec. 26- Jan. 5 on Sauvie I. near Portland, Ore. (JGi, DI, m.ob.). Two were still there Jan. 15, and one Feb. 7+ (*fide* HN). Another imm. ibis was about 90 mi away at Nahcotta, on Willapa Bay, Wash., Jan. 24 (†C. Wilmes, *fide* RW).

WATERFOWL -- A large flock of 1000± Whistling Swans wintered just s. of Forest Grove, Ore. (JGa, BT, JE). A **"Bewick's" Whistling Swan** was picked out of a flock on Sauvie I., Jan. 2 (†OS, JGi, R. Johnson), and another was seen on the Nehalem meadows, n. of Tillamook, Ore., Feb. 27 (A. Larrabee, *fide* HN). Trumpeter Swans wintered in their usual numbers in w. Washington and s. British Columbia. The groups of 5-20 Trumpeters which spent the season s. of Forest Grove (JGa, BT, JE), and near Corvallis (E & EE), were the largest recent concentrations in w. Oregon. The Emperor Goose found at the Veneta sewage ponds, near Eugene, Ore. in November was present there through the season (m.ob.). Another Emperor Goose was at Ocean Shores, Wash., Jan. 31+ (D. & L. Lindstrom, m.ob.). Two Black Ducks on s. VA., one Dec. 1-Feb. 16 at Beacon Hill P., in Victoria, the other Jan. 21-Feb. 19 at Quick's Bottom, Saanich

Volume 36, Number 3 323

(both *fide* VG), were presumably from the introduced populations near Vancouver, B.C., and Everett, Wash. There were 8 reports of male "Eur." Green-winged Teal. The two males at the Montlake fill in Seattle had distinct plumage patterns identical to the two that were there the last 2 winters (†EH, †ER, m.ob.). Single males were s. to Cannon Beach, Ore. Jan. 6 (M. Smith, *fide* HN), and Reedsport, Ore., Jan. 30 (MH, SH, MS). Two Blue-winged Teal were at Fern Ridge Res., near Eugene Dec. 11 (R & JK, D. & M. Emenhiser, *fide* EE). A male and one other Cinnamon Teal were in Medford Jan. 2. A male and a female were at nearby Provolt, Ore. Jan. 19 (MjM), where a pair has wintered in past years. Another Cinnamon Teal was e. of Corvallis Jan. 31 (A. & D. Martin, *fide* EE). A male Redhead at Oyster River, s. of Campbell River, V.I., Feb. 14-16 provided the first confirmed local record (†HT *et al.*). A male **Tufted Duck** was seen Feb. 14 on Finley

N.W.R., s. of Corvallis for only the 2nd or 3rd record for Oregon (T. Dudley *et al.*, ph., FR, *fide* EE). Another male' Tufted Duck was seen Feb. 8 at the Everett, Wash., sewage ponds (†BHT).

VULTURES THROUGH RAILS -- A single Turkey Vulture was still near Applegate, in extreme s. Oregon, on Dec. 23 (R. Schnoes, *fide* MjM). Five Turkey Vultures heading n. along the coastline at Seaside, Oreg., Feb. 18, were the earliest reported northbound migrants (P. Turnbull, *fide* HN). Sightings from the Willamette Valley began Feb. 19+ (*fide* EE & HN). The White-tailed Kite winter roost site at Fern Ridge Res., near Eugene, Oreg., was reoccupied this season, with a count of 13 kites there Jan. 3 (J. Carlson, EE, DF, TL). About 30 individuals were reported statewide, and 10± of these were in the Medford area. Single "Harlan's" Red-tailed Hawks were found in Olympia, Wash., Dec. 26 (†BHT), on the Skagit flats, Wash., Feb. 6 (†RH *et al.*), and at Scoggins Valley Park, w. of Portland Dec. 29 (JE, DI). Two "Harlan's" were in Kent, Wash., Jan. 3 (†BHT, EH *et al.*). Five Red-shouldered Hawks were near Port Orford, Oreg. Dec. 27 (*fide* DR), and one was at Glide, e. of Roseburg, Jan. 2 & 31 (MH *et al.*, *fide* MS). The second winter record for w. Oregon of the **Ferruginous Hawk** was found at the Salem airport Dec. 26 (†HN, JE *et al.*). Single Ospreys were along the lower Columbia R., at Grays River, Wash., Jan. 2

Volume 36, Number 3 323

(AR, AM), on Orcas I. w. of Anacortes Wash., Jan 18, (P. DeBruyn, *fide* TW), and near Reedsport, Oreg., Feb. 6 (MJ, R. Maentz, *fide* MS). A fairly conservative estimate of the Gyrfalcon sightings indicates that about eight individuals were reported in the Region this winter. A white Gyrfalcon was in Oak Bay and C. Saanich, V.I., Jan. 8-Feb. 6 (*fide* VG). The others were each described as either dark, brown, or gray-phase birds, and all were found very near the coast. Single Prairie Falcons were located as usual at Eugene (AC), near Medford MjM), and near Roseburg (MS). There was about the usual number of reports of Peregrines and Merlins. A Virginia Rail was found dead at Campbell River, V.I., Dec. 22 (HT). The only Sora

reported was one heard Feb. 3 & 28 at the Montlake fill in Seattle (ER).

SHOREBIRDS THROUGH TERNS -- Single Semipalmated Plovers were at Campbell River, V.I., Jan. 3 (†M. & R. Palmer, *fide* HT), and at Clover Pt., Victoria, and Cadboro Bay beach, Oak Bay, V.I., Jan. 6-9 (M. Lewis, RM-G *et al.*, *fide* VG) for first winter records for both areas. A group of nine Semipalmated Plovers Dec. 19-Feb. 27 was at Ocean Shores, Wash. (DP, MkM, RH *et al.*). At least one wintered at Tillamook. Oreg. (R & JK, *fide* EE), and another was in Seattle Jan. 2 (EH). Five Snowy Plover were still at Tillamook Dec. 12 (HN). A Whimbrel and a Willet were on Ediz Hook, near Port Angeles, Wash., Feb. 12-24 (M. Carmody, D. & S. Smith). A Lesser Yellowlegs with two Greater at Metchosin Lagoon Dec. 25 (VG), and another near Sidney Feb. 6 (KT, *fide* VG) were very rare winter reports for s. V.I. A Wandering Tattler at Seal Rock, s. of Newport, Oreg, Feb. 21 (R & JK, E & EE) was about 2 months earlier than the usual spring migration and could have been wintering. Two W. Sandpipers were in Victoria Dec. 19 (*fide* VG). At Grays Harbor, Wash, there were 491 Westerns counted Dec. 19 (*fide* BHT), 85 on Jan. 10 (MkM, RV), and one Feb. 6 (MkM). These and one at the S.J.C.R., Feb. 17 (HN) were the only reports. Five Long-billed Dowitchers lingered until Dec. 13 at the Everett, Wash., sewage ponds (DH), and one was in Metchosin, V.I., Dec. 19-Jan. 1 (VG). Single Parasitic Jaegers were still at Seattle Dec. 7 (DH), and off Cape Arago, Oreg. Dec. 20 (AC). Two **Pomarine jaegers** noted from the jetty at Ocean Shores, Wash., Feb. 27 (†EH *et al.*) were about 2 months earlier than the usual spring migration and could have been wintering birds. The usual 2 dozen or so Glaucous Gulls were spread throughout the Region. A Franklin's Gull Jan. 3 at Kent, Wash., was very late (†BHT, D. MacRae). A Little Gull was seen Dec. 2 at Nye Beach, on Yaquina Bay, Oreg. (F. Schrock, *fide* JE). and another was seen Feb. 14-19 off West Pt. in Seattle (T. Schooley, †DH). Both were with flocks of Bonaparte's Gulls. A **Black-headed Gull** was found Dec. 20 near Astoria, Oreg, for the first state record (†OS, JGi, D. Bump). A previous report of an immature at Sunset Beach, Oreg., June 27, 1977 (Roberson, *Rare Birds of the West Coast*, p. 197) was not accepted by the Oregon Bird Records Committee (*Oregon Birds* 7 84, 1981). A Black-legged Kittiwake,

scarce away from the outer coast, was at West Pt., in Seattle Dec. 13-14 (†DH, B. Reichert). Dead **Red-legged Kittiwakes**, very rare anywhere in the Region, were found at Cannon Beach, Oreg. Dec. 30, (DKa, *fide* HN), and at Sunset Beach, Oreg., Jan. 24 (†HN). These provided the 4th and 5th Oregon records, and were the first since 1955. All were found dead. A Com. Tern seen Dec. 2 off the Nisqually R. mouth in lower Puget Sound (BHT) was very late.

OWLS THROUGH SWALLOWS -- Only seven Snowy Owls were reported this season. One at the S.J.C.R., Dec. 20 (DF *et al.*) was the farthest s. Two were on the Skagit flats, Wash., Jan. 16-Feb. 27 (m.ob.), and two were at Ocean Shores, Wash. Feb. 20-27 (EH *et al.*) A **Hawk Owl** wintered on Boundary Bay in Delta, B.C. (DKr, mob.). About seven Burrowing Owls were found in w. Oregon, with singles at Newport, s. of Corvallis, at the Eugene airport, and at Coos Bay (*fide* JE & EE), and at least three in the Medford area (M. Paczolt, MjM). A Barred Owl was heard Dec. 15 at the Friday harbor Laboratory on San Juan I. (S. Speich). All-time high counts of Anna's Hummingbirds were set or tied on the Medford, Eugene, Seattle, Bellingham, and Victoria CBCs. A female Rufous Hummingbird was seen Dec. 2-Feb. 3 along with three male and two female Anna's at a feeder in Saanich, V.I. (M & RM-G, *fide* VG). Rufous Hummingbirds appeared on schedule Feb. 21 in Coos Bay, Oreg. (Rob Lawrence, *fide* HN). All ten of the reports of "Red-breasted" Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers from w. Washington were during Jan 2-10, a period of heavy snows in the Cascades A female **Willamson's Sapsucker** was photographed in Ashland Jan. 15 (J. Miller, *fide* ?MjM) for a most unusual winter record. Eight White-headed Woodpeckers were w. of the Cascade crest to Shady Cove in the Rogue R. valley of s. Oregon Feb 16 (A. Briggs, *fide* MjM). A Black Phoebe was near Corvallis Jan 28- Feb. 9 (A. & G. Ansell *et al.*, *fide* EE) for only the third Willamette Valley record, and two were found at the usual n. limit of their range near Medford (MjM). Two Say's Phoebes were between Port Orford and Bandon, Oreg. Dec. 27 (*fide* DR), and at least one was present near Medford Dec. 30 - Feb. 27 (MjM). The first Violet-green Swallows were reported Feb. 21; 100 over the Central Point sewage ponds near Medford (MjM), three near Corvallis (A. & K. Cromack, *fide* EE), and a flock at

American L., Tacoma, Wash. (W. Wilkins). The species was widespread throughout the Region within a week. Three Tree Swallows, found Dec. 27 on the Ridgefield N.W.R., Wash. (†W. Cady *et al.*), are the only records for the state between late October and late January. Whether these individuals were wintering or were very early spring arrivals is unknown. Otherwise, the first few migrant Tree Swallows were found Feb. 2-9 at Finley N.W.R., Coos Bay, and Eugene, Oreg., and on the Nisqually N .W.R., Wash. The main arrival was during the last week of February.

JAYS THROUGH WAXWINGS -- A Blue Jay appeared at a feeder in Centralia, Wash., Jan. 1 (N. Dunn). Two Black-billed Magpies were seen Feb. 6-21 on the Nisqually N.W.R., Wash., where two were seen last September (BHT, R. Barchiesi). Single magpies were in Saanich, V.I., Feb. 10 (†M. Elston, *fide* VG), and near Duncan, V.I., Feb. 26 (WC, *fide* VG). A Clark's Nutcracker was on Saddle Mt., e. of Seaside, Oreg. Jan. 1 (DKa, *fide* HN). Mountain Chickadees continued to be noted in the lowlands of s.w. British Columbia and n.w. Washington through the period. Record high counts of Bushtits were set on CBCs at Victoria, Seattle, Grays Harbor, and Kent, Wash., following record high counts last year at several of these areas. However, the count of Bushtits on the Eugene and Medford CBCs were the lowest in the last several years (*fide* SG, MjM). A Dipper carried nesting material under the Highway 1 bridge over the Goldstream R., just w. of Victoria Feb. 5 (VG). A group of 10 Winter Wrens probably roosted Jan. 4 & 6 in VG's attic in Metchosin, V.I., during the severe cold. Single Mockingbirds were found in Langlois, n. of Port Orford, Oreg., Dec. 27, (DR), and in downtown Portland, Jan. 26, (T. White, *fide* HN). About 500 Varied Thrushes were around Ocean Shores, Wash., Jan. 10 (MkM, RV). All had gone by Feb. 6 (MkM). Higher than usual numbers of Varied Thrushes were also noted Jan. 5-12 at Metchosin, V.I. (VG), Grays River, e of Willapa Bay, Wash. (AR, AM), and at Ashland, Oreg. (MjM). The count of 256 W. Bluebirds on the Medford CBC was the highest there since 1973 (*fide* MjM). A Mountain Bluebird was seen Dec. 19 at Fort Flagler S.P., near Port Townsend (†E. Stopps *et al.*). New record high counts of Golden-crowned Kinglets were set on the Victoria, Bellingham, and Seattle CBCs. A **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** was found

Nov. 19-Dec. 1 in Kitsilano P, Vancouver, B.C., for the second record for British Columbia (M. Price *et al.*, ph., R. Cannings & R. Weber, *fide* WW). The previous British Columbia record was Nov. 10-11, 1963, at Victoria, and the only Washington record was on nearby Whidbey I., Nov 10-16, 1978. Bohemian Waxwings staged a widespread invasion throughout the Region. Groups of 2-6 reached s. to Medford and Ashland, Oreg. (*fide* MjM), and 150 were tallied on the Corvallis CBC (*fide* EE). Flocks of 40-60 Bohemians were noted in the Vancouver, B.C., area (*fide* DKr), in Bellingham (TW), Seattle (H. Fray), and near Marblemount, Wash. (K. Brown *et al.*) and in Portland (JGI, T. Morgan, *fide* HN) and Salem, Oreg. (*fide* RP).

WARBLERS THROUGH LONGSPURS -- A **Tennessee Warbler** was found Nov. 26-30 at a feeder in Eugene (M. & M. Dembrow, ph., SG) for the second winter record for Oregon. A **Nashville Warbler** was at the Marine Science Center in Newport Jan. 8-13 (R. Bayer, B. Olson *et al.*, *fide* EE). A few "Myrtle" Yellow-rumped Warblers were in Saanich, V.I., through the season (*fide* VG). However, the center of abundance in our area is within the range of the Pacific Wax Myrtle (*Myrica californica*) on the outer coast, where 1092 "Myrtles" were tallied on the Grays Harbor CBC. The usual few Palm Warblers

324 *American Birds*, May 1982

were noted from Coos Bay n. to Grays Harbor. Single male **Wilson's Warblers** were found Jan. 18 at a feeder in Albany, Oreg., (B. Orr, *fide* EE), and Feb. 10 in Juanita, near Seattle, Wash. (C. Pearson). The Juanita bird was the first record for Washington between December and late April. A male Yellow-headed Blackbird was in Saanich. V.I. Dec. 19, and an imm. male was in C. Saanich the same day (RS. *fide* VGI. Two Brown-headed Cowbirds in Campbell River, V.I. supplied the first local winter record (B. & B. Phipps, *fide* HT). A winter-plumaged male **Brambling** appeared briefly Jan. 6-7 at a feeder in Issaquah, Wash. (ph., H. Kunkle). The bird then reappeared nearby and stayed Jan. 16+ at a feeder along L. Sammamish, e. of Seattle (A. & N. Lang, m.ob.). It provided the first record for

Washington (†T. Weir. †B. & P. Evans, †EH, †PM. †MD, ph. DP, MD) and was only the fourth record for the West Coast s. of Alaska (Roberson, *Rare Birds of the West Coast*. p. 439). Many more Evening Grosbeaks than usual were in the Medford-Ashland area during January and February (MjM). Single male Cassin's Finches were noted at feeders in Beaverton, Oreg. Jan. 9 (JGi. *fide* JE), and in Ashland, Oreg., Jan. 21-Feb. 26 (MjM). Common Redpolls were widespread in w. Washington. Several were on Leadbetter Pt., by Dec. 14 (RW), and flocks of 30-50 were found on the Skagit flats. in Seattle, in Woodinville. and on the Nisqually N.W.R. during January and February. Single male redpolls were at feeders in Beaverton and Gaston, Oreg. (G. Walthall, JGa. *fide* HN). Many of the redpolls were in flocks of Pine Siskins which were abundant throughout the Region. In contrast, only a very few small flocks and groups of 2-3 Red Crossbills were noted. There were no further reports of White-winged Crossbills following the incursions last fall. A Brown Towhee was present Feb. 10 near Myrtle Creek, Oreg. (MS, MJ). A late Savannah Sparrow was on Mary Tod I., Oak Bay, V.I. Dec. 19 (*fide* VG). A **Grasshopper Sparrow** was seen Jan. 4 in Alton Baker P., Eugene, Oreg., and that bird was found dead in the snow a few days later (DF, TL) for probably the first winter record for the state. The specimen was identified as being of the w. race *perpallida* (A. Rey, *fide* DFI. A Tree Sparrow was found at Eugene, Jan. 3 (†MP, SHL and 2-3 Tree Sparrows were seen in Dungeness. Kent. and the Skagit flats, Wash. through the season. A Clay-colored Sparrow was found in Alton Baker P., Eugene, Jan. 2-5 for about the eighth record for Oregon (DF. TL A. Prigge. H. Wisher). A few White-crowned Sparrows wintered n. to Campbell River. V.I. (HT). There were the usual 15 White-throated Sparrows reported this season from w. Oregon. Three White-throateds also wintered on V.I. (*fide* VG) and three were found in w. Wash. Five Swamp Sparrows were seen this winter in w. Oregon. Singles were in Albany Dec. 6 (RP), at Coos Bay Dec. 20 (*fide* JE), in Portland Jan. 3 on Finley N.W.R., Jan. 30-31 (MP. *fide* EE). and on Sauvie I. Feb. 6 (4-HNI. Another Swamp Sparrow was in Saanich, V.I., Feb. 13 (†J, MacGregor, *fide* VG). The only Lapland Longspurs reported were one-two near Corvallis Dec. 25-Jan. 1 (*fide* EE).

INITIALED OBSERVERS and ABBREVIATIONS: with **Sub-Regional Editors in boldface** -- Wayne Campbell, Alan Contreras, Mark Daly, Elsie & Elzy Eltzroth, Joe Evanich, **David Fix**, John Gatchett (JGa), Jeff Gilligan (JGi). Vic Goodwill, Steve Gordon, **Bill Harrington-Tweit** (BHT). Steve Heintz, Rick Hudson. Matt Hunter. Dave Hutchinson. David Irons. Meredith Jones. Durrell Kapan (DKa), Rick & Jan Krabbe, Doug Kragh (DKr). Tom Lund. Margaret & Rob Mackenzie-Grieve. **Marjorie Moore** (MjM) Mike Moore (MkM), Ann Musche. **Harry Nehls**, Richard Palmer. Mike Patterson, **Dennis Paulson**, Fred Ramsey. Ellen Ratoosh. Alan Richards. Dennis Rogers. Run Satterfield, Martha Sawyer, Owen Schmidt. Keith Taylor, Berta Teale, Howard Telosky, Richard Veit. **Terry Wahl**, **Wayne Weber**, Ralph Widrig. V.I. = Vancouver I., B.C., S.J.C.R. = South jetty of the Columbia R. Oregon, and (†) = written description on file.

Spring Migration, 1982

**NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN-
INTERMOUNTAIN REGION**

/Thomas H. Rogers

Spring in the Region was, in general, late, in some areas as much as two or three weeks, the result of deep snow packs in the mountains and cold, wet weather. Although May was very dry in most areas, runoff from the mountains kept moisture conditions good and water levels high. Many observers commented that spring arrivals were late. Some migrants piled up in the lowlands waiting for favorable conditions before moving north or into the mountains and some winter visitors, notably redpolls lingered much later than usual.

LOONS AND GREBES -- A Red-throated Loon, no details supplied, was seen repeatedly near Moscow, Ida. in May (GW). A Red-necked Grebe in early May near Nampa, Ida., was apparently the first ever for that area

(MC). About 4400 Eared Grebes were on Stinking L., Malheur N.W.R. (hereafter, Malheur), Burns, Ore., Apr. 21. Western Grebes arrived early at Malheur and at least 50 died, apparently because they arrived in poor condition and high water had dispersed their carp food, making it hard to get. A single light-phase bird, quite rare there, was seen May 16 (TC).

PELICANS AND CORMORANTS -- A flock of ten White Pelicans near La Grande, Ore., Apr. 15 was extremely unusual (J & MM) and a Double-crested Cormorant there Apr. 24-25 was noteworthy (JE *et al.*).

HERONS THROUGH IBISES -- Great Blue Herons and Great Egrets showed a substantial increase at Malheur, about 1000 of the former nesting. but Snowy Egret numbers were down. Four Cattle Egrets arrived at Pocatello, Ida. May 4 and remained (CHT). Snowy Egret numbers there remained low, with no more than five birds (CHT). A single Snowy at Joseph Apr. 15-22 furnished n.e. Oregon's second record (FC, RA *et al.*). Of 130 Black-crowned Night Herons banded in s. Idaho this spring most were over three years old, signifying trouble there (CHT). The species continued to show lower numbers at Malheur. Lewiston, Ida. had a Black-crowned at Hells Gate P. May 1 (C.B.). The call of a Least Bittern was taped at Malheur at the end of May (TC, JG. HN *et al.*). A White-faced Ibis near Boardman, Ore. May 20-26 was a first for that area (RK) and Red Rock Lakes N.W.R., Lima, Mont. had a rare sighting of one May 13 (RRS).

WATERFOWL -- Whistling Swan numbers looked very good. The highest count was 11,380 at Malheur. Unusually large counts for their localities were 1500 at Ennis L., Ennis, Mont. and 500 in the Colville Valley, Wash. Trumpeter Swan pairs at Red Rock Lakes N.W.R. stood at 71, down from last year's 81 but their numbers were up at Malheur. The birds were still hanging on at Turnbull N.W.R., Cheney, Wash. with 4-5 birds. Peak goose numbers at Malheur were: Canada, 14,505; White-fronted, 4420; Snow, 113,000, and Ross', 4675. Canadas that wintered at McNary N.W.R., Burbank, Wash. had a peak of 8000. The breeding population of Canadas at Kootenai N.W.R., Bonnets

Ferry, Ida., was up 25% over 1981. A Brant was on the Snake R., near Clarkston, Wash., Apr. 4-5 (RN, LLaV, MKI. Carry Res., Boardman, had 25 White-fronted Mar. 23 (RK); four stayed at Swan L., Vernon, B.C. Apr. 21-May 8 (MCo) and one was at Tranquille, B.C. Mar. 6-7 (RH). The species peaked at 1500 on Conley L. s. of Union. Ore. Over 10,000 Snow Geese were at Summer L., Lake Co., Ore. and Ross' peaked in the Klamath L., Ore. area at 10,000-12,000. A few more than usual Ross' were reported out of their normal migration pathway: one near Lewiston (C.B.); up to four at Reardan, Wash. (JA, BW); one at Creston, Wash. (BW); one at Market L., Roberts, Ida., (ECI, two at Malheur (DT). and "several" at Metcalf N.W.R., Stevensville, Mont. (*vide* CP). The highest Pintail count was 183,000 at Malheur. Gadwall at Turnbull N.W.R. reached 1000+. Blue-winged Teal numbers were low at Malheur, indicating favorable habitat e. of Oregon. In drought years they continue NW from the Great Plains and boost numbers in e. Oregon (CDL). A duck believed to be a male Cinnamon x Blue-winged Teal was sighted at Alkali L., Bonanza, Ore., Apr. 28 (SS). A very few Eur. Wigeon appeared in every state and province except Montana. A male Wood Duck at Market L. was notable (EC). Canvasback at Malheur reached 3065; Turnbull N.W.R. had nearly 400, and Columbia N.W.R., Othello, Wash., 150. Up to 60 were counted on a Pocatello pond. Three Barrow's Goldeneye at La Grande in April were quite unusual--the species does not breed or even summer in the mountains of n.e. Oregon (JE, JC). A pair of Harlequin Ducks, extremely rare in e. Oregon, was sighted near La Grande in May (J & MM) and a pair on the Snake R. near Shelley, Ida. was apparently the first for that locality (EC, SR, KS). The only White-winged Scoters reported were in British Columbia: 65 on Chapperon L., s.e. of Kamloops (RH) and one in Kootenay N.P. (MP). Salmon Arm, B.C., had 12 Surf Scoters May 9 (RH). Ruddy Ducks at Malheur reached a count of 16,275, the highest in recent years. Red-breasted Mergansers on L. Roosevelt n. of Kettle Falls, Wash., furnished first sighting of the species in that area (SZ). Two sightings were in the Lewiston vicinity (RN).

VULTURES AND HAWKS -- A Turkey Vulture was spotted over the Snake R. at Rogersburg, Wash., where the species is rare (AM). White-tailed Kites were observed at least once a week from late April on from

Harper, Ore., to Parma, Ida., mostly over desert but also in fertile valleys (JH). A **Broad-winged Hawk** appeared at Massacre Rock S.P., Power Co., Ida., May 1 (RKO, CHT). A Swainson's Hawk at Fortine, Mont. was noteworthy (WW) and one near Kettle Falls was Nisbet's second for the county. One observer was convinced that Ferruginous Hawks are in serious trouble in e. Oregon, with very few sighted (TC). Nesting success for Golden Eagles at Malheur was only 35% for traditional nesting sites, believed the result of very low black-tailed jackrabbit numbers (CDL). A massive migration of Golden and Bald eagles occurred in the Shields R. valley, Park Co., Mont., Mar. 30. On the wing were 21 Golden and 70 Balds, plus more on the ground including a roost of 23 Balds. A large number of Bald Eagles was reported feeding on ground squirrels at Cascade, Mont., at about the same time (AH). A pair of Bald Eagles appeared to be nesting an Ennis L., Ennis, Mont. (PDS) and a pair hatched one young at Red Rock Lakes N.W.R. There were apparently up to three active nests of the species on Kootenai N.F., n.w. Montana (CW). Three Bald Eagles, one perched by a nest. were near Fairmont Hot Springs, B.C., May 8 (P & RBI and two active nests were on Wilmer Nat'l Wildlife Area, Brisco, B.C., Mar. 16 (LH). A pair of Ospreys was apparently nesting inside the Bend, Ore., city limits for the first time in many years (TC). Ospreys were attempting to nest on a light pole at Lemhi County, Ida. Fairgrounds (HR). A pair of this species was nesting at Brisco. B.C. (LH). Four Gyrfalcon and two Peregrine Falcon sightings were reported.

Volume 36, Number 5 875

S.A.

A carefully-described **Hobby** (*Falco subbuteo*) was observed in the Nicola Valley n.e. of Merritt, B.C., May 22. It wore no jesses. Colin Trefry, Reifel Refuge warden, and Jim Burbridge, Kelowna, B.C., asserted "there are no Hobbies kept in captivity anywhere in British Columbia or adjacent states and provinces" and that it was probably wild. Richard

Ryan, New Jersey zoo director, who monitors wild bird imports, found no record of falconers with Hobbies. He noted that it might be an illegal bird but commented it is more probable that the bird is of wild origin." It would make North America's second record (BW).

GALLINACEOUS BIRDS -- Up to 35 Sage Grouse were on the lek s. of Creston, Wash. (BW) and Douglas County, Wash. reported 14 males and two females (LW *et al.*). The lek near Baker, Ore., peaked at about 65 birds (JE *et al.*). A total of 24 Sharp-tailed Grouse was sighted e. of Creston (BW). In the Pocatello area one traditional site had no birds and another had 30 males, down from the previous 50 (CHT). Three tom and four hen Turkeys were seen n.w. of Ovando, Mont. (SF, JB) and birds with young were observed near Trout Creek and Heron, Mont. (CW). Two were flushed in Ladd Canyon s.e. of La Grande (DM).

CRANES THROUGH GALLINULES -- About 2000 Sandhill Cranes spent February-April near Othello, Wash. (JR) and up to 1500 rested at the traditional St. Andrews, Wash., site in early April (RF, BW). Lesser Sandhill Cranes built up to an unusual peak of 9815 at Malheur when inclement weather delayed their departure. About nine Sandhills returned to their breeding area near La Grande (JE) and the species returned to the nesting site in Pleasant Valley, Flathead Co., Mont. (CW). A **Yellow Rail** was reported for Columbia N.W.R., Othello for apparently e. Washington's second record (JEr). A **Common Gallinule** was again seen and photographed at Malheur May 12 (ST, BE, TC), providing a third record for e. Oregon.

SHOREBIRDS -- A meager sprinkling of Semipalmated Plovers was noted migrating through Idaho, Oregon and British Columbia, the largest number, eight, at Springfield, Ida. (DT). The species is becoming a regular migrant at Malheur (CDL). The only Black-bellied Plovers noted were one near Lowden, Wash. (DL, SW, SM); three at Malheur, and one at Cormana L., w. of Harrington, Wash. (JHi). Two Whimbrel were sighted near Merrill, Ore., Apr. 27 and

13 were with Long-billed Curlews at Lower Klamath N.W.R., Apr. 29 (SS). At least eight Upland Sandpipers were on the nesting grounds in the Spokane Valley May 16 (BW). Single Solitary Sandpipers, scarce spring migrants in n. Idaho, were seen at Cougar Bay, Coeur d' Alene L. (SGS) and Hauser L. (JA). Lower Klamath N.W.R. had a remarkable 175 Greater Yellowlegs on the Oregon side and over 200 in the California portion Mar. 27 (SS). In Kootenai County, Ida., where both yellowlegs species are rare migrants, two Greater and up to eight Lesser were found (SGS). The only Red Knot was one in breeding plumage s. of Nampa May 4 (MC). A Dunlin and a Semipalmated Sandpiper near Nampa May 4 were noteworthy (MC). Two Short-billed Dowitchers were at White L., Lower Klamath N.W.R., for the only report (SS). An unusually large flock of 200+ Long-billed Dowitchers was at Tranquille, B.C. (RR). Highly notable were 14 Marbled Godwits at Joseph, Ore., Apr. 28 (FC) and nine near Lowden the same day (MD *et al.*). A Sanderling at Malheur May 5 was the only one reported (SC, SLi). Four Am. Avocets at Black L. May 2 made only the second Kootenai Co., Ida. sighting since 1914 (SGS). "Good numbers" of Black-necked Stilts were reported in the Columbia Basin of c. Washington (WD).

PHALAROPES THROUGH TERNS -- A Wilson's Phalarope at Black L. was noteworthy (SGS). The only reports of N. Phalaropes were of eight at Malheur and two at Tumalo Res., Ore. (SG). A **Pomarine Jaeger** was photographed at Banks L., Grant Co., Wash. May 29 (SHa). A Glaucous Gull was at Lower Granite Dam, Whitman Co., Wash., Apr. 18 (RSc) and two at Fortine, Mont., May 19 made Weydemeyer's third spring record there. Six Herring Gulls near Kimberley, B.C., Mar. 27 were noteworthy (MW) and 2-4 were at Lewiston (MK, PP, MS). A first-year Thayer's Gull was photographed at Lower Granite Apr. 24 (JW). Five Bonaparte's Gulls near Colville, Wash., may be the first for that latilong (SZ). A **Black-legged Kittiwake** was identified at Magic Res., s. of Hailey, Ida., May 14 (MC), apparently a new species for Idaho. A Forster's Tern was at La Grande for the fourth or fifth county record (JE, SC) and a Caspian was at Joseph (FC). The first Com. Tern for n.e. Oregon was one at Thief Valley Res., s. of Union May 13 (JE). Malheur's third and fourth sightings occurred May 11 (DS) and May 28 (GO).

PIGEONS THROUGH OWLS -- A Band-tailed Pigeon appeared May 30 s. of Boise (MC) and at Bend, Ore., May 13 (TC). A flock of 12+ was sighted at Cache Cr., B.C., Apr. 17 (TH) and one at Salmo, B.C. May 3-4 may be the first for that area (DB). Two Flammulated Owls were heard near last year's nest site near Kamloops, B.C. (RH) and the species was heard at the 1981 nest site near Penticton, B.C. (SRC). Several pairs of Burrowing Owls survived the severe winter at Malheur and were nesting. The sighting of one near Enterprise was very unusual (FC). One was resident at Douglas L. in the s. Okanagan Mar. 12-May 9 (RH). The species is now very rare in British Columbia. Barred Owls were reported nesting again at Doak L. and Granite Cr., near Libby, Mont. (CW) and one was heard near St. Regis, Mont., Apr. 22 (DA). A pair brought off a brood at the Nat'l Bison Range, Moiese, Mont. (RW) and one appeared at Asotin, Wash (SCK). Spotted Owls were located at three places in the Klamath Basin (SS). A Great Gray Owl was seen several times near Kamloops, one at Chase, B.C. was a traffic casualty (RH), and one stayed at Kimberley for a month (MW). A pair was seen regularly for a month near Invermere, B.C. (LH). The only Boreal Owl reported was one heard near Invermere Mar. 11 (LH). Saw-whet Owls were found near Wenatchee, (WD) Chewelah (JN); in the Wenas Cr. area Yakima Co., Wash., (Y.A.S.) at Malheur (one dead), and at Bozeman, Mont., (K & SB, CVD). Their numbers were up in Kootenai N.F. (CW)

POORWILLS THROUGH HUMMINGBIRDS -- The only Poorwill records were of one near Frenchglen, Ore, May 31 and one near Yakima May 11. Common Nighthawk numbers in e. Oregon appeared down, continuing a trend of several years (TC). An unusual concentration of 75 Black Swifts was over Swan L., near Vernon May 29 (PMcA). Up to 1500 Vaux's Swifts were at Walla Walla for two weeks in May (B.M.A.S.). White-throated Swifts returned to their nesting site at Smith Rocks S.P., Redmond, Ore., May 8 (TC, SG). The species was also found in the Steens Mts., near Roaring Springs Ranch, Ore. May 29-30 (TC). Five over the Snake R., near Clarkston, Wash. were the first for that area (PS, A & NS). Hummingbird numbers in general appeared to be up. Black-chinned

Hummingbirds were considered becoming regular in s.e. Oregon; they were seen three times at Malheur and one was s. of Fields May 29 (TC, JG *et al.*) A male at Bozeman made only the second sighting for the latilong (RAH & ETH). The species was also noted at Lincoln, Mont., and one was reported at Blue R. in Okanagan, far n. of the species' normal range (CR). Anna's were reported as the most common species at La Pine, Ore. Single Broad-tailed Hummingbirds appeared at Bend and La Grande (TC, JE).

WOODPECKERS THROUGH SWALLOWS -- White-headed Woodpeckers were reported for a new locality--Heron, Mont., and the nearby Bull R. (CW). A Least Flycatcher was sighted May 29 at Lavington, B.C. (JGr) and Oregon's fourth for the species was photographed at Roaring Springs Ranch on the same date (TC, JG, OS). A **Purple Martin** at Malheur Mar. 15 made the third record there (DSe).

JAYS THROUGH WRENS -- The Blue Jay that wintered at Edgewood, B.C., lingered at a feeder until mid-May (GD) and one was sighted in mid-May at Boise (MC). Seventeen of the 55 bluebird boxes along the Old Ellensburg Road to Yakima had nesting House Wrens (Y.A.S.). Bewick's Wrens were not found at the usual spots near Yakima but one was sighted at Lewis & Clark S.P., near Dayton, Wash., Mar. 27-28 (MK, PP, LLaV) & May 26 (Y.A.S.). The species was increasing at Walla Walla (SM).

MIMIC THRUSHES THROUGH SHRIKES -- Single Mockingbird sightings were at Bend May 16-17 for the first Deschutes County record (FVH) and in La Grande Mar. 25-Apr. 29, n.e. Oregon's first (C & KC, JE, RS). A Loggerhead Shrike was at White L., near Penticton, B.C., May 8 (JO). The species is very rare in British Columbia.

VIREOS AND WARBLERS -- A rare occasion was the sighting of a **Hutton's Vireo** at Malheur May 16 (TC). Single Black-and-white

876 *American Birds*, September 1982

Warblers appeared at Malheur and Fields, Ore. (HN, TC, JG, SG). A singing male, the second for the Montana part of the Region, was near Bozeman May 13 (DS, PDS, SCo). Tennessee Warblers were becoming regular though uncommon migrants in the Malheur-Frenchglen-Steens Mt. area (TC, HN, SL). Kootenay N.P. had five May 19 (MP) and one was in Bend May 8 (JC, SG). A male **Black-throated Green Warbler**, e. Oregon's fourth, was photographed May 21 at Pike Cr., Steens Mt., Harney Co., Ore. (SH). A breeding-plumaged male Blackpoll Warbler was at Rupert, Ida. May 22 (WHS). An **Ovenbird** visited Malheur May 29 (SG *et al.*) and a N. Waterthrush was at Alvord Ranch, Ore. the same day (TC, HN, JG, OS). A **Connecticut Warbler** at Bend May 20 was Oregon's first (TC). A migrating Com. Yellowthroat, Woodley's first at Richland since 1970, was sighted May 23. A male Am. Redstart at Hart Mt., n. of Adel, Ore., was noteworthy (SH).

BLACKBIRDS -- At least 15 Bobolinks had returned to Toppenish N.W.R., Wash. by late May. The species has been nesting at Fortine for at least the last sixty years (WW). Good numbers were in the Cusick-Usk-Calispell L., Wash., area but the species was scarce at Chewelah (JN, JHi). Two males were sighted at Boise May 29 (J1). Two pairs of Com. Grackles, apparently nesting, were seen at Salmon, Ida. May 23 (HR). A pair appeared at Red Rock Lakes N.W.R. (RRS) and one was at Walla Walla May 18 (SM *et al.*), all first records for their areas.

FINCHES -- A male Rose-breasted Grosbeak appeared at Malheur May 27 (MB) and a female appeared at Hart Mt., May 29 (SH). A singing male Blue Grosbeak was at Boise May 31 and a singing male Indigo Bunting was sighted there May 8 (MC). An Indigo x Lazuli Bunting was found May 21 at Pike's Cr., Steens Mt., near where an ad. male was on territory in 1976 (SH) and another supposed hybrid, banded a! Pocatello last year, returned (J J). Two Hoary Redpolls were in a flock of Com. Redpolls at Rayleigh, B.C., Mar. 21 (RH). A few Hoaries were noted in the Windermere, B.C. vicinity

(MP) and one was seen at Chewelah (JN). The only Lesser Goldfinch reported was a male at Page Springs C.G., near Malheur May 28 (DT). A **Lawrence's Goldfinch**, Washington's first, was positively identified at Roosevelt Apr. 17 (Y.A.S.). A pair of Red Crossbills at Richland May 6 was Woodley's first ever there. The Grasshopper Sparrow colony near Pilot Rock, Ore. was occupied again this year (CCo, REW). A Sage Sparrow near Enterprise Mar. 18 was noteworthy (FC). A Lark Sparrow was at Nakusp, B.C., May 19 (BS) and one at Kamloops May 15 was near the n. limit of its range (RH). A Harris' Sparrow a! Helena lingered into early May (CB). Single White-throated Sparrows were sighted twice at Malheur (TC, JE); at Wapato, Wash. (HD); at Walla Walla (RFI *et al.*) and at Lewis & Clark S.P. (B.M.A.S.). Livingston, Mont. had one May 8 (CL); Libby, Mont. one Apr. 28 (CW) and one was with Golden-crowned Sparrows at Smith Rocks S.P. May 9 (SG). The Davenport, Wash., cemetery had two Golden-crowns May 3 and Spokane had one May 8-9 (JA). Three ad. males and one female Lapland Longspurs in breeding plumage were found near St. Andrews Apr. 16 (JA). An unusually large flock of 125+ birds of this species was near Kamloops Apr. 4 (RH). Flocks of Snow Buntings were still in Douglas County, Wash., Apr. 6 (RF)

ADDENDUM -- The remains of a Barn Owl were found at Ninepipe N.W.R., Charlo, Mont. Feb. 16 for the first certain record w. of the Continental Divide in Montana (FT).

OBSERVERS CITED- James Acton, Ralph Anderson, Deborah Anson, Myra Barnes, Chuck Beveridge, Blue Mt. Audubon Society (B.M.A.S.), Keith & Sally Boggs, Jim Brown, Phyllis & Roger Burwell, David Bush, Steve R. Cannings, Canyon Birders (C.B.), Jim Carlson, Eddie Chew, Cilia & Kent Coe, Mark Collie, Mary Collins (MCo), Frank Conley, Steve Cook (SCk), Craig Corder (CCo). Sharon Cotterell (SCo), Thomas Crabtree, Stuart Croghan, Gary Davidson, C.V. Davis, Mike Denny, Wayne Doane, Helen Doornink, Brad Ehlers, Jim Erkman (JEr), Joe Evanich, Ruth Flanagan (RFI), Ron Friesz, Sid Frissell, Jeff Gilligan, James Grant (JGr), Steve Gordon, John Haas, Scott Hall (SHa), Al Harmata, Larry Halverson, R.A. & E.T. Hays, Steve Herman, Jerry Hickman (JHi), Rick Howie, Terry

Hurst, Jim Irwin, Joe Jeppson, Brian Kautesk, Ronald Klein, Rolf Koford (RKO), Merlene Koller, Louise LaVoie (LLaV), Steve Layman, Susan Lindstedt (SLi), Don Lee, C.D. Littlefield, Cary Lund, Pat McAllister (PMcA), Joann & Mike Mahoney, Alice Montag, Doug Moser, Shirley Muse, Harry Nehls, Ron Neu, Jack Nisbet, Ginny Oesteria, John Olmstead, Peggy Pedigo, Marian Porter, Colleen Powell, James Rees, Sylvia Reichel, Clara & Ralph Ritcey, Hadley Roberts, Reed Sanderson, Rusty Scalf (RSc), Millie Schmidt, Owen Schmidt, Brian Scott, Dan Severson (DSc), W.H. Shillington, Richard R. Sjoström, Don & P.D. Skaar, Arthur & Nancy Stabler, Kit Struthers, Shirley G. Sturts, Paul Sullivan, Steve Summers, Dan Taylor, Steven Thompson, Fred Tilley, C.H. Trost, Faye VanHise, Larry Wadkins, Griff Walker, John Weber, Ron Weeks, Winton Weydemeyer, Bart Whelton, Mildred White, Susan Wierenga, Carl Wolf, R.E. Woodley, Yakima Audubon Society (Y.A.S.), Steve Zender. James Rees reported for Columbia N.W.R., Larry Napier for Kootenai N.W.R., and Jack Hagan for Turnbull N.W.R. Carroll D. Littlefield's report for Malheur N.W.R. included observations by Larry Ditto and Dave Paullin in addition to those cited.

Spring Migration, 1982

NORTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION
/Philip W. Mattocks, Jr. and Eugene S. Hunn

After normal weather throughout the Region during March and April, May was distinctly dry. Rainfall that month totalled 28% of normal at the Medford, Portland, Seattle, and Vancouver weather stations. The season was marked by the occurrence of many species normally found south and east of the Region. Several observers who were in the field almost daily indicated that particularly large influxes of migratory passerines occurred in the Willamette Valley of Oregon March 19 and April 9, on the Washington coast and in Puget Sound April 21-22, and throughout western Oregon April 24-27.

ABBREVIATIONS -- S.J.C.R.: South Jetty, Columbia River; V.I.: Vancouver Island, B.C.; Van.: Vancouver, B.C., †: written description on file.

LOONS THROUGH IBISES -- The only Yellow-billed Loons reported were singles in winter plumage found Mar. 14 off French Beach, Renfrew Land District, V.I. (KT), and Apr. 24-May 2 on Netarts Bay, Oreg. (JG *et al.*, R & JK). A Laysan Albatross was seen about 70 mi n.n.w. of Cape Blanco, Oreg. Mar. 31 (Geof Partington, *fide* VG). An early boat trip off Westport, Wash., Mar. 28 located about 26 Black-looted Albatrosses, 21 N. Fulmars, and 400 Sooty Shearwaters (TW *et al.*). The 3-400 N. Fulmars encountered Apr. 25 off Newport, Oreg. was a high count (DA, JG *et al.*) About 25 Pink-footed Shearwaters were off Newport Apr. 25, and 72 were off Westport May 9 (TW *et al.*). A single Flesh-looted Shearwater was seen off Westport May 9 (TW *et al.*). A Manx-type shearwater seen at close range off Newport on the unusual date of Mar. 28 was thought to be *opisthomelas* (Mark Smith *et al.*). Nine **Mottled Petrels** were seen Mar. 31, 1981, 60 mi off Waldport, Oreg., (†Robert Pitman, *Oreg. Birds* 7:98, 1981). An extremely early ad. **Brown Pelican** seen Apr. 15 on Sooke Basin, e. of Sooke, V.I. (Robbie Eddy, *fide* MG) provided only the fourth record for British Columbia since 1940. Single imm. Brown Pelicans were also early Apr. 12+ at the North Spit, Coos Bay, Oreg., (Ruth Jacob) and Apr. 14+ on Yaquina Bay, Oreg. (Gary Hettman, Steve Jones *et al.*). Ten Brown Pelicans, both adults and immatures, were near Goat I., Curry Co., Oreg. by May 16 (Mike Graybill). This species usually arrives in s. Oregon by early July. Eight White Pelicans were at Horsfall Beach, Oreg., Apr. 18 for only the second Coos County record (AMc). A Pelagic Cormorant was identified 25 mi offshore from Westport May 9 (TW). This cormorant is not actually "pelagic" and is rarely seen any distance offshore. Five Great Blue Heron nests with young were found Apr. 17 on Price I., near Skamokawa, Wash. (AR, AMu). The greatest number of Green Herons ever noted in Whatcom County, Wash., was seen this spring, with "breeding pairs on almost every creek" (TW). The Snowy Egrets that wintered at Pony Slough, Coos Bay, were last seen Apr. 21 (AMc). An ad. Black-crowned Night Heron flew

along the Willamette R. in Eugene, Oreg. Mar. 10 (SG). The last of the wintering group of Black-crowns at Olympia, Wash., was seen Mar. 25 (BHT). An ad. **White-faced Ibis** found May 24 at Quick's Bottom, Saanich, V.I. (KT *et al.*, †RS) provided the second record for coastal British Columbia. This bird was seen off and on all day by many observers, and it or another individual was seen that day about 6 mi away in Oak Bay (Yorke Edwards).

WATERFOWL -- Four Emperor Geese stopped at the s. jetty of Newport Bay Mar. 2 (Bob Olson). Three stayed about a week, and two were last seen there Mar. 18 (DFa). The adult at Ocean Shores was last seen there Mar. 21 (HC, LK). A late flock of 60 Snow Geese flew N over Seattle May 19 (ER, Karin Gochoel), and a single straggler was at Sea I., near Van. until May 27 (MD, DK). A **Ross' Goose** seen May 12 on the Bayocean flats at Tillamook represented one of very few coastal Oregon records (HN). Nesting Mallards were widely reported to be more abundant than usual. There were eight records of d "Eurasian" Green-winged Teal. Singles were in Seattle until Apr. 20 (ER *et al.*), in Saanich, V.I., until Apr. 28 (RS *et al.*), and at Beach Grove, on Boundary Bay, V.I., until May 2 (Jean-Pierre Savard). Cinnamon Teal arrived on schedule in mid- to late March in Oregon, and by early April elsewhere. Blue-winged Teal arrived in late April. Numbers of both species were back to more normal levels following last year's concentrations. Two pairs of Wood Ducks were seen 2 min. of Campbell River, V.I., from Apr. 1-May 18 for the "first clearly identified spring record" at this location (HT). The species was widely reported elsewhere and was considered to be present in good numbers. The 300 Canvasback Mar. 31 at Iona I., near Van. (WW), and the 200 Oldsquaw Apr. 26 on Boundary Bay (WW), were the high counts reported. A female Tufted Duck was seen Mar. 13-24 at the Ocean Shores sewage ponds (†BHT, EH, G & WWho *et al.*). A male Tufted Duck, with a female believed to be a Tufted, was present on Loomis L., near Long Beach, Wash., Apr. 26-28 (Cindy Wilmes, *fide* RWi) for the latest spring record for Washington.

VULTURES THROUGH GALLINULES -- Single Turkey Vultures arrived at Metchosin, V.I., Mar. 5 (LD, Margaret Jeal) and Van. Mar. 18 (BK). At least five

pairs of White-tailed Kites were found in Oregon this season. One pair, seen repeatedly at Platt Res., near Sutherlin, was observed mating Apr. 20 (MSa *et al.*). Other pairs were seen in April at Fern Ridge Res., near Eugene (SG), and near Medford (MjM), and in March on the Nehalem meadows and at the S.J.C.R. (*fide* HN). AMc reported "normal numbers" from the Coquille R. valley during March. There were reports of White-tailed Kites from four locations in Washington as well. Single birds were on Leadbetter Pen., Mar. 21 & Apr. 29 (HC, LK, RWi), at Napavine near Chehalis May 1 (†George Walter), and at the Mt. St. Helens Interpretive Center s.e. of Chehalis May 21 (†Rosemary Gaymer). The farthest n. record to date for this species was of one seen Apr. 3 on the Skagit flats near Mt. Vernon (†Sally & Jan Van. Niel). A pair of Cooper's Hawks nested in Beacon Hill P., Victoria, V.I. (RW, Harvey Anderson). Late Rough-legged Hawks were reported Apr. 23 & May 1 in Delta, near Van. (DW, Madelon Schouten). A pair of Bald Eagles fledged one young from a nest on L. Washington for the first verified King County, Wash., nesting record (Bonnie Robbins *et al.*). A pair of Marsh Hawks was nest building Apr. 21 at Leadbetter Pt., but the nest and one broken egg were found abandoned May 13 (RWi). About 16 Osprey nests were reported, and many of these were being regularly checked. A very dark Gyrfalcon was s. to Tillamook County, Ore & Mar. 7-14 (ph.-†Owen Schmidt *et al.*). Another Gyrfalcon was in Grays Harbor County, Wash., Mar. 13 (†BHT, †EH *et al.*). A gray Gyrfalcon that apparently wintered in C. Saanich, V.I., was last seen Mar. 14 (MS, M & RW). The latest Gyrfalcon sighting was of one near Van. Apr. 12 (DK, Rick Howie). A pair of Merlins, seen repeatedly in N. Vancouver, was observed mating there Mar. 9 (KB). Nesting records of this falcon in our Region are extremely scarce.

886 *American Birds*, September 1982

Several of the Sandhill Cranes, banded and released in April, 1981 at Pitt Meadows, B C, had returned there by Mar 18 (Wilma Robinson). Other banded cranes were seen in Langley and Delta, B.C., in late March (Trudy & Mary Pastrick, WW). Three Sandhill Cranes flew N past Torino, V.I., Apr. 14 (MS), and eleven stopped at the mouth of the Waatch R. near Cape

Flattery, Wash., May 1 (MC). A Common Gallinule was reported May 30 on the Denman Game Ref., near Medford (Dave Hofmann, *vide* MjM) for possibly the second record for w. Oregon. The bird could not be relocated later. The first record of a **Common Gallinule** for Oregon was one found May 5, 1976, on Garrison L., Port Orford (ph.-Lois Brooks, Nancy Jokela, *Oreg. Birds* 7:76, 1981).

SHOREBIRDS -- A Semipalmated Plover at Roberts Bank, Delta, B.C., Apr. 4 was about two weeks early (BK). A brood of four freshly hatched Killdeer was on West Pt., Seattle, on the very early date of Apr. 10 (Mike Moore). The largest concentration of Black-bellied Plovers reported was the 1000 at Beach Grove, Boundary Bay, Apr. 26 (WW). Single Am. Golden Plovers, rare in spring, were found May 2 along Boundary Bay in Delta, B.C. (MP, PY) and May 17 at Iona I., B.C. (RP). Twenty Long-billed Curlews were with a few Whimbrel at Westport, Mar. 27 (TB, Mary Cooper). Ten other Long-billeds were reported from Van. to Coos Bay, Oreg. Twenty Whimbrel on Lulu I., B.C., Apr. 19, were 10 days ahead of the 9-year avg. arrival date for the Vancouver area (Craig Runyan). On May 1 near the tip of Leadbetter Pt., †RWi saw and heard a bird considered to be the rare **Bristle-thighed Curlew**. The light buff tail and the plover-like call were well noted. Single Lesser Yellowlegs at Iona I. (Bruce Macdonald) and at Reifel I. (BK) Apr. 4 were 14 days ahead of the average arrival date for the Vancouver area. There were six reports of Semipalmated Sandpipers from Iona I., May 1-17 (MP, MF, BK *et al.*), and one from Searle May 8 (†ER). An estimated 60,000 W. Sandpipers were at Roberts Bank, B.C., Apr. 25 (Dave Aldcroft) and 165,000 were at Bowerman Basin, Hoquiam, and Ocean Shores, Wash., Apr. 26 (DP, CM). Four Baird's Sandpipers May 1, in a flooded field near Reedsport, Oreg. (SG, MSa), and one at Iona I., May 1 (BK) were the only ones reported. The high count of Short-billed Dowitchers was 4000 around Grays Harbor, Wash., Apr. 26 (DP, CM). The only concentration of Marbled Godwits reported was 35 between Tokeland and the mouth of the North R., on the n. shores of Willapa Bay, Wash., Apr. 23 (G & WHO). Wilson's Phalaropes were scattered in the Region during May. A pair was observed mating at Finley N.W.R., Oreg. in late May (E & EE). Northern Phalaropes hit the Oregon coast in mid-April (AMc)

with 200 on Yaquina Bay Apr. 14+ (DFa, R & JK). The influx was noted May 1+ at Leadbetter Pt. (RWi). By May 12-14 there were 1000 at the Ocean Shores sewage ponds (G & WHO) and 600 on the n. Oregon beaches (HN). There were one or two at Iona I., May 11-15 (RP, BK), and coastal numbers dropped off rapidly in late May. Fifty Red Phalaropes were also on Yaquina Bay Apr. 14-18 (*vide* HN), 45 at the S.J.C.R., Apr. 19 (HN), and two inland at Finley N.W.R., May 6 (D & ME).

JAEGERS THROUGH ALCIDS -- Single Parasitic Jaegers were seen May 17-28 at Leadbetter Pt.-(RWi) and on Bellingham Bay, Wash. (TW), and at Iona I. (DJ *et al.*). A single Pomarine Jaeger was seen off Westport, on the early date of Mar. 28 (TW *et al.*). Two Pomarines were seen off Newport, Oreg. Apr. 25 (DA *et al.*). Singles were off Westport May 9 (TW *et al.*) and seen from Gonzales Pt., Oak Bay, V.I., May 27 (†RS). Reports were received of 13 Glaucous Gulls scattered throughout the Region, which is more than in the past few Spring seasons. A late Herring Gull was on Roberts Bank, B.C., May 16 (WW). Sightings of later-than-usual Thayer's Gulls were made May 16 at Pt. Roberts, Wash. (DK) and May 31 in Seattle (†ER). Bonaparte's Gulls returned to the Victoria, V.I., area Mar. 27 (MS) and to Boundary Bay and Iona I., Apr. 4 (BK, MMc). A concentration of 2500-3000 was in Active Pass, V.I., Apr. 16-17 (W & HHe, Diane & John Cooper). An ad. Little Gull was with a small flock of Bonaparte's on Green L., Seattle, Apr. 3 (†EH) for only the fifth Regional spring record. Of the several hundred Black-legged Kittiwakes reported for which age was specified, only 2% were adults. Two Arctic Terns were seen off Newport Apr. 24 (JG *et al.*), three off Westport May 9 (TW *et al.*), and one standing adjacent to Com. Terns on the beach near Long Beach, Wash., May 17 (†RWi). Caspian Terns arrived on schedule in Oregon in early April. Singles Apr 18 & 22 in and near Seattle (EH, PM *et al.*), and Apr 19 on Esquimalt Lagoon, w of Victoria (Leda Roberts) were early for those localities. One was n. to Salmon Pt., near Campbell River, V.I., May 6 (R. Ketchpole, *vide* HT). A Black Tern was seen flying up the Fraser R. from Reifel I., B.C., May 23 (WW), and another was at the sewage ponds in Kent, Wash., May 24 (†Paul Cozens). A breeding plumaged Ancient Murrelet was on Cox Bay, near Torino, V.I., Apr. 11 (MS), where

there have been no previous records between February and July (D. Hatler *et al.*, Birds of Pacific Rim N.P., 1978). Three ad. Tufted Puffins Apr. 20 were back early to Cleland I., V.I. (MS). Breeding puffins returned to nesting rocks along the Oregon coast on schedule in late April.

OWLS THROUGH FLYCATCHERS -- The last Snowy Owls of the season were seen Mar. 8 in Richmond, B.C. (Ruth Jones), and Apr. 11 on Quadra I., near Campbell River (J. Ingles, *fide* HT). The Hawk Owl which wintered on Boundary Bay was last seen Mar. 12 in Beach Grove (Bob Odear). One of the wintering Burrowing Owls stayed near Peoria, s. of Corvallis, Oreg. until Apr. 3 (D & ME) A Barred Owl was heard repeatedly Mar. 14-Apr. 9 in Saanich, V.I. (T & MS). Other Barred Owls were found near Sultan, Wash. (Brian Wood), in Discovery P., Seattle (Bob Mindick), and in the Umpqua R. valley near Glide, Oreg., (MSa *et al.*). Four **Calliope Hummingbirds** in the Van. area Apr. 23-May 3, were the first sightings there since 1975 (†Rex Kenner *et al.*, †MD, KB, Colin Butt). There were several Calliopes at feeders in Eugene, Oreg., in late April (*fide* SG) and in Ashland through May (MjM) A Rufous Hummingbird sighted Mar. 12 in Van. (MP) was the earliest ever for that area by three days. Widespread arrival was noted in the Puget Sound area Mar. 20-21. Several migrant "Red-naped" Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were found in Oregon in mid-April; one brought in injured Apr. 12 to E & EE in Corvallis, one seen Apr. 16 on Skinner Butte, Eugene (†SG), one near Hillsboro Apr. 17 (Colin Page), and one at Yaquina Bay Apr 25 (DFa). Single Lewis' Woodpeckers were noted May 12-14 at Westham I., B.C. (WW, Sharon Trefry) and May 15 on Nisqually N.W.R., Wash. (†TB *et al.*). Contrary to statement in this column last spring the W. Kingbird nests regularly n. in Oregon to at least around Eugene (Clarice Watson, DFi, JG). There were eight individuals sighted in w. Washington and s.w. British Columbia during May, which is just under the average count in those areas for the preceding three years. Single Say's Phoebes were found Mar. 24 at the s. jetty of Coos Bay, Oreg (Mark & Mari Dembrow), Mar. 5 at North Head, near Ilwaco, Wash (RWi), Mar. 9 at Rockport, Wash. (Jim Shifflett), Mar. 28 in Seattle (Charles Evans), Apr. 4 in Portland (HN), and Apr. 4-5 in Stanley P., Van. (Bob Morford, MP, †WW). This species is rare but

regular at this season in w. Washington, but the Vancouver bird was only the second record there in the last eight years. Single Hammond's Flycatchers Apr. 22 at Tatlow P., Van. (DK) and in Seattle (SA) were a few days early at both locations. The first W. Flycatcher was noted Apr. 19 in Eugene (SG). The species was reported from numerous Oregon localities Apr. 24-25, and had arrived in Seattle Apr. 25 (Dave Hutchinson), and in N. Vancouver, B.C., Apr. 26 (MD). A **Gray Flycatcher** was observed May 1 at the Winchuck R. mouth, s.w. Oreg., (†Dick Erickson) for only the second w. Oregon record. The first W. Wood Pewee and Olive-sided Flycatcher were noted at Pitt Meadows, B.C., Apr. 24 (MF). Otherwise pewees arrived in s. Oregon Apr. 27-28 (E & EE, AMc, SG) and the first reported from Washington was in Seattle May 3 (ER). Olive-sided Flycatchers arrived in Oregon Apr. 26-27 (AMc, Don Watson, Roy Woodall) and the first Washington report was May 8 in Wilkeson, e. of Tacoma (Karl Lundberg, Betsy Rogers).

SWALLOWS THROUGH SHRIKES -- Single Rough-winged Swallows were back slightly early to Saanich Mar. 26 (R & JS) and to Grays River, w. of Kelso, Wash., Mar. 30 (AR, AMu). Barn and Cliff swallows arrived on schedule in early April. A single Mountain Chickadee stayed at a feeder in Van. until Mar. 17 (Jl). The Red-breasted Nuthatch was considered to be more scarce than usual in the Campbell River and s. V.I. areas (HT, VG), Whatcom County, Wash (TW), and Coos Bay, Oreg. (AMc). This follows reports of low numbers last spring on s. V.I. and in the Coos Bay areas. But it was not, as last spring's column stated, in the Ashland area, where populations were normal (MjM). A Rock Wren was closely observed May 28 in Moran S.P., Orcas

Volume 36, Number 5 887

I, Wash (W & HHe) for one of only a few spring records for w Washington. A **Sage Thrasher** found May 16-18 at Iona I. (Dorothy & †Jack Williams, †BK, m.ob.) furnished the first record for the Vancouver area and the second for coastal British Columbia. Single Sage Thrashers were at Yaquina Bay, Oreg., Apr. 4

(DFa), and at the mouth of the Waatch R., Cape Flattery, Wash., May 1 (MC). A Mockingbird was discovered Apr. 9+ in Medford very near to the location of one present last year (Roger Schnoes, m.ob.). Another Mockingbird was in Bellingham, Wash., May 6-9 (Joan Beardsley). A female W Bluebird in Van., Apr. 26, provided the first record there since October 1971 (J & TI, DK). Several pairs of W. Bluebirds nested in boxes in Metchosin, V.I. (M & VG, LD, RW *et al.*), and a pair apparently nested in a dead tree near the summit of Mt. Finlayson, V.I. (KT). Nine active bluebird nests, all in nest boxes, were noted in the Ft. Lewis-Tacoma, Wash. "prairies" (Georgia Ramsey, TB *et al.*) and ten pairs nested in a 200-box trail near Eugene (Al Prigge). Others were reported in the Ashland area (MjM). A black-backed male **White Wagtail** (*Motacilla alba lugens*) was sighted along the banks of the Capilano R., W. Vancouver, B.C., Apr 18 (†Glen Thomson, †Allen Poynter). This marks the first record of this form for both British Columbia and Canada. For the only previous White Wagtail record, see *Can. Field-Naturalist* 89:318-319, 1975. Flocks of 10-50 Bohemian Waxwings were seen during March in Vancouver, B.C., Bellingham, Seattle, and Buckley, Wash. The latest were ten in W. Seattle Mar. 21 (EH), and 14 near Newberg, Oreg, Mar. 22 (JG). Northern Shrikes stayed later than usual at several locations. Singles were at Hyak, Wash., Apr. 12 (PM), in C. Saanich Apr. 19 (Bruce Whittington), and at Ladner, B.C., Apr. 28 (Marj McFeat *et al.*).

VIREOS THROUGH GRACKLES -- A Warbling Vireo arrived early in N. Vancouver Apr. 22 (MD). Otherwise first arrivals were noted in Eugene, Corvallis, and Seattle Apr. 24-26 with more widespread and numerous sightings in early May. A Red-eyed Vireo in N. Vancouver, B.C., May 22 was several days earlier than usual (MD). A **Tennessee Warbler** was seen May 18 in Burnaby, B.C. (†MMc) for the second record for the Van. area. (Two other reports are pending review by the Van. Bird Record Committee). Another Tennessee Warbler was found May 20 in Victoria (†J & RS) for about the fourth record for that area. There were several other reports of Tennessees in late April and early May without details, and a few descriptions that were clearly of Warbling Vireos. First reports of Black-throated Gray Warblers were Apr. 17-22 in w. Oregon, and Apr 22-23 in w. Washington, s. V.I. and

s.w. British Columbia. Hermit Warblers arrived at Oregon coast and Coast Range locations Apr 22-25 (Tom Mickel, MSa, AMc). Two were n. to L. Crescent, Wash., May 16 (SA) and another was near Sequim, Wash., May 23 (Dory Smith). A Palm Warbler photographed May 4 at Yachats, Oreg was the latest ever of very few spring records (Brian Prescott). First arrivals of Wilson's Warblers were Apr. 19-22 at Coos Bay and Corvallis, Oreg. and Leadbetter Pt. and Grays River, Wash., and Apr 25-27 for Seattle, Wash., and Saanich and Van. A male Bobolink sighted May 24 at Jericho P., Van. represented the eighth record for the area (†Syd Cannings, DJ, Dale Wilkie). A **Common Grackle** was seen Mar. 26-Apr. 3 on Quadra I., near Campbell River, V.I. (ph.-†HT *et al.*) for the second record for coastal British Columbia, and only the fourth for the entire Region. The first British Columbia bird was also in the spring, in Van. May 6-9, 1968 (*Murrelet* 50:38, 1969).

FINCHES AND SPARROWS -- There were two reports of Black-headed Grosbeaks in Oregon by late April, but widespread arrival in c Oregon was May 1-2 (SG, AMc, E & EE). Similarly, there was one Seattle report May 1 (EH), with first arrivals elsewhere in Puget Sound, s. V.I., and the Van. area May 8-11. Two Lazuli Buntings near Philomath, Oreg. Apr. 22 were the earliest ever for the Corvallis area (David Irons). A vagrant Lazuli Bunting was at L. Ozette, near Cape Flattery, Wash., May 15 (SA). The **Brambling** present this winter along L. Sammamish, Wash., was last seen Mar. 22 (Art & Nancy Lang). Large flocks of Evening Grosbeaks arrived at Bellingham, Wash., in mid-April (TW), Portland in late April (DA), and were ten days late at Seattle in early May (EH *et al.*). An influx of Purple Finches was noted at Sauvie I., Oreg., Mar. 7-13 (HN, JG, Tom Crabtree), and in Seattle during early March (EH). A "Hepburn's" Gray-crowned Rosy Finch was seen at Willow Pt., s. of Campbell River May 1 (†Kay & Jack Conway) The last sightings of the Com Redpoll invasion this winter were two Apr. 21 in Van., (MF), and 35 in Dungeness, Wash. Apr. 24 (Karl Gruebel). Large flocks of Pine Siskins were widely noted through April, and in some areas through May. Fledged young were found May 20 in Tacoma, Wash. (Helen Engle). Numerous small flocks of Red Crossbills were found after late March on s. V.I. (*fide* VG) and n. Oregon (*fide* HN), and from late April

through May in Van., (WW, DK) and Bellingham and Seattle (TW, EH). A few were seen throughout the period at Coos Bay (AMc). Forty White-winged Crossbills were near Mt. Baker, Wash., Mar. 6 (Jim Duemmel) and 20 were in Cypress Bowl P.P., W Vancouver, B.C., Mar. 31 (WW).- Vesper Sparrows were widely reported from w. Oregon, but were noted in w. Washington only at their usual location s. of Tacoma (TB, BHT). Two were seen May 21 near Cobble Hill village, Shawnigan Land District, V.I. (M & VG). A **Sage Sparrow** found Apr. 27 at Pitt Meadows, B.C., furnished the second Vancouver area record and only the third for British Columbia and Canada (†DW, †Ken Summers). Sightings of Chipping Sparrows continue to decrease in s.w mainland British Columbia and w. Washington. There were numerous reports, however, from s. V.I. and w. Oregon. A Tree Sparrow was very late departing Gleneden Beach, n. of Newport, Apr. 2 (ph.-Jim Mackie, *fide* HN). A **Brewer's Sparrow** was found May 15 along the Rogue R., in Whitehorse County P., Ore, (†Steve Summers, Jim Carlson), for the fourth lowland record for w. Oregon. There were reports of 13 White-throated Sparrows. Males at Ocean Park, Wash (RWi) and in Eugene (SG) were singing in mid-April. The latest were birds in Roseburg, Ore. May 6, (Alice & Fred Parker), Ashland, Ore. May 7, (MjM), and in Vancouver, B.C., May 19 (BK). Three different Swamp Sparrows were located on Sauvie I. during March and until Apr. 9 (†HN, Verta Teale, JG *et al.*). Three Lapland Longspurs in Delta, B.C., May 30 were very late (PY, MP).

CORRIGENDA -- The Stilt Sandpiper seen May 27-29, 1978, in Saanich, V.I. (*Am. Birds* 32:1047) represented actually the third spring record for British Columbia, not the first (*fide* WW). The Buff-breasted Sandpiper found Apr. 12, 1981 (*Am. Birds* 35:855) was in a field near Tillamook, Ore. Please delete the reference to a new Black Phoebe nesting location near Central Pt., Ore. (*Am. Birds* 35:856) The Lark Sparrow is not rare w. of the Cascades in s. Oregon (*Am Birds* 35:856).

INITIALED OBSERVERS and ABBREVIATIONS: with **Sub-Regional Editors in boldface**. David Anderson, Scott Atkinson, Kevin Bell, Thais Bock,

Mike Carmody, Herbert Curl, Mark Daly, Lyndis Davis, Elsie & Elzy Eltzroth, Don & Marie Emenhiser, Darrell Faxon (DFa), **David Fix** (DFi), Mike Force, Jeff Gilligan, Margaret & **Vic Goodwill**, Steve Gordon, **Bill Harrington-Tweit** (BHT), Werner & Hilde Hesse (W & HHe), Glen & Wanda Hoge (G & WHo), John & Teresa Ireland, Dale Jensen, Brian Kautesk, Lois Killewich, Rick & Jan Krabbe, **Doug Kragh**, Alan McGie (AMc), Mike McGrenere (MMc), Carol McMillen, **Marjorie Moore** (MjM), Ann Musche (AMu), **Harry Nehls**, **Dennis Paulson**, Roy Phillips, Michael Price, Ellen Ratoosh, Alan Richards, Joy & Ron Satterfield, Martha Sawyer (MSa), Teresa & Michael Shepard (T & MS), Keith Taylor, Howard Telosky, **Terry Wahl**, Wayne Weber, Ralph Widrig (RWi), Margaret & Ray Williams, Doug Wilson, Paul Yorke

888 *American Birds*, September 1982

The Nesting Season, 1982

NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN - INTERMOUNTAIN REGION

/Thomas H. Rogers

The western part of the Region in general experienced a hot, dry June until the last week when conditions became unseasonably wet and cool. Western Montana, however, had a cool, wet June except for Bozeman, where conditions were dry. July was in general wet and cool over the Region, except for Bozeman, during the first half, after which the weather became almost uniformly hot and dry. Generally speaking, a wet spring and deep snow packs in the mountains supplied abundant moisture for plant growth. Nesting was somewhat delayed by the weather but this apparently had no serious effect upon birds. High water levels in some areas caused problems for water-related nesters. An extremely severe hailstorm at Helena June 28 killed

or injured large numbers of adult birds of many species and destroyed nests.

GREBES -- Eared Grebes built 7 nests on a fishless lake near Fortine, Mont., where there is usually only one. All but one nest were abandoned, apparently because ducks perching on them pushed them below the waterline (WW). At least 50 pairs of this species, with young, were at Reardan, Wash., June 28 (FB). Western Grebe pairs at Malheur N.W.R. (hereafter, Malheur), Burns, Ore., totaled 1775, down 39% from last year. Cascade Res., Cascade, Ida. had 700 of the birds June 12 (G.E.A.S., MRC).

PELICANS AND CORMORANTS -- White Pelicans concentrated off the refuge at Malheur as water receded in ponds, trapping carp. A flock of 30-40 was on the Snake R., near Clarkston, Wash., May 21 (TS; RN *et al.*). Up to 13 were on Cascade Res., in June (m.ob.). Sightings of the species were almost nil in c. Washington but 27 were at Naramata, B.C., June 14 (TB) and Summerland, B.C. had 20, June 20 (JB). High water continued to create problems for Double-crested Cormorants at Malheur. Most of their overwater nests became waterlogged and sank and 200 nests in large willow trees there were reduced to 87 by disturbance and raccoon predation. An imm. Double-crested was at the mouth of Alpowa Cr., on the Snake R., Garfield Co., Wash., June 29 (RN, MK) and one was at Kamloops, B.C., June 7 (DL).

HERONS THROUGH IBISES -- Total production of Great Blue Herons at Malheur and in the Malheur-Harney Lakes Basin was 1136. A Green Heron at Malheur June 16 provided s.e. Oregon's sixth record (SL, DD) and one was sighted at Mud L., w. of Hamer, Ida., June 24 (CHT). A pair of **Cattle Egrets** produced five young at Malheur for the first breeding record for Oregon (CDL). Two Cattle Egrets at L. Walcott were presumed to have nested (CHT) and one stayed in a pasture at Osoyoos, B.C., June 14-26 (M & TC; SC; WCW). A Great Egret was photographed at Ennis, Mont., for the third latilong record (PDS). Snowy Egrets had a bleak outlook except for Malheur with 65 pairs and L. Walcott, Rupert, Ida. where Trost banded

200 young in 2 days. He found thin-shelled eggs in many places in s. Idaho. Potholes Res., Moses Lake, Wash., had 1000-2000 pairs of Black-crowned Night Herons and 50 pairs were nesting on Goat I., in Moses L. Twenty-eight nests on islands in Wells Pool on the Columbia R., n. of Wenatchee, Wash., all failed. At least five pairs were seen along Banks L., Grant Co., Wash. (RF). A colony at Sylvan L., near Odessa, Wash., had 20+ adults June 21 (JH, SZ). Black-crowneds appeared to be still in trouble in s. Idaho. Trost banded 395 but 187 were adults at the Pocatello hatchery. He banded only 39 young at Am. Falls Res., and only 70 at L. Walcott in 2 days of intensive banding. A single bird was at Revelstoke, B.C., May 3 (ECa). Three Least Bitterns were heard and seen at Malheur throughout the summer (CDL). White-faced Ibises seemed to be doing well.

WATERFOWL -- A Whistling Swan was sighted at Malheur June 24. The July 30 aerial survey there recorded 6 Trumpeter Swan broods totaling 17 cygnets, with two more on private land. Turnbull N.W.R., Cheney, Wash., had two pairs of Trumpeters, one of which had 6 eggs but succeeded in hatching only one. Canada Goose production at Malheur was the highest since 1971, with 2375 goslings; production at Kootenai N.W.R., Bonners Ferry, Ida. was up 25%. Eight Snow Geese, including one blue-phase were on Malheur's Harney L., June 16. Duck pairs in the Malheur-Harney Basin continued to decline with just under 15,000, attributable to high water and burgeoning carp numbers. Mallards there were at their lowest since 1959; years of high water there appear to correlate with low Mallard numbers (CDL). Dabbling duck production at Kootenai N.W.R. was down significantly as were nearly all species of ducks in the Fortine vicinity. Malheur had a male Eur. Wigeon and three Wood Ducks June 24 and Columbia N.W.R., Othello, Wash., had up to 15 of the latter. Three Greater Scaup were at Fairfield, Ida. June 4 (JBa). Common Goldeneye broods at Fortine contained 7-8 goslings; only one Barrow's Goldeneye brood was sighted there (WW). Single White-winged Scoters, rare in s. British Columbia in summer, were at Kamloops June 27 (RH) and in Kootenay N.P., June 2 (LH). Ten males were on Sullivan L., Pend Oreille Co., Wash., July 5 (FB). A pair of Hooded Mergansers apparently was nesting again at

Cardwell, Mont.; a female was found in a Wood Duck box with a male nearby (RLE).

HAWKS -- A **White-tailed Kite** was sighted in the Yakima Valley, Wash., in late June (JMH). Golden Eagles in n.c. Washington had 20 successful nests out of 60± potential nesting territories (RF). A pair of Bald Eagles reared two young at Otter L., near Armstrong, B.C., for the first breeding record for that locality (JG). An adult was hunting over a shallow lake s. of Silver Lake, Ore., July 8. Supposedly this bird was from nearby mountains where a few pairs are known to nest (CDL). A pair near Sycan Marsh s. of Silver L. produced two young (CDL) as did a pair at Pend Oreille L., in n. Idaho (SGS). At Holter L., near Helena, Mont., a Prairie Falcon dived on a yearling Bald Eagle, breaking its neck and killing it (GH). A Marsh Hawk trying to snatch an Am. Coot chick at Reardan was driven into the water by ad. coots. Male Ruddy Ducks and several Eared Grebes surrounded the hawk, which drowned after a 10-min struggle (FB). An Osprey pair was feeding young at a lake near Pilot Rock, Ore., for the second consecutive summer (SM) and a pair was nesting near Buena, Wash. (Y.A.S.). The Osprey nesting attempt at Salmon, Ida., was unsuccessful. Raptors which feed on jackrabbits nested in larger numbers, compared to 1976 on the Idaho Nat'l Engineering Lab site, Arco, Ida. Successful Ferruginous Hawk nests increased from 2 to 16 there and more nests of Red-tailed Hawks, Golden Eagles and Com. Ravens were also found (TIC). The Region had 5 sightings of Peregrine Falcons and one of a Merlin.

GALLINACEOUS BIRDS -- "Mountain" Grouse broods in n.e. Washington were averaging 5-7 young, an improvement over recent

998 *American Birds*, November 1982

years (SZ) Bobwhite were heard near Pendleton, Ore., in June (C & MC, REW). Wild Turkeys continued to increase at Kootenai N.W.R.

CRANES THROUGH COOTS --

S.A.

Twenty-seven Whooping Crane eggs were placed with Grays L., Ida. Sandhill Crane foster parents and 19 chicks hatched. There has been one known loss but parental behavior indicated they were doing well. The locations of 11 Whooping Cranes that hatched there in recent years have been

Greater Sandhill Cranes had 66% nesting success at Malheur, the highest since 1976. A single Sandhill was sighted at Nile, Wash., June 9 (Y.A.S.) and the species summered near Leadore, Ida. (HBR). Two **Yellow Rails** were tape-recorded in the Klamath Basin June 19-20 for apparently the second Oregon record (LRH). Malheur's breeding population of Am. Coot was about 30,000.

SHOREBIRDS -- Three Semipalmated Plovers were at Stinking L, Malheur July 10 and two appeared at Blacks Creek Res., s.e. of Boise, Ida., June 6 (MRC). Stinking L. had 27 Snowy Plovers July 12; high water apparently displaced them from their usual nesting area at Harney L. Leadore had Long-billed Curlews June 19 (HBR). The traditional Upland Sandpiper site in the Spokane Valley revealed 3-4 of the birds June 21 and a **Whimbrel** there was the first for n.e. Washington (BH-T, THR, GW). Five Upland Sandpipers were sighted in Logan Valley near Seneca, Ore., July 22 (CDL) and several were seen in nearby Bear Valley (*fide* AC). A Baird's Sandpiper was at Chewelah, Wash., July 15 (JN). Up to 16 Sanderling were near Clarkston, Wash., July 6 & 23 (RN; LL). An Am. Avocet at Revelstoke June 1 was noteworthy (RB). Black-necked Stilt numbers were very low in c. Washington with only two pairs reported. An adult with three young was seen in July at Frenchman Hills Wasteway, s. Grant Co (JL). Thousands of Wilson's Phalaropes were on Abert L., Lake Co., Ore., July 25 and 25 N. Phalaropes summered at Malheur (CDL).

GULLS AND TERNS -- Some 10,000 Ring-billed Gulls were on Abert L., July 25. Cabin I., Priest Rapids Res., Wash., had 25-30 nesting pairs of Forster's Terns and about 15 pairs were along Winchester Wasteway w. of Moses L. (RF). The Clarkston vicinity had two June sightings of single Forster's (LL; RN). Caspian Terns were prevalent at Malheur throughout the summer but no nests were found. At Potholes Res., 274 active Caspian nests were inventoried and 20 nests were found at Banks L. (RF). In s. Idaho a colony of 14 with many young was on Blackfoot Res., where previously there were only two birds. They were also noted at Market L., Roberts, Ida. (CHT). One Caspian was photographed near Clarkston July 3 (RN) and Kamloops, Creston and Nakusp, B.C., each had two birds (JW, KV; GD). Ennis, Mont., had 5-7 from June 22 to about July 9 for the fifth area record (PDS, SCo, ETH). Several Black Tern colonies were located at Malheur and 600 birds were nesting on Sycan Marsh (CDL).

PIGEONS AND CUCKOOS -- Single Band-tailed Pigeons showed up near Grandview, Ida. (TCO); at Kamiak Butte s.w. of Palouse, Wash. (JWW); e. of Pendleton, Ore. (C & MC, REW); at Malheur (AS, HCI), and near Belgrade, Mont., for the second record there (JS, CVD, LM; PDS, ETH). A Yellow-billed Cuckoo was sighted over the S. Fork of the Payette R., w. of Lowman, Ida. June 19 (MRC). Black-billed Cuckoos were heard at Canyon Ferry Res., July 3 and one was heard at L. Helena July 10, both near Helena (GH). Two were found s. of Revelstoke July 10-12 (ECa) and one was near Kamloops June 27 (RH).

OWLS -- Barn Owls appear to be becoming common in the Lewiston, Ida.--Asotin, Wash. vicinity. Included in the observations were two young, one dead, June 6 (*fide* MK). One spent daytimes in a barn near Armstrong, B.C., June 19-mid-July (FM). A pair was reported at Horn Rapids Park 13 mi n.w. of Richland July 21 & 25 (JEn; REW) and two were seen in April and May at Wenatchee, Wash. (HO). One was found in Bend, Ore., June 22 (TCr). The Pygmy Owl was found in the Pioneer Mts., n.w. of Dillon, Mont., and near Red Lodge, Mont., for the first summer records for the latilongs (PDS, HC) Barred Owls heard In 4 localities In Okanogan County, Wash., in July suggested a

substantial population there (RF, SMa, JD). One was found in Pend Oreille County for the only other report (JN). A pair of Spotted Owls in Okanogan County was believed to be the first verified for the county (DH). An adult and an imm. Great Gray Owl were seen near Kamloops (GB) and a pair nested near Cranbrook, B.C. (RH). A nest of the species in the Bridger Mts., n. of Bozeman had three young July 11 (JS). A nesting of Long-eared Owls at 5000 ft elevation in Malheur N.F., Ore., was reported (*fide* AA)

POOR-WILLS THROUGH HUMMINGBIRDS -- Poor-wills were heard e. of Norris, Mont., at a different site from their detection in 1980 and 1981 (SCo, PDS). One was heard the night of June 15 at Calamity Lookout n.e. of Burns, Ore. (MA) and five were seen In Wolverine Canyon s.e. of Idaho Falls, Ida. June 17 (KS). None were noted in the n. Okanogan Valley where they normally breed. Common Nighthawk numbers were down and their distribution spotty in the Malheur-Bend area of c. Oregon. Cool, wet weather may have short-stopped the birds in Nevada (CDL; TCr). A single Anna's Hummingbird was noted at Tieton, Wash., June 5 (Y.A.S.) and a male was near Peshastin, Wash., in July (RO). A male Calliope Hummingbird appeared in the Silvies R. canyon n. of Burns, Ore., July 7 (MA).

WOODPECKERS AND FLYCATCHERS -- A Pileated Woodpecker, rarely seen in the Helena area, was sighted in Gates of the Mountains Wilderness (JSn; D & KS). Two "Red-breasted" Sapsuckers were spotted at Rimrock L., w. of Yakima June 19 (Y.A.S) and this race [soon, species] was found on the West Fork of the San Poil R., s.w. of Republic, Wash., in late June (N.C.A.S., S.A.S.) A survey of 21 stands of aspen in Malheur N.F., found Williamson's Sapsuckers nesting in 19 of them. The species was much less difficult to find there than the Yellow-bellied (AA). An amazing record was of a **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher** photographed near Grandview, Ida. June 24 (TCO, MB; KBP). An Ash-throated Flycatcher nested in a bird house in Merle Archie's yard in Burns, Ore., and one was sighted at Tampico, Wash., June 13 (Y.A.S.). At Malheur reduction in cattle grazing in riparian habitat starting in 1973 has resulted in an increase in Willow Flycatchers from zero to 30 (CDL). Breeding Bird

Survey (hereafter, B.B.S.) routes Avery and Mivoden in n. Idaho and Keller and Reardan in n.e. Washington (hereafter, A-M-K-R) found this species' total falling from 17 in 1981 to only seven. An Alder Flycatcher was singing along with Willow Flycatchers at Brookmere, B.C., June 27 for the second record from the Nicola R. drainage basin (WCW). The previous record was of two May 31-June 22, 1980 about 12 mi w. of Merritt (WCW, DK). Two Least Flycatchers were singing just s. of Merritt June 27; they were found there in 1974 (WCW). Least Flycatchers are apparently expanding their range into e Oregon. Malheur had one May 29 and up to five were seen and/or heard on territory at Clyde Holiday S.P., near Mt. Vernon May 29-July 17 (TCr, JGi, HN, JE, AC, LT).

The combined Hammond's-Dusky Flycatcher total for the A-M-K-R B.B.S.s dropped from an average of 38 for 1979-80 to 25 in 1981 and 21 in 1982. Western Flycatcher and W. Wood Pewee numbers also dropped markedly on those surveys but Olive-sided numbers remained nearly constant (THR).

SWALLOWS THROUGH PIPITS -- There were several reports of Tree Swallow nestling mortality during cold, rainy weather at Fortine and in the s. Okanagan. A Bank Swallow colony at Malheur increased from 500 pairs last year to 1000. Barn Swallows nested at an unusually high elevation on a microwave structure at 6200 ft on Chewels Mt., near Kamloops (RH). Second brood Barn Swallows at Fortine had left the nest by July 24 and some pairs apparently were preparing their nests for third broods (WW). A Scrub Jay appeared at Market Lake W.M.A., Roberts (LP) and three Clark's Nutcrackers at Malheur provided the eighth refuge record, the first for July. Of 90 nest boxes in the Ellensburg-Yakima area, 7 were used by Tree Swallows, one by Mountain Chickadees, 27 by House Wrens, 19 by W. Bluebirds, 15 by Mountain Bluebirds and two by chipmunks (Y.A.S.). Single Mockingbirds were at Oliver, B.C., June 4 (BM) and Osoyoos June 27 (DB) and one sang in Richland late June-July 26 (PW, REW). Malheur had one also (JSn). Gray Catbirds were unusually

Volume 36, Number 6 999

scarce around Vernon, two consecutive abnormally cold springs believed responsible (JG). One appeared at Malheur June 11-13 and three were along the Burnt R., near Unity (MA). A Water Pipit nest with 4 eggs was discovered at 6700 ft elevation on Griffin Mt., near Malakwa, B.C., July 18 (MCI).

VIREOS AND WARBLERS -- A Red-eyed Vireo was at Malheur June 13-15 (DI). Two Tennessee Warblers were reported at Helena in late June and late July (PM). Several observations were made of Magnolia and Blackpoll warblers in the lower Beaver Valley in Glacier N.P., B.C., in June and July (KV; RW). A N. Waterthrush nest was found in a bog about 7 mi s. of Sullivan L. (JN). Two singing **Connecticut Warblers** were identified by observers very familiar with the species, at Soda L. near 108 Mile House, B.C., June 12, (W & HH). A June record of the species in 1977 at Soda Cr., somewhat farther on, suggested that a few of the birds may breed in this largely unbirded area (WCW). A singing male **Hooded Warbler**, Oregon's third, was observed s. of John Day July 11-17 (DR, AC, JGi *et al.*) and a female was sighted about 3 mi. away July 25 (HN). Numbers for vireos and warblers as a group were down to about a fourth what they were in 1979-80 on the A-M-K-R-B.B.S.s (THR).

BLACKBIRDS AND TANAGERS -- Up to nine males and several female Bobolinks were seen during the summer near Prairie for a new Idaho locality (MRC, A & HL; KBP). The species was also seen near Leadore where it reputedly has nested in the past (JC); near Tendoy, Ida., (HBR) and at Unity (AC). Common Grackles remained at Salmon during the summer (HBR) and at least two pairs remained at Rexburg, Ida. at least until July 6 (DHu). A Summer Tanager was at Fields on June 13 for the fourth Oregon record (DI, JGi, HN).

FINCHES -- A Rose-breasted Grosbeak was at Helena June 3-6 (WHa) and a male Blue Grosbeak appeared near Idaho City July 24 (MRC). Lazuli Bunting

sightings in the Walla Walla, Wash., area were decidedly up and Calamity Lookout had four pairs where none were found last year. Conversely the species appeared scarce elsewhere. The A-M-K-R B.B.S.s had a total of only six after averaging over 16 the previous 3 years (THR). A Purple Finch was reported near Nile, Wash., June 9 (Y.A.S.). Pine Siskins appeared extremely scarce, with substantial numbers reported only at Yakima and in the mountains to the w. Red Crossbills continued scarce in the s. Okanogan and supposedly in most other localities.

SPARROWS -- Several observations of Clay-colored Sparrows came from the n. end of Okanogan L. (JG) and a very few were noted in the Kamloops and Nicola L. vicinities (RH; WCW). One singing male was found June 21 in the same locality in the Spokane Valley where 2-3 were singing in 1979 (BH-T, THR, GW). A White-crowned Sparrow at Rimrock L., w. of Yakima was apparently the first in summer in that area (Y.A.S.); the species was again found in the Avery B.B.S. area (THR). Golden-crowned Sparrows singing but not seen on the Avery B.B.S. would make Idaho's first summer record (THR, SGS). Total finch and sparrow numbers on the A-M-K-R B.B.S.s were about half that of the 3 previous years (THR).

ADDENDUM -- At least 200 Whistling Swans died during spring migration in n. Idaho. All but one analyzed bird indicated death from lead washed down from the Coeur d'Alene mining area; that one had botulism (SGS).

OBSERVERS CITED -- Anne & Merle Archie, (JBa) Jonathan Barnett, Eugene C. Barney, Florence Bennett, Marty Berg, Geoff Bodman, Ted Bomford, R. Bonner, Doug Brown, (JB) Jim Bryan, (ECa) Ernie Callin, (SC) Steve Cannings, (HC) Helen Carlson, (EC) Eddie Chew, (HCI) H. Clarke, Mark R. Collic, (M & TCI) Mary & Tom Collins, Jack Connelly, Alan Contreras, (TCo) Thom Cook, (C & MCr) Craig & Marion Corder, (SCo) Sharon Cotterell, (TCr) Tom Crabtree, (TIC) Tim Craig, J. Danielson, Gary Davidson, C.V. Davis, Deborah Davis, R.L. Eng, (JEn) Jim England, (JE) Joe Evanich, Ron Friesz, (JGi) Jeff Gilligan,

(G.E.A.S.) Golden Eagle Audubon Society, (JG) James Grant, John M. Haas, (WHa) Willa Hall, Larry Halverson, Bill Harrington-Tweit, (DH) D. Hayes, E.T. Hays, Loren R. Hays, (W & HH) Werner & Hilde Hesse, Jerry Hickman, George Holton, Rick Howie, (DHu) Don Hunter, David Irons, Merlene Koliner, Doug Kragh, Al & Hilda Larson, (LL) Louise La Voie, John Lester, C.D. Littlefield, Susan Lindstedt, Dave Low, (SMa) S. Madsen, Bob McDowell, Pat McKinney, Fred Mitchell, Louis Moos, (SM) Shirley Muse, Harry Nehls, Ron Neu, Jack Nisbet, (N.C.A.S.) N. Central Wash. Aud. Soc., Ruth Ortiz, Howard Oswood, Lona Pierce, Kerry B. Provance, Hadley B. Roberts, Dennis Rogers, T.H. Rogers, (S.A.S.) Seattle Aud. Soc., Tammy Selfridge, P.D. Skaar, A. Small, (JSn) John Snively, (JS) Jim Sparks, (KS) Kit Struthers, Shirley G. Sturts, (D & KS) Dan & Karen Sullivan, Larry Thornburgh, C.H. Trost, Karal Voous, George Walter, John W. Weber, Wayne C. Weber, R. Wershler, Winton Weydemeyer, Pat & R.E. Woodley, John Woods (Y.A.S.) Yakima Aud. Soc., Steve Zender.

The Nesting Season, 1982

NORTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION

/Bill Harrington-Tweit, Phil Mattocks, and Eugene Hunn

The dry weather of late spring continued into June. Rainfall was about two-thirds of the normal levels for the Vancouver, British Columbia and Seattle, Washington weather stations, and 90% of that fell in the last five days of the month. Temperatures throughout the Region averaged about 3° F over the long-term norms. During July both temperature and precipitation were near normal. The only reported effects of the warm, dry June were not on bird populations or nesting success, but on local gardens. The several vagrant species found were scattered through the season.

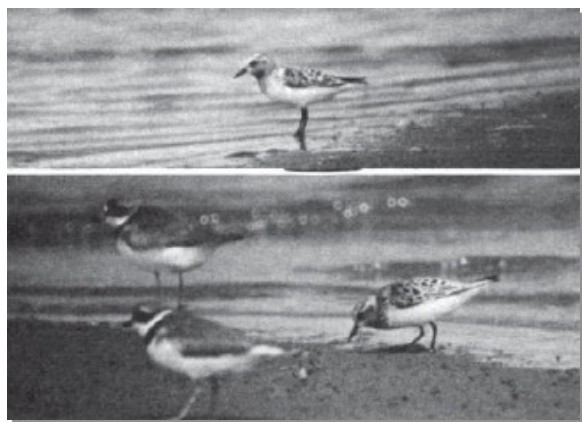
LOONS THROUGH DUCKS -- The only nesting report of Com. Loons came, as usual, from Vancouver I., (hereafter, V.I.), on Pye L., near Campbell R. (HT). Numbers of summering W. Grebes continued to be very low compared with a decade ago. The largest reported flock was 35 offs. V.I. (VG). Northern Fulmars were found by the hundreds off Washington and Oregon in July (TW; M. Graybill, *fide* AM). Summering numbers of this species vary greatly from year to year. Following an exceptionally large number of spring records of Brown Pelicans, good numbers were found along the Oregon coast at the end of July (HN). To the n., a Brown Pelican was found long dead in a cormorant colony on Mandarte I., B.C., for the eleventh documented provincial record (*Cowan Vertebrate Museum, Univ. of B.C., P. Arcese). Increases in cormorant breeding populations have been reported for the past 3 summers. This season was no exception. A new colony of Pelagic Cormorants was formed at Stanley P., Vancouver, B.C. (W. & H. Hesse), and the colony of Double-crests on Grays Harbor, Wash., increased by 100 nests (EC, W.D.G.). Green Herons were noted n. to Port Alberni, V.I. (J. Morgan), and most observers commented that the species was widespread and in good numbers. A pair of Pintails nested at Kent, Wash. (EH), for one of only a few w. Washington breeding records. Nesting Green-winged Teal at Willapa N.W.R. (RW) and Ocean Shores (G & WH) provided the first breeding records for the outer coast of Washington. There were 3 broods of Am. Wigeon at Delta, B.C. (WW). The first documented breeding records for the Vancouver, B.C., area were obtained only last summer. The large numbers of juv. Mallards reported by widely scattered observers seemed to indicate a very successful nesting season. Larger-than-usual numbers of Greater Scaup summered in the Region. Hundreds were noted along the Oregon coast (HN), 100+ at Grays Harbor, Wash. (DP, G & WH), and 180 near Vancouver, B.C. (WW). Such summer reports usually do not total more than 50 birds. A female Oldsquaw was present on Yaquina Bay through the season (JK, m.ob.). Scoters were reported in higher-than-normal numbers on the Oregon coast (HN), but were sparsely reported from Washington waters. However, scoters appeared to be present in normal numbers in the southern V.I. area (VG), a relatively short distance away.

RAPTORS TO COOTS -- Following several sightings of single adults last winter and spring, a family group of two adult and two rusty-breasted juv. **White-tailed Kites** were found on Leadbetter Pt., Wash., Sept. 18 & 23 (†RW *et al.*). This suggested possibly the first breeding of this species for Washington despite the discovery of paired birds at several Oregon locations this spring, and 5 reports of White-tailed Kites during the summer season in s.w. Oregon (MM, K. Rodecap, *fide* EzE), there was no other evidence of breeding noted. Cape Another southern raptor, the Red-shouldered Hawk, was reported 3 times from Douglas County, Oreg. (MS; KK, *fide* HN). Breeding of this species is being watched for in the area. Every Osprey nest checked for productivity was successful. Two new Osprey nests were reported, one at Saanich, V.I. (VG), and the other in Thurston County, Wash. (BHT). Marsh Hawk breeding was reported only from Leadbetter Pt., Wash., where a successful re-nesting was noted in late June (RW). There were no reports on Peregrine nesting. The only indication of Merlin breeding was at Elk Falls P.P., V.I. (HT). Few observers mentioned Am. Kestrels, but one report from Olympia, Wash., noted that 4 traditional sites in that area were vacant this summer (JD). California Quail had numerous, large broods in the Victoria area (VG), but there were no sightings in nearby Duncan (JC) where numbers have been low for the last 3 years. The Sandhill Cranes at Pitt Meadows, B.C., produced at least one young (M. Shamlock). Aside from the Queen Charlotte I., this is the only regularly used breeding locale in the Region, and some of the banded birds released there during 1981 stayed in the vicinity all this summer. Along the lower Columbia R., Wash., a pair of apparently territorial Sandhill Cranes stayed until the mowing of their patch of suitable habitat in early June (A. Richards, A. Musche). Breeding Am. Coots were observed at 8 localities in Washington. The highest number of nests found was 45 on Nisqually L., Pierce Co. (BHT). There were summering birds, but no reported breeding activity, near Vancouver, B.C. (DK).

SHOREBIRDS -- The Snowy Plover habitat at Leadbetter Pt., Wash., posted against intrusion again this year, supported 10 pairs and at least 10 chicks for another successful season (RW). There was a high count of seven ad. Snowies at Ocean Shores, Wash. (DP), and

Volume 36, Number 6 1009

several were noted at Coos Bay, Oreg. Flocks of 100-200 Surfbirds and both Black and Ruddy turnstones appeared abruptly on our shorelines July 17-21 (AC, DP, TW, D. Smith). The numbers are somewhat unusual but the arrival pattern is not. For most other migrant shorebird species a few individuals make their first appearance well before the major flocks arrive. Peak counts of some shorebirds were: 204 Whimbrel at Ocean Shores, Wash., July 21 (DP), 20 Greater Yellowlegs at Victoria, V.I., July 16 (R. Satterfield), 245 Semipalmated Plovers and 3000 Short-billed Dowitchers around Grays Harbor, Wash., July 21 (DP), eight Baird's Sandpipers at Iona I., Vancouver, B.C., July 16 (DK), 150 Least Sandpipers at Tillamook, Oreg., July 3 (JG), and 26,500 W. Sandpipers at Grays Harbor July 21 (DP). A record high count for the Region was the 70+ Semipalmated Sandpipers at Iona I., July 16-17 (†BK).



Two shots of the same Rufous-necked Stint, Tillamook Bay, Oreg., June 20, 1982. Photos/Jeff Gilligan.

The first Oregon records of the **Rufous-necked Stint** were of two different birds in breeding plumage found on the Bayocean flats, Tillamook Bay, June 20 & July 3 (ph.-JG, ph.-O, Schmidt, D. Irons; photos examined-ed.). A Long-billed Curlew June 9 & 15 at Blackie Spit (RP, V. Newson, WW *et al.*) and several Red Knots along Boundary Bay during June and July (BK, MP *et*

al.) provided only the second summer records of these species for the Vancouver, B.C., area. A Willet on Boundary Bay, B.C., June 6-9 (†MP *et al.*) represented about the ninth Vancouver area record. A Ruff found at Iona I., B.C., July 21-23 was a very early fall migrant (†BK, K. Bell, D. Aldcroft). The large colony of Glaucous-winged and W. gulls on Willapa Bay, Wash., was surveyed this summer for the first time since 1977 (BHT, SS). There were 3000+ nesting pairs, presenting an array of vivid iris colors and plumage patterns. In 1977, there were 1000-1500 nesting pairs. Willapa Bay's other nesting gull, the Ring-billed, is also increasing. About 60+ nests were counted this June (BHT, SS). Summering Bonaparte's Gulls remained at low levels for the fourth consecutive summer. However, after 3 low years, the numbers of non-breeding Black-legged Kittiwakes were up along the Washington coast (DP, G & WH, BHT). HN noted that Heermann's Gulls were abundant along the Oregon coast, with unusually high numbers of immatures present. A record count of almost 4000 pairs of Caspian Terns was made at the colonies along the Washington coast this summer (EC, W.D.G, BHT, SS). Several hundred more adults were noted throughout coastal Washington and British Columbia. At the end of July, HN reported that very large numbers of Com. Murres were present along the Oregon coast, both dead on the beaches and alive just offshore. The explanation for this concentration may be the warm anchovy rich water onshore at this time, attracting birds and thereby enhancing the visibility of normal mortality. There were some large concentrations of Marbled Murrelets reported: 29 at Port Susan, Wash., June 2 (BHT), and 50 at Pt. Roberts, Wash., June 30 (RP). There were also two rare summer sightings of the Ancient Murrelet: one with five Marbleds s. of Yachats, Oreg., July 21 (AC), and two apparent juveniles well offshore from Westport, Wash. (DP, TW).

OWLS TO SKYLARKS -- A pair of **Barred Owls** bred in Discovery P., Seattle (ph., DH, m.ob.). Three young were seen out of the nest June 20 (D. Beaudette). Despite widespread reports of Barred Owls for many years, this was only the second confirmed nesting in the Region. The first was in 1975 (AB 29:900). Barred Owls were also sighted at 2 new locales in w. Washington; at Silver L., n. of Maple Falls, Whatcom Co. (D. McNeeley) and in Fort Dent P.,

Tukwila, King Co. (B. Brynteson). Two just s. of Campbell R., V.I. (HT) in late July are the northernmost yet reported for the Region. One was also heard July 24 at Victoria (M. & T. Shepard). An ad. **Great Gray Owl** and two fledged young were found June 25-27 in the mountains just e. of Ashland, Oreg. (MM, m.ob.). This is the first reported nesting of this species in the Cascades of w. Oregon, although such has been suspected for many years. A pair of Saw-whet Owls bred successfully at Burnaby, B.C. (I. Robertson). There are few nesting records of this species from the lowlands. The continued scarcity of Com. Nighthawks was stressed by observers in the Rogue and Willamette valleys of Oregon (MM, EzE, HN), through to the Puget Trough of Washington and s. British Columbia (BHT, W. Harm, DK). The second nesting record of the Anna's Hummingbird for Oregon was evidenced by a fledgling, barely able to fly, found in Corvallis June 1 (E & EzE). Two nests of Anna's Hummingbirds at Discovery P., Seattle (DH), were the fifth and sixth recorded for Washington. The summer distribution of Anna's is by no means continuous. The species is common in parts of Seattle (DH), yet scarce or absent to the s. in Tacoma and Olympia. To the n., at least 11 Anna's summered at Victoria (VG), and at least three were present all summer at a feeder in W. Vancouver, B.C. (C. Butt). There were several reports of local declines or scarcities of woodpeckers, which is rather unsettling in this big timber country. Common Flickers were in low numbers at Duncan, V.I. (JC). Hairy Woodpeckers are now only rarely reported from the Corvallis area (E & EzE), and are scarce at Victoria (VG). A Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker nest found s.w. of Mt. St. Helens, Wash. (D. Anderson) was noteworthy, not so much for the locale, but for the scarcity of actual nest observations in our Region. Only four E. Kingbirds and five W. Kingbirds were reported away from the known breeding locales for each species. This is a somewhat lower number than normal. A pair of W. Kingbirds nested at Ft. Lewis, Wash. (BHT, GW) for the first nesting record of this species in the Puget Trough. Skylarks were found singing over a field near Cowichan Station, V.I., July 8 (PRW). This is the farthest n.w. location yet known to be occupied.

MARTINS TO BLUEBIRDS -- The Purple Martin news was generally good, with the exception of that from V.I. The two pairs at Duncan, V.I., was the

lowest count there in 14 years (JC) and Victoria hosted only a few more than that (VG). In Washington there were 20- 25 broods produced in s. Puget Sound (JD). In Oregon MS reported increasing sightings in Douglas County, and a locale near Toledo was used after several year's absence (JK, *fide* HN). Scrub Jays are slowly increasing their range to the N and W in the Region. AM noted that the species is becoming more prevalent in the drier, inland portions of Coos County, Oregon. As in past summers, Rock Wrens were found on the w. slope of the Cascades in Washington, this year in King and Whatcom cos. (EH, J. Duemmel). As with the previous summer records from the w. slope, no evidence of breeding was obtained. Another Rock Wren was at a quarry near Tualatin, s. of Portland June 22 (E. Lev, *fide* HN). There were 3 reports of Mockingbirds; one June 3-5 in Campbell River, V.I. (HT), one July 6 at Coos Head, Oreg. (AM), and one June 18 in Medford, Oreg. (*fide* MM). Gray Catbirds are intermittent breeders at Pitt Meadows in the Fraser R. valley e. of Vancouver, B.C. Two to three Gray Catbirds were present throughout the summer at Pitt Meadows (H. Brownlow) for the first sightings there since 1979. One was also seen nearby at DeBouville Slough July 24 (RP *et al.*). There are no other known breeding sites in the Region. The Pemberton Valley n. of Vancouver, B.C. is also the only part of our Region with breeding Veeries. Twelve were found near Pemberton, B.C., June 13 (K. Hobson *et al.*). A lone bird was singing at Pitt Meadows July 8 (†MP) for the third Vancouver area record. Mike Paczolt's nest boxes at Agate L., Jackson Co., Oreg., successfully fledged 120 young W. Bluebirds. Nearby in Douglas County, however, MS noted that bluebirds seemed to be having more trouble than usual. Reproductive success also appeared low on Ft. Lewis, Wash. (BHT, GW). A nestbox at Metchosin, V.I., produced four young (VG) and the success of a snag-nesting pair in the Sooke Hills, Malahat Land District, V.I., was undetermined (PRW).

1010 *American Birds*, November 1982

VIREOS AND WARBLERS -- HN noted that Warbling Vireos in Oregon were quite conspicuous, with good reproduction. However, Warbling Vireos were noted as scarce at Olympia, Wash. (JD), and

Duncan, V.I. (JC). EH detected a general decline in vireo numbers on the Issaquah, Wash., Breeding Bird Survey. Solitary Vireos were extremely scarce at Duncan, V.I. (JC). Red-eyed Vireo numbers were below normal at Olympia, Wash. (JD, BHT). In contrast, reports of Yellow Warbler breeding success were uniformly good, from Ashland, Oreg., (MM), Leadbetter Pt., Wash. (RW), and Duncan, V.I. (JC). MacGillivray's Warblers were also believed to have had an excellent nesting season in Oregon (HN). Indications of possible breeding range expansions included a singing male Nashville Warbler near Issaquah, Wash., June 20 (EH), and several singing Yellow-breasted Chats present June 18-July 11 at Broadbent, on the Coquille R., Oreg., for the first Coos County records (*fide* AM). Reports of Am. Redstarts were widespread. One to two pairs were near Newhalem, Wash., June 6-13 (TW) in the same alder swamp as last year. There were four records of Am. Redstarts which appeared to be vagrants: one male at Sproat L., V.I., June 11 (MP), a first-year male in W. Vancouver, B.C., June 30-July 1 (†DK, †D. Cannings, m.ob.), an ad. male at Sea I., Vancouver, B.C., July 2 (†MP), and an ad. male at Foster Res., e. of Corvallis, Oreg., July 11-18 (F. Graves, *fide* EzE). The pair of Am. Redstarts seen near Glide, e. of Roseburg, Oreg., July 6, but not found when searched for later (KK), was difficult to categorize. More unusual vagrants were a male **Black-throated Green Warbler** June 19 at Reifel I., B.C. (†WW), for the first Vancouver area and coastal British Columbia record, another male Black-throated Green Warbler, also seen June 19, at Cape Blanco, Curry Co., Oreg. (R. Smith, *fide* HN), and a male **Chestnut-sided Warbler** June 6 on Bayocean Pen., Tillamook Co., Oreg., (†JG).

ORIOLES TO SPARROWS -- Northern Orioles continue to slowly increase their breeding populations around Victoria and Vancouver, B.C. A nest at Victoria fledged four young, and there were sightings of eight+ other adults there (VG). Of a total of 16 sightings in the Vancouver, B.C., area (*fide* DK), the only nesting report was of two adults feeding two fledglings at DeBouville Slough (RP *et al.*). An ad. male **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** was seen June 30 near Green L., in Seattle, Wash., for only the second w. Washington record (†M. Keplinger). Black-headed Grosbeaks were noted to be unusually abundant by 2 Washington

observers (JD, RW). The only other mention of the species was that they were fairly common at Campbell River, V.I. (HT). A few Evening Grosbeaks remained in the lowlands into June. Evidence of breeding came from Victoria (B. McCabe, *fide* VG) and Everett, Wash. (specimen of fledgling, *fide* M. Jordan). Lazuli Buntings were noted more frequently than usual within their regular breeding range in Oregon (HN). In Washington, where Lazulis breed very sparingly w. of the Cascades, singing males were noted at 2 new locations in King County (EH) and one in Lewis County (BHT). A male **Indigo Bunting** stayed July 28-Aug. 4 along a powerline right-of-way near Eugene, Oreg. (B. Combs, m.ob.). Red Crossbills were present throughout the period in the lowlands of British Columbia. To the s., however, they were virtually unreported during June. Small groups appeared in early July in the lowlands of Washington (EH, BHT) and Oregon (E & EzE). The species began nesting activities at the end of July in Olympia, Wash. (BHT), and on Vashon L., near Seattle, Wash. (PM). The Douglas fir cone crop was abundant at both locations. Green-tailed and Brown towhees were reported in good numbers from Jackson and Douglas Cos., in s. Oregon (MS, MM, S. Gordon). These 2 counties comprise the extent of their breeding range in our Region. A Vesper Sparrow was at Pitt Meadows, B.C., June 26 (†MD), somewhat n. of its usual range. A Fox Sparrow was at the South Jetty of the Columbia R., June 28 (JG), well s. of its usual range, and two were at N. Vancouver, B.C., June 28 with one still there June 30 (†MD). A pair of *pugetensis* White-crowned Sparrows was closely observed feeding two fledglings July 30 at White Pass, Wash. (†PM). White-crowned Sparrows have been observed at that location in previous summers, but the subspecies had not been determined. The 4300 ft elevation is higher than other known breeding locations of *pugetensis* and lower, and much farther s. or n., than those of *gambelii* or *oriantha*.

INITIALED OBSERVERS and ABBREVIATIONS; with **Sub-Regional Editors in boldface**. John Comer, Alan Contreras, Eric Cummins, Mark Daly, Jack Davis, Elsie & Elzy Eltzroth (EzE), Jeff Gilligan, **Vic Goodwill**, Glen & Wanda Hoge, Dave Hutchinson, Brian Kautesk, Ken Knittie, Jan Krabbe, **Doug Kragh**, Alan McGie, **Marjorie Moore**, **Harry Nehls**, **Dennis Paulson**, Roy Phillips, Michael Price,

Martha Sawyer, Steve Speich, Howard Telosky, **Terry Wahl**, George Walter, Wayne Weber, Ralph Widrig (RW), P. Ray Williams (PRW). W.D.G. = Washington Dept. of Game, and (†) = written description on file.

End 1982

1983

Autumn Migration, 1982

NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN - INTERMOUNTAIN REGION

/ Thomas H. Rogers

Warm, dry weather in August continued well into October in southern interior British Columbia, extreme northern Idaho and northwestern Montana. Then conditions turned cold and wet in most localities. Some areas had early freezeups and snow cover in October. November was in general cold with snow in more northerly localities. No clear pattern of weather effects on migration was evident. Weydemeyer remarked that most departure dates at Fortine were early but that most winter visitors had not arrived. The latter was generally true for the "northern finches". Good food supplies supposedly were keeping them farther north or in the mountains. The waterfowl migration at Metcalf N.W.R., Stevensville, Mont., was described as 2-3 weeks late. That area apparently had a relatively warm and dry autumn.



LOONS AND GREBES -- An Arctic Loon on the Columbia R., n. of Richland, Wash., Aug. 28 was Woodley's first ever for Benton County. A **Yellow-billed Loon** on Little Shuswap L. Chase. B.C., Oct. 26-28 was a real rarity (RH, MCo, JGr). A Red-necked Grebe on Hatfield L., near Bend, Ore., Oct. 9 was Deschutes County's first (TC). Malheur N.W.R., Burns, Ore., hosted the largest number of Eared Grebes with a peak of 1435, and of W. Grebes, peaking at 1490, both in August.

PELICANS AND CORMORANTS -- An aerial survey of Potholes Res., Moses L., Wash., Sept. 29, found 252 White Pelicans, that area's highest ever (RF). Carry Res., Boardman, Ore. had 20 (RJK). Only about 25 pairs of Double-crested Cormorants nested successfully at Malheur, fledging their young from tree nests. Lake Helena had 200 for the highest number ever there (GH). One bird was on the Kootenai R., just below Libby Dam Oct. 2-3 (CW). Singles were at Tranquille, B.C., Aug. 14-17 and at Kamloops, B.C., Oct. 14 (RH).

HERONS THROUGH IBISES -- The Portneuf R., near Pocatello, Ida., had a Green Heron Sept. 9 (DT, CHT, TF). A well-observed Little Blue Heron at Malheur Sept. 8 furnished Oregon's first record (DF,

GF). The only Cattle Egret reports were of single birds near Stevensville, Mont., in October (*vide* CP); near Boise, Ida., Aug. 16 (MRC), and near Pocatello Oct. 7 (ST). Malheur Basin counted a new high of 1935 Great Egrets on an aerial survey. Snowy Egrets there peaked at 175 and Black-crowned Night Herons at 1115. White-faced Ibises reached 2500 there, the highest ever.

WATERFOWL -- Whistling Swan numbers were very low in n. Idaho and at Metcalf N.W.R., but were good elsewhere. Peak numbers were: Malheur, 9550; Red Rock Lakes N.W.R., Lima, Mont., 720; Ennis-Harrison, Mont., 500; Turnbull N.W.R., Cheney, Wash., 320, and Columbia N.W.R., Othello, Wash., 150. The Trum-

202 *American Birds*, March-April 1983

peter Swan population for Centennial Valley and Red Rock Lakes was 220-250. Refuge cygnet production there totalled only four, the poorest ever. Turnbull had 3-5 birds. Unexpected sightings for the species were of one at Hatfield L. (TC), one at Columbia Ref. (JRR) and an adult and two juveniles on Cascade Res., Valley Co., Ida., (MRC). Top counts for Canada Geese were: Malheur, 10,625; Columbia N.W.R., 10,000; n. Idaho, 8853; Park L., Grant Co., Wash., "several thousand" along with 27 Cackling Geese (JA); Minidoka N.W.R., Rupert, Ida., 4000; Kootenai N.W.R., Bonners Ferry, Ida., 4000 (high), and Turnbull, 1755. White-fronted Geese built up to 2000 at Malheur and Snow Goose numbers there reached 4025. Ross' Geese peaked at 500 at Malheur, which is on the species' major migration route. A single Ross' Goose again appeared at Lewiston, Ida. (RN). The November U.S.F. & W.S. aerial waterfowl survey, excluding coot, of the n. Columbia Basin, Wash., showed a total 14% down from the 6-year average but the count over the s. Columbia Basin was up by 83%. Swan and goose totals on the survey were down in both n. and s. but overall totals for ducks, mostly Mallards, were decidedly up. The peak for waterfowl, excluding coot, at Malheur was over 145,000, well above average, with Mallards, Green-winged Teal and Com. Mergansers the major gainers. The n. Idaho Fish and Game aerial survey

counted much higher than normal numbers for nearly every waterfowl species, Mallards totaling over 21,000 and Am. Wigeon over 28,000. At Kootenai N.W.R., however, ducks, mostly Mallards, peaked at only 14,000, the lowest in 5 years, and waterfowl numbers at Minidoka were down considerably. Waterfowl at Carty Res, built up to nearly 160,000; Mallard was the dominant species. In the rarity department a Greater Scaup was sighted on the Pend Oreille R., w. of Sandpoint, Ida. (BM) and Malheur had three (MA). The Helena area had a pair of Bufflehead and a female Hooded Merganser (GH). Hatfield L. had an Oldsquaw (TC); two were on McNary Dam Res., Umatilla Co., Ore. (MC), and two females were on Willow L., Spokane Co. (WH, JA). Four White-winged Scoters appeared at Hatfield L., Nov. 11-20 as did a female Surf Scoter Oct. 23 and an imm. male Surf Scorer Nov. 6-16 for the first county records (TC). Malheur had a male White-winged and a male Surf Scorer Nov. 6 (MA). The Pend Oreille R had a surprising 15 White-wingeds Nov. 10. A hunter bagged one at Kootenai N.W.R., and one was found dead near Hoodoo Cr., n.w. of Spirit L., Ida. (SGS). Sightings of single Surf Scoters were made at Three Forks, Mont., Oct. 23 and Nov. 2 (DS, RW, JM, VM) and one was at Okanagan Landing, B.C., Aug. 6 (TH). The Lewiston, Ida.-Clarkston, Wash. area had 3 sightings of single birds (RN). Two late flocks of Red-breasted Mergansers passed through Sparwood, B.C., Nov. 3-4 (DFF).

HAWKS -- A "major" movement of Sharp-shinned and Cooper's hawks was noted at Bend Sept. 6-8 (TC). A Red-shouldered Hawk stayed near Klamath Falls, Ore., Aug. 14-Sept. 19 (SS). A Broad-winged Hawk was migrating with other hawks over Little Camas Res, n.e. of Mountain Home, Ida. Oct. 1 (MRC). The Bald Eagle gathering at lower McDonald Cr., Glacier N.P., Mont., had a high of only 309, the low number attributed to a drastic decline in spawning Kokanee salmon (Hungry Horse News). An average of 23 Bald Eagles/week was observed in the Libby area in November (CW). At Red Rock Lakes the species peaked at ten adults and 15 immatures (TMCE). Fifty active Osprey nests in Lincoln County, Mont., produced 68 fledglings (CW). The Region had an unusual number of Gyrfalcon sightings, five or six. One was a white-phase bird as was the possible sixth sighting.

CRANES THROUGH COOT –

S.A.

Seven foster chicks fledged at the Whooping Crane project at Grays Lake N.W.R., Wayan, Ida. and by Oct. 15 had migrated with Sandhills and ten surviving whoopers from previous years' egg transplants (ECB).

Sandhills there peaked at 2300. Greater Sandhills reached their peak at Malheur Nov. 7 with over 2500. A few of the subspecies *canadensis* appeared with the larger *tabida* birds at Harrison and Wilsall, Mont. (PDS, RW, JM, TL). The nine summering Sandhills at Ladd Marsh, LaGrande, Ore., raised two young (RR). American Coot at Malheur peaked at 44,750 and Washington's aerial count of the Columbia Basin came up with over 39,000, a definite increase, in mid-October North Idaho's aerial survey found over 28,000, an above-average number, and the species peaked at Turnbull at over 30,000.

SHOREBIRDS -- Up to six Semipalmated Plovers appeared at Reardan, Wash. (JA). Singles were noted at Hatfield L. (TC) and in the Salmon, Ida. area for Roberts' first there. The species also appeared in the Moses Lake area (RF *et al.*). One near Fortine furnished only the fourteenth fall record in 60 years (WW). Richland, Wash., had up to six Am. Golden Plovers (REW) and Pablo N.W.R., Lake Co., Mont., nine (RW). The only other sightings, all of singles, were at Cold Springs N.W.R., Hermiston, Ore. (CC); near Klamath Falls (SS) and s. of Revelstoke, B.C. (JW). Black-bellied Plovers reached an impressive 25 at Cold Springs (SM,

SW) and seven were seen at Summer Lake, Ore. (MA). A meager sprinkling of the species appeared in the s. Okanagan, Idaho, Montana and Washington. A **Wandering Tattler** at Wenas Res., s.w. of Ellensburg Sept. 3 & 5 was e. Washington's first ever (EH, DW *et al.*; ZB). A Red Knot near Midland, Ore., Sept. 26 furnished the first fall record for the Klamath Basin (SS). A minutely described **Sharp-tailed Sandpiper** at Swan L. Vernon Sept. 12 was apparently interior British Columbia's first (MCo, HM, JGr, PMcA) and one photographed w. of Othello Sept. 26 was e. Washington's fourth (EM, JLe). Evidence indicates that Pectoral Sandpipers' fall migration w. of the Continental Divide follows a path through Yoho N.P., and Radium Hot Springs, B.C., down into n. Idaho, turns W through Reardan to the Grand Coulee, Washington, thence S to the Yakima R. delta and on to Malheur N.W.R., then SW to Summer L., and the Klamath Basin. This fall the Yakima delta had a peak of 40 and Cold Springs N.W.R., 16. The birds were noted on about 15 days mid-September-mid-October at Malheur in numbers up to 16 and up to 94 were at Midland in the Klamath Sept. 26. Localities outside this path reported very few or none this fall and in previous years. East of the Divide Harrison L. in Montana had 300, a high number. Two Short-billed Dowitchers were heard at Cold Springs (C & MC) and two at the Yakima delta (REW) At Miller I., Klamath Falls, one-five were present (SS). The only sightings of Stilt Sandpipers were of three at Pablo N.W.R. (RW) and singles s. of Davenport and at Reardan, Wash. (JA) and near Richland, Wash. (Y.A.S.). Dunlins were scarce at the Yakima delta but 30 were sighted near Umatilla (C & MC, NB). One showed up at Harrison, where the species is very rare (PDS, JM) and one was at Boise for one of very few records there (MRC). Sightings of single Semipalmated Sandpipers were obtained at Miller I., for the second Klamath County record (SS); at Prineville, Ore. (TC); at Boise (MRC), and on 2 dates at Reardan (JA). At Fortine it was surprising to have only one sighting of four birds (WW). Malheur had two Marbled Godwits and Summer L., three (R & JK). The species was reported from the Eureka-Fortine, Mont. area for apparently the latilong's first record (CW). One was sighted along the Snake R., s.e. of Mountain Home (KBP) and Pablo N.W.R. had one-two (RW). Sanderlings, rare in the Region, were noted at Pablo (up to 15--RW); at Chewelah, Wash., one Sept. 29 (first latilong record) (JN), and one at Harrison L. (PDS,

RW). A **Red Phalarope** at the mouth of the Umatilla R. was n.e. Oregon's first (C & MC, NB).

JAEGERs THROUGH TERNS -- The only jaeger was a Parasitic at Penticton, B.C., Sept. 30 (HM). Two imm. Glaucous Gulls were at Little Shuswap L., Oct. 27-28 (RH) and a first year Glaucous-winged appeared at Nicola L., near Merritt, B.C., Aug. 6 (MD). Six Herring Gulls were at Cascade Res., a new locality (MRC) and four were at the Boise R. (A & HL). One at L. Helena was highly unusual (WHe) A first year Thayer's Gull was photographed at Bend Nov. 26-28 for the county's first record (TC). An ad. Mew Gull showed up for the third year at Upper Klamath L. (SS) and one was at the Yakima delta for Woodley's fourth record there. The Portneuf R. mouth had 200+ Franklin's Gulls (DT) and one at Cold Springs furnished the first record there (C & MC, NB). Tumalo Res. had 21 Bonaparte's Gulls and Reardan had up to 48, the highest ever. A major storm the night of Sept. 11 was followed by the appearance of a Sabine's Gull, the county's first, at Tumalo Res., along with 14 Forster's, eight Common and one Arctic Tern (TC). Two Caspian Terns, rare at Reardan, overflew there Aug. 11 (JA).

PIGEONS AND OWLS -- Two Band-tailed Pigeons appeared near Sparwood Aug. 23 for the only report (DFF). Boise had a Black-billed Cuckoo Aug. 14 (MRC). A Barn Owl near Colville, Wash.,

Volume 37, Number 2 203

Aug. 2, made the first record, (D & JD) and one was at a new locality, Ginkgo S.P., Vantage, Wash., Oct. 3 (DK, B & BN, THR). A road-killed Barn Owl was found near Libby (CW). For the second consecutive year one was roosting in the Davenport cemetery (JA). A Screech Owl, unusual in the Helena area, was hit by a car Oct. 29 (GH). A Flammulated Owl was banded at Pocatello (JJ) and Malheur had one Sept. 26. An injured Barred Owl was picked up near Walla Walla Nov. 21 (SM *et al.*) and one was seen s. of Libby in late October (CW). A new locality for the species was the Creston,

B.C. valley, where at least three birds were heard Sept. 14 (DFF, JL, MW). A Great Gray Owl was sighted up Pipe Cr., n. of Libby (CW) and one was at Lumby, B.C. (Oct. 25-Nov. 8 (ML). Single birds were seen at 2 localities near Sikanni Chief R., 150 min. of Ft. St. John, B.C., Aug. 1 (JQ). The only Boreal Owl reported was one in the Bull R. area, Lincoln Co., Mont. (CW). A Saw-whet Owl was sighted on Kamiak Butte, Whitman Co., Wash. (WHe *et al.*).

HUMMINGBIRDS THROUGH WRENS -- Penticton had a male Anna's Hummingbird Oct. 4 (PH) and one visited a Vernon feeder Nov. 1-4 (JQ). One was reported for s.w. Idaho Oct. 20 (A & HL). One hummer at Clarkston Nov. 1 was likely this species (LL). A "Red-breasted" Sapsucker was photographed at Malheur Sept. 25 for the first record there (JG, OS, RS). Two Blue Jays visited a Vernon feeder Oct. 31+ (JQ, m.ob.) and one was along the Kootenai R., n. of Libby in late September (CW). One was at Richland Nov. 14-24 (DH, REW). In Idaho one was at Hagerman State Wildlife Ref., Hagerman Nov. 4 (JR) and one frequented feeders at Rupert Oct. 12+ (WHS). A Bewick's Wren was seen and heard near Kamiah, Ida. Oct. 20+ (MMcK).

THRUSHES THROUGH WAXWINGS -- The bluebird trail along the old highway between Ellensburg and Yakima fledged eight Mountain Chickadees, 156 House Wrens, 72 W. Bluebirds and 54 Mountain Bluebirds (Y.A.S.). A movement of Mountain Bluebirds at Red Rock Lakes numbered 100-200 a day in mid-October (TMcE). Bohemian Waxwings were late, scarce or absent, except at Bozeman, which had flocks totaling 8000 by mid-November, and s.e. British Columbia, where flocks of up to 200-300 appeared at Fernie.

WARBLERS THROUGH BLACKBIRDS -- A Black-and-white Warbler visited Rupert Sept. 20 (WHS) and a Black-and-white and a Townsend's were banded at Pocatello (JJ). Creston had four Tennessee Warblers (DFF, JL, MW) and one was at a Yakima feeder Aug. 29 (J & MA). A Tennessee was sighted at Greeny L., e. of Lac la Hache, B.C., Aug. 7 and a Nashville was

found there the next day (MD). A Magnolia Warbler was reported on Horse Ridge e. of Bend Sept. 10 (VT). A well-described Black-throated Blue Warbler was at Boise Sept. 25 for apparently the third state record (MRC) and a male was sighted at Malheur Oct. 10 (TMO). A Black-throated Green Warbler studied at length near Harrison Oct. 23 was only Montana's sixth (PDS, RW, JM, VM). An imm. Chestnut-sided Warbler was photographed at Fields, Ore., Sept. 24-25 and a **Pine Warbler**, apparently e. Oregon's first, was identified there Sept. 24 (JG, OS, RS). A **Canada Warbler** mist-netted at Malheur Sept. 26 and a **Mourning Warbler** carefully identified there the same day were apparently the first ever for e. Oregon, perhaps the state (RS, JG, OS). A N. Waterthrush near Malheur Sept. 22 furnished a rare sighting (MA). A warbler movement of mixed species of some 660 birds moved through Red Rock Lakes Oct. 13 (TMCE). Summer Lake, Ore., had 24 Tricolored Blackbirds Sept. 4 (R & JK). A full-plumaged male Com. Grackle near Haines, Ore., Sept. 20-22 was the state's third (JE, RFe).

FINCHES -- A male Rose-breasted Grosbeak was banded at Malheur Sept. 22. Evening Grosbeaks were almost completely absent from reports. A large, mixed flock of Cassin's and Purple finches, Pine Siskins, Am. Goldfinches and Red Crossbills was observed in the Blue Mts., near Tollgate, Ore., Aug. 17. These species, except Red Crossbills, were scarce or absent at most other reporting localities. A large flock of Pine Siskins did show up at Yakima. Purple Finches were "definitely confirmed" in many high country (4000ft.+) locations from Canada to the Clark Fork R., in Lincoln County, Mont. No photographs or specimens have been obtained, however (CW). House Finches were reported up Pipe Cr., near Libby (CW). "Huge flocks" of Gray-crowned Rosy Finches were found at elevations of 4000 ft and up in Lincoln County, Mont., during November (CW). Black Rosy Finches were sighted at 12,500ft on Granite Peak w. of Red Lodge, Mont., Aug 15 (DS) White-winged Crossbill was one of the most common fringillids in the N. Fork of the Flathead R., w of Glacier N.P., Mont. (DFi). A flock of 12 was sighted e. of Sparwood for the only other report (DFF).

SPARROWS -- A nondescript imm. bird near Livingston, Mont. eventually matured enough to be identified as a Sage Sparrow Photographed many times, it furnished the fourth well-documented state record. The observation site was very close to where Saunders reported the species as abundant in 1909 (AS, EHa, PDS). A Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Junco was sighted at Mountain Home Nov 27 (KBP). Sightings in s. Idaho are scant. A very few Harris' Sparrows were reported; the same was true for Golden-crowned Sparrows Chase, B.C., had six White-throated Sparrows (CH) and one was near Vernon (PMcA). Hillcrest had one (DFF) and 2 sightings were in the Helena area, where the species is very rare (PMcK, GH). One was found in the Bridger Mts., n. of Bozeman (PDS, JM, TL) and at least three stayed at Kamiah Nov. 11+ (W & MMcK). About 20 Lapland Longspurs were at Penticton Oct. 15 (SC) and 20+ were using reclaimed mine dumps at 7000 ft in the Sparwood area Sept. 15-17 (DFF). One at Fortine was a rarity, for the species has been found there in only 10 of the last 60 years (WW). A flock of 100+ Snow Buntings was at the Sparwood mine dumps Sept. 16.

ADDENDA -- Two adult and two nearly grown imm. Com. Loons were on N. Twin L., Ferry Co., Wash., July 17 for apparently the only state breeding record in recent years (EH). A Yellow-billed Cuckoo picked up dead in Bozeman June 26 provided the latilong's first and Montana's eighteenth (WD, *vide* CVD). A singing **Black-throated Green Warbler** was identified at close range by an observer familiar with the species, and two others heard at Fish Cr. C.G., Glacier N.P., June 22 for the fifth state record and the first for Montana w. of the Divide (MS).

CORRIGENDA -- The Black-legged Kittiwake reported from Magic Res., Ida. (*AB* 36:876) furnished the second state record (see *Condor* 83:272-3). The two gulls reported for Fortine May 19 (*AB* 36: 876) were Bonaparte's, not Glaucous, were three in number, were seen May 6 and made Weydemeyer's second spring record. The **Bay-breasted Warbler** (*AB* 30:100) was at Pocatello, not Malheur, for Idaho's first. The Brown Towhee at Klamath Falls (*AB* 30:100) was apparently e. Oregon's second.

OBSERVERS CITED -- James Action (JA), John & Muriel Ainsworth (J & MA), Merle Archie (MA), Eugene C. Barney, Nancy Bock, Zee Butler, Steve Cannings, Mark R. Collie, Mary Collins (MCo), Barbara Combs, Craig & Marion Corder (C & MC), Thomas Crabtree, Dennis & Jamie Dahlke, Mark Daly, C.V. Davis, William Davis, Joe Evanich, Darrel & Glenn Faxon, Roger Ferguson (RFe), David Fix (DFi), Tim Fowler, David F. Fraser, Ron Friesz, Jeff Gilligan, James Grant (JGr), Warren Hall, Ed Harper (EHa), Chris Harris, Winnie Hepburn (WHe), Pat Hill, George and Wendy Holton (WHO), Dot Honaker, Rick Howie, Eugene Hunn, Terry Hurst, Joe Jeppson, Ronald J. Klein, Dan Knierim, Merlene Koliner, Rick & Jan Krabbe, Mary Langer, Al & Hilda Larson, Louise LaVoie, Joanne Lawrence, John Lester (JLe), Tom Lewis, Jeff Marks, Vicki Marks, Pat & Peter McAllister, Terry McEneaney, William & Marlene McKee, Pat McKinney, Ed Miller, Bob Moate, Huber Moore, Terry Morgan (TMO), Shirley Muse, Ron Neu, Bob & Betty Newman, Jack Nisbet, Colleen Powell, Kerry B. Provance, John Quirk, James R. Rees, Hadley B. Roberts, T.H. Rogers, Ron Rohweder, Jeff Ruprecht, Owen Schmidt, W.H. Shillington, Don & P.D. Skaar, Mike Slater, Richard Smith, Andy Stolzenburg, Shirley G. Sturts, Steve Summers, Dan Taylor, Verta Teal, C.H. & Scott Trust, Ron Weeks, Winton Weydemeyer, Mike Whittaker, Susan Wierenga, Carl Wolf, David Wolf, R.E. Woodley, John Woods, Yakima Audubon Society (Y.A.S.). Larry Napier reported for Kootenai N.W.R. C D Littlefield's report for Malheur N.W.R. includes observations by Larry Ditto, Brad Ehlers, David Paullin and Steve Thompson. Colleen Powell reported for Metcalf N.W.R., John Hill for Minidoka N.W.R., and Jack Hagan and Rod Pharness for Turnbull N.W.R.

204 *American Birds*, March-April 1983

Autumn Migration, 1982

NORTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION /Eugene S. Hunn and Philip W. Mattocks, Jr.

Weather departed little from the norm, with only November a degree or two colder Region-wide. Weather-related migratory patterns were difficult to discern, with the exception of the pelagics driven inland by strong frontal systems, such as brought a Red Phalarope invasion to Vancouver, B.C., during late October.



LOONS THROUGH EGRETS -- A Yellow-billed Loon Sept 11 on Cortes I., e. of Campbell R., V.I. (MS), was very early. Others were at Pt. Roberts, Wash., Oct. 8+ (†BK, †MF), and at Vancouver, B.C., Nov. 11+ (†MD, †DA). Black-footed Albatross numbers on pelagic trips off Westport, Wash., peaked at 179 Aug. 28, then declined to two Nov. 13 (TW), as is normal. A Laysan Albatross was seen off Westport Sept. 2 (TW) for the only report on 11 Washington offshore trips this year. Another was seen 12 mi off Coos Bay, Oreg. Sept. 12 (D. Varoujean). Northern Fulmar numbers built sharply in early October to 511 off Westport Oct. 10 (TW). Storms drove 200 inshore at Yaquina Head, Oreg. Oct. 17 (DI, M. Hunter). The

counts of Pink-footed Shearwaters peaked at 1560, off Westport, Sept 12

214 *American Birds*, March-April 1983

(BHT), for the highest trip total ever recorded in the Region. All had vanished by Nov. 13 (TW). Single Flesh-footed Shearwaters joined feeding concentrations over Grays Canyon on only 4 dates Aug. 14- Sept. 18 (TW, DP, BHT, ESH). New Zealand (Buller's) Shearwaters were virtually absent this fall within the continental shelf until Oct. 10 when 14 were counted off Westport (BHT). Six were seen on the late date of Nov. 13 (TW). Sooty Shearwater numbers peaked in the 100,000+ range Sept. 5-19 off Oregon and Washington, declining sharply to 331 off Westport Oct. 10, and to 100 there Nov. 13 (TW). Short-tailed Shearwaters were present for most Washington pelagic excursions in well above average numbers Aug. 28-Nov. 13. Precise counts were impossible to determine due to the difficulty of identifying more than a fraction of the dark shearwaters seen. A single Leach's Storm-Petrel, rarely noted in fall, was driven ashore Oct. 22 at the N.J.C.R. (RW). Brown Pelicans staged an unprecedented invasion. The 2000 at Tillamook Bay, Oreg., Aug. 22 was 5x normal numbers (HN). The 40 immatures at Grays Harbor Sept. 7 (ESH *et al.*) may have been the largest concentration that far n. in 50 years. An immature at Dungeness, Wash., Sept. 9 (ESH, DW *et al.*), the late stragglers at Port Angeles, Wash., Nov. 28 (D. Lewis), at Oak Bay, V.I., Nov. 30 (Mr. & Mrs. H. Foster, †D. Ross), and on the Nisqually Delta in s. Puget Sound in late November (*fide* T. Bock) reached the limit of the species' historic range. Four White Pelicans visited w. of the Cascades, between Vancouver, Wash., and Vancouver, B.C. The British Columbia bird stayed at Crescent Beach Oct. 15-Nov. 11 (H. Satterfield, m.ob.) for the first near there in a decade. All 7 Cattle Egret reports were from the straits of Georgia and Juan de Fuca. The earliest was the farthest n.e., near Vancouver, B.C., Oct. 4 (BK). The latest 2 were the farthest s.w., on Clallam Bay, w. of Port Angeles, Wash., Nov. 25-28 (MC). Could these birds be stragglers from the e. via the Fraser R. corridor? See also *Am. Birds* 35:216, 1981.

SWANS THROUGH CRANES -- A single ad. **Bewick's Swan** Nov. 21 at Saanich, V.I., was in the company of one Whistling Swan and an apparent intermediate, judging by bill markings (†RP). White-fronted Geese passed through Sept. 9 (when 50 were over Dungeness, Wash.--ESH, DW *et al.*)-Oct 8, when a local high count of 29 was reported at Serpentine Fen, s. of Vancouver, B.C. (B. Leach). Eurasian Green-winged Teal were noted Nov. 8+ at Vancouver, B.C. (J. Vanderlinde, m.ob.) and Nov. 21 at Hoquiam, Wash. (M. Egger). A survey Nov. 24 in the Victoria, V.I., area found 21 Eur. Wigeon (M. Edgell, m.ob.). Redheads were scarce as usual. Six at the S.J.C.R., Aug. 21 (HN) was the high count. An imm. male **Tufted Duck** was at Green L., Seattle, Nov. 20 (†ESH, m.ob.) for one of few records for Washington. A young male **King Eider** at Iona I. B.C., Aug. 7-Oct. 9 (†BK, †DK, †WW, †DA, m.ob., ph. MD), if not an escapee, was an astounding late summer record, and was the fourth ever recorded in the Vancouver area (*fide* DK). A Turkey Vulture Aug. 9 at Sayward, 50 mi n.w. of Campbell R., V.I., was at the limit of the species' summer range. This year's S migration at Victoria, V.I. was about 50% of normal. The peak count of only 175 was on Sept. 23 (*fide* VG). On Sept. 26 D. McRae counted 112 passing Edmonds, Wash. This was an unusual concentration for Puget Sound's e. shore. Thirty White-tailed Kites in Oregon was down slightly from last year's record fall total. However, one was n. to Arlington, Wash., Oct. 6 (S. van Nell) to continue the species' N progress. It is difficult to convert *Accipiter* reports into reliable indices of abundance. However, the ten Goshawks reported was sharply down from last year's 25. Six of these were in the Vancouver, B.C., vicinity (*fide* DK). The totals of 97 Sharp-shinned and 70 Cooper's hawks were normal. No regional or temporal patterns were evident. Two reports of Harlan's Red-tailed Hawks were received. One Sept. 4 n. of Sooke, V.I. (KT, RH) was very early. A dark-phase bird was on a more usual date of Nov. 28 at Auburn, Wash. (ESH). Red-shouldered Hawks continue to push N. There were reports this season of at least eight individuals in Oregon: from Curry (2), Coos (1), Douglas (3), Lane (1), and Benton (1) cos. Three Prairie Falcons were reported n. of Oregon; one n. to Duncan, V.I., Aug. 20 (J. Comer), one a Cascade Crest migrant near Rainy Pass, Wash., Oct. 4 (J. O'Connell), and one near Bayview, Wash., Nov. 19 (D. McNeely). There were one dark and two gray Gyrfalcons on the Saanich Pen., V.I., Oct. 17+ (A.

MacLeod, m.ob. *fide* VG), and single gray-phase birds about the Fraser R. delta Sept. 25 + (DP *et al.*, BK), and in Skagit County, Wash., Nov. 14-17 (DB, B. Hamblin). Peregrine and Merlin reports held steady with 74 sightings representing at least 30 Peregrines, and 90 sightings of at least 50 Merlins. A Spruce Grouse family was noted Aug. 19 in Manning P.P., B.C. (MD). Six White-tailed Ptarmigans were on Mr. Albert Edward, w. of Courtenay, V.I. (KT, RH). About 700 Sandhill Cranes were at Sauvie I., near Portland Sept. 16-mid October (HN). Elsewhere, a flock of 40 was seen flying S near Santiam Pass, Oreg., Sept. 25 (E & EE) and flocks of 10-15 were reported Sept. 16 over Grays River, Wahkiakum Co., Wash. (E. & C. Maxwell, *fide* AR), and Oct. 27 over Dungeness, Wash. (SS).

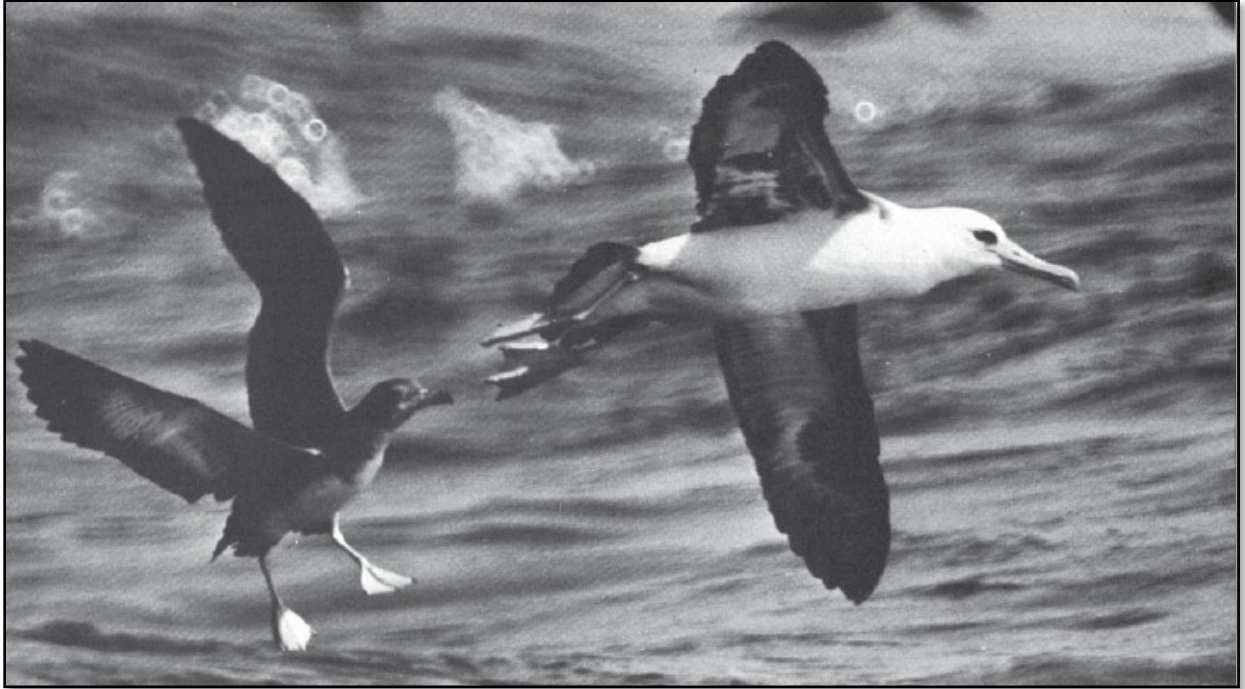
SHOREBIRDS -- American Golden Plovers repeated last year's poor showing. The maximum counts were of only 40 at Ocean Shores Aug. 26 and Sept. 17 (ESH, DW *et al.*). One at Sidney I. near Victoria, V.I., Nov. 1 was late (RH). Single Long-billed Curlews were noted n. to Boundary Bay, B.C., Aug. 14 (DA, MP) and Victoria, V.I., Aug. 27-Sept. 3 (P. Dawson, J. Tatum, m.ob.). A flock of 40 at the traditional gathering point near Tokeland, Wash., Sept. 13 (WW) was the only concentration reported. Whimbrels continued relatively scarce, with local maxima on early dates; 44 at Yaquina Bay, Oreg., Aug. 4 (HN), and 200 at Ocean Shores Aug. 6 (DP). Single Willets straggled N to Sequim Bay, Wash., Oct. 7 (SS), to nearby Port Angeles Oct. 11+ (MC), and to Vancouver, B.C., Sept. 28-Oct. 12 (JI, †WW, m.ob.), the last furnished the tenth record for the area. There were only two Solitary Sandpipers reported in Oregon, two in Washington, and one at Victoria, V.I., all Aug. 9-26. In contrast, Vancouver observers reported a dozen sightings (max. two birds) Aug. 7-Sept. 10 (*fide* DK). Flocks of Red Knots numbering 26 at Tillamook, Oreg., Aug. 29 (J. Evanich *et al.*) and 100 at Ocean Shores Sept. 7 (ES H, DW *et al.*) were substantial for this species here in fall. Some 50 Semipalmated Sandpipers were noted in s.w. British Columbia and coastal Oregon. Their virtual absence in coastal Washington was again well documented. Western Sandpiper flocks of 20,000 were found at Iona I., Sept. 6 (MD, H. & W. Hesse), of 10,000 at

Bowerman Basin, Hoquiam, Wash., Aug. 6-26 (DP), and of 5000 at Tillamook, Oreg. Aug. 21 (HN). Fifty Baird's Sandpipers at Iona I., Aug. 13 (BK) was an unusual concentration. Sixteen Baird's were seen at the S.J.C.R., Sept. 13 (HN *et al.*), 10 at Kent, Wash., Sept. 16 (ESH), and 15 at Ocean Shores, Wash., Sept. 17 (ESH, DW *et al.*). Pectoral Sandpipers were also unusually common. The maxima were 500 about Tillamook and Nehalem, Oreg., Sept. 19 (DI), 150 at Ocean Shores Sept. 25 (K. Brown), and 240 at Iona I., Sept. 25-26 (DP). Single late stragglers were noted Nov. 23 at Iona I. (GT) and Nov. 26

Volume 37, Number 2 215

near Duvall, Wash. (ESH). Sharp-tailed Sandpipers were in normal numbers, with about 25 reported Aug. 29-Oct. 17. Short-billed Dowitcher numbers peaked in late July with 815 still around Grays Harbor, Wash., Aug. 6 (DP). Long-billed Dowitcher numbers peaked 2 months later when 220 juveniles were at Iona I. and Boundary Bay, B.C., Sept. 25-26 (DP) and 420 were at Sauvie I., Oreg. Oct. 2 (HN, V. Teale). Stilt Sandpipers staged a record movement. There were about 11 reported in Oregon, six in Washington, and three on V.I. Aug. 21-Sept. 27. In the Vancouver, B.C., area there were 32 sightings with a record high of 12 birds at Iona I., Aug. 21 (G. Knezevich). Buff-breasted Sandpiper reports were up from last year's count with 15 found Aug. 29-Sept. 24. Eighty Marbled Godwits were at their traditional site at Tokeland, on Willapa Bay, Wash., Sept. 13 (WW). Only three were noted n. of Ocean Shores; one at Dungeness July 31-Aug. 6 (DS) and singles near Victoria, V.I. Aug. 20 (MS) and Oct. 19 (JM). Eight Ruffs Aug. 17- Sept. 20 was fewer than last year, breaking a string of 6 years of steadily increasing numbers. Reports came from the Vancouver, B.C., areas (2--†BK, †JW), Aberdeen (2--†ESH, B. Morse) and Leadbetter Pt. (1--RW), Wash.,

and the S.J.C.R. (one. *fide* HN) and Nehalem meadows (3--KK. JT). Oregon. An Am. Avocet Sept. 15 at Siletz



Laysan Albatross and Pink-footed Shearwater, 45 mi. off Westport, Wash.. Sept. 1982. Photo / A. Brady

Bay, Lincoln Co., Oreg., (P. Pickering) was displaced from the interior. Hundreds of Red Phalaropes were along the Leadbetter Pen., Wash., Oct. 28-Nov. 5 (RW), 50 were blown inland Oct. 30 to Fern Ridge Res., near Eugene, Oreg. (J. & R. Krabbe), and 5000 flew past Clover Pt., Victoria, V.I., Nov. 11 (RS). Following only 2 previous records ever, there were 17 sightings of Red Phalaropes in the Vancouver, B.C., and Pt. Roberts, Wash., area Oct. 5-Nov. 7, involving possibly 16 birds, with a high count of six at Boundary Bay Oct. 30-Nov. 3 (N. Russel, DJ). The season also had its more extraordinary strays. These included a **Bristle-thighed Curlew** found Sept. 1 at Tofino, V.I. (†R. Fryer. ph.), for the second record for British Columbia. The photograph shows the almost unmarked flanks and coarse back splotching which distinguish juv. Bristle-thighed Curlews from similarly plumaged Whimbrels (*vide* DP). A **Spotted Redshank**, the fourth for the Vancouver, B.C., area, and the fifth for the Region, was seen Oct. 9-17 at Serpentine Fen, Surrey, B.C. (†BM, m.ob.). Oregon observers found at least two more ad. **Rufous-necked Stints** Aug. 19-28 at Tillamook Bay, the site of the first state records this summer (†HN. m.ob., ph. H N, JG). A gratifyingly cooperative juv. **Temminck's Stint** was photographed at point blank range at Reifel I., Ladner, B.C., Sept. 1-4 (B. Scott, DA, JI, ph. DP, E. Sian), for the first conclusive record s. of Alaska. A photo has been published in *Discovery* 11:167, 1982. Comparison with skins at the Univ. of Wash. Museum indicates the value of the long central tail feathers as a Temminck's Stint field mark (*vide* DP). A juv. **Curlew Sandpiper** Sept. 16 at the S.J.C.R. (†HN) provided the sixth Regional record. An ad. **Bar-tailed Godwit** (*L. I. baueri*) commuted between Bottle Beach, near Westport, and Tokeland, Wash. Aug. 14-28, (†BHT, †B. Pendleton, †ESH, ph., D. Crumm) for the 12th record for Washington. A **Hudsonian Godwit** visited Iona I. B.C., Aug. 28-30 (†RC *et al.*) for Vancouver's 12th report.



Bristle-thighed Curlew, Cox Beach, Vancouver, B.C., Sept. 1, 1982. / Photo R. Fryer.

JAEGERS THROUGH PUFFINS -- The 18 Pomarine Jaegers off Westport Sept. 2 (TW) was the high count. Three documented reports inshore Oct. 8-21 at Pt. Roberts, Wash. (†BK, †MP, MF) may reflect a regular passage at this prominence. Four were off Westport Nov. 13 on the last pelagic trip of the year (TW). Long-tailed Jaegers numbered 11-16 on 4 August trips off Westport, a fair showing. On Sept. 2 an ad. Long-tailed flew over Esquimalt Lagoon near Victoria, V.I. (J & RS), for our sole inshore report. The last was one off Brookings, Oreg. Sept. 18 (BC). Ten skuas on 6 of 15 offshore trips was a bit below par. Three more were seen Sept. 1, 7, & 19 from shore near the Columbia R. mouth (RW; DAn). Four Glaucous Gulls were noted: two at Vancouver, B.C., Oct. 2 & 20 (MP, L. Koch), the latter an adult, and two immatures Nov. 21+ near Victoria, V.I. (RH, VG *et al.*). Of the 50 Franklin's Gulls found Aug. 6-Nov. 14, some 31 were in the Vancouver, B.C., area (*vide* DK).

216 *American Birds*, March-April 1983

Four strayed to the outer coast of Washington and Oregon, where they are rare (ph. OS). A first-summer **Laughing Gull** Aug. 14 off the Westport, Wash. jetty was the first physically documented for the state and the Region (BHT, ph.TW). Little Gulls continue to be rare but regular among large flocks of Bonaparte's Gulls. An imm. Little Gull Aug. 29 at Victoria, V.I. (†KT), was one of very few of that age reported for the Region. Two adults stopped by the Everett sewage ponds, a traditional site, Sept. 26 (B & PE), and another frequented West Pt., and Green L., in Seattle Sept. 26+

(ESH, †DB, m.ob.). Sixty-three Black-legged Kittiwakes off Westport Sept. 12 (BHT), 500 at the N.J.C.R., Sept. 13 (WW), and 250 at Campbell R., V.I. Oct. 31 (B. Phipps, *fide* H. Telosky), were unusual concentrations. Sabine's Gulls also raised eyebrows with 500 on La Perouse Bank offshore s. V.I., Sept. 5 (MS, D. Stirling). Six Sabine's Gulls at Oregon's Seal Rocks Oct. 23 and singles Oct. 17-29 at Pt. Roberts, Wash. (†MP, †DK *et al.*), Sept. 21 s. of Whidbey I., Wash. (C. Flaherty), and Sept. 20 at Hood R., Oreg. (DF), were off the usual pelagic migration route. Arctic Terns were scarce with a grand total of 26 seen on 7 trips to the continental shelf off Westport, Wash., Aug. 27-Sept. 12. A small flock of 14 Com. Terns observed Sept. 11 at Agate L., near Medford, Oreg. (†MM *et al.*), furnished the first record for Jackson County. A single Black Tern was reported Sept. 19 in the Rogue R. valley of s. Oregon (MM). Two hundred Ancient Murrelets were seen at Sechelt, n.w. of Vancouver, B.C., Nov. 6 (DA), 300 flew past Clover Pt., Victoria Nov. 11 (RS), and 50 were seen the same day at Pt. Roberts, Wash. (MP *et al.*). Two Tufted Puffins off Westport Nov. 13 furnished late records (TW).

DOVES THROUGH WOODPECKERS -- A **White-winged Dove** at Victoria, V.I., Nov. 18 (†A. Ford) was, if not an escapee, only the second reported for British Columbia. A belated report of another **White-winged Dove**, July 19, at Ocean Shores, Wash. (R. Carlson F. Bailey *et al.*) provided likewise the second record for Washington. Both sightings fit the vagrant pattern of all other West Coast records (Roberson, *Rare Birds of the West Coast*. p. 221). A Flammulated Owl chick brought to a Grant's Pass, Oreg., rehabilitation center this August (D. Siddon, *fide* EE) furnished the first evidence of nesting in the Region by this species. It is not rare in the California coastal ranges immediately to the s. Snowy Owls were again scarce this fall, with just three reported by late November. All were in s.w. British Columbia (*fide* DK). Short-eared Owls were in very low numbers. Only ten were reported, Oct. 17+, for the entire Region. Swifts departed early. The last Black Swift seen was over Gaston, Oreg. Sept. 20 (JG), and the last Vaux's over Ashland, Oreg. Oct. 4 (MM). The last Rufous Hummingbirds were noted Sept. 13, at Victoria, V.I. (M & VG), and Ashland, Oreg. (MM). A Calliope Hummingbird Aug. 18 near Enumclaw, King Co.,

Wash., provided a county first record (RSt *et al.*). Lewis' Woodpeckers were in "good numbers" this season in the Rogue R. Valley of s. Oregon (O. Swisher). Elsewhere three returned Sept. 14+ to Finley N.W.R., near Corvallis, Oreg. (*fide* EE), and one strayed to Vancouver, B.C., Nov. 30 (MP). A male Williamson's Sapsucker Sept. 21 on Hurricane Ridge, Olympic N.P., furnished the first record for the Olympic peninsula (†KK, JT).

KINGBIRDS TO KINGLETS -- Single E. Kingbirds strayed to Everett, Wash., Aug. 21 (J. & J. Thayer) and to Portland, Oreg., Aug. 23 (R. Hanson). They departed their Pitt Meadows breeding outpost e. of Vancouver, B.C., by Sept. 6 (WW). A single W. Kingbird was noted Sept. 21 at Leadbetter Pt., Wash. (SA, FS). **Tropical Kingbirds** came N for the fourth year out of the last 5. One was at Newport, Oreg. Nov. 3-15 (†BC, †DI, †C. Roberts, m.ob. ph. OS), and another was at Colwood, w. of Victoria, V.I., Nov. 14-23 (P. Becker, †RS, †WW, m.ob. ph. MD). Vocalizations were noted in each case. Two Ash-throated Flycatchers strayed to the Vancouver, B.C., area Sept. 12 (†C. Butt, †DJ, E. Keranen), and one to Astoria, Oreg. in mid-November. (DAn). A Hammond's Flycatcher calling Oct. 3 at Cranberry L., Whidbey I., Wash. (SA), and a W. Wood Pewee Sept. 20 on Leadbetter Pt. (SA, FS) were both the latest ever for w. Washington. A **Gray Flycatcher** Aug. 22 at Fort Casey S.P., Whidbey I., was the first for w. Washington (†RSt *et al.*) Cliff Swallows lingered past early September only near Vancouver, B.C., where ten were reported Oct. 31 at Iona and Sea Is. (BK), and five at Reifel I., Nov. 7 (GT). Adult Purple Martins attending young in the nest Sept. 12 at Dugalla Bay, Whidbey I., Wash., were both at a new nesting locality and on a late date for young (ESH, DW *et al.*). A



Tropical Kingbird, Metchosisin area, Vancouver, B.C., Nov. 20, 1982. Photo/M. Daly.

Black-billed Magpie strayed to Saltspring I., n.e. of Sidney, V.I., Sept. 25-28 (†DFr). Clark's Nutcrackers at Tweedsmuir P.P., in w. British Columbia Aug. 12-14 were at the n.w. limit of their range (MD). Three **Black-capped Chickadees** at Mesachie L., near L. Cowichan Sept. 26 (DFr) and four in Saanich Oct. 8 & 12 provided the first records of this species from V.I. (J. & E. Kenwood, †JM). A Boreal Chickadee along the Ptarmigan Ridge Trail on Mt. Baker, Wash., Aug. 15 was w. of its normal N. Cascades range (DK, RC *et al.*). A Mockingbird appeared w. of Silvana, Snohomish Co., Wash., Nov. 20 (†F. Bird), and another was found in Phoenix, Ore. in early November (*fide* MM). Groups of up to eight W. Bluebirds were noted only about Victoria, V.I., at Saddle Mountain S.P., Clatsop Co., Ore. and in their Rogue R. Valley haunts. A single male Ruby-crowned Kinglet was seen Aug. 1 in Metchosisin, V.I. (L. Roberts), well s. of the species' known breeding range in the c. V.I. mountains. Ruby-crowneds returned Sept. 12+ to most locations.

PIPITS THROUGH WARBLERS -- Peak counts for the Water Pipit passage were 200 about Victoria Sept. 15 (J & RS, N. Lovett), 250 at Ocean Shores Sept. 17 (ESH, DW *et al.*), and 1000 on Government I., near Portland, Ore., Oct. 4 (M. Houck). Latest reports of vireos for this season include a Red-eyed Sept. 14 near Vancouver, B.C. (JW), a Warbling Oct. 1 at Tillamook, Ore., (DF, DI), and a Solitary Sept. 23 at Leadbetter Pt. (SA). A Black-and-white Warbler at Burnaby L., e. of Vancouver, B.C., Nov. 11-16 provided the sixth local record (†DA, †S. Howell, †DJ). Another Black-and-white turned up in Salem, Ore., Nov. 20+ (H. Shire, †BC, m.ob.). *Four* Tennessee Warblers were found; singles Sept. 11 on San Juan I., Wash. (†DW, †ESH *et al.*), Sept. 14 at Glide, Douglas Co., Ore. (N. Barrett, R. Maertz, *fide* M. Sawyer), Sept. 30, at Vancouver, B.C. (†BM), the fifth for that area, and Oct. 7 at the N.J.C.R. (†RW). The Washington sightings were the sixth and seventh for that state. A male **Black-throated Blue Warbler** Oct. 10-15 at Cape Meares S.P., Tillamook Co., Ore., furnished only the second record for w. Oregon (†RSm, G. & L. Beaudine). A **Black-throated Green Warbler** (Sept.

12 in Seattle provided the second single person sight record for Washington (†SA). A **Blackburnian Warbler** near Port Orford, Ore. Sept. 4 was the first for w. Oregon (†RSm). A **Chestnut-sided Warbler** Sept. 30, at Ashland, Ore., provided the second fall record for the Region (†D. Stotz). Seven Palm Warblers, a near normal number, were noted Sept. 19+ along the coast from the N.J.C.R. southward. A N. Waterthrush Aug. 12 at Stuie, Tweedsmuir P.P., B.C., was at the w. extremity of its breeding range at this latitude (MD), as were the two Am. Redstarts found there Aug. 13 (MD). Another Am. Redstart Sept. 21 at Leadbetter Pt., Wash., was a vagrant (SA, FS).

BOBOLINKS THROUGH LONGSPURS -- A male Bobolink appeared Aug. 15 at Seattle's Montlake fill (M. Robertson) for only the eighth record for w. Washington. Another fall-plumaged male Bobolink was seen Oct. 20 in C. Saanich, V.I. (†RP). A N. Oriole Sept. 2-3 at Ocean P., Pacific Co., Wash. (RW), was an unusual coastal sighting for this species. A male **Dickcissel** photographed Sept. 26 at a feeder in Saanich, V.I. (T. Zurowski) provided the second record for Vancouver I., and the fourth for British Columbia. Evening Grosbeaks, Purple Finches, Pine Siskins, and Red Crossbills were all widely noted as scarce this fall. Red Crossbills, however, were feeding young Sept. 12 at Deception Pass, Skagit Co., Wash. (ESH, DW *et*

Volume 37, Number 2 217

al.) and Sept. 18-28 on Vashon I., King Co., Wash. (PWM). A large flock of Lesser Goldfinches Oct. 9, at Brookings, Ore., was an unusual report (DI).



Clay-colored Sparrow, N. Vancouver, B.C., Aug. 21, 1982. /Photo M. Daly.

A **Le Conte's Sparrow** seen briefly but clearly Nov. 15 at the Willapa N.W.R., Wash. (†RW), furnished the first record for the Region and the second for the state. A Lark Sparrow at Leadbetter Pt., Sept. 23 (RW) furnished the 11th fall record for w. Washington, all but 3 of which have been during September. A **Sage Sparrow** Sept. 29 near Skamokawa, Wash. (†AR, A. Musche) provided the first fall record for w. Washington. An imm. **Clay-colored Sparrow** was sighted Aug. 21 in N. Vancouver, B.C. (†MD ph., †WW, †BK), for the first coastal record in the Province. Details and a photo were published (MD) in *Discovery* 11:132-133, 1982. Another Clay-colored Sparrow was seen Oct. 6 & 30 at Tofino, V.I. (A. Dorst, ph. to B.C. Prov. Mus.). Seven Harris' Sparrows Oct. 30+ were distributed from near Victoria s. to Roseburg, Oreg. The 22 White-throated Sparrows reported included 12 at 8 locations near Victoria, B.C., alone (*fide* VG). Golden-crowned Sparrows arrived at Victoria Sept. 4 (RS) and on San Juan I., Wash., Sept. 5 (ESH, DW *et al.*). An imm. **Swamp Sparrow** found Sept. 20 near Rockport, Skagit Co., Wash. (†E. Ratoosh, F. Krause, J. Shiflett) furnished the seventh record for the state. A **Smith's Longspur** recorded Oct. 11, 1981, at Pitt Meadows, B.C. (†BK), has been reviewed and accepted by the Vancouver Bird Records Committee (*fide* WW).

CORRIGENDUM -- The Rough-legged Hawk found Oct. 3, 1981, at Sea I., B.C., was seen by Werner & Hilde Hesse (*Am. Birds* 36:209).

INITIALED OBSERVERS AND ABBREVIATIONS, -- with Sub-regional Editors in boldface.--David Ashcroft, Dave Anderson (DAn), Scott Atkinson, David Beaudette, Richard Cannings, Mike Carmody, Barbara Combs, Mark Daly, Elsie & Elzy Eltzroth, **David Fix**, Mike Force, David Fraser (DFr), Jeff Gilligan, Margaret & **Vic Goodwill**, **Bill Harrington-Tweit**, Robert Hay, John Ireland, David Irons, Dale Jensen, Brian Kautesk, Ken Knittie, **Doug Kragh**, Bruce Macdonald, Jo MacGregor, Marjorie Moore, **Harry Nehls**, **Dennis Paulson**, Michael Price, Roy Prior, Alan Richards, Joy & Ron Satterfield (J & RS), Owen Schmidt, Fred Sharpe, Michael &

Teresa Shepard, Dory & Start Smith, Richard Smith (RSm), Richard Stallcup (RSt), Jim Tucker, Keith Taylor, Glen Thomson, **Terry Wahl**, Wayne Weber, Ralph Widrig, Jack Williams, David Wolf. (†) = written description on file; N.J.C.R. = North jetty of the Columbia R., Wash.; S.J.C.R. = South jetty of the Columbia R., Oreg. V.I. = Vancouver I., B.C.

The Winter Season, 1982-83

NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN - INTERMOUNTAIN REGION

/Thomas H. Rogers

It was the winter that never came, in the words of one reporter. What winter there was came mostly in December. After that temperatures were much above normal, with extensive bare ground and open water. Consequently many birds stayed late, wintered farther north or stayed in the mountains, and returned very early. At the same time some species were affected more by food supplies than weather, particularly robins, waxwings, solitaires and the "northern finches." Reporters generally agreed that it was dull bird-watching, with many species not forced to concentrate, because of widespread availability of food.

LOONS AND GREBES -- A total of 28 Com. Loons on the Feb. 14 aerial survey from Priest Rapids Dam to Wells Dam on the Columbia R., indicated a high number wintering there. Highly unusual were single Red-throated Loons at Richland, Wash., Feb. 13 (REW) and at Ochoco L., near Prineville, Ore., Nov. 26 (C & FS). Six Red-necked Grebes on West Arm of Kootenay L., B.C., Feb. 22 appeared extremely early (LVD). A sighting of W. Grebe was made each winter month at Bend, Ore., where the species is rare after November (TC).

PELICANS AND HERONS -- Six White Pelicans were on the Hanford Reach of the Columbia R., n. of Richland, Wash., Dec. 19; a few have wintered there for the last few years (GS). Great Blue Herons wintered in better than usual numbers, owing to the mild winter. About 50 Black-crowned Night Herons wintered at College Place, Wash., for the only report (B.M.A.S.).

WATERFOWL -- This group, not surprisingly, wintered farther n. and in greater numbers than normally. Whistling Swans stayed in high numbers in s. interior British Columbia; 565 were on S. Thompson R., between Kamloops and Chase and 37 were on Shuswap R., near En- derby Jan. 9. The birds' numbers dwindled from 200 Dec. 10 to 94 on Jan. 7 on Pend Oreille L. and R. in n. Idaho. At Malheur N.W.R., Burns, Ore., they stayed well into December with 500 remaining on Dec. 25. Their N migration was well under way in c. and n.e. Washington by mid-February. Trumpeter Swan numbers varied from 98-214 in the Centennial Valley-Red Rock Lakes area near Lima, Montana. A midwinter count of the species in the Harriman S.P. area, Fremont Co., Ida., yielded 320 (I.F.G.). Three Trumpeters returned to Turnbull N.W.R., Cheney, Wash., but the only cygnet to fledge there in 1982 was found dead. The species' population remained stable at Malheur with the largest group sighted at 52. Canada Geese numbered 4670 on Malheur's mid-winter count and an above-normal 26,000 on a 6-county aerial survey in n.e. Washing- ton Jan. 11 (U.S.F. & W.S.). Columbia N.W.R., Othello, Wash., had 22,000 Jan. 1. The n. Idaho count of 4903 Dec. 10 although far below last year's, was still the second highest in recent years (I.F.G.). About 1500 wintered on the S. Thompson and 700 in the Vernon, B.C. area. Twenty that stayed at Libby, Mont., were highly unusual (CW). Ochoco L. had 1000+ Dec. 26. A White-fronted Goose was seen with wintering Canadas at Bonners Ferry, Ida. in February (PSi). Seven Snow Geese were at Turnbull N.W.R., Cheney, Wash., Jan. 10; one was near Odell, Ore., Jan. 15 (DA), and one wintered at L. Helena (GH). The birds arrived in force Feb. 16 in the Malheur-Harney Lakes Basin with 30,000 counted. Turnbull's 20,000+ Mallards Feb. 3 apparently represented an early migration, as did 3000+ Pintail. The peak of 60,000 Mallards at Columbia N.W.R., Dec. 1 dwindled to 5000 in February. That refuge had up to 500 Gadwall and 50 each of Pintail and N. Shoveler;

100 Canvasback apparently wintered there. A few Gadwall wintered at Malheur. Warm weather in January resulted in the highest waterfowl count ever for the Columbia Basin of c. Washington. Duck numbers at Carty Res., Boardman, Ore., reached nearly 145,000 Jan. 9, much lower than in 1982. Metcalf N.W.R., Stevensville, Mont., had 50% more waterfowl than usual and the Bozeman area had better than average numbers. Over 1600 Gadwall were found, for the first time ever, on the n. Idaho mid-winter survey. Mallard, Am. Wigeon and

320 *American Birds*, May-June 1983

Redhead numbers there were well above average and Canvasback at 1500, scaup at 3900 and Com. Merganser at 3145 showed the highest numbers ever. A flock of 200 Green-winged Teal near Kamloops Dec. 12 was unusual (RH). Walla Walla had a (Eur.) Green-winged Teal Dec 7+ along with 50 Green-winged Teal, themselves unusual there (SM). A Eur. Wigeon wintered at Walla Walla (SM) and one was near Odell Dec. 4 (DA). One was at Richland Dec. 12-Jan. 29 (REW) and two were downstream at McNary Dam Jan. 11 (MC). Common Goldeneye were much more numerous than usual at Bend with up to 200 present but Barrow's numbers there reached only 26. Two male Harlequin Ducks were at Trail, B.C., Dec. 10-Feb. 13 (ME). Common Mergansers wintered in much larger numbers at Malheur with up to 213 seen

HAWKS -- Goshawk reports were sparse but more than usual were noted around Rexburg, Ida. Red-tailed Hawks were unusually abundant in the n. Okanagan, B.C., and one at Swan River N.W.R., e. of Bigfork, Mont., Jan. 13 apparently provided the first winter record for that area (EJ). A Ferruginous Hawk was sighted near Buchanan, Ore., in February (CDL) and one was at Miller I., Klamath Falls, Ore., Dec. 11 (SS) for the only reports. The mid-winter Bald Eagle survey indicated that the birds were wintering much farther n. this year in Washington's more easterly counties. Amazing were reports of Ospreys in January and February in Yakima County (Y.A.S.) and in the Bigfork vicinity in late February (*vide* EJ). One was reported,

also surprisingly, on several dates Jan. 10-Feb. 21 along the Kootenai R., from Troy to Libby Dam in Montana (CW). Eight sightings came in for the rare Gyrfalcon and *two were reported trapped by falconers* in w. Montana. Peregrine Falcon sightings were very few, with one, possibly two, noted. Merlin reports were more numerous than normal.

GALLINACEOUS BIRDS -- An excellent count was obtained for Sharp-tailed Grouse, with 122 seen along 8 mi of creek bottoms from Conconully toward Omak, Wash. (JK). A flock of 30-40 Sage Grouse was found 10 mi w. of Ephrata, Wash. (RF).

CRANES AND RAILS -- Both Greater and Lesser Sandhill Cranes were arriving in the Malheur-Burns area Feb. 16. A Greater wintered at Malheur for the second winter record there. The only records of Virginia Rails were of one at Mabton, Wash., Feb. 3 (PM, H & IS) and 3-4 at Enterprise, Ore., Dec. 19 (PS). The Bozeman area had its second winter record for a Sora (J & BR) and one at Salmon, Ida. Dec. 18 was a rarity (HR). American Coot numbered 12,000 on Pend Oreille L. and R., Jan. 7.

SHOREBIRDS THROUGH GULLS -- Klamath Falls had seven Greater and one Lesser yellowlegs in December and early January (SS) and one was at Asotin, Wash., Feb. 20 (C.B.). A Dunlin was at Kamloops Dec. 3-16 (RH) and seven at the Yakima R. mouth, Richland Jan. 1 did not stay, mild weather notwithstanding (REW). A Long-tailed Jaeger was reported on Hanford Atomic Energy Res., Richland Dec. 17 (RJ). The only Glaucous Gull for the period was a first-year bird at Richland Dec. 11 (REW). An ad. Herring Gull at Bend Jan 7 was the county's first (IC) and 19 were at the n. end of Columbia L., s of Radium Hot Springs, B.C., Nov. 11 (MP). Okanagan L., near Vernon had a Mew Gull Dec. 19-Feb. 12 (RH, m.ob.).

OWLS -- The fresh remains of a Barn Owl at Kootenai N.W.R., furnished the latilong's first record. One was a traffic fatality at Swan L. near Vernon Feb. 5 and one was found dead in a field in that vicinity Feb 20 (PR).

The species is rare in interior British Columbia. One near Rexburg, Ida., was a latilong first (DH). Snowy Owls were reported only from e. Washington but numbers were very good, up to eight being seen in the Reardan-Davenport area. A Hawk Owl frequented open spruce forest along the Vermilion R., Kootenay N.P., B.C. (LH). One was seen often at Brouse near Nakusp, B.C., Dec. 5-Jan. 31 (GD) and one was on Silver Star Mt., near Vernon Dec. 30 (SR). South of the border one was identified n.w. of Twisp, Wash., Jan. 6 (GB & SB) and one was sighted near Palmer Jct., Ore., the week of Jan. 20 (*fide* SM). A Burrowing Owl found in a concrete pipe at the Yakima R. mouth Jan 15+ likely wintered (HE). One at Bend Feb. 27 was over a month ahead of the average arrival date (TC). A Barred Owl photographed near Moses L., Dec. 3 made the first record for Grant County and the latilong (BB) Two pairs of Barred Owls were located in the Libby area (CW) and one was noted near Coeur d'Alene, Ida., in January and February (GHa). Single Great Gray Owls appeared at Bozeman, Red Rock Lakes N.W.R., and along Henry's Fork of the Snake R., w of Rexburg. The Saw-whet Owl was described as quite common along Okanagan L. One was found in Clarkston, Wash. (F & TJ *et al.*) and one was heard near Coeur d'Alene (SS).

HUMMINGBIRDS THROUGH SWALLOWS -- A Ø Anna's Hummingbird was at a Klamath Falls feeder Jan. 2 after temperatures the previous week as low as - 6°F., and a 7-in. snowfall (SS). A "yellow-shafted" Com. Flicker was observed in c. Washington Jan. 16 (RF) and a "red-breasted" Yellow-bellied Sapsucker appeared at Bend Dec. 1 (CM). A White-headed Woodpecker wintered near Sisters, Ore (IC) and one was sighted at Chinook Pass, Mr. Rainier N.P., Feb. 14 (Y.A.S.). One was seen near LaGrande, Ore., Jan. 22 (R & JK) A Say's Phoebe at Vernon Dec. 19 was "almost phenomenal" (WC) and the first migrant of that species there Feb. 18 was very early (JB) Another late Say's was near Touchet, Wash., Dec. 12 (DL). No large flocks of Horned Larks were reported, the birds remaining scattered because of mild weather and lack of snow. Violet-green Swallows appeared at Trail Feb. 26. Tree Swallows arrived at Malheur Feb. 25 (avg. date Mar. 10), at Ochoco L., Feb, 24 (3 weeks early) and at Bend Feb. 26. A few were at Turnbull Feb. 27 (avg. for Spokane latilong Mar. 13).

JAYS THROUGH NUTHATCHES -- Two Blue Jays wintered at a Vernon feeder (JQ) and one appeared Jan. 22 at Castlegar, B.C. (BW). The bird at Rupert, Ida. remained to Feb. 28+ (WHS) and one was near Moscow Mt., e. of Moscow, Ida. Dec. 5-18 (RB). The Blue Jay present during the autumn at Richland was seen again only Dec. 21 (REW & PW). A flock was reported before and after Christmas at Rollins on Flathead L., Mont. (RBa). Up to six Scrub Jays were sighted in the Hood R.-Cascade Locks area, Ore., in December and January (DA). Boreal Chickadee numbers were believed up in Kootenay N.P. (LH). Red-breasted Nuthatches seem to show a pattern of decline in s.e. British Columbia, extreme n.w. Montana and n.e. Washington but suggested an upswing in other w. Montana localities. Pygmy Nuthatch numbers in the Spokane area soared while the Red-breasted's numbers plunged.

WRENS AND MOCKINGBIRDS -- Bewick's Wren continued its invasion of the Walla Walla area, being seen regularly (B.M.A.S.) The bird at Kamiah, Ida., was seen again Dec. 8 (MM) and three were sighted at Hellgate S.P., s. of Lewiston, Ida., Feb. 26 (RB & MK). A Rock Wren was near Little Goose Dam on the Snake R., Columbia Co., Wash., Dec. 5 (B.M.A.S.) and Vernon had one Jan. 29-Feb. 28 (JG). A Mockingbird was seen frequently Dec. 16-Feb. 15 at Kamloops (RH) and one photographed at L. Windermere s. of Radium Hot Springs Jan. 8-Feb. 27 was the first for the East Kootenay District (LH).

THRUSHES -- Most of the 5000 Am. Robins that descended upon Bend in November and feasted on juniper berries left in early February Townsend's Solitaires there had three times last year's numbers. Flocks of 500+ Am. Robins, perhaps from Bend, were in Walla Walla in February. Conversely, robins and solitaires were scarce at Malheur, where the juniper food was in short supply. In Idaho robins wintered in abnormally high numbers at Rexburg, feeding on abundant food in junipers and mountain ash trees, but at Mountain Home and Salmon they were absent until mid- and late January, when large numbers moved in. A high robin population at Bozeman found an excellent

mountain ash berry supply. Only moderate numbers wintered at Spokane and Yakima. Extremely few Varied Thrushes were reported. A remarkably early Hermit Thrush was at Bend Feb. 16 (JS). Bend had record numbers of Mountain and W. bluebirds. The latter moved on by mid-January but the Mountains remained until mid-February. A few Westerns apparently wintered at Penticton (D & PN). In Washington Tumtum had one Jan. 17 and Peola two Jan. 21. A very early Mountain Bluebird was at Helena Feb. 19 and another was at Cedar Cr., e. of Colville, Wash., Feb. 27. Townsend's Solitaire numbers at Bend were triple last year's.

Volume 37, Number 3 321

KINGLET'S AND WAXWINGS -- Golden-crowned Kinglet numbers appeared high in Kootenay N.P., and in the Spokane area but the species was not mentioned elsewhere. A Ruby-crowned Kinglet wintered at a Rupert feeder (WHS), one was sighted near Rexburg Jan. 29 (DH) and a few were in the Yakima area (Y.A.S.). Bohemian Waxwings were scarce in e. Washington, where the excellent mountain ash berry crop was virtually untouched. The s. Okanagan also had low numbers, except for Penticton, which had flocks of 1500-2000 from mid-January thru mid-February. North Idaho had moderate numbers. They put in only a few appearances in s. Idaho, the most notable being 500 at Rexburg Feb. 5 and a large flock at Salmon Feb. 17. Some 400-500 reached LaGrande, Ore. They were abundant in the Columbia R. valley around Radium Hot Springs and were seen often at Trail. Numbers were about normal at Fortine and Bozeman but below normal at Helena. Cedar Waxwings, on the contrary, showed up in better than average numbers; Yakima even had a flock of 200!

SHRIKES THROUGH BLACKBIRDS -- Loggerhead Shrikes were more common than the Northern at Malheur, an unusual situation, and two at Grays Lake N.W.R., Ida. Dec. 26 were surprising. Many N. Shrikes apparently took advantages of snowless fields for hunting in the Chewelah, Wash. vicinity (SZ) but the birds were very scarce at Klamath Falls and numbers

were down at Spokane. An amazing 54 Yellow-rumped Warblers on the Yakima CBC and 30 there Feb. 14 attested to the mild weather, as did up to 20 in the Clarkston-Asotin, Wash., vicinity (LL, CV, PS, MK) and one at Ft. Boise W.M.A., Ida. Jan. 1 (DT). A Brewer's Blackbird at Fortine Dec. 24 & 27 was a rarity (WW). An apparently authentic report of two male Brown-headed Cowbirds at Twin Lakes n. of Rathdrum, Ida. Feb. 27, was most remarkable (MS).

FINCHES -- Evening Grosbeaks made very few appearances and in small numbers nearly everywhere. However flocks were reported at feeders along the Kootenai R., Bonner Co., Ida. and in the Swan R. valley e. of Bigfork. Skiers reported them at 6000 ft in the mountains around the Okanogan Valley. Cassin's Finches were reported only at Red Rock Lakes and in the Swan R. valley. Three House Finches appeared at Libby in late December for the first sighting ever and stayed through the winter (HH). Many were at Stevensville, Mont. (CP). Pine Grosbeaks apparently stayed mostly at higher elevations. A few were in the s. Okanogan but more were seen in ski areas of surrounding mountains. They were found at Big Mountain ski area, Whitefish, Mont., and were common at Red Rock Lakes. The usual large flocks of Gray-crowned Rosy Finches did not materialize. The largest group was a mixed flock with Black Rosy Finches at a feeder near Hailey, Ida. (JRu). Selah, Wash., had a very few Gray-crowned (Y.A.S.) and small numbers were reported near Rogers' Pass at the Continental Divide between Lincoln and Simms, Mont. (LM) for the only other sightings. Common Redpoll appearances were rare. The birds were "extremely scarce" in the s. Okanogan, Spokane's CBC had 17 and Helena's CBC, one. The Swan R. valley had the species for a few days in January. Pine Siskins went unreported in e. Oregon and Washington except for 50+ near Lyle, Wash. Western Montana localities had good numbers; an excellent cone crop at Bozeman was the attraction there. In s. interior British Columbia they were "quite plentiful" at Nakusp and other forest localities but rare elsewhere. Red Crossbills virtually shunned the w. part of the Region, except for Spokane and the Blue Mts. of s.e. Washington and n.e. Oregon, with a good cone crop, but concentrated in large numbers around Helena and Bozeman, with record CBC counts. Red Rock Lakes had them commonly. A few White-winged

Crossbills were found in s. British Columbia in spruce-subalpine fir habitat.

SPARROWS -- A Rufous-sided Towhee wintered at a Vernon feeder (JB) and one frequented a Walla Walla feeder until late February (B.M.A.S.). One was reported at Yakima Dec. 18 and Feb. 20 (Y.A.S.) for the only other report. At least two Savannah Sparrows were sighted at Umatilla N.W.R., Ore., Jan. 13 (MC) and one was near Klamath Falls Dec. 26 (SS). An early Sage Sparrow was on Rattle-snake Mt., w. of Richland Feb. 13 (REW) and the birds arrived at Malheur Feb. 25. Dark-eyed Juncos hit an all time high on the Bozeman CBC. Tree Sparrows were scarcely reported. The largest numbers were 30-40 in the Winchester Wasteway-Dodson Road area w. of Moses L., and 25 near Enterprise, Ore. Three were near Klamath Falls, where they are rare, Dec. 26-early January (SS). Richland had three Harris' Sparrows Dec. 14 (HE), Klamath Falls had one sighting (SS) and two wintered at Vernon feeders (*fide* JG). One appeared at Boise (KP) and one wintered at a feeder w. of Bozeman. The only White-throated Sparrows were one in January at Idaho Falls (RL), one n. of Klamath Falls Jan. 12-30 (SS) and two on the Harrison, Ida. CBC Single Fox Sparrows were found on CBCs at Spokane and Yakima, and lone Lincoln's Sparrows appeared at Umatilla N.W.R., Jan. 13 (MC) and at Mabton, Wash., Feb. 3 (PM, H & IS). Lapland Longspurs were scarce except for 500 near Worden, Ore., Dec. 26 (SS). The only other sightings were of one-two wintering at a feeder near McCammon, Ida (DT) and one at Fortine Dec. 16, where it was a rarity (WW). Snow Buntings were reported at very few localities. In Idaho a "large flock" was in the Camas Prairie area and a few appeared at Grays L., and Fairfield. In Montana the Helmville-Ovando area had 800 Feb. 12 (L & ST) and Red Rock Lakes noted the species commonly. Kamloops had 200+ Jan. 29.

CORRIGENDA -- Penticton is in British Columbia, not Alberta (see AB 33:198). At the National Bison Range Great Horned Owls, not Barred, were nesting. Barred Owls were only suspected of nesting there (AB 36:876).

OBSERVERS CITED -- David Anderson, Sig Bakke, (RBa) Rod Barclay, John Baumbrough, (B.M.A.S.) Blue Mountain Aud. Soc., George Brady, Bob Braunwart, (RB) Ruth Bull, (C.B.) Canyon Birders, Marion Corder, Walt Cowan, Tom Crabtree, Gary Davidson, Maurice Ellison, Howard Ennor, Ron Friesz, James Grant, Larry Halverson, (GHa) Gertie Hansen, Hilmer Hansen, (GH) George Holton, Rick Howie, Donell Hunter, (I.F.G.) Idaho Fish & Game Dept., Ray Johnson, Elly Jones, Fred & Todd Joyce, (JK) Jerry King, Merlene Koliner, (R & JK) Rick & Jan Krabbe, Louise LaVoie, Don Lee, Rho Lehse, C.D. Littlefield, Marlene McKee, Larry Malone, Phil Mat-tocks, Craig Miller, Shirley Muse, Doug & Phyllis Noel, Marian Porter, Colleen Powell, Kerry Provance, John Quirk, Phil Ranson, Hadley Roberts, (JR) Jack and Bob Rumely, Sylvia Runyan, (JRu) Jeff Ruprecht, Hubert & Ingrid Schwabl, Jack Schwartz, Gary Scriven, W H Shillington, (PSi) Paul Sieracki, Marge Smidt, Christie & Fay Steck, (PS) Paul Sullivan, Steve Summers, Dan Taylor, Larry & Sue Thompson, (U.S.F. & W.S.) U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Linda Van Damme, Carol VandeVoorde, Bob Wadey, Winton Weydemeyer, Carl Wolf, Pat & Robert E. Woodley, (Y.A.S.) Yakima Audubon Society, Steve Zender. Reporters for national wildlife refuges and national parks Columbia, James Rees; Grays Lake, E.C. Barney; Kootenai, Larry Napier; Malheur, C.D. Littlefield; Metcalf, Colleen Powell; Red Rock Lakes, Terry McEneaney; Turnbull, J.H. Hagan; Kootenay N P, Larry Halverson & Marian Porter. Shirley G. Sturts reported for Idaho Fish & Game Dept., and Ron Friesz, Jerry Hickman and Steve Zender for Washington Dept. of Game.

The Winter Season, 1982-83

NORTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION
/Philip W. Mattocks, Jr. and Eugene S. Hunn

This winter was even warmer and wetter than usual. January and February in Seattle and Portland were 5°F above the long term averages. There was not one 24-hour period of below freezing temperature at the

Seattle, Portland, or Medford, Oregon, weather stations. Average monthly rainfall for these three stations was 1.2 inches greater than usual. Probably correlated with this weather were the many reports of lingering pelicans, shorebirds, swallows, and warblers, and a near absence of Mountain Chickadees, redpolls, and Gray-crowned Rosy Finches. There were very few Snowy Owls present, and Evening Grosbeaks and Varied Thrushes apparently stayed at higher altitudes. Flocks

Volume 37, Number 3 329

of Red Crossbills were found only in an area roughly centered around the Olympic Mountains.

LOONS THROUGH HERONS -- Single Yellow-billed Loons were found Dec. 4-Jan. 3 at Pt. Roberts, Wash. (DPn, BK *et al.*), Dec. 4- Feb. 20 at N. Saanich, V.I. (KT *et al.*), Dec. 5 at Dungeness, Wash. (D & SS), and Dec. 19 near Bremerton, Wash. (CBC). This low number of sightings has become normal for the last several winters. Single Short-tailed Shearwaters were seen Dec. 7 off Clover Pt., Victoria (KT), and Dec. 15 between Port Angeles and Victoria (MC). Others were found dead Dec. 1 near Newport, Oreg., (B. Loefel), and Jan. 23 on Sunset Beach, Oreg. (HN). A Buller's Shearwater was found dead on the beach Jan. 16 at Ocean Shores, Wash., for the first winter record for the state (AV, *Burke Mus., Univ. of Wash.). Another Buller's Shearwater and three N. Fulmars were seen off Coos Bay, Oreg. Dec. 11 (M. Graybill, *fide* AMc). Following the high numbers of last fall, a few Brown Pelicans stayed in the Region later than usual. An immature was seen on Coos Bay until Jan. 4 (AMc), and another was at Newport Jan. 9 (R. Bayer). Farther n., single immatures were at Grays Harbor, Wash., Dec. 18, (EH *et al.*), and between the Nisqually N.W.R., and Port Orchard, Wash., Dec. 5-23, (J. Klein, R. Webber, S. Hall, m.ob.). An immature found dead near Coos Bay Dec. 19 had been banded May 3, 1982, on W. Anacapa I., Calif. (AMc). A single White Pelican was seen Dec. 11 along the Siuslaw R., at Florence, Oreg. (M. Forrester, M. Markley, ph.). Two or three Snowy Egrets have wintered annually at Coos Bay for many

years. This year at least five, and possibly seven, Snowies spent the season around Pony Slough at Coos Bay (A. Contreras, AMc). A Great Egret wintered again on Capitol L., in Olympia, Wash. (BHT, m.ob.). The only Cattle Egrets reported were single birds at Reifel I., B.C., Dec. 4-5 (BK, DK *et al.*), at Masset, Queen Charlotte I., Dec. 18 (CBC), and throughout the season at Coos Bay (AMc). A group of 19- 25 Black-crowned Night Herons wintered at Hoover's Pond, n. of Medford (MjM).

WATERFOWL -- Up to 1500 Whistling Swans wintered in the Forest Grove, Oreg. area (JEv, J. Gatchett). More than usual of this species moved into the Willamette Valley this year, with a corresponding decrease to the n. along the Columbia R. (HN). There were also many more Trumpeter Swans reported than usual this winter from w. Oregon. Relatively large groups of 17-20 were at Maple Grove Jan. 15 and Feb. 19 (A & DMa, E & EE), and 14 on Meares L., near Tillamook Jan. 25 (*fide* HN). Pintails were concentrated in the Bellingham, Washington-Vancouver, B.C. area. There were 11,000+ around Bellingham Jan. 2 (CBC) and 6-7000 on nearby Boundary Bay, B.C., Feb. 2-6 (JI, DK *et al.*). Gadwall were likewise concentrated in Seattle, with 1000+ there Jan. 1 (CBC). There were 10 sightings this season of Eur. Green-winged Teal; from Vancouver and Crescent Beach, B.C., Saanich (2) and N. Saanich, Vancouver I., Seattle (3), and Sauvie I., and Baskett Slough N.W.R., Oreg. This has become the normal number of sightings of this form the last few years. Up to 13 Cinnamon Teal stayed at Forest Grove, Oreg. until at least Dec. 26 (VT *et al.*), and eight, including three males, were still in Vancouver, B.C., Dec. 27 (MMc). Single male Cinnamon Teals were on Esquimalt Lagoon Jan. 2 (†J. MacGregor), for the first winter record for s. Vancouver I., and at Boundary L., B.C., Jan. 16 (W. & H. Hesse). The first apparent spring migrants were found Feb. 7 in Eugene, Oreg., (BC), and Feb. 12, in Renton, Wash., (EH, G. Gerds). The subad. male Tufted Duck found Nov. 20 on Green L., in Seattle was seen with an ad. male Dec. 23 (EH *et al.*). These two birds, and probably a third individual (†DB), were seen there through early March (m.ob.). Two Oldsquaw were at Netarts Bay, Oreg. Dec. 12 (VT, HN), and another was 3 mi upstream from the mouth of the Umpqua R., Dec. 18 (D. Rogers, DF). An ad. male King Eider was found Feb. 13 on Sequim

Bay, Wash., († St. Evans, Si. Evans) for the 12th record for the state. King Eiders have now been found in Washington in 6 out of the last 7 seasons (October-May). Half of the records have been during January-February, and all but 3 have been in the Port Angeles-Pt. Roberts-Bellingham area.

VULTURES THROUGH FALCONS -- Three Turkey Vultures over Shaw I., San Juan Co., Wash., Feb. 6 were very early (DPn, JEr). The next reports were Feb. 22-25 at N. Saanich, Vancouver I. (H. Bauer), at Dewatto Bay along Hood Canal, Wash. (TB), and over Talent, Oreg. (MjM). A rough count is available of 40± White-tailed Kites wintering this year in w. Oregon. Ten of these were in the Rogue R. valley (MjM), and nine in the Tillamook area (HN). Numbers at the roost amid sapling-dotted grassland around Fern Ridge Res., near Eugene, have sharply declined from previous years, perhaps owing to vegetation change in that area (DF). North of the Columbia R., the Leadbetter Pt. birds were seen Dec. 5 & 19 (RW, DA), a single kite was near Winlock, s. of Chehalis, Dec. 18 (B. Forgey), and two were on the White-tailed Deer N.W.R., near Skamokawa Dec. 13-27 (D. Wallace, †AR, AMu). Reports of accipiters and small falcons were at normal levels. An ad. **Red-shouldered Hawk** wintered n. to the Oaks Bottom area of Port- land, (K. Vanderhout, G. & K. Cooper, m.ob.). An Osprey was seen Jan. 18 on the n. spit at Coos Bay (R. Lawrence, *fide* AMc) for one of few winter records there. *Five* Gyrfalcons were noted in early December in C. Saanich, and three were there through January and February (M. Lee, KT, m.ob.). One Gyrfalcon wintered in Delta. B.C. (BK *et al.*), and two in the n.w. Washington area (TW). Single sightings were made at Dungeness spit (EH) and Leadbetter Pt. (RW), Wash. This is more than the usual number of reports. Several Prairie Falcons in the Willamette and Rogue R. valleys of Oregon were normal, but one on the Samish flats of Washington Dec. 5 (J. Duemmel) was unusual.

SHOREBIRDS -- A **Mountain Plover** was seen Feb. 3 along Drift Cr., just s. of Lincoln City, on the n. Oregon coast (P. Pickering, ph.). The bird was seen again Feb. 21-26 (DPr, BC, E & EE *et al.*) and provided the fifth record for the state. Eleven Snowy Plovers were present on Bayocean spit, Oreg. Feb. 19 (HN). A

single Am. Golden Plover lingered until Dec. 11 at Pony Slough, Coos Bay (AMc). Single Ruddy Turnstones were found in Ambleside P., Vancouver, B.C., Jan. 3 & Feb. 2-4 (DK *et al.*), at Penn Cove, Whidbey I., Wash., Jan. 16 (TW), on rocks off Oak Bay, Vancouver I., Feb. 1 (Dfr), on Dungeness spit, Wash., Feb. 5 (D & SS), and at Hylebos, Wash., Feb. 26 (M. Cooper, TB). Three Ruddies were on Dungeness spit Feb. 7 (D & SS). Coos Bay, Oreg., and Willapa Bay, Wash., typically shelter wintering flocks of large shorebirds. This year 22 Willets spent the season at Kentuck Slough, Coos Bay, and a Long-billed Curlew stayed at Pony Slough and on the N. Bend airport until Jan. 8 (AMc *et al.*). At the mouth of the North R., and at nearby Tokeland on Willapa Bay there were 10-35 Willets Dec. 20-Feb. 21 (ME, CC), and 78 Long-billed Curlews Feb. 6 (TB). Eleven Long-billed Curlews were found there

330 *American Birds*, May-June 1983



Mountain Plover, Siletz Bay, Drift Creek, Oreg. Feb. 3, 1983. Photo/ P. Pickering.

Feb. 21, with 46 Marbled Godwits and a Whimbrel (CC). Elsewhere one-two Willets and Whimbrels wintered on Ediz Hook, Port Angeles, Wash. (MC, D & SS), two Willets wintered on Yaquina Bay, Oreg. (ES), and five Whimbrels were in Saanich Dec. 13 (KT). A shorebird census Jan. 15-16 along the ocean beach from Moclips, Wash., to the N. jetty of the

Columbia R., excluding only some of the tip of Leadbetter Pt., yielded 49,350 Dunlin, 5372 Sanderlings, 1065 Black-bellied Plovers, 12 Least Sandpipers, and a most unexpected 2494 W. Sandpipers (CC, M. Finger, J. Buchanon). Six Red Knots were still at Grays Harbor, Wash., Dec. 18 (CBC), and a single Red Knot was found Feb. 22 along Drift Cr., s. of Lincoln City, Oreg. (MH, DI, J. Krabbe). There are few winter records for the Region. The last traces of the Red Phalarope movement this fall were single individuals far inland at the Carson, Wash., fish hatchery Dec. 16 (J. Davis, *fide* HN), at Glide, e. of Roseburg, Dec. 20 (KK), and in Medford, Oreg., in late December-early January (MJM *et al.*). Along the coast there was one Red Phalarope at Clover Pt., Victoria, Dec. 17 (KT), four on the Grays Harbor CBC, Dec. 18, and a few found dead on the n. Oregon beaches through Jan. 8 (HN).

JAEGERS THROUGH OWLS -- A Pomarine Jaeger was photo-graphed at the S. jetty of the Columbia R., Jan. 8 & 12 (P. Muller, ES) for one of very few winter records. About 14 Glaucous Gulls, a slightly lower number than usual, were reported. There were $40 \pm$ Herring Gulls, 20 Thayer's Gulls, four W. Gulls, and numerous Glaucous-winged x W. Gull hybrids present Jan. 19 among the 2-3000 gulls concentrated this winter along the Willamette R., in Eugene, Oreg. (DFi, S. Heinl). An ad. **Franklin's Gull** seen Feb. 12 at Clover Pt., Victoria (†Dfr) furnished the first winter record for Vancouver I. An ad. Little Gull was seen off West Pt., Seattle Jan. 10 (B. Doe). Ten Ancient Murrelets lingered at Boiler Bay, n. of Newport, Oreg. to Feb. 22 (DI). None was seen on a Feb. 6 boat trip through the Washington San Juan Is. (TW). A group of 25 Rhinoceros Auklets, all in breeding plumage, were gathered in Friday Harbor, Wash., Feb. 6 (DPn, JEr). One Rhinoceros Auklet was in Burrard Inlet, Vancouver, B.C., where the species is rare, Jan. 28 (DJ). A very rare Parakeet Auklet was found dead on the beach at Ocean Shores, Wash.? Jan. 16, but the specimen was too far gone to be saved (AV, *fide* DPn). Of the 11 Monk Parakeets counted on the Portland CBC, ten were found together and one was in a flock of blackbirds. Another Monk Parakeet was back at West Pt., in Seattle Jan. 15 (EH, DB). The high count for Snowy Owls at one locality was only three, along Boundary Bay on several dates through the season

(MMc *et al.*). Two Snowies wintered at Ocean Shores, Wash. (B. Morse, E. Ratoosh), and one was on the Skagit flats, Wash., until Feb. 21 (MC *et al.*). The one at Leadbetter Pt., Dec. 5 was the farthest s. (RW). Banded Owls were present throughout the season at established locations in Victoria and Vancouver, B.C. Another Banded Owl was found in Bellingham, Dec. 26-27 (TW, ph. J. Mock), for the first record there. Two Spotted Owls were seen near the town of Rogue River, Oreg., Feb. 13 *fide* MjM). Single Long-eared Owls, unusual in the Region, were found on Sea I., near Vancouver, B.C., Dec. 5 & 19 (m.ob., ph. E. Gobel), in Discovery P., Seattle, Jan. 1 (N. Kroening, †E. Peaslee *et al.*), at the Nisqually N.W.R., Wash., Jan. 22 (CC *et al.*), and in Scoggins Valley P., near Forest Grove, Oreg., Feb. 19+ (VT. JEv *et al.*).

HUMMINGBIRDS THROUGH GNATCATCHERS

-- Another high count of Anna's Hummingbirds was set for the Seattle CBC, and numbers appeared to be still increasing in the Vancouver, B.C., area also (*fide* DK). Rufous Hummingbirds arrived on schedule in s.w. Oregon Feb. 12-16 (MH, AMc). Pileated Woodpeckers were more widely reported than usual. A Black Phoebe at Roseburg, Oreg., Jan. 8 (KK) was slightly n. of the species' usual range, as were the five Say's Phoebes found this winter near Glide, e. of Roseburg (KK). More than usual Skylarks were singing at American Camp, San Juan I., Wash., Feb. 4 (DPn, JEr). A drastic decline in the rabbit population inhabiting the same hillsides is believed to be improving the habitat for skylarks. An early vanguard flock of 16 Tree Swallows and one Violet-green was in Medford Feb. 7 (MjM), and three Tree Swallows were at L. Tennant, near Bellingham, Wash., Feb. 13 (G. Walker, *fide* TW). Widespread arrival of Tree Swallows occurred in w. Oregon Feb. 16- 26, and in s. Vancouver I. and Vancouver, B.C., Feb. 26-28. A single Violet-green Swallow was either very late or very early at Swan L., Saanich, Dec. 18-24 & Jan. 16 (M. Elston, C. Trotter, W. & W. Weber). Four Barn Swallows lingered at Minto Island P., Salem, Oreg., until Dec. 13 (D. Marklieb). A Barn Swallow seen near Eugene Feb. 12 (BC) could possibly have been a wintering bird. Scrub Jays were seen e. to the Columbia R. gorge towns of Cascade Locks Dec. 4 and Hood River Jan. 15 (DA). Single Black-billed Magpies were sighted Feb. 11 at Admiral's Cove, Whidbey I. (J. Hopkins, *fide* T.

Spencer), and Feb. 22 at New Brighton P., Vancouver, B.C. (AG). Two Black-billed Magpies were seen Jan. 27 along the Skagit R., at Marble- mount, Wash. (L. Mills). Single Wrentits were observed Feb. 3 at Lookout Point Res., in the Cascade foothills 18 mi s.e. of Eugene (DFi), and Feb. 13 in McDonald Forest n.w. of Corvallis, Oreg., (U. & V. Kügimagi, *fide* E & EE). The Mockingbird at Phoenix, Oreg., stayed through the season (MjM). Three Mountain Bluebirds wintered along Boundary Bay, B.C. (JI, DJ, m.ob.). Single Townsend's Solitaires in W. Vancouver, B.C., Jan. 5 (C. Butt), in Burien, Wash., Jan. 8 (M. Bruce), and in Victoria Jan. 21 (DFr) were the only ones reported. The second record for Washington of the **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** was established Feb. 21 & Mar. 15 at Bottle Beach, Ocosta, e. of Westport (†CC, N. Chappell, P. Martin). Previous Washington and British Columbia records have all been in late November.

WARBLERS THROUGH SPARROWS -- The **Black-and-white Warbler**

found late last fall in Salem, Oreg. survived to at least Jan. 29 (B. Lucas, A & DMA, m.ob.) for the first winter record for the state away from the immediate coast. An Orange-crowned Warbler wintered at Swan L., Saanich (KT *et al.*). There were 7 other scattered sightings of Orange-crowns in the Vancouver, B.C. and Puget Sound area this season. A Nashville Warbler was found Dec. 18 at Coos Bay (†DFi). There were 2 sightings of Townsend's Warblers in N. Vancouver, B.C., and three on s. Vancouver I., all during December. Farther s., the species was found in the usual numbers. The only Palm Warbler reported was at Leadbetter Pt., Jan. 3 (RW). Single Com. Yellow-throats were seen Dec. 27 at Reifel I., B.C. (WW), a male Jan. 20 on Sauvie I. (P. Maslen, *fide* HN), and a female Feb. 23 at the Nisqually N.W.R., Wash. (EH, H. Willoughby). The latter provided the first February record for Washington. An imm. male **Hooded Oriole** appeared Dec. 23+ at a hummingbird feeder in Coos Bay (C. Shaeffer, AMc *et al.*). Amazingly, this bird was joined by a second imm. male Hooded, Jan. 22+, and by a female N. "Bullock's" Oriole, Feb. 4+, (†DPr, BC, ph. O. Schmidt). This represented the fifth winter record for the Hooded Oriole for Oregon. Evening Grosbeaks were virtually absent from the lowlands through- out. The only flocks reported were at Manning P.P., in January (MMc *et al.*), and near timberline on Mt. Hood Dec. 12 (M. Smith). Red

Crossbills were noted as common and widespread on s. Vancouver I., more common than usual on nearby San Juan I., at Dungeness, and numerous on Vashon I., near Olympia, and on Mr. St. Helens, Wash. However, the species was very scarce in the Seattle, Bellingham, and

Volume 37, Number 3 331



Two imm. male Hooded Orioles, Coos Bay, Oreg. Feb. 19, 1983. Photo/ O.L Schmidt

Vancouver, B.C. areas, and in w. Oregon generally. A well-described flock of $50 \pm$ White-winged Crossbills was observed Dec. 13 in the town of Grays River, along the Columbia R. Wash. (†AR. AMu). The only other reports this season were of 4-20 birds farther n. and at much higher altitude in Manning P.P., B.C., Jan. 21-Feb. 5 (MMc, DK *et al.*). Reports of Pine Siskin abundance generally paralleled those of Red Crossbills. A **Vesper Sparrow** found Dec. 26 in Kent, Wash. (EH, N. Cone) furnished the first December record for the state. A **Clay-colored Sparrow** was sighted Dec. 27 in Delta (D. Wilson *et al.*) for only the third record

for s.w. British Columbia. The bird stayed into early March (m. ob., ph. AG). Fourteen Harris' Sparrows were reported, from Medford, to Saanich, and the Serpentine Fen, s. of Vancouver, B.C., including 3 widely separated sightings in w. Washington. Reports of White-throated Sparrows were numerous as usual only from the interior valleys of w. Oregon (DFi, MjM.HN *et al.*). Farther n., there were but 2 sightings in w. Washington, two in the Vancouver, B.C., area, and eight on s. Vancouver I. An ad. **Swamp Sparrow** was found at L. Sammamish S.P., Issaquah, Wash., Jan. 2 (†EH). The bird was seen through Mar. 9 (†ME, PM *et al.*) for the ninth record for the state, and the second for this park. An adult, and an imm. Swamp Sparrow were found Feb. 4-5 at Finley N.W.R., s. of Corvallis, Oreg., (MH, †DFi, BC).

CORRIGENDUM -- Please delete the report of a Poor-will at Oak Bay, Vancouver 1, Sept. 22, 1979 (AB 34:193) at the request of the observer.

INITIALED OBSERVERS and Abbreviations, with Sub-Regional Editors in boldface. David Anderson, Dave Beaudette, Thais Bock, Mike Carmody, Chris Chappell, Barbara Combs. Mark Egger. Elsie & Elzy Eltzroth, Jim Erckmann (JEr), Joe Evanich (JEv), **David Fix** (DFi), David Fraser (DFr). **Vic Goodwill**, Al Grass. **Bill Harrington-Tweit** (BHT), Matt Hunter, John Ireland, David Irons, Dale Jensen, Brian Kautesk. Ken Knittie, **Doug Kragh**, Arnie & Debbie Martin (A & DMa), Alan McGie (AMc), Mike McGrenere (MMc), **Marjorie Moore** (MjM), Ann Musche (AMu), **Harry Nehls**, Dick Palmer (DPr), **Dennis Paulson** (DPn), Alan Richards, Ed Seely, Dory & Start Smith, Keith Taylor, Verta Teale, Ann Vander Geld, **Terry Wahl**, Wayne Weber, Ralph Widrig. (†) = written documentation on file.

Spring Migration, 1983

**NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN-
INTERMOUNTAIN REGION**

/Thomas H. Rogers

March was warmer and wetter than normal in most parts of the Region, continuing the abnormally warm winter. An exception was the mountain areas, which were cold: Red Rock Lakes, Grays Lake and Fortine, and Missoula and Helena, which were decidedly dry. April in general was mild and dry. May was wet in a belt running from Walla Walla through Boise, Missoula and Helena but dry to the north and northwest. Helena had a disastrous late snowstorm May 9-10 that injured and killed many passerines and destroyed nests. The last ten days of the month were very hot and dry. Many reporters considered the migration dull and poor, with low numbers of species and individuals. Waterfowl appeared to have been diverted from normal migration patterns by abundant water supplies, making for high water levels and many more available ponds. Conversely, water covering mudflats made shorebirds especially hard to find, except in the Bend, Oregon area, where the extra water was a boon to them. Some reporters noted early arrivals during mild periods; others noted no abnormal schedules. Several suggested that stormy weather to the south disrupted the migration timetable. Jim Grant's comment that it was a mixed-up migration period without much rhyme or reason may be the best description. To explain it all would no doubt require far more information than is available. The sudden death of P.D. (Dave) Skaar of a heart attack came as a terrific shock. He leaves powerful and indelible strokes upon Montana's ornithological picture and will be deeply missed.

LOONS AND GREBES -- Very few Com. Loons were seen on lakes in the Fortine, Mont., vicinity, reflecting the declining breeding population as human presence increases (WW). A **Yellow-billed Loon** was reported on Osoyoos L., in extreme s. British Columbia (*vide* BK). Red-necked Grebe nesting with a breeding population of 24 was underway in May at Kootenai N.W.R., Bonnets Ferry, Ida. A Horned Grebe stopped at Mountain Home Res., Ida. May 7 (KP). Eared Grebes numbered 3600 on Stinking L., Malheur N.W.R., Burns, Ore., Apr. 13 and 925 were on Boca L., there May 6. Nicola L., Nicola. B.C. had 125 W. Grebes Apr. 29 (RH).

PELICANS THROUGH IBISES -- White Pelicans numbered 400 at Malheur at period's end. Several islands there were modified to encourage nesting, but none was observed. Up to 100 were at Potholes Res., Moses L., Wash., in April and American Falls Res., Ida., had 150 Apr. 21. No Cattle Egrets were reported. A Great Egret near Killarney L., w. of Rose L., was n. Idaho's second (AB. RP, TW). Two-three Least Bitterns were heard at Upper Klamath L., Ore., May 22-23 (FI, A & MA). A White-faced Ibis appeared w. of Bozeman, Mont. Apr. 22 (J & PH).

WATERFOWL -- Whistling Swans peaked at 15,546 at Malheur. Their movement pattern apparently shifted in the s.e. British Columbia/ n.w. Montana/n. Idaho/n.e. Washington areas. Few appeared on L. Windermere, B.C., and on lakes s. of Spokane, and the n. Idaho count was only one-half of last year's 1000. On the other hand, 950 stopped near Chewelah. Wash., Mar. 6 and numbers were up at Fortine with up to 94 seen on a lake with nearby ranch buildings and a well-travelled highway. A pair of Mute Swans nested on Swan L., near Vernon, B.C., the first breeding record for the area (JGr). Peak goose and duck counts at Columbia N.W.R., Othello, Wash., were up somewhat from 1982 but dropped at Turnbull, supposedly because of availability of more small ponds. The decided drop at Malheur was credited to budget constraints, which confined counts to the refuge itself. Even at that Malheur reported 3160 Canada Geese, 47,830 Snow Geese, 2500 Ross' Geese, 18,000+ Pintails, 7000+ Am. Wigeons, 7210 Ruddy Ducks and 885 Com. Mergansers. Canada Goose numbers were extremely low in the Coeur d'Alene drainage of n. Idaho, only 2500 passing through compared to the usual 10,000, but their numbers were up at Fortine. Twelve Cackling Geese were with Canadas s. of Spokane Mar. 26 (JA). Notable were 20 Snow Geese on Oden Bay, Fend Oreille L., Ida. (PHa) as were six blue-phase Ross' Geese with white-phase birds s. of Burns, Ore., Apr. 18 (MStL). A Ross' apparently wintered in the La Grande, Ore. vicinity (B & CC, P & REW). Sightings of single Eur. Wigeons were made at Coeur d'Alene L. (GH), Kootenai N.W.R. (PS), s. of Spokane (JA), near Burns (MA), Crowsnest Pass e. of Fernie, B.C. (MO'S, CT), and in the Kamloops-Vernon, B.C. area (JQ, RH).

Unusual for the latter area were two Wood Duck sightings, one near Fernie, the other near Sparwood (DR, DF, HM). Also of note in that area were nine Ring-necked Ducks n. of Elkford for the first records there (DF, MW, JL). A pair of Greater Scaup was at Miller I., Klamath L., Ore., May 16 (MA) and two males were at Boise May 8 (MC). Common Goldeneye had young in the water at Fortine soon after mid-May. Males departed the last week of May, about 7- 10 days earlier than usual (WW). A pair of Barrow's Goldeneye was courting on small ponds near McCall, Ida. in mid-May. It looked like suitable nesting habitat (MRC). The only Oldsquaws were one on Clearwater R., at Lewiston, Ida., (RN, MK, EP) and five at Kootenay L. ferry, B.C. (PS). Tranquille, B.C. reported the only Surf Scoter (RR) and a pair of **Black Scotors** was at the Yakima R. delta for the first Benton County, Wash. record and only the Region's third (GB). A Hooded Merganser was seen along the Boise R., near Boise, Ida. in March and April (LK) and a female appeared at Dry Lakes s. of Nampa, Ida. May 22 (MRC). A pair of Red-breasted Mergansers was on Deep L., in the Colville, Wash. area in early April (VB) and two females were on a pond in Lewiston, Ida., Apr. 30 (RN, MK).

HAWKS -- An imm. **Broad-winged Hawk** was photographed at Malheur May 30 (TC, JG, HN, OS) for Oregon's first record. A dark- phase Ferruginous Hawk was sighted near Princeton. B.C. The species is almost unknown from that province but there are now breeding records from the Merritt-Aspen Grove area (BK). Golden Eagle numbers were down at Malheur and nesting success low, reflecting another year of depressed jackrabbit populations. That refuge had 173 Bald Eagles roosting during the first week of March. A pair of Bald Eagles was rearing a nestling at Oden Bay, Pend Oreille L. (PHa). An imm. Bald Eagle found in the Helena, Mont. area with symptoms of poisoning was nursed back to health (VY, Dept. of Fish, Wildlife, & Parks). Ospreys, rare in the Malheur area, were seen repeatedly there. A pair was nesting at Kootenai N.W.R., for the first time and a pair was nesting on a structure erected for them at Salmon, Ida. A nest platform put up for a pair at Bend, Ore., apparently was too late for the birds to use. Ten sightings of Peregrine Falcons and three of Merlins were reported.

892 *American Birds*, September-October 1983

PHEASANTS THROUGH RAILS -- Ring-necked Pheasant and California Quail numbers remained low at Malheur, not having recovered yet from the heavy snows of 1981-82. Two Turkeys were sighted on Joseph Plain between Cottonwood and Whitebird, Ida. (DK). A yearling and a 4 year old male Whooping Crane returned to Grays Lake N.W.R., s.e. Ida. Apr. 18. Others returned to w. Wyoming and e. Idaho at about the same time. Six eggs were brought from Patuxent Research Ref. this spring and placed in Sandhill Crane nests and at least two hatched successfully (EB). Greater Sandhill Cranes peaked in late March at Malheur and promptly began nesting. Lesser Sandhills were present in large numbers on their staging area s. and e. of Burns; one wore a plastic collar that had been placed on it at Merced N.W.R., in California. A flock of 1200 flew over Kamloops Apr. 20, Penticton, B.C. had 950 Apr. 24 and 1000 were at Stump L., w. of Williams L. B.C., the same day. At least 11 Yellow Rails were heard and their calls taped at 4 localities near Ft. Klamath, Ore., May 20-22 (MA, JG, OS, RS, SS).

SHOREBIRDS --A Snowy Plover was seen May 22 at Dry Lakes. a potential breeding site, s. of Nampa (MC). Summer L., Lake Co., Ore., had 20 Snowies May 15 and five Semipalmated Plovers were there that day for apparently the first latilong record (MA). Up to eight of the latter at Bend, Ore., were unusual (TC). A Ruddy Turnstone at Malheur in mid-May provided the refuge's second sighting. A **Whimbrel** flying over Osoyoos was presumably the first for interior British Columbia (BK). Up to four Upland Sandpipers were sighted in the traditional nesting area in the Spokane Valley (JA, ME, THR). Woodley's first spring record of a Solitary Sandpiper was of a bird near West Richland, Wash., May 7. Deschutes County's first Red Knot, one in full breeding plumage, was at Bend May 10 (TC, CM) and Malheur had one in mid-May for one of very few sightings there. A Baird's Sandpiper was identified at Lewiston, Ida. Apr. 29 (RN). Up to four Dunlin, Deschutes County's first, were at Bend on several dates in May and a Black-necked Stilt, rare there, was at Bend May 31 (TC, CM). One-two of the latter were sighted along the Dodson R. /Frenchman Hills R., s. Grant Co., Wash., in April and May (ME, ES. PM *et al.*).

GULLS AND TERNS -- Single Glaucous Gulls at Wawawai and Lower Granite Dam, Wash., Apr. 23 were quite unusual (R & GD). Noteworthy were two Herring Gulls on Am. Falls Res., s.e. Ida., Apr. 21 and one on Little Camas Res., n.e. of Mountain Home, Ida., May 21, the latter apparently a first for the county (MC). Twenty Mew Gulls at Tranquille, B.C. May 10 were unusual (RR). An ad. **Laughing Gull** photographed near the state line at Lower Klamath N.W.R., Apr. 24 furnished Oregon's first verified record (SS). A Franklin's Gull at Mountain Home Res., May 31 was presumably that area's first (KP) and two at Dry Lakes May 22 may be Ada County's second record (MC). A Bonaparte's Gull at McKay N.W.R., Pendleton, Ore., was probably the first in spring there (C & MC, NB) and one at Bend May 13 merited mention (CM). A **Sabine's Gull** at L. Chatcolet, St. Marie's May 7 was presumably n. Idaho's first (BG).



Laughing Gull, Lower Klamath N.W.R., Ore., Apr. 24, 1983. First state record. Photo/S. Summers.

Two Caspian Terns were sighted near Vernon May 29; the species is rare in interior British Columbia (P & PMcA). Kootenai N.W.R. had its first Caspians with two May 14 (*vide* LN). One along the Clearwater R., Lewiston Apr. 23 was presumably that locality's third (RN). A sighting of this species at Ennis, Mont., May 30 was the latilong's second (SC). A Black Tern at Indian Creek Res., e. of Boise May 21 was a rare sighting (MC).

PIGEONS THROUGH OWLS -- A Band-tailed Pigeon was identified along Barber Pool of the Boise R., May 8 (MM, LK) and another was photographed at Reynolds, Ida. May 29 (VK & MC). One at Parker Cr., Boundary Co., Ida., was that area's first (PS) and one of the species, uncommon in interior British Columbia, was seen near Kamloops May 21 (RH). A Yellow-billed Cuckoo was seen May 31 at Fields, Ore (JG, TC, HN, OS). The only Flammulated Owls reported were one at Penticton, B.C., May 13 (SCa) and one in the Blewett Pass area w. of Wenatchee, Wash., May 21 (EH). A Barred Owl was sighted near Coeur d'Alene Mar. 21 (GH) and an imm. bird was sighted up Smith Cr., n. Boundary Co., Ida., May 25 (PS). A pair of Great Gray Owls was near Invermere, B.C., Mar. 4 (HB) and one was photographed near Winchester, Ida. Feb. 15 (*vide* KL). The experimental station at Moxee, Wash., had ten Long-eared Owls Mar. 26 (Y.A.S.). Saw-whet Owls were "unusually common" in the Vernon area (JG). Four imm. birds were found May 20 at Turnbull (JA) and one was sighted at Blewett Pass May 21 (EH).

SWIFTS AND HUMMINGBIRDS -- The only Black Swift noted was one over Wenas Cr., n.w. of Yakima (Y.A.S.). At their peak migration at Walla Walla, Wash., 1500+ Vaux's Swifts funneled into the chimney at Reynolds Hall, Whitman College (SM). White-throated Swifts returned to their new breeding location among the cliffs at the Bowl and Pitcher, Riverside S.P., Spokane; ten were seen there Apr. 17 (JA). At least two male Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were at feeders with Rufous and Calliope at Crowsnest Pass, B.C. (JK), and a male Black-chinned was feeding at apple blossoms at Fernie, B.C., well e. of its normal range (T & HM, *vide* DF). A Calliope and a Black-chinned at Malheur were noteworthy and a Calliope was on the nest at Bend May 8 (TC). A female Anna's was on the nest in Klamath Falls for the first nesting reported for the county (MA). At least four males were staying in the upper Wenatchee Valley, Wash. (RO-T), and a male was seen in Hardy Canyon n.w. of Yakima Apr. 11 (ME).

WOODPECKERS THROUGH SWALLOWS -- A "Yellow-shafted" Com. Flicker was at the Davenport,

Wash. cemetery May 13 (JA). A Red-headed Woodpecker was seen in Livingston, Mont., May 22 (Mrs. D, *fide* CD). Lewis' Woodpecker numbers appeared good in the Yakima area, at Malheur, in the Rupert, Ida. vicinity, and in the canyons of s.w. Idaho but were very scarce or absent elsewhere. One in the Elk R. Valley n. of Sparwod, B.C., was only the second recorded there (DF, HF). A male Williamson's Sapsucker, rare in the Fortine area, was at a tree used in previous years for nesting and a Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker in that area was the first in about 10 years (WW). One was reported in the Colville, Wash. area (VB). Two Least Flycatchers were seen at Fields May 31 (JC *et al.*). No Gray Flycatchers were found on 2 visits to their traditional nesting site on Wenas Cr., but two were along Observatory Rd., to the n.e. of Wenas Cr. (EH, PM *et al.*).

JAYS THROUGH NUTHATCHES -- A Blue Jay visited Spokane Apr. 20-24 (JA) and the two that wintered in Coldstream near Vernon were last seen May 4 (JQ). Three Scrub Jays were at Summer L., May 15 and a pair of Pinyon Jays was chasing a Red-tailed Hawk at the "Lost Forest" May 28, both in Lake Co., Ore., and new localities for these species (MA). Several Boreal Chickadees were found at lakes up Rattlesnake Cr., 10 min. of Missoula, Mont. (BKe). Up to four Chestnut-backed Chickadees were near Coeur d'Alene in March (GH). Several Pygmy Nuthatches were discovered in a burned area s. of Lytton, B.C. (BK).

MIMIC THRUSHES AND THRUSHES -- The Mockingbird that wintered at Kamloops was last seen in early April (RH). A Gray Catbird appeared at Malheur May 29-30 (TC, JG, HN, OS) and one was at

Vol. 37, Number 5 893

Fields May 30, (RS *et al.*). Chopaka, Wash. had a Sage Thrasher (BK). Peak Hermit Thrush numbers at that migrating bird oasis, Davenport cemetery, were only seven, compared to the usual 15-20 (JA). The thrush migration in c. Oregon was notable for its absence, with no Swainson's reported, although several were at

Malheur May 27 (TC). Only one Veery was heard May 29 at Ochoco Campground, Ochoco N.F., Ore. There apparently had been a fire that destroyed some of the riparian habitat (DA). A good population of Mountain Bluebirds was reported in the valley at Fortine, with young on the wing by the end of May.

GNATCATCHERS AND WAXWINGS -- At least two pairs of Blue-gray Gnatcatchers arrived at Barber Pool, Boise Apr. 28 and remained in suitable breeding habitat (MC). A pair was sighted n. of Grant's Pass, Ore., May 25 (MA). For the first time in Jim Grant's knowledge Cedar Waxwings wintered at Vernon and stayed around through the spring. Usually there is a gap between winter and spring sightings.

VIREOS THROUGH BLACKBIRDS -- Two Red-eyed Vireos, always scarce at Malheur, were there May 27-28 (TC *et al.*). A female Black- and-white Warbler was at Malheur May 27 (J & JC, TC *et al.*). Tennessee Warblers were seen migrating through Malheur in May (refuge personnel). One was sighted at Fields May 31 (JC) and the species was seen in Bend May 6 (TC). A sparse scattering of Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warblers went through e. Washington and Idaho. A Black-throated Gray Warbler at Umatilla N.W.R., was highly unusual (CC) and a pair, furnishing Montana's third record, was identified in Colorado Gulch s.w. of Helena Mar. 25 (NN). Malheur had a male Ovenbird May 25 (JAn) and N. Waterthrushes were described as numerous in backwater willow thickets in the lowlands of Pend Oreille County, Wash. (ME). A singing male **Mourning Warbler** was carefully identified at Tumwater Camp-ground, Wenatchee N.F., Chelan Co., Wash., May 15 (ME). Klamath Falls had a male Hermit Warbler May 17 (MA). Bobolinks had returned to Malheur by May 22 and a male was at Reynolds, Ida. May 22 (MC). A large colony of Tricolored Blackbirds was observed May 17 at Miller I., Klamath Falls (MA).

FINCHES -- The only Rose-breasted Grosbeaks reported were one at Livingston May 22 (Mrs. D, *fide* CD) and one in Ketchum, Ida. May 30 (WS). A male Indigo Bunting was at Page Spring Campground near Frenchglen, Ore., May 29 for that area's first record

(SS). Lazuli Buntings seemed scarce or absent from most localities but were reported as common in the Rupert area (WS) and at Wenatchee (RO-T). Evening Grosbeaks were also scarce except for the Helena and Missoula areas, which reported good numbers, and Bonner County, Ida. which had low numbers throughout the period. One-two Purple Finches were reported at Cle Elum and Wenas Cr., Wash., in May (Y.A.S.). A pair of Pine Grosbeaks was sighted at 7200 ft. elevation in Kootenay N.P., B.C. (LH); 10-15 were at 5000 ft on Myrtle Peak w. of Bonners Ferry, Ida., Mar. 11 (PS), and one was along the Little Spokane R., near Spokane Apr. 2 (MV, S.A.S.). A flock of 30 Com. Redpolls flew over Wolverine Pass, Kootenay N.P., Mar. 15 for the only sighting (LH). Pine Siskins were unreported except for Helena, which had "goodly numbers," the Colville area with "flocks," and the Rupert area. Red Cross-bills were little mentioned; they presumably stayed mostly at higher elevations. The only White-winged Crossbills were four at Myrtle Peak and two at Kootenai N.W.R., in March (PS).

BUNTINGS AND SPARROWS -- A flock of 65 Lark Buntings at Blacks Creek Res., May 8 produced only the second record of these birds for s.w. Idaho (MC). Single Grasshopper Sparrows were found near Ephrata, Wash. (ES); Pendleton, Ore. (C & MC, NB), and Vernon (MCo). Two were in the vicinity of Eltopia, Wash. (MV, S.A.S.) and five were seen and more heard in the Spokane Valley near the Idaho border (JA). Lark Sparrow was the most common bird among the Juniper Forest sand dunes between Connell and Pasco, Wash., May 21 (MV, S.A.S.) and they were abundant near Weston, Ore., Apr. 30 (SM *et al.*). Several were found e. of Soap L., Wash., May 5 (ES) and at Summer Falls, Wash. (C. B.). Yakima Firing Range furnished the only report of the Sage Sparrow, one bird (Y.A.S.). An apparently valid sighting of a **Gray-headed Junco** near Robinson L., n.e. Kootenai Co., was the first ever for n. Idaho (reported to PS by the Monks family). A singing Clay-colored Sparrow was identified in a shrubby meadow 2 mi. e. of Metaline Falls, Wash., May 29 (ME) for that latilong's second record. A Harris' Sparrow in nearly full breeding plumage was in the Davenport cemetery May 7 (JA), and three were at a Richland feeder Mar. 29, at least one of which stayed until the first week of May (HE, RW). A very few Golden-crowned Sparrows were

observed migrating through e. Oregon and Washington, the most unexpected, one at Rogersburg, Wash., Mar. 26 (AM, C.B.). A lone White-throated Sparrow was at Richland Mar. 18 (TG), and one was at Knouff L., near Kamloops May 14 (RH). The Davenport cemetery had a surprising 11 migrating Fox Sparrows May 7 (JA). A bright-plumaged **Swamp Sparrow** in McNary P., Umatilla Mar. 26 was e. Oregon's first (JC, C & MC).

ADDENDA -- A Eur. Wigeon was in the Nampa area Feb. 27 (J & NHe). A gray-phase Gyrfalcon was reported from Montana in January (JD). An Anna's Hummingbird was seen in s.w. Idaho Dec. 7 (A & HL). Three Blue Jays were sighted on 2 occasions during the winter in the Wasa, B.C. area (MW). A Hermit Warbler near Plain, Wash. May 1, 1982, was apparently the first for the latilong (DH, *fide* PM). Ten Black Rosy Finches were reported for s.w. Idaho Dec. 28 (A & HL). A Chipping Sparrow in imm. plumage frequented a South Slocan, B.C. feeder daily Dec. 25-Jan. 25 (JS, *fide* MEI). A Harris' Sparrow used a feeder in s.w. Idaho regularly Dec. 1 at least through Feb. 28 (JS, A & HL).

CORRIGENDUM -- Delete the reference to Golden-crowned Sparrows (*AB* 36: 1000); checking this June revealed White-crowned Sparrows singing an unusual song pattern.

OBSERVERS CITED -- (JA) James Acton, David Anderson, (JAn) Jim Anderson, Ann & Merle Archie, Eugene Barney, Helen Bavin, Nancy Bock, Greg Books. Al Bruner, Vernon Byrd, (SCa) Steve Cannings (C.B. • Canyon Birders, Jim & Judy Carlson, Mark Collie, (MCo) Mary Collins, Becky Corder, Craig & (MC) Marion Corder, (SC) Sharon Cotterell, Tom Crabtree, John Dalke, C.V. Davis, Rick & Gay Demmer, Mrs. Dunn, (ME) Mark Egger, (MEI) Maurice Ellison, Howard Ennor, David Fraser, Helen Fyles, (JG) Jeff Gilligan, Bill Goble, (JGr) James Grant, Tony Greager, Larry Halverson, (PHa) Paul Hanna, Gertie Hanson, (J & PH) Jim & Pat Harp, (JHe) Jim & Naomi Heckathorn, Rick Howie, Eugene Hunn, Dave Hutchinson, Frank Isaacs, Lydia Kading, (BK) Brian Kautesk. (BKe) Bill Kerling, J. Kerr, Dwight Kilgore,

Merlene Koliner, Vicky Kolb, Al & Hilda Larson, Keith Lawrence. Joanne Lawrence, Pat & Peter McAllister, Phil Mattocks, Craig Miller, Tony & Helen Milligan, Helen Milne, Monks family, Alice Montag, Martel Morache, Shirley Muse, Larry Napier, Harry Nehls, Ron Neu. Norma Nixon, Ruth Ortiz-Torres, Michael O'Shea, Ralph Pehrson, Kerry Provance, Eleanor Pruett, John Quirk, Ralph Ritcey, Thomas H. Rogers, Dave Ryder, Marty St. Louis, Owen Schmidt, W.H. Shillington, Paul Sieracki, Eugene Smirnov, Jack Smith, Richard Smith, (S.A.S.) Spokane Audubon Society, J.A. Street, Steve Summers, Clayton Truman, Maurice Vial, Winton Weydemeyer, Mildred White, Mike Whittaker, Tom Williams, Pat & R.E. Woodley, Vince Yannone, (Y.A.S.) Yakima Audubon Society.



Swamp Sparrow/drawing by Robert G. Barrett.

894 *American Birds*, September-October 1983

Spring Migration, 1983

NORTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION **/Philip W. Mattocks, Jr. and Eugene S. Hunn**

March was a continuation of the warm, wet winter. Thereafter rainfall was about normal overall, although temperatures remained higher than usual. Most of the season's rarities were found May 16-23. This was a period of almost no precipitation and of light westerly

winds, following a frontal passage May 14-15. Reports of Dusky Flycatcher and American Redstarts on the coast, Yellow-breasted Chat and Bobolink in southwestern British Columbia, and Lark Sparrows in the San Juan Islands were all of species that nest just east of the Cascades. The Curlew Sandpiper, Laughing Gull, and Canada Warbler were from farther afield.

Frequently used abbreviations: N.J.C.R.-N. Jetty Columbia R., S.J.C.R.-S. Jetty Columbia R., V.I.-Vancouver I., B.C.

LOONS THROUGH SHEARWATERS -- The Yellow-billed Loon found on Saanich Inlet, V.I., last winter stayed through Mar. 23 (J & RSa, VG, J. Will). There were 6 sightings of Yellow-billed Loons at 4 localities in the Vancouver, B.C., area Apr. 13-May 1 (*fide* DK). Elsewhere single Yellow-billeds were at Parksville, V.I., Apr. 29 (AP), and at the mouth of the Palix R., Pacific Co., Wash., Apr. 25-May 9 (†CC). There were 2800± Arctic Loons Apr. 13 in Active Pass, B.C., which is a regular concentration point for this species (AP). There were numerous reports of N movements of hundreds of Common and Arctic loons along the coast, almost all Apr. 23-May 1. A Red-throated Loon was at Finley N.W.R., near Corvallis, Oreg. Apr. 23 (MH, *fide* E & EE). This species is unusual in the Willamette Valley. A large flock of 40 Eared Grebes was off Iona I., B.C., Apr. 20 (GT) Censuses of Saanich Inlet, Satellite Channel, and Cowichan Bay, s V.I., showed 8000+ W. Grebes present Mar. 14 & 22, 4100+ Apr 19, 380 Apr. 29, and 127 May 14 (VG *et al.*). All W. Grebes for which color phase was specifically reported were of the dark form (EH, DF_i). A Laysan Albatross was seen Mar. 6, 20± mi off Garibaldi, Oreg (M. Smith). Pelagic birding trips out of Coos Bay, Oreg. Apr. 29-May 1 and out of Westport, Wash., May 1 each found 40± Black-looted Albatrosses and 20± N. Fulmars. Only seven Pink-footed Shearwaters were seen off Westport (TW *et al.*) and a "handful" were off Coos Bay (DF *et al.*). Although this date is about 2 weeks earlier than usual the counts are dramatically lower than the average of about 65 Pink-footeds per Westport trip over the last 7 spring seasons. Single Short-tailed Shearwaters were found dead May 11 & 14 on n.w. Oregon beaches (B Loeffel, HN).

PELICANS THROUGH MERGANSERS -- Echoing last spring's early influx of Brown Pelicans into s. Oregon, single adults were seen just s. of Florence Apr. 23 (DR) and off Cape Arago Apr. 30 (DFi *et al.*). Four (one ad., two imm., and one unaged) were at the s. jetty of the Siuslaw R., near Florence May 10-11 (DFi), and 21 were in Grays Harbor, Wash., May 30 (MMo). A stray White Pelican stayed around

Volume 37, Number 5 903

Vancouver I., Vancouver, Wash., Apr. 9-May 22 (D. Reisbick, WC *et al.*). Along the Columbia R., the Great Blue Heron colonies on Reed I., near Washougal, Wash., had 138 active nests Apr. 13, and the colony on nearby Pierce I., had 59 nests (WC *et al.*). In addition to the now regular Snowy Egrets at Coos Bay, a single was found Apr. 16 at Finley N.W.R., Ore., where the species is accidental (E & EE *et al.*). There were sightings of an ad. White-faced Ibis at Wapato L., near Forest Grove, Ore., May 2 (VT, JGa) and at Sauvie I., near Portland May 5-8 (JGi *et al.*). An ad. "blue" Snow Goose was seen Mar. 20 with several thousand Snow Geese at the Skagit flats, Wash. (D. Norman) for only the third record for w. Washington. Since the "blue" form is very rare in this population that breeds on Wrangel I., and the Skagit flats are well watched by birders, this bird could have been a displaced migrant. However, the picture is complicated by a single free-flying "Blue" Goose that has been resident at Reifel I., B.C., for some time and that was absent from there during early spring (C. Trefry). A late flock of 40 Snow Geese was noted May 15 at Blackie Spit, Crescent Beach, B.C. (BK). The widespread arrival of Blue-winged Teal in late April was on schedule. One at Iona I., B.C., Apr. 23 (BK) was a few days ahead of the average first date. The last sightings of several "Eur." Green-winged Teal were much earlier than usual: Mar. 20 at Iona I. (BK), Mar. 28 at Saanich, V.I. (A. Knowles), Apr. 8 at Finley N.W.R. (JKr) and Apr. 17 at Seattle, Wash. (DB). One of the male Tufted Ducks found this winter in Seattle stayed to at least Mar. 21 (W. Fogelman). A few Oldsquaws were later than usual in leaving the s. parts of the Region. A male and five females were on Willapa Bay Apr. 27 (CC *et al.*), a male

was at Coos Bay Apr. 29-May 1 (DFi, HN *et al.*), and a male stayed on Yaquina Bay, Ore., until May 18 (R & JKr, J. Shewey). A female Com. Merganser and seven very young chicks traversed the ocean surf May 15 just s. of Florence, Ore. (DFi).

VULTURES THROUGH CRANES -- Subsequent to the usual scattered reports of Turkey Vultures in late February, several transient groups of up to 45 vultures were noted Mar. 21-30 at roost trees along I-5 at Phoenix, Ore. (MjM). Also, N-moving kettles of 25+ vultures were seen over Ashland and Medford Mar. 31-Apr. 3 (MjM). The 40+ White-tailed Kites that wintered in w. Oregon dispersed as usual. There were reports from only 5 Oregon localities this season. Pairs were found at Corvallis (M. McInnis, *fide* E & EE) and on the Wilson R. meadows e. of Tillamook (D. Anderson). Three adults were found on the White-tailed Deer N.W.R., near Skamokawa, Wash., during February and March (A. Richards, A. Musche, M. Mortek *et al.*). Two kites were seen Apr. 8 working the dikes along the Palix R., near Bay Center, Wash. (†T. Lund) and one was nearby at the mouth of the North R., Apr. 22 (P. Martin, *fide* CC). Last year's Cooper's Hawk nest in Beacon Hill P., Victoria, V.I., was occupied again this season (J & RSa, MN). In addition, MN found 3 other active Cooper's Hawk nests in s. Vancouver I., two in Oak Bay and one in Saanich. The ad. Red-shouldered Hawk that wintered in the Oaks Bottom area of Portland was last seen Mar. 12 (M. Houck, S. Jagers). Two nesting pairs of Red-tailed Hawks, one at the mouth of the Humptulips R., near Ocean Shores, Wash., and the other s.w. of Philomath, near Corvallis, Ore. contain distinctively marked partial-to-near-albino individuals. This is the 12th known nesting season for the Philomath bird (E & EE) and about the tenth for the Ocean Shores bird (DP, G & WHO). The Mar. 26 sighting of about 50 Red-tailed Hawks heading E from Neah Bay, Wash., along the Straits of Juan de Fuca (J. Fackler, B. Anderson) was one of few such reports of raptor migration in the Region. An active Golden Eagle nest was found Apr. 6 along the Mollala R., e. of Salem, Ore. (C. Bruce *et al.* *fide* E & EE). The only Gyrfalcon report was of one in C. Saanich, V.I., Mar. 11 (DFr, J. Fitzpatrick). A Prairie Falcon seen May 8 at White Rock, B.C., furnished only the second record for the Vancouver area (†M. Schouten). Those observers and area compilers

reporting for the last 4 years noted about the same number of Peregrines (18+) and Merlins (28+) this spring as in previous years. Noteworthy were the three Peregrines at once over Tatoosh I., off Cape Flattery, Wash., Mar. 29 (B. Paine), and one pale adult, thought to be *tundrius*, at Florence, Oreg., May 15 (DFi, AD, DR). Two pairs of Merlins were in the Campbell R., V.I. area throughout the season (H. Telosky). **Mountain Quail** are rare n. of c. Oregon, but a small population has existed for some years on s. Vancouver I. A male was seen Apr. 18 along the road to Grass L., in Sooke Mountain P.P., V.I. (W. Campbell) for one of few recent records. There were 400 Sandhill Cranes Mar. 19 at their regular stop on Sauvie I., Oreg. (HN). Flocks of 70 were over Eugene Mar. 8 (DFi) and at Neah Bay, Wash., Apr. 9 (M. Carmody). The first arrival noted at the Pitt Meadows, B.C., breeding location was Mar. 20 (TP).

SHOREBIRDS -- A Snowy Plover nest with 2 eggs was found May 24 at Ocean Shores, Wash. (G & WHO). A very early Semipalmated Plover was at Iona I., B.C., Apr. 1 (DA). The first arrival on Willapa Bay, Wash., was Apr. 16, and the peak of the migration there was 600 Apr. 27 (CC *et al.*). The first arrival on s. Vancouver I., only 120 mi to the n., was not until Apr. 30, and the high count there was 30+ on May 7 (*fide* VG). A pair was noted mating May 14 at the Sandspit airport, Graham I., Queen Charlotte Is., B.C. (M. Force). Two very early Am. Golden Plovers were on Pony Slough, Coos Bay, Oreg., Mar. 26 (VT). The only others reported were one at Ocean Shores, Apr. 23 (G & WHO), six at Coos Bay Apr. 30 (T. Crabtree, I-IN), two at Boundary Bay Apr. 28 (JI, DA), and one there May 4 (I. Robertson, V. Thomas). Peak counts of Black-bellied Plovers occurred Apr. 10-25, with 900 around Willapa Bay Apr. 22 (CC *et al.*) and 300 at Blackie Spit, B.C., Apr. 25 (DK). The 84 Ruddy Turnstones around Willapa Bay May 15 (CC *et al.*), and 90 on Leadbetter Pt. (R. Widrig) the same day, constituted the peak of movement for this predominately outer coastal migrant. A single individual May 15 at West Pt., Seattle, provided the first King County record (EH). A single **Bristle-thighed Curlew** sighted May 13-14 with a flock of Whimbrels at Blackie Spit was closely seen and well described for the first record for the Vancouver area, and only the third for British Columbia (†MP). The 2 other spring records for

the Region are May 1 (AB 36:887) and May 31 (*Auk* 87:815), and both were found along the outer coast. Sixteen sightings of Solitary Sandpipers were spread from two very early at Finley N.W.R., Apr. 8 (R & JKr, *fide* E & EE) to one at Forest Grove, Oreg. May 21 (JGa). High counts for Greater Yellowlegs were flocks of 100± birds at Iona I., B.C., Apr. 12 & 15 (BK) and around Willapa Bay Apr. 14 (CC *et al.*). On May 1, a flock of 20± was seen 35 mi off Westport (TW *et al.*). The only Willet reports were of the wintering flock at the North R., Wash., which gradually left during

904 *American Birds*, September-October 1983

April (CC *et al.*), one at Iona I., Apr. 20 (?BK), the first Vancouver area spring record, and three sightings Apr. 23-May 11 at Blackie Spit and adjacent Boundary Bay, B.C. (†BK, †MP, DJ). Further information on the extreme site-specific nature of the N migration of Red Knots was provided by daily censuses during most of April and May of up to a dozen locations in the n. part of Willapa Bay, Wash., by CC *et al.* First arrivals were flocks totaling 63 a few mi w. of South Bend Apr. 10. By Apr. 22 there were 1300± Red Knots along Willapa Bay, and May 12-15 there were 3500± present. Departure was rapid, with only 315 left May 18. Elsewhere there were 80 at Ocean Shores Apr. 30 (PM), 300 there May 7 & 8 (DP), 23 at Tillamook May 7 (J. Hannum, K. Hamilton, *fide* R. Palmer), 14 at the S.J.C.R., May 15 (DF1 *et al.*), nine at the mouth of the Dungeness R., Wash., May 15 (MMo), and seven on the Roberts Bank jetty, Delta, B.C., May 21 (DK, S Howell). Another team of shorebirds students led by S. Herman monitored the migratory passage at development-threatened Bowerman Basin, Hoquiam, Wash. These observers determined a peak count there Apr. 24 of 450,000 shorebirds, mostly W. Sandpipers. Other high counts of Westerns were 76,000 around Willapa Bay Apr. 23 (CC *et al.*), 8000 at Boundary Bay Apr. 24 (GT) and 8000 on Iona I., Apr. 30-May 1 (W & HHe, GT). There were 5 sightings of single Semipalmated Sandpipers at Iona I., Apr. 29-May 14 (BK *et al.*), one at Metchosin Lagoon, s. V.I., Apr. 30 (KT), and one at the S.J.C.R., May 14 (HN). There were 8 sightings of Baird's Sandpipers from Coos Bay and Tillamook, Oreg., Clover Pt., Victoria, and Iona I. All were of single birds except the two-three at Iona I.,

May 23-24 (BK, MF, TP). A **Curlew Sandpiper** was closely observed May 17 on Leadbetter Pt. (†RKn) for the second spring record for Washington. A single Rock Sandpiper in breeding plumage was still at the Ocean Shores jetty on the late date of May 24 (G & WHo). High counts of Dunlins were the 11,000 on Willapa Bay Apr. 9- 10 (CC *et al.*) and the 5000 on Boundary Bay Apr. 16 (DK). A single Short-billed Dowitcher at Boundary Bay Apr. 3 (BK) was very early. Their migration peaked in late April with 26,000 around Willapa Bay Apr. 23 (CC *et al.*) and 500 at Iona I., Apr. 26 (BK). The high counts of Long-billed Dowitchers were 117 near Medford May 8 (MjM), and 150 at Iona I., May 15 (WW). A first year (unbarred breast, *fide* DP) Marbled Godwit found Apr. 22 near Blaine, Wash. (†WW) and probably this bird again at nearby Blackie Spit May 1-25 (†BK *et al.*, P. Yorke, ph.) provided the fifth spring record for the Vancouver area. On May 11 there was a second individual present at Blackie Spit (†MP). Two other first-year Marbled Godwits were noted at Ocean Shores May 8 (DP). A **Hudsonian Godwit** at Long Beach, near Ucluelet, V.I., Apr 30 (AP) furnished the first report for Pacific Rim N.P.

JAEGERS THROUGH ALCIDS -- Two Pomarine Jaegers seen Mar 4 off North Head, near Ilwaco, Wash., were very early (†RW). Single Pomarines were seen from the N.J.C.R., May 1 (RW, CC, RKn) and at sea off Westport the same day (TW *et al.*). There were six Glaucous Gulls reported, which is the average number for the last 5 spring seasons. The latest was an adult in Richmond, B.C., May 17 (DK). An ad. and a first-winter Herring Gull still present at Florence, Oreg., May 15 (DFi) and an ad. Thayer's Gull at Gilbert Beach, Richmond May 21 (DK) were the latest reports. A first-winter **Iceland Gull** was seen and well described Feb. 27 in Vancouver, B.C. (†BK, DK, S. Cannings). The white primaries, delicate brown barring on the mantle, wing coverts, and tail, small body size relative to Glaucous-wingeds, and slender bill were among the field marks noted. An ad. **Laughing Gull** was seen May 18 along Willapa Bay near South Bend, Wash. (†CC, G. Wallace) for the second documented report for the state. An imm. Little Gull was noted Apr. 5 in Active Pass, V.I., with a flock of Bonaparte's Gulls (†P. Arcese) for the second spring record for B.C. An imm. Heermann's Gull at Gilbert Beach,

Richmond May 1-9 (†BK, †WW *et al.*) furnished one of very few spring records for the Vancouver area. Two other imm. Heermann's at the N.J.C.R., Wash., May 5 (CC *et al.*) were also very early that far n. An unusual onshore flock of 12 Sabine's Gulls, including both adults and immatures, was noted Apr. 30 at the N.J.C.R. (RW, RKn), and five were still there the next day (CC). Single first-year Sabine's Gulls were seen May 1 offshore Coos Bay (AD, †DFi) and May 11 from the s. jetty of the Siuslaw R., near Florence, Oreg. (†DFi). An ad. Sabine's Gull was noted at Yaquina Bay, Oreg. May 21 (R. Bayer). Two Arctic Terns standing on the beach with Com Terns at Toke- land, Wash., May 12 (CC) and one there May 13 (P. Martin) were the only ones reported. Two Caspian Terns at Tokeland by Apr. 2 (B Morse) were the earliest ever for Washington. Two Caspian Terns were found May 14 n. to Moresby I., Queen Charlotte Is., B.C. (MF). A Black Tern was present at the Medford sewage ponds May 14, and two were there May 21 (MjM). A gathering of 75+ Marbled Murrelets May 11 just off the s. jetty of the Siuslaw R., near Florence (DFi) was unusual for that late in the season.

OWLS THROUGH FLYCATCHERS -- A Burrowing Owl was on the jetty at Iona I., B.C., Mar. 11 (†TP). The Burrowing Owls that wintered in the Rogue R. valley of Oregon were last seen Mar. 14 in Medford, and Apr. 13 near Agate L. (MjM). Barred Owl nests with young were found during May in East Sooke, s. V.I. (P. Axhorn, HHo), and in Discovery P., Seattle (DH, DB). A Barred Owl was heard calling above Glide, e. of Roseburg, Oreg. Mar. 31 (M. Sawyer, *fide* DFi). A Great Gray Owl was seen May 31 n.e. of Ashland, Oreg., (MjM) near where a pair nested last summer. The Long-eared Owl found last February in Scoggins Valley P., near Forest Grove, Oreg. was seen there through the season (VT, JGa). An imm. Saw-whet Owl just out of a nest was observed May 17 near L. Whatcorn, Bellingham (M. Vance, *fide* TW). An extremely early Com. Nighthawk was seen at close range Mar. 8 near Fern Ridge Res., Eugene (TM, *fide* DFi). Vaux's Swifts arrived on schedule; Apr. 14 in Eugene (DFi), Apr. 18-19 at Finley N.W.R., and Corvallis (MH, RKr, E & EE), Apr. 22 in Portland (RSm), and May 1 in Burnaby, B.C. (JI). Three **White-throated Swifts** were seen Apr. 27 over L. Louise, Bellingham (†RK) for the first spring record for w

Washington. An Anna's Hummingbird nest with 2 eggs was found during late February in an apple orchard near Medford. The nest was covered with plastic during spraying, and two nestlings were seen Mar. 18 & 28 (J McGraw). However, on Mar. 30 the nest was gone and an adult wing was found beneath the tree. This was the second nest report and the third breeding record for Oregon. On Mar. 6 in Discovery P., Seattle, DH & B. Doe censused 25 territorial male Anna's Hummingbirds and a female at a nest 60 ft up in an alder. Four male *Selasphorus* sp. hummingbirds with distinct green backs were seen in Washington this season. They were in Poulsbo Mar. 16+ (*vide* JC), Redmond April 23+ (EH, G. Gerdt), Ocean Shores S.P., Apr 17-May 1 (JC *et al.*, PM *et al.*), and at the s. end of Willapa Bay Apr. 27 (RW). Only the observers of the Redmond bird were able to see the shape of the second rectrix, which is the significant field mark to distinguish Allen's from Rufous (F. Stiles, *Condor* 74:25). That rectrix was clearly notched, and their bird was a green-backed male Rufous Hummingbird. Ten of the 11 Calliope Hummingbirds reported first appeared May 2-8. A male was in Vancouver, B.C., where they are rare (W & HHe), a male hit a window in Tualatin, near Portland (V. Dorsey), and another was found dead in Corvallis May 2 for the first Benton County record (B. Crowell, *vide* E & EE). The only reports of birds lingering more than a few days were the two males at the Merlin exit off I-5 n. of Grants Pass, Oreg., May 4-21 (DFi, A. Contreras), and a male in Ashland, Oreg., Apr. 13-May 22 (MjM). There were five W. Kingbirds in the Portland area May 7 (*vide* HN), and four others just n. of Portland May 10-11 (JGi, WC) but the 12+ gathered on Leadbetter Pt., Wash., May 22 was a most unusual concentration (RW, RKn). Seven Say's Phoebes were reported, Mar. 12-Apr 5. A Dusky Flycatcher was seen and heard May 22 on Leadbetter Pt (RW, RKn), and two were on territory in a clearcut near Hagg L., w. of Forest Grove, Oreg., May 30 (VT, D. Lustoff). A very early W. Flycatcher was seen and heard Apr. 4 in Saanich (H. Vander Pol). Elsewhere first arrivals were Apr. 18-23 throughout the Region. First arrivals of Olive-sided Flycatchers were May 6-11.

SKYLARKS THROUGH WAXWINGS -- A census of Eur. Skylarks on the Saanich Pen., yielded 42 singing males at 12 locations (A MacLeod, HHo). The high count was of 16 males at the Victoria airport Mar. 19.

Widespread first arrivals of Violet-green Swallows n. to Vancouver, B.C., occurred Mar. 6-10. Fifty Cliff Swallows Mar. 7 at the Medford sewage ponds (MjM), several Mar. 17 at Walton, w. of Eu-

Volume 37, Number 5 905

gene (TM), and five Mar. 31 at Jericho P., Vancouver, B.C. (MP) were all earlier than usual. The only Bank Swallows reported were one at Blackie Spit, B.C., May II (MP) and two at Iona I., May 17 (GT). A Scrub Jay was at Coos Bay Mar. 26 (VT). Two Wrentits were found near Dallas, Oreg. Apr. 18 (R. Gerig). A White-breasted Nut-hatch in Apodaca P.P., near W. Vancouver May 1 (A & JGr *et al.*) furnished only the sixth record for the Vancouver, B.C., area. A pair of White-breasteds were feeding almost fledged young May 22 in Fort Steilacoom P., Tacoma, Wash. (CC). First arrivals of House Wrens were noted in w. Oregon and s. Vancouver I., Apr. 13-19. A Mockingbird appeared Mar. 7+ for the third straight year on territory in Medford (MjM). The one that wintered in Phoenix, Oreg., stayed through Apr. 19, and may have been the one that was seen nearby at Central Pt., Apr. 24 (MjM). A Mockingbird seen near South Bend, Wash., Apr. 3 & 10 was reported to have spent the winter in the area (CC). Another was seen on Fisher Butte, near Eugene May 15+ (DFi, B. Combs *et al.*). The first W. Bluebird egg noted near Corvallis this season was found Mar. 18, 2 weeks earlier than any in the past 8 years (E & EE). Young W. Bluebirds in Paczolt's boxes near Medford Apr. 20 were the earliest on record (MjM). Three boxes in the Metchosin, V.I. area fledged young by late May (*vide* VG). Eighteen of the 22 migrant Townsend's Solitaires noted were found Apr. 6-19, and most were in w. Washington or the Vancouver, B.C., area. The **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** found in February near Westport was seen again Mar. 15 & 21 (CC, J. Buchanan *et al.*). The only Bohemian Waxwing reported was one seen with Cedars Apr. 14 in Dungeness, Wash., on the late date of Apr. 14 (D. & S. Smith).

VIREOS AND WARBLERS -- A pair of Hutton's Vireos was feeding nestlings Apr. 7 in Discovery P.

(DH *et al.*). Two Warbling Vireos in Eugene Apr. 22 were the first reported (DFi). First arrivals from Corvallis n. to Vancouver, B.C., were Apr. 27-May 6. Spring arrival of Orange-crowned Warblers was Apr. 1-2 in Metchosin, V.I. (VG), and Vancouver, B.C. (A & JGr). Large numbers of migrant Orange-crowns were noted in Eugene Apr. 4-9 (DFi), and throughout the Region Apr. 16-May 7. Arrival of Nashville Warblers in Eugene and Medford was on schedule Apr. 15-21 (S. Heinl, MjM). There were three sightings of Nashville Warblers Apr. 18-26 in the Vancouver, B.C., area, where they are rare migrants (MP, DJ). Single Yellow Warblers were early at Mandarte I., off Sidney, B.C., Mar. 13 (DFr) and at Grants Pass, Oreg. Mar. 25 (MjM). Other local first arrivals spanned Apr. 16-May 4, with no clear pattern or concentration. Two Black-throated Gray Warblers Apr. 1 in Saanich (F. & R. Stoba, *fide* VG) and one Apr. 9 near Seattle (ME) were very early. First sightings in Medford, Eugene, and Corvallis were Apr. 7-9, and in other Seattle-area localities, s. Vancouver I., and near Vancouver, B.C., Apr. 20-24. A Palm Warbler, rare in spring, was seen Apr. 6 at Newport, Oreg. (R. Lawrence, *fide* E & EE), and two were found Apr. 23 at Swan L., Saanich, V.I. (KT, R. Prior). A female-plumaged **Canada Warbler** was sighted May 23 at Pitt Meadows, e. of Vancouver, B.C., for the first Regional report (†GT). A MacGillivray's Warbler in Bellevue, Wash., Apr. 11 (ME) was very early. Elsewhere first arrivals were spread irregularly over Apr. 18-May 4. A Com. Yellowthroat found Mar. 7 at Pitt Meadows, B.C. (C. Butt), was over a month earlier than the usual arrival, and could possibly have wintered nearby. Most first arrival dates of yellowthroats were Apr. 1-17 throughout the Region. A Yellow-breasted Chat in Jericho P., Vancouver, B.C., May 16 furnished the eighth Vancouver area record (†MP). First arrivals of Wilson's Warblers in Puget Sound localities, s. V.I., and the Vancouver, B.C., area were Apr. 23-30. Two imm. male Am. Redstarts were at Leadbetter Pt., May 21 (RW, RKn), and an ad. female Am. Redstart was there May 23 (RW). These provided the fifth and sixth outer coastal records for Washington.

BOBOLINK THROUGH BUNTINGS -- A female Bobolink seen May 28 at Iona I., B.C. (†MF, †TP, L. Koch) furnished the ninth Vancouver area record. This is the fifth straight year that a Bobolink has appeared in

the Vancouver, B.C. area or in Seattle May 24-June 3. A nesting colony of 20± pairs of Tricolored Blackbirds was discovered near the Medford airport May 17+ (O. Swisher, m.ob.). Northern Orioles had arrived in the Rogue R. valley of s. Oregon by Apr. 16 & 23 (MjM). Arrival over the remainder of the Region n. to Vancouver, B.C., was during Apr. 30-May 8. One of the Hooded Orioles found last winter in Coos Bay stayed until Mar. 6 (RSm). A male Rusty Blackbird Mar. 6 and a female Mar. 31 were sighted at Pitt Meadows (GT). First arrivals of W. Tanagers appeared May 3-5 at several localities from the Rogue R. valley n. to Vancouver, B.C. On May 13, a male was heard and seen on Graham I., for what may have been the first record for the Queen Charlotte Is. (MF). Evening Grosbeaks, virtually absent during the winter, staged a small, widely-noted passage during late April-early May, but the species remained scarce throughout the Region. Red Crossbills were much more widely reported from w. Oregon and the Vancouver, B.C., area than last winter. A Vesper Sparrow on Ft. Lewis, Wash., Mar. 7 (T. Bock) was about a month earlier than the usual arrival at that location. The observation of two **Lark Sparrows** May 22 just s. of Friday Harbor, on San Juan I., furnished the fourth spring record for w. Washington (PA. & H. Whiteley). The three Dark-eyed "Slate-colored" Juncos that stayed at Metchosin, V.I., until Apr. 15 (M & VG) and the one on Leadbetter Pt., Apr. 27 (CC) were the latest of 10 sightings this season. Single Chipping Sparrows Apr. 24 in N. Vancouver, B.C. (MD), May 8 in Bellingham (TW), and May 19-20 in Seattle, (EH) were the only reports for those areas. The Clay-colored Sparrow found last winter in Delta, B.C., stayed until Mar. 5 (DJ). Four of the eight Harris' Sparrows reported stayed until early May. One near Burlington, Wash., May 12 was the latest (ph. D. McNeely). There were reports of 18 White-throated Sparrows, which are many more than previous spring seasons. The *four* (2a, 2i) that wintered around a feeder in Metchosin, V.I., all stayed until Apr. 15, with the two immatures there until Apr. 27 (M & VG). Two were at Coos Bay Apr. 30 (DFi *et al.*), one stayed in Ashland until May 3 (MjM), and one was seen in N. Vancouver, B.C., May 7 (MD). The Swamp Sparrow found last winter near Issaquah, Wash., stayed until Mar. 30 (EH, PM). A Lapland Longspur at Iona I., May 15 (WW), and a Snow Bunting at the Boundary Bay, B.C. airport Apr. 17 (BK) were both unusually late.

INITIALED OBSERVERS, Subregional editors are in boldface. David Ashcroft, Dave Beaudette, Wilson Cady, Joan Carson, Chris Chappell, Mark Daly, Alan Dyck, Mark Egger, Elsie & Elzy Eltzroth, **David Fix** (DFi), Michael Force, David Fraser (DFr), John Gatchett (JGa), Jeff Gilligan (JGi), Margaret & **Vic Goodwill**, Al & Jude Grass (A & JGr), **Bill Harrington-Tweit**, Werner & Hilde Hesse (W & HHe), Glen & Wanda Hoge (G & WHo), Harold Hosford (HHo), Matt Hunter, Dave Hutchinson, John Ireland, Dale Jensen, Brian Kautesk, Randy Knapp (RKn), Jan & Rick Krabbe (J & RKr), **Doug Kragh**, Tom Mickel, Mark Moon (MMo), **Marjorie Moore** (MjM), **Harry Nehls**, Mark Nyhoff, **Dennis Paulson**, Tom Plath, Allan Poynter, Michael Price, Dennis Rogers, Joy & Ron Satterfield (J & RSa), Richard Smith (RSm), Keith Taylor, Verta Teale, Glen Thomson, **Terry Wahl**, Wayne Weber, Ralph Widrig



American Avocet/drawing by David Clelland.

906 *American Birds*, September-October 1983

The Nesting Season, 1983

**NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN -
INTERMOUNTAIN REGION /Thomas H.
Rogers**

The period was, almost without exception, cool and wet, especially in July, and with high water levels. Nesting areas of some species were flooded, as was much shorebird habitat. Aerial insect eaters were affected severely in some areas.

LOONS, GREBES -- Several Com. Loons summered on Potholes Res., Moses L., and Columbia N.W.R., Othello, Wash., and one at Richland, Wash., June 15. Four Red-necked Grebes were on Henrys L., n. Fremont Co., Ida., June 14 for that area's first sighting (MRC, WEH, CHT) and five adults and one only a few days old were there July 6 (WEH, MR). A new location for the species was Rock L., n.w. of Coulee Dam, Wash., where a pair was seen (RF). One-time sightings of single Horned, Eared, W. and Pied-billed grebes were obtained at Bend, Ore., where any grebe is unusual in summer (TC). Some 500 pairs of Eared Grebes were nesting on Boca L., Malheur N.W.R., Burns, Ore. Four pairs of Eared Grebes were nest-building the last week of July near Fortine, Mont., and one of each pair was on the nest Aug. 3 (WW). Western Grebe numbers were drastically down on Moses L. Over 2800 pairs of W. Grebes were using Malheur L., and 800 pairs were nesting near Harney L. there.

PELICANS, CORMORANTS -- Highly unusual were 120+ White Pelicans on Lower Arrow L., at Burton, B.C., June 14-16 (GD). Near- by, Slocan's 60 June 18 may have been part of this same flock (J & NA). Most unusual also was the appearance of up to 95 White Pelicans at Kootenai N.W.R., Bonners Ferry, Ida. June 17-22. Creston Valley W.M.A., Creston, B.C., had smaller numbers and L. Pend Oreille in n.e. Washington reportedly had several during the Spring (LDN). Lower numbers of the species at L. Helena, Helena, Mont., seemed correlated with higher numbers downstream at Holter L., where 25-40 summered. An influx was also reported on the Missouri R., downstream from Holter Dam (GH). The species continued to move into the basin at Malheur, with 1200 there in early July. A White Pelican chick at Red Rock Lakes N.W.R., Lima, Mont., July 29 apparently established the first breeding record there (TM). Up to eight were at the Walla Walla R. mouth, Wallula, Wash., during the summer (SM). Double-crested Cormorants

continued to nest in trees at Malheur with about 330 pairs present. The nesting population at Potholes Res. continued to rise with at least 30 active nests and 50-70 non-breeders.

HERONS THROUGH IBISES -- Two Cattle Egrets suspected of breeding were at the American Falls, Ida. nesting colony for the only report. Their numbers are not building up there (CHT). Malheur had 754 pairs of Great Egrets, 100 of Snowy Egrets and 846 of Black-crowned Night Herons. Nesting pairs of Great Egrets remained at five at Potholes Res., and their success appeared good. The Black-crowned population at Washington's Columbia Basin continued to increase with 1500 pairs at the Potholes, 100 pairs at Moses L., and 20 pairs at Banks L. Newly discovered colonies were along Frenchman Hills Wasteway near Royal City: 100-200 pairs; on Wahluke H.M.A., s.w. of Othello: 100 pairs, and along Winchester Wasteway w. of Moses L.: 25 pairs (RF). Their numbers at American Falls Res., and Pocatello, Ida., showed a buildup. American Bittern numbers appeared down at Malheur and the only report of a Least Bittern was of one near Lawen, Ore., June 12 (CDL). The Malheur Basin had 400 nesting pairs of White-faced Ibises and 464 were counted at American Falls Res., June 22.

WATERFOWL -- Flooding caused a third of the Trumpeter Swan nests found at Red Rock Lakes N.W.R. to fail. At least 49 cygnets were produced on the refuge and 24 in the Centennial Valley outside. Seven broods at Malheur still had 24 cygnets at July's end and one fledged at Turnbull N.W.R., Cheney, Wash. McArthur Lake W.M.A., n. of Sandpoint, Ida., showed a nearly 50% decrease from last year in Canada Goose nests for no apparent reason (MB). Duck pairs at Malheur were down to 11,800± pairs because of high water levels. Canvasback there numbered 855 birds. Wood Ducks were

increasing as a migrant there, supposedly because of nest boxes provided in the state by the Fish and Wildlife Department. The duck breeding population at Kootenai N.W.R. was down 30% but Wood Ducks showed an increase there. Duck nesting in the Fortine area was down, except for Com. Goldeneye. A brood of Barrow's Goldeneyes, rare there hatched about June 15 (WW). Unusual sightings were of a male Gadwall in the Ft. St. James, B.C. area June 28 (G); a Harlequin Duck at L. Helena June 18, the first ever for that area (GH, SMA), and a female Hooded Merganser June 21 at Ennis, Mont., where the species is very rare and had never before been seen in summer (WEH).

HAWKS -- Turkey Vultures continued their decline in the Malheur area. The most recorded at the traditional P Ranch roost site was 46 cf. 100± a decade ago. A concentration of 11 of the birds was near Vernon, B.C. June 30. The very few Accipiter reports included one of a Goshawk nest near Bend and one of a Cooper's Hawk nest s.e. of Salmon, Ida. A "Krider's" Red-tailed Hawk was identified at close range at Prairie, Ida. June 4 (MRC, AL). At least 2 previous sightings of the race were made in that area in recent years (BB, *fide* MRC). Thirty townships in e. Adams County, Wash., were surveyed for Swainson's Hawks and 50 active nests found, all but one in trees. Nearly all the trees were man-planted and a third of them were dead or dying. The species' numbers appeared to be up in s.e. Idaho. Ferruginous Hawk numbers appeared healthy in the Malheur area. A Golden Eagle nesting survey for n. Chelan, Okanogan and Douglas cos. in Wash., checked 115 areas with previous evidence of nesting and found only one-third of them active. About 50% of these produced young, 1.2/successful nest or 0.6/nesting attempt. The Bald Eagle population at Stuart L., Ft. St. James was estimated at ten, down from about 25 in the 1960s-1970s, period. Only one pair was reported at Holter L., where two pairs are normal (BT, *fide* GH). "High numbers" were reported nesting at Hebgen L., s. Gallatin Co., Mont. (JS). A pair of Bald Eagles at L. Pend Oreille in n. Idaho fledged one young.

Volume 37, Number 6 1007

seen there twice, a July 28 sighting of 13 being particularly notable. That species appears to be

S.A.

The University of Idaho and the Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game are experimenting to see whether Ospreys will incubate Bald Eagle eggs. Dummy replicas of eagle eggs were accepted by the Ospreys, which later were given back their own.

The Osprey nesting attempt at Salmon was successful and a pair with two nestlings was found at Stanley L., w. of Stanley, Ida. (HR). One Peregrine Falcon sighting was reported.

GALLINACEOUS BIRDS -- A female White-tailed Ptarmigan with eight young were at Cathedral Pass, Pasayten Wilderness, Okanogan Co., Wash. (DP). Two broods of Sharp-tailed Grouse were sighted near Ovando, Mont.; the species is very rare w. of the Continental Divide in the state (RH_a).

CRANES, RAILS -- Four ad. Whooping Cranes returned to Grays Lake N.W.R., this spring and 26 of 28 Whooping Crane eggs placed in Sandhill Crane nests there hatched (*vide* JR). Greater Sandhills at Malheur had a high nesting success of 63.3%. Radio-telemetry studies, however, showed heavy mortality of young, with only two of 20 chicks fitted with radios remaining at the period's end. Three Sandhills stayed until mid-June at Bestwick, B.C.; nesting was suspected (RH). Two were at Red L., n.w. of Kamloops, B.C., July 25 (JG). A pair was noted June 15 and July 3 in a small marsh 20 mi e. of Mountain Home, Ida. (KBP). A Virginia Rail, very rare in Deschutes County, was at Indian Ford C.G., Sisters, Ore., June 25 (TC, CM). A Sora July 8 at Fortine was the first seen there in recent years (WW).

SHOREBIRDS -- Malheur N.W.R. had 17 Semipalmated Plovers July 26 (MA); Bend had one June 1 (CM) and four July 30 (TC) for the only other sightings. No Snowy Plovers were seen at Malheur, because high water eliminated all nesting habitat, and none was reported else- where. Three Long-billed

Curlews were seen at the new nesting area n of Eureka, Mont. (WW). Deschutes County's first Whimbrel was there July 7 (CM) and Malheur had one July 14 (CDL). Bear Valley, Seneca, Ore., yielded three Upland Sandpipers June 18 (MA). A Solitary Sandpiper, always rare in c. Oregon, was at Bend July 30 (TC) and one visited Market L., Roberts, Ida., July 29 (JMS).

S.A.

Tom Crabtree wrote (letter received in early August) from Bend: "Two Short-billed Dowitchers arrived July 7. Nine were present July 12. By the 18th only three remained when a flight of Long-billeds occurred. There were 32 Long-billeds July 18; but by the end of the period only one Short-billed and seven Long-billeds remained. (Note: these were adults in breeding plumage and were often heard calling... in a recent Changing Seasons (AB: 1982, 982), section Don Roberson said there are not any Long-billeds in this country before mid-August. Phil Mattocks, a Northern Pacific Coast Editor for *American Birds* was with me here last week and verified the fact that almost all of our dowitchers were Long-billeds, and that's his

Red Rock Lakes N.W.R., had a surprising 110 Marbled Godwits July 15, apparently the first ever there (TM). Only three pairs of Black-necked Stilts were observed on Frenchman Hills Wasteway (RF) Hatfield L., Bend's sewage treatment plant, was an excellent spot for migrant shorebirds. Highlights were: up to 30 Least and 150 W Sandpipers, the peak July 3, and the county's first Am. Avocet July 22 (TC)

GULLS, TERNS -- The gull colony near Burns consisted primarily of Californias with 425 pairs. Franklin's Gulls did not nest on Malheur N.W.R., but 150 pairs nested n. of there; the species was detrimentally affected by high water. The refuge had a Bonaparte's Gull June 14 and an imm. bird of the species was at Orofino, Ida., June 4-5 (C.B) One was in the Ft. St. James area June 28 (G). Caspian Terns were on the increase. About 200 remained at Malheur and

two pairs there furnished the refuge's first nesting record. The Potholes had 250-300 nesting pairs and the nesting colony on Banks L., 20-30 pairs (RF). Two birds were on American Falls Res., June 20 (CHT) and one was at Lewiston, Ida, July 3-4 (RN; DG, MK). Two appeared at Ennis, Mont., June 23 and Kootenai N.W.R., had two July 17. Creston Valley W.M.A. also had two (LDN). A Black Tern near Hill City, Ida., June 11 (KBP) and two at Twin Falls, Ida. July 15 (JR) were latilong firsts. The species had been a regular summer resident at Kootenai N.W.R., until 1981, when none appeared. Last year it numbered about 15 but this year only two were sighted. It was reported nesting at Creston Valley.

PIGEONS, OWLS -- A Band-tailed Pigeon in Gallatin Gateway, Mont., June 20 furnished a latilong first (KG, JL) and two were at Three Valley, B.C., June 1 (MC). A pair of Barn Owls nested at the Boardman, Ore., coal-fired plant for the area's first breeding record (RK). A road-killed Barn Owl at Kamloops June 25 made the province's most n. record (RH). A newly fledged Screech Owl unable to fly was found at Okanagan Landing July 31 for one of few breeding records in recent years for interior British Columbia (JG). An astonishing total of 12 calling Flammulated Owls were heard on night patrols in the Lac du Bois and Paul Cr. drainage areas near Kamloops June 5-16. A nest near Paul L., June 13 contained at least one large nestling July 21 (JB, RH). A Hawk Owl nest with at least two young was found near the headwaters of Cherry Cr., elev. ca. 6000 ft., e. of Vernon, B.C., July 3 (P & PM). Burrowing Owls were more evident than normally at Malheur. Three pairs with their broods were captured there for introduction near Medford, Ore. One bird was observed regularly near Boulder, Mont., for the first sighting in several years in the Helena area (NN) and 12 were found July 9-10 in the O'Sullivan Dam--Potholes area s. of Moses L. (S.A.S.). Two ad. and a fledged imm. Great Gray Owl were sighted at Red L., n.w. of Kamloops July 25 (WE). Four flying imm. Saw-whet Owls were at Paul L., June 14 (RH).

SWIFTS, HUMMINGBIRDS -- White-throated Swifts were breeding at the new colony on the basalt cliffs n.w. of Spokane (JA). Black-

1008 *American Birds*, November-December 1983

chinned Hummingbirds were present through the period along the Middle Fork of John Day R., near Galena, Ore. Apparently the species is more common in that area than originally thought (CDL). The species was reported nesting at Walla Walla, Wash. (*vide* SM). A male of the species visited a feeder at Red Lodge, Mont., June 20 for the latilong's first record (WEH). Anna's Hummingbird was reported as having become the most common nesting species of hummer in the Bend area (TC). A male Broad-tailed at Red Lodge June 19 was the latilong's first (WEH). One at Helena during June was that area's first (CB).

WOODPECKERS, FLYCATCHERS -- Lewis' Woodpecker was nesting near Bend. The Grande Ronde R.--Field Springs S.P. area of s.e. Washington provided seven Williamson's Sapsuckers and four White-headed Woodpeckers June 25-26 (S.A.S.). A pair of Williamson's near Henrys L., June 23 was suspected of nesting (WEH). The Chewelah, Wash., area had nesting White-headed Woodpeckers (JN). Northern Three-toed Woodpeckers, some engaged in nesting activity, were located in the Wenatchee, Wash. area; in extreme n.e. Washington and n.w. Montana. Sightings were also made in the Bozeman and Helena, Mont., areas and near Island P., Ida. Eastern Kingbirds showed a drastic decline in the Malheur area and both this species and W. Kingbird were scarcer than usual in the N. Okanagan around Vernon. Clyde Holiday S.P., near John Day, Ore., had three Least Flycatchers June 18 (MA) and one was near Vernon June 30 (JG, CS) for the only reports. A pair of W. Flycatchers, rare in s.e. Idaho, was attending a nest at Scout Mountain C.G., near Pocatello July 15 for apparently that area's first breeding record (JMS). One of the species at Ennis June 23 was apparently the first in June for the latilong (WEH).

SWALLOWS THROUGH WRENS -- A Violet-green Swallow colony banded in 1980 in the Ft. St. James vicinity was unoccupied and the species less abundant

than in previous years. [Banding disturbance a factor?—Ed.]. Tree Swallow numbers there were very low. Two pairs of early nesting Tree Swallows at Fortine brought off broods but several other nests never contained eggs and after cold, rainy days in early July no adults were seen again. Barn and Cliff swallow nesting was successful there, however. Several pairs of the latter were tearing second broods, which they rarely do there. In the Vernon area all 4 of the above swallow species suffered brood mortality in early July, presumably because of the cold, wet weather. Swallow numbers on breeding bird surveys there were drastically below the 10-year average. A Bank Swallow colony estimated at 800 birds is being protected by the cement company that owns the site near Trident, Mont. (WEH). The Blue Jay that wintered at Rupert, Ida., was last seen June 1 (WHS), for the only report. Heyburn S.P., St. Maries, Ida. had nine Chestnut-backed Chickadees June 19 (S.A.S.). Three pairs of Bewick's Wrens were nesting in Walla Walla's bird sanctuary (SM). A Canyon Wren, very rare in the Bozeman latilong, was at Trident June 30 (SC, DS)

MIMIC THRUSHES THROUGH SHRIKES -- A Brown Thrasher was photographed s. of Bums, Ore., June 19 (DM, RDP) and a Sage Thrasher photographed near Kamloops was well n. of its normal range (RR). The Wenas Cr. nest box project n.w. of Yakima produced 88 Western and 62 Mountain bluebird nestlings. The bluebird trail in the Weston, Ore.-Waitsburg, Wash. area had two each of Western and Mountain bluebird nests and 11 of House Wrens. Mountain Bluebird numbers increased in the Fortine area as a result of newly installed boxes and the same was true near Bozeman. Hailstone N.W.R., near Columbus, Mont., had five Sprague's Pipits July 2 for a latilong first (WEH). Two Bohemian Waxwings at Kamloops in early July were most unusual (JUG). Preliminary investigation at Columbia N.W.R., indicate the nesting population of Loggerhead Shrikes has declined over the last 20-30 years (JRR). No Loggerheads were found on a 2000 mi. tour by Mass. Aud. Soc., which included w. Montana and much suitable habitat (WEH).

VIREOS, WARBLERS -- A singing Red-eyed Vireo at Salmon July 1 was Roberts' first for that area. The find

of the season was a male **Golden-winged Warbler** in full breeding plumage photographed at Malheur N.W.R., June 3-4 (OLS, RS, m.ob.) supposedly for Oregon's first An Orange-crowned Warbler, rare in the Helena area, was heard singing in early July at Grizzly Gulch (LT). Yellow Warblers at Columbia N.W.R. are being monitored because of an apparent decline in recent years. June brought two Ovenbird sightings at Malheur and single Am. Redstart sightings there and at Fields, Ore. (CDL).

BLACKBIRDS -- Only one Bobolink, a singing male, was found in the Chewelah vicinity (JN). One was seen near Salmon July 14 (HR) and six males were sighted at Prairie, Ida. (MRC, AL). The colony near Cusick, Wash., had 12-15 birds June 11 and two were observed between Springdale and Hunters, Wash., July 1 (JA). A few Com. Grackles were sighted at 4 localities in s.e. Idaho; an adult feeding an imm. bird at Soda Springs apparently represented the state's first breeding record (CHT)

FINCHES, SPARROWS -- An ad. male Rose-breasted Grosbeak appeared along Cottonwood Cr., s. of Fields June 11 (*fide* CDL). A mystery bird in the Salmon area July 21 was suspected of being an Indigo x Lazuli Bunting hybrid (HR). House Finches were notable for their complete absence at Malheur. Pine Siskin sightings were scarce Troy, Mont., reported good numbers and 100+ were seen July 31 in St Joe N.F., s. of St. Regis, Mont. Green-tailed Towhees were reported in the Blue Mts., near Asotin, Wash. (RM), and one was seen near Challis, Ida., July 12 (HR). Lark Buntings appeared at Three Forks and Boulder, Mont., in June after an apparent absence of many years (JS *et al.*) Grasshopper Sparrows were reported from the Nat'l Bison Range, Moiese, Mont. (WEH); in the Walla Walla area (SM, P & REW), and at Cold Springs N.W.R., Hermiston, Ore. (C & MC). A Baird's Sparrow at Big L., n. of Columbus, Mont., July 2 furnished a latilong first (WEH, MR). The Boardman area had a Black-throated Sparrow June 6 (RK). The Avery and Mivoden, Ida., and Keller and Reardan, Wash., B.S.S.s continued last year's trend of markedly lower Chipping Sparrow numbers and Ft. St. James sent a negative report for both this species and the Clay-colored Sparrow. Four of the latter were singing near Vernon

June 30 (JG, CS). White-crowned Sparrows were reported only on the Avery B.B.S. except for a surprising one at Selah, Wash., June 30 (Y.A.S.). Fox Sparrows were reported in numbers in Glacier N.P., Mont., and on the Avery B.B.S. with the highest number ever on the latter. Lincoln's Sparrow numbers at Ft. St. James appeared to be about double last year's. One singing in the valley bottom e. of Vernon June 30 was most unusual (CS).

ADDENDUM -- David Fix sent the following in response to my remarks about Pectoral Sandpiper migration (AB 37:203): "... I would reinterpret your evidence. Pecs are *long-distance migrants*, which could scarcely be envisioned as having a traditional route involving the fantastic sharp flight angles and very short flight legs you suggest they employ. Note that shorebirds of this group more likely fly over inhospitable habitat, without [the] problems of 'having' to land on 'convenient' wildlife refuges and related well-watched spots. Just because you have little data from elsewhere (other than cited locations) does not indicate that your Pecs must stop in largely at these places . . ."

OBSERVERS CITED -- James Acton (JA), John & Nancy Anderson (J & NA), Merle Archie, Chris Bakula (CB), Bill Belknap, Canyon Birders (C.B.), Jack Bowling, Mel Branch Mark R. Collie, Mary Collins (MC), Craig & Marion Corder (C & MC), Sharon Cotterell, Tom Crabtree, Gary Davidson, Wayne Erickson, David Fix, Ron Friesz, Dorothy Garvey, Keith Giezantner, Graebel (G), James Grant (JG), Jude Grass (JUG), Paul Hanna, W. Edward Harper, Rob Hazelwood (RHa), George Holton, Rick Howie (RH), Ronald Klein, Merlene Koliner, Al Larson, Jerry Light, C. D. Littlefield, Dave Markley, Pat & Peter McAllister, Terry McEneaney, Sid Martin (SMa), Craig Miller, Robert Morse, Shirley Muse (SM), Larry D. Napier, Ron Neu, Jack Nisbet, Norma Nixon, Richard D. Palmer, Don Pridmore, Kerry B Provance, James R. Rees, M. Reinstein, Ralph Ritcey, Hadley Roberts, Jeff Ruprecht, Owen L. Schmidt, W. H. Shillington, John M. Shipley Jr., Chris Siddle, Don Skaar, Richard Smith, Jim Sparks, Spokane Audubon Society (S.A.S.), Larry Thompson, C. H. Trost, Bob Tubbs, Winton Weydemeyer, Pat & R. E. Woodley, and Yakima Audubon Society (Y.A.S.).

Volume 37, Number 6 1009

The Nesting Season, 1983

NORTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION

/Phil Mattocks, Bill Harrington-Tweit, Eugene Hunn

This summer was wetter than usual. The Seattle and Vancouver, B.C., weather stations received about an inch more precipitation per month than the long term averages. Perhaps more crucially, the rain was concentrated in a few periods of several days each, with resultant brood mortality widely noted among some passerine species. The alcid reports correlated well with a disruptive effect of "El Nino," but truly solid data regarding seabird breeding in the Region were lacking. Presumably the frigatebird, the Heermann's Gulls, and possibly the early Xantus' Murrelets, came farther north than usual with the warmer water. Five vagrant eastern warblers were found during the last half of June and very early July. Each of the species involved ranges well into western Canada.

LOONS THROUGH IBISES -- Common Loons were noted, as usual, on suitable lakes in the Campbell R., Vancouver I. (hereafter, V.I.) area (HT. RC). The first young of the year seen on salt water was with two adults off Witty Beach, Metchosin, V.I., July 10 (M & VG). A **Yellow-billed Loon** in non-breeding plumage was seen June 21 on Boundary Bay, Delta (†MF *et al.*), for the first summer report for the Vancouver, B.C., area. The 40 W. Grebes at Bellingham, Wash., June 12 (TW) was the largest flock reported, and they were not seen after that date. These low numbers have become the norm in recent years. Two Eared Grebes at the Kent, Wash., sewage ponds June 3 and July 26 (RF) provided unusual summer records. The 145 Black-footed Albatrosses off Westport July 28, was TW's

highest July count in 12 years. There were 56 N. Fulmars seen off Westport July 28 (TW *et al.*), and another dozen off the mouth of the Columbia R., July 17 (DA *et al.*). The 28 Pink-footed Shearwaters off Westport July 28 was well below the long term July average there. Ten Pink-footeds were 30 mi off Astoria July 17, and six were seen from Long Beach, Pacific Rim N.P., July 27 (JI). The unprecedentedly early arrival of Brown Pelicans in Washington May 30 was followed by up to a dozen around Kalaloch, Grays Harbor, and Ilwaco throughout June and July (MkM, m.ob.). The first large flocks were noted on the c. Oregon coast in mid-July (DF, HN *et al.*). A flock of 13 White Pelicans at Roberts Bank, Delta, B.C., July 11-13 (ph., M. Williams *et al.*) furnished only the tenth Vancouver area record. An imm. **Magnificent Frigatebird** made an appearance in coastal Oregon for the 4th record for the state. The bird was seen at Newport at midday July 29 (ph., J. Hannum, A. Prigge) and 50 mi. away at the s. jetty of the Siuslaw R., several hours later (PDF). Several Great Egrets summered at Coos Bay (AMc) as is usual. North of there, two were around Vancouver L., Wash., June 18-25 (P. Muller, DA). The four Snowy Egrets back to Pony Slough, Coos Bay, Oreg., by June 7 were "surprisingly early" (AMc, JGi). Two Snowies were also seen at the nearby Bandon marsh, on the Coquille R., July 17 (AMc). A single ad. Black-crowned Night Heron was found at Pony Slough June 11 (AMc). An ad. **White-faced Ibis** was seen July 20 on Cordova Spit, C. Saanich (†KT, †C. Harper) for only the second record for Vancouver I.

DUCKS THROUGH RAILS -- Gadwall broods were reported only from the Kent, Wash., sewage ponds and the Montlake fill in Seattle (EH). A count of 700+ Gadwalls obtained June 18 at Iona I. (RP), was the highest ever for the Vancouver, B.C., area. Several other individuals were seen July 17 on the Snohomish R. delta near Everett (TS), and five were at the S.J.C.R. June 18 (JGi, D. Irons). The recent increase of this species as a breeding bird in the Region has been described in *The Murrelet* 64:27. 1983. A pair of Blue-winged Teal with seven young were in C. Saanich, V.I., June 21 (BW) for the only nesting reported this season. A N. Shoveler brood was noted in Seattle June 16 (EH). A

Volume 37, Number 6 1019

pair of Redheads with seven young near Tatla L., e of Kleena Keene, B.C., June 30, were at the w. edge of the species' breeding range (D. Webster, W. Bailey). Nesting was documented for several other species that are rare breeders in the Region. A female and nine young Ring-necked Ducks were seen on Ft. Lewis, near Tacoma, Wash., July 2 (GW). Two other pairs were also in the same area. A brood of Barrow's Goldeneyes was on Blue L., 3 mi s.w. of Mt. St. Helens, Wash., July 9 (DA), and several adults with young were noted on Gold L., s.e. of Eugene, Oreg. July 10 (T & AMi). A downy young Bufflehead was found s. of Sayward, B.C. (HT). Ruddy Ducks nested again at the Lane Community College ponds in Eugene, Oreg. Seven broods were noted through the season (SH, DF). A successful Turkey Vulture nest was watched at Agate L., near Medford, Oreg. (MjM, ph., MPa), and nesting near Bellingham, Wash., was suspected (TW). There were only a few reports of White-tailed Kites from the Region this summer. One was seen June 19 on the Nisqually N.W.R., Wash. (†JM, PK). Two sightings were from Medford July 9 & 24, and could have been the same bird (MjM). Two pairs of kites nested in Tillamook County, Oreg. (B. Henry, Oreg. Dept. Fish & Wildlife, *vide* HN). One nest successfully fledged two young; the other failed. The 4 Cooper's Hawk nests on s. V.I., mentioned in the Spring Migration report each fledged several young (M. Nyhof, RW). The 2 Bald Eagle nests around L. Washington near Seattle both fledged young this season (B. Robbins). Several pairs of Marsh Hawks, some exhibiting courtship behavior, were noted at Boundary Bay airport, Delta, B.C. (DK). A pair was also found at the Kent, Wash., sewage ponds (RH), but no further evidence of nesting was obtained at either site. There were numerous successful Osprey nests reported from throughout the Region. Seven Peregrines were reported. All were single birds and were from Tatoosh I., Wash., C. Saanich, V.I., Iona I., and Delta, B.C. At least three pairs of Merlins spent the season in the Campbell R., V.I., area, but no evidence of nesting was obtained (HT, RC). Female White-tailed Ptarmigan with young were found in late July at 2 sites in Garibaldi P.P., B.C. (M & BMc), and a male was seen on Glacier Peak, Wash., in late June (EH). Bobwhite were more widely reported than usual, with observations from along Hood Canal, on Ft.

Lewis, and near McKenna, Wash., and near Estacada and Philomath, Oreg. There were numerous family groups of California Quail noted on s V.I., which is near the n. limit of the species' range (*fide* VG). Two pairs of Virginia Rails were attracted to tapes on Quadra I. and another pair at Salmon Pt., both being near Campbell R., V.I. (HT, RC). Two Soras were seen often at Woodhus slough near Campbell R., and a juvenile was seen there July 17 (HT, RC).

SHOREBIRDS -- A Snowy Plover nest was found June 12 at Ocean Shores, Wash. (MkM), and two young birds from separate broods were seen there June 25 (G & WH). Single Am. Golden Plovers were found July 8 at Iona I. (F. Walker), July 11 at Esquimalt Lagoon, s. V.I. (†M & VG), and July 26 at Nehalem meadows, n. of Tillamook, Oreg. (JGi). All of these dates were earlier than the usual fall arrival. The first fall migrant Ruddy Turnstones and Wandering Tattlers made a widespread appearance July 15-20 at coastal sites throughout the Region. Single Long-billed Curlews were scattered along the coast, and three were on Blackie Spit, Crescent Beach, B.C., July 3 (MF, L. Koch). Three ad. **Solitary Sandpipers** were found June 25 at the Gold Lake Bog in the c. Oregon Cascades e. of Eugene (JC, SH *et al.*). This is the locality where the species possibly bred in 1981 (*Am. Birds* 35:971). Returning Lesser Yellowlegs were first noted June 23 at Iona I. (BK) and June 29 in Seattle (EH). There was one Greater Yellowlegs at Oak Bay, V.I., June 14 & 17 (RS). Otherwise the first small flocks occurred June 24-27, at Blackie Spit, Ocean Shores, Wash., the S.J.C.R., and Coos Bay. Seven Surfbirds on the Westport, Wash., jetty June 4 provided the latest spring record for that state (JSm). Eight Red Knots seen at Ocean Shores on several occasions during June must have summered in the area (MkM, G & WH). The first few migrant Semipalmated Sandpipers were noted at Iona I., June 23 (BK), at Oak Bay and Metchosin Lagoon, s V.I., July 3 (KT), in Seattle July 7 (J. Glixen), and at Tillamook, Oreg., July 10 (JGi). Western and Least sandpipers arrived throughout the Region in late June. A breeding-plumaged stint reported as a Little Stint was closely observed July 21 at Iona I., B.C. (†MF, †JI, †BK). No photograph or specimen of a Little Stint has yet been obtained s. of Alaska, and it is still not clear whether a molting or paler-than-usual Rufous-necked Stint might be

mistaken for this species (*fide* DP). There were 2 reports of Long-toed Stints, but neither had supporting details. Single Baird's Sandpipers were seen June 7 at Yaquina Bay, Oreg (HN), and July 3 at Iona I. (BM). Widespread first arrivals of both Baird's and Pectoral sandpipers were reported July 13-16. An **Curlew Sandpiper** was seen July 17 on Bayocean Spit, Tillamook, Oreg. (†DF, A. Dyck *et al.*). This was about the 5th sighting for that state (*fide* HN). The only reports of Stilt Sandpipers were of one at Boundary Bay, B.C., July 14 (M. Daly), two at nearby Serpentine Fen July 16-17 (BM), and one at Tillamook July 17 (DF, E & EE *et al.*) A breeding-plumaged **Bar-tailed Godwit** was found June 10 near Bay Center, along Willapa Bay (†JM, PK), for the fifth spring record for Washington. A Hudsonian Godwit was studied at Blackie Spit, B.C., June 3 (†J. & D. Williams), and another was seen briefly at Iona I., July 15 (†BK, †GT). An Am. Avocet was seen June 11-12 on the beach near L. Ozette, Wash., for one of only a few records for w. Washington (D Norman). Eleven Wilson's Phalaropes were reported June 1-7 from 4 localities, but there were no reports of nesting. The 500 N. Phalaropes on Yaquina Bay, Oreg., June 7 were late (HN). A few were seen at Manzanita, n of Tillamook, Oreg. June 11 (T. Crabtree). The count of 300 Red Phalaropes July 27 off Long Beach, V.I. (JI), was the highest count recorded for Pacific Rim N.P.

JAEGERS THROUGH ALCIDS -- Four Pomarine Jaegers were seen 30 mi offshore from the S.J.C.R., July 17 (DA *et al.*), and two were off Westport July 28 (TW *et al.*). More than 1000 California Gulls were at Roberts Bank, Delta, B.C., June 19 (MPr, BM). These must have been non-breeding birds, as Californias returned as usual in large numbers in July to the remainder of the Region. At least two pairs of Mew Gulls were noted July 1 on a small island in Kains L., w. of Port Hardy, at the n. tip of Vancouver I. (HT). Two Franklin's Gulls off Iona I., June 2 (GT) may have been late spring migrants. Single adults were seen there June 24 (RP, BK) and at the S.J.C.R., June 24 (HN). The first immatures were seen July 28 at Iona I. (JI) and July 31 at Clover Pt., Victoria (RS). An ad. Little Gull was seen at Clover Pt., Victoria July 19 (†RS) for the eighth record for s. V.I. An imm. Little Gull was sighted on the log booms at Iona I., June 23-July 3 (†BK *et al.*, ph., P. Yorke) for the eighth record for the Vancouver area.

Interestingly, this bird wore a F & W.S. band on the left leg, but observers could not get close enough to read the numbers. The origin of the increase in Little Gull sightings in the Region over the last few years has been presumed to be the new breeding locations in Canada, but there is as yet no evidence. An early Heermann's Gull was on the Westport, Wash., jetty June 4 (JSm) Flocks of 8-9 were at Ocean Shores June 12 and at Dungeness, Wash, June 19 (MkM), and an immature was n. to Iona I., June 19-20 (RP) for the first Vancouver, B.C., area summer record. On June 24 about 50 Heermann's flew N past the S.J.C.R. (HN) and about that many were around Tatoosh I., Wash. (B. Paine). The first arrival on s. V.I. was an adult in C. Saanich June 27 (J & RS). Thereafter the species was widely reported in increasing numbers from s. V.I. southward. Five Arctic Tern individuals and one nest with 2 eggs were found June 12 at their breeding outpost on Jetty I., Everett, Wash. (EH) Five Forster's Terns found June 24 at the S.J.C.R., were among few records for the Region (†HN). Common Terns, this Region's regular *Sterna* species, arrived at most coastal localities July 18-25. A single Com Tern apparently summered near Iona I. (BK). Caspian Terns continued their N advance. Five were at Port Hardy, V.I., June 15 (D. Turnbull), and four were at Sandspit, Queen Charlotte Is., July 6-8 (MS). A Black Tern was sighted at Iona I., June 1 (M. Coates) and three were there June 2 (GT). Another was seen in Rosario Strait, w. of Bellingham, Wash. during June (P. DeBruyn). Common Murres apparently suffered a very poor nesting season. Many fewer young birds than usual were found on beach surveys in n Oregon (HN, B. Loeffel), and TW's July 28 boat trip off Westport noted only about 10 chicks. Adult Murres were unusually numerous in n Puget Sound waters, perhaps due also to a failed breeding effort. Further information regarding the effects of the warmer offshore water ("El Nino") on breeding success was extremely sparse. An imm. Marbled Murrelet was found with two adults June 29 along the coast n of

absence of immatures. Three **Xantus' Murrelets** were noted July 28 off Westport (TW *et al.*) for the first record for Washington since 1979, and the earliest ever. The 21 Cassin's Auklets seen off Westport July 28 was a small fraction of the average numbers for that season (TW). Two were noted July 17 about 30 mi off the S.J.C.R. (DA *et al.*). Fewer than usual Tufted Puffins were noted at their Cape Meares nest rock (HN) for the only breeding information received on this species.

PARROTS THROUGH WOODPECKERS -- Nine Monk Parakeets and a nest were observed during July at 26th and Jarrett St., in Portland (HN) This nest was reported to have been present for 3 years. Up to 12 were also noted during July near the Portland airport (DA), and one was sighted at Iona I., July 25-28 (MF, T. Plath, BK). At least one pair of Hawk Owls apparently bred at the burn in Manning P.P., again this year (*fide* J. Skriletz). The Barred Owls in Discovery P., Seattle, fledged two young in late May and the family group was seen through June (D. Beaudette *et al.*). Two ad. and an imm. Barred Owl were seen July 1-3 near Manson's Landing, Cortes I., B.C. (HT). A juv. female Barred Owl was found dead July 30 near Chilliwack, B.C. (M. Holm, * to Cowan Vertebrate Mus., Univ. of B.C.). A single Barred Owl was also noted June 19 near Oyster R., s. of Campbell R., V.I. (HT). The Long-eared Owl in Scoggins Valley P., near Forest Grove, Oreg., stayed through the season (HN). Two adults and four imm., Short-eared Owls were observed July 8-11 at the Boundary Bay airport, Delta, B.C. (DK *et al.*) for the only nesting reported this season. An adult and two imm., Saw-whet Owls were seen in late July in Seattle (D. Hutchinson). Common Nighthawks were reported to be "quite common", "common", or "not as scarce as last year" from Campbell R., V.I. (HT), s. V.I. (VG *et al.*), Orcas and San Juan Is. (W. Harm), and Ft. Lewis, near Tacoma, Wash. (GW). They were, however, considered still scarce farther s. (DA, E & EE). About eight Black Swifts were seen each weekend during July at Salt Cr. Falls, e. Lane Co., Oreg. (R. Robb, T & AMi *et al.*), but no evidence of breeding was obtained. Eleven Black Swifts were seen July 27 over Talent, Oreg., (†MjM *et al.*) for the first record for the Rogue R. valley. Farther n., the species was also more widely reported than usual. High counts were flocks of 60 at the Kent, Wash., sewage ponds June 3 (RH), of 250 at Kitsilano Beach, Vancouver, B.C., June 18 (MPt), and

1020 *American Birds*, November-December 1983

Florence, Oreg (R & J Krabbe) A large concentration of 73 Marbleds was seen June 19 off Pt. Roberts, Wash. (RP), but there was no mention of the presence or

45 over Mt. Tolmie, Saanich, V.I., June 24 (S Fowler). Nestling Vaux's Swifts were found in a chimney in Seattle July 23 (E. Ratoosh). An imm. Anna's Hummingbird was sighted with adults in Saanich June 14 (M. & R. Mackenzie-Grieve), and several immatures were seen at a feeder in W. Vancouver, B.C. (C. Butt) A d' Anna's was still farther n. at a feeder in Terrace, B.C., June 11 (D George). A male **Costa's Hummingbird** visited a feeder in Roseburg, Ore. June 8-15 (R. Grenfell, *fide* AMc). A Com. Flicker nest was found during June in a sandstone cliff cavity along the coast n. of Florence, Ore. (B. & K. Wilson). An Acorn Woodpecker was seen July 17 at the junction of Highways 6 & 26 n. of Forest Grove, Ore. (DA). This is the farthest n. regular locality for this species. A female "Red-naped" Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was found June 11 paired with a male Red-breasted Sapsucker about 10 min. of Sooke, V.I. (RW). The pair and several nestlings were seen often at the nest site through July 1 (KT, M & VG, ph. of both birds, T. Zurowski). At least four pairs of Hairy Woodpeckers with nestlings or fledglings were noted on s V.I. this season (VG *et al.*). Pairs of Hairy Woodpeckers fledged young at Kalama Springs Campground, 5 min. of Cougar, Wash., (DA), and at Washburne S.P., n. of Eugene, Ore. (SG). There were numerous reports of other individuals in the s. V.I. and Corvallis areas also. A pair of Black-backed Three-toed Woodpeckers fledged young during June near Kalama Springs Campground in a stand of Noble Fir killed by the Mt. St. Helens mudflow (DA). Nests of the N. Three-toed Woodpecker were located on Mt. Baker, Wash. (J. Penhallurick) and at Gold L., e Lane Co., Ore. (M. Robbins).

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH WAXWINGS -- There were 4 sightings of individual E. Kingbirds June 20-July 13 at 3 locales in Saanich and C Saanich, V.I. (*fide* VG). Single E. Kingbirds were at Flaming Geyser S.P., and nearby Kent, Wash., sewage ponds June 18-24 (RT, RH), and near Everett, Wash., July 17 (TS). Others were seen at their usual breeding areas near Vancouver, B.C., and along the Skagit R., Wash. A pair of W. Kingbirds fledged young in Broadbent, Ore. for the first kingbird nesting record for Coos County (AMc). Six vagrant individuals were reported from well n. of the species' breeding range, including one photographed July 13-14 near Torino, on the w. coast

of V.I. (J & RS). Twelve Ash-throated Flycatchers fledged from nest boxes around Agate L., near Medford, Ore. (MPa). A Black Phoebe was nesting June 7 beneath the Euchre C. bridge n. of Gold Beach on Highway 101 (JGi). A **Least Flycatcher** was noted June 5 in Redmond, Wash., for only the third w. Washington record (†RT). Both previous records were also in June. Two Dusky Flycatchers were tape-recorded June 26 on Mt. Bolivar, s. Ore., (GK, *fide* AMc) for a first Coos County record. A female and two male Purple Martins at the head of Cowichan Bay, Duncan, V.I., June 30-July 22 were the only ones reported from B.C. (VG *et al.*). Elsewhere, numbers appeared to be at normal levels (T. Bock, DF). Adult Gray Jays were feeding recently fledged young June 25 at Washburne S.P., n. of Eugene, Ore. (SG). A pair of Bushtits was seen carrying nest material, and later food, near Campbell R., V.I., but the nest was not found (HT, RC). This is the n. limit of the range of this species. Substantially more Plain Titmice were seen in the Rogue R valley this season than usual (MjM, OS), and 14 were fledged from nest boxes near Medford (MPa). A Rock Wren was discovered May 30 above Hagg L., w. of Forest Grove, Ore. on the e. slope of the Coast Range (VT, JGa). On Aug 8 a pair of Rock Wrens was seen there feeding a fledgling (VT, JGa) Rock Wrens were also found in more expected locations on the w. slope of the Cascades. A pair was found during June at a nest site near Naches Pass, King Co., Wash. (C. & B. Pearson). Two were present June 6-9 in a clearcut at 3600 ft, 14 miles s.s.e. of McKenzie Bridge, Lane Co. (M Donahue, J. Buchanon), and one was found July 10 on Mt. Ray, near Gold L., Lane Co. (Tmi, JC). The Mockingbird in Medford, Ore., stayed from March until mid- August (MjM). Another appeared there June 29-30 but was driven off Other single Mockingbirds were found June 14 in Vancouver, Wash (A. Moore, *fide* I. Allen), June 14 at La Push, Wash. (†S. Hiebert), June 23 at Forest Grove, Ore., (JGa), and June 29, at River Jordan, V.I. (†M & VG). A vagrant Sage Thrasher was video-taped June 6 at Fern Ridge Res., near Eugene, Ore. (DF). A minimum count of 50 Veeries was reported June 5 along the road to Pemberton meadows, about 80 min. of Vancouver, B.C. (BK). Further outlining of the w. edge of this species' range was provided by the location of a single Veery along the Skagit R., w. of Newhalem, Wash., June 5 (IW), and of three birds much farther n. near Terrace, B.C., July 2 (MS). Western Bluebirds had a very successful season, at least at 3 nest-box trails.

There were 167 fledglings around Agate L., near Medford, Oreg (MPa), and 140 fledglings by late June at Corvallis (E & EE). A trail on Ft. Lewis, near Tacoma, Wash., experienced 21 successful nestings (GW). There were several broods noted on s. V.I., including one from the same snag used last year 10 mi. n. of Sooke (RW). Two ad. and an imm. **Townsend's Solitaire** were found July 1-2 about 9 mi. n. of Sooke, V.I. (RW, ph.). This furnished the second breeding record for Vancouver I. To the s., the expansion of the breeding range of the Townsend's Solitaire into the Coast Range of Oregon was further documented. Twelve were found w. of Forest Grove June 19 and July 23 (JGa *et al.*), and seven were on Mt. Bolivar, Coos Co., June 25-26 (AMc, GK). Two nests of Blue-gray Gnatcatchers were noted in June at their regular site on Roxy Ann Butte, Medford, Oreg. (HN). Both nests were apparently successful (MjM). A **Bohemian Waxwing** seen June 16 on Haida Pt., Orcas I., Wash., was most unusual (†SA, FS).

VIREOS THROUGH SPARROWS -- Several Red-eyed Vireos were noted at Duncan, Saanich, and Metchosin, V.I., but no evidence of breeding was obtained (KT, RW, B. Hay). The Lane County, Oreg., Atlas program, headed by Steve Gordon, located Red-eyed Vireos at several new sites, including along the Long Tom R., near Elmira, on the w. side of the Willamette Valley (DF, SH). A male **Magnolia Warbler** was found June 26 about 10 mi. n. of Sooke, V.I. (†KT, †R. Taylor *et al.*) for the fourth record for Vancouver I. A male **Chestnut-sided Warbler** was seen June 13-14 in Carnation, e. of Seattle (†EG, D. Finch, K. Kaufmann, m. ob., ph, ME, T. Schooley) for the fourth record for Washington. All the previous records were during June 11-19. An **Ovenbird** was seen June 17 at Friday Harbor, San Juan I.

Volume 37, Number 6 1021

(†SA, FS), for the second w. Washington record. The first was also in late June. Another Ovenbird appeared June 19-20 at Wolf Cr., Oreg. (E. Pugh). A bird believed to be a male Mourning Warbler was seen July 3 near Harrison Mills, e. of Vancouver, B.C. (†BK).

This was the first reported sighting for s.w. British Columbia. A pair of **Northern Waterthrushes** was photographed and tape-recorded July 8 along Salt Cr., above the Falls, in s.e. Lane Co. (L. McQueen). This location is just across the Cascade crest from the isolated breeding colony along Crescent Cr. (see *Am. Birds* 31:1182 & 34:924). Yellow-breasted Chats were more numerous than usual in the Rogue R. valley this summer (MjM, OS). Forty were located during a canoe trip there June 12 (OS). A chat was present again this year near Broadbent, along the Coquille R., Oreg. (AMc), and one stayed at Scoggins Valley P., near Forest Grove, Oreg. (JGa *et al.*) Single male Am. Redstarts were seen June 4 & 14 at their regular site along the Skykomish R., at Sultan, Wash. (ME, EH). A male **Bobolink** found June 1 in Saanich, V.I. (J. MacGregor *et al.*) provided the first spring record for Vancouver I. A nesting colony of about 36 **Tricolored Blackbirds** discovered June 25 in Portland, Oreg. was about 300 mi. n. of any previously known colony (M. Houck, B. Lowrie *et al.*, m.ob.). The birds left the immediate nest site July 14, and were last seen in the area July 31 (*fide* HN). The nesting colony of Yellow-headed Blackbirds on Sea I., near Vancouver, B.C., had 12 adults and two nestlings June 24 (JI). Two ad. N. Orioles and fledglings at Hammond, Oreg., (JG *et al.*) furnished the first nesting record for the n. Oregon coast. Northern Orioles nested again this season on Vancouver I., with 2 broods noted in Saanich (M. Crowther, A. Gillan). Immature Brown-headed Cowbirds were reported from Saanich and Metchosin, V.I., parasitizing a Swainson's Thrush, a Yellow-rumped Warbler, a House Finch, and several Dark-eyed Juncos (VG *et al.*). Three broods of Evening Grosbeaks were noted at Metchosin, V.I., for the only report of breeding this season (M & VG). Many more Purple Finches than usual were present near Campbell R., V.I. (HT, RC). Fledgling Red Crossbills begging for food were noted June 4-5 on Camano I., Wash. (D. Farner), July 9 in C. Saanich, V.I. (BW), and July 17 s. of Tacoma, Wash. (GW). The species was in lower-than-usual numbers in s.w. Oregon (AMc) and around Mt. St. Helens (DA). However, Red Crossbills were well reported farther n. in Washington and they were the "most common finch of the season" at Campbell R., V.I. (GT, RC). A breeding-plumaged male **Lark Bunting** was photographed July 17 just s. of Yachats in coastal Lane County, Oreg. (A. Martin). A Vesper Sparrow was on territory June 3 just w. of Cobble Hill, s. of Duncan, V.I. (RW, V. Peters). Five singing Vesper

Sparrows were noted June 21-22, in coastal Curry County, Oreg., (P. Springer). A **Black-throated Sparrow** was photographed June 29 at Clear L., just w. of Santiam Pass, Oreg., (N. McDonald), for about the 12th record for the Region. All but 2 of the previous records have been in late May and early June. Six Golden-crowned Sparrows in Garibaldi P.P., July 23 were near the s. edge of the breeding range of the species (MMc).

INITIALED OBSERVERS AND
ABBREVIATIONS, -- with sub-Regional editors in
boldface. David Anderson, Scott Atkinson, Jim
Carlson, Robert Catchpole, Mark Egger, Elsie & Elzy
Eltzroth, **David Fix**, Mike Force, John Gatchett (JGa),
Jeff Gilligan (JGi), Margaret & **Vic Goodwill**, Steve
Gordon, Rusty Hazard, Steve Heintz, Glen & Wanda
Hoge, John Ireland, Brian Kautsky, Geoff Keller,
Paulette Kotter, **Doug Kragh**, Bruce Macdonald, Alan
McGie (AMc), Mike & Barb McGrenere (M & BMc),
James Meislor, Tom & Allison Mickel (T & AMi), Mark
Moon (MkM), **Marjorie Moore** (MjM), **Harry Nehls**,
Mike Paczolt (MPa). **Dennis Paulson**, Roy Phillips,
Michael Price (MPr), Joy & Ron Satterfield (J & RS),
Fred Sharpe, Michael Shepard, Jan Smith (JSm), Terri
Spencer, Otis Swisher, Keith Taylor, Verta Teale,
Howard Telosky, Glen Thomson, Rob Thorne, **Terry
Wahl**, George Walker, Bruce Whittington, Ray
Williams, S.J.C.R. = South jetty of the Columbia R.,
Oreg., † = written description on file.

End 1983

1984

Autumn Migration, 1983

**NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN -
INTERMOUNTAIN REGION**

/Thomas H. Rogers

The Region enjoyed a warm autumn with late freezing of lakes and ponds, inviting lingerers. The western part of the Region was generally dry and the eastern part wet in August through October. The situation reversed after that, with November one of the wettest on record in eastern Oregon and Washington but relatively dry eastward. High water levels at Malheur N.W.R., Burns, Oregon, provided roadside habitat where shorebirds were easily observed. Conversely, low water at American Falls Reservoir in southern Idaho provided excellent feeding areas for this group.



LOONS, GREBES -- A summer-plumaged Red-throated Loon was photographed on Cascade Res., Valley Co., Ida., Aug. 27 (MRC, m.ob.) and one was observed at Massacre Rocks S.P., Power Co., Ida., Oct.

13 (DMT). Two Arctic Loons at Massacre Rocks Nov. 6+ were eventually shot by hunters (*to Idaho St. Univ.--CHT). One was sighted on Wilson Lake Res., Jerome Co., Ida. Nov. 23 (MRC). Three were at Okanagan Landing, B.C., Nov. 21-30 (PR) and one or two were photographed on Island L., Crowsnest Pass, Alta., Nov. 1-2 (MDO, DFF, MW, CT). Silver L., Spokane Co., Wash., had two Oct. 23 (JA) and one was on L. Lenore, Grant Co., Wash., Oct. 21-22 (DP). A Yellow-billed Loon visited Okanagan Landing Nov. 21-30 (PR, m.ob.). An ad. Red-necked Grebe feeding an imm. bird at Henrys L., Fremont Co., Ida., confirmed breeding there (CHT). Malheur N.W.R. reported the best nesting success ever for W. Grebes there, with an estimated 8750 young produced. Two ad. and two fully grown imm light-phase ("Clark's") Grebes were observed on Wilson Lake Res., Nov. 23 (MRC) and two were on the Columbia R., in Richland, Wash., Oct. 23 (REW).

224 American Birds, March-April 1984

PELICANS, CORMORANTS -- American White Pelican numbers were down markedly at N. Potholes Res., Moses L., Wash. Three of this species were on Creston Wildlife Centre, s.e. B.C., Nov. 12 (PRS). An aerial survey at Malheur Nov. 7 revealed 1285 Double-crested Cormorants, a much higher count than normal. The species had at least 30 active nests this year at N. Potholes.

HERONS, IBISES -- Most colonial nesters at Malheur had a good year, production as follows: Great Blue Heron 940; Great Egret 1530; Snowy Egret 180; Black-crowned Night-Heron 1950 and White-faced Ibis 1020. A Cattle Egret lingered in a Franklin County, Wash., pasture in late November (TT, GS) and singles were sighted in Glacier N.P., B.C., Nov. 1 (ED) and at Revelstoke, B.C., the next day (RB). Two were sighted near Springfield, Ida. Sept. 7 (DMT, CHT) and one was at Big Timber, Mont., Oct. 6 (BE). Klamath County, Ore., had a Green-backed Heron Sept. 18 (SS) and two juveniles were at Tranquille, B.C., Aug. 3. The birds are extremely rare in interior British Columbia (RR).

WATERFOWL -- Metcalf N.W.R., Stevensville, Mont., witnessed the passage of 1500 Tundra Swans, the largest aggregation reported. The sewage pond at Hatfield L., Bend, Ore., had 14 of the birds, which are rarely seen in that area. Trumpeter Swans numbered 39 at Malheur Nov. 28-29 and the three adults and one cygnet at Turnbull N.W.R., Cheney, Wash., remained to the period's end. A lone Trumpeter appeared at La Grande, Ore., Nov. 24-27 (JE, m.ob.). Stratford L., Grant Co., Wash., had at least nine Greater White-fronted and 16 Snow geese plus four blue-phase. A lone Greater White-fronted appeared on Pend Oreille L., n. Ida. (PLH) and Malheur had a blue-phase Snow. Up to 100,000 Canada Geese were counted on Stratford L., and other waters of Grant Co., Wash., in October (JA, RF). Their peak at Turnbull was 3899, over three times last year's, and the Idaho Panhandle aerial survey showed 3527, up slightly (I.F.G.). Malheur's goose peaks were: Canada 4535; Snow 3500; and Ross' 700. Canadas at Columbia and Saddle Mountain N.W.R.s, Othello, Wash., reached 3320 and 1470 respectively and up to 3000 were at Richland. Because of high water levels duck use at Turnbull was double last year's, with Mallards, N. Pintails and Am. Wigeon accounting for most of the rise. Mallards at Minidoka N.W.R., Rupert, Ida., peaked at 18,000, Gadwall at 1000, Canvasback at 1800, Bufflehead at 2000, Com. Goldeneye at 1000 and Red-breasted Mergansers at 200. Peak puddle duck numbers at Malheur follow: Green-winged Teal 3860, Mallard 5735, N. Pintail 7105, Cinnamon Teal 12,450, Gadwall 7890, and Am. Wigeon 8275. Numbers were comparable to previous years for puddle ducks on aerial surveys over the Idaho Panhandle Nov. 11: Mallard 11,552, Am. Wigeon 14,680, and Gadwall 450 (first time on fall count for the last). Canvasback numbers at 2700 on that survey were by far the highest since at least 1972 and Lesser Scaup showed very high numbers at 4800. Redheads numbered 16,860 and Ring-necked Ducks 2500. For rarities two Eur. Wigeon were at Yakima Nov. 25 (Y.A.S.) and a male was with four Ø wigeon on Deep L., s.e. of Northport, Wash. Nov. 15 (VB). A supposed Am. x Eur. Wigeon appeared at Bend Oct. 18 (TC). Two male Harlequin Ducks were at Trail, B.C., Nov. 7+ and a female was sighted there Nov. 21 (ME). A female Oldsquaw stayed at Turnbull Nov. 11+ (m.ob.) and one was at Castlegar, B.C., Nov. 27- 30 (ME). Surf Scoter sightings were up:

at Trail (ME) and Crowsnest Pass (MDO), B.C.; at Wilson L. and Am. Falls Res. (MRC); at Massacre Rocks an imm. female collected for apparently the first Idaho specimen (JMS); at Bear Lake N.W.R., Bear Lake Co., Ida., (GLD); at Bend (TC), and Upper Klamath L., Ore. (SS), and at L. Lenore (JA). A few White-winged Scoters, slightly less unusual, appeared in s. British Columbia, n. Idaho, e. Washington and at Lakeview, Ore. Single Red-breasted Mergansers were identified on the Snake R., at Lewiston, Ida. (WHe *et al.*) and at Richland (REW), and Malheur obtained its first record and s.e. Oregon's second (MA). Up to eight appeared in Elk Valley near Sparwood, B.C. (DFF).

VULTURES THROUGH FALCONS -- A very late Turkey Vulture was weathering a snowstorm on a snag near Flathead, B.C., Nov. 10 (GK). One or two nestling Ospreys were seen Aug. 7 on the artificial structure erected for them at Salmon, Ida., but successful fledging was not confirmed. A pair of Bald Eagles at Kootenai N.W.R., Bonners Ferry, Ida., created quite a stir when they started a nest in a cottonwood tree. Bald Eagle numbers in the McDonald Cr. area of Glacier N.P., Mont., reached their peak Oct. 26, the earliest date ever, but the peak of 251 was the lowest since 1968 (RMCC). A Red-shouldered Hawk was at Upper Klamath L. for the 3rd county record (SS). Malheur had a Broad-winged Hawk Oct. 20G, DI). An ad. Krider's Red-tailed Hawk appeared several times s. of Pullman, Wash., in October for the state's first record and an ad. and an imm. Harlan's Hawk was sighted near St. John, Wash., Oct. 2 (RS, JWW). A Ferruginous Hawk at Island City, Ore., Aug. 13 was a rare find (JE). The Elk Valley area had 23 Rough-legged Hawk reports--none last fall. An intriguing sighting of five virtually pure white hawks, apparently Buteos, came from the Kananaskis R., in the Seebe, Alta. area (M & AG). Merlin sightings were up. Gyrfalcon reports totalled three and Peregrine Falcon four.

TURKEY THROUGH CRANES -- A Wild Turkey was reported on Moscow Mt., Moscow, Ida. (KM). The Idaho Panhandle aerial count found a peak of over 31,000 Am. Coots Oct. 14. Malheur's peak was nearly 28,000 and Turnbull's 18,060. The species was abundant in n.w. Montana. Greater Sandhill Crane

numbers reached 2443 in early October at Malheur. Staging Greater Sandhills at Grays Lake Ref., Bonneville Co., Ida. numbered 3150 in late September. Migrating Lesser Sandhills in c. Washington showed in usual numbers, the largest flocks, 500 over Soap L., Sept. 20 and 1000 over the Grand Coulee. Grant Co. Sept. 17.

S.A.

Nineteen Whooping Crane chicks fledged at Grays L., making it the most successful year yet for the foster-parent breeding program there. They migrated with their parent Sandhills Oct. 8- 17 and were reported to have joined 13 older Whoopers on the New Mexico wintering grounds (ECB).

SHOREBIRDS -- An amazing 125+ Black-bellied Plovers stopped at Am. Falls Res. near Pocatello, Ida. Sept. 25 (JMS, DMT). Hubbard Res., s. of Boise, Ida., had up to 17 (MRC, JL, ST) and Lewiston, Ida., had one (RN, MK). Reardan, Wash., and Rufus, Ore., each had one (JA, RG) and one to three stopped at Malheur. The first sightings of Lesser Golden-Plovers at Malheur since 1967 were obtained in September (MA). In Idaho one appeared at Sandpoint (PRS) and up to 30 stopped at Am. Falls Res. (JMS *et al.*). Nakusp, B.C., had eight (GD). Snowy Plovers remained scarce at Malheur as their habitat continued to be inundated. Semipalmated Plovers were observed at Malheur and

Volume 38, Number 2 225

Bend. Single birds were at Little Camas Res., e. of Mountain Home, Ida., (KBP), and along the Snake R., near Bruneau Sand Dunes. A Hudsonian Godwit was carefully identified at Soap L., Oct. 2 for e. Washington's third record (JA). The only Marbled Godwit reports were of one at Dry Lakes ponds s. of Nampa, Ida., (MRC, ST); one at Richland (WH, REW), and a few at Malheur. Ruddy Turnstones may be more common at Malheur than records indicate, for the

species was seen Aug. 15-Sept. 2 with five on the latter date (CDL). One was at Richland for one of very few e. Washington sightings (REW) and Swan L., Vernon, B.C., had one (MC). A Red Knot appeared at Blacks Creek Res., near Boise (MRC) and one was photographed at Dry Lakes (AL). Malheur also had one (A & MA). Up to seven Sanderlings stopped at Blacks Creek Res. (MRC), and Springfield Bottoms at Am. Falls Res., had up to 40 (JMS, DMT, CHT). The birds were passing through Malheur Sept. 13-25. A sprinkling of Semipalmated Sandpipers passed through the Region Aug. 17-Nov. 17. One on the former date at Bend furnished the first county record (TC) and one at Malheur Sept. 25 was noteworthy (SS). A few Dunlins appeared at Hubbard Res. (MRC *et al.*), at Bend (TC, CM) and at Fortine, Mont., for only the 6th year in 62 years of observing (WW). Lower Klamath N.W.R. was visited by eight Short-billed Dowitchers (SS, JC), up to four were at Bend (TC), and the sewage ponds at Joseph, Ore., attracted the species (FC). The Dry Lakes had one (MRC, ST) and Dry L., near Fortine, did likewise (WW). A Red Phalarope dropped in at Bend Aug. 28 for the 2nd county record (TC) and three were with Red-necked Phalaropes at the Walla Walla R. mouth, Wash., Sept. 23 & 27 (FH, BH, DW).

JAEGERS THROUGH TERNS -- An imm. Parasitic Jaeger was present at Springfield for about 2 weeks in November and was photo- graphed (CHT, DMT) and one was harassing gulls along the Columbia R., near McNary Dam Sept. 11 (MCo). A Franklin's Gull visited Swan L., Sept. 19 (PR) and one appeared near Klamath Falls Oct. 29 (SS). The species had no nesting success at Malheur because of high water levels. An imm. bird was at Coeur d' Alene, Ida., in early September (WT) and one was sighted at Hubbard Res., Sept. 4 (MRC). By contrast, 2000± were in the Springfield vicinity (DMT). American Falls Res. had 200-300 Bonaparte's Gulls Oct. 23 and the Dry Lakes had one to three in August (G.E.A.S.). A few had arrived at Malheur by mid- August. Seven Bonaparte's remained from a population of 21 that reportedly summered at Lakeview, Ore. (KTS). A Mew Gull was reported at Lewiston Oct. 8 (LL, MK, RS). Herring Gulls appeared in increased numbers at several reservoirs in s. Idaho. Particularly notable were 45+ at Cascade Res. (MRC). A Herring Gull at Sparwood was that locality's first (DFF) and one at Malheur was the second there (TC).

Up to five Thayer's Gulls were carefully identified at American Falls in November (MT, CHT) and one was described at Lucky Peak Res., e. of Boise Oct. 12 (MRC). This species may have been around all along but observers here are just learning how to identify it. A Glaucous-winged Gull appeared in late November at Okanagan Landing, B.C. (MC, AC), and a few were sighted along the Snake and Columbia rivers from Ice Harbor Dam e. of Pasco to Celilo, Wash. Kamloops, B.C., had an imm. Glaucous Gull Nov. 19, (RH). An imm. Black-legged Kittiwake at Clarkston, Wash., Nov. 20 was apparently the second ever there (MK, LL, PS). One or two imm. Sabine's Gulls at the Yakima R. mouth Sept. 9 & 17 were noteworthy (EM, DL, REW). A single Caspian Tern was at Bend Aug. 15 (CM) and one was sighted at Kootenai N.W.R., Sept. 2 (LDN). Up to nine Com. Terns were counted on Am. Falls Res., near Springfield in November (DMT *et al.*) and one was on the Snake R., at Hagerman Oct. 2 (MRC, DMT, CHT, m.ob.). An imm. Arctic Tern at Bend Sept. 9 provided the 2nd county record (TC).

PIGEON THROUGH HUMMINGBIRDS – A Band-tailed Pigeon was identified in s.w. Gallatin County, Mont., Aug. 24 (GC). The only Flammulated Owl reports for the period were of one found injured near Conconully, Wash. (JD), one heard near Henrys Fork (DMT), and one banded at Pocatello (JJ). One of the rarely reported N. Hawk-Owl was found in Mt. Revelstoke N.P., B.C. (BB). A pair of Great Gray Owls at Spring Cr., Union Co., Ore., raised two young; a third was apparently killed by a N. Goshawk (JE, HN *et al.*). One was near Wauconda, Wash., in early November (GH) and one with a broken wing was found near Vernon (JGr). A Barred Owl near Sparwood provided the 2nd record there (DFF). The species was also reported from Lincoln County, Mont.; Helena; Coeur d'Alene; and Spokane. The only N. Saw-whet Owls reported were one flushed at Malheur Sept. 25 (SS, JC, KTS) and one in sagebrush in Moses Coulee, Grant Co., Wash., in October (RF). Black Swifts were reported only over the Fraser R. near Dunster, B.C., and at Sacajawea Peak, Wallowa Co., Ore. Anna's Hummingbirds were last seen in Bend Oct. 6. An Anna's appeared at a Spokane feeder Aug. 12 and one or two ad. males stayed there during September and October. Then an imm. bird showed up Oct. 29-Nov. 17; the birds left of their own accord in

spite of the feeder (JA, WH, RM). Two male and two female Anna's frequented a Vernon feeder October+ (JGr).

WOODPECKERS THROUGH SWALLOWS -- Three pairs of Lewis' Woodpeckers were found in a burn near the Fisher-Kootenai R confluence, Lincoln Co., Mont., for a new locality but their numbers at Eureka, Mont., were very low (D & DH). A Red-breasted Sapsucker was sighted in the mountains n. of Enterprise, Ore., Oct. 27 (MCo). Single Williamson's Sapsuckers were sighted at Fields Spring S P, Asotin Co., Wash., and at Darland Mt., w. of Yakima. A female White-headed Woodpecker, rare in s. British Columbia, was sighted near Castlegar Nov. 23 (MB). Elsewhere the species was reported only at a few spots in c. Washington; at Grangeville, Ida. and at Burns, Ore. A "yellow-shafted" N. Flicker was at Malheur Sept. 28 (DI, OS, JG). An Ash-throated Flycatcher at Turnbull Aug. 5 was only the 1st long's second (AP, MP, THR). A mixed flock of thousands of swallows was over Vanderhoof, B.C., Aug. 13 and a concentration of 1000± Violet-green Swallows was at Ft. Klamath where this is an annual event. Several large flocks of the latter were observed in the Columbia Basin of Washington, the largest 600-700 at Pateros. Barn Swallows were likewise abundant in the Basin where 5000± were over a corn field s of Potholes Res., Oct. 2; a few Cliff and Bank swallows were with them.

JAYS THROUGH MOCKINGBIRD -- Single Blue Jays appeared at Fortine Nov. 1-15 (WW), in Kalispell, Mont. (*vide E*). One visited a Bend feeder Oct. 20 for the 2nd county record (CE) and one stopped briefly at Kimberley, B.C., Oct. 22 (MVW). Bend had a real rarity in the form of a Scrub Jay that stayed at a feeder through November (BL). Two White-breasted Nuthatches, rare in s.e. Idaho, were found near Tetonia Aug. 27 (DMT). A Bewick's Wren was identified at Lakeview Oct. 25 (KTS). The birds seem to be extending their range E, for sightings were made as far as Pullman and Albion, Wash., and Kamiah, Ida. Flocks of up to 60 Mountain Bluebirds moved through Bend and a tremendous flock of 350 was reported at Red Rock Lakes N.W.R. Monida, Mont. (BW). Brushy ravines dropping into the Grand Coulee yielded 50+ Townsend's Solitaires Sept. 17-18 (S.A.S.). Varied

Thrushes were particularly numerous in the vicinity of Wenatchee, Wash., in Lincoln County, Mont., and at Bend. A N. Mockingbird was photographed at Cascade Res., Aug. 27 (MRC, G.E.A.S.) and one appeared near Yakima Oct. 28 (Y.A.S.).

PIPITS THROUGH STARLINGS -- About 500 Water Pipits were migrating through the Banks L. area, Grant Co., Wash., Sept. 17-18 and the species was abundant on high-elevation, reclaimed mine spoil and in cultivated fields near Sparwood, with flocks of up to 75 (DFF) Hundreds had gathered in alpine areas of Steens Mr., Harney Co., Ore., Sept. 24 (CDL) and the birds were very common in migration at Rupert Two Bohemian Waxwings on Browne Mt., Spokane Sept. 12 were extremely early (previous earliest date for the area was Oct. 12) suggesting possible breeding in nearby mountains. Bonners Ferry's first sighting was Oct. 30. Flocks of Eur. Starlings totaling a monstrous 20,000 were in the vicinity of Osoyoos, B.C., Oct. 19 (SC).

WARBLERS -- The Tennessee Warbler was reported for the Dunster and Sparwood areas and one was listed for Lincoln County, Mont (D & DH). An imm. Black-throated Blue Warbler was identified Sept 10 at Cottonwood Creek Camp Ground, Boise N.F., e. of Boise (MRC, A & HL). Single Black-throated Gray Warblers were noted at Brooks Memorial S.P., n. of Goldendale, Wash. (Y.A.S.) and at Malheur (MA) The species was migrating through Bend Aug. 25-Nov. 15 (TC, CS). Single Blackpoll Warblers appeared at Fields Sept. 27 and were photographed at Malheur Sept. 28 & Oct. 2 (JG, RSm, DI, B & JK *et al.*) and a Black-

226 *American Birds*, March-April 1984

and-white Warbler was at Pocatello Aug. 12 (EF). A male **Hooded Warbler** in full breeding plumage was identified near Pendleton, Ore., Oct. 21-22 (JE, NB, C & MCo, REW) and probably the same bird was photographed Nov. 8 (FH, MD, DW), constituting the first record for e. Oregon.

SPARROWS, BLACKBIRDS -- A Clay-colored Sparrow at Fields Sept. 27 apparently provided e. Oregon's 3rd record. and a Le Conte's Sparrow there the same day may have been the state's first (JG, D1, RSm). A female-plumaged Lark Bunting at Miller I. near Klamath Falls presumably constituted Oregon's second record (SS). A LeConte's Sparrow photographed at Swan L., Nov. 15-16 established the Okanagan Valley's first record (PR). A Swamp Sparrow was identified at Boise Sept. 15 (MRC). A very meager sprinkling of White-throated, Golden-crowned and Harris' sparrows was noted. White-crowned numbers appeared high in the w. part of the Region with a high of 1200 Sept. 28 at Sunnyside Game Range, Wash. (PM). A few Lapland Longspurs appeared: at the mine spoils near Sparwood, s. of Boise, and at Fortine. A few Snow Buntings were reported, with the largest numbers at the Sparwood mine spoils, which had flocks of up to 100. Vaseux L., s. of Penticton, B.C., had a Rusty Blackbird, the only report of the species (SC).

FINCHES -- Rosy Finches staged a major eruption in the Sparwood area, with flocks of up to 700 birds on the mine spoils; several Hepburn's were among them. Purple Finches were sighted at Dunster (MR), at Chandler S.P., Lake Co., Ore., (SS) and at Burns (A & MA) and Fields (DI). The only Com. Redpolls reported were a flock of 50 at Polson, Mont. (BW).

ADDENDA -- Dennis Paulson commented that the photo of a supposed Laughing Gull (*AB* 37:893) looks to him like a Little Gull. Mark R. Collie remarked that Herring Gulls at Little Camas Res. (*AB* 37:893) are probably of regular occurrence as migrants and summer visitors, and that Franklin's Gulls at Dry Lakes (Ada County, not Canyon County) (*AB* 37:893) are represented by previous records there.

OBSERVERS CITED -- James Acton, Anne & Merle Archie, Eugene C. Barney, Nancy Bock, Rick Bonar, Bob Braide, May Burroughs, Vern Byrd, Steve Cannings, Jim Carlson, Audrey Casperson, Mark R. Collie, Mary Collins (MC) Frank Conley, Craig & Marion Corder (C & MCo), Tom Crabtree, Gordon Creel, Eric Dafoe, John Danielson, Gary Davidson,

Mike Denny, Gerald L. Deutscher, Bob Elgas, Maurice Ellison, Charles Ernst, Joe Evanich, Edson Fichter, David F. Fraser, Ron Friesz, Roy Gerig, Mae & Ainsley Gibson, Jeff Gilligan (JG), James Grant (JGr), Golden Eagle Audubon Society, Warren Hall (WH), George Halekas, Paul L. Hanna, Bill Hayes, Floyd Hayes, Winnie Hepburn (WHe), Dick & Della Hermismeyer, Rick Howie, Idaho Fish & Game Dept. (I.F.G.), Dave Irons, Joe Jeppson, Elly Jones, George Kaisner, Barb & John Kempe, Merlene Koliner, R.C. Kuntz II, Dan Landeen, Al & Hilda Larson, Louise LaVoie, Bob LeBlanc, C.D. Littlefield, Jim Lyons, Phil Mattocks, Riley McClelland, Ken McIntyre, Craig Miller, Ed Miller, Rosanne Montague, L. D. Napier, Harry Nehls, Ron Neu, Michael D. O'Shea, Dennis Paulson, Mary Porter, Ambrose Priestley, Kerry B. Provance, Phil Ransom, Mike Rippey, Ralph Ritcey, T. H. Rogers, Rusty Scalf (RS), Owen Schmidt, Gary Scriven, John M. Shipley Jr., Paul R. Sieracki, Richard Smith (RSm), Kevin T. Spencer, Spokane Audubon Society, Christy Steck, Paul Sullivan, Steve Summers, Daniel M. Taylor, Terry Thompson, Ward Tollbom, Michael Tove, C. H. Trost, Clayton Truman, Scott Tuthill, John W. Weber, Winton Weydemeyer, Bart Whelton, Mildred V. White, Michael Whittaker, R.E. Woodley, David Wright, Yakima Audubon Society.

Autumn Migration, 1983

NORTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION /Eugene S. Hunn and Philip W. Mattocks, Jr.

At Vancouver, British Columbia, temperatures were near normal August-October with rainfall 85% of normal. November was warm and very wet with rainfall 230% of normal. Exotic shorebirds and vagrant warblers were little noted, but three very rare Siberian songbirds in late fall presaged an unprecedented winter movement. The topic of most interest was the effect of *El Nino*. As we are privy to but a piece of that global puzzle, cautious interpretation is advised. Nevertheless, *El Nino* seems implicated in extraordinary population shifts of Brown Pelicans, Heermann's Gulls, Elegant

and Caspian terns, Common Murres, and Cassin's Auklets.



LOONS THROUGH HERONS -- A winter plumaged Yellow-billed Loon reported last summer was seen again Aug. 24 (†DK, †MD, PC., Siddle *et al.*) & Sept. 20 in Semiahmoo Bay, White Rock, B.C., (GA). Three other sightings were of normal migrants after Oct. 2 at Port Angeles, Wash., Saanich, V.I., and W. Vancouver, B.C. Pelagic reports represent 11 offshore trips Aug. 17-Oct. 9. However, 7 of these were during the brief "peak season," Aug. 27-Sept. 11. Seven left from Grays Harbor, Wash. (TW, EH), 2 from Oregon ports (JC, DI), and 2 to La Perouse Bank off s.w. V.I. (MS, *fide* VG). A **Solander's Petrel** (*Pterodroma solandri*) off Westport, Wash., Sept. 11 (†DA, †W *et al.*) was seen briefly but clearly at a pelagic bird feeding concentration over Grays Canyon. It was a first for Washington of this c. Pacific species and only the 2nd report from the West coast (AB 35:857, 973). Details will be published elsewhere. Sooty and Short-tailed shearwaters staged a notable invasion of "In-land Sea" waters. "Unprecedented numbers" of Sooties were seen off Victoria, VA., with hundreds passing Clover Pt., off and on Sept. 26- Nov. 19 (m. ob., *fide* VG). Short-tailed Shearwaters were noted in the Straits of Georgia and Juan de Fuca and on the Washington and Oregon coasts Aug. 23-Nov. 26 (*RW). Two hundred Fork-tailed Storm-Petrels Aug. 20-22 were seen between Port Orford, Oreg. and the California border, a most unusual inshore movement (JC, DF). One likely

consequence of *El Nino* was a Brown Pelican invasion n. of the Columbia R. Peak counts included 1000 off Long Beach, Pacific Co., Wash., Aug. 17 (RW) and 250 in the Grays Harbor channel Oct. 8 (TW), with 600 still at the N.J.C.R., Oct. 22 (RW). Vancouver I. reports included up to five Oct. 15-16 at Victoria (*fide* VG) and 24 in Port Renfrew Aug. 23. Stragglers reached Vancouver, B.C., Aug. 27 (†D. Roberts) and Seattle Nov. 11 (DB, EH *et al.*) where they had not been previously recorded in this century. Brown Pelicans this far n. are usually juveniles, but Washington flocks this fall contained 20-40% adults. Last fall's pelican movement was only slightly less impressive (AB 37:215). Late fall concentrations of Great Egrets in Oregon continue to build with record high counts this year of 109 at Coos Bay Nov. 4 (J. McDowell, *fide* AMG) and 83 at Fern Ridge Res., near Eugene Nov. 11 (DF, BC). Only five birds were seen at 3 locations in Washington with one n. to Port Susan, near Everett Oct. 1 (D. Kvamme *et al.*). A total of 17 Cattle Egrets was reported Oct. 26+, 12 in Oregon, two in Washington, and three to British Columbia. An imm. Black-crowned Night-Heron at Westham I., near Vancouver, B.C. Aug. 26+ (DK) furnished an unusual local record, while a group of six to seven at Stanwood, Snohomish Co. Wash. Nov. 12+ (J. & S. Van Neil *et al.*) may have wintered.

GEESSE THROUGH CRANES -- An Emperor Goose was found at Yachats, Lincoln Co., Ore. Oct. 29+ (R. Robb, JG *et al.*, *fide* DF, HN) and another appeared at Coos Bay, Ore. Nov. 19 (*fide* AMG). A flock of 27 Brant Sept. 6 in Quick's Bottom, Saanich, VA., was both extremely early and at an unusual inland location (†DFr *et al.* *fide* VG). A male Tufted Duck with a possible female companion was photographed Oct. 26-27 near Leadbetter Pt., Wash. (RW, G. Lippert, ph.). This was the 4th year in the last 5 that the species was noted in Washington. A female **King Eider** at Vancouver, B.C., Nov. 24+ (B. Emory *et al.*) furnished the 5th record for that area. Two Oldsquaws Aug. 6 off Cordova Spit, s. VA. (A. Porcher, *fide* VG) and 12 at Pt. Roberts Sept. 11 (WW) were well ahead of the usual mid-October influx. Single Barrow's Golden-eyes at Sequim Bay, Clallam Co., Wash., Sept. 13 (EH) and at Pt. Roberts Sept. 19 (WW) were down from the mountains at least a month early. The annual Turkey Vulture parade over Victoria was near normal with 200+ daily Sept. 25-29. November stragglers were noted from

236 *American Birds*, March-April 1984

Table 1. Pelagic bird observations: Tubenoses

Species	8-17 Wash.	8-27 Wash.	8-27 Oreg.	9-3 B.C.	9-4 B.C.	9-5 Oreg.	9-6 Wash.	9-9 Wash.	9-11 Wash.	9-17 Wash.	10-9 Wash.	Comments
Black-footed Albatross	116	162	50	3	7	10	98	100	136	30	5	high (TW)
Northern Fulmar	106	74	50	800	800	10	115	100	75	100	152	very high (TW)
Pink-footed Shearwater	85	129	100	100	300	200	264	50	188	50	16	low (TW)
Flesh-footed Shearwater	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	low
Buller's Shearwater	0	12	3	0	0	2	8	10	2	10	71	higher than past few years
Sooty Shearwater	1.8K	36K	175	4K	6K	1.5K	6.8K	1.5K	4.6K	200K	3.2K	
Short-tailed Shearwater	0	12+	0	0	0	1	1	2+	1	0	1	
Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel	71	18	30	120	3	3	12	15	7	25	0	low (TW)
Leach's Storm-Petrel	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	

near Vancouver, B.C., s. Thirty Black-shouldered Kites in Oregon was exactly as reported last year. A roosting flock at Fern Ridge Res., built to 14 by period's end (BC, DF, SH), while at Ashland in the Rogue R. valley, 11 birds shared a roost Oct. 11 until dispersing in mid-November (MM). For the 7th year in succession kites were noted in Washington, with one at Nisqually N.W.R., near Olympia Oct. 1-22 (S. Thompson *et al.*) and a juvenile Oct. 29 n. to the Samish Flats, Skagit Co.

(T. Bock). Our accipiter tallies remained consistent, with 90 Sharp-shinned Hawks, 84 Cooper's, and 11 N. Goshawks reported, compared to 97, 70, and 10 last year. There are no clear migratory concentrations, although ca. 75% of sightings were for September and October. Cooper's/Sharp-shinned ratios exhibit striking Regional differences. British Columbia observers reported 1:12 Cooper's for every Sharp-shinned 11:31 for the Victoria area, Oregon observers

reported 0.95:1, while Washingtonians cited just 0.39:1. Four Red-shouldered Hawks in Oregon this fall was half of last year's record total. Two were noted away from the s. coastal nesting outpost, one Oct. 15 at Finley N.W.R., near Corvallis (J. Krabbe, *fide* EE) and the other in mid-November in nearby n Lane County (AP, *fide* DF). The only Swainson's Hawk noted was a migrant at 6000 ft on Mt. Rainier, Wash., Aug. 4 (GR *et al.*). A Rough-legged Hawk at Sea I., near Vancouver, B.C., Aug. 28 (H. & W. Hesse) was about a month ahead of schedule. One at Lebanon, Oreg., Sept. 30 was judged 10 days early there (B. Thackaberry, *fide* DF). Falcons are holding their own, judging by the number of reported sightings. At least four Gyrfalcons compares to an average of 2.6 for the previous 5 years. One Sept. 6 at Vancouver, B.C., was very early (MMG). Sixty-five Peregrine reports was up from the 5-year average of 40, as were Merlin reports, with 74 this fall compared to the average of 65 Five Prairie Falcons reported in Oregon is normal. Two hunting Mt. Rainier's alpine slopes Sept. 7-25 (EH, D. Wechsler, A. Stepniowski) and another high in Garibaldi P.P., n. of Vancouver, B.C., Aug. 22 (B. McGrenere) chose the high road s. Another at Leadbetter Pt., on the s. Washington coast Sept. 26 (RW) was well out of range. As usual, hundreds of Sandhill Cranes gathered on Sauvie I., Sept. 23-Nov. 20. Three hundred were still present in late November at Camas Swale, Lane Co., Oreg. (AP, *fide* DF), another traditional rest stop Nine in C. Saanich, V.I., Sept. 11 was the next largest concentration noted (BW, AM, *fide* VG). The Oregon birds may come down the Columbia R., from the interior.

SHOREBIRDS -- Lesser Golden-Plovers peaked at 200 at Ocean Shores Sept. 18 (EH *et al.*), an increase over the past 2 years. The last was one Oct. 29 at S.J.C.R. (OS, *fide* HN). A few of the form *fulva*--candidate for full species status (*Auk* 100:607-620)--were identified Sept. 5 & 18 at Ocean Shores (DP, EH) & Sept. 6 at Nehalem Meadows, Oreg. (†DI). Thirteen Blue-listed Snowy Plovers were at Coos Bay Oct. 12 (L. Thornburgh, *fide* AMG), and 30 were at Sutton Beach, Lane Co., Oreg., Dec. 3, (BC, DF, SH). Single Am. Avocets strayed W of the Cascades to Ocean Shores Aug. 28 (B. Reichert) and to Bandon, Oreg., Sept. 4, (M. Robbins, *fide* HN), and four to Coos Bay, Aug. 28, (T. Morgan, *fide* HN). Bandon seems a favored site, as

avocets appeared there in 1977 and 1978 also. Eight Solitary Sandpipers Aug. 21-Oct. 1 were fewer than the average for a fall season. Sightings of one-five Willets were widely scattered along the coasts of Oregon and Washington. One at Port Angeles, Wash., Oct. 3+ (SS *et al.*) may have been the same individual that wintered there last year. Two Upland Sandpipers on V.I. furnished the first fall reports since 1980. One was 15 mi s. of Campbell R., Aug. 20 - 25 (†R. Catchpole, *fide* H. Telosky) and the other was at Esquimalt Lagoon near Victoria Sept. 27 (†B. & M. Meiklejohn, *fide* VG). The only concentration of Long-billed Curlews was the traditional flock of 25-30 on n. Willapa Bay Aug. 19-Sept. 18 (RW, R. Knapp; WW *et al.*) Three single birds strayed to near Vancouver, B.C., Sept. 6 & Oct. 5 & 25 (*fide* DK). A **Hudsonian Godwit** Aug. 14-16 at Reifel Ref., Ladner, B.C. (†BK, DA, P. Yorke--ph.) may then have strayed S to the Samish R. delta, Skagit Co., Wash., where one was noted Aug. 31 (J. van Os), for w. Washington's 5th ever. Hudsonian Godwits have been recorded in the Region each fall since 1974, most often in the Vancouver, B.C. area. A red-breasted ad. Bar-tailed Godwit Aug. 9 at the Dungeness R mouth, Clallam Co., Wash. (†SS), constituted the only report this season. **Bar-tailed Godwits** have been recorded in 9 of the past 12 fall seasons with most reports from the Washington and Oregon coasts. A single Red Knot Nov. 1 at Victoria was late (RS, *fide* VG). Semipalmated Sandpiper reports were again concentrated in the Vancouver, B.C., area, with 18 sightings of 25+ individuals, and on the Oregon coast, with 12 sightings of 19+ individuals. Washington observers reported 2 sightings of four individuals, none coastal. Most reports were in August with the latest a single Sept. 25 at Iona I. (BK) The 15,000 W. Sandpipers Aug. 2 at Tillamook Bay, Oreg., had declined to 2500 by Sept. 8 and to 400 by Sept. 17, representative of a very heavy coastal movement (*fide* HN). Baird's Sandpipers peaked at 25 at Delta, B.C., Sept. 6 (MF, T. Plath, MP) with a very late straggler Oct 10 at Ocean Shores (JS). A winter-plumaged adult at the Siuslaw R mouth, near Florence, Oreg. Sept. 12 was most unusual (DF, SH). One hundred and ten Pectoral Sandpipers at Iona I., Sept. 16 was the sea-son's high count, declining to 30 there Oct. 15, with none thereafter (DA, JI, S. Hosie). One Pectoral lingered until Nov. 14 at the Nehalem ponds, Oreg. (JG, OS, *fide* HN). Sharp-tailed Sandpipers rated below par with maxima of five at Iona I., Sept. 18 (DK, JI, MMG *et al.*) and three at Ocean Shores Oct. 10 (JS). One at Iona I., Nov. 9 (A. Grass) was the only sighting

after mid-October. A **Curlew Sandpiper** at Iona I., Sept. 17 (†GA, m.ob.) was British Columbia's sixth. This species has now been recorded 3 fall seasons in a row. Stilt Sandpipers were unusually scarce with five individuals reported Aug. 16-Oct. 8, contrasting with last fall's record 30+ sightings. Nine Buff-breasted Sandpipers Aug. 18-Oct. 1 was below the average of 12 for 1980-1982. The 19 Ruffs Aug. 4-Oct. 13 was an all time Regional high. Four were found together Sept. 12 at the Siuslaw R. mouth, near Florence, Oreg. (†DF, SH, BC). Short-billed Dowitcher numbers declined sharply after mid-September, and the last was reported Oct. 28 at Reifel I., Ladner, B.C. (MP, MF). Numbers of Long-billeds tapered off after late October Red-necked and Red phalaropes were in very low numbers

offshore Red Phalaropes were unreported on 5 of 7 pelagic trips out of Grays Harbor (TW, EH). However, November storms brought dozens ashore at Victoria, V.I. (*vide* VG), and from Willapa Bay, Wash., to Lane County, Oreg. (RW, G & GR, DF, HN *et al.*).

JAEGERS THROUGH ALCIDS -- Pomarine and Long-tailed jaegers, although in below average numbers offshore, were noted onshore

Volume 38, Number 2 237

Table 2. Offshore sightings: Larids, Alcids

Species	8-17 Wash.	8-27 Wash.	8-27 Oreg.	9-3 B.C.	9-4 B.C.	9-6 Wash.	9-9 Wash.	9-11 Wash.	9-17 Wash.	10-3 Wash.	Comments
Pomarine Jaeger	9	8	1	5	9	12	10	9	10	12	low (TW)
Parasitic Jaeger	0	0	—	0	0	4	5	2	0	2	low (TW)
Long-tailed Jaeger	3	0	0	0	0	4	5	7	1	0	low (TW)
jaeger species	2									1	
South Polar Skua	0	2	0	1	0	1	5	5	5	3	all dark-phase (EH)
Black-legged Kittiwake	0	20	—	—	1	230	30	75	50	192	very high (TW)
Sabine's Gull	12	8	2	130	150	4	2	4	10	0	note La Perouse Bank concentrations
Arctic Tern	0	1	0	1	3	0	1	0	1	0	low
Common Murre	337	258	few	—	—	210	250	299	200	91	low, no young (TW)
Cassin's Auklet	2	5	10	60	—	11	10	21	30	214	10% of normal before Oct. (TW)
Rhino. Auklet	46	37	10	—	—	47	25	68	20	193	low
Tufted Puffin	2	3	1	5	2	0	1	4	2	4	

with exceptional frequency. Pomarines were sighted at Vancouver, B.C., Pt. Roberts, Ocean Shores, the Columbia R. jetties, and Newport, Oreg., (m.ob.), from early to mid-September. Eight Long-tailed Jaegers were onshore Sept. 2-24, with six of these between Vancouver and Victoria, B.C. (*fide* DK, VG). RW identified six skuas Sept. 15-25 from shore off the N.J.C.R. Franklin's Gull reports were down with maxima of only three at Iona I., B.C., and Everett, Wash., in September. Single ad. Little Gulls were reported Sept. 17-18 at Pt. Roberts (F. Kile, †DK *et al.*), Sept. 21 at Iona I. (†BK, †MP), and about Victoria Sept. 22-Nov. 16 (m.ob. *fide* VG). It is possible that only a single bird was involved. An ad. **Common Black-headed Gull** was about Victoria Aug. 20-Sept. 25. This is a privileged location for this very rare visitor to our Region. Bonaparte's Gulls off Victoria were estimated at 15,000-20,000 Oct. 29-Nov. 19 (KT, RS, VG). Heermann's Gulls were more abundant and widespread than usual, presumably reflecting the impact of *El Nino* on their Gulf of California breeding colonies. The 10-20% immatures noted at Westport and in the San Juan Is., was considered an exceptionally high proportion (G. Walker, TW). Hundreds remained in the Washing-



Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, Nehalem Sewage Lagoon, Tillamook Co., Oreg., Sept. 25, 1983. Photo/O. Schmidt.

ton San Juans Nov. 13 (TW). Single first-year Glaucous Gulls Aug. 18 at Tsawwassen near Ladner, B.C. (†MP) and Sept. 13 at Victoria (MS, *fide* VG) were very early. Five birds Nov. 5+ were normal. Inshore Sabine's Gulls were reported from Vancouver and Victoria,

B.C., Pt. Roberts and Seattle, Wash., and Newport and Coos Bay, Oreg., Aug. 24-Oct. 29.

S.A.

Caspian Terns experienced near total nesting failure at their s.w. Washington colonies and most had left the Region by mid- September. But El Nino's most dramatic effect was the unprecedented invasion of **Elegant Terns** N from California. Although occasionally numerous as far n. as Humboldt Bay in n. California in post-breeding dispersal (e.g. AB 37:220), none had ever before been recorded in this Region. The drama opened Aug. 4 with a sighting at Coos Bay in s. Oregon (*fide* AMG). August 6 brought the Coos Bay total to 29 (M. Graybill, B. Pitman, *fide* DF) and three to Ocean Shores, Wash. (D. & C. Bruce, G. & W. Hoge). By Aug. 20-22 there were 26 at Cape Blanco, 40 at Yaquina Bay, and 14 at Tillamook Bay in Oregon; 25 at Long Beach and 21 at Ocean Shores in Washington; and seven N to Boundary Bay, near Vancouver, B.C. (R. Stallcup *et al.*; photos, MD, KT) for a Canadian first. The Grays Harbor flock reached 100 Sept. 4, while 200+ frequented the Rogue R. mouth in s. Oregon

Forster's Terns strayed N and W of their normal path *en route* to California with an adult noted at Blaine, Wash., and nearby at Crescent Beach, B.C., Aug. 25-Sept. 11 (†WW, †BK). Another was at the N.J.C.R., Sept. 14 (†RW) and three were reported in Oregon Sept. 1-21. Black Terns did likewise with singles noted at Seattle Aug. 23 (DH), Yaquina Bay, Oreg., Sept. 7 (HN), and at Ocean Shores Sept. 17-18 (EP, H. Fray; BK). *El Nino* conditions discouraged nesting by Com. Murres and Cassin's Auklets (see Table 2). The large Rhinoceros Auklet colony on Protection I., Wash., was apparently little affected, as somewhat colder waters prevailed in the inner Strait of Juan de Fuca (*Pac. Northwest* 17(9):19- 20). Two **Xantus' Murrelets** off Westport, Wash., Sept. 11, after this summer's sighting, were the first since 1979. Ancient Murrelets migrating E past Clover Pt., Victoria peaked at 7000 Nov. 2 and 13,000 Nov. 19 (RS, *fide* VG). Where they go is a mystery, as the largest number reported elsewhere was 100 at Pt. Roberts, Nov. 22 (JI).

OWLS THROUGH SWALLOWS -- No Snowy Owls were reported anywhere by period's end, an unprecedented event. Barred Owls were found at 10 locations between Seattle, Victoria, and Vancouver, B.C., as they continued to consolidate their position here. A Long-eared Owl at Sauvie I., Oreg. Aug. 13-Sept. 23 (V. Teale, D. Daly, *fide* HN) was

238 *American Birds*, March-April 1984

early. Two were near Vancouver, B.C., Nov. 11-18 (m.ob.), and another was in Saanich, V.I., Nov. 18 (S. Fowler, A. Drabitt, *fide* VG). A **Common Poorwill** found stunned Oct. 11 near Burlington, Skagit Co., Wash. (J. Wiggers, *fide* TW). was brought in for rehabilitation. They are very rare w. of the Cascades in Washington. The last Black Swifts were 11 over Willapa Bay, Wash., Sept. 18, (WW, MD, MF). Vaux's Swifts were still migrating at Portland, Oreg. on the very late date of Nov. 5 (DI). Single male Calliope Hummingbirds in the Rogue R. valley Aug. 3 & 16 (MM) were near the edge of their breeding range. Single Lewis' Woodpeckers strayed to C. Saanich, V.I. Oct. 8 (Dfr. *fide* VG) and to Corvallis, Oreg., Oct. 28 (B. & N. Hacker. *fide* EE). A Three-toed Woodpecker in Victoria was well described Sept. 19 (†R. MacKenzie-Grieve, W. Bowie, *fide* VG) for the first confirmed record for s. VA., though they nest farther n. on the island. "Pure" Yellow-shafted N. Flickers arrived as early as Sept. 16 in Seattle (DH) and Sept. 21 in C. Saanich, V.I. (BW, *fide* VG). The last flycatcher departure dates were: Olive-sided, Sept. 10. Dungeness, Wash., (SS, *fide* DS); W. Wood-Pewee, Oct. 1, Eugene, Oreg., (DF); Willow, Sept. 22, C. Saanich, V.I. (J & RS, *fide* VG); Hammond's Sept. 29, near Vancouver, Wash., (*fide* WC); and Western, Oct. 6, Saanich, V.I. (J & RS, *fide* VG). Seven Say's Phoebe's noted Aug. 13-Oct. 17 from near Vancouver and Victoria, B.C., Westport, Wash., and Capes Meares and Blanco. Oreg. was normal. Three Ash-throated Flycatchers strayed N and W. of their breeding range to Portland, Oreg., Aug. 17 (S. Jagers, *fide* HN), Vancouver, B.C., Aug. 29-30 (J-DK, 2MD *et al.*), and Long Beach, V.I., Sept. 7 (†MS, *fide* VG). The lone **Tropical Kingbird** sighted was at Winchester Bay near Reedsport, Oreg., Oct. 23 (M. Sawyer, D. Herr, *fide* HN). A W. Kingbird at Metchosin s. V.I. Oct. 1 (Mr. & Mrs. J. Collins, M & VG) was the

farthest n.w. and the latest of the 7 Regional reports. Fifty Purple Martins at Nehalem Meadows, Oreg., Sept. 10-17 (M. Hunter, *fide* HN) was the largest concentration noted and the latest observation. The last of 4 Bank Swallow reports was of one Sept. 5 in C. Saanich, V.I. (KT, *fide* VG).

JAYS THROUGH WARBLERS -- A **Blue Jay** appeared Nov. 2+ near Issaquah, King Co., Wash. (B. Johnson). Steller's Jays "invaded" the Victoria, V.I. area beginning in mid-August (*fide* VG) and were noted as unusually numerous in Whatcom and Skamania cos., Wash., and about Eugene, Oreg. this fall (*fide* TW. WC. DF). Single Scrub Jays strayed N to Bremerton, Kitsap Co., in early September (*fide* J. Carson) and to Olympia Oct. 2-5 (D. White, T. Shaver, *fide* I. Allen), N of their normal range in s.c. Washington. A Clark's Nutcracker was w. to near Toledo, Oreg. in late October (F. Shrock, *fide* HN) Black-billed Magpies turned up near Ruch, s. Oreg., Sept. 19-Oct. 1 (J. Keller, *fide* Me MM). at the Nisqually N.W.R., near Olympia, Wash., Oct. 7, (T. Peterson), and at Reifel I., near Ladner, B.C., Oct. 20+ (DK. C. Trefry, L. Haggert). These somewhat unusual corvid sightings are correlated with a substantial Mountain Chickadee movement into the low-lands beginning in late September and remarked upon by observers from Pacific County. Wash. to North Bend, Oreg., A **Pygmy Nuthatch** Aug. 17 in Saanich, V.I. (†MS, *fide* VG), was one of very few reports w. of the Cascade divide. The gnatcatcher Aug. 1 in Saanich, V.I. (†R. & F. Stoba, *fide* VG), was British Columbia's 3rd record. Though presumably a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, details provided do not allow a positive identification. It could not be found subsequently. Single Mountain Bluebirds at Pt. Roberts, Wash., Sept. 6 (FK) and at Sea I., near Vancouver, B.C., Oct. 11 (JI), and a flock of two-seven at Victoria, V.I., Nov. 12-27 (RS, m.ob. *fide* VG) were displaced migrants. Northern Mockingbirds were almost numerous with 8 reports. The first hint of the outstanding "Siberian invasion" in the offing was the one-day visit of a **Siberian Accentor** Oct. 30 at Indian I., near Port Townsend, Wash. It was found and identified by JS and subsequently seen by M. Egger & DP (ph.), but could not be found subsequently. To our knowledge, this was the first report outside Alaska, where it is known to have occurred but 4 or 5 times. Three Bohemian Waxwings Nov. 20, at Cypress P.P., n. of Vancouver,

B.C. was unusual (JI). A Loggerhead Shrike strayed to Sauvie I., Oct. 13 (HN). Northern Shrikes arrived on or shortly after Oct. 1 throughout the Region.



Siberian Accentor, Indian I., Jefferson Co., Wash., Oct. 30, 1983. Photo / D. Paulson

Vagrant warblers were little noted this fall. There were two Tennessee Warblers Sept. 17 in Saanich, V.I. (†RS, *fide* VG); a **Magnolia Warbler** Sept. 22 at the N.J.C.R. (†RW), Washington's 3rd single-person sight record: an Am. Redstart Aug. 6 at Chehalis. Wash. (K. Burden *et al.*): and single N. Waterthrushes Aug. 25 at Vancouver, B.C. (†BM), and Oct. 1 at Ft. Canby S.P., near Ilwaco, Wash. (†EP). Eight Palm Warblers appeared Oct. 5+ on the outer coast from s. V.I., to s. Oregon. One was away from the coast in W. Vancouver. B.C., Oct. 2 (†AP). Nashville Warblers strayed to Vancouver, B.C., Aug. 25 & 30 (MP, MF) and to Saanich near Victoria, V.I., Sept. 10 & Nov. 20-21 (TZ, VG, MS). The last Yellow Warbler reported was Sept. 22 at Metchosin, s. VA. (M & VG). The last Black-throated Grays were Oct. 9 at Eugene (DF) and Nov. 5 at Wolf Creek (B. Peters), both Oreg. The last Hermit was Oct. 7 near Eugene (L. Hamm, *fide* EEL). The last MacGillivray's was Sept. 29 at Alaksen N.W.A., near Vancouver, B.C. (DK). The last Com. Yellowthroat was Oct. 16 at Ashland, s. Oreg. (MM). and the last Wilson's were Sept. 29 at the Alaksen N.W.A. (DK) & Oct. 16 in w. Skamania County, Wash. (*fide* WC).

BUNTINGS THROUGH GOLDFINCHES: -- Two Lazuli Buntings Oct. 3-8 at Eugene, Oreg., were unusual (DF, SH). A **Dickcissel**, at H. Norbistrath's feeder near Forks, Clallam Co., Wash. Nov. 4-16 (DS, M. Carmody; SS. ph.) furnished the first state and 4th

Regional record. The only Am. Tree Sparrows noted were one-three at Delta, B.C., Nov. 25-28 (C. Butt, JI). A Clay-colored Sparrow, Nov. 5+, at a North Bend, Oreg., feeder was a Coos County first (B. Griffin, m.ob., *fide* AMG, HN). Stray Lark Sparrows on the coast included singles Sept. 5-10 at Nehalem Meadows, Oreg (DI, M. Koninendyke), Oct. 4 at the N.J.C.R. (RW), and Nov. 26 at Devil's Elbow S.P., Lane Co., Oreg. (BC, DF). The last two were identified as immatures. A **Lark Bunting**, Nov. 4, in N. Vancouver, B.C. (G. Thomson), was only the 2nd Vancouver area record and the 5th for the Region in fall. Single **Swamp Sparrows** were reported Oct. 16 from Finley N.W.R., near Corvallis, Oreg., (A. & D. Martin, *fide* EE), Oct. 30-Nov. 25 from C. Saanich (MS, KT, R. Williams, *fide* VG), & Nov. 7-8 from Saanich, V.I. (TZ, ph., *fide* VG). Twenty-three White-throated Sparrows were reported beginning Sept. 25; 14 in British Columbia, four in Washington, and five in Oregon. Eight Harris' Sparrows were reported Oct. 4+, with six in British Columbia, and one each in Washington and Oregon. A Snow Bunting Oct. 13 at Ocean Shores was on a record early date for the state (DP, PM, J. Erckmann). A **Rustic Bunting**, picked out of a large junco



Rustic Bunting, R. Jordan, Renfrew Land District, B.C., Nov. 28, 1983. Photo/T. Zurowski.

flock at Jordan R., 50 mi w. of Victoria, V.I., Nov. 25 (ME & VG, m.ob.; TZ, ph.), stayed the winter, for the first confirmed sighting s. of Alaska. Stray Bobolinks were found Sept. 1 & 17 in C. Saanich, V.I. (†C. & T. Burke, AM, *fide* VG) and Oct. 10 at Seattle (DB). Seven Yellow-headed Blackbirds were reported Aug. 22-Oct. 12. Rusty Blackbirds were noted Sept. 24 in C. Saanich (KT, *fide* VG), Nov. 11 in Saanich (†JB, *fide* VG), two were at Luna I., near Vancouver, B.C., Oct. 10-15 (F. Walker, P. Cook *et al.*). Rusty Blackbirds are reported

most falls, with most records from s. British Columbia. A **Brambling** Nov. 20 at Billings Pt., near Sooke, V.I., was located by KT and seen by many observers that day (TZ, ph.), but could not be found subsequently. This provided the 3rd British Columbia record and the 6th for the Region. Ten **Lesser Goldfinches** at Portland, Oreg., Nov. 22 (DI, *fide* HN) were at the n. limit of their normal range, but stray Lesser Goldfinches at Vancouver, B.C., Sept. 15-16 (†BK, †H. & J. Mackenzie) and near Sechelt, B.C., Oct. 22-23 (†T. Greenfield, K. Angermeyer) were noteworthy for this largely sedentary bird. This species is known from but 2 previous Canadian records, both in British Columbia (*fide* DK).

ABBREVIATIONS: N.J.C.R. = North Jetty of the Columbia River, S.J.C.R. = South Jetty of the same, N.W.A. = National Wildlife Area, V.I. = Vancouver I., † = written details submitted.

INITIALED CONTRIBUTORS, with **Sub-regional Editors in boldface** -- D. Aldcroft, G. Ansell, D. Beaudette, W. Cady, B. Coombs, J. Carlson, M. Daly, E. Eltzroth, **D. Fix**, M. Force, D. Fraser (DFr), J. Gilligan, M. & **V. Goodwill**, **B. Harrington-Tweit**, S. Heintz, D. Hutchinson, J. Ireland, D. Irons, B. Kautesk, **D. Kragh**, B. MacDonald, A. MacLeod, A. McGie (AMG), M. McGrenere (MMG), **M. Moore**, **H. Nehls**, A. Palleroni, **D. Paulson**, E. Peaslee, M. Price, G. & R. Ramsey, J. & R. Satterfield, Owen Schmidt, M. Shepard, J. Skriletz, D. & S. Smith, K. Taylor, **T. Wahl**, W. Weber, B. Whittington, R. Widrig, T. Zurowski

The Winter Season, 1983-84

NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN - INTERMOUNTAIN REGION

/Thomas H. Rogers

The extremely cold weather in mid-late December froze practically all standing water and some rivers, which mostly had not thawed by the end of the period, although January and February had above normal temperatures over much of the Region. December also brought much precipitation, mostly as snow but January and February were dry in most localities. This and mild temperatures produced an open winter, except for eastern Oregon, southern and central Idaho and adjacent Montana, where continuing cold made for a long, hard winter and greatly reduced bird numbers.

LOONS, GREBES -- One or two Arctic Loons stayed near Okanagan Landing, B.C., through December and one was on Mabel L., n.e. of Vernon, B.C., Jan. 15 (JG). One was at Malheur N.W.R., Burns, Ore., Dec. 4 for the 2nd record there and s.e. Oregon's 3rd (*fide* CDL) and two were with Com. Loons at Richland, Wash., Feb. 18 (REW). A Com. Loon was on the s. arm of Kootenay L., B.C., Jan. 26 (PRS) and one stayed on a small spring at Malheur Nov. 26-Dec. 9, apparently unable to take off until assisted by strong winds. At least one Yellow-billed Loon wintered at Okanagan Landing; three were seen there Jan 13 (PR). An unusual winter record was of a Red-necked Grebe on L. Koocanusa n.e. of Libby, Mont., Jan. 28 (*fide* D & DH). Late Eared Grebes were one-two near Libby in February; one at Rupert, Ida. until late December; one at Bend, Ore., Dec. 1-8, and 16 at Malheur Dec. 17.

PELICANS THROUGH HERONS -- Highly unusual were sightings of Am. White Pelicans on the Columbia R., near the Snake R. mouth, two birds Jan. 21-Feb. 19; three at Cold Springs N.W.R., Hermiston, Ore., Jan. 14 and one on Frenchman Hills Wasteway s.e. of George, Wash., Feb. 15. Malheur had three-six Double-crested Cormorants

Volume 38, Number 3 337

through December and a Feb. 5 observation there was the earliest return ever by a month. The Colombia R., in the Wenatchee, Wash., vicinity had sightings of one-two Dec. 18-Jan. 22 and 21 were found at McNary

N.W.R., Burbank, Wash., Feb. 5. Single late-lingering Am. Bitterns were at Ellensburg, Wash., Dec. 22 and at Malheur Dec. 19. Malheur had a Great Egret Jan. 3. Black-crowned Night-Herons apparently wintered at College Place, Wash. the top count 53.

WATERFOWL -- Tundra Swans were around the Yakima R. mouth, Richland and Umatilla N.W.R., Ore., areas in higher than usual numbers and also at Bend and Sunriver, Ore. The Dec. 11 waterfowl survey over n. Idaho found 219 of the birds and seven were on the Yaak R., Lincoln Co., Mont., Jan. 7. A few lingered past mid-December at Malheur, where the birds broke by 5 days the record for early return Jan. 29. Migrating Tundras totalled nearly 1000 in the Marlin-Wilson Cr. area, Wash., in February but the birds returned to Kootenai N.W.R., Bonnets Ferry, Ida., Feb. 14, 2 weeks later than last year. In the Klamath Basin in s. Oregon 7000 were counted Jan. 27. Kahlotus, Wash, an unusual locality for them, had 150 Feb. 25. Trumpeter Swans at Red Rock Lakes N.W.R., Lima, Mont., varied between 160-265. Malheur's high was 54 Dec. 17. Single swans at Yakima, Wash., Dec. 13 (Y.A.S.) and La Grande, Ore., Nov. 24-27 were believed to be Trumpeters (JE, m.ob.) as were six on the Columbia R., near Wenatchee Jan. 25-28 (N.C.W.A.S.). Last year's three ad. Trumpeters and one cygnet returned to Turnbull N.W.R., Cheney, Wash. Greater White-fronted Geese arrived at Malheur Jan. 31 and a flock was in reverse migration there Feb. 28, repelled by lingering winter conditions. A single bird was on Priest Rapids pool of the Columbia R., e. of Yakima Feb. 18 (RL). Snow Geese at Malheur reached 15,000 at the close of the period. Ross' Geese established a new early record there, thanks to Leap Year, with five arriving Feb. 29. About 2500 Canada Geese wintered at Malheur; early February saw the first spring migrants there, one with a white collar indicating an Aleutian Canada. The n. Idaho waterfowl survey Dec. 11 counted 3856 Canadas; Toppenish N.W.R., Toppenish, Wash., had a peak of 1500 Jan. 23, and Columbia N.W.R., Othello, Wash., a peak of 10,000 Jan. 31. "Thousands" were reported at McNary N.W.R., Burbank, Wash., and at the Walla Walla R. mouth. Wood Ducks on a gravel bar in the Clearwater R., Lewiston, Ida., reached a surprising total of 61 and eight wintered at Bend for the first wintering record there. Mallard numbers at Columbia N.W.R., reached

30,000 in December and Kootenai N.W.R., Bonners Ferry, Ida. had 6000 that month. As part of a major effort to reduce waterfowl concentrations in Morrow and Umatilla cos., Ore., and Benton County, Wash., and redistribute the birds more equitably throughout the Columbia Basin propane-powered noise-producing cannon were used at Carty Res., Boardman, Ore., starting Nov. 22 when 145,000 ducks, mostly Mallards, had gathered. Duck numbers there dropped below 10,000 until spring migrants brought them up to 46,000. Northern Pintail numbers built up to 500 at Turnbull at February's end. Metcalf N.W.R., Stevensville, Mont., had a peak of 18,000 ducks in early December. The extremely cold weather in December drove most of the waterfowl out of the Columbia Basin in Washington and few wintered at Malheur and Turnbull. The N. Idaho survey Dec. 11 counted over 19,000 ducks, down somewhat from previous December counts. Gadwall again appeared on that count at 535 and notable were 1575 Canvasbacks, apparently the highest ever there, and Com. Mergansers at 1200. The January count over n. Idaho included 8380 Redheads, 6145 Lesser Scaup and 1594 Com. Mergansers. For rarities, single Eur. Wigeon were sighted at Walla Walla (CS) and on the Columbia R., s. of Wenatchee (N.C.W.A.S.) in February. Klamath Falls had up to three Greater Scaup and a White-winged Scorer (SS) and one of the latter was in Bend for the 2nd county record (TC, CM). Another White-winged was shot at Metcalf N.W.R., and an Oldsquaw was sighted there (RT). A male and a female Oldsquaw were with goldeneyes at La Grande Dec. 10-13 (JE, RDP, BB, MH). Seven sightings of Harlequin Ducks were obtained in Trail, B.C. (ME).

VULTURES, HAWKS -- Two Turkey Vultures were reported at Naches, Wash., Feb. 12 (Y.A.S.) and two near Kahlotus Feb. 25 (B.M.A.S.). Bald Eagles were conspicuous as they were mostly concentrated along rivers and larger bodies of water, as other waters were frozen. About 250 were found on the January count in e. Washington Umatilla N.W.R., had 96 Jan. 3 and up to 32 were in the Boardman area. The birds were common along the Yellowstone and Gallatin rivers in s.c. Montana but the famous gathering on McDonald Cr., Glacier N.P., Mont., had only half its usual number. Libby Dam had 32 birds through the winter and others were elsewhere in Lincoln County. Four

Bald Eagles marked in Glacier N.P., in the fall wintered in the Missoula, Mont. valley (RMCC). In Idaho, Am. Falls Res., had 44 Jan. 7 and Camas N.W.R., Hamer had up to 80. Northern Goshawk sightings were up in the Walla Walla area. in the Okanogan Valley and at Helena, Mont. A very few appeared elsewhere. Single "Harlan's" Red-tailed Hawks were sighted at Sunriver (TC), La Grande (JE, DA *et al.*) and Richland (WO, REW) in January. Two Ferruginous Hawks wintered at Klamath Falls (SS) and singles were sighted in early January at Sunriver (TC) and Fort Rock, Ore. (KW). One was n.w. of Heppner, Ore., Jan 2 (C & MC); one was at Malheur Feb. 10 (FI); two were sighted near Enterprise Feb. 19 (MK), and one appeared Jan. 1, near Lowden, Wash. (JT, SM). Rough-legged Hawk numbers were in general quite high. A dark-phase Rough-legged was seen at Sunriver, where that phase is rare (CM). Low jackrabbit populations in s.e. Oregon resulted in a scarcity of Golden Eagles. Sixteen Merlin and 2 Peregrine Falcon sightings were reported. Of the 12 Gyrfalcon sightings, an unusual number, some were likely duplications. One was legally captured for falconry in Idaho.

GALLINACEOUS BIRDS -- Three sightings were made of Sharp-tailed Grouse near Wycliffe, B.C.; the birds have become very scarce in that area. Ten Wild Turkeys were seen near Almo, Ida., Jan. 6 (WHS) and 23 were counted near Trout Cr., Saners Co., Mont., Feb. 6 (CW). The Wild Turkeys reintroduced into the Salmon area last summer made it through the winter.

RAILS THROUGH CRANES -- A Virginia Rail hit a window in Bend Dec. 1, was rehabilitated and released (DD, KW). One of the species wintered at Vernon (PMcA) and two were found at the Enterprise, Ore. fish hatchery Dec. 18 (PS, WHe, CV, MK). Selah, Wash., had two Jan. 12 (HVL North Idaho's Dec. 11 waterfowl count came up with 9000 Am. Coot. Large numbers of these birds arrived at Malheur in February. Food was scarce there and many died, apparently of starvation, while others presumably succumbed to fowl cholera. Greater Sandhill Cranes arrived at Malheur Feb. 8. an early date. One seen there through Jan. 1 was not confirmed as wintering. A Sandhill at Hayden L., Ida., in early December was apparently sick or injured

(BM). No Lesser Sandhills were noted at Malheur as their usual habitat was snow-covered.

338 *American Birds*, May-June 1984

SHOREBIRDS, GULLS -- A few Greater Yellowlegs appeared in the Clarkston-Asotin, Wash. vicinities Dec. 4-Feb. 24, the most remarkable being seven at the mouth of Asotin Cr., Jan. 7 (C.B.). An exceptional find was of two Least Sandpipers at the Lakeview, Ore., Hot Spring Pond Jan.4. Two were also seen at that same location Dec. 24, 1982 (KS). Two very late Long-billed Dowitchers were at La Grande's sewage ponds Dec. 10-14 (JE, RDP, BB). An extremely late Bonaparte's Gull was at La Grande Dec. 10-14 (JE, DP, BB). Richland had an ad. Mew Gull Jan. 15 & Feb. 4-5 (REW) and two of the species were at Penticton, B.C., Jan. 26 and two near Vernon Jan 8 (SRC). Highly out of place were 13 Ring-billed Gulls along the only unfrozen section of the Deschutes R., in Bend Christmas Day, the temperature -15°F. Returning California Gulls at Kootenai N.W.R., numbered over 100 at the period's end, attracted by a perch kill. An ad. Thayer's Gull, very rare in the Okanogan, appeared at Penticton Jan. 26 (WW) and one was along the Link R., Klamath Falls Dec. 30-Jan. 2 (SS). A Glaucous Gull at Klamath Falls Dec. 31-Jan. 2 was the first for the county (SS). A first-year and a sub-adult Glaucous Gull were at Richland in January (REW, WO).

PIGEONS THROUGH PARAKEETS: -- Highly unusual was the appearance of a Band-tailed Pigeon Dec. 23 at Richland. It fed on skimmia berries for a few minutes before disappearing (REW). A lone Mourning Dove at Windermere, B.C., Dec. 25 was noteworthy (LH). Four **Monk Parakeets** appeared at Boise Dec. 14 for the Region's first record (MRC).

OWLS -- Ten injured Great Horned Owls, all apparently hit by autos, were brought in for treatment in w. Montana during the very cold December spell. Supposedly they were driven by hunger to road kills. Snowy Owls were sighted in moderate numbers in the Columbia Basin of Washington with three the highest

one-day count (JA, RF). A slightly injured Snowy picked up at Libby was released 2 days later and three were seen in the Yaak R. area (CW). No others were reported. Several N Pygmy-Owls were calling e. of Tetonia, Ida. in February; they are rarely found there (CHT, DT). A Barred Owl was discovered in riparian habitat along the Snake R., s. of Swan Falls, Ida., Dec. 18 (JHD, RTr) and one was seen near Asotin for several days in February (R & GD, m. ob.). Heron, Mont., had one at a feeder Feb. 22 (*fide* D & DH). More to be expected were one near Ainsworth, B.C. (PRS) and one at Vernon (JG). Red Rock Lakes had a Great Gray Owl Dec. 5 (TMcE) and three pairs were found near La Pine, Ore., one with a broken wing from colliding with a ski rack on a passing car (DD, EF). A Long-eared Owl was in the Salmon area for a first there (HR). A Boreal Owl was found dead on the highway n. of Vernon Jan. 9 (PR) and one was sighted at Libby Dam Feb. 16 (*fide* D & DH). Northern Saw-whet observations were of one or two in the Pack River area n. of Sandpoint, Ida., (PRS), and one that hit a window while chasing a chickadee in Vernon (JB). Minidoka N.W.R., Rupert, Ida. had three sightings of the species (*fide* WHS). All owls were scarce in the Malheur area, presumably because of low rodent populations.

HUMMINGBIRDS THROUGH SWALLOWS --

Four Anna's Hummingbirds visited a feeder in Vernon Dec. 3+; two survived until the onset of very cold weather Dec. 20 (JG). Eastern Oregon had 3 reports of hummingbirds, presumably Anna's, late January-mid-February. A Lewis' Woodpecker apparently wintered near Payette, Ida. (JSM). A few White-headed Woodpeckers wintered at suet feeders in Sunriver and one visited such a feeder at Meadows, Ida. One was noted in the Yakima area Feb. 12. A "yellow-shafted" N. Flicker appeared at Kalispell, Mont., Mar. 3 (*fide* EJ) and one was at Spokane Jan. 1 (JA). Say's Phoebe were arriving in February in the w. part of the Region. A pair near Bend Feb. 4 was 3 weeks early (ES). Tree Swallows arrived at Malheur Feb. 8, 11 days ahead of the previous early date.

JAYS THROUGH WRENS -- One, possibly two Blue Jays wintered at Fortine, Mont. (WWe); another wintered in the Orchard Homes section of Missoula, Mont. (WH), and at least one apparently wintered at

Kalispell (EJ). The only Scrub Jays reported were one-two near Odell and three s. of Hood R., Ore. (DA). Up to 11 Bushtits were sighted 14 mi n.n.e. of Weiser, Ida. in January and February (JSM) and 55 were seen near Frenchglen Dec. 17. Bewick's Wrens were still increasing in the Walla Walla area and several were reported resident at Lewis and Clark S.P., near Dayton, Wash. (SM). One appeared at Albion, Wash., Dec. 3 (GD). A Winter Wren, rare in Lake County, Ore., was seen in Lakeview Dec. 17 (KS). A Marsh Wren at Hood R., Feb. 5, was apparently the first ever reported there (DA). Ruby-crowned Kinglets wintered in "good numbers" in the Walla Walla area and two were seen near Asotin Jan. 7 & 28. Frenchglen had 18 wintering Mountain Blue-birds. Walla Walla was "inundated" by Am. Robins during the winter, one field trip yielded several flocks in excess of 1000 there. Mountain Home, Ida. had an invasion Jan. 11 with "large flocks everywhere" and Malheur had 1862 at Frenchglen Dec. 17. Varied Thrushes were in invasion numbers "all over e. Oregon" including Bend, Lakeview and Klamath Falls and more than usual wintered in the s. Okanagan of British Columbia. Notable were one w. of Bruneau, Ida. Dec. 14 (TCO); one at Mountain Home Jan. 11 (KBP); one at Rupert Dec. 21 (WHS) and one at a feeder and heated bird bath near Helena Dec. 8-10 (A & RK). Two Wrentits were in Klamath Falls Dec. 31-Jan. 31. The species is very rare e. of the Cascades (SS).

THRASHERS THROUGH WARBLERS -- A Brown Thrasher frequenting a Fruitvale, B.C. feeder Dec. 18-Feb. 29 was photographed for the province's first winter record (G & VI, m.ob.). Bohemian Waxwing numbers were apparently below average at most localities. At least 500 were in the Bend area at February's end, however, and Rupert had flocks of 100-200, the first there in 2 years. At Mountain Home numbers were up from 1983. A flock of 25 Cedar Waxwings at Fortine Feb. 4 was unusual (WWe) and a flock of 30+ waxwings at Pullman, Wash., Jan. 14 consisted of all Cedars but two (IP). The Frenchglen area had six Loggerhead Shrikes Dec. 17 (*fide* CDL) and Helena's CBC had one. A W. Tanager visited a Kamloops, B.C. feeder Dec. 14-16, was photographed but disappeared after the temperature dropped to -15°F (RH). Malheur had eight Yellow-rumped Warblers Dec. 17 and another late one was at Terrebonne, Ore., Dec.

13 (PK). Lewiston had one Dec 19 and the Asotin vicinity one Feb. 24 (LL, MK, CV).

GROSBEAKS THROUGH BLACKBIRDS -- Most surprising was a male Rose-breasted Grosbeak in sub-adult plumage photographed at Mountain Home Dec. 2 (KBP). A few Fox Sparrows were noted at Yakima in December and January and one was found Jan. 6 at Bend, where any sparrow other than Song Sparrows is rare in winter (TC, CM). Bend also had a White-crowned Sparrow in late December and on the CBC, and a Golden-crowned in mid-January (JM). Yakima had a White-throated Sparrow Jan. 29 (Y.A.S.) and Klamath Falls one Dec 20-Jan. 6 & Feb. 19 (SS). One used a La Grande feeder Dec. 30-Jan 9 (OS, JE, DA). The species appears to have become a quite regular although scarce winter visitor at Richland (REW). Two of the species wintered at Columbia Falls, Mont. (CY) but one at Missoula was not seen after Christmas (PLW). One-two Golden-crowns were sighted in Richland and Hermiston (CC, we) and at Yakima and Toppenish (Y.A.S.). Walla Walla reported "thousands" of White-crowned Sparrows in December and January. Harris' Sparrows seem also to have become regular although scarce in winter at Richland and Hermiston (REW). Single birds also appeared in the Walla Walla area (RL, CS), at Weston, Ore. (PD); near Klamath Falls (SS); near Madras, Ore. (G & WL), and near Parkdale, Ore. (DA). Single birds visited a Pocatello and a Rupert feeder (CHT, WHS). At Missoula three wintered at one feeder and one at another (WH, KL) and two were at Livingston, Mont. feeders through the winter (CBL). Snow Bunting sightings mostly consisted of small numbers. Exceptions were 500-1000 near Harrington, Wash, 200+ in the Enterprise vicinity and several hundred near Arco, Ida Unusual were three Yellow-headed Blackbirds at Potholes Res., Moses L., Jan. 9 (Y.A.S.). Sightings of a d Brewer's Blackbird at Winder- mere Dec. 25 (LH) and one in the Libby area Feb. 19 (*fide* D & DH) were noteworthy. Common Grackles were back in Bozeman, Mont, Feb. 18 and one was sighted at Driggs, Ida., Feb. 12 for the first winter record there (CHT).

FINCHES -- The Region was treated to 2 sightings of single **Bramblings**. One visited feeders and was photographed in La Grande Dec 9- mid-February for e.

Oregon's first and the state's second record (JE, DE, TC, OS) and a meticulously described bird came to a Kamloops

Volume 38, Number 3 339

feeder Dec. 4-6 for apparently interior British Columbia's first (RH). Rosy Finches were "unbelievably abundant" in the foothill-rimrock areas just s. of Union, Ore., and a few even visited La Grande feeders (MH). Three or four flocks of 100-500 appeared in the Grand Coulee s. of Coulee City, Wash., and two flocks of 200-300 were seen near Kahlotus. The Sun Valley, Ida., area had two flocks of 150-200. The only Purple Finch reports were of a male at Umatilla for supposedly the first county record (C & MC) and a female at La Grande Dec. 13 (JE, KC, DI, MKo). House Finches appear well established at Helena where 30 frequented a single feeder in January (AS). Unusual were several at a Salmon feeder Dec. 15 (HR). Extremely few Red Crossbills were reported. The only White-winged Crossbills reported were in the Rupert area Jan. 3 (WHS). Common Redpolls were virtually unreported. "Astronomical numbers" of Pine Siskins wintered in the mountains n.e. of Vernon. Road kills in the area were numerous. In Revelstoke N.P., e.g., a truck killed 208! Except for 30 wintering at a Rupert feeder, the birds were scarcely reported elsewhere. American Goldfinch sightings were few; however, up to 41 visited a Kootenai. Ida. feeder and 50+ using a Missoula feeder was a much higher than usual number there. Evening Grosbeak sightings were spotty. Their numbers were down in the Vernon area, up at Rupert and Kootenai reported up to 80 at a feeder through the winter. Except for extreme s.e. Washington, very few were reported elsewhere.

ADDENDA -- American White Pelicans were observed 6 mi e. of Sandpoint May 4, 1983 (EAC, *fide* WT). A Barred Owl was heard in July, 1983, in the Council, Ida. area (HS, *fide* JHD). Results for the bluebird trail w. of Spokane are (first number, 1982; second, 1983): total nest boxes, 73, 61; fledged: W. Bluebird, 96, 198; Mountain Bluebird, 6, 22; Tree Swallow, 15, 4; Violet-green Swallow, 0, 3; Mountain

Chickadee, 10, 0. In 1982, 283 House Wren and 10 House Sparrow eggs were removed; in 1983, 174 and 9 were removed. This removal is believed mainly responsible for the large increase in bluebird fledglings in 1983. Some 1982 boxes that produced no bluebird fledglings were removed and other relocated to more favorable habitat (DP).

CORRIGENDA -- The Band-tailed Pigeon sighting (AB 37:1008) was the latilong's 3rd, not the first. Nesting of Caspian Terns at Malheur N.W.R. (AB 37:1008) was not the first but the first since 1960.

OBSERVERS CITED -- James Acton, Dave Anderson, John Baumbrough, Barb Bellin, Blue Mountain Audubon Society (B.M.A.S.), Steve R. Cannings, Canyon Birders (C.B.), Earl A. Chapin, Kent Coe, Mark R. Collie, Thom Cook (TCO), Craig & Marion Corder, Tom Crabtree (TC), Dave Danley, Priscilla Dauble, Rick & Gay Detainer, John H. Doremus, Maurice Ellison. Doug Eustace, Joe Evanich. Eric Forsman, Ron Friesz, James Grant, Larry Halverson, Mark Henjum, Winnie Hepburn (WHe) Dick & Della Hermsmeyer, Willis Heron (WH), Rick Howie, George & Vera Ironmonger, David Irons, Frank Isaacs, Elinor Jones, Pat Kelly, Merlene Koliner, Mark Koninendyke (MKO), Arnold & Rae Kuenning, Klaus Lackschewitz, Gay & Walter Lantz, Louise La Voie, Ruth Lepiane (RLe), Carroll D. Littlefield, Roger Lloyd (RL), Cary B. Lund, Pat McAllister, Riley McClelland, Terry McEneaney, Jeffrey S. Marks, Judy Meredith, Craig Miller, Bill Moe, Shirley Muse, North Central Washington Audubon Society (N.C.W.A.S.), Winifred Orcutt, Richard D. Palmer, Ian Paulsen, Dave Plemons, Kerry B. Provance, Phil Ranson, Hadley Roberts, Owen Schmidt, Ann Scofield, Connie Sherer, W. H. Shillington, Paul R. Sieracki, Kevin Spencer, Herb Stolz, Ed Styskel, Paul Sullivan, Steve Summers, Dan Taylor, Jim Todd, Ward Tollbom, C. H. Trost, Randy Trujillo (RTr), Robert Twist (RT), Carole Vande Voorde, H. Vredenburgh, Wayne Weber (WW), Winton Weydemeyer (WWe), Carl Wolf, Kim Wollter, Robert E. Woodley, Philip L. Wright, Yakima Audubon Society (Y.A.S.), Chet Yost

The Winter Season, 1983-84

NORTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION

/Philip W. Mattocks, Jr.

A severe cold snap in late December interrupted a generally warmer than usual winter. Temperatures remained below freezing through December 20-24 at the Seattle, Washington, weather station, with lows of 9°F recorded there and 8°F at Vancouver, British Columbia. Then January and February at these two stations were 3° above the long-term averages. There was slightly less rain than usual in Seattle, slightly more in Vancouver. The season was marked by many overwintering individuals of species normally absent, by more than usual vagrants from east of our Region, notably Iceland Gull, Blue Jay, Brown Thrasher, Dickcissel, and about twice the normal numbers of eastern *Zonotrichia* and *Melospiza* sparrows, and, most excitingly, by the vagrant Asiatic passerines, an unidentifiable first-year wagtail, a Rustic Bunting, and perhaps seven Bramblings.

LOONS THROUGH NIGHT-HERONS -- There were 19 sightings of possibly 14 Yellow-billed Loons. Even allowing for some wandering between potentially close localities, this was definitely more than the average of 6 sightings over the last 7 winters, and contrasts with the 2 most recent below-average years. Counts of 35+ Eared Grebes on Cordova Bay, Saanich, Vancouver I. (hereafter, V.I.), Jan. 19 (KT) and of 200+ off Gordon Head, Saanich Jan. 21 (KT) were extraordinarily large. Other loons and grebes were reported in normal numbers. All W. Grebes for which color phase was noted were the dark form. A Dec. 3 pelagic trip out of Westport, Wash., found a seldom-seen Laysan Albatross and 60 N. Fulmars (EH *et al.*). On Dec. 4, about 30 km off Cape Blanco, Oreg., there were eight Laysans, a very late Flesh-footed Shearwater, and numerous N. Fulmars (RPi). Several Short-tailed Shearwaters continued to be found into late December, with the latest one seen at close range just off Seattle Jan. 1 (†DP *et al.*). Five Sooty Shearwaters seen out of

Westport Dec. 3 (EH *et al.*), four in the Strait of Juan de Fuca off Albert Head, just w. of Victoria, Dec. 11 (KT), and one there Dec. 17 (M. Shepard) were the last reported. A single Sooty was seen well Feb. 5 just n. of Anacortes, Wash., for one of very few winter records (TW). An unidentified dark shearwater had been seen Jan. 31 from the Victoria-Port Angeles ferry, about 40 mi w. of Anacortes (JSk, MC). A Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel was found resting on a dike road at the Serpentine Fen, s. of Vancouver, B.C., Jan. 16 (E. Sian, ph.) for one of few winter records of this species for the Region. Following the very large numbers of Brown Pelicans farther n. than usual last fall, only a handful stayed around. Single immatures were at Ediz Hook, Port Angeles, until Dec. 10 (DP *et al.*), in Metchosin, V.I. Dec. 18-20 (J. Upton, *fide* D. Hanson), at the North jetty of the Columbia R., Dec. 18 (DI) in Coos Bay, Oreg., until Dec. 19 CM. Graybill), and in Yaquina Bay, Oreg., Jan. 30 (R. Stuart, *fide* HN). Single Great Egrets were found n. in Washington to Bellingham Dec. 18 (CBC) at Olympia all winter (G & WH *et al.*), and on Willapa Bay Jan. 27 (J. Zarnowitz). Six Snowy Egrets wintered as usual at Coos Bay, Oreg. (BG, AM). Cattle Egrets were relatively widespread until the freeze in late December. One was at Westport, Wash., Dec. 3 (EH *et al.*) and probably the same bird was on the Nisqually N.W.R., Dec. 4 (J. Keplinger). A Cattle Egret was found Dec. 1 & 10 in C. Saanich, V.I. (KT, TZ, ph.), and 17 were noted at Tillamook, Oreg. Dec. 17 (CBC). Thereafter, one in Salem, Oreg., Dec. 27 (CBC) and five near Coquille, Coos Co., Oreg., Jan. 5 (P. Perrin, *fide* AM) were the only ones reported. An imm. Black-crowned Night-Heron wintered on Reifel I., near Vancouver, B.C. (DK *et al.*), and several wintered in Stanwood and the adjacent Skagit flats. Wash. (J. & S. Van Niel *et al.*).

WATERFOWL -- About 800 Tundra Swans were counted along the Columbia R., and another 450 were on the Skagit flats. Aerial surveys throughout w. Washington during January found 559 Trumpeter Swans (MJ, Wash. Dept. of Game). Of these, 425 were in the Skagit R. valley

59 were on freshwater lakes on the Olympic Pen., and 43 were on lakes around Willapa Bay. Comparable statewide counts may not exist for previous years, but it does appear from scattered reports that Trumpeter Swans are expanding into more freshwater lakes in w. Washington and w. Oregon. The Emperor Goose found last fall at Yachats, s. of Newport, Oreg., stayed all winter (*fide* HN), and another appeared Feb. 15+ at Westmoreland P., Portland (D. Longworth, J. Kempe *et al.*). There were the usual 10 sightings this season of Eur. Green-winged Teal; from the Vancouver, B.C., area, Saanich, V.I., Seattle, and Coos Bay, Oreg. Two male and one female Cinnamon Teal, a rare species here in winter, were observed Dec. 18 at Burnaby L., B.C. (†MF, L. Koch), and three males and five females were found on Lulu I., near Vancouver, B.C., Dec. 27 (†C. Butt, PC). The first spring arrivals were seen Feb. 4 in Coos Bay, Oreg. (AM). The ad. male Tufted Duck that was seen last fall near Leadbetter Pt., Wash., reappeared there Dec. 17-31 (†RW). A sub-ad. male Tufted Duck was seen and described from several adjacent localities in Vancouver, B.C., Dec. 15-24 (†MF, ph., †MP, T. Plath). Possibly another sub-ad. male was seen on the Maplewood flats, N. Vancouver, Jan. 1 (†MD), and females were reported from Iona I., Jan. 26-28 (JI, DA, DJ) and Wapato L., near Gaston, Oreg., Dec. 21-22 (J. Evanich, VT *et al.*). Two female **King Eiders** were seen Feb. 6 in Fulford Harbor, Saltspring I., just n. of Sidney (†DFr *et al.*) for only the 3rd record from V.I. The female King Eider found Nov. 24 off Stanley P., in Vancouver, B.C., stayed to at least Feb. 19 (†WW, †MD *et al.*). Scoters, goldeneyes, and mergansers were reported in their usual numbers.

VULTURES THROUGH RAILS -- Two Turkey Vultures were seen often through the season until Feb. 13 at Fisherman's Bay, Lopez I., Wash. (W. Beecher, B. Wilson *et al.*). Two were then sighted Feb. 22 over Oak Bay, V.I. (D. Ross). There were several scattered sightings of vultures through the winter in w. Oregon, with at least one known to have wintered at Corvallis (B. Altman, *fide* ME). The now-traditional Black-shouldered Kite roost at Fern Ridge Res. near Eugene, Oreg. hosted 18 kites this season (DFi *et al.*), two of which were juveniles. Four apparently wintered at Tillamook (DI, VT *et al.*), and one at Finley N.W.R., near Corvallis (M. Hunter, J. Krabbe). Other Oregon reports were absent, and 2 Washington reports were

unsubstantiated. There was an all-time Canadian CBC high count of 1396 Bald Eagles at Squamish, B.C., Jan. 2 (RCn *et al.*). Another 1373 Bald Eagles were counted to the e. around Harrison L., Jan. 8 (A & JG *et al.*). Farther s., high water levels and the lowest salmon run since at least 1968 correlated with only one-fourth the usual large number of Bald Eagles wintering along the Skagit R., Wash. (LM). Single Red-shouldered Hawks wintering at Coos Bay, Oreg., (AM), and near Coburg, Oreg. (DI *et al.*) represented fewer than average recent numbers at the n. edge of this species' range. A Red-tailed Harlan's Hawk wintered along the Green R., in Kent, Wash. (EH, GG). There were 12 sightings of Golden Eagles, with one Dec. 18 over W. Vancouver, B.C. (†T. Greenfield *et al.*) scarce in that area. There were sightings of possibly 10 Gyrfalcons, which is more than usual. However, the winter feeding range of a Gyr. can be quite large (see AB 37:299, 1983) and plumage details were generally lacking for most sightings. A handful of Prairie Falcons wintered as usual in w. Oregon, primarily in the Willamette Valley. An estimated 30+ Virginia Rails wintered in just that area of the Fern Ridge Res. marsh, near the kite roost (DFi). A Sora was found n. to the Ladner, B.C., CBC Dec. 18 (†RCn *et al.*).

SHOREBIRDS THROUGH GULLS -- Ten Snowy Plovers were seen Jan. 6 at Bayocean beach near Tillamook, Oreg., with nine still there Feb. 15 (HN). The by now traditional shorebird wintering area at Tokeland and the mouth of the North R., on Willapa Bay, Wash., hosted 12 Willets, 32 Long-billed Curlews, and 43 Marbled Godwits Jan. 13 (G & WH). Elsewhere there were three Willets through the season at Yaquina Bay, Oreg. (HN *et al.*), and one on Ediz Hook, Post Angeles, Wash. (MC, D & SS *et al.*). Small groups of 2-8 Whimbrels were sighted as usual during the season at several locales n. to Oak Bay, V.I. Two Ruddy Turnstones, a rare wintering species here, spent the season on Ediz Hook (JSk, GG), and two were seen at Penn Cove, Whidbey I., Jan. 22 (TW). Both locations harbored wintering flocks of Black Turnstones. A Sanderling census on Dungeness Spit, Wash., Jan. 21 found 428 individuals (D & SS). A W. Sandpiper n. to Clover Pt., Victoria, Dec. 28 (RS) provided a rare winter record there. A few others were scattered through w. Washington. A large flock of 400 Long-balled Dowitchers along the Columbia R., near

Woodland, Wash., Jan 31 could have been either locally wintering birds or early N wanderers (MJ *et al.*). The aggregation of 107 Com. Snipes near Skamokawa, Wash. Feb. 25 was more likely early migrants (A. Richards). The eight Red Phalaropes seen Dec. 11 in the Strait of Juan de Fuca off Albert Head, V.I., were the last reported of the late November movement (KT) Seven Pomarine Jaegers well offshore Westport, Wash., Dec 3 (EH *et al.*) and two 30 km off Cape Blanco, Oreg., Dec. 4 (RPi) furnished late records. Despite the large movement of Heermann's Gulls n of the Columbia R., last fall, few lingered into winter here. Two adults were at Ediz Hook, Dec. 10 (DP *et al.*), and an adult was just s. of Duckabush, along Hood Canal, Wash., Jan. 7 (TB *et al.*). There was an exceptionally large number of gulls present this winter in the Willamette Valley, Oreg. (DI). Some counts were: 500+ Herring Gulls at the Portland dump Dec. 9 (DI, J. Gilligan), 750 Thayer's Gulls on Sauvie I., near Portland, Dec. 31 (CBC), and numerous flocks of hundreds of Mew Gulls throughout the Valley (DI). Over one-half of the many hundreds of large "pink-footed" gulls in that area were considered to be Glaucous-winged x Western intergrades (DI, DFi, SH, HN). Elsewhere the high counts of Thayer's Gulls were about 1000 in Saanich, V.I., Dec 8 (KT) and 150 at the Vancouver landfill in Delta, B.C., Feb. 5 (MF, MM). About 29 Glaucous Gulls were noted throughout the Region, for a somewhat higher number than usual. A first-winter **Iceland Gull** (*L. g. kumlieni*) was found at the Vancouver landfill, Delta, B.C., Jan. 21 & Feb. 5 (†MF, MP, ph., MM) for the first photographically documented report of this form for the province These photographs and the description were examined by Michel Gosselin of Ottawa and Dennis Paulson of Seattle who concur with the identification. There have been several previous reports of this form in the Region (e.g., AB 37:905, 1983), but identification of immatures of the *thayeri-kumlieni-glaucoides* complex is difficult. Separate publication of these descriptions, photographs, and discussion is urged.

PARAKEETS THROUGH SWALLOWS -- Long term stick nests of Monk Parakeets were still active in Portland (HN *et al.*) and at a recently discovered location in Auburn, Wash. (TB). The three Snowy Owl reports were the fewest received in at least the last 12 years. Two of these were on the Skagit flats, Wash.

(LM, EH *et al.*), and the other was along Boundary Bay, Delta, B.C. (B. Self *et al.*) Two Burrowing Owls wintering near the Eugene, Oreg. airport (T Mickel, DFi *et al.*), and another s. of Peoria, Oreg. Feb. 25 (A & E Carlson, *fide* ME) were expected. The Burrowing Owl on Ediz Hook, Port Angeles, Wash., Jan. 2 (JSk), however, was most unusual. Barred Owls were found several times during the season in N. Vancouver, B C (PC, JI, DA), on the Univ. of Victoria campus (DFr, J & RS *et al.*), and in E. Sooke Regional P., V.I. (DFr, R. Williams *et al.*). Single sightings of Barred Owls were also made in Ruckle P.P., Saltspring I., B.C. (DFr), Burnaby L., B.C. (GT), and at another N. Vancouver location (†D. Brown). The breeding pair in Discovery P., Seattle, was unsuccessfully searched for throughout the season (D. Beaudette). There were 5 scattered sightings of Long-eared Owls in the Vancouver, B.C., area Dec. 6-Jan. 21. Anna's Hummingbirds continued to winter regularly near feeders. Reported numbers following the December freeze appeared to be down in w. Oregon (HN, DI), but unaffected in w. Washington and s. British Columbia. The first returning Rufous Hummingbirds were sighted earlier than usual Feb. 2 near Bandon (AM), & Feb. 8 near Coquille (A Contreras), both along the s. Oregon coast. As has happened in the past, the late December freeze was coincident with a great increase in lowland and urban area sightings of Red-breasted Sapsuckers. A single Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was seen almost daily through the season in N Saanich, V.I. (B. & J. Holt) for one of few winter records of this species. Based on the arrival dates of small flocks, the spring influx of Tree Swallows proceeded up the interior valleys, and was earlier than usual. The first arrivals along the outer coast were not until significantly later. About 100+ Tree Swallows were at Fern Ridge Res., near Eugene, Oreg., Feb. 2 (DFi, SH), 36 were near Yelm, s. of Olympia, Wash., Feb. 8 (JSk, S. Herman), and seven were in Saanich, V.I., Feb. 11 (J &

350 *American Birds*, May-June 1984

RS) First arrivals at Pitt Meadows, near Vancouver, B.C., were a week earlier than the long-term average (GT). The arrival of Violet-green Swallows was at about the same time and pattern, but not in such concentrations.

JAYS THROUGH WAGTAILS -- Two Blue Jays were seen Jan. 5 in Delta, B.C., where one had been seen since Dec. 19 (†DJ, JG). Two were also seen in nearby Tsawwassen, B.C., on several dates Dec. 27- Feb 27 (m.ob. *fide* DK). Another Blue Jay was found in McMinnville, between Portland and Salem, Oreg., mid-November-Jan. 27 (Mrs. C. Brown, m.ob., ph.), and the Blue Jay seen near the s. end of L. Sammamish, e. of Seattle Nov. 2+ stayed through the season (B. Johnson *et al.*). These all are among relatively few Regional winter records. The fall season invasion of Steller's Jays into the Victoria area held over into January, with numbers decreasing during February. The influx of Mountain Chickadees into the lowlands of w. Oregon also continued into January, with reports of ones and twos widely scattered (HN, ME). A Rock Wren was found on Protection I., off Port Townsend, Wash., Dec 17 (DP) for the first winter record for w. Washington. Western Bluebirds arrived on breeding territories around Puget Sound and on s. V.I., on schedule in mid-February. The 5 reports of Mountain Bluebirds were all from w. Washington, where it is rare in winter. Three of the sightings were at adjacent localities in the Bellingham area, and 2 were at sites on San Juan I. There were 12 Townsend's Solitaires reported, which was many more than usual for this scarce wintering species. All were noted after mid-January. The N. Mockingbirds found in Portland in mid-November and in Seattle in mid-August stayed into December, but neither was seen after the late December freeze. The only other mockingbird report was of one at Finley N.W.R., near Corvallis, Oreg. Feb. 4 (M. & M. Dembrow, *fide* ME). A **Brown Thrasher** resided in a backyard in Colton, s.e. of Portland, Oreg. Dec. 2-April (J. & K. Cooper, m.ob. ph.) for the first record for w. Oregon. On Jan. 14 a first-year **Black-backed/White Wagtail** was found on the shores of Crockett L., Whidbey I., Wash., for the 2nd record of this form for the state (GG, ph.). Thereafter the bird was found almost daily through February, was tape-recorded (H. Vander Pol), and extensively photographed. Observers were watching closely for any sign of molt into a more definitive plumage.

WAXWINGS THROUGH BUNTINGS -- Flocks of 16 Bohemian Waxwings at Dungeness, Wash., Dec. 17

(MC), and of 15 at Pt. Roberts, Wash., Dec. 27 (MD, K. Bell) were the only reports of this scarce winter visitor. Northern Shrikes were widely reported and in good numbers. Three flocks of Townsend's Warblers, totaling about 50 birds, were closely monitored in Eugene, Oreg. and were not detectably affected by the December freeze (DFi). A single Hermit Warbler was seen Jan. 11 with a dozen Townsend's in Corvallis, Oreg. (ME), and a probable hybrid Hermit x Townsend's was also in that flock Jan. 11-14 (†ME). A Palm Warbler was in Renton, Wash., Dec. 1 (†J. Flynn) for the 2nd record for King County. The only other Palms reported were from their more usual coastal locales. Singles were at the North jetty of the Columbia R., Dec. 18 (DI *et al.*) and on the lower Sixes R., near Port Orford, Oreg. Dec. 28 (BG). A **Northern Waterthrush** was seen Dec. 10-11 at Reifel Ref., B.C. (†H. Hosford, RPh) for the 2nd winter record for the Vancouver area. A young male **Common Yellowthroat** was discovered Jan. 1 in Seattle (E. Spragg *et al.*). It was seen thereafter Jan. 28 (M Hatheway *et al.*) & Feb. 18-21 (P. Okano) for the 2nd winter record for Washington. A female -plumaged Com. Yellowthroat was seen Feb. 19 at the base of the Coburg Pen. (KT) for the first winter record for V.I. Single male Wilson's Warblers, rare here in winter, were noted Dec. 3 at River Jordan, w. of Victoria (KT, TZ), and in Victoria Dec. 17 (CBC). A male **Dickcissel** appeared Dec. 23+ at a feeder near Cathlamet, along the Columbia R., Wash. (G. Exum, C. Carver, m.ob.) for the 2nd record for Washington. Comparison of photos of this bird and of that one found last November at Forks (135 mi to the n.) has not yet been made, but they certainly could have been the same individual. A Clay-colored Sparrow, rare here in winter, came to a feeder in North Bend, Oreg Dec. 11 (AM). The 13 Swamp Sparrows reported was more than double the number of any previous winter in the Region. Two were on the Goldstream flats, w of Victoria, V.I., Dec 7 (DFr), and one was seen Dec 11+ at River Jordan, on the w. side of V.I. (JI, B & MM *et al.*). An adult spent January-February in Oaks Bottoms, Portland (DI *et al.*). There were three other individuals found on V.I., two in the Vancouver, B.C. area (†J. & H. MacKenzie, †GT), and four others in Oregon. Several dozen White-throated Sparrows were reported. Most were found in the Willamette Valley of Oregon, but many were also on s. V.I. About 14 Harris' Sparrows spread throughout the Region was double the average of the last 5 years. The winter-plumaged

Rustic Bunting found Nov. 25 (M & VG) at River Jordan, about 35 mi w. of Victoria, V.I., was seen regularly there with a large flock of juncos to at least February 20 (R Howie, m.ob., ph.).

BLACKBIRDS THROUGH FINCHES -- Single Yellow-headed Blackbirds Jan. 7 in Olympia, Wash. (D. Martin), & Feb. 5 on Sea I., B.C. (RPh), were the only reports of this occasional winter visitor. An imm. male Rusty Blackbird noted Dec. 6 in C. Saanich, V.I. (J & RS) and a female found Feb. 12 in Metchosin, V.I. (KT), were likewise the only reports of this winter visitor. A N. Oriole was present near a feeder in Aberdeen, Wash., from late December through February (R & FC, †B Morse *et al.*) for one of very few winter records for Washington. An unidentified oriole was seen Jan. 15 just w. of Stanwood, Wash. (†F Brown). A male and a female **Brambling** visited a feeder in Queen Charlotte City, Queen Charlotte I., Nov. 20-Jan. 7 (M. Morris, B. Eccles, A. Gray). At the same time a Brambling was seen near Sooke, V.I., Nov. 20 OKT) Next, a q? Brambling found a feeder near Tenino, s. of Olympia, Wash., Jan. 11-18, and was banded (JSk, PM *et al.*). Then, another female was seen Jan. 19-Feb. 25 at a feeder on W. 45th St., Vancouver, B.C. (J Husted, †RCn, †WW, †B. Kautesk *et al.*), a male was seen Jan. 21-28 in Ladner, B.C. OC. Runyon, RPh), and a male was seen briefly Feb 12 on W. 1st St., Vancouver (†MP). These were the 3rd-7th records for B.C. and the 3rd for Washington, of this small Asiatic visitor. The actual first record for Washington was of a previously unidentified individual that spent the winter of 1968-1969 in Aberdeen (R & FC, ph.). Red Crossbills were numerous only on s. V.I. (*vide* VG). Elsewhere, there were sightings of 1-7 individuals at a few Puget Sound locations, and the species was unreported from w. Oregon. Large flocks of Pine Siskins were spread throughout the Region. Three Lesser Goldfinches stayed in Portland to Dec. 3 (DI), and a handful wintered near Corvallis (ME).

CORRIGENDA (All from AB 37:329-332, 1983) -- The male Cinnamon Teal seen Jan. 16, 1983, in s. B.C. was at Burnaby L., not Boundary L. There were about 600 gulls present along the Willamette R., in Eugene last winter, not 2-3000. The Long-eared Owl on Sea I.,

Dec. 5 & 19, 1982, was photographed by Jim & Edie Goble.

INITIALED OBSERVERS, with **Sub-Regional Editors in boldface** -- Dave Aldcroft, Thais Bock, Richard Cannings (RCn), Ralph & Florence Carlson, Mike Carmody, Pascal Cortez, Mark Daly, Merlin Eltzroth, **David Fix** (DFi), Mike Force, David Fraser (DFr), George Gerdtz, Margaret & **Vic Goodwill**, Al & Judith Grass, Barbara Griffin, Steve Heintz, Glen & Wanda Hoge, **Eugene Hunn**, John Ireland, **David Irons**, Dale Jensen, Martha Jordan, **Doug Kragh**, Alan McGie, Barb & Mike McGrenere, Libby Mills, **Harry Nehls**, **Dennis Paulson**, Roy Phillips (RPh), Robert Pitman (RPi), Michael Price, Joy & Ron Satterfield, Jeff Skirletz (JSk), Dory & Stan Smith, Keith Taylor, Verta Teale, Glen Thomson, **Terry Wahl**, Wayne Weber, Tim Zurowski

Volume 38, Number 3 351

Spring Migration, 1984

NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN - INTERMOUNTAIN REGION

/Thomas H. Rogers

Although it is difficult to generalize about so huge a Region, it is fairly safe to say that overall it was a cold, wet spring. March, however, although wet in most areas, was abnormally mild, encouraging an early migration. April turned cold, and varied from wet to normal in various subregions. May was dry except for northeastern Washington and southern interior British Columbia, but was unseasonably cold. Migrants were delayed in some areas but appeared not to be affected in others. In some cases migrants were "bottled up" by adverse conditions and showed conspicuous concentrations of some species. Waves of warblers

were noted in a few instances. Flooding was prevalent in southern Idaho and at Malheur Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, causing some species to shift nesting locations, either to wetter or drier locations; e.g., Savannah Sparrows were nesting in wheat fields in southern Idaho. Black-necked Stilts in record numbers in central Washington probably were encouraged by the abundance of ponds.

ABBREVIATIONS -- N.F. = National Forest; ref. pers. = refuge personnel; R.S. = ranger station; W.M.A. = Wildlife Management Area.

LOONS AND GREBES -- Three Com. Loons were on Mountain Home Res., Ida. May 5, for apparently the first record there (KBP) and five in breeding plumage on small lakes in the Preston, Ida., area were considered potential nesters there (CHT). Homed Grebes, mostly singles, appeared in several localities in s.w. Idaho, where they are rather rare migrants. A Red-necked Grebe, even more unusual in s.w. Idaho, was sighted at C.J. Strike Res., e. of Grandview (MRC, ECC, A & HL) and probably eight to 10 pairs were nesting at Kootenai N.W.R., Bonners Ferry, Ida. Three W. Grebes, Clark's form, were on Strike Res., Mar. 14 (MRC) and three of that form were swimming in flooded sagebrush (!) at Malheur N.W.R., Burns, Ore., Apr. 6 (TC).

PELICANS AND CORMORANTS -- American White Pelicans had built up to 2000+ birds at Malheur by May 29 but no nesting had taken place. Nine soared over Salmon, Ida. Mar. 31; they are rare there (HBR). Four of this species appeared on Coeur d' Alene L., just n. of Harrison, Ida., May 11 (JN) and one was on Medicine L., to the e., May

936 *American Birds*, September-October 1984

28 (PZ) An estimated 600 pairs of Double-crested Cormorants, the largest number ever recorded in the Harney Basin, were nesting in trees on and near

Malheur N.W.R. Those nesting in bulrushes were forced by rising waters to relocate. Four Double-cresteds at Mountain Home Res., Apr 28 may have been the first ever recorded there (KBP) and two at fishless Hatfield L., Bend, Ore., May 10 were totally unexpected (CM).

EGRETS THROUGH IBISES -- A Great Egret at Lewiston, Ida., May 19 was the first there in many years (LL, CV, VB). Another flew over O'Sullivan Dam s. of Moses L., Wash., May 17 (JRR). The only Cattle Egret reported was one near Pocatello, Ida. Apr. 19 (CHT). Several colonies of Black-crowned Night-Herons at Malheur were destroyed by rising waters. One Black-crowned flying over Mountain Home may have been the first ever there (KBP). An estimated 900 pairs of White-faced Ibises were nesting in the Harney Basin. A White-faced Ibis just n. of Helena, Mont., Apr. 20 provided seemingly a latilong first (JJa) One of these birds was at Metcalf N.W.R., Stevensville, Mont., the latter part of May (RT).

WATERFOWL -- Calispell L., near Usk, Wash., was the stopping place for an estimated 4000-6000 Tundra Swans the weekend of Mar. 10, among them was a bird collared in the Cold Bay area of Alaska. Two thousand Tundra Swans were on the lake at Ennis, Mont., Apr. 1. Nine pairs of Trumpeter Swans were nesting in the Blitzen Valley at Malheur. A Trumpeter at Turnbull N.W.R., Cheney, Wash., was incubating 7 eggs, a lone male and last year's cygnet remained there also. A single Trumpeter was with Tundra Swans at Noxon, Mont., Mar. 23 (K.B.C.). Richland, Wash., had five Greater White-fronted Geese Mar. 3 (REW) and St. Andrews, Wash., had two Apr. 14 (BW). A field e. of Burns, Ore, contained 3000 Snow Geese, including one "Blue." With them were 500 Ross' Geese (TC, CM). Two Ross' Geese were photographed at Hubbard Res., Ada Co., Ida. Mar. 28 (MRC, ST) and singles of the species appeared with swans and Canada Geese at Calispell L., Mar. 10 (MJ) and on the Albion, Wash., sewage pond May 6 (GDem). Three Ross' visited Mountain Home Res., along with 16 Snow Geese Apr. 21 (KBP). "Thousands" of Canada Geese paused in fields s. of Minidoka N W R., Rupert, Ida. Mar. 7. The species peaked at 7000 at Columbia N W R., Othello, Wash., and numbered 8000 on Mar. 10 at Calispell L. Predation

was severely limiting goose production at Malheur. The same was true at Kootenai N.W.R., where 69% of known nests were destroyed, mostly by avian predators. Canada Geese suffered a 50% nest loss due to raven predation at McArthur Lake W.M.A., Boundary Co, Ida. (MB), and goose fledging at Metcalf N.W.R., Stevensville, Mont was 30-40% below average. Turnbull N.W.R., Cheney, Wash., reported excellent nesting success for Canadas, however. At Calispell L., puddle ducks and divers together were estimated at 20,000 on Mar. 10 Kootenai N.W.R.'s ducks peaked at 8000, down from last year's 10,000. A phenomenal rarity was an ad. male **Garganey** photographed at Penticton, B.C., May 23-24 (SRC, m.ob.). Gadwall numbers reached 1462 at Turnbull and 350 at Columbia N.W.R. A few Eur. Wigeon, mostly singles, appeared in n. and s.e. Idaho, n.c. Oregon, e. Washington and s interior British Columbia, with more sightings than usual in the latter locality. A male and two females of this species on Bull L., s. of Troy, Mont, were the first recorded for the latilong (K.B.C.). Canvasback reached 150 at Columbia N.W.R. Malheur had a Greater Scaup Mar. 18 and one was sighted at the mouth of the Deschutes R., Sherman Co., Ore, Mar. 30 (RG). Two pairs of Harlequin Ducks were frequenting the Lightning Cr.-Spring Cr. area near Clark Fork, Ida. (JSc), and one was found on the Lochsa R., 50 mi e. of Kooskia, Ida. (HC, FK, RW, m. ob.). Single Oldsquaws were seen near Kamloops, B.C., May 12-19 (RH) and at Vernon, B.C., Mar. 24 (JGr). A Surf Scoter on the Columbia R., at Trail, B.C., made the observer's first spring record of the species in 40 years (ME). Common Goldeneyes peaked at 2600+ at Turnbull. A female Com. Goldeneye with five small young was sighted at the sewage pond at Colville, Wash., May 13 (DS). Three pairs of Red-breasted Mergansers were on the Snake R. near Lewiston, Ida. Apr. 22 (RN)

VULTURES AND HAWKS -- A strange sighting was that of a Turkey Vulture alighting on a tree in Richland; the species is rare in that area (REW). One of this species, rare in Boundary County, Ida., was sighted at Hall Mt, Apr 19 (PRS) The pair of Bald Eagles at Kootenai N.W.R. that began nest building last fall, hatched two young, the first in the refuge's history (LDN). A pair in Lincoln County, Mont., was rearing two eaglets (K.B.C.) as was a pair at Wasa Sloughs near Kimberley, B.C. (MVW). Hebgen and Quake L., near

W. Yellowstone, Mont., had three nesting pairs (JS). A Bald Eagle roost count in the Harney Basin came up with 155 birds Mar. 19-20. Some hawk totals for the Region were: Sharp-shinned three, Cooper's 12+ and "common," N. Goshawk four, Ferruginous four and "a few," Merlin three, Peregrine Falcon two and Prairie Falcon three. An incubating Golden Eagle was at Naches and another at Oak Creek W.M.A., n.w. of Yakima, Wash. Nine of 24 Golden Eagle nest sites at Malheur were successful. Most remarkable was the sighting of a Crested Caracara near Montpelier, Ida., May 30. Photographed at close range, the bird was not tame and had no obvious signs (jesses) of having been captive (GDe *et al.*)

GALLINACEOUS BIRDS -- A White-tailed Ptarmigan was discovered in the Caribou Cr. area near Yaak, Mont., Apr. 17 (CW). Sage Grouse numbered 60 at Yakima Firing Range and a lek 20 mi n. of the Utah state line in s.c. Idaho contained 20 males. The lek near Millican, Ore., had up to 35 Sage Grouse, and 5 leks near Bend showed increased numbers. The Oregon State Fish and Wildlife Dept. added about 20 Wild Turkeys to the flock n.w. of Sisters, hoping to reduce inbreeding in the flock introduced in the 1950s. Gambel's Quail were noted at Boise and Ft. Boise W.M.A., near Perma, Ida. (MRC, JL, ST, m.ob.).

CRANES -- Greater Sandhill Cranes were experiencing low nesting success at Malheur as the result of predation. A color-marked Lesser Sandhill observed there had been marked as a fledgling at Nushagak Bay in Alaska last year. Three flocks of Lesser Sandhills totaling 400-500 passed over Richland Apr. 21 (REW) and Conconully L., Okanogan Co., Wash., had 5000-6000 Sandhills flying over Apr. 16 (AP). Three Sandhills were observed flying over the Continental Divide w. of Philipsburg, Mont., in early May (PLW).

S.A.

Sandhill Crane nests at Grays L., Ida. had 32 Whooping Crane eggs placed in them and at least 9 eggs had hatched. Six older Whoopers had returned two more than last year, but no pairing or nesting occurred. There is still a shortage of older females there. Other older Whoopers summered in

SHOREBIRDS -- The only Black-bellied Plovers reported were one at Malheur Apr. 19 and one at Lower Klamath N.W.R., Ore., just n of the California line. The Snowy Plover was observed at Hubbard and Indian Creek reservoirs, Ada Co., Ida., (MRC, JL, ST), and at Lower Klamath (PL). The species was not recorded at Malheur; high water levels had eliminated suitable nesting habitat there. Semipalmated Plovers appeared at Malheur, Lower Klamath, Weston and Rufus, all in Oregon. Black-necked Stilts appeared in a number of unusual places. The most remarkable sighting was that of at least six at Swan L., Vernon, B.C., May 14-25 (IB, m.ob.). One at Mann's L., e. of Lewiston, was apparently n. Idaho's first (REJ, JR). Up to five were sighted at Reardan, Wash., and three stopped at St. Andrews, Wash., Apr. 14 (BW). Up to eight appeared at Hatfield L., Baker, for the 2nd county record (TC). An astonishing number showed up in the Winchester Wasteway-Dodson Rd. area s.w. of Moses L.; about Apr. 20 a group of 13 was at one pond and 15 at another (JT). Ponds n. of Frenchman Hills Rd., in that area held 15 stilts, two of which were on eggs. One nest checked contained 4 eggs. A small island in the n. part of Potholes Res had two pairs of stilts; behavior of the birds indicated at least one nest (RF). A few Am. Avocets showed up at Bend for the 2nd county record (TC). At Kootenai N.W.R., where the species is rare, one avocet appeared Apr. 10 and two May 19 (LDN). The only Solitary Sandpipers reported were singles at Genesee, Ida. (MK, LL, PP), and w. of Reardan (BW). A rare sighting of a Whimbrel was made at Malheur May 1 (ref. pets.). Two migrating Long-billed Curlews at Bonners Ferry May 12 were distinctly on the rare side (PRS). This species again appeared in small numbers in the Eureka, Mont., vicinity (CW). Four Marbled

Volume 38, Number 5 937

Godwits, also rare at Malheur, appeared there Apr. 25 (ref. pers.). Two were at Mann's L., Lewiston, Ida., May 5, along with four Sanderlings (RN). A Sanderling at Mountain Home Res. provided a latilong first (KBP) as did two at Otharp L., s.w. of Eureka (CW). Eight Baird's Sandpipers, rare at Bend in spring, were counted there Apr. 15; this could be an extremely high number even for the fall migration there (TC). One or two Dunlins at Hubbard Res., and at Dry L. ponds, Canyon Co., Ida., were noteworthy (MRC, ECC, CS) and one near Umapine, Ore., May 5 was unusual (SM, PD). Rufus had four Short-billed Dowitchers May 4 (RG), one was photographed near Boise May 8 (MRC) and one was at Bend May 3 (TC).

GULLS AND TERNS -- Unusual were four Franklin's Gulls at Hubbard Res. and a Bonaparte's Gull at Davis Res., e. of Cascade, Ida. (MRC, ST). A Franklin's Gull, rare in s. British Columbia, was at Nakusp May 30 (RH). At least 1000 Bonaparte's were on Salmon L., s. of Kamloops, B.C., May 5 (JW). One was at Lewiston May 5 (RN) and two were on a pond at Genesee, Ida. May 6 (C.B.). Single Herring Gulls were at Rufus Apr. 6 (RG) and at Malheur Mar. 7 (ref. pers.). Birds identified as W. Gulls were reported at C.J. Strike Res., Feb. 10 and near Boise Mar. 28 (MRC, ECC, NS, CS). This species is virtually unknown inland; these records, if correct, would be the first for Idaho. Two Caspian Terns, rare in s. interior British Columbia, appeared at Tranquille May 17 and one was at Chapperon L., s. of Kamloops, May 12 (RH). Two were at Lewiston May 6 (C.B.). Several "Black Terns" at American Falls Res. in s. Idaho May 3 proved to be Com. Terns (CHT). Single Black Terns were sighted at Hubbard Res., Marsing and Ft. Boise W.M.A. Millcreek Res., e. of Walla Walla had one May 28 (CF), and two at Fortine, Mont., May 15 were the first there in the last 6 years (WW).

DOVES AND OWLS -- A Band-tailed Pigeon was sighted at Malheur Apr. 1 and another appeared at Montour, Ida. May 12 (A & HL, G.E.A.S.). Slate Creek R.S. s. of White Bird, Ida., had one May 3 (SW). At least 25 Com. Barn-Owls frequented cliffs at dusk near

Clarkston, Wash., May 21 (MK). Five Flammulated Owls were calling at various places in the Kamloops area May 18-24 (RH) and three were heard near Kelowna, B.C., May 26 (JB). Two were calling at Diamond L., Wash., May 28 (BW). A pair of Snowy Owls that reportedly wintered in the Cascade-Donnelly, Ida. area were last seen Apr. 10 (*fide* MRC). Owl censuses in Boise N.F., Valley Co., Ida., in March and April counted one W. Screech, up to eight Great Horned, up to 14 N. Pygmy, one Great Gray (+ five in adjacent areas), two *Strix* spp., two Boreal and three N. Saw-whet owls (G & PH).

SWIFTS AND HUMMINGBIRDS -- An estimated 1000 Black Swifts were over Swan L., Vernon May 21 (PMcA). A kayak trip on the Owyhee R., below Rome, Ore., May 27 yielded three Black Swifts in association with many White-throated Swifts (BN). A single White-throated was sighted near Asotin, Wash., May 25 (MK). An exciting observation was of a male **Costa's Hummingbird** at Bend, Ore., May 11+ (G & CR, TC). This furnished the Region's first record.

WOODPECKERS AND FLYCATCHERS -- Few Lewis' Woodpeckers were reported except at Malheur, where the birds were rather common through May 16. Two W. Flycatchers on Scout Mr., s. of Pocatello, May 31 were suspected of nesting (CHT). A report of an Ash-throated Flycatcher at Cranbrook was apparently the first for interior British Columbia (*fide* MVW). Eastern Kingbirds were reported as much more numerous than usual in e. Oregon, outnumbering the ordinarily more common W. Kingbird. A W. Kingbird, a rarity at Kootenai N.W.R., was observed there May 21.

SWALLOWS THROUGH WRENS -- A male Purple Martin showed up near Mountain Home Apr. 21 (CS) and perhaps the same bird appeared with swallows near Boise Apr. 25-26 and near Hubbard Res. May 12 (MBe, MRC). The Blue Jay that wintered near Fortine was last seen May 5 (WW). The mountains along the w. side of Cascade Res., Valley Co., Ida., had three Chestnut-backed Chickadees Mar. 20. Local residents reportedly have seen them 20 mi to the n.e. of there in summer

(MRC). Hull's Gulch Nature Trail, Boise, had three Plain Titmice May 27 for apparently the first spring record for that area (ECC). Bewick's Wren was reported still increasing in the Walla Walla area and nearby along the Snake and Columbia rivers (SM).

GNATCATCHERS THROUGH WARBLERS -- A Blue-gray Gnat-catcher again appeared at Boise-Barber pools of the Boise R., Apr. 28 (MRC), and two pairs were building nests at Malheur. Migrating Mountain Bluebirds numbered 85 at Bickleton, Wash., Mar. 6 and a flock of 35 was seen near Cataldo, Ida. May 6. Boise had a visit from a N. Mockingbird May 16 (PPh, PB). The Brown Thrasher that wintered near Genelle, s. of Trail, B.C., was last seen Mar. 5 (ME, m.ob.). A Loggerhead Shrike, very rare in s. British Columbia, was sighted at Osoyoos Apr. 5 (SRC). "Phenomenal" waves of vireos and warblers were encountered in the Boise vicinity Apr. 21-May 21, coinciding with an erratic storm pattern to the e. Included were two **Bell's Vireos** described May 16 for apparently Idaho's first (MRC, PPh, PB). A male Blue-winged Warbler at Pocatello May 8 apparently provided Idaho's 2nd record (CWe, *fide* CHT). Tennessee Warblers were unusually common at Vernon in mid-May (PMcA) and one was observed at Pocatello May 16 (CHT *et al.*). A Tennessee was near Page Springs, Ore., May 5. Malheur had a Black-throated Gray Warbler Apr. 25, a Black-throated Green May 11, a pair of Blackpolls May 19 and a male Black-and-white May 22+ (ref. pers.). A molting male "Myrtle" Yellow-rumped Warbler was seen at Mountain Home May 18, and a Com. Yellowthroat May 14 made the first record there (KBP). That oasis for birds and birders, the Davenport, Wash. cemetery, provided a Palm Warbler May 12 (BW). A Black-and-white Warbler at Tumalo S.P., May 11 was Deschutes County's first and another was at Fields, Ore., May 27 (TC, JG, RS, HN). An Ovenbird was near Fields May 27 (ref. pers.) and one caught by a cat at Pocatello May 25 was banded and released. The cat owner said he had seen another in his yard (JJ).



Ovenbird banded by Joe Jeppson at Pocatello, Idaho, May 25, 1984. Photo/C. H. Trost.

GROSBEAKS THROUGH GRACKLES -- Helena had a male Rose-breasted Grosbeak May 26 (GH) and a female June 1 (AS). A Lark Sparrow at Kimberley May 17 furnished that area's first record (MVW). A Black-throated Sparrow at Metcalf N.W.R. was the 3rd ever reported for w. Montana (HH). The Malta, Ida. area had two Lark Buntings May 3 (WHS). Grasshopper Sparrows were found in the Boise area at Ft. Boise, Kuna, and Black's Creek Res. (MRC, JL, ST), and in the vicinity of Eureka, Mont. (CW). The species was also reported at the N. Potholes (Y.A.S.) and near Wallula, Wash. (SM). Single Harris' Sparrows were reported at Rogersburg, Wash., May 5 (AM), at Boise feeders and along the Payette R., Ida., Mar. 1-Apr. 26 (MRC), and one at Klamath Falls was seen again Apr. 16 (PL); College Place, Wash., had two immatures Mar. 3 (B.M.A.S.). The lakeshore at Nakusp, B.C., hosted the phenomenal rarity of two male **Chestnut-collared Longspurs** in full breeding plumage May 29-30 (GDa, FKl). A breeding-plumaged

938 *American Birds*, September – October 1984

female Snow Bunting photographed at Donnelly, Ida. Mar. 16, furnished a latilong first (MRC, JL, ST). Bobolinks seem to have become regular summer residents at Prairie, Ida. two males were seen in that vicinity May 26 (KBP). A few Com. Grackles appeared

in the Boise and Mountain Home vicinities (MRC, A & HL, J & RS, m.ob.).

OBSERVERS CITED -- Patricia Baker, Ian Barnett, Eugene C. Barney, Marc Bechard (MBe), Vivian Bellemere, Jack Bowling, Blue Mountain Audubon Society (B.M.A.S.), Mel Branch (MB), Steve R. Cannings, Canyon Birders (C.B.), Helen Carlson, E.C. Cleaveland, Mark R. Collie, Tom Crabtree, Priscilla Dauable, Gary Davidson (GDa), Gerald Deutcher (GDe), Gay Demmer (GDem), Maurice Ellison, Chris Flanagan, Ron Friesz, Golden Eagle Audubon Society (G.E.A.S.), Roy Gerig, Jeff Gilligan (JG), James Grant (JGr), Harvey Hackett, Greg & Pat Hayward (G & PH), George Holton (GH), Rick Howie, John Jancic (JJa), Joe Jeppson (JJ), Richard E. Johnson, Martha Jordan, Frances King (FKi), Florence Knoll (FK), Merlene Koliner, Kootenai Bird Club (K.B.C.), Al & Hilda Larson, Louise La Vole, Paul Lehman, Jim Lyons, Pat McAllister, Craig Miller, Alice Montag, Shirley Muse, Larry D. Napier, Harry Nehls, Ron Neu, Jerry Neufeld, Barbara North, Peggy Pedigo (PP), Polly Phillips (PPh), Ambrose Priestley, Kerry B. Provance, James R. Rees, James Reichel, Hadley B. Roberts, Gary & Carol Routh, Don Schmaldt, Ann Scofield, John Scott (JSc), W.H. Shillington, Paul R. Sieracki, Jack & Ruth Smith (J & RS), Richard Smith (RS), Nettie Smoot, Jim Sparks (OS), Coleen Sweeney, Jim Tabor, C.H. Trost, Scott Tuthill, Robert Twist, Laura & Maurice Vial, Carol Vande Voorde, Cheryl Webb (CWe), Winton Weydemeyer, Bart Whelton, Mildred V. White, Ruth Wirtanen, Susan Wise, Carl Wolf (CW), Robert E. Woodley, John Woods, Philip L. Wright, Yakima Audubon Society (Y.A.S.), Pete Zager.

Spring Migration, 1984

NORTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION

/David Fix

Spring 1984 in the Region was characterized by mild, moist weather which served to ground waves of passerines. This effect was most noticeable April 13-18 and April 24-26. Migration through interior valleys was noted as excellent in many areas. Coastal migrations were fair-to-poor, with numbers of some common species dramatically low onshore. Western Oregon hosted a record invasion of Black-necked Stilts, while the entire Region saw a generally early arrival of summering land birds.

ABBREVIATIONS -- N.J.C.R. = north jetty of the Columbia R., Wash.; S.J.C.R. = south jetty of the Columbia R., Oreg. V.I. = Vancouver Island, B.C.

LOONS THROUGH HERONS -- Arctic Loons staged their usual concentration around Active Pass, s. British Columbia, with 650-800 there Apr. 7-19 (J & RS, M & VG). Northward passage of Arctics off Oregon beaches continued through the end of the period (m.ob.). Following

948 *American Birds*, September - October 1984

last winter's $14 \pm$ Yellow-billed Loons, five were seen Mar 6-24 in s. British Columbia and n. Washington. The wintering bird at Yaquina Bay, Oreg., remained until late April (VT *et al.*). Eared Grebes were seen in the usual small numbers, with the exception of a flock of nine on Meares L., at Tillamook Bay, Oreg. Mar. 30 (HN). Western Grebes were reported in low numbers typical of the past 10 years in the s half of the Region. This contrasted with the raft of 6000 on Saanich Inlet, V.I., Mar. 12 (VG). A light-phase "Clark's" W. Grebe was on the Columbia R., near Skamokawa, Wash., Apr. 11 (†AR), and one was found inland on the sewage ponds at Forest Grove, Oreg., Apr. 25 (DI, JGi). Dark-phase birds greatly outnumber "Clark's" in the Region. Wahl's boat trip out of Westport, Wash., May 6 encountered low numbers of most species. Forty-four Black-footed Albatrosses were seen, and no N. Fulmars. The 44 Pink-footed Shearwaters was also below average. Two Flesh-footed Shearwaters were found. The 6224 Sooty Shearwaters off Westport and

4000 at the S.J.C.R., May 25 (HN) were near expected totals. However, "perhaps a million or more" Sooties May 12 just off the S.J.C.R. (RS, *fide* HN) was a high spring concentration for this favored location. The only storm-petrels noted this season were 24 Fork-tailed out of Westport (TW), and a single Leach's seen Mar. 17 in Canadian waters s. of Victoria (KT, J. Wilson). Brown Pelicans returned early once again. Two were at Tillamook Bay May 19 (JK, *fide* DI), and four were at nearby Netarts Bay May 21 (JK). One of the Great Blue Heron colonies near Eugene, Oreg., was about to be displaced by gravel dredging--an important threat to riparian sites in the Willamette Valley (DF). A count of 66 Great Egrets was tallied Mar. 24 in the Coquille Valley s.e. of Coos Bay, Oreg. (JGa). The presence of a Great Egret near the huge Bachelor I., Wash., heronry in late April was intriguing (HN); this species is presently only a casual breeder in the Region. Two Snowy Egrets in the Rogue R. Valley at Medford, Oreg., May 11 were out of place (OSw), but the Snowy at Bowerman Basin on Grays Harbor, Wash., Apr. 22 (M. Hatheway) was truly surprising. Three Black-crowned Night-Herons on the Skagit Flats Game Range, n. Wash., Mar. 11 may have been wintering birds noted earlier in the year (*fide* PM). The immature that wintered at Reifel Ref., near Vancouver, B.C., was last reported Mar. 28 (refuge staff, *fide* MF).

WATERFOWL -- The bulk of the wintering Tundra Swans had departed by the end of March (m.ob.), but one adult lingered until at least late May w. of Florence, Oreg. (BC *et al.*). The Barney L., Wash., Trumpeter Swans had left by mid-March (DP). Greater White-fronted Geese were widely reported this season. Evidence suggests that many flocks travel from the interior NW across the s. Willamette Valley, thence N up the outer Oregon and Washington coasts. Nehalem Bay near Tillamook hosted 315 on Apr. 28 (VT), and hundreds passed Ocean Shores, Wash., Apr. 21-29 (DP). Three birds late at the S.J.C.R., May 31 "appeared to be Tule Geese" (HN). A Bean Goose at Nisqually N.W.R., near Olympia, Wash., from March until at least Apr 6 (B. Harrington-Tweit *et al.*) was considered an escapee. A subad. **Ross' Goose** stayed May 2-6 at Burnaby L., B.C., for only the 3rd Vancouver area record (†J & HM, †MF *et al.*). An Emperor Goose was at Sandspit, Queen Charlotte Is., B.C., Mar. 2 (M. Morris), and one was at Race Rocks, Metchosin, V.I.,

Apr. 19 (P. Griffiths). The imm. Emperor that wintered in Portland, Oreg., parks remained through the period, as several such individuals have done in the recent past (DI *et al.*) Canada Geese of varying origin breed locally throughout the Region. The first of 4 nests at Ft. Lewis, Wash., had hatched out by Apr. 17 (J. Beall, *fide* TB), while the first young were noted May 4 on Metchosin Lagoon, V.I. (N. Marcus). Seven Eurasian' Green-winged Teal were found, about average for the spring period. A strongly-marked hybrid male Eur. x Am. Green-winged Teal was at Stewart Pond, Eugene, Oreg., Apr. 29 (BC, †DF, †SH). About 14 male Eur. Wigeon were scattered through the Region, with the last one in Victoria May 5 (VG). A hybrid Eur. x Am. Wigeon was there as well May 3-4 (J & RS). An ad. male **Tufted Duck** was discovered 3.7 mi n.w. of Coquille, Coos Co., Oreg., Mar. 11, (†G. Keller, LT) for the 4th state record. Reinforcing the thought that the Columbia Gorge may be an important inland station for Greater Scaup was the report of 150 at Starvation Creek S.P., e. of Cascade Locks, Oreg. Mar. 25 (DA). Harlequin Ducks are scarce and elusive breeders in the Oregon Cascades. In addition to one report each of a few birds in the Hood R., McKenzie R., and upper Willamette R. drainages in April (m.ob.), an ad. female was found May 28 on the headwaters of Deer Cr, Yamhill Co., on the e. slope of the n. Oregon Coast Range (TL, *fide* HN), an area where the species is practically unknown. Six Oldsquaws that wintered at Yaquina Bay remained until late April, the only concentration in Oregon (m.ob.).

VULTURES THROUGH CRANES -- Reports of Turkey Vultures mentioned mostly pairs and singles from many locations Mar. 3+. There was little concerted movement apparent this spring. All reports indicate that populations of Ospreys in the Region continue to thrive. As expected, only a few Black-shouldered Kites lingered into the season. Singles were at Finley N.W.R., s. of Corvallis, Oreg., Apr. 22 (B Altman, *fide* EE), and on Leadbetter Pt., Wash., May 31 (RW). A modest number continued resident in Tillamook County, Oreg. with a pair probably nesting again at the Tillamook airport (HN *et al.*). Numbers of the smaller accipiters were normal, and a typical count of nine N Goshawks was seen. An imm. Goshawk captured a crow at the Tillamook dump Mar. 24 (DI *et al.*). The usual few resident Red-shouldered Hawks

were noted on the s. Oregon coast. However, one in the Coquille Valley Mar. 24 (JGa) was farther n. than the species is generally suspected to breed. Aside from numerous and scattered s. V.I. reports (*fide* VG), only a few Golden Eagles were seen. Two near McMinnville, Oreg., in late March were near last year's nesting location, and one was seen harassed by a Red-tailed Hawk over Centralia, Wash., Mar. 17 (J Skriletz). About 17 Peregrine Falcons were seen, slightly fewer than is now expected. A Gyrfalcon in Vancouver, B.C., Mar. 2 (T. Plath) constituted the only report for the period. Eight Soras calling from a marsh near Tillamook May 12 (DI *et al.*) was a surprising count for a coastal location. Bizarre, but believable, was a Sora sitting atop an outdoor phone kiosk at 6020' in Crater Lake N.P., Apr. 27, surrounded by 10-ft snow banks (J. Bartl). Sandhill Cranes peaked at 1100 on Mar. 3 on Sauvie I., Oreg. (*fide* HN). A flock of 300 spent Apr. 14-22 near Neah Bay, Wash., and Apr. 14 a flock of 93 crossed the Strait of Juan de Fuca from Neah Bay into s. British Columbia (C. Commerce). Two pairs were nesting by period's end on Porcher I., s.w. of Prince Rupert, n. B.C., for a new Regional breeding site (Mr. & Mrs. Ostrom).

SHOREBIRDS -- The 500 Black-bellied Plovers in dairy pastures near Tillamook Apr. 24 was the high count for the Region this spring (DI). Lesser Golden-Plovers made an exceptional showing. Possibly 12 occurred in Washington Apr. 21-May 25, five being *P.d. fulva* (G & WH, DP, RW, J. O'Connell), and eight to 12 were in n. coastal Oregon, at least one being assigned to *fulva* (*fide* HN). Seven were in pastures near Tillamook Apr. 25 (DI, JGi *et al.*), a magnetic location for large plovers. One at Boundary Bay, Delta, B.C., Apr. 29 (BK) was a rare spring sighting for the Vancouver area. Up to three Snowy Plovers were seen in April and May at Catala Spit, Ocean Shores, Wash., their n limit for breeding on the Pacific Coast (PM *et al.*).

S.A.

The spring of 1984 will be remembered by w. Oregon observers as the season Black-necked Stilts invaded. A few stilts straggle more or less regularly into the area in spring and early fall. This year, however, was exceptional. Between Apr. 14 and May 4 about 120-130 birds appeared, at 11 locations between Medford and Tillamook (m.ob.). The largest concentrations were 40 at Fern Ridge Res., w. of Eugene Apr. 17 (SH, DI, DF), 38 at Medford Apr. 17, with 19 there the previous day (OSw), 17 at Helmick S.P., Polk Co., Apr. 14 (D. Bucy, *fide* EE), and eight on Sauvie I., Apr. 15 (DR). A single bird at Tillamook Apr. 28- May 2 (DI *et al.*) was the only one reported from the coast. The lone sighting for

Evans). Perhaps surprisingly, none was reported after May 4. Some were in plausible breeding habitat, although most were found in seasonally wet fields. It seems reasonable to correlate their incursion with record floodwater levels in the n. Great Basin.

Volume 38, Number 5 949

The only Am Avocet was at Medford May 9-15 (OSw) Solitary Sandpipers were nearly routine in Oregon. At least 16 were found, with as many as seven near Banks, w. of Portland, on several dates (JGa *et al.*). Four to six on s. V.I., and three in the Vancouver, B.C., area (*fide* VG, DK), brought the Regional total to more than 23 birds. The Willet that wintered at Ediz Hook, Wash., was seen to Apr. 3 (DS). Two Walleys were at Bowerman Basin, Grays Harbor, Apr. 26 (DH, ER), and two were a surprise at Medford Apr. 30 (OSw). Twelve Long-billed Curlews was an above-average count for spring, and they were widely scattered. Singles Apr. 8 in Vancouver, B.C. (MP) & May 21 at Iona I. (G Thomas) were rare locally, while one at Finley N.W.R., May 17 (SH, DR, MH) was early for an inland location. A winter-plumaged Bar-tailed Godwit at the S.J.C.R., Apr. 27 (†HN) sustained a vague recent pattern of West Coast-wintering Bar-taileds returning N in spring. Single Marbled Godwits, unusual in spring in British Columbia, were on Sea I., May 14 (JI), at

Saanich May 16 (B. Whittington, KT), and on Blackie Spit Apr. 26 (W. Weber) and May 20 (D Jensen). The high count for Ruddy Turnstones was of 200 at Ocean Shores May 13 (P. Evans, D. & L. Lindstrom). Red Knots were considered scarcer than usual this season at Ocean Shores (G & WH), possibly owing to heavy use of nearby Willapa Bay, where 800 were counted May 1 for the peak number reported (AR *et al.*). A Red Knot inland at Medford Apr. 30, and ten there May 11 (OSw) were unexpected. A Semipalmated Sandpiper at Saanich Apr. 23 (†J & RS) and another at Padilla Bay, Wash., May 6 (†S. Johnson) were detailed. About 13 were reported from Iona I., B.C., May 6-30 (m.ob.), and four at Leadbetter Pt., Willapa Bay, May 31 (RW). Both are areas where the occurrence of Semi-palmateds has been well demonstrated in the past. Western Sandpipers concentrated in favored Bowerman Basin on Grays Harbor, with 40,000 the last week of April being fewer than usual (DP *et al.*). As expected, token Baird's Sandpipers showed up. Singles were at Saanich Apr. 30 (J & RS), at Finley N.W.R., Oreg. May 5 (J & RK., *fide* EE), and on Iona I., May 15 (DAI). A Pectoral Sandpiper was at Iona I., May 20 and two were there the following day for the only reports this spring (*fide* DK). Most surprising was the **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** at Leadbetter Pt., May 31 (†RW), an unseasonal occurrence for anywhere in the West. A flock of 50 Long-billed Dowitchers appeared briefly in Seattle May 12 before flying off high to the N (L. Stevens), 274 were in Medford May 11 (OSw), and 30 were on Iona I., May 19 (JI). At least 21 Wilson's Phalaropes appeared Apr. 30-May 29 (m.ob.). Six at Tillamook Bay, May 28 (DF, DI, MK) was the high count. This above-average showing contrasted with the dearth of pelagic phalaropes throughout the Region. Few Red-necked Phalaropes were seen along the coast until late May. The boat trip out of Westport May 6 found only 14 (TW). No Red Phalaropes were reported.

JAEGERS THROUGH ALCIDS -- Two Pomarine Jaegers off West- port May 6 (TW) and a dark-phase bird at Yaquina Bay, Oreg. Apr. 18 (J Evanich, VT), along with two Parasitics passing Ocean Shores May 25 (G & WH) made for a poor showing. Another **Little Gull** was found in the Region in spring, this time an adult Apr. 8 off Orcas I., in Washington's San Juans (TW, ph.). Exemplifying a generally poor migration

along the outer coast was the striking scarcity of Bonaparte's Gulls in the s. one-half of the Region. They were seen only occasionally in Oregon and Washington until about May 25. One hundred at Port Townsend, Wash., Apr. 14-15 may have been the largest gathering onshore there during mid-spring. Only *two* were seen at Ocean Shores in April and May (G & WH, DP). Yet in inland waters to the n., 5000 were seen at Active Pass, s. V.I., Apr. 7, and 300 were in Richmond, B.C., May 14 (MF). The anticipated onshore N migration of Herring Gulls was noted on the coast of Oregon and Washington, with 50+/hr. flying up Sunset Beach near the S.J.C.R., May 2 (DI, MK). Most ad. Thayer's Gulls appeared to depart in late March, while immatures hung on longer, with 24 still on Sauvie I., Apr. 8 (DI). A few Thayer's at Ocean Shores Apr. 29-May 6 were the last ones noted (DP). The last of the 34+ Glaucous Gulls reported this spring was at Ocean Shores May 25 (G & WH). DP remarks that there was clear evidence of a small coastwise migration of Glaucous there Apr. 25-May 6. A bird identified as a 2nd-winter **Iceland Gull** was discovered Mar. 10 at the landfill on Lulu I., Richmond, B.C. (†MF ph., †BK, T. Plath, MP). The gull was intimately described and thoroughly discussed, with convincing separation made from abnormally-pigmented Thayer's Gull and other aberrant possibilities. All features noted on the Richmond bird are consistent with a typical "Kumlien's", including light barring on the tertials, inner greater secondary coverts, and undertail coverts; high, rounded head shape; bill size and shape; and marked extension of wing-tips beyond tail. This is the 2nd photographically-documented record of this form for British Columbia, coming on the heels of a first-winter bird found at the Vancouver landfill earlier this year. Four Sabine's Gulls out of Westport May 6 (TW) were the only ones seen. Caspian Terns continue to do well in the Region. Following the first northbound arrival Mar. 23, at Bandon, Oreg., (MH, SH, DR), high numbers were seen coastwise. Both Common and Arctic terns were in lower than average numbers, although 18 Arctics were encountered off Westport, and a small flock was seen at the N.J.C.R., May 19 (BM). An Arctic Tern at Gilbert Beach, Richmond, May 14 (MF) was unusual for the Vancouver area. Thirteen Marbled Murrelets Apr. 9 off West Pt. in Seattle (DB, DH) was a high count there. The only Ancient Murrelets reported were three at Active Pass Apr. 7 (RS). Wahl termed the 11 Cassin's Auklets May 6 off Westport "pathetically low". Only

seven Tufted Puffins were at Cape Meares, Oreg., May 2, causing concern about repeated poor showings there (HN). Many fewer than usual were at nest rocks off Pt. Grenville, Wash., in early May also (PM).

OWLS THROUGH WOODPECKERS -- Two Com. Barn-Owl nests on s. V.I. were both in broken-top Douglas-firs (MN *et al.*). The only Snowy Owl reports were of singles Mar. 11 on the Skagit Flats, n Wash. (*fide* PM), and Mar. 25 in Delta, B.C. (P. Yorke). A Barred Owl nest was again found in Seattle's Discovery P. (DB), and another individual was seen Apr. 22-May 7 on nearby Mercer I., in L. Washington (W. Crill *et al.*). Adults seen in E. Sooke, V.I., all spring were thought to be nesting. There were no Oregon reports for the period. Four Long-eared Owls in w. Washington County, Oreg., in April and May were in an area where poorly known (m.ob.). A Com. Poorwill road-feeding in wet conifer forest just n. of Marblemount, n. Wash., May 3 (†P. Stoddard, S. Hiebert) was dramatically out of normal range and habitat. The only sightings of Black Swift, aside from un-detailed April reports, were of one at Queen Elizabeth P., Vancouver, B.C., May 15 (DAI), and eight at Langford, V.I., May 24 (RWm). The spring flight of Vaux's Swift was excellent everywhere, "unprecedented in both numbers and extent" on s. V.I. (VG), and "bundles of migrants" in Portland (DI). A few in Portland (TC) and 20 over Eugene (DF), both Apr. 13, were a few days early. A total of 400+ was tallied May 9 on s. V.I., with 200 using an Oak Bay chimney (*fide* VG). Twenty-three Anna's Hummingbirds were defending territories in Discovery P., Seattle, during early March (DH), and up to six were watched on the Univ. of Victoria campus through the spring. A male Costa's Hummingbird in Portland May 11 (JK, *fide* DI, HN) provided about the 12th Oregon record. A male Calliope Hummingbird at a Saanich feeder Apr. 27 was only the 4th for the Victoria area, and the first since 1966 (M. Jamison, C. Blankendaal). This species is apparently under- going a range expansion into the lower mountains of w. Oregon (m.ob.). A male Allen's Hummingbird Mar. 23 in the lower Coquille Valley s.e. of Coos Bay was the northernmost one reported this season (MH, SH, DR). Underscoring the virtual disappearance of breeding Lewis' Woodpeckers from the Region was the reported season's total of just *three* birds: singles on s. V.I., in Seattle, and at Finley N.W R., Oreg., all in mid-May. A

"Red-naped" Yellow-bellied Sapsucker Apr 28 at Upper Table Rock in the Rogue Valley of s. Oregon furnished a notable migrant record (MR).

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH SWALLOWS -- Two Olive-sided Flycatchers Apr. 21 in Metchosin, V.I., were slightly ahead of schedule (KT). Hammond's Flycatchers were more widely noted than ever in the lowlands during April and early May passage, following the first bird Apr. 14 at Corvallis, Oreg. (EE). Arrival was generally 2-3 days early. Increased awareness of Hammond's distinctive but easily-overlooked call note has probably caused an increase in reports, especially in the s. Willamette Valley, where more than 50 were located (m.ob.). The only Dusky Flycatcher reported was near Yamhill, Oreg. May 18 (JGa). Two **Gray Flycatchers** strayed across the Cascades. One was in Corvallis, Oreg. May 12 (†F. Ramsey, *fide* EE), and one was in Seattle May 28 (†DB) for the 2nd w. Washington record. A W. Flycatcher singing

950 *American Birds*, September-October 1984

on Orcas I., Wash, Apr 14 (GJ, FS) was slightly earlier than expected Oregon's northernmost known Black Phoebes persisted, with a pair under the Hwy. 101 bridge at Euchre Cr., Curry Co., May 6 (BC, DF). The first of seven Say's Phoebes this season was in Seattle Mar. 11 for King County's earliest ever (DB). Western Kingbirds enjoyed a most remarkable surge into the Region this spring, with reports of unusual numbers and locations too numerous to list. At least a dozen were in w. Washington, near-record numbers were found in much of w. Oregon, and there were six sightings at Vancouver, B.C., where it is quite rare (m oh.). Alan MacLeod's Eur. Skylark survey on the Saanich Pen., of s. V.I. totalled 45 singing larks at 18 sites during the spring. This indicates an approximately stable population in that area. Purple Martins were little noted, but seemed in normal numbers at Fern Ridge Res., w. of Eugene (m. ob.). Northern Rough-winged Swallows arrived about on time in mid-to-late March, with the exception of a very early bird Mar. 10 at Quick's Bottom, Saanich (KT). At least five Bank Swallows were found. One was at Nehalem, Oreg. May

9 (TC, HN), and one visited Seattle's Montlake Fill May 13 (DB). One to three were at Iona I., May 20-26 (BK, MF *et al.*). A lone Cliff Swallow at Nisqually N.W.R., Wash., Mar. 21 was very early so far n. (*fide* PM). Widespread arrival took place 2-3 weeks later.

JAYS THROUGH WAGTAILS -- Following a major lowland- coastal incursion last fall, Steller's Jays made what may have been a return showing. Thirty-five were at one location in Saanich Apr. 17 (L. Alexander), 31 were in Discovery P., Seattle, Apr. 25 (DH), and 48 were there May 6 (DB). The Blue Jay that wintered at L. Sammamish, Wash., was last seen May 11 (B. Johnson), while the McMinnville, Oreg., bird disappeared after early March (TL). The fall influx of Mountain Chickadees into the west-side lowlands also appeared to have an 'echo' effect, with a re-visitation of feeders widely noted in w. Oregon (m. ob.). Ten Bushtits May 10 at Hot Springs I., in the Queen Charlotte Is., n.w. B.C. (E. Lofroth), were very far n., and may have provided a first Islands record. A Bewick's Wren at Kitimat, B.C., Apr. 25 (P. Ward) was also far n. of its known range in the province. Several thousand Ruby-crowned Kinglets massed on Tatoosh I., Wash., Apr. 15 (B. Paine). They were watched making short flights up and back at dusk, preparing for night migratory flight. Western Bluebirds appeared stable. Twenty-five pairs were settled at Ft Lewis, Wash. (J. Beall, G. Walter). Single Mountain Bluebirds were on the Skagit Flats Mar. 31 (E. Smimov), at Cadboro Bay, Saanich, Apr. 22-25 (M & RM-G *et al.*), and at Iona I., Apr. 23 (T. Moore, R. Jones). The species is very scarce at these locations. The rapid settlement of clearcuts across much of the Region by Townsend's Solitaires continues, and probably contributes to the increase in sightings of lowland migrants. High numbers were seen this season in particular. A Veery at Sequim on the n.e. Olympic Pen., May 21 (†D & SS) was a straggler. A few early Swainson's Thrushes were detected as usual, the first being a bird at Philomath, Oreg. Apr. 8 (J & RK). During the night of May 18-19, 40-50 calls per minute were heard overhead in Eugene (DF). Night calls were also heard over Portland May 22 (DI). Most surprising was a fully-fledged juvenile Am. Robin Mar. 1 in downtown Portland (JGi, *fide* DI), product of an aberrant early nesting. A Gray Catbird at Pitt Meadows, near Vancouver, B.C., May 26 (BK, MF) continued a

trend of increased sightings at this past breeding location. Only two N. Mockingbirds were seen this season. The bird at the Medford, Oreg., airport continued resident (OSw), and one was found in Portland May 20 (OSc, *fide* HN). The Brown Thrasher that wintered near Colton, s.e. of Portland, was not observed after Apr. 27 (K. Cooper, *fide* HN). The first-winter **Black-backed/White Wagtail** that wintered at Crockett L., Whidbey I., Wash., was seen often during April and was last reported May 5 (T. Weir *et al.*). Beginning in April, the bird underwent an incomplete molt in which it acquired partial black on throat and neck, a thin black eyeline across a white face, a narrow white band above the bill, and a narrow black band above that. At last report no detectable change had occurred in the wing pattern. Plumage characters cited by Morlan (*Continental Birdlife* 2:37-50, 1981) suggest that our current knowledge does not allow for identification of such an individual in the field, and possibly not in the hand. PM comments that this may be an instance in which excellent photographs, written descriptions, and the presence of the bird through an entire molt may not be sufficient for specific identification.

WAXWINGS THROUGH BUNTINGS -- Several Bohemian Waxwings May 23 in Portland were very late (SJ, *fide* HN) Cedar Waxwings arrived in most areas in mid-May, later than expected (m.ob.). A singing N. Shrike in Seattle Apr. 14 was the last reported, although a shrike (sp.) in n. coastal Lane County, Oreg. Apr. 28 was late regardless of species (DF). Solitary Vireos arrived slightly early, with singles at Corvallis, Oreg. Apr. 5 (EE), Langford, B.C., Apr. 6 (G. & T. Briggs), and Redmond, Wash., Apr. 11 (R. Rockle) being the initial state and provincial sightings. A Warbling Vireo in Eugene Apr. 20 was ahead of schedule (DF). Returnees elsewhere were about on time. Red-eyed Vireos arrive here in late May and June. Only one was found during the period, in the Malahat Land District of V.I., May 26 (MN). April saw a staggering and protracted passage of Orange-crowned Warblers through w.-c. Oregon (m.ob.). About 150 were on Skinner Butte, Eugene, Apr. 13, and 225 were massed there Apr. 26 (DF, SH) On Apr. 29, huge numbers were encountered in coastal Oregon clear- cuts, with flocks of up to 20 warblers swarming in the salal everywhere (BC, DF, SH). More than 200 were in

Stanley P., Vancouver, B.C., May 8 (BK). Nashville Warblers appeared slightly early and in good numbers. The first was in Eugene Apr. 11 (S. Gordon). Four were found in the Vancouver, B.C., area, three were seen in lowland w. Washington, and another three were on the Oregon coast where among the scarcest regular warblers (m.ob.). Single Yellow Warblers at Vancouver, B.C., Mar. 29 (*fide* DK), at Dungeness Spit on the n.e. Olympic Pen. Apr. 8 (BM), and Apr. 23 at Saanich (J & RS) were early. A pair of 'Myrtle' Yellow-rumped Warblers appeared to be building a nest Apr. 29 on Sidney I., s.w. B.C. (TZ). Black-throated Gray Warblers also showed up early, and in impressive numbers. One in Corvallis Apr 6 was the first reported (*fide* EE). A heavy movement of Black-throated Grays was noted by many w. Oregon observers in mid-April. About 80-100 were on Skinner Butte, Eugene, Apr. 17, and 110+ were there Apr. 26 (DF, SH). Seven were seen on s. V.I., May 21 (RWm, A MacLeod), near the n.w. limit of their breeding range. Eighty Townsend's Warblers were on Skinner Butte Apr. 7, and a flock of 50 was in a yard on Bainbridge I., near Seattle, May 13 (GG). The first returning Hermit Warblers were two in Portland Apr. 18 (RS). An imm. female Hermit in Eugene Apr. 7-21 had probably wintered there (DF *et al.*). A male Black-and-white Warbler in Oregon City, Oreg., Apr. 20 (†R. Fergus) was unexpected, especially so early in the season. A MacGillivray's Warbler in Eugene Apr. 13 (SH) was the first reported. A Com. Yellowthroat Mar. 23, near Coquille, Oreg., was the first arrival noted (MH, SH, DR). Arrival of Wilson's Warblers was early in many areas. One was at LaPush, n.w. Olympic Pen., Apr. 8 (M. Egger). On Apr. 16 one was at Olympia, Wash., for G & WH's earliest ever there, ten were found in Tillamook County, Oreg. (JGi *et al.*, *fide* DI), and singles were at Cape Alava, Wash. (GG) and in Saanich (J. Holt) as well. Two W. Tanagers on s. V.I., Apr. 15 were first arrivals for the Region (*fide* VG). A Black-headed Grosbeak in Portland Apr. 26 (M Houck, *fide* HN) was the first reported. A Lazuli Bunting Apr. 15 near Grants Pass., s. Oreg. (P. Lehman) was about 10 days earlier than expected. Accurate arrival dates for this species seem difficult to obtain. The male **Dickcissel** that spent the winter on Puget I., s.w. Wash., was enjoyed by many before it was last seen on Apr. 14 (G. Exum, C Carver). Two Brewer's Sparrows were found: singles at Sauvie I., Oreg., Apr 11 (†HN), and atop Upper Table Rock, near Medford, Oreg. Apr. 28, (†MR). A Vesper Sparrow on Sea I., Richmond, B.C. May 20 (†J & HM) was a rarity. The first arrival

reported for Vesper was Apr. 14, near Eugene (SH). One singing on Cape Blanco, Oreg., May 7 was part of the highly fragmented s. coastal population (BC, DF). A Lark Sparrow just n. of Eagle Cove, San Juan I., Apr. 26 furnished the 5th spring record for w. Washington (GJ, FS). Black-throated Sparrows appear as rare, irregular spring overshoots in the Region, mostly in w. Oregon. This season saw an amazing showing, with no fewer than 13 birds found, all in May. Eleven were in w. Oregon, five coastally and six in interior valleys. Two on Cape Blanco May 23 (*fide* HN) provided rare multiple occurrences. None was reported from Washington, but a **Black-throated Sparrow** at Pitt Meadows, B.C., May 20 (P. Cook, †F Walker) and another at White Rock May 28 (†J. Sarles *et al.*) provided 3rd and 4th provincial and Canadian records. Also making news were two Sage Sparrows, both in Oregon. One was on Sauvie I., Apr. 2 (SJ), and one was just s. of Fern Ridge Res., near Eugene, Apr. 14 (SH) A

Volume 38, Number 5 951

Lincoln's Sparrow in Oaks Bottom, Portland May 27 (DI) was a month behind the main movement. Two Swamp Sparrows were seen. An immature was in Langford, B.C., Mar. 4 (KT, C. Harper), and one was at Reifel Ref., near Vancouver, B.C., Mar. 5-10 (J & HM, †D. Jensen). At least 25 White-throated Sparrows were reported. A well-marked White-crowned x Golden-crowned Sparrow was seen at Westport, Wash., May 5 (TW). "Thousands" of White-crowns were massed around the w. end of the n. Olympic Pen., May 5-6 (M. Carmody). Four Harris' Sparrows were noted. Single Lapland Longspurs, both very late, were seen May 22-24 in Jericho P., Vancouver, B.C. (MF, BK, J. Vandeliinde), & May 25 at the S.J.C.R. (JGi, HN).

BLACKBIRDS THROUGH FINCHES -- At least a few Tricolored Blackbirds had returned to their 1983 nesting outpost in n. Portland by Apr. 28 (SJ). A W. Meadowlark carrying food at the Victoria airport May 13 was intriguing, as there have been no s. V.I. nesting reports for years (H. Hosford, *fide* VG). Yellow-headed Blackbirds were scattered in modest numbers over much of the Region's interior. Small numbers showed

once again at the Montlake Fill in Seattle without evidence of breeding (m.ob.), while a tenuous colony at the Forest Grove, Oreg., sewage ponds expanded this spring to 8-10 pairs (DI). An ad. male Hooded Oriole stayed May 3-11 at a hummingbird feeder s. of Dallas, Oreg. (F. Gilchrist *et al.*) for a rare spring sighting of this occasional wintering species. Northern Orioles arrived on schedule. The first report was of one at Canby, s.e. of Portland, Apr. 29. One in s. Seattle May 5 (J. Dodson) and one in Saanich May 7 (KT) were respective first arrivals for Washington and British Columbia. Three unusual reports of Rosy Finches were received. Two were at the 2400' summit of Mt. Constitution, areas I., Apr. 10 (J. Horder), one was in Discovery P., Seattle, Apr. 30 (DH), and yet another individual was on Mt. Erie, 1300' on Fidalgo I., s. of Anacortes, May 30 (*fide* PM), all sites in Washington. They do not breed at these locations. Three, about the Silcox Hut, at 6900' on Mt. Hood, Oreg., May 27 were at a known nest site (DF). Three Cassin's Finches were discovered in the lowlands, where they are rare. One was in N. Vancouver, B.C., Apr. 21-23 (†G. Poynter) for the first documented record from that area, one was in the Columbia Gorge at Cascade Locks, Oreg., Apr. 28 (DA), and the 3rd was netted from a small flock on Vashon I., near Seattle May 7 (J. Van Os, ph. on file at Burke Mus., U.W.). Red Crossbills were nearly absent through the spring except on s. V.I., where VG termed them common. Pine Siskins were common to abundant throughout the Region. A Lesser Goldfinch was a surprise Apr. 25 at Tillamook (DI). They are rare on the coast n. of Coos County. All reports point to a superlative Evening Grosbeak year, although some observers felt low-land arrival to be rather late.

INITIALED OBSERVERS, **with sub-regional editors in boldface**: -- Dave Aldcroft (DAI, David Anderson, Dave Beaudette, Thais Back, Barbara Combs, Tom Crabtree, Elzy Eltzroth, Mike Force, David Fraser (DFr), John Gatchet (JGa), George Gerdt, Jeff Gilligan (JGi), Margaret & **Vic Goodwill**, Steve Heintz, Glen and Wanda Hoge, **Eugene Hunn**, Matt Hunter, Dave Hutchinson, John Ireland, **Dave Irons**, Steve Jagers, Gretchen Junker, Brian Kautesk, John Kempe, Mark Koninendyke, Jan & Rick Krabbe, **Doug Kragh**, Tom Love, JoAnn & Hue MacKenzie, Margaret & Rob McKenzie-Grieve, **Phil Mattocks**,

Bob Morse, **Harry Nehls**, Mark Nyhof, **Dennis Paulson**, Michael Price, Ellen Ratoosh, Alan Richards, Mike Robbins, Dennis Rogers, Joy & Ran Satterfield, Owen Schmidt (OSc), Fred Sharpe, Dory & Stan Smith, Richard Smith, Otis Swisher (OSw), Jeremy B. Tatum, Keith Taylor, Verta Teale, Larry Thornburgh, **Terry Wahl**, Ralph Widrig, Ray Williams (RWm), Tim Zurowski.

The Nesting Season, 1984

NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN - INTERMOUNTAIN REGION

/Thomas H. Roger

June in the Region continued the weather trend set during the spring period, with cool, wet conditions nearly everywhere. July, on the other hand, was almost invariably very dry and hotter than normal. One exception was Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, Burns, Oregon, where lower temperatures and a thunderstorm which dropped 1.22 inches of rain kept water levels very high. The deep snow pack in the mountains of southeastern Idaho was slow to melt but eventually caused some severe flooding. Some observers noted delay of nesting in June and, in northwestern Montana, lack of second broods and/or decreased numbers of young birds. High water helped some species and hindered others, as noted in the species accounts. Of special interest were actual or potential range extensions, notably of the Black-necked Stilt, Least Flycatcher and Black-throated Sparrow. Deadline for fall period reports is Dec. 10.

ABBREVIATIONS -- B.B.S. = breeding bird survey; C.G. = campground; P.P. = Provincial Park. Place names in *italics* are counties.

LOONS AND GREBES -- An apparent nesting attempt by Com. Loons near Preston, Ida., failed because water drawdown made their island a peninsula (CHT). A pair of the birds had three young, probably capable of flight, at Sidley L., *Okanogan*, Wash., in July (JK). A pair of Red-necked Grebes again nested at Henrys L., *Fremont*, Ida., and brought off four young (JS). Thirty adult and small young W. Grebes at Moses L., Wash., included a pair and a single bird of Clark's form (EH).

PELICANS AND CORMORANTS -- Eighteen Am. White Pelicans were on Wells Pool of the Columbia R. near Brewster, Wash., June 21 (MH) and 22 appeared on Frenchman Hills Wasteway, *Grant*, Wash., July 26 (GS). The species was plentiful at American Falls and Minidoka Dam on the Snake R., Ida. (WHS). The Double-crested Cormorant colony on the N. Potholes, Moses L., is expanding rapidly, with 40-50 nesting pairs and about 40 non-breeders (RF). Their numbers were up on American Falls Res., s. Idaho, with over 450 nests counted (CHT). About 625 pairs were nesting in the Malheur-Harney Lakes Basin, *Harney*, Ore. All were nesting in flooded areas

Volume 38, Number 6 1041

HERONS THROUGH IBISES -- Ten pairs of Great Blue Herons established a new nesting colony at Turnbull N.W.R., Cheney, Wash. (RP). In Idaho a nest of the species at the mouth of the Grande Ronde R. was apparently the first for the area; it contained four nearly-grown young July 28 (AM *et al.*). The breeding population of Great Egrets at the N. Potholes remained stable with five pairs producing two to four young each (RF). Two pairs apparently nested at Mud L., Hamer, Ida. (CHT). Snowy Egret numbers crashed at L. Walcott, Rupert, Ida., down from 132 pairs in 1979 to only about 15. Five other colonies in s.e. Idaho were also down but less drastically (CHT). A few Cattle Egrets nested at American Falls Res., Mud L. and L. Walcott (CHT). A Green-backed Heron was sighted on the Salmon R. e. of Stanley, Ida., July 8 (MRC) and one was seen n.w. of Frenchglen, Ore., July 11 (GI). Black-crowned Night-Heron numbers at L. Walcott

plunged to only about 7 nests (147 nests in 1979) but some other colonies in s. Idaho were recovering (CHT). Some 400 pairs of White-faced Ibises nested on private land n. of Malheur L.

WATERFOWL -- A pair of Snow Geese, one with an injured wing, stayed at Spangler Res., n. of Weiser, Ida. (KBP). Mallards had the lowest nesting population in 64 years' observing in the Fortine, Mont., vicinity, with a total of only 4 broods found on 14 lakes. A brood of N. Pintails in that area was only the 9th in 64 years (WW). A Eur. Wigeon was reported at Bear L., extreme s.e. Idaho about June 5 (*vide* CHT). Common Goldeneye broods in the Fortine vicinity were down with only 8 counted (WW). Two broods of this species were observed in the Libby, Mont., area (D & DH) and a female with one large young was seen near Winthrop, Wash. (EH).

HAWKS -- An Osprey at the mouth of the Grande Ronde R., Asotin, Wash., July 28 was apparently the first ever recorded there (PS, CV, MK). A pair at Salmon, Ida., was again nesting on an artificial structure provided them (HBR). Single Black-shouldered Kites were photo-graphed w. of Arco, Ida., June 28 (CW) and at Walters Ferry s. of Nampa, Ida. July 15 (BI, *vide* MRC, JD). A nesting pair of Bald Eagles at Banks L., *Grant*, Wash., was caring for two young, and a pair was nesting in *Yakima*, Wash., for the 2nd year (RF). A nesting attempt of the species near Loomis, Wash., failed (VM). The pair at Kootenai N.W.R., Bonners Ferry, Ida., fledged its two eaglets (SLT). Three out of 10 nesting territories of Ferruginous Hawks in n.e. *Franklin*, Wash., were successful, as were 2 in the Juniper Forest near Connell, Wash. Indications were that successful nests of the species were down by two-thirds from recent years in s.c. Washington, the wet, cold spring being the possible culprit (RF). Of 42 Golden Eagle nesting attempts monitored in c. Washington, 24 were successful, producing 35 young (RF). A Merlin at Little Camas Res., *Elmore*, Ida., June 10 apparently made the latilong's first summer record (MRC), as did one in mid-July in the Coeur d'Alene, Ida., area (KS). A female-plumaged Merlin was chasing starlings and meadowlarks near Hot L., s. of LaGrande, Ore., June 24 (MR).

GALLINACEOUS BIRDS -- Production of Gray Partridges, Chukars and Ring-necked Pheasants in c. Washington appeared very low, presumably because of the cold, wet spring, but California Quail did well (W.D.G.). Slate Peak on the Cascade Crest at 7300 ft in n. Washington yielded an ad. male White-tailed Ptarmigan (EH). The origin of three Scaled Quail near Little Camas Res., June 10 was a mystery as the Idaho Fish and Game Dept. had no knowledge of them (MRC).

RAILS AND CRANES -- Yellow Rails were back at their usual haunts near Ft. Klamath, Ore., where 10 were heard and seen at 2 locations June 22 (SS). Greater Sandhill Cranes had a nesting success of only 26% at Malheur N.W.R.; high predation rates were responsible (CDL). Six ad. Whooping Cranes, one a territorial male, were observed at Grays Lake N.W.R., s.e. Idaho, June 25 (KBP).

SHOREBIRDS -- Malheur had only a single Snowy Plover for a few days in late June. High water was blamed. The only other report was of two at Summer L., Lake, Ore., July 11 (CDL). A Semipalmated Plover was at Malheur July 15 (CDL) and two appeared at Mann's L., Lewiston, Ida. July 29 (PS, MK). It was a banner year for Black-necked Stilts in the N Potholes-Frenchman Hills-Winchester Wasteway area of s c Washington with several broods of young observed and others suspected (JT, RF, JRR, PW, REW). One was sighted at Cormana L., w of Harrington, Wash., for a latilong first (JH), and at least six summered at Reardan, Wash. (WAH). One appeared near Hot L., Ore., June 24 (MR). Northeastern *Douglas*, Wash., had extremely high water levels which attracted Am. Avocets, noted there for the first time during nesting season. Both avocets and stilts appear to be attracted by the short vegetation produced by cattle grazing but suffer some losses from trampling. Ten pairs of Upland Sandpipers were present during the nesting season in Bear Valley e. of Seneca, Ore. Eight were still there July 25 (SH). Three were sighted at the other traditional spot, in the Spokane Valley e. of Spokane, Wash., July 3 (RK, THR). *Deschutes*, Ore., had its first Marbled Godwit record when one was photographed at Tumalo

Res., July 22 (TC). Ten Marbleds at the Walla Walla R. mouth, Wash, July 29 made an unusually high number for that locality (WAH, REW) Malheur had five Sanderlings July 22 (CDL). Two Semipalmated Sandpipers at Miller I., July 26 supplied a 2nd record for *Klamath*, Ore. (SS), and one at Bend, Ore., July 8 was photographed for another 2nd county record (TC). The only Baird's Sandpipers reported were one at Tumalo Res., July 27 (TC, CM) and one at Mann's L., July 29 along with two Short-billed Dowitchers (PS, MK).

GULLS AND TERNS -- A Bonaparte's Gull was noted at Malheur July 23 (CDL). The highlight of the season at Malheur N.W.R. was the discovery of a large Caspian Tern colony in Malheur L., about 700 adults producing several hundred young. This was the first time since 1960 that a large number have nested there; a few pairs nested on the refuge in 1983 (CDL). The birds continued to increase at 4 nesting colonies in s.e. Idaho (CHT, WHS) and the species was noted at Cascade Res., *Valley*, Ida., for supposedly the first record there (MRC) Common Terns were suspected of nesting near American Falls Res (CHT) and two adults were sighted at Henrys L., June 10 (MRC) A Black Tern near Orofino, Ida., July 15 was unusual (LL).

PIGEONS AND CUCKOOS -- Band-tailed Pigeons provided 33 separate observations in the Revelstoke, B.C., area May 6-July 31 (JW). One visited feeders at Ketchurn, Ida. for weeks and was photo- graphed (*fide* CHT, WHS). Centerville, Ida. had a Black-billed Cuckoo July 1 (MRC). A Yellow-billed Cuckoo appeared at Rupert, Ida. July 18 and two were heard there July 28 (WHS). Another committed suicide on a picture window at Twin Falls, Ida. June 1 (JR).

OWLS -- Fourteen Com. Barn-Owls were counted on cliffs near Asotin, Wash., on an early June evening (C & HV). Flammulated Owls were heard in about 20 locations in the S. Thompson Valley between Savona and Pritchard, B.C., mostly in response to tapes (RH, RR, JB), and three were heard in Bear Cr. Valley n.w. of Kelowna (JB). At least six were heard at Blewett Pass, *Chelan*, Wash. (EH, GG); one or two at Lost L., n. of Diamond L., Wash. (BW, EH), and three males 10 nu s

of Twisp, Wash. (EH). Another was at Coeur d'Alene (GH). Two sightings came from s. of John Day and two nestlings rescued after their nest tree was cut n. of Burns, Ore., were being raised by Oregon Dept of Fish and Wildlife personnel. A N. Hawk-Owl was found in Manrang P.P., B.C. in July; the species has nested there for about 5 years (BW) Twenty-eight active nests of Burrowing Owls were located in the Eph- rata- Frenchman Hills area, *Grant*, Wash. All but 6 of these were believed successful, with an average brood size of eight. Three of these pairs utilized artificial burrows put out in an experimental project to expand the population and protect the birds from cattle trampling (RF) The species appeared to have good success throughout s.e. Oregon, with an average brood size of about six, but collisions with vehicles took their toll (CDL). The only Spotted Owl reported was one near Swauk Pass w.s.w. of Wenatchee, Wash. (DS). A Barred Owl was located at Dry L., Fortine, June 1 (D & DH) and a pair was found near Park Rapids, Wash., June 24 (BW). One was calling at Loup Loup C.G., between Twisp and Omak, Wash., July 13 (RHu, CD). One or two Great Gray Owls were sighted near Libby on 2 dates in June (D & DH) and an immature was hunting at Pinatan, B.C., July 15 (RH). Two nests of the species were found at new locations in e. *Klamath* in June (EF) and a family of two adults and three

1042 *American Birds*, November-December 1984

young was seen near Ft. Klamath in mid-July (SS). An adult and a juvenile were found near LaGrande, Ore. (TC, RVe, m.ob.) and one was sighted at Island Park, Ida. (BS). Three pairs of N. Saw-whet Owls occupied bird houses put out for Flammulated Owls in the Penticton- Naramata area, B.C. (SC). One N. Saw-whet was captured in a mist net s. of Silver L., Ore., July 12 and another was heard 20 mi s.e. of John Day, Ore., July 23 (CDL).

POORWILL THROUGH HUMMINGBIRDS -- A Com. Poorwill nest with 2 eggs was discovered at Sagehen Res., Smiths Ferry, Ida., June 30 (MRC, AL, G.E.A.S.). A Black Swift was keeping company with White-throated Swifts at 6100 ft in Spar Canyon 40 mi

w. of Stanley, Ida. July 8 (MRC). McGregor L., s.w. *Flathead*, Mont., had a Black Swift July 27 (D & DH). A few were noted at Swauk Creek C.G., *Chelan*, Wash., and at Marble Creek C.G., Kootenay N.P., B.C. (BW). Some 75 of the birds fed over the lower Methow Valley, *Okanogan*, Wash., July 2 (GB). Several White-throated Swifts were about cliffs at Wallula Gap near Wallula, Wash., June 17 (REW). A male Anna's Hummingbird captured last winter at Boise, Ida. was released May 30 at Daggett Cr., n.e. of Boise, and remained at a feeder there to the period's end. A female of the species visited the same feeder July 12 but not with the male (MRC). Anna's were still on the increase at Bend, where the male Costa's Hummingbird that appeared in May was last seen June 27 (TC).

WOODPECKERS AND FLYCATCHERS -- A freshly road-killed Red-headed Woodpecker was picked up near Ovando, Mont., June 12 (* to U. of Mont.) for the latilong's first record (JP, RHu, PLW). A Red-breasted Sapsucker was sighted 10 mi s. of Silver L., July 13 (CDL). A Three-toed Woodpecker in the Big Snowy Mts., s. of Lewistown, Mont., July 7 apparently established a latilong first (LM). An ad. male Black-backed Woodpecker was observed in Gearhart Wilderness, *Lake*, Ore., July 3 (M & AA) and a pair was videotaped at a nest near Stanley, Ida., July 1-5 (JR, SMu, m.ob.). Alder Flycatchers, usually considered uncommon in s. British Columbia, numbered 12 on a B.B.S. n. of Revelstoke June 21 (JW, RB) and one was present at Lavington, B.C., June 8-28 (MC). One of the species sang (on territory?) at Malheur June 2 (TC, JG, HN, DI, m.ob.). A total of 51 Willow Flycatchers was recorded on a 10 mi transect at Malheur, up considerably from previous years (CDL). The increase was unexpected since the willows had been damaged by herbicide spraying in 1983. Least Flycatchers were presumed to nest at Clyde Holliday S.P. near John Day, for two to three sang on territory through the period (MSE, M & AA). Two were singing on territory along the Grande Ronde R., 3 mi downstream from Red Bridge S.P., *Union*, Ore., June 25 (MR). Single birds were found in Hardy Canyon n.w. of Yakima (GG), and s. of Ellensburg, Wash., June 2 (DP). Two were heard and seen at Bridgeport S.P., Wash., June 30 (PM). Idaho's first **Cassin's Kingbird** was found at Mud L., *Jefferson*, June 10 (CW, CHT) and probably the same bird was seen there July 13 (MRC).

JAYS THROUGH WRENS -- An out-of-place Scrub Jay was at Summer L., June 6 (MSE). Two were at Poison Cr., e. side of Abert L., *Lake*, Ore., July 2, and the species was fairly common in juniper country w. of that lake (M & AA). The only Boreal Chickadees reported were five or more at Tiffany Mt., 20 mi w. of Tonasket, Wash. (EH, GG), and near Harts Pass on the Cascade Crest, n. Wash. (SHi, PSt). The only Bushtits reported were 15 near Fields, Ore., July 17 (CDL). A few Pygmy Nuthatches were noted at the w. limit of their range in Washington, at Boise-Cascade C.G. n.w. of Yakima and at Leader L. near Okanogan (EH). A Canyon Wren was reported near Noxon, Mont., June 16 (D & DH). Bewick's Wrens were still increasing in numbers in the Walla Walla, Wash., area (SM). House Wrens were utilizing many of the nest boxes put up for bluebirds in the Walla Walla and Coeur d' Alene vicinities.

GNATCATCHERS THROUGH WAXWINGS -- A pair of Blue- gray Gnatcatchers attempted to nest near Frenchglen, Ore., apparently without success (OLS). The species was again found on Stukel Mt., *Klamath*, Ore. (SS). Bluebird nest box projects in the Coeur d'Alene and Walla Walla areas had moderate success in attracting both Western and Mountain bluebirds. The latter species had good success at Libby and Eureka, Mont., and Clarkston, Wash., thanks to nest boxes.



Blue-gray Gnatcatcher near site of attempted nesting n. of Frenchglen, Ore., May 26, 1984. Photo/Owen Schmidt.

A N. Mockingbird appeared near Cascade, Ida., July 5 (MRC). In Oregon, single mockingbirds were sighted at Hart Mountain Nat'l Antelope Ref., *Lake* (MSE), at Malheur (DM, BR, RV), and at Ft. Rock (DD). One paid a few days' visit to Twin Falls, Ida., in early June (JR). Two Bohemian Waxwings near Hopkins L., Pasayten Wilderness, n.c. Wash., July 25 acted as if on territory; one bird apparently was carrying an insect (THR).

VIREOS AND WARBLERS -- A singing Red-eyed Vireo near North Fork, Ida., supplied that area's 2nd record (HBR). The Orange-crowned Warbler, normally only a rare migrant in the Helena area, was observed at nearby Grizzly Gulch, a singing male June 16 (LT, PH). A N. Parula was identified at Malheur June 3 (CC, TC, JG, m.ob.). Two male and three juv. Magnolia Warblers were sighted in Wells-Gray P.P., July 28 and a male and a juvenile were seen in Mt. Robson P.P., B.C., July 30 (BW). A Townsend's Warbler in the Big Snowy Mts., July 15, made a latilong first (LM). The Am. Redstart was found on the Centerville and Cascade, Ida. B.B.S. counts (MRC) and one sighted June 11 near Ardenvoir, Wash., was the first for that location (HO). A singing male at Cracker Cr., n. of Sumpter, Ore. June 23 was notable (MR).

GROSBEAKS THROUGH ORIOLES -- Malheur had an ad. male Rose-breasted Grosbeak June 3; the species now is usually seen every year there (CDL). A pair of Lazuli Buntings at Hines, Ore., throughout the period was suspected of breeding (M & AA). At least three pairs of Green-tailed Towhees bred in the vicinity of Calamity Butte e. of Trout Cr., Ore. (M & AA).

S.A.

Black-throated Sparrows showed up far n. of their normal range. One appeared near Monse, Wash., June 30 (PM) & July 7 (BM), and up to three were seen and photographed 3 min. of Omak, Wash., June 30-July 28 (PM, BM AR, RHu, DL, GG, WAH). Single birds were reported at Kootenai N.W.R. for n. Idaho's 2nd record (SLT) and Kimberley, B.C., had one June 12 (MVW). Somewhat less surprising were one singing on Stukel Mt., June 23 for Klamath's 3rd record (SS) and a sighting at Discovery P., n.w. of Boise, a new locality for the species (MRC).

Grasshopper Sparrows were fairly common in *Ada* and e. *Washington*, Ida., in sagebrush and cheat grass areas opened by fires in recent years (MRC, ECC, A & HL, J & VM). One was heard s.w. of French- glen June 30 (WR, GI). The Bull R. s. of Troy, Mont., yielded an ad. White-crowned Sparrow July 15, suggesting breeding in that area (D & DH), and another with much fat (migrating?) was netted near Troy in early July (KB). Four male Bobolinks near Heron, Mont., in early June were very unusual (D & DH). This species was noted at several places around Pocatello, Ida., and was apparently nesting near the Springfield bottoms along

Volume 38, Number 6 1043

American Falls Res., (CHT). The City of Rocks s.e. of Oakley, Ida., also had Bobolinks (WHS) and Grandview, Ida., had one June 28 (TCo). Four were seen near Enterprise, Ore., June 2 (CV, WH, LL, PSe). A Bobolink count inaugurated at Malheur this year counted 206 males. A Com. Grackle, extremely uncommon in s. British Columbia, was identified at Revelstoke May 27 (JW). A sighting of the species was obtained at Ashton, Ida. June 13, and two reportedly were near Oxford, Ida., in early July (CHT). A fledgling Brown-headed Cowbird was being fed by Golden-crowned Kinglets at Coeur d'Alene, Ida. June 12 (GH). A Scott's Oriole was sighted near Holbrook, Ida., June 12 (CW).

FINCHES -- Both Gray-crowned and Black races of Rosy Finch were sighted in White Cloud Peaks s.e. of Stanley, Ida. (MRC). Pine Grosbeaks were sighted in Pasayten Wilderness in late July (THR) and a singing male was found in the McCuddin Cr. area, n.c. *Wallowa*, Ore. (MR). Purple Finches were reported in s.w. Idaho on Cascade and Centerville B.B.S. s, at Sagehen Res. (MRC), and at Ketchurn (WHS). A singing male was observed near Canyon Cr. Summit s. of John Day (MR). Up to eight White-winged Crossbills were sighted in the Big Snowy Mts. in July (LM) and a vagrant ad. male was photographed at a Walla Walla feeder June 29 (C & SM). The phenomenal numbers of Pine Siskins that wintered in the Columbia Forest around Revelstoke,



Male White-winged Crossbill at Walla Walla, Wash., June 29, 1984. Photo/Corey Muse.

B.C., began to disperse in early June but highway casualties were tremendous; over 200 were killed by a truck driving through a single flock. A road-killed bird in Mt. Revelstoke N.P. had been banded at Whiting, N.J., Feb. 12, 1982 (JW).

ADDENDA -- A Cattle Egret that appeared at Edelwaner, B.C., May 9 was the first for the E. Kootenay District (IJ, HBa) and a Black-crowned Night-Heron at Revelstoke Apr. 28 was noteworthy (DC).

OBSERVERS CITED -- Merle & Anne Archie, Helen Bavin (HBa), Harold Black (HB), Rick Bonar, Jack Bowling, George Brady, Kay Burk, Steve Cannings,

Eddie Chew, E.C. Cleaveland, Mark R. Collie, Mary Collins, Thom Cook (TCO), Craig Corder, Doug Cowal, Tom Crabtree (TC), Dave Danley, John Doremus, Carol Dorsett, Merlin S. Eltzroth, Eric Forsman, Ron Friesz, George Gerds, Jeff Gilligan, Golden Eagle Audubon Society (G.E.A.S.), Warren A. Hall, Marc Hallet, Gertie Hanson, Rob Hazelwood (RHa), Winnie Hepburn, Steve Herman, Dick & Della Hermsmeyer, Jerry Hickman, Sara Hiebert (SHi), Frank Howe, Rick Howie (RH), Rick Hudson (RHu), Eugene Hunn, Peter Husby, Gary Ivey, Bill Iko, Dave Irons, Ian Jack, Jerry King, Randy Knapp, Merlene Koliner, Al & Hilda Larson, Louise La Vole, Dick Lindstrom, C.D. Littlefield, Larry Malone, Dave MacManiman, Jeff & Vickie Marks (J & VM), Verne Mart (VM), Phil Mattocks, Craig Miller (CM), Bob Morse, Stu Murrel (SMu), Corey & Shirley Muse (C & SM), Alice Montag, Harry Nehls, Howard Oswood, Dennis Paulson, Rod Pharness, John Prange, Kerry B. Provance, William Radke, James R. Rees, Alan Richards, Ralph Ritcey, Mike Robbins, Hadley B. Roberts, Thomas H. Rogers, Bob Ross, Jeff Ruprecht, Owen L. Schmidt, Paul Segren (PSe), W.H. Shillington, John Shipley, Davy Smith, Gretchen Steele, Ken Sterner, Phil Stoddard (PSt), Brian Sturgess, Paul Sullivan (PS), Steve Summers, Jim Tabor, Susan L. Tank, Larry Thompson, Charles H. Trost, Ray Valburg (RV), Carole & Hank Vande Voorde, Rick Vetter (RVe), Washington Dept. of Game (W.D.G.), Cheryl Webb, Winton Weydemeyer, Bart Whelton, Mildred V. White, John Woods, Philip L. Wright, Robert E. & Pat Woodley

The Nesting Season, 1984

NORTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION

/Bill Harrington-Tweit and Philip W. Mattocks, Jr.

June weather in the Northwest was a continuation of that of April and May, and many localities experienced nearly record-breaking amounts of rain. Thereafter most areas had no precipitation at all during July. Several observers commented that passerine nesting

was delayed, but that July should have provided excellent foraging conditions. The ocean circulation pattern off our coast had returned to more normal conditions before this summer. However, several species of alcids and cormorants that nested on the outer coast appeared to have had poor breeding seasons and possibly even reduced populations. Seabirds that nested inside the coastal estuaries, or inside Puget Sound and the various Straits, appeared to have had average or better breeding seasons.

ABBREVIATIONS -- S.J.C.R. = South Jetty of the Columbia R., Oreg. V.I. = Vancouver Island, B.C. Place names in *italics* are counties.

LOONS THROUGH CORMORANTS -- Both Arctic and Com. Loons were reported migrating N. along the Washington and Oregon coasts throughout June (G & WH, HN). A similar large June migration of loons was also reported in 1978 and 1982, but does not appear to be an annual occurrence. Two Com. Loons in breeding plumage with a 3rd in winter plumage on L. Quinalt, Wash., July 5 (SS) could have bred there. This species has not been recorded breeding in w. Washington for many years. A pair of Red-necked Grebes with two young on Upper Klamath L. July 8 (MM), were at the only known breeding locale of this species in Oregon. There were pelagic trips in the Region on a record 6 dates this July, one off Ucluelet, V.I. (MS) and 5 off Grays Harbor, Wash. (DP, BHT, EH, DW). High counts were 268 Black-footed Albatrosses July 14 (DP), 700 N. Fulmars July 24 (MS), 126 Pink-footed Shearwaters July 26 (BHT), two Flesh-footed Shearwaters July 24 (MS), 10,000 Sooty Shearwaters July 10 (EH), 2000 Fork-tailed Storm-Petrels July 24 (MS) and nine Leach's Storm-Petrels July 14 (DP). Short-tailed Shearwaters, which are rarely observed alive in summer in our Region, were reported with Sooties at the Columbia R. mouth June 10, and one was found dead on the beach there that day (RW). A probable Wilson's Storm-Petrel seen July 23 approximately 48 km w.n.w. of Grays Harbor (†BHT, †R. Naveen) was the first reported for Washington and only the 2nd for the Region. A few Brown Pelicans returned N early. The 4+ sightings in Washington during the summer were fewer than in 1983, but more than in any preceding year. Along the Oregon coast

they were noted in the usual numbers (HN). Cormorants apparently had a poor breeding season on the Washington outer coast. Double-cresteds were in low numbers and Brandt's did not attempt to nest (UW, *fide* EC). However, the Double-crested colony inside Grays Harbor, which was formed in 1979 and now has 610 nests, produced good numbers of young (EC). Inside the Strait of Juan de Fuca, Double-crested numbers were up at Protection I., Wash., and a new colony of 11 pairs was formed on nearby Smith I., Wash. (ST). See *The Murrelet* 65:1-9, 1984, for surveys of increasing numbers of Double-crested in the Straits of Georgia, B.C.

EGRETS THROUGH FALCONS -- Two **Snowy Egrets** June 9 at Bowerman Basin on Grays Harbor (B. Morse), with one at nearby Ocean Shores July 29+ (†DW *et al.*, ph.), followed the early May (not April) sighting there, providing the first records for w. Washington. The Coos Bay, Oreg., Snowy Egrets returned in mid-July as usual (AM). A subad. **Cattle Egret** at Forest Grove, Oreg., June 27 (VT *et al.*, *fide* HN) established the first summer record for the Region. A female N. Shoveler had a brood of six July 5 at C. Saanich, V.I., where they are uncommon breeders (JT, *fide* VG). Three July surveys of favored Harlequin Duck summering areas found surprisingly large numbers of post-breeders: 250 at Smith I., July 12 (SS), 110 among the islets off Oak Bay, V.I., July 2 (TZ, *fide* VG), and 110 at Protection I., July 9 (EH). An additional 70 were noted in other areas. These numbers may actually be normal, but we have few previous counts in these areas for comparison. Two Osprey nests that toppled recently (one with three young in it) were being rebuilt this summer, but neither produced young (VG, EC). A pair of Ospreys seemed to be prospecting a nest site on a piling in Cowichan Bay, V.I. (VG), an odd choice of nest site in an area that would seem to have more than enough snags available. An ad. Black-shouldered Kite at Nisqually N.W.R., Wash., July 23-24 was unusual (ST). There were no reports of kites from Oregon, so breeding success there is unknown. Two nests of N. Harriers were found at Nisqually N.W.R., increasing the small number of documented nests in w. Washington (ST). There were 15 harriers sighted elsewhere in Washington this summer, and four more on s. V.I. All 8 Sharp-shinned Hawk sightings were from s. V.I. Six successful

Cooper's Hawk nests were reported, 5 from s. V.I. (VG), and one from Mattry I., near Seattle, Wash. (PM *et al.*). A 6th nest on V.I. was vandalized and a 7th was abandoned (VG). There were 18 additional sightings, virtually all from s. British Columbia. A N. Goshawk nest was found in e. Douglas, Oreg., July 11 (DF). Summer sightings of Golden Eagles away from s. V.I. and s. Oregon are unusual. One was in Pacific, Wash., July 8 (A. Richards, A. Musche), and another was in the Washington Cascades near Glacier Peak July 22 (J. Wolf). An Am. Kestrel at Sea I., Vancouver, July 21 (MP) was the only sighting in that area for a now-very-rare breeder there. There was one report each of Merlin (FS, ML) and Prairie Falcon (MM), and 2 of Peregrine Falcon (DK, EC).

CRANES THROUGH SANDPIPERS -- A breeding pair of Sandhill Cranes with one flightless young was seen July 15 on Athlone I., w. of Bella Bella, B.C. (†J. Souther, *fide* DK). This may have furnished only the 2nd breeding record for the n. British Columbia mainland coast (see *Am. Birds* spring 1984), although the species nests regularly on the nearby Queen Charlotte Is. No reports were received from the Pitt Meadows, B.C., breeding area. To the unusual number of spring reports of Lesser Golden-Plovers can be added one more, of two on Leadbetter Pt., Wash., May 31 (RW), as well as 2 June reports, one June 12 at Iona I., Vancouver (J & HM) and an adult June 16 at Ocean Shores (G & WH), and 3 July reports, of two *P. d. fulva* July 11 at Ocean Shores (EH), one July 12 at Delta, B.C. (BK) and six (including one or more *fulva*) July 30 at Ocean Shores (PM). The last good spring flight, in 1979, was also correlated with more June and July reports than usual. Three pairs of Snowy Plovers bred at Ocean Shores (EC, EH), but only 2 were successful. This is more than are usually found at this northernmost breeding locale. On July 24 a color-banded ad. Snowy, of as yet unknown origin, was observed at Ocean Shores (PM). A pair of **Semipalmated Plovers** on a nest with 4

1054 *American Birds*, November-December 1984

eggs was seen May 18 & 30 (EC) at Ocean Shores, but the outcome of the nest was unknown. This furnished only the 2nd nesting record for Washington. The first flocks of the rock shorebirds, Wandering Tattlers, Ruddy and Black turnstones, and Surf birds, arrived right on schedule throughout the Region July 11-16. Whimbrel numbers, and numbers of sightings, were not particularly impressive. The 100 at Ocean Shores July 11 & 15 was the high count (EH, PM *et al.*). Likewise, two other common migrants, W. Sandpiper and Short-billed Dowitcher, seemed to be in short supply along the coast. Tillamook Bay, Oreg., hosted 1500-2000 Westerns during July; 3000-5000 are normal numbers there at this time (JG, HN). The high count of Short-billeds was 100 at Ocean Shores July 11 (EH). This was lower than the high count of the usually far scarcer Long-billed, which was 220 at Sauvie I., Oreg. July 24 (HN). Sanderlings were little reported, but several flocks of 500 were noted at Ocean Shores July 11 (EH) and Clatsop Beach, Oreg. July 25 (HN). Least Sandpipers were reported in normal numbers from areas regularly surveyed, such as the n. Oregon coast (JG, HN), Victoria (VG) and Vancouver (DK). Thirty-three sightings of Semipalmated Sandpiper, 11 of Baird's and 4 of Pectoral were expected numbers of these scarce fall migrants from the areas reporting this summer. A **Curlew Sandpiper** in breeding plumage July 29 at the mouth of the Dungeness R., Wash. (†M Moon) provided the 3rd record for w. Washington. An imm. **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** at Ocean Shores July 30 (†PM) was the earliest ever reported in the Region. The female **Ruff** at Tillamook, Oreg., June 2 (†VT) furnished the only report of this species.

LARIDAE AND ALCIDAE -- The 42 Pomarine Jaegers off Grays Harbor July 26 (BHT) established the high count, and there were 2 other trip counts of 20+. These are very high totals at any time of year. At least two different South Polar Skuas were reported off Grays Harbor July 10-26 (EH, BHT, DP, DW). Bonaparte's Gulls were noted in small numbers along the Oregon coast (HN) and were not reported from the Washington coast. However, several hundred were around Victoria (VG), and up to 600 were at Vancouver, B.C. (MP), normal numbers for there. Heermann's Gulls came N on schedule, and apparently in the usual numbers (HN). The Grays Harbor colony of Ring-billed Gulls, the only one in our Region, has

increased to about 100 pairs (EC). California Gulls came W on schedule, and also in the usual numbers (HN, BHT). A first-year **Thayer's Gull** was seen July 22 at Iona I. (†S. Bailey) for the first documented summer record for the Vancouver, B.C., area. The presence of Black-legged Kittiwakes in the Region varies greatly from year to year, with 5 'banner' years since 1972. This was the first summer since then that none was reported. The Caspian Tern colony in Grays Harbor numbered 2775 nests (EC) and another 1100+ pairs nested on Sand I. in the Columbia R. estuary (K Richter, *fide* EC). However, the large Caspian nesting area in Willapa Bay, Wash., was unused this year (UW, *fide* EC). At least three ad. Arctic Terns were at their Jetty I., Wash., breeding outpost in June (EH, G. Gerdt), but the nest which held two young and one egg June 12 had been destroyed by June 18 (PM). Two Arctic Terns were seen at sea off Grays Harbor July 23 (PM, BHT *et al.*). Common Terns were almost unreported until late July, when small groups of 12 appeared at Victoria (VG) and Drayton Harbor, Wash. (BK). HN noted that the number of Com. Murre chicks fledged from the Oregon colonies was way below that of recent years, but was a lot more than the complete lack of production seen in 1983. Murre chicks began to appear in fair numbers off Grays Harbor in late July (BHT, SS), although production from the Washington colonies was apparently as low as the 1983 levels (UW, *fide* EC). Cassin's Auklets were almost absent at sea off Grays Harbor in July (BHT, DP, EH), an area where they normally are common. The number of Cassin's breeding on Alexander I., Wash., one of their major colonies in the state, was way down (UW, *fide* EC). Tufted Puffins also showed signs of decreased production on the Oregon-Washington coast (HN, G & WH) with few adults attending nest sites. Inland from the outer coast, puffins seemed to have done better, and a Tufted Puffin burrow found on Colville I., Wash., established the 2nd nesting location for the San Juan Is. (ST). Ancient Murrelets appeared in inexplicable numbers in the Region in mid-July. Five were at sea off Grays Harbor July 14 (DP), at least three were off Victoria July 15-30 (R. Satterfield *et al.*), four were at the S.J.C.R., July 15 (B. Toelle, *fide* HN), and one was at Long Beach, Pacific Rim N.P., V.I., July 20-21 (S. Fried, *fide* VG).

OWLS THROUGH WOODPECKERS -- An adult and two freshly fledged **Barred Owls** June 11 at Saanich (H Ford, TZ, *fide* VG) represented one of very few nesting records of the species on V.I. There were 2 additional sightings in the Victoria area (MS, K. Gage, *fide* VG), and 2 reports e. of Vancouver (RC). The pair in Discovery Park, Seattle, fledged two young for the 3rd year in a row (DB, D. Hutchinson). There were 2 reports of Spotted Owls from s. Oregon (MM) and one from n Washington (RC, DK *et al.*). A **Long-eared Owl** nest was found near Estacada, Oreg. in June (B. McCullough, *fide* HN) and an individual was seen in Seattle June 30 (DB). There are very few summer records of Long-eareds in our Region, far fewer of nests. An ad. N. Saw-whet Owl with three young July 15 near Sheridan in the n. Coast Range of Oregon (R. Fergus, *fide* HN) must have provided one of the very few actual breeding records for those mountains. The only area in the lowlands that reported numerous sightings of Com. Nighthawks was the Victoria area (VG). The species continued to decline in the Vancouver area (DK). HN noted that nighthawks were scarce in Oregon, and GW noted they were less common than in 1983 on the prairies s. of Tacoma, Wash. Many Victoria observers commented on the scarcity of Rufous Hummingbirds this summer (VG), but there were no comments on the species from elsewhere. Six+ male Calliope Hummingbirds were displaying June 11 on Thorn Prairie, 15 mi w. of the Cascade Crest in e. *Douglas*, Oreg. (DF). Lewis' Woodpeckers were noted in very low numbers in the Ashland-Medford area (MM), and were unreported elsewhere. A male Red-breasted Sapsucker and a female Yellow-bellied (*S. v. nuchalis*) pair were feeding young at Lightning L., Manning P.P., B.C., July 20 (C. Neilson, J Dunn). An apparent hybrid (*ruber* x *nuchalis*) was reported July 7 at Garibaldi P.P., B.C. (RC). The nest location where a Red-breasted and Yellow-bellied pair fledged young on s. V.I. last year was inactive this year (VG). A **Williamson's Sapsucker** on the s. side of Mt. St. Helens, Wash., June 23 (PMu) was west of their usual range on the e. slope and crest of the Cascades. Another near Pemberton, B.C. (MP) was n.w. of their range in British Columbia. Hairy Woodpeckers were well reported from s. V.I. (VG) and *Douglas* and *Jackson*, s. Oreg. (DF, MM), but virtually no other comments about them were received. The 5th and 6th Vancouver area records of Three-toed Woodpeckers were provided by birds on Mt. Seymour July 20 and on Hollyburn Mt., July 21 (†D. Roberson).

The Black-backed Woodpecker pair that DA watches on a mudflow area on the s. side of Mt. St. Helens nested there for the 3rd consecutive year after the eruption.

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH WRENS -- Both Olive-sided Flycatchers and W. Wood-Pewees were noted in very good numbers in the Rogue R. valley (MM). In view of the decline of Willow Flycatchers to the s. of this Region, we note that several observers found the species present here in good numbers (EH, ST, PM, DF). A singing **Alder Flycatcher** was tape-recorded June 17 at Squamish, B.C. (†MF, MD) This was the first record for the Region so documented, and the tape and a spectrogram are on file. A singing Alder Flycatcher was well de- scribed from the Vancouver area in 1981 (†MD), but no recording was obtained. Single **Least Flycatchers** appeared near Glide, Oreg., June 26 (†K. Knittle) for the first summer report in w. Oregon, and at Vancouver, B.C., June 5-6 (†J & HM) for the 3rd Vancouver area record. Two or three Dusky Flycatchers were noted on the Mt. Bolivar trail, *Coos*, Oreg., in mid-July (AM), where they were also noted last year. If breeding were confirmed, this would be the first known nesting locale in the Coast Range. Farther e., Dusksies were found regularly on clearcuts in e. *Lane* (SH, DR) and e. *Douglas* (DF). A family group of Black Phoebees was seen June 30 at Oregon's northernmost nesting location, the Hwy 101 bridge at Euchre Cr., *Curry* (VT, *fide* HN) Horned Larks breeding in the Puget Sound lowlands (*E. a. strigata*) have become very scarce in recent years. Thus the discovery of six+ singing males on a Ft. Lewis prairie, near Roy, Wash. (GW), and a single bird at Sea-Tac Airport, s. of Seattle (T. Benedict), was noteworthy. The population of 35-40 pairs of Purple Martins in the Olympia-Shelton, Wash., area, was believed to be stable (J. Davis). There were still only 2 known nesting pairs in the s. V.I. area (VG). Tree and Cliff swallows seemed to disappear early (HN, GW). GW noted that Barn Swallows in the Roy area had more frequent 2nd nestings than other swallows. Scrub Jays may be expanding their range N along the Oregon coast

Volume 38, Number 6 1055

They were noted several times this summer at Newport (D Irons, D Faxon) and two were seen at Tillamook July 7 (PMu). Scrub Jays are regular n. only to Coos. Rock Wrens have for several years been showing signs of a breeding range expansion from their usual haunts on the e. slope of the Cascades. This summer, in addition to several in clearcuts in e. Lane and Douglas, Oreg., (SH, DR, DF), one was singing July 7 on San Juan I., Wash. (FS, ML), and another was seen on the s.e. slope of Mt. St. Helens on a mudflow and pyroclastic blast rubble area (DA).

KINGLETS THROUGH STARLING -- In late July, two different Golden-crowned Kinglets were seen feeding juv. Brown-headed Cowbirds in the Victoria area (M. Nyhof, JT). JT noted that a disproportionate number of published reports of cowbird parasitism of kinglets come from s. V.I., with the implication that the use of such a small host species could be regular there. Western Bluebird nesting success was below that of 1983, but still fairly respectable. The Rogue valley nest box trail fledged fewer than one-half the number of young produced in 1982 or 1983, mostly due to raccoon predation and increased competition from swallows (M. Paczolt). GW noted that 40 pairs on Ft. Lewis, Wash., produced 120+ fledglings, despite nesting beginning 2-3 weeks later than in 1983, and a higher incidence of nest failure and a lower number of 2nd broods. Two bluebird families were seen on s. V.I., where a tiny population manages to hang on year after year. The Townsend's Solitaire breeding population in the Oregon Coast Range has increased rapidly since its discovery in the late 1970s. This summer they were noted regularly n. to the Clatsop line (HN). There were 4 reports of Gray Catbirds from the Vancouver, B.C., area, the only part of the Region where they breed regularly (*fide* DK). The male N. Mockingbird in Medford, Oreg., single since it was first seen in 1981, finally met a female, and the pair commenced nesting (MM). The untimely demise of one of the pair ruined the best attempt yet at the first nesting record for Oregon. Another N. Mockingbird was seen in Seattle June 20-22 (PM, B. Meilleur) & July 14 (DB). About 200 Eur. Starlings were apparently roosting in burrows in beach cliffs at one location on s. V. I. (R. Williams, *fide* VG). Their presence was "making it very tough" for the local Belted Kingfishers and N. Rough-winged Swallows.

VIREOS AND WARBLERS -- EP saw an increase of Warbling Vireos in her area of s. Oregon, and, unfortunately, an increase in cowbird parasitism on them. After a noteworthy spring passage of Orange-crowned Warblers, there were no indications of an increase in the numbers breeding, at least in areas with *Am. Birds* contributors. It seems reasonable to speculate that the abundant spring flocks were headed for Alaska and the n., under-reported, one-half of our Region. The good numbers of spring migrant Nashville Warblers noted correlated with the reports of thriving populations in the Ashland-Medford area (MM), and of more than usual in the isolated Skagit Valley, Wash., population (TW). The impressive numbers of Black-throated Gray Warblers noted this spring should have given rise to reports of good breeding populations, but such was not the case. Two N. Waterthrushes June 23 at McDiarmid Meadows, Manning P. P. (RC), and a few present again at Salt Cr. Falls, e. Lane, Oreg. (SH, DR), were w. of the normal breeding range of the species in our area. Yellow-breasted Chats were discovered at a 2nd location along the S. Fork of the Coquille R., Coos (AM), their only known breeding locale on the w. side of the Coast Range. Extralimital individuals were singing in Olympia June 8-July 18 (BHT), and n.e. of Portland June 8 into July (MH). Three male Hermit Warblers were heard and seen June 10 on the Simpson Olympic Timber Farm n.e. of McCleary, Wash. (PM). This location is midway between the disjunct (as presently known) breeding areas in w. Wash. (Chappell and Ringer, *The Murrelet* 65:185-196, 1984). The only documented vagrant reports were of a male and a female **Northern Parula** July 9-11 at Charleston, Coos (†AM), for the 4th and 5th summer reports for the Region, a male **Blackpoll Warbler** in breeding plumage June 3 at Cape Meares, Oreg., (†R. Smith), and a **Black-and-white Warbler** near Skykomish, Wash., June 5, 1983 (†D. & L. McLeod).

CARDINALINES THROUGH CARDUELINES -- A male Rose-breasted Grosbeak, still a rare bird in our Region, was at Oregon City, Oreg., June 14 (E. Cameron, *fide* HN). Lazuli Buntings were plentiful in the Ashland-Medford area (MM), and better than normal numbers were noted in both the Skagit R. Valley, Wash (TW), and the Fraser R. valley of s.w.

British Columbia (DK). A male **Indigo Bunting** on San Juan I., July 17 (†T. Heatley *et al.*) provided the 5th record for Washington. Three reports of **Black-throated Sparrows** were added to the 15 seen this spring. One was at Surrey, B.C., June 10 (†W. Weber *et al.*, †MF, ph.), one was on the Alaskan N.W.A., Reifel I., B.C., June 13 (†E Lofroth *et al.*), and two were on Swift Dam, *Skamania*, Wash., June 23 (†DA, PMu). None of these birds could be found thereafter. Three-plus pairs of White-crowned Sparrows feeding fledglings July 7 & 15 at about 5000' on King Mt., e. of Wolf Cr., Oreg., were thought to be *Z. l. oriantha* (EP, tape-recorded). This would be the westernmost breeding location for this montane form. As there are almost no summer records for Lapland Longspurs in the Region, a male July 1 & 8 at Tillamook (JG *et al.*) was a surprise. The colony of **Tricolored Blackbirds** in Portland, Oreg., discovered in 1983, was active again this year (MH, *fide* HN). The first observation of a Rosy Finch on Mt. St. Helens since the 1980 eruption was a bird at 4800' (DA). Red Crossbills were conspicuous throughout the Region and throughout the period, but there were almost no reports of breeding Pine Siskins were reported in unusually high numbers in w. Washington (EH, GW, G & WH), and in e. *Douglas*, Oreg. (DF), and seemed to be in normal numbers on s. V.I. (VG). Evening Grosbeaks were wide-spread in the lowlands throughout the period (HN, G & WH, VG, MD, D. Smith), although less commented on than crossbills. The species may have bred in Oregon and on V.I.

End 1984

CITED OBSERVERS (subregional editors in **boldface**)--David Anderson, Dave Beaudette, Richard Cannings, Eric Cummins, Mark Daly, **David Fix**, Mike Force, Jeff Gilligan, **Vic Goodwill**, Steve Heintz, Glen & Wanda Hoge, Mike Houck, **Eugene Hunn**, Brian Kautsky, **Doug Kragh**, Mark Lewis, Jo Ann & Hue MacKenzie, Alan McGie, Marjorie Moore, Pat Muller (PMu), **Harry Nehls**, **Dennis Paulson**, Michael Price, Eleanor Pugh, Dennis Rogers, Fred Sharpe, Michael Shepard, Steve Speich, Jeremy Tatum, Verda Teale, Steve Thompson, **Terry Wahl**, George Walter, Ralph Widrig, Ulrich Wilson, David Wolf, Tim Zurowski.

1985

Autumn Migration, 1984

NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN - INTERMOUNTAIN REGION

/Thomas H. Rogers

August in the Region was hot and dry in most areas. The trend thereafter varied from normal to dry until near mid-October, when the weather suddenly turned cold, with early snows in the mountains and accelerated migration noted in some localities. November was mild and very wet, with little or no snow in the valleys until the month's end.



ABBREVIATION -- N.A.R. = National Antelope Refuge.

LOONS, GREBES -- A Red-throated Loon appeared at the Yakima R delta near Richland, Wash., Oct. 28 (CB, REW). Arctic Loons, mostly singles, showed up at

a few localities in e. Washington, e. Oregon, s. interior British Columbia, s. Idaho and n. Yellowstone Park. Remarkable concentrations of Com. Loons were over 75 on Banks L., Grant Co., Wash., and 70 on Potholes Res., Moses L., Wash. One or two Red-necked Grebes were sighted near Eureka and Fortine, Mont, near Joseph, Ore., at Clarkston, Wash., and at the Yakima delta. Adults and young were sighted at Red Rock Lakes N.W.R., Lima, Mont (TM). Western Grebes did very well at Malheur N.W.R., Ore. with 3423 young produced. A pair of W. Grebes, Clark's form, was feeding young on Moses L., Aug. 25 (GG).

PELICANS, CORMORANTS -- The largest Am. White Pelican flock was of 300 on Potholes Res. A few lingered into late October in the vicinity of Hart Mountain N.A.R., Lake Co., Ore., where they were abundant during the summer, and 12 stopped at Catty Res., Boardman, Ore., Aug. 16. Noteworthy were five on the Snake R. near Lewiston, Ida. (DC) and one on the Okanogan R. near Monse, Wash. (BW) Double-crested Cormorants produced 1647 young, the highest ever

78 *American Birds*, Spring 1985

recorded in the Harney Basin, which includes Malheur N.W.R. Nine visited fishless Hatfield L., Bend, Ore., Aug. 12 (TC), and a few on the Snake R. in the Clarkston-Asotin, Wash. area were unusual (CV, SI, PS). One Double-crested, rare in interior British Columbia, was at Tranquille Aug. 2 (CR), and five on the Flathead R. s. of Kalispell, Mont. were noteworthy (EH).

HERONS THROUGH IBISES -- High water levels at Malheur benefitted Great Blue Herons, which produced 1446 young. Great Egret production in the Harney Basin came to 1049 and Snowy Egrets there raised 204 young. The only other Great Egrets reported were one near Springfield, Ida., up to five in the Warner Valley, Lake Co., Ore., and one at Boardman. Cattle Egret numbers were exploding in s. Idaho; 39 were seen going to roost near Springfield (JS, CHT). A

cow pasture near Grand View hosted four (JSM). Near Lewiston, up to 20 appeared (C.B.). One was spotted near Umapine, Ore. (AL), one was along the Yakima R. near Granger, Wash. (T & KD, Y.A.S.), and four were along the Columbia R. between Bridgeport and Brewster, Wash. (MH). Single Green-backed Herons showed up at Hood River, Ore., Sept. 29 (DA) and at Wardner, B.C., Aug. 14 (FL). Black-crowned Night-Heron production at Malheur was only 347. The flock at the Yakima delta contained one albino. The Harney Basin produced 2385 young. A single bird visited Swan L. near Vernon, B.C. in August (MCo).

WATERFOWL -- A number of localities reported higher than usual numbers of Tundra Swans. The count of 657 on n. Idaho's aerial count Nov. 9 was over twice that of any previous count (I.F.G.). Up to 500 stopped at Metcalf N.W.R., Stevensville, Mont. Trumpeter Swans at Malheur reared only six cygnets, the lowest since 1977, but the tiny flock at Turnbull N.W.R., Cheney, Wash. produced three. Red Rock Lakes N.W.R., Lima, Mont. also did poorly on Trumpeters with only four fledged on the refuge and 13 in the remainder of the Centennial Valley. Weather there was mainly responsible, a hailstorm wiping out 75% of the cygnets and high water taking its toll. An adult and an imm. Trumpeters were sighted on Wallowa L., Joseph, Oct. 27 (C.B., FC). A few Greater White-fronted Geese passed through n. Idaho, e. Oregon and e. Washington, the largest numbers 14 at Richland and 12 at Hatfield L. One at the Colville, Wash., sewage ponds Sept. 7-10 probably established a county first (DS). Up to 130,000 Snow Geese stopped at the Anaconda Company's old settling ponds at Warm Springs, Mont. The early ice cover at Freezeout L. near Fairfield, Mont., their usual stopping place, was believed responsible. The 4000 at Red Rock Lakes was also high, supposedly for the same reason. The Warner Valley, Lake Co., Ore. reached a high count of 937. A Brant was shot by a hunter near Challis for one of very few Idaho records (HR) and one was sighted in Waterton Lakes N.P., Alta., Nov. 6 (KB, LH, SL). Benton County, Wash., had its 2nd record for the species with one at Richland Nov. 15+ (HE, DJ, REW). Peak Canada Goose numbers were: n. Idaho aerial count, 13,403; n. Columbia Basin, Wash., 17,421 (mostly at Columbia N.W.R.); Deer Flat N.W.R., Nampa, Ida. 8078; S.E. Idaho Refuge Complex. 5000;

Turnbull, 2687; and "1000s" on the Columbia R. at Roosevelt, Wash. "Very large" flocks were reported in the vicinity of McNary N.W.R., Burbank, and Wallula, Wash. Malheur had its lowest production ever for the species, only 523; nearly 3600 Canadas were there at November's end. A "Blue Goose" appeared with Canadas near Fortine, Mont. (WW). It was suspected of being a hybrid with the latter species (PLW) as was one on Brooks L., Strafford, Wash. (DS). Northern Idaho's aerial count revealed about 59,000 ducks, down nearly 9% from last year. Mallards, Am. Wigeons and Redheads accounted for about 87% of the total and Wood Ducks posted the highest number ever at 282. Other peak duck counts were 157,994 in the n. Columbia Basin; 41,476 at Deer Flat; 29,241 at Turnbull; and 20,000 (low) at Carty Res., Boardman. Mallards accounted for most of the counts at Columbia, Deer Flat and Turnbull. The S.E. Idaho Refuge Complex aerial survey found 8500 ducks, mostly Mallards. A concentration of Mallards estimated at over 100,000 was on Ice Harbor Dam reservoir e. of Pasco, Wash., Nov. 17. About 1000 Mallards died from *aspergillosis* from eating moldy silage at Kalamalka L. near Vernon, B.C. Minidoka N.W.R., Rupert, Ida. reported waterfowl numbers 50% below average. The oddest duck sighting was of a Rosy-billed Pochard, presumably an escape, on Kootenay L. near Nelson, B.C. (VB). An Am. Black Duck was reported at Metcalf N.W.R., Stevensville, Mont. (WH, RE). In Oregon single Eur. Wigeons appeared at Silver L., Lake Co. (MR), Bend (TC), and near Frenchglen (GI); Washington's only sighting was at Richland (REW). At least 30 Greater Scaup were on the Pend Oreille R. in n. Idaho Nov. 10 (BM). A few were sighted at Sparwood, B.C. (DFF); Chewelah (DS); Sandpoint, Ida. (PRS); Upper Klamath L., Ore. (SS); and Haystack Res., s. of Madras, Ore. (TC). Three Oldsquaw sightings of perhaps the same bird were obtained in the American Falls Res. area, Ida. (CHT, JS, GLC). One was at Genesee, Ida. (SI) and a male appeared near Sparwood (DFF). Single birds were shot by hunters at Red Rock Lakes (*vide* TM) and at Sheppard L., s. of Sandpoint (BM). A small invasion of Surf Scoters took place. In e. Oregon up to six visited Hatfield L. (TC, MR), two stopped at Wickiup Res., w. of La Pine (TC), and one was at Haystack Res. (MR). Upper Klamath L. had one (SS), two were on Phillips Res., s.w. of Baker (CC, MC, NB) and one was at Umatilla (CC, NB). In Washington one appeared at Richland (REW); three on L. Lenore (JA), all in Grant Co.; singles at two spots

near Anatone (C.B., JG), and two on Coeur d'Alene L., Ida. (PC, PS). Idaho had two on Fairchild Res., n.n.e. of Weiser (JSM). More notable White-winged Scoter sightings were: up to six near Sparwood, for that area's first (DFF); 15-20 on Moses L. (JT, DP) and 20-25 on Alkali L. (RF), Grant Co., Wash.; eight at Bend, three on L. Billy Chinook w. of Madras (MR) and seven on Haystack Res. s. of Madras (TC, MR); six at Cascade Locks, Ore. (DA) and three on Unity Res., s.w. of Baker, Ore. for latilong firsts (CC, MC, NB). A female at Minidoka N.W.R. provided only the 2rid record in 17 years (JH). Single birds were near Lewiston (PS, MK, MS) and Newport, Wash. (EJL) for rather rare sightings. An amazing nine were at Libby Dam, Mont. (WH, m.ob.) and two appeared at Green L., Helena, Mont., both latilong firsts (DSu). Pasco had a vagrant Red-breasted Merganser (TG) and Umatilla was visited by two (CC, NB).

HAWKS THROUGH CRANES -- Two adult and two imm. Bald Eagles were at an active nest at S. Twin L., w. of Inchelium, Wash.. Aug. 26 for the county's first breeding record (BW *et al.*) and a nest was reported at Rimrock L. w. of Yakima (Y.A.S.). The annual gathering of the birds to feed on spawning salmon along McDonald Cr. in Glacier N.P., Mont. numbered 571 Nov. 20. A Red-shouldered Hawk near Klamath Falls made the 4th county record (SS). Four Peregrine Falcon sightings were reported, plus a pair believed to have raised two young. Eight Gyrfalcon sightings came in, some likely of the same individuals.

Volume 39, Number 1 79

Up to 67 Sage Grouse were found in the Warner Valley vicinity A Wild Turkey was seen in the Winchester, Ida area (PP) The peak for Am. Coot in n. Idaho was 21,622, down 40% from last year. The top number at Columbia N.W.R. was 23,164 and at Turnbull, 2000. Following a storm over 2000 were on Haystack Res., Nov. 4 and "1000s" were on the Columbia R. near Cascade Locks on the same date. Greater Sandhill Cranes peaked at Malheur at 2720.

S.A.

Fourteen young Whooping Cranes hatched by Sandhill Crane foster parents at Grays Lake N.W.R., Ida. raised the population up to 38. Except for one fledgling, which died of a defective heart, all migrated out Oct. 3-20 (SB). A Whooping Crane seen at Oxford, Ida. Sept. 4

SHOREBIRDS -- Black-bellied Plovers put in a good appearance. One near Sparwood was that area's first (DFF). In Idaho up to 10 were near Rathdrum (JTa) and up to 27 were observed at Mann's L., Lewis-ton (PS, m.ob.). Ten were reported at Springfield Bottoms near Spring-held, Ida. (CHT) and Malheur had up to five (M & AA). The species was noted at Millcreek Res., e. of Walla Walla (SM), and the Richland-Wallula area had up to 25, a high number (REW). Up to four stopped at Colville's sewage ponds for apparently the latilong's first (DS). Good for latilong firsts were up to four Lesser Golden-Plovers at Colville (DS, BO, JN) and three on reclaimed coal mining spoils at 2100 m elevation in the Sparwood area Sept. 7 (DFF). Two at Bend made a county first (TC). Six appeared near Anatone, Wash. (JP, PS, MK) and a surprising 26 stopped at Mann's L. (PS, MS, MK). Conversely the Yakima delta had only two (TG, REW) as did Springfield Bottoms (CHT). Idaho led the list for Semipalmated Plover sightings with one at L. Lowell, Nampa (KBP); up to five at Spangler Res., Weiser (JSM); four at Springfield Bottoms (JS, CHT); and one near Moscow (PS). Up to 10 were sighted near Wallula (MD, SM, BH) and two at Chewelah's sewage ponds (DS, BO). A few stopped at Hatfield L. and Tumalo Res., Deschutes Co., Ore. (TC). Montana reported one at Somers (EH). A carefully-de-scribed Mountain Plover at Springfield Bottoms Nov. 3 was apparently Idaho's 2nd (CHT, JTi, CW). Black-necked Stilts lingered at Reardan, Wash. until Aug. 25 (JA, BW). Swainson's L., s. of Creston, Wash. had three Aug. 14 (JH). A scattered group of 2350 Am. Avocets at Summer L., Nov. 10 was surprising that late (MR). A **Hudsonian Godwit** photographed at Malheur with 25 Marbled Godwits was e. Oregon's first and the state's 3rd (TC). Reardan had one Aug. 25, apparently for e. Washington's 4th (JA). Two Marbled Godwits were on Hubbard Res., Ada Co., Ida. (KBP) and one was sighted at Wallula (BH). Up to three Ruddy Turn-

stones appeared at Malheur (ref. pers., M & AA) and one visited Swan L., Vernon, Aug. 18-24 (PR, m.ob.). One at Springfield Bottoms Sept. 29 established a latilong first (CHT, JT) and one at Somers, Mont., was noteworthy (EH). Single Red Knots appeared on the Yakima delta (REW), at Bend (TC, CM), and at Hubbard Res. (KBP). Two Sanderlings near Sparwood were the first for that area (DFF) and one at Colville was the latilong's 2nd (DS). Sightings at Bend and Tumalo Res. made Deschutes County's first (TC, CM). Latilong firsts were birds on the Snake R., e. of Bruneau, Ida. and at the nearby Bruneau R. mouth (KBP). Sanderlings appeared also at the Yakima delta, Wallula, Lewiston and Springfield Bottoms. A Semipalmated Sandpiper at Wenas L., n.w. of Yakima was apparently that latilong's first (Y.A.S.). Colville's sewage ponds had one or two (DS) as did Reardan (BW). Turnbull N.W.R. had one. A flock of six Semipalmated and one Baird's at White L., s. of Penticton, provided firsts for that latilong (DFF, TGe). Other noteworthy Baird's sightings were of singles at Midland and Worden, Ore. (SS), Wenas L. (Y.A.S.), and Mann's L. (PS, MK, RN, C.B.). Two Pectoral Sandpipers appeared in Washington Co., Ida. where rare (JSM). Little Camas Res., n.e. of Mountain Home, Ida. had five and the Snake R., e. of Bruneau had one (KBP). Up to four Stilt Sandpipers were seen frequently at Swan L. (PR, m.ob.) and four were near Kamloops, B.C. (RH). Mann's L. had one (JP, DPa, PS, MK) as did Valley, Wash. (DS). Reardan had three (JA) and Somers, Mont., one (EH). In the Pasco area singles appeared at the mouth of the Walla R (BH, MD, SM, CS, PD) and at the Yakima delta (REW). Short-billed Dowitchers were becoming routine in the Region, being reported at 9 localities s. of Canada. One at Colville was the latilong's first (DS, BO). Decided rarities were single Red Phalaropes on the Yakima delta (REW) and at Willow L., Spokane Co., Wash (WAH, JA)

JAEGERS THROUGH MURRELETS -- A Pomarine Jaeger, extremely rare in interior British Columbia, was picked up dead at Tranquille (WE, *fide* RH). Three sightings of single Parasitic Jaegers were at Malheur and one was at Springfield Bottoms (CHT, JS). A Long-tailed Jaeger at Trail, B.C. furnished the first sighting there in 50 years (ME). The only Franklin's Gulls reported were up to six in the Sandpoint vicinity (WT,

PRS) and single birds near Wallula (BH). A **Little Gull**, described by an observer familiar with the species, appeared at Sandpoint Oct. 28 for Idaho's first record (PRS). Impressive numbers of Bonaparte's Gulls appeared in e. Washington. Some 150 were on Soap L., Oct. 28 (JA); Richland had at least 64 (CB, REW) and up to 50 were at McNary Dam s. of Richland (SM *et al.*, CC). In Oregon an unprecedented 115 were sighted at Tumalo Res. (TC). Several at Wallowa L and Enterprise, Ore. were noteworthy (C.B.). Two Mew Gulls at Hood River (DA) and at Colville (DS, BO, BW) apparently were latilong firsts. A flock of up to 40 Herring Gulls roosting on the Elk R. near Ferule, B.C. was highly unusual (DFF). The decomposed remains of one were found at Malheur after a botulism outbreak (ref. pers.). Wickiup Res. had four Herring Gulls and one Thayer's Gull (TC). Two Thayer's were at Hood River for that latilong's first (DA). Springfield Bottoms also had one (JS, CHT). A **Western Gull** photographed Oct. 21 at American Falls Dam was apparently Idaho's first (MT, CHT). Two Glaucous-winged Gulls appeared at McNary Dam (SM, MD) and single Glaucous Gulls were sighted at Kamloops (RH) and Osoyoos, B.C. (WWe). A Sabine's Gull was photographed at American Falls Dam Oct. 20 (CHT, JS) and one appeared at the Yakima delta (REW). Two Caspian Terns at Hood River provided a latilong first (DA), Mann's L., Lewiston also had two (C.B.). A sighting of the species at Red Rock Lakes was the first for the latilong (TM). Several Com. Terns were observed at American Falls Res., including adults feeding young, which would establish Idaho's first breeding record if the birds were hatched locally (CHT, CW). Several sightings of Com. Terns were made in the Sandpoint area (SHS) and one was identified at Malheur (TC, JGi). Four Forster's Terns at the Colville River's mouth near Colville, Wash. made a latilong first (DS, BO). A Black Tern at the Yakima R. delta was notable (Y. A. S.). An exhausted **Ancient Murrelet** picked up and photographed near Elkford, B.C., Oct. 16 after a severe snowstorm was supposedly interior British Columbia's first (DFF, m.ob.).



Ancient Murrelet picked up near Elkford, B.C., Oct. 16, 1984. Possibly a first for interior British Columbia. Photo/David Fraser.

DOVES THROUGH OWLS -- The only Band-tailed Pigeon reported was one at Malheur (GI). A road-killed imm. Black-billed Cuckoo, still warm, was picked up and photographed near Fernie Aug. 18 (DFF *et al.*). Pocatello had a window-killed Yellow-billed Cuckoo, * to Idaho State U. (CHT). A Com. Barn-Owl was found at Horseshoe L., n.e. of Reardan Sept. 1 (BW). The Flammulated Owl was reported as resident

80 *American Birds*, Spring 1985

at Panhandle L. near Newport (EJL), and one was sighted near La Grande, Ore (SM) Snowy Owls had reached as far s as Boardman One at Wilmer, B.C. made a rare sighting (LH). A Barred Owl, rare in the Helena area, was heard to the s.w. in Colorado Gulch (G & NN). The species was widely reported in the valleys of s. interior British Columbia; at Kamloops a road-killed bird, definitely of this species, had yellow eyes! (RH).

WOODPECKERS THROUGH MIMIDS -- Red-breasted Sap- suckers are becoming rare but regular migrants through s.e. Oregon; one was sighted Sept. 22 & 24 at Fields (DI, DA). Single Blue Jays were sighted near Helena, s. of Troy, and s.e. of Libby, Mont.; at Mountain Home and s. of Pocatello, Ida.; at Malheur;

n.w. of Prairie City, Ore.; and at Rosalia, Wash. The only Scrub Jays reported were up to seven at Hart Mountain N.A.R., Lake Co., Ore. (SSu) and a few at Odell and Cascade Locks, Ore. (DA). A Blue-gray Gnatcatcher was observed in the Warner Valley Sept. 29 (SSu). One or two Bewick's Wrens appeared in the Warner Valley (SSu) and near Cascade Locks (DA), and singles were seen at Malheur and s of Fields, Ore. (M & AA), all for latilong firsts. A Canyon Wren was sighted near Vernon; the species is very uncommon in the n. Okanagan Valley (MCo). The number of young bluebirds fledged in w. Montana (presumably in nest boxes only) has grown from 371 five years ago to over 5000 this year; 974 of over 2000 boxes provided them were occupied (N.A.B.S., *fide Hungry Horse News*). Reportedly they were mostly Mountain Bluebirds. Oregon's first **Gray-cheeked Thrush** was photographed at Fields Sept. 20 (TC, JG, DI, RS). Page Springs, Ore. had a N. Mockingbird Aug. 12.

WARBLERS -- A Tennessee Warbler was sighted near Oliver, B.C. (DFF, EL). A Nashville Warbler, rarely seen in s.e. Idaho, was at Pocatello Sept. 1 (JJ). A Chestnut-sided Warbler was observed at Malheur on several dates Sept. 21-Oct. 13 (TC, m.ob.). An ad. male Magnolia Warbler appeared in Waterton Lakes N.P., Sept. 9; the species is not on the park's list (DFF). A **Black-throated Blue Warbler** photographed at Creston Sept. 22 was the first ever for interior British Columbia (GD, LV) and a male was at Malheur Oct. 12-13 (PS, m.ob.). Single Black-throated Gray Warblers, rare e. of the Cascades, were sighted at Malheur (M & AA) and at Cle Elum, Wash. (EH). A Townsend's Warbler in the mountains s. of Livingston, Mont. was apparently the latilong's 2nd (CBL). A **Yellow-throated Warbler** at Mountain Home, Ida., Aug 24 was the Region's first ever (KBP). Malheur had the only Black- and-white Warbler (M & AA).

SPARROWS THROUGH FINCHES -- Two Clay-colored Sparrows were sighted at Fields, Ore. (DA). Breeding of Brewer's Sparrow was confirmed for Elk Valley e. of Sparwood (DFF). Two Black-throated Sparrows were sighted on Steptoe Butte, Whitman Co., Wash., July 28 for the latilong's first (JP). Grasshopper Sparrows were reported only from Turnbull. A Swamp Sparrow was reported at Umatilla Nov. 23 (MC). A

White-throated Sparrow accompanied Harris' Sparrows at Sparwood for the Elk Valley's first record (DFF). Washington had sightings of single White-throated Sparrows at Davenport (WAH, JA) and Yakima (Y.A.S.). Malheur had one (M & AA), as did Vernon. "Several" were reported at Libby Dam (C.O.E.). Golden-crowned Sparrows were migrating through Hart Mountain N.A.R. with 10 the highest count. Yakima reported three, Malheur one, Bend "a few", Panhandle L. two, Reardan one and Davenport three. Harris' Sparrows appeared near Livingston, at Red Rock Lakes, and Missoula, Mont.; near Pocatello; at Sparwood; at Spokane and Umatilla. Flocks of up to 16 Lapland Longspurs were seen on high-elevation reclaimed mine spoils near Sparwood and one was with Horned Larks near Richland (RJ) Twenty appeared on Lower Klamath N.W.R. Snow Buntings were moving into the Region in good numbers; one had even reached as far s as Malheur. An ad. male Tricolored Blackbird accompanied other blackbirds near Prineville, Ore., Nov. 11 (MR). Ten Rusty Blackbirds were observed near Revelstoke (JW), one was at Stum L., w. of Williams Lake, B.C. (RH), and four were seen at Lundbreck, Alta. (D & MA). One was in the Helena Valley for apparently the first sighting there (GH). The largest numbers of Rosy Finches were observed in the Sparwood area, with several flocks of over 1500, and near Hartline, Wash., with a like number Pine Grosbeaks were appearing in the valleys in n w Montana and e Washington Some 35 Purple Finches were reported with Pine Siskins at Harvey Pass, extreme s.e. British Columbia (DFF) and up to 40 reportedly were with many Cassin's at Libby, Mont feeders (D & DH). Five appeared at Malheur (DA) and one at Umatilla (CC, MC, NB). A pair of House Finches at Fernie, a female in Sparwood (DFF), and two males at Blairmore, Alta. (DC), all at feeders, was the first for that area. Three males showed up at Kalispell, Mont, Nov. 3 (EJ). Very few Red Crossbills were reported, except that they were unusually plentiful at Waterton Lakes N.P. The Big Snowy Mts. s of Lewiston hosted an invasion of White-winged Crossbills, with up to 1000 reported (BWa, KF). Over 35 were on Mr. Spokane and a pair appeared at the Davenport cemetery (JA). A few Com. Redpolls had appeared in the Region. Nicola, B.C. had two Hoary Redpolls Nov. 25 (RH). Pine Siskins seemed scarce. Malheur had a big influx of Lesser Goldfinches; refuge personnel banded 60. One was noted near Parkdale, Ore., Aug. 4 (DA). Evening Grosbeak appearances

were spotty, with the largest numbers on Mt. Hood, Ore.; at Walla Walla feeders; at Mountain Home; in the Elk Valley area; and at Libby.

ADDENDUM -- Steve Summers reported that Dennis Paulson examined the original photos of the Laughing Gull (AB 37:893) and agreed with the identification.

CORRIGENDUM -- The date for the Parasitic Jaeger at Springfield (AB 38:230) was early September, 1983, not November.

OBSERVERS CITED -- James Acton, Dave Anderson, Merle & Anne Archie, Diana & Mike Axtell, Carl Berkowitz, Nancy Bock, Stephen Bouchard, Keith Brady, Vernon Byrd, Canyon Birders (C.B), Peggy Chevalier, Eddie Chew, Denise Coccioloni-Amatto, Del Collier, Mary Collins (MCo), Frank Conley, G. L. Copeland, Craig Corder, Marion Corder, Corps of Engineers (C.O.E.), Tom Crabtree, Priscilla Dauble, Gary Davidson, Mike Denny, T. & K. Doyle, Maurice Ellison, Howard Ennor, Wayne Erickson, Ron Escana, Kim Forrest, David F Fraser, Ron Friesz, Tracee Geernaert (TGe), George Gertz, Jeff Gilligan (JGi), John Gimbel, Tony Greager, Warren A. Hall, Marc Hallet, Larry Harbridge, William Harryman (WHa), Bill Hayes, Dick & Della Hermsmeyer, Willis Heron, John Hill, George Holton, Rick Howie, Eugene Hunn, Idaho Fish & Game Dept. (I.F.G.), Shannon Irby, David Irons, Gary Ivey, Joe Jeppson, Dennis Johnson, Ray Johnson, Elly Jones, Merlene Koler, Frank Lanchester, Earl J. Larrison, Audrey Lehman, Eric Lofroth, Cary B. Lund, Simon Lunn, Terry McEneaney, Jeffrey S. Marks, Craig Miller, Bob Moate, Shirley Muse, Ron Neu, Jack Nisbet, Gene & Norma Nixon, North American Bluebird Society (N.A.B.S.), Bill O'Connell, Jeff Palmer, Deanna Palmer (DPa), Dick Parker, Patty Pedigo, Kerry B. Provance, Phil Ranson, Clara Ritcey, Mike Robbins, Hadley Roberts, Millie Schmidt, Don Schmoldt, John Shipley, Paul R. Sieracki, Richard Smith, Shirley H. Sturts, Dan Sullivan (DSu), Paul Sullivan, Siobhan Sullivan (SSu), Steve Summers, Charles Swanson, Jim Tabor, Joe Taggart (JTa), Joel Tinsley (JT0, Ward Tollbom, C. H. Trost, Mike Tove, Linda Van Damme, Carole VandeVoorde,

Bob Watts (BWa), Cheryl Webb, Wayne Weber (WWe), Winton Weydemeyer, Bart Whelton, R. E. Woodley, John Woods, P. L. Wright, Yakima Audubon Society (Y.A.S.)

Volume 39, Number 1 81

Autumn Migration, 1984

NORTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION

/ Eugene S. Hunn and Philip W. Mattocks, Jr.

August was warm and dry in the populated core of the Region with virtually no rain at Portland and Seattle. October was cool and November very wet. Unusual migratory phenomena clearly related to the weather included the arrival of Bar-tailed Godwits and a Far Eastern Curlew on the heels of a polar air mass. A strong storm front in mid- October drove migrating Northern Fulmars and storm-petrels to within sight of coastal vantage points. Finally, many species behaved as if a hard winter were in the offing, as indeed proved true. Note the Snowy Owl and Gyrfalcon numbers, the rapid departure of swallows, and the early presence or unusual abundance of many boreal and montane species.



ABBREVIATIONS: S.J.C.R. = South Jetty of the Columbia River; V.I. = Vancouver Island. Place names in *italics* are counties.

LOONS THROUGH HERONS -- Nine Yellow-billed Loons were reported, about twice the normal number. The first for the season was one Sept. 26 at Vancouver, B.C. (MP). One Nov. 26 on the Columbia R., 18 mi e. of Astoria, Oreg., provided the only report s. of Puget Sound. This fall's pelagic data were based on 11 one-day trips to the vicinity of the continental shelf. Ten of these were between Aug. 15 and Sept. 23. Oregon trips left from Coos Bay (AM), Tillamook (2, DI, JGa), and Astoria (DA). Washington trips left from Westport (5, TW) and Ocean Shores (ESH). One British Columbia trip left Ucluelet, V.I. for La Perouse Banks (MS).

92 *American Birds*, Spring 1985

Black-footed Albatross numbers off Westport during August were 60% of 1983 totals, while numbers in September dropped to 20% of last year's. A Laysan Albatross 25 mi s.w. of Ucluelet Sept. 11 (†D. Hanson) furnished the sole report. Northern Fulmars off Westport averaged 46/trip, less than 5% of last year's

high counts. Fifty on La Perouse Bank Sept. 2 fit the 1983 pattern of N. Fulmar concentration there. The extraordinary occurrence of hundreds of N. Fulmars migrating S at Cape Meares, *Lincoln*, *Oreg.*, Oct. 13 (DF *et al.*) coincided with the passage of a strong cold front. Pink-footed Shearwater counts peaked at 73 off Westport Aug. 25 and at 120 off Ucluelet Sept. 2, continuing a down-ward trend evident last year. The rare Flesh-footed Shearwater was noted 4 times with maxima of two off Westport Aug. 15 and Sept. 23. Singles appeared Sept. 2 on La Perouse Bank and Sept. 22 about 60 mi w of Newport, *Oreg.* (G. Lester, *fide* EE). Buller's Shearwaters were observed on 4 of 9 trips before mid-September, with a high count of four birds. Thereafter Wahl counted 62 off Westport Sept. 23 and J. Gatchet had 16 off Tillamook Oct. 20 (*fide* HN). Single Short-tailed Shearwaters were noted on just 2 offshore trips this year. The largest concentration of Fork-tailed Storm-Petrels this fall was the 120 reported Aug. 5 from Blackfish Sound and Johnstone Strait in the shelter of northern V.I. (MS). Offshore totals peaked in mid-August with 62 off Westport, but the species was very scarce or absent there- after. "Hundreds" of Leach's Storm-Petrels Aug. 11 in Clayoquot Sound, halfway up V.I.'s w. coast (R. Weber), was a most unusual inshore phenomenon. Fifty-six seen off Westport Aug. 15 was a near record high pelagic trip total, but this was the only offshore trip to record the species. More than 20 counted Oct. 13 at Cape Meares (DI *et al.*) was coincident with the strong cold front and N. Fulmar passage noted above. The Brown Pelican migration was less notable than those of the past 2 years. Four just e. of Neah Bay, *Clallam*, *Wash.*, Sept. 23 were the farthest n. (BP). Sixty-three on Grays Harbor Sept. 28 (BM) and a high count of 250 at Tillamook Bay during September (HN) were about 25% of last year's El Niño-swollen numbers. Twenty-six Great Egrets on Yaquina Bay, *Oreg.*, was the high site count (BL, *fide* DF), and four birds were noted n. of the Columbia R. Snowy Egrets continued a slight advance, as the wintering group on Coos Bay in s. Oregon had grown to six or more (DI). The single adult at Ocean Shores, present since late July (m.ob.), was last seen Sept. 9. Cattle Egrets staged perhaps their best showing to date. About 100 were reported, beginning in a rush after Nov. 1. By the end of the month w. Oregon observers had reported 40+, those in w. Washington 38+, and in s.w. British Columbia and s. V.I., another 18+. As usual, they had largely vanished by mid-December.

SWANS THROUGH CRANES -- Tundra Swans first appeared Oct. 20-21, and reached a maximum concentration of 1000 s. of Forest Grove, *Oreg.* Nov. 18 (VT, *fide* HN). A blue phase Snow Goose reported Nov. 17 at Reifel I., near Vancouver, B.C. (MP *et al.*) was one of very few Regional reports. This phase apparently is unknown from the Wrangell I. populations that normally visit our Region. Other Canadian arctic strays were the four Ross' Geese identified at Iona I., B.C., Oct 11, with singles nearby Oct. 19 & 29 (†BK, †GT). There had been only 3 previous Vancouver area records. Several reports of Barnacle Geese were received, but they are presumed escapees until proven otherwise. Two white-bellied Brant on Sauvie I., Oct. 28 (F. Belrose, D Marshall, *fide* HN), with one staying through November, furnished the first reports we have received of this form since the brants were lumped. Likewise of interest were the four Aleutian Canada Geese at Vancouver, B.C., Oct. 18 (†BK). This form winters in n.w. California but may, like Brant, migrate directly from its breeding grounds, thus rarely dropping in to visit us. An eclipse male Eur. Wigeon was picked out of the returning wigeon flocks Sept. 17 at Yaquina Bay, *Oreg.* (DI) and two others were found Sept. 18 at Victoria, V.I. (E. Coffin, *fide* VG). In addition, several hybrid wigeon were reported (maleBK, HN, VG). Three Tufted Duck reports was a decided increase over the average of 0.7/fall recorded since 1977. Single imm. males appeared Oct. 21-Nov. 7 in Seattle (ESH, PWM *et al.*), and in C. Saanich, V.I., Nov. 17+ (†AM, H. Hosford, m.ob.), and a female was at Vancouver, B.C., Nov. 3-25 (BK, MP *et al.*). A male King Eider Nov. 5-18 at Vancouver (PBK, †MP, †CA, †V. Thomas *et al.*) provided the 5th fall report for the Region in the past 8 years. Fix counted 100 Com. Goldeneyes on Diamond L., near the Cascade crest in c Oregon, Nov 4 This could indicate a montane migratory path, as the species breeds no closer than n e Washington. Victoria observers again took the pulse of the V.I. Turkey Vulture population as it passed in migration. About 947+ individuals were counted Aug. 23-Oct. 21. The peak passage came Sept. 29 with 202 birds sighted. An immature Nov. 19-21 at Tatoosh I., off Cape Flattery (BP) and one Nov. 24 on Puget I. (*fide* AR), both in Washington, were the last stragglers n. of the Columbia R. A pair of Black-shouldered Kites took up residence in coastal pastureland w. of Hoquiam in late August (DP *et al.*). At least 33 had been reported in

Oregon by the end of the period, with the usual concentrations at Fern Ridge Res. near Eugene (DF *et al.*) and in the Ashland area (*fide* MM). Sharp-shinned and Cooper's hawks were widely reported in their usual frequencies. Reported numbers of each were roughly equal except in the Victoria area where Cooper's reports outnumbered those of Sharp-shinneds 3:2. The 13 N. Goshawks noted were widely distributed. A single Red-shouldered Hawk strayed beyond its usual range in Oregon to Finley N.W.R., Sept. 22 (*fide* DF) and Monmouth Oct. 9 (R. Gerig, *fide* DF, HN) Single "Harlan's" Red-tailed Hawks were reported in Washington at Nisqually N.W.R., Oct. 22 (†WW) and at Everett Sept. 26 (†JA), and at Sooke on s. V.I., Sept. 27 (M & VG). Reports of falcons were up this fall with unprecedented counts received of more than 100 Merlins, 75 Peregrines, and perhaps 10 Gyrfalcons. All of the Gyrs were within the Victoria-Vancouver-Skagit-Dungeness trapezoid. A single Prairie Falcon migrating down the Cascade crest at Hart's Pass in n. Washington (T. & A. Spencer, S. Howard) was the only report n. of Oregon. One Sept. 14 at Tillamook Bay was rather far w. (M. Hunter, *fide* DF). Sandhill Cranes first appeared on Sauvie I., Sept. 1 (VT), peaked at 1000 Oct. 7-13 (DB, DI), then thinned to 450 by period's end (HN).

SHOREBIRDS -- Lesser Golden-Plovers peaked at 95 Sept. 30 at Ocean Shores, Wash. (DP). Seven *fulva* types counted in a flock of 60+ there Sept. 22 (DK, BK, M. McGrenere) was a typical percentage Eight Snowy Plovers remained at Tillamook Bay Oct. 7+ (HN) for the high count. A flock of six Am. Avocets Aug. 28-30 on Sauvie I. furnished the sole report (TBI, DI). A few avocets do stray w. of the Cascades each year, mostly in August. Single Lesser Yellowlegs lingered until Oct. 28 at c. Saanich, V.I. (TZ) and Nov. 14 at Reifel I., near Vancouver, B.C. (JI). Seven Solitary Sandpipers were reported Aug. 2-Sept. 23 from s. British Columbia south. Two Willets at Pt Angeles, Wash., Aug. 29 (S. Smith) were the northernmost recorded One remained there through November, probably the individual that wintered there the past 2 seasons. The last Wandering Tattlers noted were singles Sept. 26-29 at Delta, B.C., Seattle, and Yaquina Bay, Oreg. (JI; TS; S. Jaeger, *fide* HN). The bird of the season was the imm. **Far Eastern Curlew** carefully observed and photographed Sept. 24 on Mud Bay, s. of Vancouver, B.C. (†JI, †DK, †BK, ph. E. Sian), for a first North American record

outside Alaska. The bird showed a brown rump, unstreaked crown, white underwing linings barred brownish-black, and a heavily streaked breast. The photographs were compared with specimens at the Univ. of Washington (DP). It is noteworthy that the date of this sighting coincided closely with the appearance of all four **Bar-tailed Godwits** reported. One was on Leadbetter Pt., Wash., Sept. 22 (†SA, R. Widrig *et al.*), one was at Delta, B.C., Sept. 22-24 (†MF *et al.*), and two were at Victoria, V.I., Sept. 23-Oct. 14 (J & RS *et al.* ph. TZ). The V.I. Bar-taileds provided the island's 2nd record; the Delta bird was the Vancouver area's 3rd; and the Leadbetter Pt. bird was Washington's 14th. These sightings were likely attributable to a "severe invasion of polar air [that] followed the passage of a deep low" across the U.S.-Canadian border region on the 21st-23rd (D. M. Ludlum, *Weatherwatch*, Sept 1984). One to two imm. Hudsonian Godwits were also in the Boundary Bay area s. of Vancouver Aug. 23-Sept. 30, a more usual occurrence for local observers (†J. Williams *et al.*, ph. MF). As usual, most Semipalmated Sandpiper reports came from Iona I., where twelve Aug. 23 was the season's high count (GT). Oregon observers reported at least five, with only one noted in Washington. The W. Sandpiper migration was diffuse with the largest concentration noted being a mere 3000 Aug. 10 at Tillamook Bay, Oreg. (TC, *fide* HN) Eight hundred remained there Oct. 18 (HN). The numbers of Least Sandpipers reported on the Oregon coast nearly equaled those of Westerns

Volume 39, Number 1 93



Bar-tailed Godwit near Victoria, B.C., Sept. 30, 1984. Note the pattern of the axillars, typical of the Siberian-Alaskan race *L. I. baueri*: *L. I. lapponica* of Europe would have much narrower brown barring there, as well as more extensive white on the rump. Photo/Tim Zurowski.

Aug. 10 when 2000 were estimated at Tillamook (TC, *fide* HN). Later, the 1500 Least at Tillamook Oct. 12 were double Western numbers (HN). Elsewhere in the Region, Western totals were 5- 10 times those of Least. An imm. **Rufous-necked Stint** photographed Aug. 27- 31 at S.J.C.R. (ph. †HN. S. Jones) appeared convincing based on reddish-edged coverts, short thin bill, and length of exposed wing-tip at rest (DP). Peak counts of Baird's and Pectoral sandpipers came from Vancouver's Iona I. sewage ponds. Twenty-two juv. Baird's were there Aug. 21 (MF, BK) and 400 Pectorals Oct. 2 (RP). In addition, at least 10 Sharp-tailed Sandpipers were noted Sept. 6-Oct. 19 passing through the Vancouver area (*fide* DK), with another at C. Saanich, V.I., Sept. 27-Oct. 9 (BW *et al.* *fide* VG), and five at 3 Washington locations Sept. 15-30, for an average showing. Iona I. also produced this fall's only Curlew Sandpiper, an immature Sept. 4 (†R. Cannings, †MF *et al.*) establishing the 7th record for British Columbia and the 4th fall in a row that this rarity has been noted in the Region. Seventy-five percent of the 25 Stilt Sandpipers reported were in s.w. British Columbia, with seven immatures Sept. 29 at Reifel I. the high count (BK. JH, WW). This fall was the worst in a decade for Buff-breasted Sandpipers and Ruffs. The only Buff-breasteds were singles at the S.J.C.R., Sept. 13 (R. Smith, *fide* HN) and at Meares L., Tillamook Aug. 29-Sept. 2 (HN *et al.*), both in Oregon. This is compared to an average of 17.4/fall for 1977-1983. The lone Ruff was a female at Yaquina Bay, Oreg. Oct. 21-31 (HN. DI *et al.*) which may be compared to the 1977-1983 average of 9.6/fall. Red Phalaropes were scarce on offshore trips and no storm-related onshore movement was noted.

JAEGERS THROUGH ALCIDS -- Pomarine Jaeger counts averaged 11 on offshore trips from Grays Harbor and V.I. Aug. 15-Sept. 23, an average showing. Long-tailed Jaegers were below par, being noted on just 4 of 11 offshore trips. The high count was five+ off

Tillamook Sept. 15 at a large commercial fishing operation (DI *et al.*). Inshore reports were of one Sept. 16 at Cattle Pt., San Juan I. (SA, FS), and two very late at Pt. Roberts, Wash., Oct. 17 (†BK). Nine S. Polar Skuas were recorded on 6 pelagic trips with high counts of three Aug. 18 off Westport (TW) and Sept. 15 off Tillamook (DI *et al.*). A Franklin's Gull, in *juv.* plumage--strikingly similar to an imm. Laughing Gull-- was at Seattle, Aug. 3-6 (†ESH. DP, TS). Over one-half of the Region's 60 + Franklin's Gulls were reported from *Snohomish* and *King*, Wash. The 20+ at the Snohomish sewage ponds Sept. 16 was the high count (DP) and two Nov. 10 at Cannon Beach, Oreg. (OS, *fide* HN) were the latest. Four Little Gulls were reported: a first-winter bird at Victoria, V.I. Sept. 17 (†KT), a subadult at Iona I., Aug. 8 (†MF), and single adults in Friday Harbor, San Juan I. (3ML), and at the Everett sewage ponds Sept. 23-Oct. 10 (R. Thorne, (†PWM *et al.*). An ad. **Common Black-headed Gull** returned to Victoria Aug. 17- Sept. 30 (†VG *et al.*), perhaps the same individual seen there in previous years. Ten thousand California Gulls were feeding offshore at La Perouse Bank off s. V.I., Sept. 2 (MS). On Oct. 13 they were noted streaming S off Cape Meares, Oreg. at 1000 birds/hr. (DF *et al.*) giving us a glimpse of their peregrinations in our Region. Adult **"Kumlien's" Iceland Gulls** were reported Nov. 9+ on Sea I., s. of Vancouver, B.C. (†BK, †MF *et al.*). Descriptions suggest that more than one individual was involved. Photos by MF are definitive. An imm. Glaucous Gull Nov. 25 at Salem (DF, T. Love) and another at Sauvie I., Nov. 22 (HN, DB), both in Oregon, were the only reports. As usual, Sabine's Gulls focused their efforts at La Perouse Bank offs, V.I. where 500 were gathered Sept. 2 (MS). High counts elsewhere offshore were <30. A flock of 15+ mixed with Bonaparte's off Pt. Roberts Sept. 20 was an unusual inshore event (9BK, JH). Last year's historic **Elegant Tern** invasion was followed this fall by a single bird Oct. 15-18 at Coos Bay on the s. Oregon coast (M. Graybill, B. Griffin, *fide* AM). A Forster's Tern at Vancouver, B.C., Sept. 1 (†MP), another at Blaine, n. Wash., Oct. 8 (BK, J. Jellicoe), and a 3rd at Tillamook Bay, Oreg. Sept. 15 (J. & R. Krabbe, *fide* DF) were strays. A single vagrant Black Tern was spotted, Sept. 10 at Dungeness, Wash. (†ESH *et al.*). Single **Xantus' Murrelets** were noted in flight off Grays Harbor, Wash., again this fall Aug. 15 and Sept. 8-9 (TW, ESH. DP, AR). Ancient Murrelet concentrations were a small fraction of last year's with a peak count of 233 off Victoria Nov. 13 (VG). Cassin's

Auklets rebounded somewhat after last year's El Niño depression, averaging 45 on 8 pelagic trips offshore from n. Oregon to s. V.I., Aug. 15- Sept. 23. Last year's trips averaged 19 for that time period. Normal numbers approach 200/trip.

OWLS THROUGH CHICKADEES -- Snowy Owls made their strongest move into the Region since 1974. A flurry of sightings came in late October, with the first Oct. 22 at Delta, B.C. (JI). By early November numbers had reached 10 on s. V.I. (*fide* VG), 36 near Ladner, B.C. (*fide* DK), and four at Ocean Shores, Wash. (B. & G. Ramsey), with one individual s. to Salem, Oreg. Nov. 9 (ph. H. Hoffer, m. ob., *fide* EE). An immature reached Medford in extreme s. Oregon Nov. 21 (ph. OSw, m.ob. *fide* MM). Perhaps in response to the same forces, a **Northern Hawk-Owl** turned up Nov. 25+ at Pitt Meadows, e. of Vancouver, where one wintered in 1980-81 (W. Robinson, JI). Nine Barred Owls were noted in the Victoria and Vancouver areas, B.C. (*fide* VG, DK). Short-eared Owls also appeared in good numbers after mid- October, with high counts of seven Nov. 23 on Boundary Bay, B.C. (JI), nine Nov. 18 at American Camp, San Juan I., Wash. (ML) and 11 Nov. 16 at Nisqually N.W.R., near Olympia, Wash. (C. Chappell). Common Nighthawks were last reported Sept. 12-14 in Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia. Twenty-five Black Swifts over Victoria Oct. 7 (M & VG) and three over Vancouver, B.C., Oct. 13 (MP) were quite late. An imm. male *Selasphorus* hummingbird Nov. 21, at Salem, Oreg., was late (B. Bellin, *fide* HN). Lewis' Woodpeckers increased to 45+ by November in the Ashland area of s. Oregon (MM). Elsewhere wanderers appeared in mid-September in suburbs of Seattle (ER, BMe) and Victoria (†B. Phipps, *fide* VG), and in the w. foothills of the Cascades, up the Skagit R. in Washington Sept. 16 (F. Krause) and up the Umpqua R. in c. Oregon Oct. 4 (DF). "Red-naped" Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were identified at N. Saanich, s. V.A., Sept. 22 and Oct. 13 (BH, *fide* VG) and near Goldstream, also s. V.I., Sept. 26 (A. Cassidy, *fide* VG). A Black-backed Woodpecker on the U.B.C. campus was a first for the Vancouver checklist area (†D. Haddow). Black Phoebe dispersed N to Eugene, Oreg. Oct. 25 (M. Mathews, *fide* DF) for a 2nd *Lane* record, and to n. of Roseburg by mid-November (M. Sawyer, *fide* DF). As usual a few *Myiarchus* turned up, all apparently Ash-throated Flycatchers. Singles were at

Tillamook Bay Aug. 25-Sept 8 (R. O'Brien, SH), at Portland Aug. 2-Oct. 1 (DI), at Saanich, V.I., Sept. 23 (H. Vander Pol. *fide* VG), and at Delta, s. of Vancouver, B.C. Oct. 2 (†F. Walker). Four **Tropical Kingbird** sightings constituted a minor invasion. All were near salt water shores Sept. 30-Oct. 6, and appeared in order from s. to n.: Yaquina Bay, Oreg., Sept. 30 (J. Kemp, DI), North Cove, *Pacific*, Wash., Oct. 1 (R. Rowlett), near Aberdeen, Wash., Oct. 4 (ph. J. Skriletz), and at Pt. Angeles, Wash., Oct. 6 (KT). Other kingbirds included one Eastern Aug. 27 at Coos Head, for a *Coos*, Oreg. first (K. Hansen, AM), and stray Westerns at Portland, Oreg., Aug. 10 (L. Richards, *fide* HN), Sydney, V.I., Oct. 5 (M & VG), and very late at nearby C. Saanich Nov. 6 (M. Edgell, *fide* VG). The last Purple Martin flocks noted were of 20 at Nehalem, Oreg., Sept. 9 (J. Gilligan, *fide* HN), 10 at Seattle on Sept. 9, (ER), and three at Victoria, V.I., Sept. 12, (RS, M & VG). Single Tree Swallows at

94 *American Birds*, Spring 1985

Toketee Ranger Station Nov. 3 (DF) and at Eugene Nov. 8 (SH) were late. Fifteen hundred Violet-green Swallows over the Rogue R. near the California line Oct. 18 (OSw, *fide* MM) were the rearguard. Northern Rough-wingeds went virtually unnoticed but for ten Aug. 26 at Seattle (ER). Nine Bank Swallows Aug. 23-Sept. 22 were typical numbers. Cliff Swallows were last noted near Vancouver, B.C., Sept. 22-24 (MF, BK). The last Barn Swallow to leave was noted in Seattle on the rather early date of Oct. 29 (K. Aanerud). A **Blue Jay** at Sauvie I., Oreg. Oct. 30+ (m.ob., ph. OS) provided the only report of this vagrant. Single Scrub Jays strayed W to Cannon Beach, *Clatsop*, Oreg., Oct. 23 (DI), E from Roseburg into the Oregon Cascade foothills to Toketee Res., Oct. 17 (DF), and N to an Olympia, Wash., feeder Oct. 7 (BM). A Clark's Nutcracker descended to Gabriola I. in the s. Straits of Georgia Sept. 24 (M. Lee, *fide* KT, VG). Two Black-billed Magpies drifted W to near Ashland Sept. 22-29 (MM). A few Mountain Chickadees appeared in the lowlands w. of the Cascades. One was at Seattle Oct. 7-Nov. 4 (DBe, *fide* ESH) and four in the Vancouver, B.C. area Oct. 18-Nov. 28 (*fide* DK).

WRENS THROUGH CROSSBILLS -- Rock Wrens drifted upslope to the 9200ft summit of Mt. McLoughlin in the s. Oregon Cascades Aug. 18 (DF) and down to Seattle's Discovery P., Oct. 29 (†DH, †DBe). Another on Stuart I. in the Washington San Juan Is., Sept. 29 was near a possible nesting site (FS. ML). Late House Wrens included one Oct. 3 on Fidalgo I. near Anacortes, Wash. (FS) and two Oct. 14 at Camano Island S.P., n. of Stanwood, Wash. (SA). One to six W. Bluebirds in the Victoria area Sept. 13-Nov. 27 *fide* VG) were the only ones reported n. of c. Oregon. A single Mountain Bluebird in Seattle Oct. 18 provided a most unusual local record (†E. Norwood). A nocturnal passage of Swainson's Thrushes was noted over Portland, Oreg. in the first one-half of September with 660 individuals estimated passing in 1/2 hour at midnight Sept. 11 (DI). Birds were also heard at night moving over Ocean Shores, Wash., Sept. 9 (ESH, J. Pierson) and Victoria, V.I., Sept. 17 (MS). Single N. Mockingbirds were found near Medford (MM), Salem (C. Pucky, *fide* HNL and Portland, *fide* HN), all in Oregon. A Sage Thrasher turned up on the Oregon coast at Tillamook Bay Sept. 1 (R. Ekstrom, M. Robbins). A harbinger of the heavy winter to come was the appearance of Bohemian Waxwings in the lowlands. Ten were seen Nov. 13 at Blaine. n. Washington (L. Miller), and reports of up to five were received from the Vancouver, B.C., area after Nov. 24 (MF *et al.*). Northern Shrikes arrived a week to 10 days early as well, with initial sightings at Iona I., Sept. 27 (BAM) and on Shaw I. in the Washington San Juans Sept. 29 (TB). Vic Goodwill noted they also were twice as numerous as usual in November on s. V.I. Last sighting of Solitary Vireo was at Dash Pt., near Tacoma, Wash., Oct. 15 (TB); of Warbling Vireos, singles at Saanich, V.I., Oct. 1 (R. MacKenzie-Grieve, *fide* VG) and n. of Ash- land, Oreg., Oct. 2 (BS, *fide* MML and of Red-eyed, one at Ashford near Mt. Rainier Sept. 6 (ESH *et al.*). A Tennessee Warbler was reported Aug. 27 at Sedro Wooley, *Skagit*, Wash. (†K. Knittie), providing the 8th state record, and another was found Sept. 7 in Vancouver, B.C. (†MP). Nine Nashville Warblers were noted Aug. 26-Sept. 23 throughout the Region, with a late straggler Oct. 13 at N. Saanich. V.I. (BH, *fide* VG). Yellow Warblers were last noted at Seattle Sept. 25 (SA), near Victoria Sept. 28 (VG), at Vancouver, B.C., Oct. 1 (BK), and at Ashland, Oreg. Oct. 5 (BS, *fide* MM). **Magnolia Warblers** were spotted Sept. 6 at Cape Blanco, *Curry*, Oreg., (D. & J. Rogers, *fide* DF), for a 3rd county

record. and Sept. 7-8, at Olympia, Wash. (ph. G. & W. Hoge *et al.*) a 4th state record, the first to be documented photographically. A Black-throated Gray Warbler in Seattle Nov. 11 (DBe) was the last one reported and quite late al that latitude. Ten Hermit Warblers Sept. 6 in a large mixed flock at Ashford, just w. of Mt. Rainier (ESH *et al.*) was the only report received and was at the n. limit of that species Cascade breeding range. Five Palm Warblers were recorded Sept. 27-Nov. 24, an average number. One seen at Auburn, s. of Seattle, Nov. 7 (†JA) furnished the only non- coastal report. Black-and-white Warblers were reported from Portland. Oreg., Aug. 29, (J. Beckman, *fide* HN), and Poulsbo, *Kitsap*, Wash., Sept. 17, (J. Carson). This vagrant has now been reported in the Region in 5 of the past 6 years. Two stray N. Waterthrushes were found in s. British Columbia, one Sept. 3 at Vancouver (†JI, BAM) and another at Richmond Sept. 10 (GT). They nest not far up the Fraser R., but



Green-tailed Towhee at Comox, Vancouver I., B.C., Nov. 17., 1984. First for British Columbia. Photo/Tim Zurowski.

typically migrate E in the fall. A MacGillivray's Warbler at Salem, Oreg., Oct. 22 (BL, *fide* DF) was the latest noted by a full month. Single Wilson's Warblers in Seattle Nov. 12 & 18 (DBe) and in Victoria Nov. 30 (M & VG) were also very late. The **Green-tailed Towhee** Nov. 10-30 at Comox, V.I., was British Columbia's first (E. Bowen, ph. TZ, m.ob.). Six Am. Tree Sparrows Oct. 14+ in the Vancouver, B.C., area (*fide* DK) and one to two at Seattle Oct. 15-Nov. 5 (W. Crill, ER) were more than usual. A Clay-colored Sparrow Aug. 16 at Delta, B.C., provided the sole report of this rare

visitor (†BK, J. Grass). Chipping Sparrows were numerous Aug. 24-Sept. 17 only in extreme s. Oregon (OSw, MM) and were scarce as usual northwards. Lark Sparrows likewise were seen in numbers up to 20, Aug. 10-Sept. 30 near Ashland, but only three vagrant individuals were seen to the n.: Sept. 2 at S.J.C.R. (P. Dickenson, *fide* HN), Sept. 10 in Portland (TBi, *fide* HNL and Oct. 16 at the Toketee Ranger Station e. of Roseburg (DF). Twenty-one White-throated Sparrows Sept. 22+ was nearly the same total as last year. Reports were concentrated as usual in s. Oregon and s. V.I. Four Harris' Sparrows was one-half last year's total. The first arrived Nov. 10 in N. Saanich, B.C. (TZ, KT, *fide* VG), the others Nov. 21-23 in Surrey, s. of Vancouver, B.C. OWL and at Portland and Corvallis, Oreg., (D. Mason, *fide* HN; U. & V. Kiigemagi, *fide* EE). Snow Buntings were widespread Oct. 26+ with 30± in the Vancouver, B.C. area (*fide* DK), 10 about Victoria (*fide* VG), and up to 17 at March Pt., near Anacortes, Wash. (m. ob.). One at Seattle Oct. 29-31 was a local rarity (†DH *et al.*). Vagrant Bobolinks were noted on the Oregon coast at Coos Bay Sept. 14 (F. & A. Parker, *fide* AM) and at Yaquina Bay Sept. 23-Oct. 6 (B. & S. Towner *et al.*, *fide* DF), with two or three initially. Eight Rusty Blackbirds Aug. 30 about Pemberton, B.C., 75 mi n. of Vancouver, were near the s.w. limits of the breeding range for the species (MP *et al.*). Singles on Fidalgo I., near Anacortes, Wash., Oct. 3 (†FS), at Sea I., s. of Vancouver, B.C., Oct. 28 (BK), and at 3 locations on the Saanich peninsula, VA., Oct. 26+ (m.ob. *fide* VG) were vagrants. An ad. male "Baltimore" N. Oriole Nov. 24-26 at Victoria provided one of few Regional records for this near species (B. & B. MacDonald, KT, *fide* VG). A male **Brambling** Oct. 29-Nov. 4 at Longdale, s. of Sechelt, V.I. (ph. L. Patterson, T. Greenfield) furnished a faint echo of last winter's Siberian invasion. Two Rosy Finches in Vancouver, B.C., Nov. 2 provided an unusual lowland record (GT). Pine Grosbeaks are likewise rare at low elevations w. of the Cascades. One was in Seattle Oct. 16 (E. Smirnov), five were s. of Sequim Oct. 20 (SA), and other singles were near Vancouver, B.C., at Reifel Refuge Oct. 31 (JI, BAM) and in Surrey Nov. 5 (J. Williams). Three Cassin's Finches in Surrey and W. Vancouver, B.C., Oct. 14-20 (†BK, †A. Vikens, †S. Hosie *et al.*) and at Ashland, Oreg., Nov. 26 (MM) were also suggestive of a hard winter in the offing. Red Crossbills were widely noted as unusually common in the lowlands all fall, and one of the rare White-winged Crossbills was sighted at Vancouver, B.C., Sept. 19 (BK).

INITIALED CONTRIBUTORS, with **Subregional Editors in bold-face** -- J. Alegria, D. Anderson, S. Atkinson, D. Bailey, D. Beaudette

Volume 39, Number 1 95

(DBe), T. Bickler (TBi), T. Bock, T. Crabtree, E. Eltzroth, **D. Fix**, M. Force, J. Gatchet, M. & **V. Goodwill**, S. Heintz, B. Holt, J. Hudson, D. Hutchinson, J. Ireland, D. Irons, B. Kautesk, **D. Kragh**, M. Lewis, B. Lucas, A. McGie, B. MacKenzie (BAM), B. Meilleur (BMe), **M. Moore**, B. Morse, **H. Nehls**, B. Paine, **D. Paulson**, R. Phillips, M. Price, **E. Ratoosh**, A. Richards, J. & R. Satterfield, O. Schmidt, T. Schooley, F. Sharpe, M. Shepard, B. Stewart, O. Swisher (OSw), K. Taylor, V. Teale, G. Thomson, **T. Wahl**, W. Weber, B. Whittington, T. Zurowski.

The Winter Season, 1984-85

NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN - INTERMOUNTAIN REGION

/Thomas H. Rogers

Although most of the Region received precipitation varying from below normal to very little, most of it fell as snow, which, because of temperatures much below normal, persisted throughout the period. Lakes, ponds and even some rivers were frozen over. This, along with deep snows, caused a dearth of birds in more northerly areas. All in all, it was a severe winter over the Region. Although there were some reports of hardship, mainly among raptors, birds appeared to adapt fairly well. Feeders undoubtedly helped. Mountain snowpack was apparently high, promising ample water for summer. At Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, Burns, Oregon, the outlook for spring was for lower water

levels, thus avoiding the disruptions to bird life that occurred last year.

GREBES THROUGH HERONS -- A Horned Grebe appeared on the Snake R. near Grandview, Ida., Feb. 17 (JSM). Single Red-necked Grebes were sighted Feb. 16 at Libby Dam, Lincoln Co., Mont. (D & DH), and on the Snake R. in the Lewiston, Ida.-Clarkston, Wash. vicinity in December and January (MK, LL, CM, OM). The Snake R. also had an Eared Grebe near Clarkston Jan. 9+ (CM, OM). A W. Grebe was at Hagerman, Ida., Jan. 1 (JR). An Am. White Pelican near Klamath Falls, Ore., Feb. 17 was 2-3 weeks early (MH). Six Double-crested Cormorants wintered at Malheur N.W.R.; Twin Falls, Ida. had one Jan. 19 (JR); and two immatures were on the Clearwater R. at Lewiston Jan. 27 & 31 (C.B., PS). The Yakima R. mouth at Richland, Wash., hosted 16 cormorants Feb. 23, as well as a beige-colored "albino" Black-crowned Night-Heron (along with normally-colored birds) Dec. 1 (REW).

WATERFOWL -- Tundra Swan numbers had built up to 4000 in s. Klamath County, Ore., by Feb. 17. A lone bird at Libby Dam, Libby, Mont., was worthy of note (m. ob.). A count in the S. Thompson R. drainage near Kamloops, B.C., Jan. 13 found 685 Tundra Swans; the same area had 16 Trumpeter Swans Dec. 13 (RH). Red Rock Lakes N.W.R., Lima, Mont., counted 241 adult and 26 imm. Trumpeters Feb. 26 (TM). The Pacific Flyway Winter Waterfowl Survey in the Malheur area recorded 51 Trumpeters; at least two of them were shot near Frenchglen in January. Five of the seven Trumpeters that were at Turn- bull N.W.R., Cheney, Wash., last summer had returned (JHH). The Klamath Falls vicinity had a green-collared Trumpeter Dec. 16 (SS). An imm. Snow Goose was on the Snake R. at Lewiston Feb. 9-10 (RN, C.B.), one was with Canadas near Pocatello Feb. 1 (JSh). and one wintered in the Malheur Basin (CDL). Columbia N.W.R., Othello, Wash., had up to 6000 wintering Canada Geese, increasing to 40,000 by Feb. 20 (JRR). The winter survey around Malheur counted 5777 Western and 40 Lesser Canadas. Unusually high numbers of the birds appeared in the Helena, Mont., vicinity (GH), but ice-bound waters apparently kept numbers low elsewhere in that area. Lack of open water forced all waterfowl out of Kootenai N.W.R., Bonners Ferry, Ida., and

nearly all out of Turnbull N.W.R. Wintering numbers at Metcalf N.W.R., Stevensville, Mont., were also below normal and few were found on the Malheur winter survey. The trout farm near Pocatello, Ida. came up with an Am. Black Duck for Trost's 2nd sighting there. The Helena area had high Mallard numbers despite the freezeup, the birds apparently using the Missouri R. and its tributaries. Columbia N.W.R., Othello, Wash., had up to 15,000 Mallards in January, increasing to 40,000 in February. Single Eur. Wigeons appeared at Boise, Ida., Lower Klamath N.W.R., Kamloops, and Richland. A pair showed up in Pioneer P. in Walla Walla, Wash., in mid-December. The Columbia R. from Wenatchee to Orondo, Wash., had 150 Greater Scaup Dec. 27 and Pateros, Wash., had 22 Feb. 16 (EH). Pend Oreille L., near Hope, Ida. had 35 of the species plus an Oldsquaw Feb. 19 (BW). One of the latter was found on the Powder R., e. of Baker, Ore., Feb. 17 (C & MC). Libby Dam had two White-winged Scoters Dec. 4 (D & DH), one was on the Snake R. at Almota, Wash., Dec. 8 (JP), and a male was sighted at Vantage, Wash., Feb. 18 (EH). Two female Buffleheads were observed in Waterton Lakes N.P., Alta., Dec. 9 (TD, CP). A pair of Red-breasted Mergansers was on the Snake R. near Asotin, Wash., Feb. 4 (B & US), and two males frequented the Link R. at Klamath Falls Feb. 3 (SS). One appeared on the Columbia R. near Orondo Dec. 27 (EH). Three females at Sunnyside Jan. 1-20 were Sieracki's first for the Sandpoint, Ida. area.

VULTURES THROUGH GALLINACEOUS BIRDS -- Two Turkey Vultures were reported in the lower Yakima Valley, Wash., Feb. 10 (Y.A.S.) Two Ospreys frequented the vicinity of Minidoka N.W.R., Rupert, Ida. (JH). Up to 300 Bald Eagles used the Bear Valley N.W.R. roost s.w. of Klamath Falls in February. Fish killed by turbines at Libby Dam kept at least 56 Bald Eagles there, and 40 at Market Lake W.M.A., Roberts, Ida. possibly were attracted by a fish kill. Their numbers appeared up in the Snake R.-Asotin-Grande Ronde R. area of Asotin Co., Wash. Single Ferruginous Hawks were reported between Irrigon

Volume 39, Number 2 189

and Boardman, Ore., Jan. 6 (BC, C & MC) and at Enterprise, Ore., Feb. 16 (TC, HN), and the Klamath Basin had 4 sightings in December and January (SS). Rough-legged Hawk and Golden Eagle numbers were low in the Idaho Nat'l Engineering Laboratory area, Arco, Ida. because of the jackrabbit population crash (TR). Rough-legged Hawks outnumbered Red-tailed Hawks in the Walla Walla area. The good numbers of both species there were surprising in view of the persistent snow cover. Rough-legged Hawk and N. Harrier numbers were very high at Columbia N.W.R. Numbers of the former species were also high in the Mountain Home and Weiser, Ida., vicinities and in the Klamath Basin. Rough-leggeds wintered in good numbers in the Malheur area but other raptors were relatively scarce there because of food shortages. Raptors brought to the Montana Wildlife Dept. at Helena for nursing were supposedly weakened by lack of food caused by snowy conditions. The cause for abnormal numbers of Red-tailed Hawks and Great Horned Owls found dying at Turnbull N.W.R. is being investigated. Two Peregrine Falcon and 8 Gyrfalcon sightings were reported; one Gyrfalcon was a white-phase bird. The deep snow in more northerly areas forced most of the raptors out. The Wild Turkey flock at Prairie, Ida., numbered 17 in December (KBP), and four birds were sighted s. of Imnaha, Ore. (RA).

SHOREBIRDS THROUGH OWLS -- Waterton Lakes N.P., Alta., had a lone Killdeer Dec. 9 (TD, CP). A Greater Yellowlegs frequented a pond near Asotin Dec. 2 (RM), and one found Dec. 17 at a hot spring w. of Malheur likely wintered (JLe, MS). A late Lesser Yellowlegs was along the Malheur R. near Riverside, Ore., Dec. 7 (DP). Up to 10 Dunlins were sighted at the Yakima delta on 2 December dates, and one was there Feb. 23 (REW). A Ring-billed Gull was back at Libby Dam Feb. 27. A few hundred Ring-billed and California, over 100 Herring, and one to two Glaucous-winged gulls wintered around Klamath Falls. An imm. Glaucous Gull was identified Jan. 20 on Pend Oreille L. (BW). Very few Com. Barn-Owls were reported. However, one **Common Barn-Owl** in a barn near Hamilton Jan. 28 was apparently the first ever for w. Montana (CPo, *et al.*). Malheur had 3 sightings of single birds. One at Walla Walla was later eaten by a Great Horned Owl. In the Lewiston-Asotin area all Com. Barn-Owl records were of dead ones, mostly piles of

feathers and supposedly victims of Great Horned Owls. A bird reported as a Flammulated Owl, mobbed by chickadees and nuthatches, appeared near Newport, Wash., Dec. 5 and Jan. 4 (EJL). A very rare sighting was of a Great Horned Owl of the Arctic race along Hwy 12 w. of Walla Walla (SM *et al.*). A few Snowy Owls appeared in c Washington and in the Boardman-Irrigon, Ore., areas. The only N. Hawk-Owl reported was one in the Yakima, Wash. area (Y.A.S.). Mountain Home had a Burrowing Owl Jan. 31 (PS). Clarkston's cemetery had a Barred Owl Feb. 10 (C.B.). Single Great Gray Owls were sighted near Vernon and Oliver, B.C. (DR, JM), and near Tetonia and Shoshone, Ida. (CHT, TR, JR). A Short-eared Owl at Windermere, B.C., Dec. 16 made a rare sighting (LH), and a pair near Hampton, Ore., was unexpected (TC, CMi). Several emaciated Boreal Owls, either dead or dying, were found in s. interior British Columbia (GD, JW, RH).

HUMMINGBIRDS THROUGH RAVENS -- An Anna's Hummingbird was seen at Bend, Ore., during January and February (JS, KC) and one was reported at Spokane, Wash. Belted Kingfishers apparently became casualties of the cold winter in s. interior British Columbia for none was seen after December. A White-headed Woodpecker appeared in Walla Walla Dec. 15 (BH) and two were sighted at Idaho City, Ida. Feb. 16 (PG, ES). A N. Flicker of the Yellow-shafted race was sighted at Bigfork, Mont. (TCI). Say's Phoebe were returning in February. One near Union, Ore., Feb. 16 was very early and one the next day at Bend was 10 days ahead of schedule. One had reached Osoyoos, B.C., by Feb. 24. Violet-green Swallows arrived at Okanagan Landing, B.C., Feb. 25, an unusually early date there. Single Blue Jays appeared near Invermere, B.C. (LH); s. of Pocatello (CHT); at Mountain Home (KBP); w. of Missoula, Mont. (PM); at Kamiak Butte S.P., Whitman Co., Wash. (JP, C & DG); at Dixie, Wash. (GY, EM); and at Crescent, Ore., for Klamath County's first record (SS). A few Am. Crows wintered in the Libby vicinity and least 300 Com. Ravens frequented the landfill there all winter. Roost site counts of these birds in the Malheur Basin showed at least 1363 in early February.

CHICKADEES THROUGH WARBLERS -- Three or four Boreal Chickadees accompanied Chestnut-backed

and Mountain chickadees w of Creston, B.C., Feb. 28 (PRS). Two to three Chestnut-backed visited feeders regularly in Waterton townsite, Alta. (KG, SL, MDO, m.ob), and a few showed up for the first time in the Clarkston-Asotin valley, Wash. Juniper slopes near Frenchglen, Ore., yielded a count of 195 Bushtits (CDL). A Canyon Wren at Libby Dam made the latilong's first (WH). The species was noted near Vernon and Okanagan Landing, B.C.; it is unusual at any time in the n. Okanagan (PR). Two Bewick's Wrens were again found at Headgate P., s. of Asotin, Wash. (RN), and Malheur had one (MA). A male W. Bluebird fluttered at a picture window in Oakley Feb. 22 for a rare appearance of the species in s. Idaho (MSP). Two males of the species were sighted on the Snake R. Birds of Prey Natural Area near Murphy, Ida., Feb. 24, for the first record there (JD, JSM). A pair of Mountain Bluebirds was sighted Jan., 12 near Rogersburg, Wash. (PS, OM, MK), and a few wintered at Malheur (CDL). American Robins wintered abundantly in the Walla Walla valley and were common at Spokane. Five wintered at Libby. Large numbers showed up at Mountain Home at the end of January. The Richland-Pasco area had 2 sightings of N. Mockingbirds in December (REW *et al.*) and one was found at Wawawai, Wash., Dec 8 and Jan. 5 (JP). A **Brown Thrasher** at Sunriver, Ore., from early December on was the county's first and made e. Oregon's first winter record (BM, DD, TC, CMi). Bohemian Waxwings put in good appearances in e. Washington, s. Idaho, and at Helena. At Twin Falls, Ida, Cedar Waxwing numbers equaled those of Bohemians. A few Logger-head Shrikes wintered in the Malheur Basin but N. Shrikes outnumbered them. European Starlings wintered in the Windermere, B.C. District for the 2nd year. A Townsend's Warbler near Bend, December to mid-February, made the county's first winter record and one of very few for e. Oregon (TC).

SPARROWS THROUGH BLACKBIRDS -- An Am Tree Sparrow, a Song Sparrow and a Harris' Sparrow visited a feeder at Canal Flat, B.C., Jan. 13 (LH). An Am. Tree Sparrow near Klamath Falls Dec 16 was noteworthy (SS). Single White-throated Sparrows wintered near Missoula, Mont. (PLW), and at Waterton townsite, Alta. (SL, MDO, m.ob.). Richland had a Golden-crowned Sparrow Dec. 23 (REW). One was at Wawawai Jan. 5 (JP) and at least two appeared at

Potlatch, Ida. Feb. 22 (EP, OM). White-crowned Sparrows wintered in numbers at Pateros, Wash.; 97 were banded there (GB). One of this species frequented a Waterton feeder Dec. 20-28 (SL). A very few Harris' Sparrows appeared at Kamloops and Vernon; in the Walla Walla area, at Hermiston, Ore.; at Pocatello; and near Livingston and Missoula, Mont. A Windermere feeder hosted a Dark-eyed Junco Dec. 16 (LH). The only Lapland Longspurs reported were one using a Bend feeder Dec. 2 to mid-January (L & BS, TC) and a few around Klamath Falls (SS) Kamloops reported a flock of 600 Snow Buntings, and Douglas Co , Wash., and Red Rock Lakes noted them as common. Sixty at Malheur was a high number there but few were reported elsewhere. Two Red-winged Blackbirds wintered at a Libby feeder (K.B.C.) and presence of the species at Camas N.W.R., Hamer, Ida. Jan. 12 was unusual (S.R.A.S.). Two Yellow-headed Blackbirds accompanied Red-winged Blackbirds for 2 weeks in late January at Helena (GH). A Rusty Blackbird appeared at a feedlot near Vernon Feb. 9 (PR) and up to four Brown-headed Cowbirds were there through February for the first winter record for the area (JG). A Com. Grackle was sighted near American Falls Dam, s. Ida. about Feb. 28 (DB).

FINCHES -- Rosy Finches appeared plentiful in the Kamloops vicinity, in Okanogan, Douglas, and Grant counties, Wash., and in the vicinity of Clarkston, but were scarce or absent elsewhere. One at Trail, B.C., was noteworthy (ME). A widespread incursion of Pine Grosbeaks occurred from s. British Columbia as far s. as Malheur and e. through n Idaho and into Montana as far e. as Livingston. Purple Finches were identified in the Walla Walla area (SM, RMo, CH, CS) and two females appeared near Orondo, Wash. (EH). Flocks of Red Crossbills were reported at Pocatello and Walla Walla but elsewhere they were seemingly scarce or absent. White-winged Crossbills staged something of an invasion in the Pocatello area (CHT), Mountain Home reported a male (KBP), and Rexburg, Ida. had a pair (DH). A very few were noted in s British Columbia.

190 *American Birds*, Summer 1985

Common Redpolls arrived in force but apparently missed extreme n Idaho and n.w. Montana. A flock of 250 was found near Union, Ore., and 2 smaller flocks were near Baker, Ore. Mann Cr., n. of Weiser, Ida. had a flock of 200, and smaller numbers were sighted in the Pocatello, Rexburg, and Idaho Falls areas. Idaho National Engineering Laboratory had about 50 for the 2nd record there (TRe). The species was common in the s. Okanagan. A flock of 400 plus a bonus of three Hoary Redpolls visited Pearrygin L., Winthrop, Wash. (EH). Another Hoary frequented a Spokane feeder with House Finches for several weeks and was photographed at close range (F & JP, BW, m.ob.). Several reports of Hoary Redpolls came from the Kamloops-Vernon areas (RH, H & .IM, JG). Fifty Pine Siskins used a Twin Falls feeder and the birds were abundant at feeders at Malheur. Very few were reported elsewhere. American Goldfinches wintered at feeders at Missoula and Livingston. They were also reported from Walla Walla and from Douglas and Okanogan counties, Wash. Large numbers of Evening Grosbeaks at Walla Walla ran up the bill there for sunflower seeds. Helena had high numbers and they were common at Malheur, but their appearance elsewhere was spotty and generally unimpressive.

CORRIGENDUM -- Both Black and Com. Terns were present at American Falls Res., May 3, 1984 (AB 38:938).

ADDENDA -- An ad. Cooper's Hawk s.e. of Reedpoint, Mont., June 28, 1984 provided the latilong's first summer record (WEH, SC, AS) Two Virginia Rails were sighted near Belgrade, Mont., in June, 1984 (WEH, JL, SC, M.A.S.). A meticulously described and re- searched **Temminck's Stint** was sighted near Potholes Res., s. of Moses L, Wash., Sept. 1-2, 1981, for North America's 2nd record outside of Alaska (EH, m.ob.). Apologies, Gene, for neglecting this for so long Several Com. Poorwills were calling at Reedpoint June 28, 1984 for the latilong's first (WEH, SC, AS). A male and two female Williamson's Sapsuckers were found at Henrys L., Fremont Co., Ida. June 14, 1984 (WEH). Four Chestnut-backed Chickadees that stayed at Coeur d' Alene, Ida., all summer and fall, 1984, presumably nested there (GHa). Six Bohemian Waxwings found in Kananaskis P.P., Fernie, B.C. strongly suggested

breeding there (DFF, R & DL). Two Solitary Vireos were on the Reedpoint Breeding Bird Survey June 20, 1984 for a latilong first (WEH, SSc, AS, SC). A singing male Blackburnian Warbler, first for the latilong and 7th for Montana, was discovered at Kirk Hill Nature Area s. of Bozeman June 28, 1984 (WEH, SC, AS). Three singing Baird's Sparrows n. of Big Timber, Mont., June 20, 1984 made latilong firsts (WEH, SSc).

OBSERVERS CITED (**area editors in boldface**) -- Merle Archie, Richard Arnold, Dave Burrup, Canyon Birders (C.B.), George Brady, Tommy Clark (TCl) Becky Corder, Craig & Marion Corder, Sharon Cotterell, Kathi Crabtree, **Tom Crabtree**, Dave Danley, Gary Davidson, Teresa Dolman, John Doremus, Maurice Ellison, David F. Fraser, Carole & Dale Goble, Ken Goble, **James Grant**, Paul Gurn, Jack H Hagan, Larry Halverson, Gertie Hanson (GHa), W. Edward Harper, William Harryman, Bill Hayes, **Dick & Della Hermsmeyer**, John Hill, **George Holton**, Mike Houck, Chris Howard, Rick Howie, Eugene Hunn, Don Hunter, **Merlene Koler**, Kootenai Bird Club (K.B.C), Jim Lane, Earl J. Larrison, Louise LaVoie, Jim Lemos (JLe), Carroll D Littlefield, Robert & Dierdre Love, Simon Lunn, Pat Mandzak, Jeffrey S. Marks, John Mathews, Massachusetts Audubon Society (M.A.S), Hue & Jo Anne MacKenzie, Bill McDonald, Terry McEneaney, Carole McIntyre, Opal McIntyre, Ed McMackin, Craig Miller (CMi), Rudy Miniutti, Ruth Moorhead (RMO), **Shirley Muse**, Harry Nehls, Ron Neu, **Michael D. O'Shea**, Jeff Palmer, Dave Paullin, Chris Pielou, Frank & June Potter, **Colleen Powell** (CPo), Kerry B. Provance, Elea- nor Pruett, Phil Ranson, James R. Rees, Tim Reynolds (TRe), Terry Rich, David Richards, Jeff Ruprecht, Jack Schwartz, Susan Scott (SSc), Lloyd & Barbara Sharp, Bill & Una Shepherd, Connie Sherer, John Shipley (JSh), Paul R. Sieracki, Snake River Audubon Society (S.R.A.S.), Miriam Spencer (MSP), Martin St. Louis (MS), Alison Street, Paul Sullivan, Steve Summers, Eileen Synnott, **Charles H. Trost**, Bart Whelton, **Robert E. Woodley**, John Woods, Philip L. Wright, Yakima Audubon Society (Y.A.S.), Gladys Yaw.

The Winter Season, 1984-85

NORTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION

/Philip W. Mattocks, Jr.

The entire season was both colder and much drier than usual. The Portland, Seattle, and Vancouver, B.C., weather stations averaged 2.7° below normal for the three months. December in Vancouver, B.C., was the coldest on record. January rainfall at the three stations was only 10% of the long-term averages. Cold and dry is so much more pleasant than cold and rainy that actually the winter seemed milder. Exceptions to this were the continuous below-freezing temperatures in Seattle through all daylight hours of December 17-20, December 30-January 1, and February 4, and in Portland through December 18-20.

ABBREVIATIONS -- C.B.C. = Christmas Bird Count; V.I. = Vancouver Island, British Columbia.

LOONS THROUGH HERONS -- The 13+ Yellow-billed Loons reported was about the same number as last year, and was distinctly more than the average of the preceding 7 winters. One was s. to Siletz Bay, Ore., Feb. 3-4 (JE, BB), and it or another was seen on nearby Yaquina Bay Feb. 17-23 (*fide* HN, EE). All others were in the Puget Sound-Victoria-Vancouver, B.C., area, and were spread through the season. A count of 415 Pied-billed Grebes on Devil's L., Lincoln City, Ore., in late December was a very large concentration (PP). A light-phase W. Grebe at Pony Slough, Ore., Dec. 12 (P. Sullivan) furnished the first Coos County record of this form, and the only report this winter. A N. Fulmar in Port Angeles, Wash., harbor Jan. 8 (SS), 10 dark shearwaters, either Sooty or Short-tailed, Dec. 28 from the ferry between Port Angeles and Victoria (JS, CH), and a dark shearwater off the Ocean Shores, Wash., jetty Jan. 4 (G & WH) provided the usual few *procellariiform* reports. Single Fork-tailed Storm-Petrels seen Dec. 28 near Florence, Ore. (†SH, M. Hunter), and Feb. 28 at Newport, Ore. (*fide* BB) were most unusual, and presaged a much more extensive onshore

movement in early March. Cattle Egret numbers dropped steadily through early December. The below-freezing temperatures of Dec. 17-19 marked the latest observations on southern V.I. and in Bellingham, Wash. (*fide* VG, TW). Surprisingly, there were no reports from mainland British Columbia (*fide* DK). A Green-backed Heron was found n. to Pitt L., B.C., Dec. 23 (DP, B. & L. Feltner). Two Black-crowned Night-Herons wintered again at Reifel Ref., near Vancouver, B.C. (DK, BK *et al.*). Likewise, two wintered on the Skagit flats, Wash. (WWi, E. Smirnov). Larger wintering groups were noted farther s. at Portland, Salem, Newport, Roseburg, and Medford, Ore.

WATERFOWL -- An aerial survey Jan. 10 of Ridgefield N.W.R., Wash., found 1300 Tundra Swans (TW). Other high counts during January were 907 at Halsey, Linn Co., Ore., and 397 at the Eugene, Ore., airport (both D. MacManiman, B. Ross, *fide* EE), and 565 on the Skagit flats (WWi *et al.*). A "**Bewick's**" Tundra Swan was found Dec. 9-21 near Bellingham (J. Duemmel, GG, TW--sketch of bill pattern), for one of very few records for Washington. Groups of several dozen Trumpeter Swans were widely scattered from s.w. British Columbia and V.I., as usual, through to n. Oregon, where they have only recently been found. Twenty Greater White-fronted Geese near Corvallis Dec. 16 (*fide* BB) was the largest flock reported. Groups of one to five were spread through all reporting areas. One of our wandering escapee Barnacle Geese spent January on Chambers L. in Olympia, Wash. (*fide* T. Bock), and another visited several sites in the Willamette Valley of Oregon (R. Gerig, EE *et al.*). "Eurasian" Green-winged Teal were found on Lulu I. and the Serpentine Fen, B.C., Saanich and N. Saanich, V.I., and Seattle and Vancouver L., Wash. Hybrids with both a vertical and a horizontal white stripe were noted in Saanich, V.I. (DFr) and in Eugene, Ore. (†SH). In addition to the resident population of Am. Black Ducks at Everett, Wash., scattered individuals were found in Victoria and Saanich, V.I., Burnaby and Delta, B.C., and as far away as Eugene, Ore., Dec. 25 (DFi, TL). A hybrid male Am. Black Duck x Mallard was observed Dec. 23 on Westham I., B.C. (†WWe, BK). The 420 Gadwalls on Devil's L., Lincoln City, was a large concentration for coastal Oregon (PP). Eurasian Wigeon were noted in almost every wigeon flock

examined, and at least four hybrid Am. x Eur. Wigeon were reported. Other waterfowl hybrids reported included a male N. Pintail x Mallard Dec. 23, at Reifel Ref., B.C., (†BK. WWe), and a probable Hooded Merganser x Com. Goldeneye male Dec. 30 and Jan. 1 at Blackie Spit, s. of Vancouver, B.C. (†BK, RP). The imm. male **Tufted Duck** seen Nov. 17-Dec. 2 in C. Saanich was the first for V.I. since 1973 (AM, TZ, M. Shepard). The female found at Stanley P., Vancouver, B.C., in November was joined by at least one more female Jan. 20 (†BK) and one was seen there to the end of the period. In mid-December a male Tufted Duck appeared on Leadbetter Pt., Wash., where one was found last year (R. Widrig). The male **King Eider** found in Vancouver, B.C., last fall spent the winter in the area, mostly on Deep Cove, N. Vancouver (†MP *et al.*).



Subadult male King Eider at Deep Cove, Vancouver, B.C., Feb. 20, 1985. Photo/Paul Yorke.

VULTURES THROUGH CRANES -- Two Turkey Vultures spent the winter again at Corvallis, Ore. (*fide* EE). First arrivals were noted Feb. 22 on Lopez I., Wash. (W. Beecher), and Feb. 28 on southern V.I. (G. Davidson). The count of 31+ Black-shouldered Kites in w. Oregon this winter was roughly the same as the last few years. Current expansion of the species is apparently taking place in Washington, with 11 birds reported this season from 7 localities. However, only the pair found last fall around a large meadow on the shores of Gray's Harbor, w. of Hoquiam, was reported regularly through the season. Single Red-shouldered Hawks were noted Jan. 1 along the New R., Curry Co. (JR), and Feb. 18 at Bandon (E.G. White-swift), at the n. edge of the range of this species in s. Oregon. One

"Harlan's" Red-tailed Hawk Dec. 13 on the Lummi flats, w. of Bellingham, Wash., was the only report (K).

Volume 39, Number 2 201

Brunner). Rough-legged Hawks were considered to be generally more numerous than usual (TW, DP, HN). There are at present no regularly censused transects other than the C.B.C.s. to provide more quantitative assessment of raptor populations. There were a welcome 3 times as many Peregrine Falcon sightings on southern V.I. this season as in recent years (VG). Other reporting areas for which there are consistent histories of sightings indicated about normal numbers. There were 10+ Gyrfalcon sightings, slightly more than in the past 2 years, with six of these found regularly through the season at favored locations in n.w. Washington and southern V.I. (TW, VG). About one-half dozen Prairie Falcons were noted in w. Oregon, with none found n. of the Columbia R. This is the normal winter distribution of large falcons in our area. The count of 156 California Quail on the Victoria C.B.C. indicated that the population is holding on there following a sharp decline several years ago. The 14 Virginia Rails in Victoria Dec. 15 (C.B.C.) and in Vancouver, B.C., Dec. 16 (C.B.C.) were both high counts, but these censuses preceded the severe weather of late December. At the Montlake fill on the U.W. campus in Seattle the one-half dozen Virginia Rails survived the freeze well, and were singing by late February (ER). Single Soras were seen Dec. 16 on Sea I., near Vancouver, B.C. (†H. & J. MacKenzie), and heard Dec. 30 at the Montlake fill in Seattle (K. Aanerud). Two Sandhill Cranes were unusual in Delta, B.C., Dec. 23 (†M. Schouten *et al.*) and about 90 wintered on Sauvie I., Ore. (HN), and adjacent Batchelor I. (TW). Heavy migration of Sandhill Cranes up the Willamette Valley was noted Feb. 28 (VT, R. Smith).

SHOREBIRDS THROUGH GULLS -- Three Snowy Plovers lingered at Ft. Stevens S.P., n.w. Oregon, to Dec. 19 (S. Jagers). A flock of 15 Willets, 75 Marbled Godwits and three Long-billed Curlews was present Jan. 17 at their regular wintering area on the mouth of the North R., w. of Raymond, Wash. (G & WH). Single

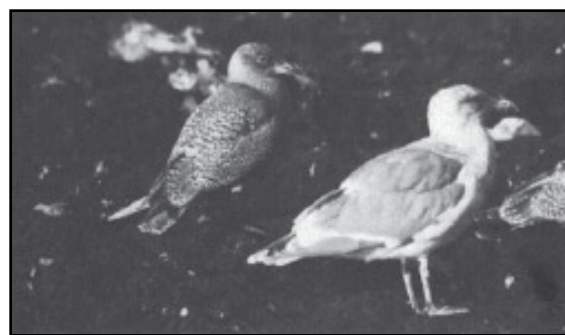
Willetts also wintered at Yaquina Bay, Ore. (*fide* HN). and on Ediz Hook. Port Angeles, Wash. (MC, D & SS). Two Wandering Tattlers (J. Olsen) and a Red Knot (DFi *et al.*) were late at Tillamook. Ore., Dec. 15 and furnished the only reports of those species. Five Spotted Sandpipers found on southern V.I. (VG *et al.*) and three in the Vancouver, B.C., area (WWe, MF *et al.*) were near the n. limit of the wintering range of this species. Single Ruddy Turnstones, rare here in winter, were at the Tsawwassen jetty, Delta, B.C., Dec. 23 (†BS), at Metchosin, V.I., Dec. 27, (WC, G. Davidson), and at the mouth of the Capilano R., N. Vancouver, B.C., Jan. 27 (BS). The only W. Sandpiper reported in B.C. was with the Dunlin on the Iona I. ponds throughout the season (BK, MP *et al.*). Small groups of up to 39 Long-billed Dowitchers were widely reported during December. Thereafter, only six Feb. 9 at Finley N.W.R., Ore., (D. Hall, B. Orr), and five Feb. 25, on Reifel I., Delta, B.C. (BK, J. Hudson) were noted. Reports of Black-bellied Plovers, Greater Yellow- legs, and Dunlin indicated that these species wintered in the Region in their normal numbers.. This was most likely a lingering fall migrant Parasitic Jaeger, particularly at this location far from the open ocean. A Franklin's Gull, Dec. 12 near Salem, Ore., (J. Corbett, T. DeSousa, *fide* BB), and another in first-winter plumage, Feb. 14-16 at Sauvie I., Ore. (B. O'Brien, C. Miller, *fide* HN) were unusual winter visitors. An ad. Little Gull noted Dec. 16 on American L., Tacoma, Wash. (†CC, N. Chappell), but gone the next day, furnished a late fall record of this rare but regular species. Bonaparte's Gulls apparently withdrew from Canadian waters after Dec. 28, with the first returnees noted Feb. 10-12 at River Jordan, on the w. coast of V.I. (B. Hay, M & VG). The 65-100 California Gulls found Jan. 5-Feb. 3 at Trout L., Vancouver, B.C. (BK), and the 73 found Jan. 6 at John Hendry P., Vancouver, B.C. (MF), were high counts for this uncommon wintering species. The 2000+ Thayer's Gulls Dec. 1, at the Hartland Ave. landfill, Highland Land District, southern V.I., was the high count IBr this species (KT. TZ. CH). One thousand Thayer's were in Victoria Dec. 15 (C.B.C.) and counts of 200 were made at Iona I. and the Richmond landfill, both near Vancouver, B.C., during the winter (MP, MF). Certainly owing to, in some degree, a more dedicated searching of this regular concentration of Thayer's Gulls, observers at Iona I. found several **"Kumlien's" Iceland Gulls**. Adults were observed them Nov.



First-winter Iceland Gull on southern Vancouver Island. B.C., Feb. 10. 1985. Photo/Tim Zurowski.



Adult (Kumlien's) Iceland Gull at Iona I., near Vancouver, B.C., Dec. 12, 1984. Photo/Mike Force.



First-winter Iceland Gull (with adult Glaucous-winged Gull) on southern Vancouver Island. B.C., Dec. 23, 1984. Photo/Bruce Whittington.

9-Dec. 24 (†MF ph., †BK *et al.*). From the pattern of gray on the wingtips and degree of streaking on head

and neck, as many as five different birds were believed to have been present (MF, ms, in prep.). A first-winter "Kumlien's" was found Dec. 23 (†KT, †BrW, ph.) and Feb. 10 (KT, R. Williams, TZ, ph.) at the Hartland Ave. landfill for the first record for V.I. Another first-winter bird was seen Jan. 4 on Trout L., Vancouver, B.C. (†BK, MF). About 29 Glaucous Gulls, a usual number, were reported from throughout the Region. Seven of these--an adult, three first-year, and three second-year--were seen Feb. 23 at the Richmond landfill, B.C. (MF, BK). Single, and probably separate ad. Sabine's Gulls were seen Feb. 11 & 12 in strong winds at River Jordan, Clover Pt., and Sooke Bay, V.I. (VG, KT).

ALCIDS THROUGH OWLS -- The 232 Marbled Murrelets around Victoria Dec. 15 (C.B.C.) provided the highest count there since 1965. The high count for the season of Ancient Murrelets was 130 seen Dec. 7

202 *American Birds*, Summer 1985

from a boat off Coos County, Ore (M. Graybill) This continued the trend noticed last fall of lower-than-usual numbers reported for this species. Eleven Ancients were still off Cattle Pt., San Juan I., Feb. 17 (BaW). Monk Parakeets were reported only from Portland, where 11 returned (from parts unknown) Jan. 28 and began nest-building near the airport (D. Anderson). In recent years the Christmas Bird Count at Ladner, B.C., has tallied the high count of Snowy Owls for the Region. This year's total there of 40 was the highest since a count of 107 on Dec. 22, 1973. Four of the 11 Snowies reported from Oregon were at the S. jetty of the Columbia R., Jan 2+ (*fide* HN), and singles were s. to Salem, Eugene, and Medford (*fide*, DFi). Numbers began thinning during February. Seven were on the Catala spit at Ocean Shores Jan. 28 (MC), and only three were there Feb 16 (BaW). The N. Hawk-Owl found Nov. 25 at Pitt Meadows, e. of Vancouver, B.C., stayed to at least Mar. 1 (*fide* DK). Eleven N. Pygmy-Owls were located on 4 Vancouver-area C.B.C.s, three were seen repeatedly in N. Vancouver through January and February (A. Thomas, P. Cortez, MF *et al.*), and there were 3 reports each from Washington and Oregon. This was somewhat more than usual, but

reflected the typical winter distribution in this Region. Five Burrowing Owls, a normal number, were found this season in the Willamette Valley of Oregon (*fide* EE). Also as usual, single Banded Owls were noted in Victoria, Saanich, and E. Sooke Regional P., V.I., in Sechelt and N. Vancouver, B.C., and in Seattle and Mercer I., Wash. The only Long-eared Owl report, a rare wintering species, was of one at Pitt Meadows, B.C., Jan. 20 (MF *et al.*). At least 10 **Great Gray Owls** invaded the Region. As there were only 4 previous records for the Vancouver, B.C., area (*fide* DK), only 2 previous unconfirmed reports for V.I. (*fide* VG), and no confirmed records for w. Washington since 1974, some detail is in order. The first of six in the Vancouver, B.C., area was located Nov. 11 n. of Squamish (K McGregor, D. Dunbar, ph.). Two road-kills were found at Chilliwack Dec. 7 and Jan. 14 (*fide* D. Wilson, *B.C. Prov. Mus.). One was found shot near Sedro Woolley, Wash., Dec. 9 (*Burke Mus., Univ. Wash.) and another road-killed was found at Pitt Meadows Jan. 13 (T Burgess). Individuals were sighted Jan. 1 in Jericho P., Vancouver, B.C. (G. Chalmers, MF *et al.*, ph. C. Siddle), Jan. 4-11 near Bellingham, Wash. (ph. P. DeBruyn), Jan. 19+ on the campus of Simon Fraser Univ., Burnaby (DK *et al.*, ph. E. Sian), Feb. 12+ in Saanich, V.I. (G. Calvert *et al.* ph. TZ), and Feb. 13-18 near Monroe, Wash (D. Nelson, †SA *et al.* ph. B. Reichert).

POORWILLS TO RAVENS -- A very late Com. Poorwill was found dead Nov. 21 along the New R., Ore., for only the 2nd Curry County record (JR, CO). Anna's Hummingbirds were widely reported from urban areas in their usual or somewhat increased numbers. A Costa's Hummingbird was observed Dec. 19-28 in Newport, Ore., for the 13th record for that state (†A & KC). A "Red-naped" Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was noted Dec. 26 in N. Saanich, V.I., where one wintered last year (B. Holt). The wintering status of this form in the Region is still unclear. Surprisingly, the freeze this December did not result in large numbers of sightings of Red-breasted Sapsuckers in the lowlands. The numerous reports on southern V.I. were spread evenly throughout the season. Not only are actual winter records of the resident Three-toed Woodpecker very few, due to the difficulty of access to appropriate habitat, but the species is very rare in the Olympic Mts. Thus the sighting of a female Three-toed Jan. 21 on Hurricane Ridge in the Olympics was welcome (MC).

Several Black Phoebe winters as usual near Medford, Ore., and, for the 4th consecutive winter, one spent the season farther n. at Roseburg (*vide* DFi). A Say's Phoebe found Jan. 13-Feb. 9 at Philomath, near Corvallis, Ore. (R. & J. Krabbe, VS) was n. of the usual wintering grounds, and could well have been a very early migrant. Counts of 65-90+ Eur. Skylarks were made in the fields of C. Saanich, V.I., during December (DS). The first Tree Swallows noted were not until Feb. 17 near Corvallis, Ore (VS), and Feb. 18 at Ridgefield N.W.R., Wash. (T. McAllister). Reports were widespread by Feb. 23-26. A single Violet-green Swallow had ventured n. to L. Steilacoom, near Tacoma, Wash., Jan. 15 (G. Ramsay). Otherwise, the first arrival date for both V.I. and the Vancouver, B.C., area was Feb. 23 (DS; MF *et al.*), and the species was widespread by Feb. 26-28. A single Barn Swallow Dec. 2-3 in Delta, B.C. (BK, RP), was an exception to the generally early departure of last fall. Could Scrub Jays really be extending their range N? There are available oak groves n. of the Columbia R. valley. Two Scrub Jays were in Tacoma Dec. 15 (C.B.C.) and another was seen in Sequim, Wash., along the Strait of Juan de Fuca, Dec. 17 and Jan. 13 (A. Campbell, SA), and was reported to have been present there since March 1984. The Blue Jay found on Sauvie I., Ore., last fall was seen there irregularly all winter (D. Poppe, m. ob.). The high count of 210 Com. Ravens on the Victoria C. B.C. was at least coincident with this season's influx of other large n. species.

CHICKADEES THROUGH WARBLERS -- Three Mountain Chickadees, all in the Vancouver, B.C., area, and scattered through the season, furnished the only reports. Thus this occasionally-irruptive species did not join the general movement in this area. Numbers of wintering Marsh Wrens were considered higher than usual around Tacoma (CC), and the Victoria C.B.C. had an all-time high count. A group of W. Bluebirds made a rare wintering attempt in Metchosin Land District, V.I., near a breeding location for this species. Twelve or more were present Dec. 1, five Dec. 24, and three Feb. 14, which is just before the normal arrival for migrants (A. Barber, M & VG). Varied Thrushes were reported to be much more numerous than usual around Coos Bay, Ore. (L. Thornburgh), and Olympia, Bellingham, and San Juan I., Wash. (G & WH, TW, DP), but were "mostly in small numbers" on southern V.I. (VG) and were unmentioned on elsewhere. Single

N Mockingbirds spent the winter in 2 areas of Portland (VT, J. Gilligan, R. Hatcher) and in Salem (C. Puchy), and were also reported from Albany, Eugene, and Medford. Another was near Stanwood, Wash., Jan. 20-Mar. 3 (m. ob.). The first-year wagtail found last winter at Crockett L., Whidbey I., Wash., has been identified from excellent photographs taken April 26, 1984 (MC), as a female **White Wagtail** (DP). The bird continued to molt in late April and the photographs and a May 5 description (T. Weir) indicate a completely black chin and throat. As well as can be determined from the literature and from surveys of specimens in several museums (DP), this feature rules out the Black-backed Wagtail. The area was searched this winter several times, but the bird apparently did not return. Sightings of groups of up to 65 Bohemian Waxwings, an irregular winter visitor, were noted in the Vancouver, B.C., area throughout the season (*vide* DK). Elsewhere, 45 Bohemians were on Anderson I., near Tacoma, Dec. 15, 10 were in Bellingham Dec. 31 (TW), and 10 were in N. Saanich Jan. 5-14 (KT *et al.* ph. TZ). Northern Shrikes were "unusually abundant" on southern V.I. (VG), with an all-time high count for the Victoria C. B.C., and it was "one of the better years" for the species in w. Oregon (HN). Shrikes were reported in usual numbers elsewhere, except that "very few were present this winter" near Bellingham, Wash. (TW). Single Orange-crowned Warblers were found n. to Saxe Pt. Park, Esquimalt, V.I., Dec. 15 (M & VG), and Lulu I., near Vancouver, B.C., Dec. 23 (†C. Butt). In Eugene, Ore., seven were found Dec. 30 (C.B.C.), and D. Fix believed that four others were missed. A very late Nashville Warbler was at Ocean Shores, Wash., Dec. 5 (JS, BH) and another was in Tillamook, Ore., Dec. 15 (DFi *et al.*). Single Palm Warblers were found at Ocean Shores, Tillamook, and Coos Bay, as usual, during December. Also single Palms appeared Jan. 5 at the mouth of the Elk R., Curry Co., Ore. (JR, CO), and Feb. 11-26 on Puget I., up the Columbia R. near Cathlamet, Wash. (†A. Richards *et al.*). A male Com. Yellowthroat seen Dec. 2 at Pitt Meadows (†WWe) furnished the 5th winter record for British Columbia, and one found Dec. 16 at the N jetty of the Columbia R. (DI, J. Hewkin) provided the 3rd winter record for Washington. Two Com. Yellowthroats were still at Fern Ridge Res. near Eugene, Dec. 13 (DFi, SH, TL), and a Wilson's Warbler was late at Corvallis Dec. 19 (A & KC).

TOWHEES THROUGH FINCHES -- The **Green-tailed Towhee** discovered Nov. 10 in Comox, V.I. for the first record for British Columbia, was still present at the end of the period (Mrs. E. Bowen, m. ob.). Three Vesper Sparrows at the Wedderburn sewage ponds, Curry Co., Ore., were well n. of their usual wintering range (JR, CO). The Lark Sparrow found at a feeder in Saanich, V.I., Nov. 21-Dec. 3

Volume 39, Number 2 203

provided the 7th record for southern V.I. (WC). At least two of the Savannah Sparrows found during December in C. Saanich were seen again in January (AM, BrW, R. Satterfield). A Swamp Sparrow resided at Ocean Shores, Wash., Dec. 15-Feb. 8 for the 10th record for Washington (T. Schooley, R. Thorne *et al.*, ph. JS). Another Swamp Sparrow, one of several reported in Oregon this winter, spent the season on Sauvie I. (HN *et al.*). Seven sightings of White-throated Sparrows n. of the Columbia R. were somewhat fewer than usual, and only one of these, at a N. Seattle feeder, was seen repeatedly through the season (H. Atkins, m. ob.). Each of the 14 White-crowned Sparrows netted Jan. 3 at Auburn, near Seattle, was of the race *gambelii*, the typical wintering form for Washington (†PM). However, an ad. *pugetensis*, the local breeding subspecies was seen side by side with ad. *gambelii* Jan. 5 farther s. near Vancouver L., Clark Co., Wash. (TPM). Only nine Harris' Sparrows were reported, spread throughout the Region. This was down from the totals of the last 2 winters. A male Yellow-headed Blackbird seen Dec. 31 in Portland (R. Fergus), a female Jan. 26 near Stanwood, Wash. (B. Anderson *et al.*), and a female Feb. 17 on Sauvie I., Ore. (D. Bailey) furnished the only reports of this uncommon winter visitor. An ad. male N. Oriole, a rare winter visitor, was seen Jan. 6 in Roseburg, Ore. (F. & A. Parker). A flock of about 15 "Hepburn's" Rosy Finches spent the season again at the summit of 4097' Mary's Peak s.w. of Corvallis, Ore. (J. & K. Fairchild, DFi). Elsewhere individuals appeared briefly at feeders in N. Vancouver, B.C., Olympia, Wash., and Cottage Grove, Ore. Small flocks of six Pine Grosbeaks s.w. of Olympia Dec. 9 & 18 (JS, J. Thomas) and in Bellevue, Wash., Jan. 9 (BM) were all that materialized of a hoped-for incursion. Much closer to known nesting areas, two Pine Grosbeaks were seen

Dec. 16 along Mt. Highway, N. Vancouver (M. Daly) and three Feb. 11 on Mt. Washington, n.w. of Courtenay, V.I. (*vide* DFr). Scattered flocks of up to 40 Red Crossbills were widely reported through mid-January. Thereafter the largest group encountered was of eight birds. The only documented White-winged Crossbill noted was a lone individual in Kent, Wash., Dec. 30 (†EH, BM) for only the 2nd King County record. Exclusive of the C.B.C.s, there were 10 reports of one to 30 Com. Redpolls in the Vancouver, B.C., area spread throughout the season. Elsewhere, a very few appeared in w. Washington, mostly at feeders, Dec. 16-Jan. 5. Small flocks of up to 50 Evening Grosbeaks were reported throughout the Region and throughout the season.

INITIALED OBSERVERS (**Subregional editors in boldface**) -- Scott Atkinson, Barb Bellin, Wayne Campbell, Mike Carmody, Chris Chappell, Angie & Kevin Cromack, Elzy Eltzroth, Joe Evanich, **David Fix** (DFi), Mike Force, Dave Fraser (DFr), Margaret & Vie Goodwill, Charles Harper, Bill Harrington-Tweit, Steve Heintz, Glen & Wanda Hoge, **Eugene Hunn**, **Dave Irons**, Brian Kautesk, **Doug Kragh**, Tom Lund, Alan MacLeod, Brien Meilleur, **Harry Nehls**, Carrie Osborne, **Dennis Paulson**, Roy Phillips, Phil Pickering, Michael Price, **Ellen Ratoosh**, Jim Rogers, Brian Self, Jeff Skirletz, Dory & Stan Smith, Virginia Stanton, David Stirling, Keith Taylor, Verta Teale, **Terry Wahl**, Wayne Weber (WWe), Bart Whelton (BaW), Bruce Whittington (BrW), Wally Wilkins (WWi), Tim Zurowski.

Spring Migration, 1985

NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN - INTERMOUNTAIN REGION

/Thomas H. Rogers

The spring season in the Region was one of the driest on record. Partly compensating for this was a cool

March in most localities, delaying snow melt and evaporation. An exception was the Salmon, Idaho, area, which had an early spring and many record-early arrivals. Malheur Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Burns, Oregon, had more normal precipitation and appeared to be avoiding the disastrous flooding of 1984. April and May were warmer than normal in most areas. Highlights of the season included the big increase in numbers of Black-necked Stilts and their appearance in unusual localities, and the many Rose-breasted Grosbeak sightings.

ABBREVIATIONS -- I.N.E.L. = Idaho Nat'l Engineering Laboratory site, w. of Idaho Falls; Malheur (unmodified) = Malheur Nat'l Wildlife Ref., Burns, Ore. Place names in *italics* are counties.

LOONS THROUGH IBISES -- Migrating Com. Loons numbered 21 on Dickey L., n.e. *Lincoln*, Mont., May 1. A trip into n. Idaho to look for this species found only 11, none breeding (CHT). Elsewhere in Idaho Redfish L., *Custer*, had two (HR), and Mountain Home Res., one (KBP). Two at Malheur and three at Malheur Res., *Malheur*, Ore., were locally rare (GMC). Red-necked Grebes reached a peak of 43 on Pend Oreille L. at Sunnyside, Ida. (PRS). The species' numbers were down at Kootenai N.W.R., Bonners Ferry, Ida. with only one known breeding pair (RD). Two were sighted at Henrys L., *Fremont*, Ida., May 21 (JMS) and one on the Snake R. at Lewiston, Ida. was unusual (LL, MK). A W. Grebe, "Clark's" form, was observed at Malheur Apr. 7 (M & AA). Large numbers of Am. White Pelicans were at Malheur in May but no breeding was noted. At Nicola L. n.e. of Merritt, B.C., 51 were counted Apr. 14 (JG). Much less expected was one at Wilmer, B.C., for the first sighting since 1972 (LH), also three on Pend Oreille L. at the Pack R. delta Apr. 16 (PRS), four at Lewiston Mar. 10 (JP), and 35 at the Walla Walla R. mouth, Wallula, Wash., Apr. 12 (DHe). About 650 pairs of Double-crested Cormorants were nesting in the Harney Basin around and at Malheur, down from last year's record number. The species had 70 active nests at Camas N.W.R., Hamer, Ida. Two were on the Snake R. near Weiser, Ida., Apr. 10 (GMC), and sightings of one on the I.N.E.L. (TDR), two at Lewiston (RN), and an unspecified number at Umatilla N.W.R., Umatilla, Ore.

(B.M.A.S.) were noteworthy. Eight pairs of Am. Bitterns were present into the breeding season at Kootenai N.W.R., compared to only one or two birds in previous years. One or two pairs of Great Egrets were again nesting at Mud Lake W.M.A., *Jefferson*, Ida. and one was sighted at McNary N.W.R., Burbank, Wash., Apr. 30 (BH). Nesting pairs of the species at Malheur were expected to top the record high of 1984. A Great Egret, extremely rare in *Deschutes*, Ore., appeared at Sunriver Apr. 4 (TC, DD, CM). Camas N.W.R. had 28 active nests of Snowy Egrets. Rupert, Ida. had two Cattle Egrets (WHS) and one was sighted near Camas N.W.R. (DH). Snowy Egret and Black-crowned Night-Heron numbers were down in the Pocatello, Ida. area (CHT). Camas N.W.R. reported a Green-backed Heron. Malheur saw the development of a new nesting colony of about 200 pairs of White-faced Ibises in the Blitzen Valley. A flock of 19 was observed flying over Columbia N.W.R., Othello, Wash., May 11 for the latilong's first record (DB, ER), and one bird appeared w. of Richland, Wash., May 18 (REW). Metcalf

Volume 39, Number 3 327

N.W.R., Stevensville, Mont., had one May 16 (PLW) and a single bird was sighted at Knutsford, B.C., May 22 & 31 (EE).

WATERFOWL -- The largest concentration of Tundra Swans was of 3000 at Calispell L., Usk, Wash. A shallow pond near Fortine, Mont., attracted up to 144, unusually high for that area, and Kootenai N.W.R. had a peak of 330, more than double last year's high. The May 22 aerial survey of the Centennial Valley in s.w. Montana revealed 109 Trumpeter Swans in Red Rock Lakes N.W.R. and 84 elsewhere in the valley (TM). In the Harney Basin 15 pairs were present but only 5 pairs were known to be nesting. Three swans on the Columbia R. at Wenatchee, Wash., were thought to be Trumpeters (Re). Greater White-fronted Geese peaked at a phenomenal 320 at Kootenai N.W.R., and Brownlee Res., *Baker*, Ore., had an unusual sighting of nine (GMC). Two appeared at Creston, B.C. (GD, LV) and at Springfield Bottoms near Springfield, Ida.

(CHT). Wallula, Wash., had one (BH). Several thousand Snow Geese were on the Snake R., *Malheur*, Ore., in early April. A few blue-phase birds were with Snow Geese at Malheur. Large flocks of Ross' Geese (including two blue-phase individuals) visited the Harney Basin and one Ross' was at Vernon, B.C., Apr. 15-May 1 (MC, m.ob.). A Brant at Ninepipe N.W.R., Charlo, Mont., May 7 & 9 was the latilong's first (SS, m.ob.). A Barnacle Goose, assumed to be an escape, was observed Apr. 15 with Greater White-fronted and "Cackling" geese at Lower Klamath N.W.R., *Klamath*, Ore. (MR). At least 15 "Cackling" Geese appeared in a field near Spangle, Wash. (AP, S.A.S.). Canada Goose numbers reached 5000 at Columbia N.W.R., Othello, Wash. Peak numbers at Kootenai N.W.R. were 1600—the usual is 200-300. Canadas nested late at Malheur and suffered high predation losses. Twelve Cackling Geese were at Burns, Ore., Mar. 27 (M & AA). A Green-winged Teal of the *crecca* group was identified near Walla Walla Apr. 8 (BH, m. ob.). A very few Eur. Wigeons appeared, scattered through every state and province (except Alberta) in the Region. A carefully-described male Red-crested Pochard near Colville, Wash., Mar. 30-31 was likely an escape (TS, DHu). Columbia N.W.R. had up to 300 Canvasbacks and Helena Valley Res. had 80-90, high for that area (GH). Greater Scaup were reported on the Columbia R. near Umatilla (B.M.A.S.), and a pair on Mountain Home Res., Ida., was very unusual there (KBP). Two Oldsquaws appeared at Savona, B.C., Apr. 28 (BC), two were at Vernon Mar. 19 (TH), and one was at Sunriver, Ore., May 5 (CM). In Idaho a female was spotted at Palisades Res., *Bonneville*, in late April (ACr), and a male was at Brundage Res. near McCall May 28 (CHT). A female Red-breasted Merganser appeared at the delta near Clark Fork, Ida., May 20 for a rare sighting (PRS).

HAWKS THROUGH CRANES -- A Black-shouldered Kite was sighted near Merrill, Ore., Mar. 15 (MR). Five active Bald Eagle nests were found in *Boundary*, Ida. (PRS, SHS). The species reached a peak of 151 on roost counts in late March in the Harney Basin. The number of successful nesting pairs of Golden Eagles in the Basin remained low, due to low jackrabbit numbers. Total falcon sightings were: Merlin four, Peregrine Falcon three, Gyrfalcon two, and Prairie Falcon six. Sage Grouse numbered 58 at Yakima Firing Range, Wash., but the population s. of Creston,

Wash., may have been wiped out by the intentional burning of their sagebrush habitat; none was found there on a visit Apr. 6 (BW). Wild Turkeys were sighted in fields along Wenas Cr., n.w. of Yakima; 17 were seen at Armstrong, B.C. (JG), and five at Creston, B.C. (GD, LV). Scaled Quail were reported near McAdam, Wash. (SA, FS). Toppenish N.W.R., *Yakima*, yielded four Virginia Rails and the Yakima area one (Y.A.S.). A Com. Moorhen was identified at Camas N.W.R., May 30; this would be Idaho's 2nd record (refuge personnel). The Whooping Crane flock that has been built up at Grays L. in s.e. Idaho by placing eggs in Sandhill Crane nests now numbers about 30. Eight returned to Grays L. from their New Mexico wintering grounds during the period and others were summering in scattered localities in that area. Twenty-three Whooping Crane eggs were placed in Sandhill nests at Grays L. in late May (ECB).

SHOREBIRDS THROUGH TERNS -- A Black-bellied Plover was at Springfield Bottoms Apr. 28 and a Snowy Plover was sighted there Apr. 18 (JMS). Another showed up at Malheur May 1. Up to eight Semipalmated Plovers appeared at Springfield Bottoms (JMS). Singles of the species appeared at the I.N.E.L., Apr. 26 (TDR), at Pend Oreille L. (CHT), at Burns (M & AA), at McNary N.W.R. (DHe, ref. pers.), and at Vernon (MC) Up to 36 Black-necked Stilts were sighted in the N. Potholes s.w. of Moses Lake, Wash. (RK, BH, Y.A.S., DP) and they were "locally common" in the Frenchman Hills area to the w. (ML, DE). Up to 21 were noted at McNary N.W.R. (LRM, DHe, BH), and the Yakima R. delta at Richland, Wash., had 16 for the 2nd record there (PEW *et al.*). Eight appeared at Bend, Ore. (TC, CM), and in Montana single birds showed up at Frenchtown and Metcalf N.W.R., Stevensville (PLW). Two rare sightings of Am. Avocets in the Vernon area were obtained (PR, P & PM) A Solitary Sandpiper appeared near Cle Elum, Wash., where the species is rare (TS). Single Willets, very rare in interior British Columbia, were seen at Osoyoos May 4 (RC) and Knutsford May 23-24 (JG). The species also appeared at Red Rock Lakes N.W.R. (TM). A few Upland Sandpipers had returned to Bear Valley near Seneca, Ore. (AC), as had a few to their nesting grounds in the Spokane Valley. Malheur had a rare visit from a Ruddy Turnstone May 16 (ref. pers.). A Pectoral Sandpiper was at Walla Walla Apr. 23-25 (BH). The N.

Potholes had two molting Dunlins Apr. 14 (DP, LF), and a few passed through Springfield Bottoms (JMS, CHT). Five Short-billed Dowitchers appeared at Malheur for a rare sighting (MA). Short-billeds were also sighted at McNary N.W.R. (SM), and at W. Medical L., *Spokane*, Wash. (BW). Two Long-tailed Jaegers appeared at the Walla Walla R mouth Apr. 26 (DFS *et al.*). Two Franklin's Gulls visited Metcalf N.W.R. for an unusual record (PLW). Kelowna, B.C., had a Franklin's Gull May 26 (MC *et al.*) and a Thayer's Gull Mar 9 (PR). A Bonaparte's Gull was at Malheur May 27 (M & AA) and four appeared at Mountain Home Res., May 17 (KBP). Wallula had a Mew Gull Apr. 2 (DFS, BH). A Ring-billed Gull near Leadore, Ida., Mar. 21 established a latilong first (HR). A Glaucous Gull accompanied Glaucous-winged Gulls at Wallula Mar 2-8 (BH, LRM) and was again seen Mar. 17 (B.M.A.S.). A Caspian Tern at Metcalf N.W.R., May 2 was notable (PLW). Two Forster's Terns appeared at Sunnyside, Pend Oreille L., May 19 (PRS). A pair of Black Terns was at Mountain Home Res., May 17 for the 2nd record there (KBP).

OWLS THROUGH WOODPECKERS -- Common Barn-Owls are showing up in the Rexburg, Ida. area (DH). Four Flammulated Owls were calling at Lac du Bois near Kamloops (RH), one was sighted at Malheur (M & AA), and one was near Newport, Wash. (EJL). Up to seven of the species were found at Old Blewett Pass in the North Cascades, Wash. (BW). A N. Hawk-Owl voicing its "whistled trill" in the Selkirk Mts. n.w. of Creston, B.C., suggested possible breeding there (PRS, GS). A pair of Spotted Owls, the female incubating, was observed in *Kittitas*, Wash., Apr. 14-May 27 (BW). Six or 7 pairs of Barred Owls, two or three Boreal Owls, and 2 pairs and one lone bird of N. Saw-whet Owls were discovered during surveys in *Ferry*, *Stevens*, and *Pend Oreille* in n.e. Washington (BW, Be). A Boreal Owl was mist-netted at Vaseux L., s. of Penticton, B.C., Mar. 19 (EJ), and another was seen e. of Penticton Mar. 20 (RC, SC). Single N Saw-whet Owls were found at Fishhook S.P. near Pasco, Wash (B.M.A.S.), at Malheur, at Rupert, Ida., (WHS), and near Newman L. (EJL). A female *Archilochus* hummingbird (presumed to be Black-chinned) was carefully described in the N. Potholes area May 25 (SA) and one appeared at a Sunriver feeder May 9 (DD). A male Costa's Hummingbird again appeared in Bend

May 10 (G & CR, TC). Wenas Cr. had a Red-breasted Sapsucker May 27 for the latilong's first (RK). Single White-headed Woodpeckers were

328 *American Birds*, Fall 1985

sighted at 2 localities in *Ferry*, Wash (BW) The only Three-toed Woodpecker report was of a male in the Selkirk Mts. (PRS). A "yellow-shafted" N. Flicker appeared at Salmon, Ida. (HR).

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH WAGTAILS -- An Alder Flycatcher was reported at Malheur May 25 (M & AA). At least two Least Flycatchers were back at their regular breeding locality just e. of Mr. Vernon, Ore. (AC). The Wenas Cr. area had an Ash-throated Flycatcher May 30 (Y.A.S.). The Blue Jay that wintered at Copeland, Ida., remained into April (WP). The Selkirks near Creston had a Boreal Chickadee Mar. 19 (PRS). Chestnut-backed Chickadees lingered in the Lewiston-Asotin vicinity as late as Mar. 16, at Libby until Apr. 5, and at Walla Walla until mid-April. Three Rock Wrens were spotted in the Kootenai R. Canyon near Moyle Springs--the species is rare in n. Idaho (PRS). The Bewick's Wren population in the Walla Walla valley is continuing its expansion (SM). A Blue-gray Gnatcatcher at Market Lake W.M.A., May 12 afforded the first spring record there, where it is very rare (BJ). Two W. Bluebirds, very rare in e. Idaho, were sighted near Pocatello Mar. 27 (*fide* CHT). Mountain Bluebirds appear to be increasing in the valley around Fortine as a result of a nest box program. A Varied Thrush appeared at the Argonne National Laboratory-West site near Idaho Falls Apr. 1 (ADM). Two sightings of the species came from the Salmon area (HR), one from Blackfoot (JT) and one from Mountain Home (KBP). They are rare in this part of Idaho. Single N. Mockingbirds appeared at Mountain Home (KBP) and Libby (DE!) for latilong firsts, and others were near Idaho Falls (GP) and Rupert (*fide* WHS). A Sage Thrasher in *Ferry*, Wash., was the latilong's first (BW). A Brown Thrasher showed up at the confluence of the Clearwater and Blackfoot rivers s. of Seeley L., Mont., May 18 (SF, JB, WH). An ad. **Black-backed Wagtail** was tentatively identified near Azwell, Wash.,

May 19. This would apparently be the first record away from the Pacific coast (VM), aside from one reported in North Carolina.

VIREOS AND WARBLERS -- Malheur had a well-described Bell's Vireo May 26 (RS, OS, TC, JGn *et al.*). A **Yellow-throated Vireo** was identified at Camas N.W.R., Ida. May 18 for the first state record (EC, KS, BJ, DR, LP). A male Tennessee Warbler was reported at Malheur May 31 (GMC) and a female May 25 (AC). A N Parula was photographed at Malheur May 25 (AC, MP). A **Chestnut-sided Warbler** was photographed near Oliver, B.C., for the Okanagan Valley's first record (EJ). A Magnolia Warbler was at Malheur May 31 and a Black-throated Blue Warbler appeared at Fields, Ore., the same day (GMC). A Palm Warbler was reported at Malheur May 19 (GMC) and a male Blackpoll Warbler was sighted there May 16-19 (GMC, M & AA). Four observations of Black-and-white Warblers came from the Malheur-Fields area (AC, GMC). A singing **Ovenbird** along the W. Fork of the Bitterroot R., *Ravalli*, made Montana's first record w. of the Continental Divide (PH). One or two were observed May 24-31 at Malheur and another was sighted at Fields May 25 (AC, M & AA).

GROSBEAKS THROUGH FINCHES -- Single Rose-breasted Grosbeaks appeared in Idaho at Idaho Falls (ADM), in Shelley (DS), at Camas N.W.R. (DH), at Sun Valley (BS), in Twin Falls (*fide*, CHT), and at Rupert (WHS), all in May. Frenchglen, Ore., had one May 24 (TC, JGn *et al.*), and Red Rock Lakes N.W.R. had one May 20 (TM). Single Lark Sparrow sightings at Kamloops (RH) and Trail, B.C. (*fide* JG) were very unusual. There were five singing Grasshopper Sparrows found near *Okanogan*, Wash, (ML *et al.*). The species was locally common in the N. Potholes and Washtucna, Wash., vicinities (ML, DE, BW). Noteworthy were sightings of single Lincoln's Sparrows in Burns (M & AA) and in Walla Walla (SM, m.ob.). The White-throated Sparrow that wintered near Missoula remained until at least Apr. 9 (PLW). Single Golden-crowned Sparrows were sighted at Coulee City, Wash. (BW), Walla Walla (DHe, SM), and Coeur d'Alene (BD). The species was considered a regular migrant in the Okanagan Valley, Wash (GB) Lone Harris' Sparrows were noted in Idaho at Mountain Home

(MN) and at Kootenai (PRS), and single birds appeared at Richland (PEW) and Walla Walla (LG). The Harris' that wintered near Missoula stayed at least until Apr. 26 (PLW). At least three Lapland Longspurs visited near Burns Airport Mar. 5 (M & AA) for the only report. Two Rusty Blackbirds, possibly breeding, were at a swamp at 4000 ft elevation e. of Oliver, B.C., May 26. This is far s. of known nesting sites (MC, RC, RH). A **Great-tailed Grackle** photographed s. of Downey, Ida. May 5 reportedly established the first state record (CHT, TDR). It was still there May 24. Singles of the species were observed regularly May 9-31 at Malheur Field Station, May 24-30 at Malheur headquarters, and May 26 in Hines (MA, BH, m.ob.). A colony of Com. Grackles has become established at Rexburg, Ida. (DH). The species also appeared at Dubois, Soda Springs, and Pocatello (CHT) and at Salmon (HR), all in Idaho. A "Baltimore" N. Oriole was sighted in late May at Malheur (M & AA, BH, AC, m.ob.). Purple Finches were reported at Libby until May 28 (DHR). A Cassin's Finch visited a Richland feeder for a rare sighting (PEW). Red and White-winged crossbills were abundant in the Pocatello-Blackfoot-Idaho Falls area, and a few of both species visited Twin Falls. The latter species was sighted near Newport also. A few Red Crossbills frequented feeders in Richland, an unusual locality (MN). A Com. Redpoll used a Bend feeder for most of March for the first documented *Deschutes* record (TC), and a flock of 50 visited Kimberley, B.C., March to early April (MVW). Wawawai and Chief Kamiakan S.P., *Whitman*, Wash, each had a single bird around mid-March for unusual sightings (J & DP).

CONTRIBUTORS CITED -- Merle & Anne Archie, Scott Atkinson, Eugene C. Barney, Dave Beaudette, Blue Mountain Audubon Society (B.M.A.S.), George Brady, Jim Brown, Richard Cannings, Steve Cannings, Brian Chan, Eddie W. Chew, Mary Collins, Alan Contreras, George M. Constantino, Tom Crabtree, A1 Crail (ACr), Dave Danley, Gary Davidson, Richard Del Carlo, Barbara Dorrell, David Eilander, David Ellis (DE1), Sid Frissell, Jeff Gilligan (JGn), Larry Goodhew, James Grant, Larry Halverson, Bill Hayes, Paul Hendricks, Della Hermsmeyer (DHR), Willis Heron, David Herr (DHe), George Holton, Rick Howie, Donnell Hunter, David Hutchinson (DHu), Terry Hurst, Bryan Jamison, Edgar Jones, Randy Knapp, Merlene Koler, Earl J. Larrison, Louise

LaVoie, Mark Lew- is, Verne Marr, Pat & Peter McAllister, L. R. McCloskey, Terry McEneaney, A.D. Miller, Craig Miller, Shirley Muse, Mary Nealy, Ron Neu, Mary Nowakowsky, Bill O'Connell, Ruth Ortiz-Torres, Jeff & Deanna Palmer, Will Parker, Mike Patterson, Dennis Paulson, Gene Petty, L. Pierce, Ambrose Priestley, Kerry B. Provance, John Pruett, Phil Ranson, Ellen Ratoosh, D. Reavill, Tim D. Reynolds, Hadley Roberts, Mike Robbins, Gary & Carol Routh, D. F. Schmidt, Owen Schmidt, Tom Schooley, Greg Servheen, Fred Sharpe, W. H. Shillington, John M. Shipley Jr., Paul R. Sieracki, Dorothy Smith, Richard Smith, Sally Sovey, Spokane Audubon Society (S.A.S.), K Struthers, Brian Sturges, Shirley H. Sturts, Joel Tinsley, C. H. Trost, Linda Van Damme, Bart Whelton, Mildred V. White, R. E. Woodley, Philip L. Wright, Yakima Audubon Society (Y.A.S.).

Volume 39, Number 3 329

Spring Migration, 1985

NORTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION

/Philip W. Mattocks, Jr.

The weather continued generally drier than usual. Observers waited in vain for storm fronts during March and April, hoping they would bring Mottled Petrels on- shore. Instead, Fork-tailed Storm-Petrels came and stayed. This move was not obviously correlated with the weather and only a few individuals were found dead on the beaches. For several migrant species a regular flow of first arrival dates from many locales was apparent. Some other species could be shown to have arrived throughout the entire Region within just a few days. Waves of migrant passerines were detected in mid-April by daily censuses in Eugene, and were noted on May 1-2 in Seattle. There are 142 observers mentioned in this report, and at least that many whose sightings are not specifically cited. This is

the network of birding contributors upon whom this report depends.

LOONS THROUGH STORM-PETRELS -- Arctic Loons were concentrated as usual in Active Pass, V.I., with 1600-1800 present Mar. 19-Apr. 18 (Michael Shepard, BW). There were reports of eight Yellow-billed Loons, a normal number, including one found dead at Neah Bay, Wash., Mar. 13 (GG, spec. to U.W. Burke Museum). Single "Clark's" W. Grebes were found Apr. 23 on Fulford Harbour, Saltspring I., V.I. (DFr, ph.-Tracee Geernaert) and May 3 off Catala spit, Ocean Shores, Wash. (G & WH). Three **Mottled Petrels** were found dead on the beach in late

340 *American Birds*, Fall 1985

March at Ocean Shores (Ralph & Florence Carlson), Leadbetter Pt. (GL) and near the North jetty of the Columbia R. (Ralph Widrig), all in s.w. Wash. These furnished the 4th-6th records for the state. Then on Apr. 19 on a transect from 25 miles off La Push, Wash., to 97 miles off Cape Lookout, Oreg., Bob Pitman found 62 Mottled Petrels. They were spread out over the route, 34 off Washington, 28 off Oregon, with the closest to shore being 44 miles off Cape Elizabeth, near Taholah, Wash. (*vide* TW). Pelagic trips went out of Garibaldi, Oreg. Apr. 28 (JGa *et al.*), Westport, Wash., May 12 (TW *et al.*), to the La Perouse Bank, B.C., May 16 (DA), and to the South Bank off Ucluelet, V.I., May 29 (DA). The 3000 N. Fulmars seen off Westport was the highest count there for any season (TW *et al.*). The high report else- where was only 10 birds. Two Flesh-footed Shearwaters were seen off Garibaldi and two were off Westport. No Mottled Petrels were seen. Observers this season were treated to the largest and most extensive onshore presence of Fork-tailed Storm-Petrels ever. The Fork-taileds were concentrated primarily in Yaquina Bay, Newport, Oreg. Neah Bay, northwest Wash., and in the Strait of Juan de Fuca, with counts of 100-400 obtained throughout March and April (Tom & Alison Mickel, R & JK, BPa, KT, MC). There were also 50 at Port Orford, Oreg., Mar. 10 (JR), 400 out of Garibaldi, Apr. 28, a dozen at Grays Harbor Wash., Apr. 28 (Tom Weir *et al.*), and

many reports of one-ten from other coastal locations. The only penetration into Puget Sound noted was by one bird seen Apr. 6 from the Edmonds-Kingston ferry (DP). A few at Yaquina Bay May 11 (Range Bayer) and one at Westport, Wash., May 11 (DH) were the last reports from shore. The boat out of Westport May 12 recorded 600 well offshore (TW *et al.*). Also, as of the relatively late date of May 12, no Fork-tailed had been heard at their nesting burrows on Tatoosh I., Wash. (BPa). This delay in the normal onset of breeding, plus the unusual onshore sightings of this pelagic species, was believed to indicate very poor feeding conditions farther offshore.

EGRETS THROUGH EIDERS -- One-two Great Egrets were seen in the Vancouver, B.C., area Apr. 23-

27 (†Duanne Vandenberg, †MF, †WW *et al.*) for the first sighting there since October 1980. At about the same time two others were found north of Oregon; singles May 4-11 in Kent, near Seattle (TB *et al.*) and May 5 near Tacoma (Jim & Barbara Haight). A **Snowy Egret** appeared Apr. 17 on the Serpentine Fen, Surrey, B.C. (†Lindsay Jones, †Jack Evans, †Ken Summers) and May 12 at nearby Gibsons, B.C. (†Vince Bracewell *et al.*) for the third Vancouver area sighting. Single Cattle Egrets, unusual in spring, were as far north as near Portland, Ore. Mar. 10 (JE), in Surrey, B.C., Apr. 20 (RP), and along the Waatch R., near Cape Flattery, Wash., May 2-3 (TK). Most unusual of all this concentration of heron records was the appearance of an adult **Little Blue Heron** in breeding plumage May 16-18 along the Willamette R. near the



Emperor Goose at Neah Bay, Wash., March 10, 1985. Photo/Stan Smith.

Volume 39, Number 3 341

Ankeny N.W.R., Oreg., (Greg Anderson, EE-photos, m.ob.). This was the first documented record for the state. Pairs of Mute Swans were noted incubating Apr. 26+ at several locations on s. V.I. (M & VG *et al.*). Almost daily counts of the Snow Geese wintering at Reifel Refuge, B.C., held steady at 4-7000 until Apr. 24. On Apr. 28 only 500 were present, and by May 4 only 55 remained (JI). Three Emperor Geese stopped over Mar. 9-16 on the shores of Neah Bay (MC *et al.*, photo-Stan Smith), and others were seen Mar. 20 at Newport, Oreg. (*vide* DF_i), and Mar. 22 on Willapa Bay, Wash. (GL). A **Ross' Goose** seen Apr. 18 at Reifel I., Delta, B.C. (†Janet Hudson, BM) was only the fourth record for the Vancouver area. There were reports of nine "Eurasian" Green-winged Teal from throughout the Region. Also a hybrid male Eur. x Am. Green-winged Teal remained in Eugene until Apr. 11 (†SH *et al.*) and another was found Apr. 11-27 in Saanich, V.I. (J & RS). The Am. Black Duck seen Mar. 20 at Battleground, near Vancouver, Wash. (Roger Baker) presumably originated from the several introduced populations farther north, but we can now never be sure. A Blue-winged Teal at Medford, Oreg., Mar. 16 was early (Otis Swisher) as were three at Iona I., near Vancouver, B.C., Apr. 2 (RP). Otherwise reports indicated an arrival in early May, about two weeks later than usual. In similar fashion, a few Cinnamon Teal arrived in early March

throughout the Region, but larger numbers and more widespread reports occurred in mid-April. Hybrid male Cinnamon x Blue-winged Teal were noted May 15-17 in Seattle (†ER, †DB) and May 20 at Iona I., B.C. (†MF), and a hybrid male Am. Wigeon x Gadwall was found Apr. 23-May 19 at Iona I. (†MP, †BK *et al.*). The five male Eur. Wigeons at Dungeness, Wash., Apr. 6 were all clearly unmated (DP, LF). Detection of either hybrid or con specific pairing would be of considerable interest. The female Tufted Duck that wintered in Stanley Park, Vancouver, B.C., was last seen Mar. 14 (MF). The male King Eider that wintered nearby was last seen Apr. 5 & 6 in Ambleside Park, W. Vancouver, B.C. (Bobbie Pastrick, MF *et al.*).

KITES THROUGH CRANES -- A daily hawk watch at Cape Flattery, on the n.w. tip of Washington, from Apr. 1-May 15 recorded the passage of several thousand raptors (BA). Included in this is an amazing count of 1742 raptors on Apr. 6 alone! The data are still being analyzed for publication and are unavailable at this writing. Obviously from this effort and that of seasons to come our knowledge of migration patterns here will be greatly increased. The pair of Black-shouldered Kites that wintered near Hoquiam, Wash., was observed in mating display flights Apr. 25 (GG, MM), but they were last seen Apr. 27 (DH). Hopefully this means the birds nested nearby. There were eight sightings of single Black-shouldered Kites at separate locations in Oregon



Hudsonian Godwit at Cordova spit, Vancouver Island, May 11- 12, 1985. Photo/Tim Zurowski.

during April and May. Were they migrants or the non-incubating member of nesting pairs? Nest-building by Cooper's Hawks was noted at two locations in Saanich (Mark Nyhof) and one in Victoria (DFr). One of the Red-shouldered Hawks found Mar. 19-May 2 around the Winchuk R. harbor was observed breaking off sticks, but no nest was found (DIE). A "Harlan's" Red-tailed Hawk seen Apr. 6 at Dungeness, Wash., was a late migrant (DP, LF). A **Ferruginous Hawk** seen at Gape Flattery Apr. 6 was only the second well-documented record from w. Wash. (†BA). Two Rough-legged Hawks in the Grays Harbor, Wash., area Apr. 20- May 6 were very late (DP, LF, DB, ER, Diann MacRae). Other Rough-legged lingered at Monmouth, Oreg. until May 6 (Roy Gerig) and in Delta, B.C., until May 20-22 (MF; MP *et al.*). A pair of Am. Kestrels, scarce breeders in w. Wash., was nest-building at Dungeness Apr. 6 & 7 (DP, LF). Those observers and area compilers reporting for the last several years noted about the usual number of Merlins (32+), but many more Peregrines (38+) than usual. Five Gyrfalcons were sighted. Four of these were during March and the one in Delta, B.C., Apr. 20 was the latest (KE). A very late Prairie Falcon was at Ankeny N.W.R., near Corvallis, Apr. 5 (Barb Bellin). This is within the regular wintering area for this species in the Willamette Valley of Oregon. Over 400 Wild Turkeys counted Mar. 10 near Glide, east of Roseburg, Oreg., were reported to have been present for years, but generally unknown and uncounted (JGa, KK). Over 1000 Sandhill Cranes were present on Sauvie I., near Portland, during March (David Bailey *et al.*) and many remained into early April (FIN). Accounting for all of these, and more, the Cape Flattery hawk watch teams recorded 3500 Sandhill Cranes passing their post this spring. There have been sizable flocks of migratory cranes sighted along the outer coast for years, but no one imagined there were these numbers involved.

SHOREBIRDS -- The "thousands" of Black-bellied Plovers at Tokeland, Wash., Mar. 10 (TB, PK) and 5000 on Mud Bay, Delta, B.C., Apr. 24 (MP; KE, C. Aitchison) were higher than the usual numbers of this migrant. Likewise for the 21+ sightings of Lesser Golden-Plovers on dates from Apr. 5 at Grays Harbor, Wash. (G & WH) and Apr. 18 at Blackie Spit, Surrey, B.C. (H & JM) to May 31 in Grays Harbor (JSk). Individuals identified as the race *fulva* Pacific Golden-Plovers, were in Delta, B.C., May 5 (MF, TP), at West Pt., Seattle, May 11-12 (†EH, †Tom Schooley), and May 18 a Ocean Shores, Wash. (EH, GG, †P1V0. A female **Snowy Plover** found May 31 at Iona I. was only the third record for B.C. (†Glen Thomson, H & †JM, †WW *et al.*). A Semipalmated Plover Apr. 10 in C. Saanich was the earliest ever for s. V.I. (M & VG). Elsewhere arrival dates were Apr. 16-18. Again this year Black-necked Stilts invaded w. Oregon. The earliest were seven at the Medford sewage ponds (Ray Ekstrom, MR) and eight at Brownsville, near Corvallis (JGi *et al.*), both Apr. 6. About 70 individuals were reported from 10 locations. The high count was 21 at Waldport Apr. 28 (Lola Landis, *fide* EE) and three near Salem May 3 were the latest (JGi, VT). Four at Bowerman Basin, Hoquiam, Apr. 24 was the only report from Washington (Robert Ashbaugh). An Am. Avocet seen May 4-7 at Reifel I., Delta, B.C., was

about the 13th record for the Vancouver area (JI, †MF *et al.*, ph.- Harvey Elbe). Flocks of 100+ Greater Yellowlegs were noted Apr. 6 at Finley N.W.R., Ore. (R & JK, *fide* EE), Apr. 20 on Reifel I., B.C. (JI), and Apr. 24 at Beaver Creek, s. of Newport, Ore. (JGi). Reports of about 28 Solitary Sandpipers, a few more than during the last few springs, were spread out Apr. 11-May 20. Small groups of 13-18 wintering Willets were last reported during early March at the North R. near Raymond, Wash. (CC, TB, PK) and on the Kentuck slough at Coos Bay, Ore. (*fide*, DFi). Also at the North R. in early March were 40+ Long-billed Curlews, which diminished to 21 present Mar. 27 (CC, TB, PK). A **Hudsonian Godwit** was discovered May 11-12 at Cordova spit lagoon, C. Saanich (Gladys Anderson, †BW, †RS *et al.*, ph. Tim Zurowski) for the 4th record for V.I. A Surfbird on Sand I. in Grays Harbor, Wash., May 31 was

342 *American Birds*, Fall 1985

very late (JSk) Red Knots again demonstrated the site-specificity of their migratory stopovers. The only reported flocks of more than 20 birds were around Grays Harbor, Wash. The 400+ seen Apr. 21 at favored Bottle Beach on the south shore was the high count (CC). Sightings of one-eight birds were widespread in coastal Oregon and the Vancouver, B.C., area. Nine reports of Semipalmated Sandpipers Apr. 30-May 22 was about normal. Two were in Oregon, one in Seattle May 6 (†DB), and the remainder in the Vancouver, B.C., area. Seven Baird's Sand- pipers were found, a normal number, Apr. 15-May 15. This season's total of about 36 Pectoral Sandpipers reported, all May 5-20, is several times as many as the range of 4-13 over the last five years. The latest Rock Sandpipers reported from all areas were Apr. 14-28. A huge flock of 15,000 Red-necked Phalaropes plus 2000 more scattered individuals were encountered May 5 in the Strait of Juan de Fuca about a mile east of Port San Juan, Pacific Rim N.P., V.I. (DA). Elsewhere only a few singles and groups of up to 20 were found. About 50 Wilson's Phalaropes, all but three during May, were more than the usual number reported.

JAEGERS THROUGH TERNS -- Counts of 10 Pomarine, and 15 Parasitic Jaegers May 16 on La Perouse Bank off s.w. V.I. were high numbers for these migrants (DA). An adult Long- tufted Jaeger, rarest of the three in spring, was seen 94 miles off Cape Lookout, near Tillamook, Ore., Apr. 19 (BPi, *fide* TW) and two were on South Bank, 10 miles s.e. of Ucluelet, V.I., May 29 (DA). A Little Gull seen Apr. 6 off Port Townsend, Wash., was the 7th Regional spring record (Doug Wechsler). Flocks of hundreds of Bonaparte's Gulls had just arrived in many areas during the first few days of April. The high count was about 10,000 noted Apr. 8 at Porlier Pass, s. V.I. (DFr *et al.*). A single Thayer's Gull at Siletz Bay, Ore., May 11 (DFi *et al.*) and 25 at Iona I., B.C., also May 11 (MF) were the last reported. The first- winter "**Kumlien's**" **Iceland Gull** that wintered at the Hartland Ave landfill, Highland Land District, V.I., was last seen there Mar 3 (KT). Another first-winter "Kumlien's", also at a site where a few were found this winter, was seen Mar. 5 at Iona I., B C (†MF, KE). The 13 Glaucous Gulls reported this spring was back down from last year's high number. One first-year and two second-year birds at the Richmond landfill, Lulu I., B.C., Mar. 17 was the only concentration (MF, KE). Thirty Sabine's Gulls and 150 Black-legged Kittiwakes at La Perouse Bank, off V.I., May 16 were high counts (DA), but may reflect a regular concentration at this productive area. Single Caspian Terns at Manzanita, Ore., Mar. 25 (Tom Crabtree) and at Tokeland, Wash., Mar. 29 (CC) were early. Five had arrived in Vancouver, B.C., by Apr. 17 (MP) and reports of non-breeding birds were widespread thereafter. A few small flocks of Com. Terns passed through, as usual, between Apr. 24 at Stanwood, Wash. (Richard Rowlett, MM) and May 16 at Everett, Wash. (KR, AC). Ten Arctic Terns were moving north Apr. 28 off Garibaldi, Ore. (JGa) and 200 were off Westport, Wash., May 12 for their highest ever spring count (TW). Four Arctics had arrived at their southernmost nesting outpost in Everett, Wash., by May 16 (KR, AC) and three pairs on nests were found May 26 (DB). A Black

Tern, rare in spring, was seen May 16 at Port Townsend, Wash. (Dick Johnson) and two were at Iona I., B.C., May 31 (H & JM *et al.*).

OWLS THROUGH FLYCATCHERS -- At least one Flammulated Owl was calling on territory May 20+ about five miles n w of Toketee Ranger Station, east of Roseburg, Oreg. (DFi). Ten Snowy Owls remained at Delta, B.C., as late as Apr. 1 (RP). The last were seen at Ocean Shores Apr. 21 (DB) and in Burnaby, B.C. May 2 (Joan Foster). On Apr. 20 at Ocean Shores beneath the still active Snowy Owl perch Wayne Crill found a pellet that contained a Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel skull (*fide* DP)! A survey for Spotted Owls was carried out by Eric Forsman this spring in s.w. B.C. The confidential report to the B.C. Wildlife Branch is said to indicate that four owls were located, for the first sightings for B.C. since 1978. Nine Barred Owls were reported, including individuals at the now usual locations near Glide, Oreg (KK *et al.*), Seattle, Wash, and on s. V.I. The only reported nest fledged two young May 22 in Discovery Park, Seattle (DB). The **Great Gray Owl** found this winter in Saanich, V.I., stayed until Mar. 9 (Anne Knowles, Barbara & Mike McGrenere). Another V.I. bird was found in January through Feb. 28 in Pacific Rim N.P. (†Dan Vedova *et al.*). One was found Mar. 20- 24 in Snohomish, Wash. (Grace Reece) very near the sighting in Monroe during February. There were sightings at four locations in the Vancouver, B.C., area to Apr. 14 (*fide* DK). Two Saw-whet Owls were heard on Vashon I., near Seattle repeatedly between Mar. 8-May 5 (PM). A female Com. Nighthawk in Philomath, Oreg., May 10 (R & JK, *fide* EE) and a Black Swift among Vaux's May 10 in West Linn, near Portland, Oreg., (Mark Koninendyke, *fide* HN, DFi) were both extremely early. Elsewhere, 300+ Black Swifts arrived in Vancouver, B.C., on schedule May 26 (MP *et al.*). Migratory flocks of 1000+ Vaux's Swifts were found in Glide and Eugene, Oreg. Apr. 28-May 5 (KK, Dave Irons, SH). Several Calliope Hummingbirds in the Vancouver, B.C., area Apr. 28- May 14 (†MF, †BK *et al.*) is becoming an almost annual spring occurrence. Red-naped Sapsuckers, casual migrants in the Region, appeared Mar. 8 and Apr. 11-15 in Vancouver, B.C. (†BK, †MF *et al.*) and Apr. 9 in Seattle (†DB). The arrival of Olive-sided Flycatchers and W. Wood-Pewees throughout the Region was accomplished during a typically brief period, May 4-12. Willow Flycatchers noted May 3 at Toketee Ranger Station, Oreg. (DFi), May 9 in Eugene (SH), May 10 in Saanich, V.I. (Gift Calvert), May 11 in Seattle (EH, GG, Kevin Aanerud), and May 19 on Reifel I., B.C. (JI) were each very early or the earliest ever for those locations. Hammond's Flycatchers were also found earlier than usual. First arrivals were Apr. 13 at Carnation, Wash. (EH), Apr. 15 in Seattle (Scott Atkinson), and Apr. 14 in Langley, B.C. (TP, Linda Koch). Several Dusky Flycatchers were present Apr. 28+ at Thorn Prairie, e. Douglas Co., where the species was discovered nesting last year (DFi). A single **Gray Flycatcher** found May 4 near Grants Pass, Oreg. provided the 4th record for w. Oregon (JE, Steve Summers). Spring arrival of W. Flycatchers through Puget Sound and in the San Juan Is. was Apr. 10-13 (CC, EH, CE), but in nearby B.C. it was not until Apr. 20-21 (Jeff Gaskin, Ray Prior, H & JM). Seven W. Kingbirds in the Vancouver, B.C., area Apr 27-May 19 followed last year's high count of six sightings there (*fide* DK). One-two were observed May 3-10 at three adjacent locations on s. V.I. (*fide* VG).

SKYLARK THROUGH WARBLERS -- The third annual spring census of Eur. Skylarks on the Saanich Peninsula, V.I, yielded 42 singing males (BW, Alan MacLeod). This compares to 45 and 42 in previous years. The observers are reluctant to assume a constant population because numerous areas are abandoned and new sites are colonized each year, and such turnover could result in incomplete censusing. A Purple Martin at Coos Bay Mar. 14 tied the earliest arrival date for Oregon (DFi). A Cliff Swallow Mar. 22 at Iona I., B.C., was also very early (JI). Elsewhere Cliff and Barn swallows arrived Apr. 2-8. A Gray Jay seen May 11 on Tiger Mt., near Seattle, was an unusual find away from the Cascades (EH *et al.*). Very surprising away from the east slope of the Cascades was a **Canyon Wren** singing during May at the Callahans, in the Coast Range w. of Roseburg (Martha Sawyer, KK *et al.*). A Blue-gray Gnatcatcher seen Apr 21 on the south bank of the Rogue R. at Gold Beach, Oreg., was at a new location (MR, DE, AB). A **Veery** seen well at Carnation May 11 (DP) was the sixth record for w. Wash. Three N. Mockingbirds noted this season was about the usual number. These were seen May 6

near Neah Bay, Wash. (TK), May 22 near Newport, Oreg., (CW), and May 25 near Brookings, Oreg. (AB). A Loggerhead Shrike seen May 6-7 in Delta, B.C. was about the ninth Vancouver area sighting (Joe Bartel, †MF, ph. H & JM). Another was reported May 6 from Cannon Beach, Oreg. (Durrel Kapan, *fide* HN). A detailed survey of Crested Mynas in the Vancouver, B.C.,

Volume 39, Number 3 343

area found only 98 birds and estimated the population at 350+ (Van. Nat. Hist. Soc.). That is sharply down from 606 counted and an estimated population of 1500+ in spring 1980. Single Warbling Vireos were early at Port Orford, Oreg., Apr. 11 (JR) and Saanich, V.I., Apr. 18 (J & RS). Widespread arrival was reported Apr. 27-May 1. Almost daily censuses on Spencer Butte in Eugene indicated major influxes of Orange-crowned Warblers on Apr. 3, 12, & 16 (DFi). A less intensive survey on Reifel I., B.C., found a sharp peak of numbers on Apr. 13 (JI). Many more than usual Nashville Warblers were noted in Eugene (DFi) and the Vancouver, B.C., area (m. ob., *fide* DK). First arrivals of Black-throated Gray Warblers in the Willamette Valley were Apr. 4-8 (DFi *et al.*), somewhat earlier than usual, at Vashon I., near Seattle Apr. 11 (CE), and in the San Juan Is., at Reifel I. and Vancouver, B.C., and Saanich, V.I., Apr. 13 (Ward Beecher, JI, BM, KT). The migratory peak at Skinner Butte, Eugene, was 125+ on Apr. 16 (DFi). Townsend's Warblers appeared throughout the Region, at locations where they had not wintered, from Mar. 28, a record early date in Vancouver, B.C., (BK), through Apr. 8. DFi counted 94 singing male Hermit Warblers along 11 miles of Hwy. 138 in the Umpqua N.F. east of Roseburg, Oreg. on May 19. Singing male Com. Yellowthroats were first noted in the Willamette Valley Apr. 1-3, in Washington Apr. 4-7, and in Saanich, V.I., Apr. 6-8 (DFr, RS). Their arrival was recorded Apr. 9-15 in Oregon, Apr. 17-26 in Washington, and Apr. 28-30 elsewhere on s. V.I. and in Vancouver, B.C. A Yellow-breasted Chat present briefly on Vashon I., May 29 (CE) was early for w. Washington.

TANAGERS THROUGH FINCHES -- Western Tanagers appeared throughout the Region Apr. 28-May 3, which is slightly earlier than usual. First arrivals of Black-headed Grosbeaks were Apr. 22-May 1 in Oregon, May 1-5 in Washington, and May 5-9 on V.I. and in Vancouver, B.C. A male Lazuli Bunting found May 25 in C. Saanich, V.I. (†Jeremy Tatum) was the first sighting for s. V.I. since May 1977. The species arrived on schedule in Ashland, Oreg. Apr. 28 (Marjorie Moore) and in Corvallis, Oreg., May 1 (A1 McGie, *fide* EE). An Am. Tree Sparrow found May 11 at Bay City, on Tillamook Bay, Oreg., was extremely late (Jim Johnson, Rob Ferguson-photos, *fide* HN, SH). A Chipping Sparrow at Reifel I., B.C., Apr. 6 was very early (JI). A Clay-colored Sparrow wintered at a feeder in Gold Beach, Oreg. and was last seen Mar. 16 (Dorothy Sevey, *fide* SH). An echo of last spring's **Black-throated Sparrow** invasion occurred. Single birds were found at three coastal Oregon localities: Waldport, Apr. 17-19 (Delanne Villegas, *fide* DFi), Baker Beach, n. of Florence, May 15 (D & CW), and near Port Orford May 21 (Mary Peterson, Merle Woodward, *fide* HN). Others were found May 19 at White Pass, in the Washington Cascades May 19 (†Susan Dixon, photos) and May 19 at Pitt Meadows, B.C. (†Dale & Evelyn Jensen) for the third Vancouver and fifth Canadian record. Four apparently migrant White-throated Sparrows were noted on V.I. and in Vancouver, B.C., Apr. 11-23. One that wintered in Seattle was last seen Apr. 9 (Hanna Atkins) and the last of about nine sightings in Oregon was in Portland May 11 (Richard Smith). A dark lored White-crowned Sparrow found Apr. 13 at Hood River, Oreg. (MH) was most likely a migrant *oriantha*, the Rocky Mt. form. Single Snow Buntings were late Apr. 6 at Newport, Oreg., (Kevin & Angie Cromack, *fide* EE), Apr. 21 in Seattle, (Eugene Smirnov), and until Apr. 23 at Iona I. B.C. (MP *et al.*). Four male Tricolored Blackbirds were found again that spring Mar. 27+ at their northern outpost on the St. John's landfill in Portland (MH, VT). Four pairs of Yellow-headed Blackbirds stayed near Washougal, Wash., May 15+, but no nesting was observed (Wilson Cady). Arrival of Brown-headed Cowbirds to breeding areas

was widely noted Apr. 6-11 The first N. Orioles returned Apr. 9-15 to s. Oregon, May 1 to Portland, and May 7-13 to Puget Sound, V.I., and Vancouver, B C A female Pine Grosbeak seen Mar. 19 with Evening Grosbeaks in Victoria (†DFr) and single male Cassin's Finches seen Mar 28-29 at a Eugene feeder (D & CW) and Apr. 10 at Pitt Meadows, B.C. (†MP, KE) were the only reports for these scarce species. Red Crossbills were abundant and widespread throughout the Region. Two White-winged Crossbills observed Apr. 28 an Lighthouse Park, W. Vancouver, B.C. (BK) and one May 18 an Saanich (Mike Bentley), only the third record for s. V.I., pre-staged a summer irruption into adjacent mountainous areas Pine Siskins were found in "very high numbers" in Oregon (HN) and were in their usual presence elsewhere. Small flocks of Evening Grosbeaks were noted throughout the season

INITIALED OBSERVERS (**Subregional editors in boldface**) David Aldcroft, Bud Anderson, Dave Beaudette, Thais Bock, Art Campbell, Mike Garmody, Chris Chappell, Elzy Eltzroth, Carole Elder, Klaus Emmaneel, Dick Erickson, Joe Evanich, Linda Feltner, **David Fix** (DFi), Mike Force, David Fraser (DFr), John Gatchett (JGa), George Gertz, Jeff Gilligan (JGi), Margaret & **Vic Goodwill**, Dan Harville, Steve Heinl, Glen & Wanda Hoge, Mike Houck, **Eugene Hunn**, John Ireland, Brian Kautesk, Ken Knittie, Pat Knopp, Rick & Jan Krabbe, Tom Kreuger, **Doug Kragh**, Greg Lippert, Bruce MacDonald, Hue & Jo Ann MacKenzie, Mark Moon, **Harry Nehls**, Bob Paine (BPa), **Dennis Paulson**, Roy Phillips, Tom Plath, Bob Pitman (BPi), Michael Price, Ellen Ratoosh, Klaus Richter, Mike Robbins, Jim Rogers, Joy & Ron Satterfield (J & RS), Jeff Skriletz (JSk), Keith Taylor, **Terry Wahl**, Don & Clarice Watson, Wayne Weber, Bruce Whittington.

The Nesting Season, 1985

NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN - INTERMOUNTAIN REGION

/Thomas H. Rogers

Summer over most of the Region this year could be summarized by one word: drought. Success of ground-nesting water-related birds, principally waterfowl, was seriously reduced by lack of water in some areas and helped in others where flooding was prevented. Migrating shorebirds found extensive mudflats to their liking but were forced to bypass ponds that had dried up completely. Conversely, the cold wet spring in the southern Okanagan Valley of British Columbia caused very low nesting success for Ring-necked Pheasants. The larger hawks were scarce in many areas, but apparently because of low prey populations. Marked local decreases in a very few species were reported but in general birds seemed to show few abnormal effects from weather. Numerous fires, especially in forested areas, drastically altered habitats and promised to bring about changes in bird distribution and numbers.

ABBREVIATIONS -- C.G. = Campground; G.S. = Guard Station; Hart Mt. N.A.R. = Hart Mountain Nat'l Antelope Range; N.F. = National Forest; W.M.A. = Wildlife Management Area.

LOONS THROUGH HERONS -- Forty pairs of nesting Com Loons were reported in w. Montana but the 12 birds found in Idaho showed no indication of breeding (CHT). An immature found June 18 on Hart Mt. N.A.R. died the next day (WHP *et al.*). A pair of Red-necked Grebes was nesting for the 3rd consecutive year at Henrys L., *Fremont*, Ida. (CHT), and an adult was feeding a nearly adult-sized juvenile at Elk River, Ida. July 27 (MK, PP). A pair nested at Bull L. near Fortine, Mont., for the 2nd record in 51 years (WW), and a pair was on Indian L., 25 mi e. of Pilot Rock, Ore. (SM). On the other hand, Kootenai N. W. R., Bonners Ferry, Ida. had only 2 nesting pairs compared to 20 birds last year. Lake Helena near Helena, Mont., becoming shallower as it fills with sediment, hosted nesting W. Grebes for the first time; 80 nests were counted (GH, SMa). A brood of two young grebes was with an ad. W. Grebe and a "Clark's" Grebe on Flagstaff L., w. of Hart Mountain N.A.R., June 28 (WHP *et al.*). Several pairs of "Clark's" nested at Malheur, where W. Grebe numbers were down from previous years (CDL), as were they at Stuart L., w. of Prince George, B.C. (GRAE). American White Pelicans numbered 76 adults and 100 young at Pelican L., Adel, Ore. (WHP *et al.*). Many adults were at Malheur but only one egg was found, that one apparently dumped. American Falls Res. in s. Idaho had up to 1500 of the

938 *American Birds*, Winter 1985

species but no breeding. Double-crested Cormorant pairs numbered 739 at Malheur, down from last year but still the 2nd- highest figure ever. Great Blue Heron pairs at Malheur stood at 331, compared to last year's 572. The Great Blue Heron colony at Otter L., n. of Vernon, B.C., was unoccupied, perhaps because it was raided frequently by a Golden Eagle last year (JG). Great Egret numbers remained stable in the Malheur Basin with an estimated 562 pairs. The only others reported were two at Mud Lake W.M.A., Hamer, Ida., and one at American Falls Res. (CHT). Snowy Egrets set a record at Malheur with an estimated 227 pairs--the previous high had been 175 pairs in 1982. Flight counts for the birds in s. Idaho were up at American Falls Res., Oxford, and Minidoka N.W.R., and they reappeared at Market Lake W.M.A., Roberts, Ida., indicating a recovery from their slump in the early 1980s (CHT). Cattle Egrets were reported nesting at 3 places in the Pocatello, Ida. area and three were sighted at Minidoka N.W.R. (CHT). Two pairs of the species were nesting for the 3rd year near Malheur (CDL). The only Green-backed Heron sighting was of one along the Snake R. in the Pocatello area (CHT). Black- crowned Night-Herons showed a big increase at Malheur with 629 pairs (245 last year). In s. Idaho the birds seemed to be recovering from their big decrease of the 1970s; they were again nesting at Blackfoot Res. and numbers were up at Minidoka N.W.R. (CHT). White-faced Ibises set a new abundance record at Malheur with 1220 pairs. Most unusual were 120 pairs nesting at Knox Pond on the refuge. The species was also regularly seen in the Alvord Desert, *Harney*, and in the Warner Valley, Lake, the highest count being of 82 at Hart L. meadows. In the latter area breeding was suspected--the last breeding there was in 1963 (WHP *et al.*). The species' numbers appeared very good in s. Idaho.

WATERFOWL -- Trumpeter Swans had their best production in 6 years at Red Rock Lakes, Lima, Mont., with 59 cygnets. The dry weather minimized flooding of nests there. Conversely, the species did very poorly at Malheur, with only two cygnets surviving to the period's end. A lone Tundra Swan was at Hope, Ida. June 24, and six appeared at Harrison, Ida., June 28 (JMS). Canada Geese did very well at Kootenai N.W.R., fledging 155 young compared to 47 last year, and duck production looked good there. On the other hand ducks did poorly at Columbia N.W.R., Othello, Wash., and at Metcalf N.W.R., Stevensville, Mont. Wood Duck numbers appeared definitely up in the Salmon, Ida. area. An albino female Cinnamon Teal accompanied a normally-colored male at Malheur June 3 (GI, AB). Up to 87 Ring- necked Ducks were sighted at Hart Mt. N.A.R., suggesting breeding there (WHP). Broods of that species and of Lesser Scaup were down in numbers in the

Fortine, Mont., area. Harlequin Ducks were not seen after June 2 in their usual breeding locality at Kootenai Falls w. of Libby, Mont., with fishermen and tourists being the suspected cause (DH). However, a brood was seen on McDonald Cr., Glacier N.P., Mont. (WW). Two Surf Scoters were sighted on Stuart L., w. of Prince George, B.C., June 25 and six White-winged Scoters appeared in that area for the first sighting in 5 years (GRAE).

HAWKS THROUGH CRANES -- A pair of Ospreys again nested at Thompson Res., 15 mi s. of Silver Lake, Ore., and Canyon Meadows Res. s.s.e. of John Day, Ore., had one or two (CHT). A survey of Osprey nests in *Boundary*, Ida. found 14 active nests fledging 24 young. Twelve active nests of the species were observed in *Lincoln*, Mont., mostly along L. Kookanusa. A Black-shouldered Kite, very rare in Washington, was identified in the Wenatchee vicinity June 27 (S & MH). In n. Idaho a pair of Bald Eagles fledged two young at Kootenai N.W.R. (RDC) and another pair fledged one along the Kootenai R. near Bonners Ferry (PRS). A pair at Libby Dam, *Lincoln*, Mont., produced two fledglings (DH). A N. Goshawk nest with two nearly-grown young was found near Keno, Ore., July 10 (SS). Northern Harrier, Red-tailed and Swainson's hawk, and Am. Kestrel numbers at Columbia N.W.R. were only 50% of last year's. Adult Ferruginous Hawks and Golden Eagles were seen regularly on Hart Mt. N.A.R. but no nesting was noted. Jackrabbits, upon which both species depend, remained very low in numbers. Swainson's and Ferruginous hawks seemed generally scarce in s.e. Oregon. A Ferruginous Hawk near Leadore, Ida. made only the 2nd Salmon R. valley sighting for Roberts. In the Okanogan Valley, Wash., Am. Kestrels did very well; Brady banded 185 nestlings and 12 adults, compared to 42 young in 1984. The only falcon sighting other than Am. Kestrel was 3 of Prairie Falcons and 2 of Peregrine Falcons. Two small flocks of N. Bobwhites were heard in the Pocatello vicinity (KBP). Greater Sandhill Cranes again had low nesting success at Malheur as predators continued to cause problems. Success was 38.5% and few young were known to be alive at the close of the period. Sandhills appeared on numerous occasions in the Salmon area and a pair with two young was sighted near Leadore, Ida. June 15 (HBR). A sighting of the species at Davis L., *Klamath*, Ore., July 16 was unusual (PES). A Whooping Crane, one of those hatched by foster parents at Grays Lake N.W.R., summered at Red Rock Lakes N.W.R. (TM).

SHOREBIRDS THROUGH TERNS -- About 20 Snowy Plovers were sighted at Summer Lake W.M.A. *Lake*, Ore., July 13. None was seen on Malheur as high water continued to inundate their nesting habitat (CDL). Black-necked Stilts were sustaining their increases of the last 3 years at Malheur. The only other report was of two stilts near Fields, Ore. (SS). Migrating Am. Avocets in the vicinity of May, Ore., were gone by early June (SV). Two Greater Yellowlegs returned to the Bend, Ore., area June 28 (CM), and a Lesser was at nearby Tumalo Res., July 28 (TC, CM). Willets were heard migrating from Malheur during the early morning hours July 30. An unverified report of six Upland Sandpipers came from the vicinity of Smith's Ferry, Ida. (CHT). At least two of this species were again reported in Bear Valley, *Grant*, Ore. (M & AA) and two adults and one young bird were found on the traditional site in the Spokane Valley e. of Spokane, Wash. (PEW, CW, BW, JW). A Semipalmated Sandpiper in breeding plumage appeared at Bend July 7 for the 3rd county record (TC) and a juvenile was there July 31 (CM). A Red-necked Phalarope appeared at Red Rock Lakes N.W.R. for the first record there (TM).

Volume 39, Number 5 939

Franklin's Gulls again failed to nest at Market Lake W.M.A. Over 100 were at American Falls Res., July 3, rinsing suspicions of a new nesting colony (CHT). The species nesting at Malheur L was drastically reduced by

high water, with only 180 pairs compared to 1330 pairs in 1981. An ad. Franklin's at Kootenai N.W.R., June 3 was noteworthy (RDC). One or two Franklin's Gulls and a Bonaparte's Gull were with Ring-billeds at College Place, Wash., June 29 (CS). A first-summer Bonaparte's Gull appeared at Malheur June 9 (JC) & 15 (MA) and an adult was at Bend July 21 (TC). An adult was at Richland, Wash., July 14 for R.E. Woodley's only July record there. High water in Malheur L. resulted in an increase in nesting Ring-billed Gulls to 550 pairs; 520 pairs of California Gulls nested there. A total of 66 young Herring Gulls were banded at Stuart L. (GRAE). A single Herring was at Malheur June 15 (MA). Caspian Terns nested at Malheur L. for the 2nd year; one colony of 350 pairs there appeared to have good nesting success. Four Caspian Terns appeared on the Pack R. flats, Pend Oreille L., e. of Sandpoint, Ida. (PRS), and six were on the Snake R between Clarkston and Asotin, Wash., July 20 (MK, PP). Several Com. Terns were sighted near Roberts, Ida. June 18, and up to 25 at American Falls Res. in late June-early July were suspected of nesting (CHT, JMS). Breeding of Black Terns at Kootenai N.W.R. was substantiated, 9 pairs producing about 20 young (RDC). One Black Tern near May, Ida., in early June was noteworthy (SV).

CUCKOOS AND OWLS -- A Yellow-billed Cuckoo stayed around Rupert, Ida. June 26-July 29 (WHS, JMS) and one was heard at Swan Falls Dam near Boise, Ida. June 22 (CHT). Up to three were spotted in the Pocatello-American Falls Res. area in July (JT, CW). A Com. Barn-Owl that suffered a broken wing in a collision with a car near Vernon, B.C., July 1 recovered and was released (RD, JG). Another was sighted near Beresford, B.C., July 29 (WC, RH). One or two Flammulated Owls were found near Prairie, Ida. (KBP); near Starr Ridge C.G., s. of John Day, Ore., where a pair has nested in the same cavity for at least 6 years (M & AA, JC, PES); and near Calamity Butte, 30 mi n.n.e. of Burns, Ore. (M & AA). Sixteen were heard in one night in June at Mr. Wheeler near Kamloops, B.C. (RH). Two N. Hawk- Owls remained until the 3rd week of June in the Selkirk Mrs., n.w. of Creston, B.C., but no indication of nesting was observed (PRS). Burrowing Owls continue to become scarcer in the Rich- land area as development spreads; one pair was observed regularly there (REW). A pair of Spotted Owls with two young was located in Kittitas, Wash., for reportedly the only successful nesting this year n. of California (BW). Two Barred Owls were sighted at Loup Loup C.G., e. of Twisp, Wash., June 19 (EH, NH). The continuing owl survey in *Ferry*, *Stevens*, and *Pend Oreille*, Wash., noted 6 pairs plus nine Individual Barred Owls on 7 occasions at 15 locations, and one or two Boreal Owls on 2 occasions at one location. Some observations may have been duplicate finds, but all sites visited were different from those of the spring survey (BW). An ad. Boreal Owl was found at Sullivan L. near Metaline Falls, Wash., June 14 (RK). Seven Great Gray Owl nests were discovered in n. *Deschutes*, Ore. (TW), and one was noted at Lapine, Ore., July 17 (PES). One bird visited Rupert, Ida., July 26 (WHS) and one on Mt. Spokane, *Spokane*, Wash., was a county and latilong first (RP). A N. Saw-whet Owl made a rare summer visit to Malheur July 5, surviving a crash with a window (CDL).

POORWILL THROUGH SWALLOWS -- Several Com. Poor- wills were seen in the Salmon area in mid-June for Roberts's first sighting there. Up to 20 Black Swifts were observed at Kootenai N.W.R. during the summer (RDC) and 12± were over Big Meadow L., n. of Colville, Wash., for the first county record (BW). First for the latilong were 25+ Black Swifts at Clark Fork, Ida, June 24 (JMS). Several hundred Vaux's Swifts stayed in Walla Walla, Wash., all summer, many using a chimney on Whitman College campus (SM). Some 300 of this species fed over Canyon Meadows Res., July 23. The male Costa's Hummingbird that appeared in the spring at Bend was last seen around July 1 (TC) and another was seen in Sunriver, Ore., for several weeks starting June 11 (DD). An ad male Broad-tailed Hummingbird was identified July 12 at Wenatchee G.S. in the Blue Mrs., *Asotin*, Wash., for that area's first record (BW). Several pairs of Red-breasted Sapsuckers were sighted in Fremont N.F., s. of Silver Lake, Ore., during June and July (CDL). A Williamson's Sapsucker at Salmon L. s. of Kamloops July 29 was the first for that area (WC). A few Least Flycatchers were seen and heard at Clyde Holliday S.P., Mr. Vernon, Ore, on several dates in June (T & AM, M & AA, PW, REW, JC). One Least was

seen and heard at Sullivan L., June 15, for apparently the 3rd latilong record (RK), and a calling male was identified at Big Meadow L., June 24 (BW). An adult and a fledgling were carefully identified along the Little Pend Oreille R., *Stevens*, Wash., July 4 (KB). Least Flycatchers were also noted at Stuart L. (GRAE) and one was at Barnhartvale, B.C., July 1 (RH). Single Dusky Flycatchers appeared at Malheur and Fields, Ore., June 6 (SS). A few Gray Flycatchers and a nest with young were found near Pocatello June 15 (CW). Single carefully-identified Gray Flycatchers were sighted along the Little Pend Oreille R., July 4 (KB) and at Panhandle L. w. of Newport, Wash., July 31 (EJL). Western Flycatchers were again nesting on Scout Mt. s. of Pocatello (JS) and one bird was at Elba, Ida., July 1 (JMS, WHS). Cliff Swallows were migrating in large numbers in July in s.e. Oregon; 1500 were noted at Frenchglen.

JAYS THROUGH WARBLERS -- The only Blue Jay reported was one in the upper Wenatchee valley, Wash., in June (*vide* RO). A flock of 200+ Am. Crows circled over Walla Walla in mid-July, apparently looking for a roosting place. Nine pairs of Plain Titmouse and three individual birds were seen behaving territorially, inspecting cavities or carrying nesting material in juniper woodland on Hart Mt. N.A.R. (WHP *et al.*). Seven pairs of Blue-gray Gnatcatchers were on territory in the Warner Cr basin, Hart Mt. N.A.R.; one nest with young was found (WHP *et al.*). Western and Mountain bluebirds were totally absent from the Kootenai N.W.R. area, apparently having been displaced by Tree Swallows. Mountain Bluebirds were down sharply in numbers in *Asotin* and *Garfield*, Wash. (MPF). On the other hand, Mountain Bluebird numbers were up in the valley around Fortine, supposedly as a result of extensive placing of nest boxes (WW). A N. Mockingbird was sighted at Cottonwood Cr., s. of Fields for the first summer record there (T & AM, JC, SS *et al.*). The N. Mockingbird that appeared at Mountain Home, Ida., remained at least until June 5 (KBP). Twelve Sage Thrashers were counted in the Yakima R. canyon s. of Ellensburg, Wash., June 2 (Y.A.S.). Five Sprague's Pipits sighted at Barnaby L., w. of Fortine, provided the latilong's first record (WW). A Red-eyed Vireo at Malheur June 6 supplied one of very few records there (SS) and a singing male was along the Grande Ronde R. near Fields Spring S.P., *Asotin*, Wash., June 8 (SM). A Tennessee Warbler was sighted at Dorr-Skeels C.G., s. of Troy, Mont., June 16 (DH), and Nakusp, B.C., had one July 10 (GD). An Orange-crowned Warbler nested near Calamity Butte, n Harney, Ore. (MA). A female N. Parula stopped at Malheur June 1-8 (M & AA, JC, CDL, T & AM, SS) and a female Magnolia Warbler was sighted there June 1-2 (DS *et al.*, M & AA, T & AM). A male Black-throated Blue Warbler was identified at Fields June 1 (M & AA, B & JK, JJ *et al.*). A male Black-throated Gray Warbler at Fields Spring S.P., June 11 was the latilong's first (RK). Page Springs C.G. on Malheur N.W.R. had three of these birds June 5; breeding was suspected (JC). Malheur had Oregon's first **Yellow-throated Warbler**, a male, June 9-12 (JC, JC, M & AA, JGi, m.ob.). A male Palm Warbler was spotted at Fields June 7 (JC, T & AM, SS). A singing male Black-and-white Warbler was seen along the Grande Ronde R. a few mi upstream from Hilgard Junction S.P., Ore., June 12 (T & AM) and July 6 (JC, SS). American Redstarts were believed to be definitely established near Ardenvoir, Wash. (RO). Three or four singing males of the species



Male Black-throated Blue Warbler at Fields, Ore., June 1, 1985. Photo/Jim Johnson.

were found along Copper Cr., n.e. of Dixie, Wash., in June (BH, REW) and one individual was detected along Crescent Cr., *Klamath*, Ore., July 16 (PES). Noteworthy were two territorial males at Island Park Res., *Fremont*, Ida. June 19 (CHT). Several redstarts were found in mid-June at Hughes Cr., n. of North Fork, Ida. for Roberts' 2nd record in the Salmon area. Malheur had an Ovenbird June 1 (M & AA, T & AM). Northern Water- thrushes had returned by early June to their only known breeding site in Oregon, along the Little Deschutes R. near Gilchrist (AC).

GROSBEAKS THROUGH FINCHES -- A male Rose-breasted Grosbeak was sighted near Trout L., n.w. *Klickitat*, Wash., in mid-June (RHu). A male Indigo Bunting was singing 15 min. of Long Creek June 13 (T & AM) & 22 (M & AA) for probably Oregon's most northerly record. One at Milepost 77, Hwy 395, Grant, Ore., July 19 was perhaps the same bird (PES). In s.e. Oregon a female of the species was sighted at Fields June 6 (T & AM, SS, m.ob.) and a male was singing at Cottonwood Cr. in proximity to Lazuli Buntings (JC). The nest of a pair of Green-tailed Towhees at Wenatchee G.S. contained 3 eggs July 11 (BW). A Clay-colored Sparrow at Nakusp, B.C. July 10 was noteworthy (GD). A singing male Vesper Sparrow w. of Keno, Ore., showed possible adaptability of the species for spreading its range into Cascade Mts. clearcuts (SS). Twelve Sage Sparrows were found on the Yakima Firing Range June 2 (Y.A.S.). Single male Lark Buntings were seen in s.e. Idaho, s.e. of Blackfoot June 16 and near Grays L. the next day (JT, CHT). A White-crowned Sparrow was carrying food to young (heard only) July 4 near L. Kookanusa. Mont. (DH). Adults and a fledgling White-crowned Sparrow were sighted e. of Trout L., June 20 (TS). The Bobolink colony at Prairie, Ida., was growing and spread-



Male Great-tailed Grackle at Oxford L., Ida. May 12, 1985. Photo/C.H. Trost.

ing (KBP). Elba, Ida. had a male Bobolink July 1 (JMS). The Great-tailed Grackle that appeared this spring at Oxford L., *Franklin* (s. of Downey) was last seen June 9 (CHT), and the individual at Malheur lingered until late June (CDL). A pair of Black-throated Sparrows at Malheur reared a Brown-headed Cowbird (CHT). The N. "Baltimore" Oriole at Malheur was last sighted June 8 (M & AA, JC, T & AM, SS). A singing Purple Finch was at Stuart L., June 27 (GRAE) and a female accompanied by an imm. bird visited a feeder at Libby July 19 (DH). House Finch success appeared very low in the Okanogan Valley, Wash., for Brady caught and banded only two young compared to 42 last year. Red Crossbills were abundant in *Deschutes*, *Fremont*, and *Malheur*, Ore., and in extreme n. Idaho and n.w. Montana. A flock of 50+ White-winged Cross-bills flew over the Stuart L. area in late June (GRAE). They were abundant at higher elevations in extreme n. Idaho, correlating with an excellent cone crop (PRS), and were sighted in adjacent n. *Pend Oreille*, Wash. (BW). White-winged Crossbills were also common in upper elevation spruce forest and at lower elevations in s.e. British Columbia (JG). Three Lesser Goldfinches were sighted near Frenchglen, Ore., July 5 (CDL).

ADDENDA -- The mouth of the Klickitat R., Lyle, Wash., had a Great Egret May 27 (EH, NH). A female Com. Merganser with 10 chicks was along the Klickitat R. near Lyle May 25 and an Anna's Hummingbird was sighted there May 25-27 (EH, S.A.S.). A Scrub Jay was sighted in White Salmon, Wash., May 25 (EH, S.A.S.). Single N. Mockingbirds appeared in late May along Crab Cr., w. of Othello, Wash. (LG), and along Dodson Road n.w. of Othello (BM). Two singing male White-crowned Sparrows, race *pugetensis*, were found at Conboy N.W.R., n. of Lyle, May 25 (PM).

CORRIGENDUM -- The Rose-breasted Grosbeak sighting credited to WHS in the spring 1985 report was made at Ketchurn, Ida., not Rupert.

CONTRIBUTORS CITED -- Merle & Anne Archie, Allison Banks, George Brady, Ken Brunner, Wayne Campbell, Alan Contreras, Tom Crabtree, Judy Carlson (JuC), Jim Carlson, Richard Del Carlo, Dave Danley, Gary Davidson, Ray Dueck, G.R.A. Ebel, Margaret P. Flerchinger, Jeff Gilligan (JGi), Larry Goodhew, James Grant, Bill Hayes, Della Hermsmeyer, George Holton, Sue & Marvin Hoover, Rick Howie, Rick Hudson (RHu), Eugene Hunn, Nancy Hunn, Gary Ivey, Jim Johnson, Barb & John Kempe, Randy Knapp, Merlene Koliner, Earl J. Larrison, C.D. Littlefield, Sid Martin (SMa), Phil Mattocks, Terry McEneaney (TM), Tom & Allison Mickel (T & AM), Craig Miller, Bob Morse, Shirley Muse, Ruth Ortiz-Torres, Peggy Pedigo, Rod Pharness, Kerry B. Provance, W. H. Pyle, Hadley B. Roberts, Tom Schooley, Paul E. Sherrell, W. H. Shillington, John M. Shipley, Paul R. Sieracki, Spokane Audubon Society, Dale Stephens, Steve Summers, Charlie Swanson, Joel Tinsley, C. H. Trost, Sue Villard, Cheryl Webb, Winton Weydemeyer, Bart Whelton, Ted Wise, Jeff Wisman, Charlie Woodley, Pat Woodley, R. E. Woodley, Yakima Audubon Society.

Volume 39, Number 5 941

NORTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION

/Bill Harrington-Tweit and Philip W. Mattocks, Jr.

A warm, dry July followed a June that was somewhat damper and cooler than usual. Passerine nesting success, as reported by observers conducting studies, seemed normal or better. The northeast Pacific Ocean circulation patterns and temperatures returned to more usual patterns, following two years of El Nino/Southern Oscillation type patterns. However, seabird breeding success still appears to be below normal for some species.

ABBREVIATIONS -- R.D. = Ranger District; S.J.C.R. = South Jetty of the Columbia R., Oreg. Q.C.Is. = Queen Charlotte Islands, B.C.; V.I. = Vancouver Island, B.C. Place names in italics are counties.

LOONS THROUGH HERONS -- A Pacific Loon migration was noted in Hecate Strait, Q.C.Is., in early June (TW). None was noted farther s. Six Yellow-billed Loons in basic plumage were noted in the Q.C.Is., June 1-9 (TW). Non-breeders have summered in this area regularly. Other single Yellow-billed Loons in basic plumage were found at Vancouver, B.C., June 1 (MP *et al.*) for Vancouver's 2nd summer record, and on Yaquina Bay, Oreg., July 20, with a large fishhook in its breast (MH). The hook was removed, and the bird released, but Oregon's 2nd summer record only survived a few more weeks. Eared Grebes do not breed in our Region and are rarely reported in summer. Breeding-plumaged birds were noted June 1-5 at Oak Bay, V.I. (ME), and June 15 at Kent, *King*, Wash. (EH). The only 2 areas in our Region from which summering W. Grebes are reported annually are Bellingham Bay, Wash., where up to 200 were noted (TW), and in the Victoria, V.I., area with up to 10 this summer (VG). There were 6 pelagic trips reported this summer: June 6 off Cape St. James, Q.C.Is. (TW), June 30 off Cape Flattery, Wash. (TW), July 26 to LaPerouse Bank, V.I. (DS), July 25 & 28 off Westport, Wash. (TW), and July 29 in Queen Charlotte Sound (JM). Northern Fulmars were noted on all 6 trips, with a peak of 343 off Westport. They have been noted summering in the Region annually since 1981. Counts for other tubenoses ranged from one Black-looted Albatross at LaPerouse to 74 off Westport, no Pink-footed Shearwaters off Cape St. James to 102 off Westport, 30 Sooty Shearwaters at LaPerouse Bank to 2300 off

Volume 39, Number 5 953

Westport, one Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel off Cape St James to 26 at LaPerouse Bank and no Leach's Storm-Petrels most places to 1000 in Queen Charlotte Sound. A single Flesh-footed Shear- water was off Westport and two were in Queen Charlotte Sound. The highest counts of Sooty Shearwaters during the period were from shore: 3000 at Ocean Shores, *Grays Harbor*, Wash., July 20 (DP) and several thousand the same day at S.J.C.R. (BO, *fide* HN). Brown Pelicans came N in good numbers, with a high proportion of immatures. By mid-July, hundreds were at Tillamook, Oreg. (DB, *fide* HN) and stone were beginning to appear along the n. coast of Washington (SS). A group of five Am. White Pelicans was in the Vancouver area June 3-6 (MF), for the 4th summer record for that area. Interestingly, most of the summer sightings of this species in our Region are made in the s. British Columbia and n.w. Washington area.

DUCKS THROUGH FALCONS -- The count of 250 Blue-winged Teals at Iona I., Vancouver, B.C., June 6 (MP) was a record high count for that area, and probably for the Region. However, there were no breeding reports from anywhere in the Region. Four broods of N. Shovelers were found in the Victoria area (VG). The first nesting record there was in 1984. Another three-four broods were noted in Seattle, Wash. (ER). Shovelers have a very scattered breeding distribution in this Region. Two broods of Am. Wigeons were found in the Vancouver, B.C., area (MP, DK). There are still very few breeding records for the Region. A brood of Ruddy Ducks, another species with a very local breeding distribution, at the Montlake Fill in Seattle July 30 (ER) was a first for that locality. Five broods of Gadwalls and 4 of Cinnamon Teals were reported from Seattle (ER) and 6 teal broods from Victoria (VG). There were no other breeding reports from the n. one-half of the Region where these species breed locally. A Harlequin Duck with two young June 8 in N. Vancouver, B.C. (MD), provided one of few breeding records for that area. Of the 24 Osprey nests reported, all but 3 or 4 were active. There were 2 new nests found in the Victoria area (VG). The pair of Black-shouldered Kites that had been resident near Hoquiam, *Grays Harbor*, Wash., has not been reported since April. In fact, there was only one report of kites from the entire Region. Were there no others seen? Seven N. Harriers were noted from Washington and British Columbia, but no breeding evidence was reported. A Sharp-shinned Hawk nest found on the Diamond Lake R.D., *Douglas*, Oreg. (DF), and a Cooper's Hawk nest on Maury I., *King*, Wash. (JN) were the only active *Accipiter* nests reported. There were 4 other sightings of Sharp-shinneds and 11 of Cooper's. Three or four pairs of Golden Eagles were reported nesting on San Juan I., Wash. (ML), where a small population has long been known. Other sightings were from the nearby n. Olympic Pen., Wash. (DS) and s. V.I. (VG). A brood of Peregrine Falcons was noted on s. V.I. (VG) at a site where nesting had been suspected previously. There were 3 sightings of Merlins, all from s. British Columbia (*fide* VG, MF), and 5 others of Peregrines, 2 from Vancouver (MP, BK), and one each from s. V.I. (DFr), coastal Washington (BP), and coastal Oregon (HN).

PLOVERS THROUGH PHALAROPES -- Black-bellied Plovers were noted in June near Victoria (KT), and at the Hump- tulips R. mouth, *Grays Harbor*, Wash. (G & WH). Both of these spots are regular summering locations. There were 2 rare June records of Lesser Golden-Plovers: June 15 on San Juan I., Wash. (ML) and June 20 at Ocean Shores (G & WH). The first fall migrants were noted in late July (DP). Out of 7 pairs of Snowy Plovers at least one somehow produced two chicks amidst the commotion of all-terrain vehicles at Ocean Shores (JA, EC). This outpost remains the northernmost breeding locale for the species on the Pacific Coast. There were June records of summering Semipalmated Plovers from Yaquina Bay and Tillamook (HN), Ocean Shores (G & WH), and Vancouver, B.C. (DK), no breeding attempts were noted. The peak July count was 600 at Tillamook July 24 (HN). The 225 at Vancouver, B.C., July 27 (MP) was a record high count for that area. There were 7 June reports of summering Whimbrels at the usual locations: from Yaquina Bay (HN), Ocean Shores (G & WH), Sooke R., V.I. (BH) and Blackie Spit, Vancouver, B.C. (JW). The peak July count was of 300 at Ocean Shores July 20-21 (DP). There were 3 records of Willets (JS, DuK, WW *et al.*), five plus of Long-billed Curlews and more than one of Marbled Godwit. A breeding-plumaged Hudsonian Godwit, quite rare in summer, was at Vancouver, B.C., June 8 (AS *et al.*). The rock shorebirds, Surfbirds and the two turnstones, arrived later than usual. In most cases large flocks were not reported until the last 5 days in July (HN, VG), and some areas never reported large numbers (G & WH, DP). This is 5-10 days later than normal. Peak *Calidris* numbers were: 110 Sanderlings July 20 at Ocean Shores [DP], 94 Semipalmateds at Vancouver, B.C. July 31 (MF), 15,000 Westerns at Vancouver, B.C., July 13 (MP), and 700 Least at Tillamook, July 21 (JG). An ad. **Curlew Sandpiper** at Bandon, Oreg., July 25+ (JJ, VT, *fide* HN, ph. OS) in breeding plumage is the first photographed record for the state. Most counts of Short-billed Dowitchers were <100, except for the 2000+ noted at Ocean Shores July 20 (DP). The 110 Long-billed Dowitchers at Vancouver, B.C., July 30 (MF) was the peak count. Wilson's Phalaropes bred at Iona I. (BK). This species is not reported breeding in our Region annually. There were only 6 reports of Red-necked Phalaropes, totaling six individuals, which is well below normal for this species.

JAEGERS THROUGH ALCIDS -- On the 6 pelagic trips a total of five Pomarine, five Parasitic and one Long-tailed jaegers, and one S. Polar Skua were reported. An ad. **Little Gull** seen June 24 in Thatcher Pass, *San Juan* (DPo, *fide* TW) is about the 4th summer Regional record. Bonaparte's Gulls in good numbers in mid-July in the Bellingham and Victoria areas were unusually early (TW, VG). Heermann's Gulls did not appear in large numbers on the coast until mid-July, which is a bit late. Thousands of California Gulls were found in the Straits of Juan de Fuca (VG) and off Westport, Wash. (TW) after July 20, large numbers for these areas at this time. Very small numbers of summering Black-legged Kittiwakes were reported from the S.J.C.R. (HN, BO), Grays Harbor (DP, TW), Victoria (DS) and Vancouver (BK). Since 1979 only 2 summers, 1982 and 1983, have seen large numbers of summering kittiwakes. There were no reports of Sabine's Gulls this season, which is quite unusual. Caspian Terns, were reported in flocks of up to 50 from s. V.I (BH *et al.*), none were found in the Q.C.Is. (TW). A record count of almost 5450 pairs nested in Willapa Bay and Grays Harbor (SS). Though there were no new nesting locations, it is obvious that the population is steadily increasing. Southbound Com. Terns appeared in lower numbers than usual. The 5 sightings reported totalled only 11 birds. The small colony of Arctic Terns that has nested intermittently in Puget Sound on a dredge spoil island off Everett, Wash., since at least 1977, was located nearby on the mainland this summer. Seven young were observed June 30 (ER), and photos were obtained on 3 dates (PM, GG, DP). VG noted that there were only nine Com. Murres observed in the Victoria area this summer, compared to the hundreds reported during the last 2 summers. We hope this means that the murres breeding on the Washington coast, and perhaps Oregon as well, stayed at their colonies much longer this year than the last two. Indeed, better numbers of murre chicks were seen in late July off Westport (TW) than in the last 2 years. However, HN felt that murres on the Oregon coast may not have done well and SS noted that the murre colony at Grenville Arch, *Grays Harbor*, essentially failed to fledge birds. Murre reproduction may be slowly moving back towards pre- "El Nino" levels. The same may not be true for Cassin's Auklets. Counts at sea off Westport remain at the very low levels of the past 2 summers. None was seen at sea off Cape Flattery and in Queen Charlotte

954 *American Birds*, Winter 1985

Sound, and only one was seen off Q.C. Is (TW), even though birds were active on colonies there at night. Fewer data are available for Tufted Puffins; HN reported that the Cape Meares, Oreg. colony stayed at only six to eight pairs this summer, but at the Grenville Arch colony four to six pairs successfully colonized a new area on the mainland (SS). Good numbers of Rhinoceros Auklets were observed from shore at Grays Harbor in July (DP, TW) and Victoria (*fide* VG). These concentrations probably reflect local feeding conditions. Several Horned Puffins were observed in the s. Q.C.Is. this summer. One was at a Tufted Puffin colony on Kerouard I., June 5 (TW) and three were near Flatrock I., July 30-31 (JM). The colony in the n. Q.C.Is. is the only one known in the Region. There have been no sightings s. of there since 1980. There were 2 interesting observations regarding Marbled Murrelet breeding. Murrelets were heard calling in the early morning of June 2, apparently from trees, at Rockfish Harbor on Louise I., Q.C.Is. (TW) and a juvenile was found dead on the beach at Ocean Shores on the early date of June 30 (DP, *U.W. Burke Museum).

OWLS THROUGH FLYCATCHERS -- DF located two **Flammulated Owls** at Perry Butte Stub Trailhead, Diamond Lake R D, *Douglas*, Oreg., that were behaving as if breeding in the area. He noted that the presence of Ponderosa Pines in the stand, dominated by Douglas-fir, made the area appear similar to Flammulated habitat on the e. slope of the Cascades or farther s in California. There is only one previous breeding record for our

Region (AB 37:217, 1982), a chick brought in to a raptor rehabilitation center in Grants Pass, Oreg. It seems likely that a small population, perhaps contiguous with the n. California population, exists in the upper Umpqua and Rogue R. drainages. Several Spotted Owls were found on the w. slope of the Olympics and on the coastal strip of Olympic N.P. Wash. (ES, *fide* DSm) this summer. Spotted Owls were also found at 2 new locations in s.w. British Columbia (*fide* DK). A Barred Owl, still rarely reported from w. Oregon, was at Glide June 15 (KK). A pair of Barred Owls, with several fledglings, found in the Queets corridor on the w. side of Olympic N.P. (ES, *fide* DSm) represents the first breeding record for the Olympic Peninsula, and one of still very few for the Region. Up to 10 Black Swifts were at Salt Creek Falls, Lane, Oreg. (DF, HN) during June were probably nesting, but no further evidence was observed. There are no known nesting locations for this swift in w. Oregon. The 27 reports of Rufous Hummingbird from the Victoria area, with only one nest found, were well below normal. VG thought that there had been no recovery from the decline of 1984. No other areas have reported declines. Williamson's Sapsuckers are occasionally found just w. of the Cascade Crest in our Region. This season, two were seen in Washington (G & WH, EH, PM) and one in Oregon (SH). Three-toed Woodpeckers were reported more commonly than usual this summer, from as far s. as the n.w. side of Mr. Adams (CC), and n. to W. Vancouver (EM). Western Wood-Pewees and Olive-sided Flycatchers were noted as scarce in the upper Umpqua drainage (DF). Both were virtually unreported elsewhere. A Least Flycatcher at Pemberton Meadows, B.C., June 9 (MP *et al.*) furnished the 4th Vancouver area record. Dusky Flycatchers were observed more frequently than in 1984 on Diamond Lake R D (DF). Eastern Kingbird nesting pairs were found at Agassiz Slough, B.C., July 18 (MS) and 18km n.w. of Pemberton, B.C., July 14 (WW). Both locales are areas where they may breed regularly.

LARKS THROUGH WARBLERS -- Four Horned Larks near the Portland Airport, Oreg. June 9 (DB) were at a historic nesting area where they have not been noted in recent years. A singing male was noted in Fort Lewis, Wash., in May (GW). These were the only sightings of larks from the lowland valley population that seems to have almost disappeared. The Purple Martin breeding reports were as follows: two pairs bred at Cowichan Bay, V.I. (VG), birds were seen at the L. Sammamish colony, e of Seattle, as usual (EH, GG), a few were noted in downtown Seattle (DP) and at pilings on Totten Inlet, Mason, Wash. (PM), at least 15 pairs nested in Ft. Lewis (GW), a colony near the Portland airport was active (HN), and 6-10 adults were noted near a burn full of big snags w. of Roseburg, Oreg. (DF *et al.*). Barn Swallows were noted to have had excellent reproductive success (VG, HN, DF). The fantastic Iona I. sewage ponds produce more than rare shorebirds; they also harbor Com. Ravens of unusual intelligence. On 2 occasions this summer they were noted eating starlings (BK, MP). Rock Wrens, either vagrants from the e. or products of isolated local populations, were seen on Saddle Mt., Clatsop, Oreg., (HN), near Mt. Rainier N.P., Wash. (TM), and on Mt. Si, King, Wash. (TWe). The W. Bluebird population in Ft. Lewis this year had the highest number of known nesting pairs to date, and the highest percentage of 2nd nestings (GW). Only one pair of W. Bluebirds was at Victoria, their northern-most breeding locale in the Region, and no nesting activity was documented there (*fide* VG). There were 2 reports of N. Mockingbird; one June 2 at Victoria (KT, TZ) and the other at the mouth of the Pistol R., Curry, Oreg. June 9 (JG, OS). Groups of Bohemian Waxwings, irregular breeders in the mountainous parts of the n. one-half of our Region, were noted at 3 locations along the United States/Canada border in late July: at Manning P.P., B.C. (MS), and at Harts Pass (ST) and Rainy Pass (DP) in Wash. Red-eyed Vireos were reported from several locales in w. Oregon, where their range is quite limited. Individuals were noted near Estacada (*fide* HN), w. of Elsie in the Coast Range (HN), and at Fern Ridge Res., Eugene (SH). A pair bred at the Scappoose Airport, n.w. of Portland (JG). Reports on Nashville Warblers ranged from "such hordes" in the Douglas Cascades (DF) and many in the subalpine zone on the slopes of Mt. Adams mid-July (CC), to usual numbers present in the Skagit valley, Wash. (TW). A male **Chestnut-sided Warbler** was found July 18 (MDo *et al.*) near Naches Pass, King, Wash. Interestingly this bird was not only outside the mid-June period of all 4 previous sightings, but was at a bog at 5500' in otherwise continuous Douglas-fir forest. The bird was searched for, but not found, subsequently. The small population of Hermit Warblers near McCleary, Mason, Wash., was noted June 26 (PM).

This is the only known population of this species nesting near sea level around Puget Sound, and it is the southernmost of the small populations breeding on the e. slope of the Olympics. A singing male Black-and-white Warbler, a rare vagrant, was reported from Portland June 8 (KTr, *fide* HN). A singing **Oven- bird** June 16 at Vancouver (WW *et al.*) provided the first record for s.w. British Columbia.

BUNTINGS TO FINCHES -- There were an unprecedented number of sightings of Lazuli Buntings in the Vancouver, B.C. area this summer (DK). It is normally a casual species there. A male **Indigo Bunting** at Vancouver, B.C., June 4 (MW *et al.*) furnished the 2nd area record. The first breeding record for **Brewer's Sparrow** in the Region came from clearcuts at 3500' along the Emigrant Pass Hwy., *Lane*, in the Oregon Cascades. Four singing males were recorded and an incubating female was photographed on the nest in checks of the area June 23-July 1 (SH, MH, T & AM). Additionally, two adults and four immatures found at Fern Ridge Res., Oreg, July 31 (ph., MH, SH *et al.*) may have bred there. A single adult was found at Cottage Grove Res., July 31 (MH, SH). A Black-throated Sparrow at W. Vancouver, B.C., June 2 (JM, CA *et al.*) adds to the records from this spring's echo from the 1984 May-June flight. A breeding-plumaged male **Chestnut-collared Longspur** at S.J.C.R., July 18+ (HN, *et al.*, ph.) provided the 5th summer record for the Region. The previous 4 were also all ad. males. **Tricolored Blackbirds** apparently bred at Portland again this summer, at a location near that used last year (HN). Small numbers of Red Crossbills were reported from s. British Columbia (DK), w. Washington, V.I (VG), and the s. Oregon Cascades (DF), but no nesting was reported.

Volume 39, Number 5 955

S.A.

White-winged Crossbills invaded the Cascades of s. British Columbia and Washington during July in large numbers. The first report was from the Vancouver area in mid-June (BK). The next was from the British Columbia Cascades July 6 (WW), and by the end of July they were the most abundant, visible and vocal birds in the subalpine forests of s. British Columbia and n. Washington. In the Washington Cascades, they were locally common as far s. as the slopes of Mt. Adams and Mt. St. Helens, just n. of the Columbia R. (CC). The widespread appearance in mid-summer follows the pattern of the smaller, previous irruption in 1678. Courtship behaviors and copulation were widely noted and fledglings are expected in early fall.

CITED OBSERVERS AND CONTRIBUTORS; (with sub-regional editors in italics), -- Catherine Aitchison. Janet Anthony. David Bailey. Chris Chappell. Barbara Combs. Eric Cummins. Mark Daly, Michael Donohue

(MDo). Mike Edgell. Elzy Eltzroth. *David Fix* , Dave Fraser (DFr), George Gerds, Jeff Gilligan, *Vic Goodwill*, Bob Hand. Steve Heintz. Glen and Wanda Hog, Mike Houck, *Eugene Humm*. Matt Hunter. Jim Johnson. Durrel Kapan (DuK), Brian Kautesk, Ken Knittie, *Doug Kragh*, Mark Lewis, Ted Mallory, and Eric McBean. Alan McGie, JoAnn McKenzie. Tom and Allison Mikel, *Harry Nehls*, Joy Nelson, Bob O'Brien, Bob Paine, *Dennis Paulson*, David Powell (DPo). Mike Price, Ellen Ratoosh, Owen Schmidt. Erran Seaman, Michael Shepard, left Skriletz, Dory Smith (DSm). Steve Speich. Andrew Stewart, David Stirling, Otis Swisher, Keith Taylor, Verda Teal, Stuart Tingley, Khanh Tran (KTr), *Terry Wahl*, Also George Walter, Wayne Weber, Tom Weir (TWe), Mavis Wilcox, Jack Williams, and Tim Zurowski.

End 1985