



# The Sandpiper

JUNE/JULY 2011



REDWOOD REGION AUDUBON SOCIETY

www.rras.org

## FIELD TRIPS

**Every Saturday: Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary.** These are our famous rain-or-shine, docent-led field trips at the marsh; take your binocular(s) and have a great morning birding! Meet in the parking lot at the south end of I Street in Arcata at 8:30 a.m.



Horse Mountain

© Gary Bloomfield

**Saturday, June 18: Horse Mountain.** We will bird high-elevation Humboldt County from Horse Mtn. to Grouse Mtn. on Forest Service Route 1. Target species will include Townsend's Solitaire, Mountain Quail, Dusky Flycatcher, White-headed Woodpecker, and Northern Pygmy-Owl. Maybe we'll even luck into a Northern Goshawk! Meet at 7:00 a.m. near Espresso 101 off Giuntoli Lane. Rob Fowler will lead (707) 839-3493; [migratoriusfwlr@gmail.com](mailto:migratoriusfwlr@gmail.com) for more information. Bring a lunch to enjoy after the trip.

**Sunday, June 19: Southern Humboldt Community Park.** Robert Sutherland (707-986-1112) and/or John Gaffin lead this monthly walk. All ages and experience levels are encouraged to participate and revel in the beauty of the park and its avian inhabitants on this easy 2- to 3-hour walk. Binoculars are not provided, and dogs are not allowed; field guides are usually available, but please provide your own if possible. Steady rain cancels. Meet at 8:00 a.m. in the parking lot on Kimtu Road in Garberville.

Cedarville or meet en route and camp at Stough Reservoir Campground (fee) near Cedar Pass (Modoc County birds). There are grocery stores in Alturas and a motel in Cedarville. We can either continue east on Hwy 299 into Nevada, where we will see wild horse herds and pronghorn antelope, or go north along Goose Lake, stopping to check for nesting birds. On the previous trip, we saw bighorn sheep. After we get onto Hwy 140, we will continue to Fields, Oregon, for lunch and a visit to the oasis (huge milkshakes and delicious hamburgers). We will check the Steens Mtn. desert overlooks (high-clearance vehicle required), stopping near the top to check snowfields for the rosy-finch. We will camp at Page Springs Campground (fee) for 2 nights and will make a strong effort to see the rosy-finches. Thereafter, we will bird the refuge, and the group will decide on options for birding in the area. For most of this area, food and services are unavailable. Check Malheur NWR website, and contact Chet Ogan (707) 442-9353 for further details. We may flex the dates. Please commit by July 1.

**Sunday, July 10: Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge.** This is a wonderful 2- to 3-hour trip for people wanting to learn the birds of the Humboldt Bay area. It takes a leisurely pace with emphasis on enjoying the birds! Beginners are more than welcome. Meet at the Refuge Visitor Center at 9:00 a.m. Call David Fix (707) 825-1195 for more information.

**Saturday, July 16: eBird Site Survey—Shay Park.** This monthly trip sounds more formal than it is. Join Rob Fowler (707-839-3493; [migratoriusfwlr@gmail.com](mailto:migratoriusfwlr@gmail.com)) as we survey the extent of Shay Park in Arcata for 1 to 3 hours and count every species present. Rob does the counting, and you do the enjoying of some of the over 130 + species that have been recorded here at this small but bird-rich urban location! For more info on the eBird site survey, visit this link at [ebird.org](http://ebird.org): [http://ebird.org/content/ebird/about/eBird\\_Site\\_Survey](http://ebird.org/content/ebird/about/eBird_Site_Survey). Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Shay Park parking lot that is located at the eastern end of Foster Avenue.

**Sunday, July 17: Southern Humboldt Community Park.** See June 19 for details.

**REMINDER:  
Our monthly  
programs  
are on hiatus  
until September 9.**



Steens Mountain

photo courtesy Gary Halvorson, Oregon State Archives

**Friday-Monday, July 8-11: Malheur National Wildlife Refuge (NWR)/Steens Mountain.** We will target the Steens Mtn. area specialties: Black Rosy-Finch, Chukar, and Sage Grouse. Malheur Refuge has nesting Franklin's Gull, Eastern Kingbird, and Bobolink. Plan to carpool from Arcata to the Cedar Pass area between Alturas and



Attendees from RRAS and Wintu Audubon at Lassen, June 2010.

© Tom Leskiw

## NO. CALIFORNIA AUDUBON CHAPTERS' ANNUAL JOINT FIELD TRIP

**Friday, July 22-Sunday, July 24  
Lassen Volcanic National Park**

For the 3rd year, Wintu Audubon Society (AS) (Shasta County) will host this trip in search of montane species such as Black-backed Woodpecker, Clark's Nutcracker, Mountain Bluebird, and Townsend's Solitaire amid spectacular scenery. Redbud AS (Lake County) will also share the group campsite, while Altacal AS (Chico) will occupy the adjoining site, providing an excellent opportunity for northern California Audubon interaction. Meet Friday afternoon at Site 6 in Lost Creek Group Camp, about 4 miles inside the park's west entrance (\$10/vehicle entry fee). We will spend late afternoon/evening and the following day (trip to Manzanita Lake, starting at campground at 8:30 a.m. Saturday) birding the park with our hosts, who know it well. Snow conditions will determine whether the road will be open to Hat Lake. The trip will end around noon on Sunday; there may be an optional detour to McCumber Reservoir on the way back. Tent camping space for up to 25 is provided Friday and Saturday nights by Wintu (water and pit toilets); there is extremely limited space for pickup campers but no 5th wheels or large motor homes. Bring food and insect repellent. Please inform both Bill Oliver of Wintu (530-941-7741; [wwoliver9@gmail.com](mailto:wwoliver9@gmail.com)) and local RRAS coordinator Tom Leskiw (442-5444; [tomleskiw@suddenlink.net](mailto:tomleskiw@suddenlink.net)) that you will be attending.

## PICNIC WITH THE SIERRA CLUB



© Sue Leskiw

September 2007 North Group picnic at Patricks Point.

RRAS members are cordially invited to attend a picnic organized by the local Sierra Club entity, North Group. The event will be held on Saturday, August 27, at Patricks Point State Park in Trinidad. It will kick off at 10 a.m. with a bird walk led by Tom Leskiw, followed by a potluck picnic at noon. Bring a dish to share; North Group will provide place settings and drinks. The site rental includes 25 day-use entries to the park, so please rideshare to the event. Call Sue Leskiw at 707-442-5444 to obtain the information needed to get in at no charge. Sierra Club looks forward to networking with Audubon.



## RRAS SEEKS PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS

With the recent launch of our updated website ([www.rras.org](http://www.rras.org)) and a revised *Sandpiper* publication schedule on the horizon, now is a great time to join the Publications Committee and help forge the next generation of RRAS publications. Effective print and electronic media communication to our members and the public is essential to promoting our mission.

Positions open include:

Committee Chair — coordinates the committee and acts as liaison to board of directors.

Website Advisory Subcommittee — interfaces with website gatekeeper to evaluate/suggest additional functions that could be incorporated on the RRAS site.

Electronic Media Specialist — works with webmaster to develop the website, including social networking, blogs, and interactive features. This is a semitechnical position. Special Publications — could be an individual or a subcommittee that helps with items such as bird checklists, guides, special communications to our members, and other as-needed publications.

The above positions would coordinate with our *Sandpiper* editorial staff Tom and Sue Leskiw and Jan Andersen, website gatekeeper Sue Leskiw, and/or *Sandpiper* layout specialist and artist Gary Bloomfield. They will also work with several other committees to develop specialized multimedia publications for conservation, education, and event promotion and publicity.

We hope to establish a core committee of folks with at least a 1- to 2-year commitment and others to work on specific projects on a one-time basis. Please contact president Jim Clark at [dancebirds@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dancebirds@sbcglobal.net); (707) 445-8311, or Josée Rousseau, volunteer coordinator, at [jsr@klamathbird.org](mailto:jsr@klamathbird.org) for more information.



Photo by Sue Leskiw

### GODWIT CAFÉ CELEBRATES 11TH YEAR

RRAS volunteers continued to provide hot and cold food and drink to Godwit Days attendees. Three of the helpers — Chet Ogan, Larry Womack, and Ben Vernasco — are shown in the photo. RRAS would like to thank them and all the other volunteers for their service: Sandy Andersen, Samantha Barton, Ken Burton, Jim and Donna Clark, Debbie Marshall, John Mason, Kate McClain, Ron and Rinda McClure, Syn-dee Noel, Carol Wilson, and George Ziminsky.

## THE SAME RIVER, TWICE

“You cannot step twice into the same river,  
for other waters are continually flowing in.”  
-- Heraclitus, Greek philosopher 500 B.C.

These words remain one of my favorite sayings. The reason? Relative to bird migration, the statement is totally accurate... and yet wrong. Namely, bird migration, especially that undertaken by neotropical migrants, has a predictable phenology. The discovery and documentation of the timing, intensity, and geographical scope of this migration can be credited to a plethora of sources: everything from the casual “feeder birdwatcher,” to ornithological research that includes analysis of Gulf Coast radar imagery, to birders combing vagrant “hot-spots” during the spring and fall.

Heraclitus was correct in stating that anyone stepping twice into the same river—bird migration or otherwise—won’t have the *exact* same experience. Locally, I’ve seen a small freshwater pool that hosted a Solitary Sandpiper on April 24 morph into a muddy depression by May 9—a boon for nest-building Barn and Cliff Swallows. Another example would be Gray Flycatcher (GRFL), which is not known to breed in Humboldt County. Rather, its preference for ponderosa pine and various shrub species—where it does nest—is most prevalent on the east side of the Cascades and Sierras. From 1974-93, GRFL occurred 39 times in Humboldt County (Dr. Stan Harris, personal communication). These numbers translate to an average of about 2 birds per year, with all records except one occurring in spring.

Since 1993, there has been a significant “uptick” in the average number of GRFLs seen in Humboldt County. Because it’s unlikely that the species has made wholesale changes to its migration route beginning in 1994, I strongly suspect that the reason is due to more thorough observer coverage during the migration window for GRFL in inland areas of Humboldt County. Through trial and error, we’ve learned that this peak window is approximately April 22-May 12; this river can be waded each and every year. Granted, no one would presume to *guarantee* a Humboldt County GRFL during this time frame. And as Daryl Coldren and I learned this spring, one might have to travel a bit further afield, say, Ullathorne River access, 2 miles this side of Orleans, in order to proclaim “mission accomplished.”

It’s worth noting that David Fix’s record-setting Humboldt County 1996 Big Year did not include GRFL. Granted, it takes a bit of effort to get inland during a biologist’s busy field season, but if we knew as much then as we know now of GRFL’s migration window, I suspect that the species would have made its way into David’s “found” column. (More info on GRFL migration can be found in my April 1996 *Sandpiper* column, archived at [www.rras.org](http://www.rras.org)).

It’s interesting to speculate on which other species could graduate from “migration status hazy” to “*This is their 2-week migration window in Humboldt.*” On April 25, 1998, I was birding Lewiston Lake with John Hunter. A bird got away from him that he felt could have been a Brewer’s Sparrow. GRFL and Brewer’s Sparrows have similar breeding and winter ranges.

Since that day with John, I’ve often asked myself, “Why couldn’t Brewer’s Sparrow be the ‘new GRFL’: a species that, with intensive coverage at the appropriate time, graduates from being considered a long-shot to one that’s predictable?” On May 5th of this year, while birding with Gary Lester on Davison Road, I uttered this theory aloud. Fifteen minutes later, we came upon a sparrow flock of 2 that consisted of a White-crowned... and a Brewer’s Sparrow.

Other than during Godwit Days, Willow Creek and Orleans receive scant coverage from April through May. The finding of 3 different Vesper Sparrows this spring (Willow Creek April 17, Orleans May 4, and Aikens Creek May 14) suggests that greater inland coverage during this time frame would likewise produce additional records for this species.



Brewer's Sparrow ©Tony Kurz  
Orick, Humboldt County

I’m writing these words during the Memorial Day weekend—the annual kick-off for searching desert oases and coastal headlands for vagrant birds. Heraclitus’s words—“You cannot step twice into the same river”—hang in the air like a subtle challenge, a motivational tool. Of course, owing to the vagaries of weather, observer coverage, and chance, no one can predict the *exact* suite of species to be detected. However, an educated guess, based on past “wadings of the migrational river,” suggests that, statewide, Ovenbird, Northern Parula, and Hooded and Kentucky Warblers are likely. The migration window for White-rumped Sandpiper is still open, as it is for Bobolink, Lark Bunting, and Broad-winged Hawk. And maybe, just maybe, lightning will strike twice—as it did on this date in 1999 for Keith Slauson and Andrea Kudrez—and the song of a Golden-winged Warbler will fill the air of the Blue Lake cottonwoods.

Tom Leskiw  
May 29, 2011

## eBird TIP №3



### A NEW eBIRD DATA ENTRY SYSTEM

By Rob Fowler

Help test the new eBird data entry system. Go to <http://demo.ebird.org/ebird/submit> to try out this new data entry system...especially if you haven’t tried eBird yet!

So what’s better about this new system?

- \* Faster data entry: the data entry process is cut down from 4 steps to 3.
- \* Customize the data entry to your needs: show or hide subspecies, age/sex, and breeding codes.
- \* Enter species comments from the species checklist.
- \* Record highest-level breeding codes. This will allow us to conduct a year-round atlas of breeding bird activity around the globe. The older checklist entry program didn’t have breeding codes, so this is an important new development.
- \* Easier to add a species to a checklist.
- \* Easier to confirm species when you get rare species flags (i.e., the beloved message “Common Crane is an excellent observation!...”). Providing supportive comments in such cases is important, so we have made it easier to do this.
- \* More customizable data entry for specific projects

(like the Yellow-billed Magpie Survey or other research projects).

- \* Expanded list of options for quick data entry after a submission.
- \* New frequency sort functionality uses existing eBird data to reorder the list according to the most-likely species at the location within the current 3-week window. This works best for locations with lots of data, but can quickly limit the list to the likely species if you submit regularly from your yard or local patch.

Most of this article is taken from the eBird homepage at <http://ebird.org/content/ebird/news/new-ebird-data-entry>.

The *Sandpiper* eBird tip is a new column that hopes to inspire increased eBird use in northwestern California. If you have suggestions for an eBird tip or any other eBird-related questions, contact RRAS eBird liaison Rob Fowler at [migratoriusfwlr@gmail.com](mailto:migratoriusfwlr@gmail.com). Rob reviews eBird records for Humboldt, Trinity, and Siskiyou counties and openly admits to his eBird addiction.



Photo © Hope Woodward.

### RRAS PARTICIPATES IN ORLEANS INTERNATIONAL MIGRATORY BIRD DAY

Tom Leskiw and Daryl Coldren served as field trip leaders for a morning bird walk with 22 adults and 2 children on Saturday, April 30, as part of “Tony Hacking Memorial Bigfoot Birding Day.” A total of 46 species were spotted at 2 locations. The preceding evening, community members gathered to hear a potpourri of speakers and enjoy viewing all 63 entries from local children in the Eighth Annual Student Bird Art Contest, cosponsored by RRAS. Six of the entries had won prizes announced at Godwit Days.

### 1 April-31 May 2011

Field Notes is a compilation of bird sighting reports for Del Norte, Humboldt, northern Mendocino, Trinity, and western Siskiyou counties. Sources include the RRAS bird alert (707-822-LOON), the online northwestern California birding and information exchange ([nwcalbird@yahoo.com](mailto:nwcalbird@yahoo.com)), the Mendocino County birders' list serve ([mendobirds@yahoo.com](mailto:mendobirds@yahoo.com)), eBird (<http://ebird.org/content/klamath-siskiyou>), and reports submitted directly to the compiler. Future reports may be submitted to any of the sources mentioned above or to Daryl Coldren: 916-384-8089; [QuiAvisPetit@aol.com](mailto:QuiAvisPetit@aol.com).

AB = Arcata Bottoms; AD = Alexandre Dairy; AM = Arcata Marsh; AP = Alderpoint; BL = Blue Lake; BRR = Bear River Ridge; FB = Ferndale Bottoms; FBP = Fort Bragg pelagic trip; FL = Field's Landing; FOS = first of season; HBBO = Humboldt Bay Bird Observatory; HBNWR = Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge; HC = high count; HO = holdover from previous period; LB = Loleta Bottoms; LR = last report; LT = Lake Tolowa; MOB = many observers; NC, ND = not confirmed, not documented; NJ = North Jetty, Humboldt Bay; NWR = National Wildlife Refuge; SJ = South Jetty, Humboldt Bay; SP = State Park; SRB = Smith River Bottoms; VSL = V Street loop.

**Greater White-fronted Goose:** 2, *LB*, 13 Apr (DC, RH, TK); 38, *LB*, 16 Apr (KR); 2, *AB*, 17 Apr (TK) • **Ross's Goose:** 1, *LB*, 13 Apr (DC, RH, TK) • **Aleutian Goose:** 13, *Bald Hill*, 7 Apr (DT); 18, *FB*, 24 May (DC, MW); 1, *Fay Slough*, 30 May (RF) • **Eurasian Wigeon:** 1, *FB*, 1 Apr-1 May (MW, DC, TL, MOB); 1, *HBNWR*, 10-15 Apr (DF, JP, MOB); 1, *LB*, 22 Apr (MW, DP); 1, *Eureka*, 9 Apr (KR, RS) • **Blue-winged Teal:** 1 (FOS), *AB*, 11 Apr (TK) • **Green-winged Teal:** 1 (intergrade), *AM*, 11 Apr (SH) • **Harlequin Duck:** 3, *NJ*, 10 Apr (DC, DS); 1, *Humboldt Bay Entrance*, 1 May (DC, GL, MOB); 2, *NJ*, 12 May (OH); 1, *Hilfiker Lane*, 17 Apr (SC, MOB); 2, *Virgin Creek*, 29 Apr (BB); 2, *Glass Beach*, 1-16 Apr (DT) • **Black Scoter:** 1, *Crab Park*, 13 Apr (DC, RH, TK); 1, *Crescent City Harbor*, 6 May (KB) • **Long-tailed Duck:** 1, *King Salmon*, 12 Apr-8 May (TK); 1, *FL*, 8 Apr-24 May (MW); 1, *Van Damme SP*, 10-14 Apr (CK, DT) • **Hooded Merganser:** 1, *AM*, 12 Apr (RH); 8, *Fortuna Waterfront*, 4 Apr (KB); 2, *BL*, 17 Apr (TK, MOB); 1, *BRR*, 14 Apr (TK, MOB); 2, *AB*, 16 Apr (KR, RS); 1, *Bayside*, 18 Apr (CA) • **Ruddy Duck:** 1, *HBNWR*, 8 May (DF, MOB); 1, *AM*, 28 May (DC, TK) • **Yellow-billed Loon:** 1, *Table Bluff*, 4 May (BS) • **Red-necked Grebe:** 1, *SJ*, 1 May (DC, MOB); • **Laysan Albatross:** 1, *offshore Humboldt*, 12 May (RM, et al.) • **Short-tailed Albatross:** 1, *FBP*, 15 May (JW, RLV, RF, KH) • **Murphy's Petrel:** 1, 35+ *mi offshore Humboldt*, 12 May (TH, MWO, et al.); 1, *offshore Humboldt*, 15 May (BSh) • **Pink-footed Shearwater:** 12, *HSU pelagic*, 1 May (DC, GL, MOB) • **Flesh-footed Shearwater:** 1, *HSU pelagic*, 1 May (DC, GL, MOB) • **Short-tailed Shearwater:** 1, *HSU pelagic*, 1 May (DC, GL, MOB); 1, *HSU pelagic*, 12 May (TH, MWO, et al.) • **Manx Shearwater:** 1, *FBP*, 15 May (RF, RLV, KH, MOB) • **Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel:** 1, *offshore Humboldt*, 1 May (TK, DC, MOB); 7, *offshore Humboldt*, 22 Apr (RM, et al.); 1, *offshore Humboldt*, 12 May (TH, MWO, et al.) • **Leach's Storm-Petrel:** 147, *offshore Humboldt*, 15 May (BSh); 1, *FBP*, 15 May (RLV, RF, KH) • **Green Heron:** 2, *AM*, 2 Apr (JP); 1, *AM*, 29 Apr (GZ); 1, *AM*, 4 May (GZ); 1, *AP*, 7 May (RH, JS, TK, DC); 1, *AM*, 11 May (RF); 1, *BL*, 17 May (SC); 1, *AM*, 13 Apr (GC); 1, *Boyes Prairie*, 18 Apr, 11 May (KR); 1, *Ten Mile Creek*, 22 Apr (DA) • **White-faced Ibis:** 1, *Moxon Dairy*, 9 May (RF, DC, MOB); 1, *AD*, 28 May



Common Crane, © Alan Barron, Lake Earl, Del Norte County

(AB) • **Northern Goshawk:** 1, *Horse Mt*, 5 May (RH, DC) • **Golden Eagle:** 2, *BRR*, 14 Apr (TK) • **Merlin:** 1, *AM*, 12 Apr (RH); 1, *AM*, 13 Apr (WL); 1 (*Richardsonii*), *LB*, 14 April (KB) • **Crested Caracara (HO):** 1, *SRB*, 31 May (AB, MOB) • **Sandhill Crane:** 2 (flyovers), *HSU*, 10 May (LP, AF) • **COMMON CRANE!:** 1, *Lake Earl*, 5-8 May (AB, MOB) • **Pacific Golden-Plover:** 10, *LB*, 22 Apr (MW, DP); 2, *AB*, 16 Apr (KR); 14, *LB*, 13 Apr (DC, RH, TK); 8, *LB*, 15 Apr (DS, MOB) • **Black-necked Stilt:** 1, *HBNWR*, 8 May (DF, MOB); 1, *HBNWR*, 10 May (DC, RH); 1, *HBNWR*, 18 May (RB); • **Solitary Sandpiper:** 1, *SRB*, 28 Apr (LB); 1-2, *AB*, 1-9 May (RF, CM, DC, GC, MOB); 5, *SRB*, 1 May (LB); several reports of 1-2, *FB*, 1-13 May (TL); 1, *HBNWR*, 10 May (DC, DS); 1, *Eel River*, 6 May (RH); 1, *Mill Creek acquisition*, 3 May (JS, TK) • **Lesser Yellowlegs:** 48!, *Lake Earl*, 21 Apr (LB) • **Ruddy Turnstone:** many reports of 1-4 birds, *LT, AM, NJ, FL*, 4 Apr-29 May (DF, OH, RB, LB, MOB); 11 (HC), *AM*, 3 May (KB) • **Red Knot:** 1-14, *AM*, 5 Apr-12 May (DF); 1, *LT*, 21 May (LB); 1 May (LB); 1, *AB*, 20 Apr (TK) • **Rock Sandpiper:** 1-4, *NJ*, 12-24 Apr (MW, OH, DS, MM, MOB) • **Red-necked Phalarope:** many reports of 1-40, *HBNWR, AM, FB*, 1-28 May (MOB); 40, *HBNWR*, 10 May (DC, DS); 30, *AM*, 3 May (NL); 150, *HSU pelagic*, 1 May (DC, GL, TK, MOB); 900, *FBP*, 15 May (RL, RF, MOB) • **Red Phalarope:** 75, *HSU pelagic*, 1 May (DC, GL, TK, MOB); 1,100, *FBP*, 15 May (RF, RL, MOB) • **Glaucous Gull:** 1, *Stone Lagoon*, 12 May (TK); 2, *Pudding Creek Lagoon*, 24 Apr (DT); 1, *Pudding Creek Lagoon*, 28 Apr (DT) • **Sabine's Gull:** 12, *HSU pelagic*, 1 May (DC, GL, MOB); 360, *FBP*, 15 May (RL, RF, KH) • **Black Tern:** 1, *FBP*, 15 May (RL, RF, KH) • **Tufted Puffin:** 12, *Castle Rock*, 16 Apr (RF, MOB); 2, *Big Lagoon*, 5 May (MH); 4, *Castle Rock*, 5 May (JS, TK) • **White-winged Dove:** 1 (NC, ND), *Trinidad*, 6 May (MH) • **Long-eared Owl:** 1, *Humboldt Redwoods SP*, 24 May (TK, JS) • **Short-eared Owl:** 2, *Mad River Slough*, 9 Apr (WM); 2, *VSL*, 14 Apr (RB); 2, *VSL*, 17 Apr (SC, MOB); 1, *Mad River Slough*, 24 Apr (WM); • **Common Poorwill:** 1, *Mill Creek acquisition*, 21 Apr (TK, JS) • **Black Swift:** 657+1, *McKinleyville*, 31 May (KR, RS, RF, CW), 100+, *Moonstone Beach*, 31 May (DC, RH, DS); 3, *Crescent City*, 31 May (AB) • **White-throated Swift:** 2, *Honeydew Bridge*, 9 May (TK, MOB); 1-3, *BL*, 1 Apr-8 May (KI, RH, MOB); 5, *Benbow Bridge*, 20 May (KR); 4, *Garberville*, 10 Apr (KB)



Calliope Hummingbird, ©Tony Kurz, Orleans, Humboldt County

• **Calliope Hummingbird:** 1, *McKinleyville*, 28 Apr (GL, LL, MOB); 1, *Orleans*, 15 May (KB, TK) • **Willow Flycatcher:** 1 (FOS), *Big Bar*, 14 May (TL, DC, MOB) • **Hammond's Flycatcher:** 2 (FOS), *BL*, 21 Apr (RF) • **Gray Flycatcher:** 1, *Orleans*, 29 Apr (TL, DC); 2, *Orleans*, 30 Apr (TL, DC, BC); 1, *Orleans*, 14 May (DC, TL, et al.); 1, *Orleans*, 15 May (DC, TK, TL, et al.) • **Eastern Phoebe:** 1, *Klamath Glen*, 14 May (LB) • **Brown Shrike:** 1, *McKinleyville*, 21 Nov-18 May (GL, LL, MOB) • **Loggerhead Shrike:** 1, *Moxon Dairy*, 9-11 May (DC, MOB) • **Bank Swallow:** 70, *Smith River*, 1 May (AB), "many," *McKinleyville*, 21 May (GL, MOB) • **Oak Titmouse:** 2, *AP*, 7-8 May (DC, RH, TK); 1(LR), *Crescent City*, 27 Apr (SL) • **White-breasted Nuthatch:** 1, *AP*, 8 May (DC, RH, TK) • **Rock Wren:** 1, *Big Lagoon*, 16 May (TK); 1, *Aikens Creek*, 14 May (TL, MOB); 1, *Arcata*, 14 May (DF); 1, *Mill Creek acquisition*, 31 May (TK, RS, JS) • **Canyon Wren:** 1, *Bluff Creek, Orleans*, 30 Apr-15 May (JG, MOB) • **House Wren:** 1, *BL*, 17 May (RH) • **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** 1, *BL*, 29 May (RH) • **Northern Mockingbird:** 1, *Eureka*, 6 May (TK); 1, *Arcata*, 13 Apr (GO); 1, *HBBO*, 13 May (DS) • **Sage Thrasher:** 1, *SRB*, 21 Apr (LB) • **Tennessee Warbler:** 1, *Trinidad*, 4 May (MH) • **Palm Warbler:** 1, *AM*, 9 Apr-5 May (DF, JO, GZ, MOB); 1, *Fortuna*, 24 Apr (TL); 1, *AB*, 21 Apr (JO) • **Black-and-white Warbler:** 1, *BL*, 19 May (KI) • **Green-tailed Towhee:** 1, *Orleans*, 4 May (TK, KB, DC, RH) • **Rufous-crowned Sparrow:** 3, *AP*, 7-8 May (DC, RH, TK) • **Clay-colored Sparrow:** 1, *SRB*, 16 May (LB) • **Brewer's Sparrow:** 1, *Orick*, 5 May (GL,



Loggerhead Shrike, © Greg Chapman, Arcata, Humboldt County

TL, DC, RH, MOB) • **Vesper Sparrow:** 1, *Big Rock*, 17-18 Apr (TL, LN, MOB); 1, *Orleans*, 4 May (DC, TK, RH, KB); 1, *Aikens Creek*, 14 May (KB, TL, MOB) • **Lark Sparrow:** 1, *Humboldt Hill*, 3 May (DC); 1, *Shay Park*, 28 May (JO); 1, *BRR*, 14 Apr (TK); 1, *SRB*, 1 May (AB); many, *AP*, 7-8 May (DC, RH, TK) • **Black-throated Sparrow:** 1, *Orleans*, 14 May (TK, RH, DC, TL, MOB); 2, *Orleans*, 15 May (TK, RH, DC, KB, TL, RB) • **Lark Bunting:** 1, *SRB*, 29 May (PS) • **Grasshopper Sparrow:** 1, *SRB*, 16 May (LB); 3, *Dyerville Loop*, 7-8 May (DC, RH, TK) • **Swamp Sparrow:** 1, *HBNWR*, 13 May (TK); 1, *AB*, 16 Apr (KR) • **White-throated Sparrow:** 1, *BL*, 19 Apr (KI); 1, *BL*, 5 May (DC, RH); 1, *SRB*, 15 May (LB); 1, *HBNWR*, 8-10 May (DC, TK, DS); 1, *Ft Bragg*, 1-18 Apr (DT) • **Slate-colored Junco:** 1, *AM*, 8 Apr (RH) • **Indigo Bunting:** 1, *Arcata*, 17-19 May (CW, MOB); 1, *AM*, 28-30 May (GZ, PB, RF, TK, KI, MOB); • **Tricolored Blackbird:** 1, *FB*, 30 May (OH) • **Yellow-headed Blackbird:** 1, *Ocean Meadows*, 13 May (KH); 1, *Lake Earl*, 5-6 May (AB, TK, KB); 1, *Moxon Dairy*, 12 May (KJ) • **Great-tailed Grackle:** 1, *Hilfiker*, early May (DD); 1, *Cooks Valley*, 23 May (JD) • **Hooded Oriole:** 1, *Ft Humboldt*, 14 Apr (DJ); 1, *Ft Humboldt*, 18 May (DJ); 1, *Arcata*, 22 May (TK, DS, WL); 1, *Arcata*, 23 May (DS); 3, *Arcata*, 24 May (KI); 1, *Sawyer's Bar, Sis Co*, 25 May (SCo); 1, *Humboldt Hill*, 28 May (DC, TK) • **Lawrence's Goldfinch:** 1, *BL*, 24 May (PL) • **Evening Grosbeak:** 30 (HC), *BL*, 24 Apr (DS, CO); many reports of 1-20 at feeders throughout the area.



Black-throated Sparrow, © Daryl Coldren, Orleans, Humboldt County

#### Thanks to all who have submitted sightings!

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