

In
Memoriam

Terry
Wahl

p. 13



Washington Ornithological Society News

The
search
for a
WOS
News
editor -
pg. 7

WOSNews No. 196 April - May 2022

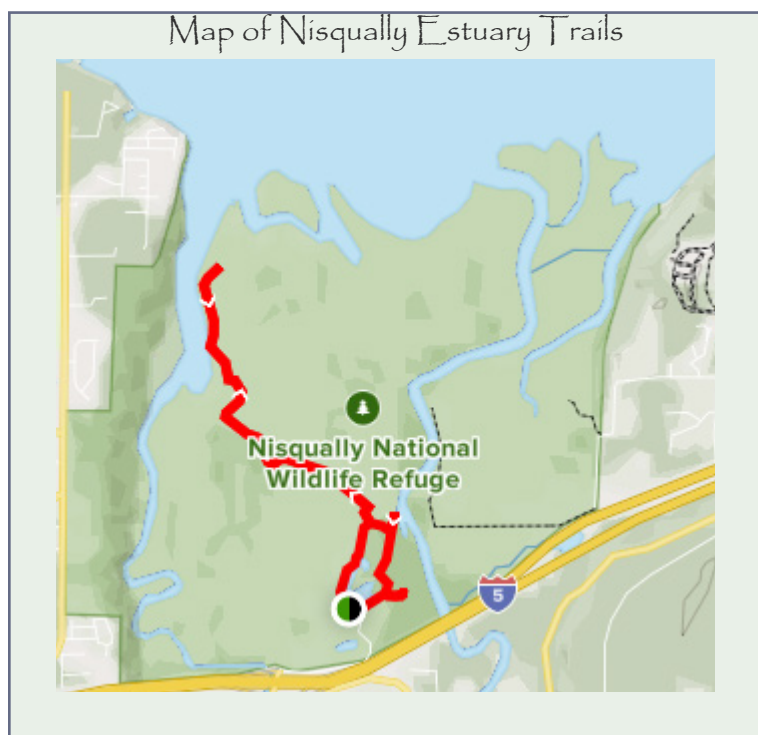
Patch Birding the Billy Frank Jr. Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge with Shep Thorp and Friends

By the Editor

When Shep Thorp joined Phil Kelley birding the Billy Frank Jr. Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge in 2008, he might not have been thinking of how his “patch” observations could help to transform people, wildlife habitat and the very landscape. Yet the patch is changing. It has been a good, rewarding 14 years, Thorp mused in a recent series of interviews. Kelley had started the patch walk in 2003 upon his retirement, so there has been a constant WOS presence at the refuge for nearly 20 years.

Patch birders in Washington and elsewhere often spend decades observing and recording species at the same spot. The Nisqually Refuge is not unique in that regard, but it is a different place in many ways.

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FROM THE BOARD

WOS Conference Signup Opens 4/24

By Jennifer Kauffman, WOS President

Check out field trips, lodging, meals, evening programs and other information for the 2022 WOS Annual Conference, scheduled for June 9 – 12, 2022 in Spokane Valley, Washington. Registration opens 8 a.m. April 24, and it's wise to make hotel reservations as soon as possible

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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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Board Member.....Kim Thorburn (Spokane).....Kim@wos.org

About the 2022 WOS Conference (continued)

to get the WOS group rate and avoid high seasonal rates in the Coeur d'Alene tourist area.

The theme of the conference: Shrub-steppe to meadows to peaks. It reflects the diverse array of habitats (and bird life) in this lesser explored area east of Spokane. Lisa Hill of Richland created the conference artwork.

The popular Stump the Experts quiz returns Friday night. Keynote speaker Saturday night is Mike Munts, Refuge Biologist for the Little Pend Oreille National Wildlife Refuge. His topic is the Great Gray Owl: Introduction to the Ghost of the Forest. All conference attendees will be required to show proof of vaccination and follow COVID-safe guidelines provided by the WOS board for the conference. Go to the WOS web site for all conference info and begin preparations to attend!

On the way field trips are being set up, available for those traveling across the state. Conference field trips will explore the Channeled Scablands, Palouse Prairie, Columbia and Spokane River Valleys, and the mysteries of Pend Oreille County and the Little Pend Oreille National Wildlife Refuge. A couple owling trips are also planned.

Important Dates

- **Sunday, April 24, 2022, at 8:00 a.m. PDT — Registration opens** via link on WOS website
- **Sunday, May 1, 2022 — Cutoff date for hotel reservations** at the conference block rate
- **Wednesday, June 1, 2022 — Online registration closes**
- **Thursday, June 9 through Sunday, June 12, 2022 – Conference in Spokane Valley** (limited onsite registration is available, excluding meals)

Highlights

- Field trips will be offered in a diverse array of habitats: 'Shrub-steppe to meadows to peaks.'
- Tru by Hilton Spokane Valley, our conference hotel, will offer a hot breakfast to its guests beginning at 4 a.m.! Reserve your room by May 1 to get the conference group rate.
- CenterPlace Regional Event Center, located in beautiful Mirabeau Point Park, will be our conference headquarters.
- **Proof of Covid vaccination will be required** for all conference attendees.
- Learn about the Great Gray Owl from Mike Munts, our keynote speaker and wildlife biologist at Little Pend Oreille National Wildlife Refuge.
- A commemorative poster of Lisa Hill's "Shrub-steppe to meadows to peaks" artwork will be available for purchase.



Thanks to artist Lisa Hill for providing this image of a 2022 conference poster.

April WOS Meeting Hosts Jeff Antonelis-Lapp

The Washington Ornithological Society (WOS) invites you to join us on April 4 when Evergreen State College Emeritus Professor Jeff Antonelis-Lapp will present “Special Birds of Mt. Rainier.”

To most birders, Mount Rainier National Park is a mecca for subalpine and alpine birds that include Canada (Gray) Jay, Clark’s Nutcracker, Mountain Bluebird, and highly sought-after specialties that include Boreal Owl, White-tailed Ptarmigan, and Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch. But did you know that it and its neighboring watersheds host Northern Spotted Owl, Marbled Murrelet, and Streaked Horned Lark, all protected under the U.S. Endangered Species Act? Jeff will share the status of these key species based on “Tahoma and Its People, the Natural History of Mount Rainier” that he wrote (Washington State University Press.)

Jeff’s connection to Mt. Rainier is long and deep. In addition to extensive research he conducted for his book, Jeff worked two summers at “the Mountain” after graduating from college. He has summited it, hiked all of its mapped trails, and completed the 93-mile Wonderland Trail five times.

When? Monday, April 4, 7:30 p.m. via Zoom (Sign-in begins at 7:15 p.m.),

WOS Monthly Meetings remain open to all as we continue to welcome the wider birding community to join us online. For login information, go to <http://wos.org/about-wos/monthly-meetings/>.



Western Bluebirds, photo by Linda Dirlan

Send in your bird sightings to WA Field Notes: rjm284@gmail.com

For more information about
Washington Field Notes
see page 15

Seen When	Send in By
March – May	June 15
June – July	August 15
August – Nov	December 15
Dec – Feb	March 15



Ring-billed Gull, MN Lamberson photo

Schedule for 2022 Pelagic Trips by Westport Seabirds

April 23	Deep Water Canyon	\$180.00 / \$190.00	*6:00 am. – 3:30 pm.	** Bill T, Jim, Cara
May 14	Deep Water Canyon	\$180.00 / \$190.00	*6:00 am. – 3:30 pm.	**Bill T. Ryan, Cara
June 5	Deep Water Canyon	\$180.00 / \$190.00	*6:00 am. – 3:30 pm.	**Scott, Bill S. Bruce
July 27	Deep Water Canyon	\$180.00 / \$190.00	*5:30 am. – 3:30 pm.	**Bill S. Bill T. Jim
July 30	Deep Water Canyon	\$180.00 / \$190.00	*5:30 am. – 3:30 pm.	**Bruce, Scott, Cara
August 6	Deep Water Canyon	\$180.00 / \$190.00	*5:30 am. – 3:30 pm.	**Bill T. Bill S. Cara
August 10	Deep Water Canyon	\$180.00 / \$190.00	*6:00 am. – 3:30 pm.	**Scott, Gene, Jim
August 20	Deep Water Canyon	\$180.00 / \$190.00	*6:00 am. – 3:30 pm.	**Bill S. Bill T. Cara
August 24	Deep Water Canyon	\$180.00 / \$190.00	*6:00 am. – 3:30 pm.	**Bruce, Scott, Jim
August 27	Deep Water Canyon	\$180.00 / \$190.00	*6:00 am. – 3:30 pm.	**Bill T. Gene, Cara
August 31	Deep Water Canyon	\$180.00 / \$190.00	*6:00 am. – 3:30 pm.	**Scott, Bill T. Bruce
Sept. 6	Deep Water Canyon	\$180.00 / \$190.00	*6:00 am. – 3:30 pm.	**Bill S. Scott, Jim
Sept. 17	Deep Water Canyon	\$180.00 / \$190.00	*6:30 am. – 3:30 pm.	**Bill T. Gene, Cara
Sept. 18	Deep Water Canyon	\$180.00 / \$190.00	*6:30 am. – 3:30 pm.	**Scott, Bruce,
Sept. 21	Deep Water Canyon	\$180.00 / \$190.00	*6:30 am. – 3:30 pm.	**Bill S. Jim, Gene
Sept. 24	Deep Water Canyon	\$180.00 / \$190.00	*6:30 am. – 3:30 pm.	**Scott, Ryan, Cara
Sept. 25	Deep Water Canyon	\$180.00 / \$190.00	*6:30 am. – 3:30 pm.	**Bill T. Jim, Bruce
Sept. 28	Deep Water Canyon	\$180.00 / \$190.00	*6:30 am. – 3:30 pm.	**Scott, Gene,
Oct. 1	Deep Water Canyon	\$180.00 / \$190.00	*6:30 am. – 3:30 pm.	**Scott, Bill S. Cara
Oct. 8	Deep Water Canyon	\$180.00 / \$190.00	*6:30 am. – 3:30 pm.	**Bill T. Gene, Bruce

WOS Welcomes New and Returning Members

Tim VanHaverbeke - Anderson Island
Stephanie Chlebowski - Bellevue
Kari Anderson - Bellingham
Joanne Weldon - Bellingham
Sego Jackson - Clinton
Stephen Lacy - Edmonds
Cheri Overman - Enumclaw
Holly Sawin - Fall City
Craig Cummings - Federal Way
Patricia Damron - Gig Harbor
Natasha Yankoffski - Gig Harbor
Sarah Eskenazi, Gregg Shiosaki & Ray Barnhart - La Conner
David Parent - Langley
Tom O'Callahan - Mercer Island
Joshua DeSilvey - Mountlake Terrace
Judy Lantor - Olympia
Eric Crockett - Redmond
Lori Nelson - Richland
Geoffrey & Robin Bonser - Seattle
Beth Maxey and Viru Gunawardana - Seattle
John Suciu - Seattle
David Wall - Seattle
Mary Doubleday - Snohomish
Cortney Litwin - Spokane
Roger Grove - Veradale
Sarah Shippen - Zillah
Leif Anderson - Hector, AZ
Rebecca Atherton - Boise, ID
Dondi Black - Boise, ID



WOSNews Editor Position Up for Grabs

The Washington Ornithological Society seeks a volunteer editor for its bimonthly online newsletter, *WOSNews*, beginning this July. The editor will work with a team of writers to share information on the birds and birders of Washington state.

The current editor is retiring after six years at the helm and would be happy to aid the process and ease the way for a new editor. Generally, the time commitment is part-time for a couple weeks, once every two months.

Board members of WOS and others in the Washington birding community have shared their expertise in the publication since 1988. For more information, contact the editor, Ron Post, at ronpost4@gmail.com. All editions of the newsletter are available at wos.org/publications.



Chukar, photo by Larry Myhre

Patch Birding at Nisqually Refuge (continued)

Its 4,500 acres of mudflats, salt marsh and riparian areas constitute one of the largest such habitats in the state, and the largest estuary of that nature in southern Puget Sound. A restoration project just a decade ago removed a long dike that had been built by farmers across the estuary, opening nearly 700 acres of new tidal infusion along eight previously dry channels. Its primary goal is to help native salmon repopulate the Nisqually River system. And that will help most birds who use the refuge.

Volunteers like Thorp are helping restore and maintain the estuary and refuge system in many ways. They spend hundreds of hours each year under the supervision of volunteer coordinator David True and others. Thorp volunteers for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as well as with WOS and eBird. He established an eBird account in 2016 that now lists 280 species; he has recorded about 220 of those, and an annual count on the refuge typically exceeds 200.

"I'm really not much of a lister myself," he said, adding that he is proud to help teach birders who show up for the Wednesday walk, especially younger birders, including some teens who have eventually applied for and received the WOS Patrick Sullivan Young Birders Fund award.

He went on to describe a number of other locations between Tacoma and Olympia where patch birders are actively recording birds: among them locations around Dupont, Hoffman Hill, and Chambers Creek, including some popular walks such as Fort Steilacoom, Swan Creek, Eagles Pride Golf Course and the well-known Theler Wetlands.

"There are a lot of patch walks in the area. Ours is probably more on the social side, but that allows for an interesting exchange of ideas."

Walkers historically numbered around 20 each week when Kelley started, but this patch has attracted as many as 50 people in one day, said David True, the refuge's volunteer coordinator.

"It's a very big program.... I have never been anywhere in the country with that number of people coming out for bird walks."

Some 15 people generally show up for the four-mile hike that begins at 8 a.m. or even earlier. No

flashlights or recorded playbacks are allowed. By the end of the day, the remaining birders may dwindle to five and they may have covered more than five miles, Thorp said.

On the boardwalk that heads westward toward the sound, wind and rain can sometimes be a deterrent, he added. A gazebo and the far end of the boardwalk are closed to all visitors during the winter hunting season.

One highlight for refuge birders was the decade-long nesting by a pair of Great Horned Owls in the same spot. Thorp said that the pair has moved during the past four years; he speculated it was either because of age or because a new owl or pair of owls was introduced. Other highlights on the patch have included a Bobolink in nonbreeding plumage - "it kind of looked like a fancy cowbird" - American White Pelicans, some rare westside Pine Grosbeaks, a Black Tern, and American Avocets. A late March walk uncovered some Horned Grebes in differing stages of breeding plumage and a FOY Rufous Hummingbird.

"We have a solid group of regulars" at Nisqually, Thorp added, probably referring both to birds and humans!

To learn more about the history of the refuge, which will celebrate its 50th birthday in 2024, see the eBird checklists at https://ebird.org/region/USF-WA_166/media?yr=all&m= or the Nisqually Restoration web page at www.nisquallyrestoration.org.



American Avocet, photo by Larry Jordan

Dawn Chorus on Mary Ann Creek

Story and Photos by Tom Bancroft

A cattail marsh with a small pond in its middle extended upstream, and a swamp of willows and cat-tails ran downstream. I stood on a narrow causeway where Mary Ann Creek ran through a culvert under the dirt road. The morning chorus was in full swing. It was diverse, energetic, and loud. Right then, a Wilson's Snipe was dominating the cacophony with its persistent *jick-jack*. The snipe (see next page) must have been sitting someplace and letting everyone know that he or she was there. Both sexes will give this call, and it is a component of pair formation and territorial defense. I tried to ignore the snipe and concentrated on identifying the other birds.

Mary Ann Creek runs through a gentle valley with mostly grasslands covering the slopes. This area of the Okanogan Highlands is just south of the Canadian border and often filled with birds not

found west of the Cascades. Along the valley's south side, a narrow strip of conifers and aspens grow on the lower slope providing a different upland habitat.

Three Red-winged Blackbirds were perched high in willows right along the dirt track and periodically gave their musical song. They seemed to ignore my presence and concentrated on announcing theirs. This was prime habitat, and each needed to defend his turf. They always remind me of my childhood. They nested all through our hayfields in Western Pennsylvania. Any weed clump amongst the timothy was ideal for nest support and concealment. Their arrival in March was the strongest indicator that spring was coming and soon I'd be out of school.

A Eurasian Collared-Dove cooed in the distance, probably back in one of the Ponderosa Pines. They

Dawn Chorus soundscape at:
<https://vimeo.com/681571833>



Upper Mary Ann Creek

continued on next page

Dawn Chorus on Mary Ann Creek (cont.)

had just arrived in the United States when I worked in the Florida Keys in the 1980s. Probably, some birds flew across from the Bahamas, where they were thought to have escaped from the pet trade.



The melodic tune of a Song Sparrow and the *fitz-bu* of a Willow Flycatcher filled out the initial ensemble. Such a contrast between these two passerines. The male Song Sparrow learns his nine or ten melodies from his neighbors once he has chosen where he will spend his life. While the Willow Flycatcher has his simple tune programmed into his genes. I find them both mesmerizing.

A few minutes later, the long-drawn-out whistle of a Western Wood-Pewee caught me by surprise, and I turned to stare into the small coppice of trees along the edge. Almost immediately, a California Quail called from in that direction. I raised my binoculars to scan all the trees and see what else might be there. Flickers and bluebirds had been in the patch when I'd been here before; other things could have easily been there.

The *sweet, sweet, sweet ti ti ti to soo* of a Yellow Warbler and the complex trill of a House Wren brought my attention back to the willows. A brief chatter made me think of Northern Catbirds. I

wished it to sing, but it didn't. I often find them farther down this road, where the willows are thick and dense. An American Coot made a brief squawk and then went silent. No other rails, though, made their presences known. A Common Yellowthroat rounded out my list of vocal feathered friends. Occasionally a male Yellow-headed Blackbird will be in the cattails, but none

today. They are common in a more extensive marsh downstream from this site.

It seemed like I heard twelve, maybe thirteen species in the ten minutes I stood: a fine chorus for this early June day. Concert halls like this seem to always leave me revived and ready to face our hectic lives. I grabbed the door handle on my car, then paused, walking instead along the edge, listening to the joy of life for a while longer.



Most Events Canceled, but a Few Activities Go On During Month of Olympic Bird Fest

The Olympic Peninsula Bird Festival, three days of field trips and events held each April in Sequim, Washington, was recently canceled for 2022 because of covid-related concerns.

The Dungeness River Nature Center and Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society will instead celebrate birds for the entire month of April.

While planning gets underway, the following events, originally scheduled to coincide with BirdFest, are still on offer:

- BirdFest BirdQuest is a game played in downtown Sequim for the entire month of April. Fifteen to 20 bird-art pieces created by Sequim High Schoolers are hidden in various businesses. Find them and vote for your favorite. Prizes! Sponsored by The Sequim-Dungeness Valley Chamber of Commerce <https://olympicbirdfest.org/birdfest-birdquest/>
- A trip of a lifetime, 3-day birding cruise to the San Juan Islands, with on-shore overnight lodging at the Earthbox Inn & Spa in Friday Harbor. April 19-21, 2022. See orca and other whales, sea lions, harbor seals, and hundreds of birds. To see details and reserve (limited space, so book early): <https://olympicbirdfest.org/san-juan-islands-cruise/>
- 7 Cedars Resort Hotel, newly open in 2021, will offer special packages for visiting birders throughout April. The resort hotel, is adjacent to the Olympic Discovery Trail at Blyn on the south end of Sequim Bay. Great birding here at low tide and in nearby woodlands. www.7cedars.com
- **Current information and schedules will be posted in †**
www.dungenessrivercenter.org
www.olympicpeninsulaudubon.org
www.birdfest.org

Next year's BirdFest will be held Thurs.-Sun., April 13-16. Registration opens January 1, 2023.

Status Review: WDFW Bird Listings

The Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife is responsible for conducting periodic status reviews for species listed as threatened or endangered, or potentially in need of a change in such status.

Draft status reviews available for public review until May 5

[DRAFT Periodic Status Review for the Brown Pelican \(2022\)](#)

[DRAFT Periodic Status Review for the American White Pelican \(2022\)](#)

Schedule to present findings to the Fish and Wildlife Commission

Species	Date
Western Snowy Plover	2022
Northern Spotted Owl	2022
Brown Pelican	2022
Streaked Horned Lark	2022
Bald Eagle	2022
Marbled Murrelet	2022
White Pelican	2022
Peregrine Falcon	2022
Sandhill Crane	2022
Yellow Billed Cuckoo	2023
Columbian Sharp Tailed Grouse	2023
Tufted Puffin	2024
Sage Grouse	2026

IN MEMORIAM TERENCE R. WAHL,

1930–2022

Terence R. Wahl, 91, ornithologist, environmentalist, and patriarch to many, died at home on Thursday 17 February 2022.

Born in Bellingham on 18 March, 1930 to Ralph Wahl and Jean Kennedy Wahl, Terry graduated from the University of Washington, earning a degree in business, and attended New York University in Manhattan. In 1951 he married Robin Geske and entered the long-lived family business, Wahl's department store in Bellingham. In 1972 he changed occupations and became a full-time field ornithologist.

For the next three decades, he contributed to field ornithology in a myriad of ways: pioneering seabird censusing techniques; advocating for conservation; educating birders and others; and mentoring generations of seabird biologists, birders and citizen scientists. From his birding experiences and his contacts with ornithologists and researchers, Terry developed a strong belief that birders could, and should, contribute to increasing knowledge of the status of the birdlife around them.

His first love was seabirds, and as he witnessed the decline of a suite of seabird species in the Salish Sea ecoregion, his sense of urgency for careful documentation of trends in status and abundance was fueled. His long and impressive list of contributions includes:

- conceiving and producing "Birds of Washington: Status and Distribution" (Oregon State University Press) with co-editors Bill Tweit and Steve Mlodinow and contributions from over 40 individuals, which was published in 2005, a half-century after Jewett et al. published their book summarizing the status and distribution of Washington's avifauna. This state book documented the evolution of field ornithology in Washington, linked

distribution and abundance with habitat associations, and pioneered distribution-mapping techniques that combined information from land-cover maps, standardized bird surveys, and expert knowledge. It provides an invaluable benchmark for measuring future changes in distribution and abundance.

- serving as one of the earliest seabird observers on oceanographic research vessels, starting in the mid-1970s he was a seabird observer on a NOAA and Japanese research vessels on many cruises, covering parts of the Pacific as diverse as the Humboldt Current and west to find the origin of La Niña, across the North Pacific and into the Bering Sea;
- founding Westport Seabirds, one of the earliest ecotourism businesses in the state, educating his clients in the identification and ways of pelagic birds as well as establishing systematic data collection on the trips and so laying the foundation for a database on seabird abundance that has now spanned a half century;
- establishing the first systematic surveys of seabird distribution and abundance in the Salish Sea ecoregion, which became a key element of the Puget Sound Ambient Monitoring Program and is now a function of the Puget Sound Partnership;
- grasping the potential of Western Field Ornithologists and the journal *Western Birds* as a valuable forum for birders to add to the scientific understanding of avian ecology and population demographics. He was the author or co-author of 11 papers in *Western Birds*, joined WFO's board of directors in 1978, and served as WFO's vice-president from 1979 to 1980 and as president from 1981 to 1984;
- becoming the first statewide expert on distribution and bird finding, as he was the first accomplished birder to cover the entire state. As a result of his careful observations and record keeping, he used that knowledge

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In Memoriam Terence R. Wahl (continued)

to co-author the “Guide to Bird Finding in Washington” with Dennis Paulsen in 1977, with subsequent revisions. The bar graphs in that guide were the only documentation of seasonality and abundance of all the species in the state for several decades.

- writing and publishing the “Birds of Whatcom County,” his home county, summarizing observations from unpublished journals of early ornithologists in the region and documenting dramatic changes in the avifauna of the area;
- writing environmental impact statements concerning bird habitats for both the state and federal governments;
- teaching ornithology classes and leading birding trips;
- establishing connections in the birding

world that brought many people to the Washington coast and to Bellingham, and developing many long friendships; and

- inspiring all of us to be more deeply aware of our world.

In recognition of his many accomplishments, the Washington Ornithological Society awarded Terry the Zella Schultz award in 1998. All of us have benefited from his contributions in one way or another.

He will be missed. In Terry’s memory, please consider a donation to the Whatcom Land Trust or WFO’s scholarship fund.

*Robin Geske Wahl, Megan Wahl,
Bill Tweit and Dennis Paulsen*

Ovenbird, Hoffman photo



Washington Field Notes March - May 2020

Compiled by Ryan Merrill

Birds listed 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.

Unusual waterfowl this spring included a Gadwall x Mallard in *Pierce* in late April and a Tufted Duck in *Snohomish* in mid-March. A **White-winged Dove** spent a week of April in *Whitman*. Half of the state's 16 records have been since 2010. Westside Black-chinned Hummingbirds were discovered in *Skagit* and *Skamania*, while more unusual was a Black-chinned x Calliope Hummingbird in *Stevens* in early May.

A Sandhill Crane nest found at Ridgefield NWR in May was a very rare find for the westside. Snowy Plovers showed up out of range in *Clallam*, *Island*, and *Walla Walla* in May. One of the more interesting records of the season came in the form of an American Avocet in *Snohomish* in mid-May that was recorded calling during nocturnal migration. Ruddy Turnstones are rare on the eastside at any time so one in *Grant* in mid-May was surprising. Even more unusual, with only a few previous spring records on the eastside, was a Red Phalarope in *Walla Walla* in mid-May. Unusually high numbers of spring Parasitic Jaegers in Puget Sound peaked at 18 seen from Seattle in late May. A Horned Puffin again was present in *Island* beginning in late May. A Manx Shearwater in *Kitsap* in late May adds to just a few prior records from Puget Sound.

Swainson's Hawks had an impressive year in Western Washington with over 30 sightings from mid-April to late May. Traditionally the seasonal

tally has been in the single digits. Acorn Woodpeckers, not quite annual on the westside, were found in *Clark* and *Snohomish* in late May. An Olive-sided Flycatcher in Seattle in mid-April was among the state's earliest records. Records of Gray Flycatchers have increased on the westside with increased observer effort in the Cascade foothill valleys, but this spring's 12 sightings were still impressive. These included the first four records for *Pierce*, all found in the same general area on the same day in early May. The state's 15th **Eastern Phoebe** spent a couple days in mid-May in *Skagit* and the 16th lingered through the end of the season in *Spokane*. A late Northern Shrike lingered in *Skagit* into mid-May. Normally the last report for the season statewide is in April.

Rare on the westside were Black-billed Magpies in *Clallan* and *San Juan* in May. **Blue-gray Gnatcatchers** returned to their *Klickitat* breeding location in early May. Five stray Rock Wrens were found in *Clark*, *Island*, *King*, and *Pierce* in late May. The state's 3rd **Siberian Accentor** lingered in *Cowlitz* into late March. Wandering westside Cassin's Finches included a surprising record in *Mason* in early May.

It was a good spring for Black-throated Sparrows, including westside birds in *Snohomish* and *Thurston* and eastside birds in *Benton*, *Okanogan*, and *Whitman*. A singing **Lark Bunting** in *Clark* was the state's 13th record, but only the second since 2002. The first *Kittitas* record for Green-tailed Towhee was found in early May. The state's 8th **Baltimore Oriole** was photographed in Seattle in early May. Eastern warblers showed well with a Black-and-white Warbler in *Franklin*, Tennessee Warbler in *Island*, and the state's 20th **Northern Parula** in *Benton*. Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were discovered in mid-May in *King* and *Okanogan*. An **Indigo Bunting** spent a few days in late May in *Skagit*.

Ross's Goose Reports included: 1 at McNary NWR *Walla Walla* 3/14 (eBird), 1 at Lynden *Whatcom* 3/19

continued on next page

Washington Field Notes March - May 2020 (cont.)

(IN), 1 at Clarkston *Asotin* 4/15 (eBird), 2 at Samish Flats *Skagit* 5/8 (GB), 4 at Peone *Spokane* 5/13 (eBird)

Greater White-fronted Goose Reports included: 2000 at Mesa *Franklin* 3/16 (eBird), 2100 at McNary NWR *Walla Walla* 4/5 (MID), 2020 at Seattle *King* 4/25 (SpH)

Tundra Swan High count: 1150 at Calispell Lake *Pend Oreille* 3/28 (TLi)

Eurasian Wigeon Reports from e WA included: 5 at Iowa Beef *Walla Walla* 3/8 (eBird), 4 at Philleo Lake *Spokane* 4/19 (eBird)

Gadwall x Mallard Reports included: 1 at Fife *Pierce* 4/25 (eBird)

“Eurasian” Green-winged Teal Uncommon in WA: 1 at Auburn *King* 3/21 (eBird), 1 at Marymoor Park *King* 3/5 (eBird), 1 at Point No Point *Kitsap* to 4/29 (GG), 1 at Kennedy Creek *Mason* 4/29 (eBird), 1 at Tahuya *Mason* 3/18 (eBird), 1 at Nisqually Delta *Pierce* 4/19 (eBird), 1 at Northern State Reserve *Skagit* 4/9 (eBird), 1 at Skagit WMA *Skagit* 3/9 (eBird), 1 at Everett STP *Snohomish* 3/15 (eBird)

Tufted Duck Uncommon in WA: 1 at Everett STP *Snohomish* 3/15 (WiB,AdL) to 3/16 (eBird)

Harlequin Duck Rare locally: 2 at Camas *Clark* 4/9 (RfI), 2 at Asotin Creek *Asotin* 5/15 (eBird), 1 at Potholes *Grant* 5/23 (eBird)

White-winged Scoter Reports from e WA included: 3 at McNary NWR *Walla Walla* 4/25 (MID)

Long-tailed Duck Uncommon locally: 1 at Bateman Island *Benton* 3/6 (eBird), 1 at Sprague Lake *Adams* 3/20 (eBird), 1 at Kent *King* 4/26 (eBird), 1 at Lincoln Rock SP *Douglas* 4/27 (eBird), 1 at McNary NWR *Walla Walla* 4/28 (eBird), 1 at Kent *King* 5/1 (JeB)

Red-breasted Merganser Reports included: 17 at Two Rivers *Walla Walla* 4/4 (MID)

Eared Grebe Reports included: 9 at Chambers Bay *Pierce* 5/24 (eBird)

WHITE-WINGED DOVE Rare in WA: 1 at Central Ferry *Whitman* 4/8 (RJB) to 4/18 (eBird)

Black Swift Early report: 3 at Seattle *King* 5/6 (JSy). Reports included: 75 at Discovery Park *King* 5/31

(eBird)

Vaux’s Swift High count: 7524 at Dupont *Pierce* 5/1 (eBird)

Black-chinned Hummingbird Rare in w WA: 1 at Washougal *Skamania* 4/19 (WC), 1 at Lyman *Skagit* 5/29 to 5/31 (GB)

Calliope Hummingbird Uncommon in w WA: 1 at Mount Pleasant *Skamania* 4/18 and 4/27 (WC), 1 at Seattle *King* 4/21+ (JeB), 1 at Camas *Clark* 4/26 (eBird), 1 at Renton *King* 4/27 (MBI), 1 at Ridgefield *Clark* 4/29 (RfI), 1 at North Bend *King* 4/30 (eBird), 1 south of Greenwater *Pierce* 5/13 (WiB)

Black-chinned x Calliope Hummingbird Rarely reported: 1 at Deer Park *Stevens* 5/1 (CtM)

Sandhill Crane Nesting report: 1 at Ridgefield NWR *Clark* 5/20 (fide RH)

Black Oystercatcher Uncommon locally: 1 at Edmonds *Snohomish* 3/21 (eBird), 1 at Discovery Park *King* 4/5 with 2 there 5/4 and 5/28 (eBird)

Black-necked Stilt Uncommon in w WA: 1 at Lynden *Whatcom* 5/9 (eBird), 2 south of Bayview *Skagit* 5/9 (eBird), 1 at Enumclaw *King* 5/10 (ST), 1 at Vancouver Lowlands *Clark* 5/11 (LkH)

American Avocet Uncommon in w WA: 7 at Leque Island *Snohomish* 4/30 (SGi) with 8 there 5/2 (eBird). 1 recorded at night at Snohomish *Snohomish* 5/11 (JAm)

Black-bellied Plover Reports included: 2 at Walla Walla RD *Walla Walla* 5/10 (MID)

American Golden-Plover Rare in spring in WA: 1 at Dungeness *Clallam* 5/31 (BoB)

Pacific Golden-Plover Uncommon in spring in WA: 1 at Hayton Preserve *Skagit* 3/8 (MaB), 1 at Bottle Beach *Grays Harbor* 4/15 (eBird), 1 at Ocean City *Grays Harbor* 5/17 (eBird)

Snowy Plover Rare in e WA: 1 at Walla Walla RD *Walla Walla* 5/10, 5/17 (MID) and 5/28 (eBird). Rare locally: 1 at Deer Lagoon *Island* 5/9 (eBird), 1 at Tsoo-Yess *Clallam* 5/10 (eBird)

Whimbrel High count: 465 at Camano Island *Island* 4/30 (eBird)

Long-billed Curlew Uncommon locally: 1 at Rockport *Skagit* 4/11 (AdL), 6 at Deer Lagoon *Island*

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Washington Field Notes March - May 2020 (cont.)

4/20 (DAs) with 2 there 5/9 (eBird), 1 at Skokomish RD *Mason* 4/30 (eBird), 1 at JBLM *Pierce* 5/8 (eBird), 1 at McChord AFB *Pierce* 5/12 (eBird)

Bar-tailed Godwit Reports included: 1 at Dungeness *Clallam* 5/25+ (eBird)

Marbled Godwit Reports from e WA included: 2 at Walla Walla RD *Walla Walla* 4/9 (MID), 1 at Rock Lake *Whitman* 4/29 (RJB), 1 at Bateman Island *Benton* 5/2 (eBird)

Ruddy Turnstone Reports included: 1 at Sandy Point *Whatcom* 5/9 (eBird). Rare in e WA: 1 at Pot-holes *Grant* 5/16 (eBird).

Red Knot Reports included: 1 at Joseph Whidbey SP *Island* 5/15 (eBird), 1 at Leque Island *Snohomish* 5/22 (DPo), 3 at Hayton Preserve *Skagit* 5/23 (PhW) with 10 there 5/27 (MaB)

Sanderling Reports included: 2 at Two Rivers *Walla Walla* 5/10 (MID)

Rock Sandpiper Reports included: 4 at Cattle Point *San Juan* 3/8 (eBird), 1 at Point Roberts *Whatcom* 3/12 (eBird)

Baird's Sandpiper Uncommon in spring in WA: 1 at Walla Walla RD *Walla Walla* 5/4 (eBird), 1 at Bottle Beach *Grays Harbor* 5/7 (eBird)

Semipalmated Sandpiper Reports included: 2 at Bottle Beach *Grays Harbor* 5/7 (eBird), 2 at Saltese Flats *Spokane* 5/7 (eBird), 2 at Swanson Lakes *Lincoln* 5/8 (eBird), 2 at Two Rivers *Walla Walla* 5/10 (MID), 2 at Eloika Lake *Spokane* 5/11 (eBird)

Wilson's Snipe High count: 79 at Ridgefield NWR *Clark* 3/15 (eBird)

Red-necked Phalarope Reports included: 1 at Forston Mills *Snohomish* 5/26 (JWI)

Red Phalarope Rare in e WA: 1 at Walla Walla RD *Walla Walla* 5/17 (MID)

Solitary Sandpiper Early report: 1 at Longview *Cowlitz* 4/10 (eBird)

Willet Uncommon locally: 1 at Dungeness *Clallam* to 3/23 (eBird), 1 at Penn Cove *Island* to 4/19 (eBird), 1 at Lyons Ferry *Franklin* 5/8 (eBird)

Parasitic Jaeger Reports included: 9 at Carkeek Park *King* 5/22 (RyM), 18 at Discovery Park *King* 5/31 (SpH,MtD)

Horned Puffin Uncommon in WA: 1 at Smith Island *Island* 5/25+ (EEI)

Franklin's Gull Reports included: 2 at Saltese Flats *Spokane* 5/7 (TO), 19 at Walla Walla RD *Walla Walla* 5/17 (eBird), 1 at Tacoma *Pierce* 5/18 (CWr), 3 at Alki *King* 5/19 (ST)

Mew Gull Reports included: 2 at Central Ferry *Whitman* 4/25 (eBird)

Lesser Black-backed Gull Uncommon in WA: 1 at Clarkston *Asotin* 3/17 (eBird), 1 at Klickitat River *Klickitat* 3/26 to 4/8 (eBird), 1 at Wawawai *Whitman* 4/17 (eBird)

Glaucous Gull Reports included: 1 at Gorst *Kitsap* 3/6 (eBird), 1 at Samish Flats *Skagit* 3/8 (eBird), 1 at Ediz Hook *Clallam* 5/11 (eBird)

Common Tern Reports included: 1 at Hayton Preserve *Skagit* 5/27 (MaB), 1 at Rock Lake *Whitman* 5/30 (eBird)

Pacific Loon Reports included: 1 at Drano Lake *Skamania* to 3/22 (eBird)

Manx Shearwater Rare locally: 1 at Point No Point *Kitsap* 5/21 (BWg)

American White Pelican Reports from w WA included: 2 at Magnuson Park *King* 4/17 (Carol Nelson), 48 at Lakebay *Pierce* 5/10 (eBird), 22 at Bellingham *Whatcom* 5/15 (eBird), 47 at March Point *Skagit* 5/21 (eBird)

Brown Pelican Reports included: 1 near Harstein Island *Mason* 3/28 (eBird)

SNOWY EGRET Rare in WA: 1 at Vancouver Lowlands *Clark* to 4/2 (eBird)

White-faced Ibis High count: 58 at Walla Walla RD *Walla Walla* 5/10 with 69 there 5/11 (MID). Reports included: 1 at Saltese Flats *Spokane* 5/7 (TO), 4 at Clarkston *Asotin* 5/9 (KeC), 1 at Everett STP *Snohomish* 5/10 (eBird), 5 at Skagit WMA *Skagit* 5/10 (GB), 26 at Ridgefield NWR *Clark* 5/10 (JDz,RFI) with 18 there 5/27 (BT), 20 at Lynden *Whatcom* 5/11 (StCh), 12 at Clarkston *Asotin* 5/11 (eBird), 20 at Bellingham *Whatcom* 5/13 (eBird)

Golden Eagle Reports from w WA included: 1 at Carkeek Park *King* 3/1 (RyM), 1 at Samish Flats *Skagit* 3/10 (eBird)

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Washington Field Notes March - May 2020 (cont.)

Red-shouldered Hawk Reports from expanding range included: 1 at Nisqually NWR *Thurston* 3/20 (eBird)

Broad-winged Hawk Uncommon in WA: 1 at Edmonds *Snohomish* 4/20 (JGn), 1 at Lakebay *Pierce* 4/29 (eBird), 1 at Pullman *Whitman* 5/2 (eBird), 1 at Lyman *Skagit* 5/7 (GB), 1 near Waterville *Douglas* 5/13 (eBird)

Swainson's Hawk Reports from w WA included: 1 at Seattle *King* 4/18 (JSy), 4/21 (RyM), 4/23 (JSy), 5/2 (RyM), 5/4 (ST), 5/9 (DSg), 5/12 (JSy), and 2 there 4/27 (JSy), 1 at Carkeek Park *King* 4/19 (RyM), 5 at Vancouver Lake *Clark* 4/19 (CMk,RH) with 1 there 5/3 (LTk) and 5/10 (RH), 1 at Bellingham *Whatcom* 4/20 and 4/23 (IN), 1 at Kirkland *King* 4/21 (AdL), 3 at Snohomish *Snohomish* 4/24 (JAm), 1 at Veazie *King* 4/26 (ST), 1 at Tacoma *Pierce* 4/27 (PtW), 4/28 (WiB), and 4/29 (WiB), 1 at Montlake Fill *King* 4/28 (eBird), 2 at Bainbridge Island *Kitsap* 4/29 (BWg), 1 at Rockport *Skagit* 4/30 (IN), 1 at Battle Ground *Clark* 5/1 (JDz), 1 at Centralia *Lewis* 5/2 (DSp,RHu), 1 at Point No Point *Kitsap* 5/5, 5/8, and 5/9 (BWg), 1 at Point Defiance *Pierce* 5/8 (CWr), 1 at Strawberry Island *Skamania* 5/11 (eBird), 1 at Lynnwood *Snohomish* 5/31 (RyM), 1 at Butler Flats *Skagit* 5/31 (AdL)

Great Gray Owl Rare locally: 1 east of Chattaroy *Spokane* 3/15 (eBird)

Long-eared Owl Reports from w WA included: 1 at Lacey *Thurston* 3/28 (EK), 1 east of Nooksack *Whatcom* 4/18 (StCh)

Williamson's Sapsucker Rare locally: 1 at Northrup Canyon *Grant* 3/7 (JVv)

Red-naped Sapsucker Uncommon locally: 1 at Steamboat Rock SP *Grant* 3/7 (eBird), 1 at Sequim *Clallam* 4/21 (eBird), 1 at Snohomish *Snohomish* 4/28 (eBird)

Lewis's Woodpecker Reports from w WA included: 1 at Corkindale *Skagit* 4/29 (eBird), 2 at Rockport *Skagit* 4/30 (IN) and 1 there 5/9 (eBird), 1 at Stillwater *King* 5/3 (eBird)

Acorn Woodpecker Rare in w WA: 1 at Vancouver *Clark* 5/23 (CMk), 1 at Snohomish *Snohomish* 5/30 (fide RyM)

Prairie Falcon Reports from w WA included: 1 at

Allen *Skagit* 3/1 (eBird), 1 at Rochester *Thurston* 5/9 (eBird)

Olive-sided Flycatcher Early report: 1 at Carkeek Park *King* 4/18 (RyM)

Least Flycatcher Reports included: 1 at Crab Lake *Grant* 5/7 (MY), 1 at Alder *Pierce* 5/26 (WiB), 1 at Discovery Park *King* 5/31 (MtD)

Gray Flycatcher Uncommon in w WA: 1 at Vancouver *Clark* 4/26 (RH), 1 at Marblemount *Skagit* 4/30 (IN) and 5/24 (AdL), 4 south of Greenwater *Pierce* 5/1 (WiB), 1 at Corkindale *Skagit* 5/1 (MNs), 1 at Frenchman's Bar Park *Clark* 5/4 (eBird), 1 at Barlow Point *Cowlitz* 5/8 (RKO), 1 at Glacial Heritage *Thurston* 5/10 (eBird), 1 at Rockport *Skagit* 5/17 (eBird)

Dusky Flycatcher Reports from w WA included: 3 at Magnuson Park *King* 4/23 (eBird), 1 at Carkeek Park *King* 4/24 (RyM), 1 at Battle Ground *Clark* 4/27 (JDz), 12 at Three Forks Natural Area *King* 4/30 (AdL), 1 at Golden Gardens *King* 4/30 (DSg), 5 at Discovery Park *King* 5/2 (eBird), 4 at Riffe *Lewis* 5/3 (eBird), 1 at Point No Point *Kitsap* 5/5 (eBird), 1 at American Camp *San Juan* 5/9 (eBird), 1 at Lopez Island *San Juan* 5/9 (RyM), 6 at Corkindale *Skagit* 5/15 (RyM), 1 at Sequim *Clallam* 5/21 (eBird)

Black Phoebe Nesting report: One family at Longview *Cowlitz* 5/22 (RKO). Reports from expanding range included: 2 at Brady Loop Road *Grays Harbor* 3/4 (eBird), 3 at Kent *King* 3/6 (AG), 4 at Woodland *Cowlitz* 3/11 (eBird), 3 at Ridgefield NWR *Clark* 3/13 (eBird), 6 at Julia Butler Hansen NWR *Wahkiakum* 3/22 (eBird), 2 at Brady Loop Road *Grays Harbor* 5/7 (eBird), 1 at Montlake Fill *King* 5/18 (fide JPs), 1 at Clinton Island 5/19 (GeH), 1 at Northern State Reserve *Skagit* 5/22 (GB), 6 at Skagit WMA *Skagit* 5/24 (eBird)

EASTERN PHOEBE Rare in WA: 1 at Rockport *Skagit* 5/16 to 5/17 (AdL), 1 at Elk *Spokane* 5/26+ (CtM)

Say's Phoebe Reports from w WA included: 1 at Woodland *Cowlitz* 3/14 (RKO), 1 at Bainbridge Island *Kitsap* 4/6 (BWg), 1 at Veazie *King* 4/7 (ST), 1 at Skokomish Valley *Mason* 4/13 (eBird), 1 at Ta-

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Washington Field Notes March - May 2020 (cont.)

coma *Pierce* 4/13 (eBird), 2 at Centralia *Lewis* 4/26 with 1 there 5/7 (eBird), 1 at Marblemount *Skagit* 5/24 (AdL)

Ash-throated Flycatcher Rare in w WA: 1 at Vancouver *Clark* 5/23 (CMk) and 5/27 (eBird), 1 at Black Lake Meadows *Thurston* 5/23 (eBird)

Western Kingbird Reports included: 10 at Woodland *Cowlitz* 4/24 (eBird), 14 at Point No Point *Kitsap* 5/8 (BWg), 6 at Sauk Prairie *Skagit* 5/15 (RyM), 1 at False Bay *San Juan* 5/16 (AxS), 6 west of Darrington *Snohomish* 5/16 (RyM)

Loggerhead Shrike Uncommon in w WA: 1 at Beacon Rock SP *Skamania* 3/17 (eBird)

Northern Shrike Late report: 1 at Lyman *Skagit* 5/2 to 5/16 (GB)

Blue Jay Reports included: 3 at Spokane *Spokane* 3/12 (eBird), 1 at College Place *Walla Walla* 4/4 (MID), 3 at Garfield *Whitman* 4/20 (eBird), 1 at Sunnyside *Yakima* 4/24 (eBird)

Black-billed Magpie Rare in w WA: 1 at Waatch River *Clallam* 5/5 (AAk), 1 at San Juan Island *San Juan* 5/15 (eBird)

Clark's Nutcracker Uncommon locally: 1 north of Rock Lake *Whitman* 4/9 (RJB)

Common Raven Nesting report: 1 at Seattle *King* 5/10 (DSg)

Bank Swallow Reports included: 30 at White's Island *Wahkiakum* 5/15 (eBird), 20 at Skamokawa *Wahkiakum* 5/27 (eBird), 30 at Rice Island *Wahkiakum* 5/27 (eBird)

Cliff Swallow Early report: 10 at Ridgefield *Clark* 3/7 (eBird)

White-breasted Nuthatch Uncommon locally: 1 at Puget Island *Wahkiakum* 3/8 (eBird), 2 at Cowlitz Prairie *Lewis* 4/16 (eBird), 1 at Violet Prairie *Thurston* 5/9 to 5/16 (eBird)

1 at Violet Prairie *Thurston* 5/16 (eBird)

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER Rare in WA: 2 at Klickitat WMA *Klickitat* 5/9 to 5/25 (eBird)

Rock Wren Uncommon locally: 1 at Camano Island *Island* 5/22 (eBird), 1 at Roy *Pierce* 5/24 (DDe), 2 east of Enumclaw *King* 5/24 (ST), 1 near Yacolt *Clark* 5/30 (JhB)

American Dipper Reports included: 2 at Pullman *Whitman* 3/18 (eBird), 1 at Orcas *San Juan* 5/16 (AxS)

Sage Thrasher Reports included: 1 at Walla Walla *Walla Walla* 4/10 (eBird), 1 at Texas Lake *Whitman* 5/2 (eBird)

Northern Mockingbird Reports included: 1 at Green Lake *King* 5/5 (LKr), 1 at Discovery Park *King* 5/6 (KaS), 1 at Steptoe Butte *Whitman* 5/17 (eBird)

Western Bluebird Reports included: 1 at Corkindale *Skagit* 4/10 (GB)

3 at Northern State Reserve *Skagit* 4/10 (eBird)

Mountain Bluebird High count: 20 near Coupeville *Island* 4/10 (Rob & Traci York). Reports from w WA included: 7 at Bainbridge Island *Kitsap* 4/7 (eBird), 2 at White's Island *Wahkiakum* 4/8 (eBird), 7 at Weir Prairie *Thurston* 4/9 (eBird), 4 at Dungeness *Clallam* 4/9 (eBird), 14 at Marblemount *Skagit* 4/11 (AdL), 5 at Port Angeles *Clallam* 5/3 (RHo)

Townsend's Solitaire High count: 22 at Rockport *Skagit* 4/26 (AdL)

Veery Uncommon locally: 1 at Lind Coulee *Grant* 5/20 (MY)

Hermit Thrush Late report: 1 at West Seattle *King* 5/31 (MiH)

SIBERIAN ACCENTOR Rare in WA: 1 at Woodland *Cowlitz* until 3/25 (eBird)

Pine Grosbeak Uncommon locally: 2 at Potholes SP *Grant* 3/13 (MY), 1 at Guemes Island *Skagit* 4/19 (eBird), 1 at Kamiak Butte *Whitman* 5/27 (eBird), 1 at Eglon *Kitsap* 5/30 (fide BWg)

Cassin's Finch Rare locally: 1 at Vancouver *Clark* 4/23 (eBird), 1 at Hoodspoint *Mason* 5/3 (Tanna Knouse)

Common Redpoll Reports included: 1 at College Place *Walla Walla* 3/14 (MID)

Lesser Goldfinch High count: 190 at Steptoe Canyon *Whitman* 3/15 (eBird). Reports from expanding range included: 4 at Seven Bays *Lincoln* 3/27 (eBird), 1 at Point No Point *Kitsap* 4/27 and 5/18 (eBird), 1 at Seattle *King* 5/17 (RyM)

Lapland Longspur Reports included: 1 at Neah

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Washington Field Notes March - May 2020 (cont.)

Bay *Clallam* 3/29 (AAk), 1 at Oak Harbor *Island* 4/30 to 5/1 (eBird), 1 at Discovery Park *King* 5/2 (CWr), 1 at McChord AFB *Pierce* 5/11 (eBird)

Snow Bunting Reports included: 1 at Crockett Lake *Island* 3/17 (eBird)

Grasshopper Sparrow Rare in w WA: 1 at Joint Base Lewis McChord *Pierce* 5/14 (eBird)

Chipping Sparrow Early report: 1 at Vancouver *Clark* 3/29 (JhB)

Clay-colored Sparrow Reports included: 2 at Steptoe Butte *Whitman* 5/28 (RJB), 1 at Scooteney Reservoir *Franklin* 5/30 (eBird)

Brewer's Sparrow Uncommon in w WA: 1 south of Greenwater *Pierce* 5/1 (WiB), 1 at Everett STP *Snohomish* 5/4 (eBird), 1 at Montlake Fill *King* 5/6 (eBird), 1 at Sauk Valley *Skagit* 5/24 (MNs)

Black-throated Sparrow Rare in w WA: 1 at Weir Prairie *Thurston* 5/14 (eBird), 1 at Forston Mills *Snohomish* 5/28 (JOs). Reports from e WA included: 2 at Tonasket *Okanogan* 5/25 (eBird), 1 at Benton City *Benton* 5/25 (eBird), 1 at Endicott *Whitman* 5/30 (eBird)

Lark Sparrow Uncommon in w WA: 1 at Stillwater *King* 5/9 (AdL), 1 at Rockport *Skagit* 5/17 (eBird), 1 at Morton *Lewis* 5/31 (WiB,ACt)

LARK BUNTING Rare in WA: 1 at Vancouver Lowlands *Clark* 5/1 (RFI)

American Tree Sparrow Reports from w WA included: 1 at Green Lake *King* 3/29 (DOs), 1 at Marymoor Park *King* 4/9 (eBird), 1 at Wallingford *King* 4/13 (Dave Robichaud)

"Thick-billed" Fox Sparrow Uncommon in WA: 5 at Simcoe Mountain *Klickitat* 5/9 (BT)

"Dark-lored" White-crowned Sparrow Uncommon in WA: 1 at High Prairie *Klickitat* 5/11 (eBird)

Golden-crowned x White Crowned Sparrow Uncommon in WA: 1 at Skokomish Valley *Mason* 4/25 (eBird), 1 at Waatch River *Clallam* 4/25 (AAk), 1 at Lacey *Thurston* 4/26 (EK), 1 at Welcome *Whatcom* 4/30 (CMH)

Harris's Sparrow Reports included: 1 at Electric City *Grant* 3/14 (MY), 2 at Eureka *Walla Walla* 3/14 (MID), 1 at Birch Bay *Whatcom* 5/11 (EEL)

Vesper Sparrow Reports from w WA included: 1 at Doty *Lewis* 4/12 (DaH), 1 at Vancouver *Clark* 4/20

(eBird), 15 at Weir Prairie *Thurston* 4/24 (eBird), 1 at Westport *Grays Harbor* 4/25 (eBird), 1 at Port Angeles *Clallam* 5/3 (RHO)

Swamp Sparrow Reports included: 2 at Walla Walla RD *Walla Walla* 3/8 (eBird), 1 at Tacoma *Pierce* 4/12 (WiB)

Green-tailed Towhee Rare locally: 1 east of Cle Elum *Kittitas* 5/2 (ScR,DSw)

Yellow-breasted Chat High count: 84 at Richland *Benton* 5/30 (eBird). Reports from expanding range included: 2 at Cathlamet *Wahkiakum* 5/11 (eBird), 1 at Iverson Spit *Island* 5/15 (eBird), 1 at Spencer Island *Snohomish* 5/15 to 5/24 (JAm), 2 at Shelton *Mason* 5/18 (eBird).

Yellow-headed Blackbird Reports from w WA included: 1 at Waatch River *Clallam* 4/29 and 5/16 (AAk), 1 at Puget Island *Wahkiakum* 4/30 (eBird), 1 at Nemah *Pacific* 5/9 (eBird), 1 at Lopez Island *San Juan* 5/10 (RyM), 10 at Kent *King* 5/12 (eBird), 5 at Montlake Fill *King* 5/27 (eBird)

Bullock's Oriole Early report: 1 at Stehekin *Chelan* 4/20 (eBird)

BALTIMORE ORIOLE Rare in WA: 1 at Seattle *King* 5/4 (Deena Heg)

Tricolored Blackbird Reports included: 38 at Endicott *Whitman* 5/9 (eBird), 80 at Kahlotus Lake *Franklin* 5/12 (eBird)

Rusty Blackbird Uncommon in WA: 2 at Colville *Stevens* to 3/13 (eBird)

Northern Waterthrush Uncommon in w WA: 1 at Skagit WMA *Skagit* to 3/23 (eBird)

Black-and-white Warbler Uncommon in WA: 1 at Chiawana Park *Franklin* 5/14 (JFi)

Tennessee Warbler Uncommon in WA: 1 at Coupeville *Island* 5/3 (SrS)

Nashville Warbler Reports included: 1 at Friday Harbor *San Juan* 4/26 (eBird), 1 at Lopez Island *San Juan* 5/8 through the period (RyM)

MacGillivray's Warbler Early report: 1 at Fife *Pierce* 4/18 (eBird)

American Redstart Reports included: 2 at Trout Lake *Klickitat* 5/27 (eBird), 1 at Steptoe Butte *Whitman* 5/28 (RJB)

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Washington Field Notes

March - May 2020 (cont.)

NORTHERN PARULA Rare in WA: 1 at Horn Rapids *Benton* 5/26 to 5/27 (LHi)

Yellow Warbler Early reports: 2 at Sumner *Pierce* 4/18 (eBird), 1 at Redmond *King* 4/21 (MiH)

Wilson's Warbler Early reports: 1 at Lacey *Thurston* 4/16 (EK), 1 at Clallam Bay *Clallam* 4/18 (AAk), 1 at Toutle *Cowlitz* 4/18 (eBird), 2 at Skokomish Valley *Mason* 4/18 (eBird), 1 at Bowerman Basin *Grays Harbor* 4/18 (eBird), 1 at Lake-wood *Pierce* 4/18 (eBird)

Western Tanager Early report: 1 at Bellingham *Whatcom* 4/13 (eBird). High count: 921 at Point Defiance *Pierce* 5/8 (CWr)

Rose-breasted Grosbeak Uncommon in WA: 1 at Renton *King* 5/12 (eBird), 1 at Winthrop *Okanogan* 5/16 (MRob)

Black-headed Grosbeak Early reports: 1 at Edmonds *Snohomish* 4/21 (eBird), 1 at Rainier *Thurston* 4/21 (eBird)

INDIGO BUNTING Rare in WA: 1 at Sauk Prairie *Skagit* 5/24 (AdL) 5/26 (eBird)

OBSERVERS

AAk Adrienne Akmajian

ACt Adam Crutcher

AdL Adrian Lee

AG Alan Grenon

AxS Alexander Sowers

BoB Bob Boekelheide

BT Bill Tweit

BWg Brad Waggoner

CMH Casey McHugh

CMk Cindy McCormack

CtM Curtis Mahon

CWr Charlie Wright

DaH Dave Hayden

DAs David Armstrong

DDe Denis Desilvis

DOs David Olsen

DPo David Poortinga

DSg Dave Slager

DSp Dalton Spencer

DSw Dave Swayne

eBird eBird

EEl Eric Ellingson

EK Eric Kraig

GB Gary Bletsch

GeH George Heleker

GG George Gerdt

IN Isaiah Nugent

JAm Josh Adams

JDz Jim Danzenbaker

JeB Jeff Bryant

JFi Jason Fidorra

JGn Jordan Gunn

JhB John Bishop

JOs Jeff Osmundson

JPs John Puschock

JSy Joe Sweeney

JVv Joe Veverka

JWl Jo Waldron

KaS Kathy Slettebak

KeC Keith Carlson

LHi Lisa Hill

LkH Luke Hanes

LKr Louis Kreemer

LTk Lyn Topinka

MaB Marv Breece

MBI Michael Blue

MD Mike Denny

MiH Michael Hobbs

MID MerryLynn Denny

MNs Mike Nelson

MRob Mark Robinson

MtB Matt Bartels

MtD Matt Dufort

MWo Michael Woodruff

MY Matt Yawney

PhW Phil Wegener

PtW Peter Wimberger

RFl Robert Flores

RH Randy Hill

RHo Roger Hoffman

RHu Rachel Hudson

RJB RJ Baltierra

RKo Russell Koppenderayer

RyM Ryan Merrill

ScR Scott Ramos

SGi Steve Giles

SpH Spencer Hildie

SrS Sarah Schmidt

ST Sam Terry

StCh Stephen Chase

TLi Terry Little

TO Tim O'Brien

WC Wilson Cady

WiB Will Brooks



Wilson's Warbler, John Brietsch photo