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Washington Ornithological Society

From the Board - see page 7

WOSNews No. 193 October - November 2021

A Birder's Tale by PSYBF Grantee Sierra Downes

Thank you very much WOS for the grant from the Patrick Sullivan Young Birders Fund! I used the money for Camp Chiricahua, so I thought that I would tell you what we did, what I got out of it, and show you a few photos. I just got back and I was so excited to go this year, because it got canceled last year when I was supposed to go.

The first day we headed from the Tucson airport up to Mt. Lemon, and found a Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher nest. We camped at Rose Lake Canyon, and there were so many cool bugs and a scorpion.

Day 2 we went on an early morning walk, and found the Common Black Hawk!! There were also so many Yellow-eyed Juncos that

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Sierra Downes of Yakima received the PSYBF award in 2019. She was the youngest recipient (13 years old at the time of the award) and first from Eastern Washington.



Green Heron Chicks, photo by Nancy Morrison

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The Washington Ornithological Society was chartered in 1988 to increase knowledge of the birds of Washington and to enhance communication among all persons interested in those birds. WOS is a nonprofit educational organization under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue code.

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Birder's Tale by PSYBF Grantee (cont.)

were singing and got pretty close. Then we went to Marshall Gulch and saw lots of puddling butterflies, and Incinerator Ridge Rd where there were lots of Broad-tailed Hummingbird nests. We camped again. Also every night we did checklist sessions, where we went over any birds, mammals, reptiles, butterflies, etc. that we saw.

Day 3 we went on an early morning walk (5a.m.) down to the lake, and spotted the Common Black Hawk again and got good views of a male Olive Warbler!! Then we packed up and headed to Portal. On the way we stopped at a few places, including Lake Cochise at Wilcox that had a close panting Golden Eagle. In Portal we stayed at Cave Creek Ranch, and it had tons of feeders and great birding right around it!

Day 4 we took an early morning walk around the ranch and had a great view of Blue-throated Mountain Gems, Gambel's Quail including babies,



Curved-billed Thrashers, and Cactus Wrens. Then we headed down to and walked South Fork Cave Creek Canyon, where we had an Elegant Trogon! We also went to someone's feeders and just around Portal, where we had Thick-billed Kingbird + Cassin's Kingbird both with nests. At night we went for a drive and saw owls and a tarantula.

Day 5 we went on another morning walk around the ranch, and saw so many deer. Then we went to some feeders, found a Black-chinned Sparrow, and went up into the highlands, where there was a family of Grace's Warblers and Mexican Chickadee. And on the drive down we saw a pair of Montezuma Quail! At night we went out owling in Cave Creek Canyon and saw an Elf Owl, Gray Fox, and Whiskered Screech-Owl!

Day 6 we first went out to the big thicket, then State Line Rd. (AZ + NM) where we saw Bendire's Thrasher. And Willow Tank, which had lots of dragonflies and bugs.

Back at the ranch we spotted an Elf Owl in a cavity. And at night we went back to Cave Creek Canyon, and saw a Mexican Whip-poor-will.

Day 7 we went to the big thicket again, saw Black-tailed Gnatcatcher, and then to the Chiricahua Desert Museum (they had a lot of different venomous reptiles, mostly rattlesnakes). Then we made our way to Sierra Vista, and on the way we stopped at the San Pedro House, with Vermilion Flycatchers, but it started pouring and lightning.

Multiple days were rainy and had lightning, so we also got to experience the monsoon season. Stayed in Sierra Vista.

Day 8, we went to Miller Canyon, at Beatty's Guest Ranch Feeders, where we stayed for a while and saw lots of hummingbirds, including Broad-billed, Broad-tailed, Rivoli's, Black-chinned, Anna's, Rufous, Violet-crowned, and White-eared!! And we went to Ash Canyon, Costa's Hummingbird, Sulphur-bellied Flycatchers, and back to the San Pedro House at dusk, and saw lots of Lesser Nighthawks.

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Birder's Tale by PSYBF Grantee (cont.)

Day 9, went to the sewage ponds at Sierra Vista, the Sonora Grasslands where we saw Botteri's and Cassin's Sparrow. And it rained heavily again; it was very cool to see how rain changed and brought life to the desert ecosystem. And we went to Ash Canyon Bird Sanctuary where we saw a Lucifer Hummingbird and a Roadrunner eating from the feeders. We stayed in Patagonia, and went for a night time outing; we saw a Western Screech-Owl and another tarantula.



Day 10 we first went to Patagonia Roadside Rest Area where we had a pair of Rose-throated Becards, and Thick-billed Kingbirds. Then we went to Patagonia Lake State Park, where there were Neotropic Cormorants, a hummingbird nest with eggs, a White-nosed Coati (and more rain/lightning). At RioRico the trail was cut off because there was a major wash and in Patagonia some of the roads were impassable because of the washes (we couldn't get to Pattons Center for Hummingbirds). And in Patagonia there was a close-sitting Mississippi Kite, Gray Hawk, and we found a Ruddy Ground-dove!

where there were so many hummingbirds and a White-nosed Coati that walked out and took a nap in a close tree. And we went up the canyon to Mt. Wrightson Picnic Area where an Elegant Trogon was sitting in a tree pretty close for a while, calling and giving us a show!!

Then we headed to Tucson. Our last day was just at the airport going home, but we did see a baby Roadrunner on the way. Throughout the whole time we also saw many different lizards and butterflies. I learned so much from this camp; more things about birds (identifying, habitat, behavior), mammals, reptiles, bugs, butterflies/dragonflies, the area; from the leaders and campers.



Day 11, we first went to Box Canyon, where there was a Varied Bunting, a Five-striped Sparrow, and a Lucifer Hummingbird feeding from an Agave! And driving we saw a few Peccaries. Then to Madeira Canyon, first to the Santa Rita Lodge Feeders

The leaders (Micheal and Louise) taught us so much, and were great to bird with. And I also made many friends; my first young birder friends! I will forever remember this wonderful experience, and I'm very thankful for the scholarship!



Welcome to the New and Returning Members of WOS

Lora Leschner & Bill Hebner – Arlington
Dean Coffman – Bellingham
Paul Troka – Concrete
Matt Yawney – Ephrata
Erica Dias – Everett
Scott Markowitz – Gig Harbor
James Cain – Grapeview
Bob & Laurie Schmidt – Hansville
Scott Morrison – Lacey
Melinda Baker – Lynnwood
Mike Kinberg – Lynnwood
Margaret Heming – Moses Lake
Gloria Hall – North Bend
Jon Anderson – Olympia
Petrea Stoddard – Olympia
Yuri Young – Olympia
Stephen Hampton – Port Townsend
Kathleen Criddle – Richland
Paul Anderson – Seattle
Kim Bishop – Seattle
Hilary Bolles – Seattle
Beverly Bowe – Seattle
David Braun – Seattle
Addi Brooks – Seattle
Jonathan Cooper – Seattle
Jennifer Walsh Fisher – Seattle
Anne Jacobs – Seattle
Roland Kilcher – Seattle
David Killman – Seattle
Debbie Kubas – Seattle
Pamela Reynolds – Seattle
John Seiferth - Seattle
Gordon Starkebaum – Seattle
Jim Thomas – Seattle

Daniel Zak – Seattle
John Gatchet – Sequim
Ellen Meyer – Shoreline
Monya Noelke – Shoreline
Barbara Henon & Richard Shilling, Shoreline
Darcy Varona – Spokane
Ellen Cohen & Ken Zirinsky – Tacoma
Brittany Kealy – Tacoma
Sally Alhadeff – Tenino
Susan Boynton – University Place
DJ Jones – Winthrop
Lori Isley – Yakima
Ginny Hupp & Lisa Aikenhead – Diamond
Springs, CA
Ryan Shaw – Sugarland, TX
Emily Goodin - Bellingham
Mary Klein - Bremerton
Sandra Domitrovich - Cheney
Sheryl Nice-Smith - Clayton
Jeanne Kleyn – La Conner
Nancy Morrison - Lake Forest Park
Carolyn Boatsman - Mercer Island
Dan & Erika Tallman - Olympia
Jim Castle - Pasco
Tammy VuPham – Redmond
Bruce Lagerquist - Seattle
Brian Hempstead - Seattle
Hugh Spitzer - Seattle
David Lind - Selah
William Kareta - Shoreline
Edward Gibb - Spokane
Jane Meloy - Chicago, IL
Francene Grewe - Portland, OR
Amit Kulkarni - Bangalore, India

From the WOS Board

Ed Pullen

Your WOS board has been working for you to get better in several ways. Before I get to those things I want to give thanks to a number of WOS members. First and most heartily, thanks to our past and current president Jennifer Kauffman and to our most recent past president before Jennifer, Eric Dudley. Both have stepped up to serve as two-term presidents, and both deserve our heartfelt thanks for agreeing to serve not just one but two terms in that role. Eric in his second term as president worked with the Oregon Birding Association leadership to plan the twice postponed joint WOS-OBA Conference in Astoria. The Covid-19 Pandemic led to the postponement of both the 2020 and 2021 Conferences much to the disappointment of all of us, but the work put in by Eric and Jennifer was exemplary, and letting it go for good reason twice was difficult.

We did get to enjoy the virtual 2021 Keynote talk by Dr. John Fitzpatrick of Cornell/eBird, but we all missed the camaraderie, field trips and fun of the in-person event.

More deserving our thanks and gratitude include others on the board, especially Grace Oliver for managing the financial side, Bob Flores for his background work, and especially Ken Brown for putting together the field trips with site/route help from Russ Koppendrayner and Andrew Emlen and recommendations for trip leaders from Grace and “Ollie” Oliver. Thanks also to outgoing WOS Board members Bob Flores and Grace Oliver, and to nominees for election: Treasurer Bob Schmidt, Secretary Jon Houghton, Vice President David Armstrong, President Jennifer Kauffman (Again!!!- whew) and re-election - Matt Yawney and myself. Grace Oliver has served several terms as treasurer, and is leaving us in great shape as she leaves that position, so thanks for a job well done Grace!

Now for some of the things we have been working to improve for WOS.

We have written, discussed, approved and published to the WOS website needed policy statements on

[Diversity-Equity-Inclusion](#), as well as policy statements on [Non-discrimination and Anti-harrassment](#). Please check these out on the links if you are interested. In addition we are trying to make our activity on encouragement and support of our young birders through the [Patrick Sullivan Young Birders Fund](#) more regular and diverse.

First thanks to the heroes who started, supported and nurtured this effort for many years, Andy and Ellen Stepniewski, Tom Mansfield, Faye McAdams-Hands and others. In the last three years we have supported college students in research projects (Will Brooks and Hayley Rettig) as well as younger birders with assistance in attending birder camps (Sierra Downes and Jacob Miller). In the upcoming year we will be supporting another university student, Mason Maron, in his research at WSU. We are working to find ways to make application and selection of future young birder recipients of this support and encouragement even more consistent and inclusive. Stay tuned for more on this subject.



Maybe for me the most exciting thing WOS has done in the last year is to make access to Cornell University’s Birds of the World a membership benefit. This is in my opinion the premier information resource on the natural history of nearly any bird in the world. I have subscribed for years, first to BNA (Bird’s of North America) and more recently since the expanded scope of the site to BOW (Birds of the World). Anyone can subscribe through Cornell’s Lab of Ornithology for \$7.99/ month or \$49/ year. Now as a WOS member you can have access without additional cost beyond your annual WOS dues of \$25 / year individual, \$30/ year family or \$15/ year student cost.

If this sounds too good to be true, it is NOT. We negotiated a great rate for our whole membership. If you know of birders who want to access BOW but cannot or choose not to incur the direct cost, suggest that they [join WOS](#) and get access through membership. Thanks all for your continued membership and support. Keep on birding, stay safe and have fun.

The Tubenose

Story and photos by Tom Bancroft

The bird held its wings stiff and flat as it glided along the Krysuvikurbjarg. The wind whipped along these cliffs, making me cinch down my hat, and this guy was using the gale to drift smoothly right in front of me, almost floating.

The crashing of the North Atlantic filled the air, and other birds' cries added to the chorus. I felt like I could reach out and touch this Northern Fulmar, but I was staying a good twenty feet back from the sheer drop. He seemed to be hanging there, like a kite, just playing in the blow.

This was a bird I'd hoped to see on this trip to Iceland. A friend had called a few weeks earlier to say he had an opening on a photography trip; he'd asked, "Do you want to photograph puffins and skuas?"

I did, but I also thought about these guys and would I finally have a close look at this marvelous family. They have a unique tube on the top of their bill that gives the order their name, Procellariiforms, the tubenose. Albatrosses, shearwaters, and petrels are all in this group.

I'd seen this species in 2005 when I came to Iceland with my wife, daughter, and her future husband, but on that trip, they flew along a cliff more than half a mile away. So, I couldn't study them in detail; see that bill. My wife was sick with cancer, and that trip wasn't about birds. But as we drove north toward Snæfellsnes Peninsula, a place she wanted to see because a volcanic crater, there, had been the inspiration for Jules Vern's book, *Journey to the Center of the World*,

I spotted fulmars flying, and she insisted I stop to look. I'd seen other members of this order a few times but also not well, not where one could have a feel for them. So according to eBird, they were on



my life list, but, yet something still seemed missing. Mostly, I knew these birds from books.

Krysuvikurbjarg are a well-known breeding site for thousands of seabirds. The volcanic bluffs drop almost two hundred feet straight to the water's edge, and birds nest on outcrops and in crevices. Siggí, my Icelandic guide, pointed out other great birds, including kittiwakes, murre, puffins, and gulls. He warned me not to get close because slabs of tuft or basalt sometimes crack, falling into the surf. He didn't want to lose a customer. But right then, my concentration was focused on this fulmar and its incredible ability to fly.

I used to dream of flying myself, especially when watching Red-tailed Hawks soar over our farm in

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The Tubenose (cont.)

Pennsylvania. They would catch the thermals that rose from the sun's heating of the ground. On fixed wings, they'd make marvelous loops, never once twitching those wings, going in circles, often climbing higher and higher. They weren't hunting, just playing in the afternoon, enjoying life. I'd be out helping with the hay or doing some other chore, stop, and watch in envy.



Although fulmars look somewhat like gulls, they are more closely related to albatrosses. This entire group is true pelagic birds, generally spending all their time at sea and only coming to land during the nesting season. This guy's body was thicker than a gull's, about the size of a Mew or Ringed-billed gull, with a heavier head and thinner wings. On the top of its bill was that closed-over tube, like someone had glued an inch-long straw to its dorsal surface. The bill was also thick and had a distinct hooked beak. Apparently, they have an excellent sense of smell and use it to find food, eating fish, invertebrates, and offal from the fishing industry. Their numbers have grown in the North Atlantic over the last two centuries, presumably due to the increased food the fishing industry has provided.

The word fulmar is derived from Old Norse and means "foul gull." Adults and chicks produce a nasty smelling sticky oil from the lining of their stomachs and will regurgitate it onto something threatening the nest.

Siggi told a funny story of climbing a steep hill to get a better perch for a photograph. Unknown to him, a pair of fulmars were nesting just over a little bump. As his head came over the grass-covered

rise, they vomited right on him, covering him in this smelling goo. He said the smell didn't wash off, and his wife was not particularly pleased to let him back in the house.

My attention, though, was focused on how this bird flew. This species and its close relatives, the shearwaters, petrels, and albatrosses, are best known for their flying abilities. Many of them travel huge distances on foraging trips, and Fulmars sometimes make many hundred-mile loops gathering food for their young. Outside of the breeding season, they can cover enormous distances across the oceans. His wings were longer and thinner than I expected, and that made sense as I thought about their ecology.

The long-thin wings allow this bird to use any wind or slight updraft from waves to glide. When they do flap, their wingbeats are short and choppy and can take them readily where they need to go, but it was their use of the wind that I'd come to marvel.

My sister and I used to fly kites, especially in March and April when it was windy on our Pennsylvania farm. We take them up the hill, west of the house.

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The Tubenose (cont.)

Attached to a long string, with the appropriate tail, they'd climb above the hayfield, gliding back and forth with the constant breeze. Giddiness would fill our hearts. A gust might make them dip or crash if we didn't react correctly, and a drop in the breeze would cause them to fall. We had to turn and run to keep them up until the breeze picked up.

Here, this bird was using the updrafts from the cliff. The brisk wind came in from the ocean, turned vertical, shooting up past us, and the fulmar just drifted on that boisterous current.

Incredibly, this bird was molting flight feathers, and yet it seemed to hang on this breeze. Several inner primaries were growing. It also was replacing some of its coverts and maybe a few secondaries. All birds must replace their feathers each year to maintain their aerodynamics and insulation. The feathers wear with time and life's actions, like our clothes. They are made of keratin, the same as our fingernails, and the complete plumage can weigh as much as a fifth or sixth of the bird's weight. So, energetically, it is an expensive process, and they must keep their ability to fly throughout. Yet, even with those new feathers growing, it seemed to fly perfectly.

Siggi called, "We need to move along now." The others had walked a quarter-mile across the tundra toward the vehicle. Siggi stood not thirty feet from me still watching the birds over the ocean. He was a big man, a good head and shoulders taller than me, with a build that looked more like a professional wrestler or defensive lineman in American football.

When I'd seen him walk into the hotel lobby on that first morning, I'd dismissed him as someone not possibly interested in nature. I couldn't have been more wrong. He walked through this natural landscape with reverence and shared his love of nature freely. He joked about being a Viking and we all teased him about it too. But, I'd follow this man into the wilds anytime.

Right then, the fulmar banked right, dropping below the edge of the cliff, and disappeared. Maybe I already had this species on my life list, but this sighting I'd never forget. My kites in Pennsylvania never quite flew like this bird. A master of flight had passed, having fun with the blow, not once flapping its wings.



State Commission Changes Ferruginous Hawk Status from Threatened to Endangered

By KUOW-FM Staff

Washington's Ferruginous Hawk population is continuing to slip. The state Fish and Wildlife Commission unanimously voted at a meeting in August to change the hawk's status from threatened to endangered, in an effort to stop the decline. The birds face multiple threats, including wildfires, urban sprawl and loss of prey.

Multiple factors led to fewer fledgling hawks surviving in recent years, biologists said. The core breeding habitat surrounds southeastern Washington's Tri-Cities region, which reduces habitat in an ever-expanding urban sprawl. Fewer prey now roam across the landscape. Further, wildfires have consistently burned through important shrub steppe habitat.

"Our population is still at very low numbers and hasn't rebounded," said Gerald Hayes, a biologist with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Ferruginous hawks were listed as threatened in Washington in 1983. To bring more attention to the plight of the hawk, the commission changed the hawk's status to endangered status.

The department reviews the status of the Ferruginous Hawks at least every five years. During surveys for this status review, biologists and volunteers monitored 230 nesting territories. Preliminary data shows 39 occupied nests. Of those, 28 nests had one or more young hawks survive. A total of 77 young hawks left the nest.

There has been a significant decline in Ferruginous Hawk breeding pairs since the mid-1990s, biologists said. They surveyed an average of 55 breeding pairs between 1992 and 1995. This year, surveyors found 32 breeding pairs, around a 42% decline.

Research from the 1920s indicates the hawks were once very plentiful in the Mid-Columbia region based on the number of nests found near Kiona in Benton County.



Light Morph Ferruginous Hawk, Larry Jordan photo

Ferruginous Hawks migrate to different locations throughout the year, spending roughly one-third of their time in breeding areas such as the Mid-Columbia. Most of the hawks in Washington overwinter in California's Central Valley.

The birds are deemed a sensitive species in Oregon. Ferruginous Hawks are more commonly spotted in northern Malheur County and along the foothills of the Blue Mountains.

For hawks in Washington, the lack of prey is a major concern. Ground squirrels and jackrabbits that live in

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Change in Status of Ferruginous Hawks (cont.)

the shrub-steppe are facing the same threats as Ferruginous Hawks, Hayes said. Multiple ground squirrel and jackrabbit species also are candidates for Washington's endangered species list.

Commissioner Molly Linville, a former biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Benton and Franklin counties, said anecdotally, she noticed as prey declined, so did Ferruginous Hawk nesting success.

"The white- and black-tail jackrabbits and Washington ground squirrel declined really rapidly as the Tri-Cities started to develop," Linville said.

Prey also has declined in the winter ranges of the hawks outside Washington. The department might integrate habitat improvements that could help hawks and their prey, said Taylor Cotten, conservation assessment section manager with the department. The department is studying a multi-species model that could work to recover many species at once, he said.

"A lot of attention is specifically around the prey base and understanding what the threats are to the prey base and conservation for those species as well," Cotten said.

Another big problem for the hawks and their prey: wildfires.

Since 1995, wildfires have overlapped with Ferruginous Hawk nesting territory, Hayes said. That's especially true in recent years near the core breeding habitat.

"Many of these large, hot wildfires have resulted in the conversion of shrub-steppe to monocultures of cheat-grass, with indirect effects on Ferruginous Hawks by both short- and long-term loss of prey species," Hayes said.

The department is also monitoring how the birds fare near wind and solar energy projects. The department is uncertain exactly how much renewable energy development is contributing to the decline of the hawks, Hayes said.

Commissioner Lorna Smith cited a 2016 study in the *Journal of Wildlife Management* that found increased renewable energy development had a negative effect on nest success, especially for Ferruginous Hawks.

"Wind turbines are a real potential issue," Smith said. "I don't know how large, but it is something of concern."

According to the department's draft report, wind turbines could strike the birds. Energy development also could fragment habitat or lead to changes in behavior of the hawks as they avoid renewable projects.

In addition, climate change could cause problems for the birds, according to the report. Increased droughts and wildfire occurrences could lead to fewer prey species for the Ferruginous Hawks to eat. Moreover, the effects of climate change could further fragment the shrub-steppe habitat, according to the report.

Marie Neumiller, Inland Northwest Wildlife Council's executive director, said the conservation group was concerned about the multiple threats damaging Washington's shrub-steppe habitat. She said cooperative efforts are needed to restore habitat that's hit on all sides with effects from wildfires, urban and energy development, and invasive species. "Protecting species that depend on this habitat, like mule deer, sage grouse, and Ferruginous Hawks, is going to be a very delicate dance," Neumiller said.

Washington Field Notes June-July 2019

Compiled by Ryan Merrill

Bird listings in bold or capital letters represent birds on the state review list which requires documentation to be submitted to the Washington Bird Records Committee. This column strives to present the most unusual and interesting bird records of this reporting period along with a sampling of the more regular but still unusual species. For those looking for the most complete picture of birds reported during this season, one should check the online database eBird (www.eBird.org) in addition to this column.

The state's 3rd **Ashy Storm-Petrel** was photographed off *Grays Harbor* in mid June. A Pacific Golden-Plover in *Douglas* in mid July was a very rare find for the eastside. Also rare for that half of the state was a Whimbrel in mid July. Rare godwits were represented by a Hudsonian Godwit in *Clallam* late June to mid July and a Bar-tailed Godwit in *Skagit* in mid July. Rare on the eastside was a Red Knot in *Walla Walla* in late July. A rare **Guadalupe Murrelet** in Westport in late July was the first to be seen from land in the state. An exceptional inland record of Cassin's Auklet came from the Columbia River in *Cowlitz* in late June. The state's first **Crested Auklet** was seen by a lucky few in Seattle in late June. Tufted Puffins ventured farther south than usual in Puget Sound with multiple sightings in *King* where there are usually none.

The state's first Anna's x Costa's Hummingbird was in *Lewis* in early July. The potential Alder x Willow Flycatcher in *Skagit* returned for the second year in a row. Ash-throated Flycatchers strayed from their normal range with reports from five counties where they are not normally found. A very rare westside Pygmy Nuthatch was near the Cascade crest in *Lewis* in late July and a Canyon Wren in *Whatcom* in early July was almost as surprising. **Blue-gray Gnatcatchers** were found breeding for the first time in Washington in both *Klickitat* and *Yakima*. An **Ovenbird** in *Yakima* in late June was the state's 30th record. A **Common Grackle** in *Clallam* in early June was the state's 27th. A Lesser Goldfinch in *San Juan* in mid June was the first for the county.

Snow Goose Uncommon in summer: 2 at Umatilla NWR *Benton* 6/3 (eBird), 1 at Kenmore *King* 7/23 (eBird)

Trumpeter Swan Uncommon in summer: 1 at Duguala Bay *Island* 6/11 (eBird), 1 at Crocker Lake *Jefferson* 6/21 (eBird)

Tundra Swan Uncommon in summer: 1 at Bayview *Skagit* 6/2 (eBird)

Eurasian Wigeon Late report: 1 at Hayton Preserve *Skagit* 6/8 (eBird)

Redhead Nesting report: 2 broods at Shillapoo WMA *Clark* 7/18 (eBird)

White-winged Scoter Rare in e WA in summer: 1 west of Bridgeport *Douglas* 7/29 (MSP)

Black Scoter Late report: 1 at Carkeek Park *King* 6/3 (RyM). Reports included: 1 at Dungeness *Clallam* 7/28 (eBird)

Clark's Grebe Reports included: 2 at Lake Spokane *Stevens* 6/6 (TLi)

ASHY STORM-PETREL Rare in WA: 1 at Westport Pelagic *Grays Harbor* 6/15 (BL,BT)

American White Pelican Reports included: 120 at Naselle *Pacific* 7/5 (AR), 16 at Bottle Beach *Grays Harbor* 7/13 (eBird)

Brown Pelican Uncommon locally: 1 at Olympia *Thurston* 6/5 (GR), 2 at Richmond Beach *King* 7/8 (eBird), 1 at Point Roberts *Whatcom* 7/30 (eBird)

Red-shouldered Hawk Late report: 1 at La Center *Clark* 6/9 (JDz,RH)

Broad-winged Hawk Uncommon in WA: 1 at Waatch River *Clallam* 6/2 (JGn,RyM), 1 at Bahokus Peak *Clallam* 6/11 (JGc)

Swainson's Hawk Uncommon in w WA: 1 at Willow Grove *Cowlitz* 6/13 (RKO)

Sandhill Crane Reports included: 4 at Ridgefield NWR *Clark* 7/27 (eBird)

American Golden-Plover Early report: 1 at Hayton Preserve *Skagit* 7/27 to 7/30 (MaB)

Pacific Golden-Plover Rare in e WA: 1 at Atkins Lake *Douglas* 7/13 to 7/16 (eBird)

Golden-Plover sp. Rare in e WA: 1 at Atkins Lake *Douglas* 7/10 (MSP)

Wandering Tattler Uncommon locally: 1 at Blakely Rocks *Kitsap* 7/16 (eBird)



Gray Catbird, Susan Hope Finley photo

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Washington Field Notes June-July 2019 (cont.)

Whimbrel Rare in e WA: 2 at Atkins Lake *Douglas* 7/10 to 7/11 (MSP)

Long-billed Curlew Uncommon locally: 1 at Blaine *Whatcom* 6/28 (eBird)

Hudsonian Godwit Uncommon in WA: 1 at Dungeness *Clallam* 6/24 to 7/12 (RJB)

Bar-tailed Godwit Uncommon in WA: 1 at Hayton Preserve *Skagit* 7/13 (GB, MaB)

Marbled Godwit Uncommon in e WA: 1 at Atkins Lake *Douglas* 7/13 (eBird)

Ruddy Turnstone Uncommon locally: 2 at Blakely Rocks *Kitsap* 7/16 (eBird)

Red Knot Rare in e WA: 1 at Dodd Road *Walla Walla* 7/24 to 7/26 (eBird)

Sanderling Reports from e WA included: 1 at Atkins Lake *Douglas* 7/16 (eBird)

Semipalmated Sandpiper Reports included: 15 at Swinomish Channel *Skagit* 7/20 (MaB)

Wilson's Phalarope Reports included: 1 at Swinomish Channel *Skagit* 7/30 (MaB)

Franklin's Gull Reports included: 1 at Skokomish RD *Mason* 6/1 (eBird), 1 at Nisqually Delta *Pierce* 6/2 (eBird)

Black Tern Uncommon locally: 1 at Ridgefield NWR *Clark* 6/10 (eBird), 1 at Waterville Plateau *Douglas* 6/23 (MSP)

Common Tern Reports included: 1 at Umatilla NWR *Benton* 6/12 (eBird)

Parasitic Jaeger Rare locally in summer: 2 at Discovery Park *King* 6/1 (eBird), 6 at Alki *King* 7/1 (eBird), 2 at Sandy Point *Whatcom* 7/2 (eBird), 2 at Edmonds *Snohomish* 7/2 (eBird)

GUADALUPE MURRELET Rare in WA: 1 at Westport *Grays Harbor* 7/27 (ScR, DSw)

Cassin's Auklet Rare locally: 1 at Kalamia *Cowlitz* 6/22 (eBird, RKO). Uncommon locally: 1 at Chambers Bay *Pierce* 7/15 (eBird). Reports included: 441 at Westport Pelagic *Grays Harbor* 6/15 (BL, BT), 959 at Westport Pelagic



Ovenbird, Martha Nelson photo

Grays Harbor 7/13 (CBr)

CRESTED AUKLET Rare in WA: 1 at Discovery Park *King* 6/30 (MtD, SpH)

Horned Puffin Rare in WA: 1 at Carkeek Park *King* 7/1 (RyM, SPd) and Discovery Park *King* 7/1 (AG), 1 at Smith Island *Island* 6/28 to 7/6 (eBird)

Tufted Puffin Rare locally: 1 at Discovery Park *King* 6/30 (MtD, SpH), 1 at Point No Point *Kitsap* 7/12 (eBird), 1 at Carkeek Park *King* 7/13 (RyM), 1 at Richmond Beach *King* 7/20 (SDo)

Northern Hawk Owl Nesting report: 1 at Pasayten Wilderness *Okanogan* 7/3 (K Lopez) with 4 there 7/17 (M. Danielson)

Great Gray Owl Uncommon locally: 1 at Thompson Ridge *Okanogan* 6/16 (eBird)

Black Swift Uncommon locally: 2 at Long Lake Dam *Stevens* 6/6 (TLi), 8 at Naselle *Pacific* 7/5 (AR)

Anna's Hummingbird Reports from expanding range included: 1 at Spokane *Spokane* 6/22 (BIS)

Anna's X Rufous Hummingbird Rarely reported: 1 at Bothell *Snohomish* 6/3 (MMY)

Anna's x Costa's Hummingbird Rare in WA: 1 at Centralia *Lewis* 7/7 (eBird)

Williamson's Sapsucker Uncommon locally: 1 at Chinook Pass *Yakima* 7/20 (RyM), 1 at Windy Gap *King* 7/23 (DSw)

Black-backed Woodpecker Rare locally: 1 at Green Mountain *Snohomish* 7/15 (JAm)

Least Flycatcher Reports included: 1 at Norman *Snohomish* 6/6 (DPo), 1 at Newhalem *Whatcom* 6/20 (WiB), 1 at Sunday Lake *Snohomish* 6/20+ (DPo), 1 at Ahtanum *Yakima* 6/26 (AS)

Dusky Flycatcher Uncommon locally: 2 at Green Mountain *Snohomish* 6/7 (eBird)

Alder/Willow Flycatcher: Reports of a possible hybrid included: 1 at Bacon Creek *Skagit* 6/23 to 7/1 (eBird)

Black Phoebe Nesting report: 4 at Skagit WMA *Skagit* 6/2 (eBird). Reports from expanding range included: 1 at Brady Loop Road *Grays Harbor* 6/23

continued on next page

Washington Field Notes June-July 2019 (cont.)

(eBird)

Ash-throated Flycatcher Uncommon in w WA: 1 at Discovery Park *King* 6/16 (APo), 1 at Nisqually *Thurston* 6/29 (eBird), 1 at Steigerwald Lake NWR *Clark* 7/27 (eBird). Uncommon locally: 1 at Bateman Island *Benton* 6/14 (eBird), 1 at Fort Walla Walla *Walla Walla* 6/20 (MID)

Western Kingbird Reports included: 4 at Waatch River *Clallam* 6/1 (RyM,JGn)

Eastern Kingbird Nesting report: 3 at Three Forks Natural Area *King* 7/21 (Emily Larson). Reports included: 1 at Hoko *Clallam* 6/2 (RyM,JGn), 1 at Skokomish RD *Mason* 6/3 (eBird), 1 at Point No Point *Kitsap* 6/10 (eBird), 2 at Discovery Park *King* 6/11 (KaS), 1 at Black River *Thurston* 6/12 (eBird), 2 at Toutle Retention Dam *Cowlitz* 6/18 (GW)

Red-eyed Vireo Reports included: 1 at Pysht *Clallam* 7/12 (McB)

Gray Jay Reports included: 1 at Cape Flattery *Clallam* 6/20 (AAk)

California Scrub-Jay Reports from expanding range included: 1 at Sequim *Clallam* 6/5 (eBird)

Purple Martin Uncommon locally: 1 at Rock Creek *Klickitat* 6/5 (DWg), 1 at *Yakima* 6/25 (KGI)

Bank Swallow Nesting report: 25 at White's Island *Wahkiakum* 6/4 (AE)

Black-capped Chickadee Uncommon locally: 1 at San Juan Island *San Juan* 6/12 (eBird)

Bushtit Reports included: 1 at Wenatchee *Chelan* 6/1 (eBird)

Pygmy Nuthatch Rare in w WA: 1 at Goat Rocks Wilderness L *Lewis* 7/22 (CWrl,LWr)

Rock Wren Uncommon locally: 1 at Obstruction Point Road *Clallam* 7/13 (eBird)

Canyon Wren Rare locally: 1 east of Newhalem *Whatcom* 7/7 (WiB)

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER Nesting reports: 2 at Klickitat WMA *Klickitat* 6/9 to 6/17 (eBird) with 7 there 7/12 (eBird), 1 at Fort Simcoe SP *Yakima* 7/7 (AS) with 4 there 7/8 (KvL) to 7/28 (eBird)

Mountain Bluebird Late report: 1 at Dungeness *Clallam* 6/5 (eBird)

Veery Uncommon locally: 1 at Lind Coulee *Grant* 6/13 (MY)

Gray Catbird Uncommon in w WA: 1 at Newhalem *Whatcom* 6/24 (eBird) with 2 there 6/28 to 7/8 (eBird), 1 at Randle *Lewis* 7/2 (DSp)

Northern Mockingbird Uncommon in WA: 1 at Hanford *Benton* 6/8 (eBird), 1 at Guemes Island *Skagit* 6/10+ (eBird), 1 at Acme *Whatcom* 6/18 (NSa), 1 at Tatoosh Island *Clallam* 7/4 (TWO)

American Pipit Late report: 1 at Foulweather Bluff *Kitsap* 6/29 (BWg)

American Redstart Uncommon locally: 1 at Fort Lewis *Pierce* 6/3 (WiB), 1 at Battle Ground *Clark* 6/3 (JDz), 3 at Trout Lake *Klickitat* 6/8 (eBird), 1 at Three Forks Natural Area *King* 6/8 (LnS), 1 at Ocean Park *Pacific* 6/12 (JGi), 1 at Puyallup *Pierce* 6/22 (eBird) with 2 there 6/30+ (eBird), 1 at Marymoor Park *King* 6/27 (MiH)

OVENBIRD Rare in WA: 1 at Clear Lake *Yakima* 6/30 (BT,SMi)

MacGillivray's Warbler Reports included: 1 at Westport Pelagic *Grays Harbor* 6/15 (BL,BT)

Yellow-breasted Chat Reports from expanding range included: 2 at Corkindale *Skagit* 6/9 (RyM), 1 at Duvall *King* 6/9 (eBird), 1 at Hamilton *Skagit* 6/14 to 6/25 (WW), 1 at Tono *Thurston* 6/16 (eBird), 1 at Shelton

Mason 6/27 (eBird), 2 at Kennedy Creek *Mason* 6/30 (eBird), 1 at Flaming Geyser SP *King* 7/21 (eBird)

Chipping Sparrow Nesting report: 26 including three families at Seattle *King* 6/11 (RyM)

Clay-colored Sparrow Uncommon locally: 1 south of Walla Walla *Walla Walla* 6/3 (MID), 1 at Neah Bay *Clallam* 6/4 (JBP), 1 at Corkindale *Skagit* 6/8 (RyM), 1 at Smoot Hill *Whitman* 6/12 (NPa)

Brewer's Sparrow Uncommon in w WA: 1 at Edmonds *Snohomish* 6/3 (CBy), 1 at Green Mountain *Snohomish* 6/14 (DPo)

Vesper Sparrow Reports from w WA included: 1 at Grayland *Pacific* 6/21 (MRe), 1 at Theler Wetland



American Redstart, Dan Pancamo

Washington Field Notes June-July 2019 (cont.)

Mason 6/23 (RKO), 1 at Green Mountain
Snohomish 6/30 (IN), 2 at Shelton *Mason*
7/9 (eBird)

Lark Sparrow Reports from w WA
included: 1 at Neah Bay *Clallam* 6/2
(JGn,RyM), 1 at Fife *Pierce* 6/3 (eBird),
1 at Southworth *Kitsap* 6/11 (eBird), 1 at
Hart's Pass *Whatcom* 7/5 (eBird)

White-throated Sparrow Late report: 1
at Sequim *Clallam* 6/6 (eBird)

Harris's Sparrow Late report: 1 at Oak
Harbor *Island* 6/4 (T Saksa)

Rose-breasted Grosbeak Uncommon
in WA: 1 at West Seattle *King* 7/6 to 7/8
(ESw)

Yellow-headed Blackbird Reports
included: 1 at Newhalem *Whatcom* 6/28
(eBird)

COMMON GRACKLE Rare in WA:
1 at Neah Bay *Clallam* 6/7 (AAk) to 6/8
(CHn)

Purple Finch Reports included: 1 at Ayer
Walla Walla 7/20 (eBird)

White-winged Crossbill Reports includ-
ed: 2 at Washington Pass *Chelan/Okano-*
gan 6/8 (eBird), 6 at Hart's Pass *Whatcom*
6/9 (eBird), 1 at Chinook Pass *Pierce*
7/20 (RyM), 1 at Bethel Ridge *Yakima*
7/20 (eBird)

Lesser Goldfinch Rare locally: 1 at San
Juan Island *San Juan* 6/18 (PhG). Reports
from expanding range included: 1 at Au-
burn *King* 6/10 (ST), 2 at Enumclaw *King*
6/10 (ST)



Parasitic Jaeger, Don Faulkner photo

OBSERVERS

AAk Adrienne Akmajian

AE Andrew Emlen

AG Alan Grenon

APo Amy Powell

AR Alan Richards

AS Andy Stepniewski

BL Bruce LaBar

BIS Bill Siems

BT Bill Tweet

BWg Brad Waggoner

CBr Cara Borre

CBy Charlotte Byers

CHn Christopher Hinkle

CWr Charlie Wright

DPo David Poortinga

DSP Dalton Spencer

DSw Dave Swayne

DWg Dan Waggoner

eBird eBird.org

ESw Ed Swan

GB Gary Bletsch

GRe Gene Revelas

GW Gary Wiles

IN Isaiah Nugent

JAM Josh Adams

JBP Joel Brady-Power

JDz Jim Danzenbaker

JGc John Gatchet

JGi Jeff Gilligan

JGn Jordan Gunn

KaS Kathy Slettebak

KGI Kevin Glueckert

KvL Kevin Lucas

LnS Lonnie Somer

LWr Linnaea Wright

MaB Marv Breece

McB Michael Barry

MiH Michael Hobbs

MID MerryLynn Denny

MMY Mark Myers

MRe Maxine Reid

MSP Meredith Spencer

MtB Matt Bartels

MtD Matt Dufort

MY Matt Yawney

NPa Neil Paprocki

NSa Noah Sanday

PhG Phil Green

RH Randy Hill

RJB RJ Baltierra

RKo Russell Koppendraye

RyM Ryan Merrill

ScR Scott Ramos

SDo Scott Downes

SMi Scott Mills

SPd Sarah Peden

SpH Spencer Hildie

ST Sam Terry

TLi Terry Little

TWo Tim Wootton

WiB Will Brooks

WW Wayne Weber



Rhinoceros Auklet, Jerry Oldenettel photo