Kind of a slow month, punctuated by a little longspur hysteria and a few good birds. Don’t forget to join one or more of the upcoming Christmas Counts. We need your help. Abbreviations used: AB = Arcata Bottoms; AMP = Arcata Marsh Project; AOP = Arcata Oxidation Pond; anon = observer unknown, either missing or unintelligible on bird box or observation sheet; BRR = Bear River Ridge; BSLP - Butcher Slough Log Pond; ED = Expected Date; EL = Expected Location; EM = Expected Migrant; EMSN = Expected Migrant in Small Numbers; ENLD = Expected Number, Location and Date; ES = Expected Straggler; FR = Few Records; GW = Gee Whiz report; HBNWR = Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge; HS = Hookton Slough; ID = Interesting Date; IIT= Interesting, if true; IL = Interesting Location; IM = Interesting Morph; IN = Interesting Numbers; mo = Many Observers; MRE = Mad River Estuary; MRSWA = Mad River Slough Wildlife Area; MS = Monitored Species; NC = Not Confirmed by an independent party; ND= No details or description given; x = unknown number, not reported by observer.

Goose migration is pretty well over, a few stragglers remain: Examples: White-fronted Goose (ES): 3 imm., Lake Cleone, 25 Oct (DT); 1 ad, Bald Hill near Ft. Bragg, 16 Nov (DT): Lesser Snow Goose (EM): 95 in flight toward SE over Grove’s Prairie, 4 Nov (TL); (ES) 1, HBNWR, 11 Nov (JT, et al.); 1, Humboldt Bay flats, 17 Nov (JT, et al.); 1, Lake Cleone, 12-20 Nov (DT): Taverner’s Cackling Goose (FR): 4, mouth of Elk Creek, Crescent City, 13 Nov (RF, AB, reported as Dusky Canada Geese, but description given [“half way in size between Western and Cackler”] fits this species and form better): Eurasian Wigeon (EMSN): 5 reports of 1-3 males from McKinleyville OP, AMP, HS, 5-20 Nov (SC, KR, JT, et al.); Blue-winged Teal (EMSN): 1, BSLP, 6 Nov (JA); 1 pair, BSLP, 19 Nov (JT et al.); 1, Gearheart Marsh, 25 Nov (SC): Redhead (EMSN): 1-2, Allen Marsh, 10-19 Nov (FA, JT, et al., DD); “1 or more in just about every scaup flock”, South Humboldt Bay, 26 Nov (DB): KING EIDER (GW): 1 in female plumage, reported to be a “hatch-year” bird, was shot on South Humboldt Bay, 26 Nov (JTo), only the 8th acceptable record for the northcoast, and the 4th known specimen which will be privately mounted. Harlequin (EMSN): 1 male or 1 pair at King Salmon or North Jetty, 8-16 Nov (EE, MW, JT, JW, EW): Black Scoter (EMSN): 1 female, on beach at South Spit on a “big seas” day, 26 Oct (SMcA); 2, Trinidad, 16 Nov (MH).

Oldsquaws in Danger
Freshwater School, 7 Nov (LT): **Ferruginous Hawk (EMSN)**: 1, Big Lagoon, 21 Nov (KI); 1, Mad River Bottoms, 28-30 Oct (RF, DM, EMcK); 1 near Fortuna, 14 Nov (SC); 1, BRR, 5 Nov (SMcA); 1-3 Cape Ridge, 4-14 Nov (SMcA); 1, Bald Hill at Ft. Bragg 25 Oct (DT): **Rough-legged Hawk (ED)**: 1, end Cannibal Road, 6-7 Nov (DF, JP); 1 dark subad, 1 other, BRR, 11 Nov; 2, BRR, 13 Nov; 1, Cape Mendocino, 13 Nov (all SMcA); 1, Bald Hills, 21 Nov (KI): **Golden Eagle (FR)**: 1-2, BRR, 5-13 Nov (SMcA); 2, Waterman Ridge, 14 Nov (KI): **Merlin (MS)**: 12 reports including 1 dark *suckleyi* from Trinidad, Crannell Road, AMP, MRE, MRSWA, HS, Fortuna, 26 Oct-25 Nov (mo): **Peregrine Falcon (MS)**: 16 reports of 1-2 birds from Blank Rock, MRSWA, AMP, Blue Lake Fish Hatchery, Pigeon Pt. Road, south Eureka, HBNWR, HS, King Salmon, South Jetty, BRR, Bunker Hill Road, Cape Mendocino, and 10 miles at sea, 30 Oct-24 Nov (mo).

**Raptors on the Ridge**


**Lingering Warblers**

**Black-throated Gray Warbler (ID)**: 1, Bayshore Mall, 28 Oct (TL): 1, Eureka, 2 Nov (LB-O): **Palm Warbler (ED)**: 10 reports of 1-3 from AMP, King Salmon, 5-25 Nov (mo): **Black-and-white Warbler (FR)**: 1, AMP, 17 Nov (JT, et al.): **Northern Waterthrush (FR)**: 1, BSLP, 26 Nov (MH): **Common Yellowthroat (ID)**: 1, AMP, 16-20 Nov (JW, EW, SC): **Lark Sparrow (FR)**: #: Shelter Cove, 6 Nov (RS, et al.): **Swamp Sparrow (FR)**: 1-3, AMP, 13-21 Nov (JT, et al.): **Harris’s Sparrow (FR)**: 1, AMP, 3 Nov (PL); 1, Eureka, 27 Nov (RF): **Lapland Longspur (FR)**: 80 ± Cannibal Road, 26 Oct-15 Nov (mo); 2, BRR, 22 Nov (SMcA); 3-10, MRSWA, 20-23 Nov (JT, et al.); 1, V St. Loop, 28 Nov (SC): 2, Pt. St. George, 13 Nov (RF, AB); 8, mouth Lake Talawa, 4 Nov (AB): **Chestnut-collared Longspur (FR)**: 7, BRR, 22 Nov (SMcA); 1, Cannibal Road, 7-14 Nov (RF, SMcA, et al.); 1-2 mouth Lake Talawa, 2-10 Nov (AB, JG): **Snow Bunting (FR)**: 5 together, Pt. St. George, 30 Oct (AB), 1 still there,
5 Nov (AB); 1, mouth, Lake Talawa, 4 Nov (AB); 1, end of Kellogg Road, 13 Nov (AB, RF); 1, Mad River Beach, 27 Oct (MK); 1, Shelter Cove, 6 Nov (RS, et al.): Possible Painted Bunting (NC): 1 possible, Bridgeville, 4-5 Nov (DB), described over phone as “small finch, all green with greenish yellowish underparts, about size of house finch or junco, no marks of any kind, no wing bars or eye rings, or streaks–coming to grain feeder” No photos, darn: Dickcissel (FR): 1, Cannibal Road, 29 Oct-7 Nov (RF, KR, KI, et al., photos): Tricolored Blackbird (FR): 100 ± males only, Bald Hill, Ft. Bragg, 25 Oct (DT): Orchard Oriole (FR): 1 female, AMP, 26 Oct-18 Nov (JK, JT, et al.): Red Crossbill (IN): flocks described variously as 20-270, from BRR, Bald Hills, Groves Prairie/Waterman Ridge, Miranda, 4 Nov-27 Nov (mo); KI reports more than 1 song type in these flocks.

Many thanks to all who shared reports: Brian Acord, Jan Andersen, Frank Anderson, Dominic Bachman, Alan Barron, Louise Bacon-Odgen, Dona Blakely, Barbara Burek, Scott Carey, Bryon Cariss, Lena Carroll, Mark Colwell, Eileen Cooper, Ruth Crane, Gary Crites, Duke Diehl, Rick Dimnick, Carol Dunning, Elias Elias, David Fix, Rob Fowler, Joe Gartland, Rebecca Green, Melody Hamilton, Rob Hewitt, Denise Homer, John Hunter, Ken Irwin, David Juliano, Kyle Keegan, Jhermie Kellerman, Mike Kelly, Tom Leskiw, Paul Lohse, Dan Maxwell, Sean McAllister, Ernie McKeen (sp?); Mary Meyers, Michael Morris, John Plegig (sp?); Jude Power, Kerry Ross, Rob Santry (sp?): Robert Sutherland, Jim Tietz, Dorothy Tobkin, Jeremy Todoroff, Lauren Tompkins, Amber Transou, Steve Tucker, Matt Wachs, Bill Wade, Don Waternbarger, Eric Wilson, Jared Wolfe, Dan Van Zile. If anyone ever wonders about the good ole USA being a melting pot, just take a look at the variety of last names in the above paragraph.
Field Notes  
by Stan Harris  
27 September-25 October 2004

One or more Humpback Whales in the entrance of Humboldt Bay gave residents a thrill this month, even if one was identified wrong in the newspaper! On the FBP, mammal highlights were a Blue Whale, up to 400 Pacific White-sided Dolphins, up to 100 Right Whale Dolphins, 35 Dall’s Porpoises, 3 Northern Elephant Seals, and 2 Northern Fur Seals. A family of 4 river otters at AMP was easily seen off and on. One major winter rain brought welcome relief from the usual dry summer and another is brewing as I write this. We are moving into the late fall migration period when the last of our ducks and our swans should be arriving, plus some landbird surprises.

Abbreviations used: AMP = Arcata Marsh Project; AOP= Arcata Oxidation Pond; BRR = Bear River Ridge; BSLP = Butcher Slough Log Pond; CRI = Cock Robin Island; EM=Expected Migrant; ERM = Expected Rare Migrant; ERWA = Eel River Wildlife Area; ESC = Escaped Captive; FBP = Ft. Bragg Pelagic Trip, 25 Sep, all data fide DT; FR = Few Records; GW = Gee Whiz report; HBNWR = Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge; HO = Hold Over from last month; IB = Interesting Behavior; IAD = Inadequate Details; ID = Interesting Date; IL = Interesting Location; IN = Interesting Numbers; mo = Many Observers; MRCP = Mad River County Park; MS = Monitored Species; OFFE = Pelagic Trip 12 Miles offshore from Eureka, 25 Sep (BA); PPSP = Patricks Point State Park.


Green Heron (FR): 1, Klopp Lake, 24 Oct (JT, RF); Bald Eagle (MS): 1 ad, Orick, 29 Sep (KI); 1 juv., mouth Redwood Creek, 25 Sep (JK); 1 ad, Trinity River, near No. Fork, 27 Sep (AP); Ferruginous Hawk (ERM): 1, BRR, 7-8, 14 Oct (SMcA, RLeV); 1, Cape Ridge, 7 Oct (SMcA, RLeV); 1-2, Ft. Bragg Bald Hill, 18-22 Oct (DT); 3 along Highway 1 between Westport and Ten Mile River, 24 Sep (DT); Golden Eagle (MS): 2 ad; BRR, 1, 14 Oct, (SMcA); 2 subad, BRR, 7 Oct (SMcA, RLeV); 2 ad, 1 imm, Garberville, 3 Oct (JS); Merlin (EM): 1, King Salmon, 23 Oct (SC): Peregrine Falcon (MS): 18 reports of 1-4 from mouth of Mattole River, Garberville, mouth of Elk River, North Jetty, ERWA, Table Bluff, AMP, lower Mad River, 28 Sep-23 Oct (mo); Prairie Falcon (FR): 1, Ferndale Bottoms, 1, BRR, both 8 Oct (SMcA).


Many thanks again to all who shared their observations this month. Keep up the good work: Brian Acord, Justin Alvarez, Frank Anderson, Adam Brown, Barbara Burek, Scott Carey, Bryon Cariss, Matt Collins, Gary Crites, Jennifer Curtis, Elias Elias, Gary Falxa, David Fix, Rob Fowler, John Gaffin, Rebecca Green, Melody Hamilton, Stan Harris, Pablo Herrera, Jake Houck, Ken Irwin, Kyle Keegan, Jherime Kellerman, Leann Klingonsmith, Kelly Lesher, Tom Leskiw, Gary Lester, Lucas, Ron LeValley, Kyle Max, Sean McAllister, Aaron McGrone, Mary Meyers, Brian O’Donnell, Aida Parkinson, Jude Power, C. J. Ralph, Krystal Rogers, Barry Sauppe, Kristin Schmidt, Amy Stercho, Jay Sooter, Dutch Sullivan, Robert Sutherland, Jim Tietz, Dorothy Tobkin, Steve Tucker, Dan Van Zile, Margaret Varga, Matt Wachs, Stu Wilson, Jared Wolfe.
Field Notes
by Stan Harris
30 August-26 September 2004

Fall migration of land birds is in full swing. My impression is that a few species arrived a few days earlier than normal. Now that West Nile has arrived, do we need to monitor Corvids? Humpbacked Whales continue to be sighted close to shore. Typical summer weather. Abbreviations used: AB = Arcata Bottoms; AMP = Arcata Marsh Project; AOP = Arcata Oxidation Pond; BRR = Bear River Ridge; BSLP = Butcher Slough Log Pond; CRI = Cock Robin Island; ED = Expected Date; EL = Expected Location; EM = Expected Migrant; ERWA = Eel River Wildlife Area; FR = Few Records; GW = Gee Whiz report: HBNWR = Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge; ID = Interesting Date; IIT = Interesting, if true; IN = Interesting Numbers; MER= Mouth of Elk River; M = Migration record; MRC-Mouth of Redwood Creek; MRE = Mad River Estuary; MKSP = MacKerricher State Park; mo = Many Observers; MRCP = Mad River County Park; MRWA = Mad River Slough Wildlife Area; MS = Monitored Species; NC = Not Confirmed; ND= No details or description; OU = Origin Unknown.


Raptor’s Return

“juv female,” ERWA, 10 Sep (KI): **Wilson’s Snipe (EM):** 1-3, AB, 12-19 Sep (BA, ST): **Wilson’s Phalarope (FR):** 1, ERWA, 10 Sep (KI).

**Jaegers harassing terns again**

**Pomarine Jaeger (EM):** 1 ad., South Jetty, 5 Sep (SC); 1, South Jetty, 11 Sep (MW); **Parasitic Jaeger (EM):** 8 reports of 1-6 from Humboldt Bay, MER, King Salmon, North Jetty, South Jetty, MKSP, 4-25 Sep (mo); **Black-legged Kittiwake (EM):** 1, South Jetty, 11 Sep (MW); **Caspian Tern (IN):** 150, flying north past Wedding Rock, 3 Sep (KI): **Elegant Tern (IL, IN):** 6-8, MKSP, 31 Aug (DT); 700, flying north past Wedding Rock, 3 Sep (KI): 800-1000, South Spit & MER, 12 Sep (MW); **Common Tern (EM):** 1, Klop Lake, 4 Sep (FA, SC, RF); 1, MKSP, 10 Sep (DT), both first year birds; **Black Swift (FR):** 1, Enderts Beach with Vaux’s Swifts, 12 Sep (CO); **Pileated Woodpecker (EL):** 1, Trinity Lake, 3 Sep (DK): **Willow Flycatcher (MS):** 14 reports of 1-3 from Douglas City, Sandy Bar, mouth of Willow Creek, Davison Road, AMP, Shay Park, Fairhaven, 23 Aug-22 Sep (mo); **Say’s Phoebe (FR):** 1, Southern Humboldt Com. Park, 5 Sep (MT); 1 or 2 ?, Kneeland, 4-6 Sep (BB, DVZ, GB); 1, AB, 13 Sep (CJR); 1, Davison Road, 22 Sep (TL); 1 MRC, 25 Sep (KI): **Ash-throated Flycatcher (EM):** 1, Shay Park, 3 Sep (MM).

**Royalty Arrives**

**Tropical Kingbird (FR):** 1, King Salmon, 13 Sep (MW): 1, AMP, 18 Sep (PH); 1, South Spit, 25 Sep (ST, JW); **Cassin’s Vireo (EM):** 1, Bayshore Mall, 9 Sep (TL): **Warbling Vireo (EM):** apparent migrants at Davison Road, Orick Dump, MRCP, Bayshore Mall, 30 Aug-22 Sep (TL, BA, KI): **Philadelphia Vireo (FR, NC, ND):** 1, Davison Road, 13 Sep (KI): 1, Orick Dump, 22 Sep (KI): **Red-eyed Vireo (FR, NC, ND):** 1, Orick Dump, 22 Sep (KI); **Steller’s Jay (IL):** 1, Fairhaven, 17 Sep (JT): 1, Lanphere Dunes, 19 Sep (JW); **Western Scrub Jay (IL):** 1, King Salmon, 1-14 Sep (MW): **Horned Lark (EL):** 1, BRR, 3 Sep (SMcA): **Violet-green Swallow (EM):** “1000's, mostly this species,” AB, 19 Sep (ST): **Bank Swallow (FR):** 1 flyby, Lanphere Dunes, 29 Aug (JT): **Dipper (FR):** 2, Red Cap Bridge, south of Orleans, 14 Sep (TL).

**Minor Royalty also arrives**

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet (EM):** 1, Fairhaven, 17 Sep (JT); **Western Bluebird (MS):** 2, Grouse Mountain, 3 Sep (TL): 6, 6 miles north of Box Camp, 14 Sep (TL): 8, BRR, 3 Sep (SMcA): **Townsend’s Solitaire (ID, IL):** 1, Blue Lake Fish Hatchery, 12 Sep (MP, JMi): **Swainson’s Thrush (GW, M):** 100's heard passing over in pre-dawn darkness, Arcata, 12 Sep (ST): 100's for at least 3 hours heard passing over King Salmon after dark, evening of 12 Sep (MW, EMcB): **American Pipit (EM):** 3, ERWA, 6 Sep (KI): 15, BRR, 10 Sep (SMcA): **Tennessee Warbler (FR):** 1, Davison Road, 13 Sep (KI): **Northern Parula (FR):** 1, MRC, 25 Sep (KI): **Chestnut-sided Warbler (FR):** 1, MRC, 25 Sep (KI): **Myrtle Warbler (EM):** 1 each, MRCP, AMP, 24 Sep (RF): 1, BSLP, 25 Sep (SS, SH): **Townsend’s Warbler (EM):** 4 reports of singles, from Cummings Road, North Spit, Westhaven, Davison Road, 6-22 Sep (TL, FA): **Hermit Warbler: 1, Davison Road, 22 Sep (TL): **Prairie Warbler (FR):** 1 AOP trail, 9 Sep (JB): **Palm Warbler (EM):** 1, MRC, 25 Sep (KI): **Black-and-white Warbler (EM):** 1. AMP Interp. Center, 20 Sep (GC): **American Redstart (FR):** 1, Bayshore Mall, 30 Aug (TL): **Ovenbird (FR):** 1, banded, Lanphere Dunes, 20 Sep (fide, CJR): **Northern Waterthrush (FR):** 1 reported (second hand) banded, upper Jacoby Creek, 7 Sep (fide, JW): 1, Manila, 22 Sep (GL): **MacGillvray’s Warbler (ID):** x, MRCP, 6 Sep (BA): 1, Box Camp, 14 Sep (TL): **Canada Warbler (FR):** 1 banded, Lanphere Dunes, 22 Sep (fide, CJR). The usual fall swam of Yellow Warblers and Common Yellow-throats were here in Sep. **Western Tanager (EM):** 1, Shay Park, 29 Aug (SC): **Black-headed Grosbeak (ID):** 1, Douglas City, 3 Sep (DK): 1 banded, Lanphere Dunes, 16 Sep (JW): **Lazuli Bunting (ID):** last of up to 30 summering at Kneeland seen on 27 Aug (BB, DVZ).

**Sparrows aplenty**

Many thanks to all who shared observations with us this month. Little by little, knowledge of our bird distribution and seasonality accumulates through the efforts of many people, and I thank you all. Keep up the good work. Contributors this month: Brian Acord, Frank Anderson, Stephen F. Bailey, Jay Bishop, Gary Bloomfield, Barbara Burek, Scott Carey, Greg Crites, Elias Elias, Rob Fowler, Steven Gurley, Stan Harris, Pablo Herrera, Jessie Hollman, Denise Homer, Ken Irwin, Jhermie Kellerman, Jack Lahr, Tom Leskiw, Gary Lester, Ron LeValley, Dale and Margie Kuhn, John Mahan, Sean McAllister, Erica McBride, Tristan McKee, Jen Millard, Stephanie Morrissette, Michael Morris, Chet Ogan, Mike Palladini, C. J. Ralph, Kerry Ross, Lacy Rotta, Jay Sooter, Shana Stearn, Margaret Taylor; Gwen Thole, Jim Tietz, Dorothy Tobkin, Amber Transou, Steve Tucker, Matt Wachs, Jared Wolfe, Derek Zane, Dan Van Zile.
Summer has gone, fall is here and so are some migrants. Our fall shorebirds are arriving right on schedule. The northcoast list was enlarged by 2 species this period. The Great White Fathers of the A.O.U Checklist committee have issued more decrees and rearranged the order of our birds a bit more and have split the Canada Geese into 2 species, so I guess we get yet another species by administrative edict. We now have large forms under the species “Canada Goose” and small forms under the species “Cackling Goose.” A pelagic trip in mid July was not very exciting, the ocean waters were abnormally clear without much of a plankton bloom, The nearshore water temperatures were a warm 59 degrees. Abbreviations used: AMP = Arcata Marsh Project; AOP = Arcata Oxidation Pond; BBHR = Base of Bald Hills Road; ED = Expected Date; EL = Expected Location; EM = Expected Migrant; ERWA = Eel River Wildlife Area; FR= Few Records; GW = Gee Whiz report; HBNWR = Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge; ID = Interesting Date; IIT = Interesting, if true; IL = Interesting Location; IN = Interesting Numbers; IP = Interesting Plumage, MKSP, MacKerricher State Park; mo = Many Observers; MRWA = Mad River Slough Wildlife Area; MS = Monitored Species; NC: Not Confirmed; ND = No Details or Description; PDO = Partial Description only; PPSP = Patricks Point State Park; SSO = Sound Shot Only.

Black Brant (ID): 1, Big Lagoon, 10 Jul (MM); 1, lower Mad River, 24 Jul (ST): Gadwall (FR): 1 brood with 8 young. Class IIb (5 weeks old), HBNWR, 11 Jul (DF, JP): Blue-winged Teal (ID): 1 pair, Allen Marsh, 12 Jul (SH); 1, AOP, 25 Aug (SC, details?); 1, mouth Mattole River, 26 Aug (DW, RS, details?): Harlequin (FR): up to 9 throughout Jun; 7 males, 2 female types in eclipse plumage, 22 Jul (all at MKSP; DT); 2-5, Crescent City, 12-13 Jul (AB, FA); 1 female, mo. Elk River, 29 Aug (SC).

Arctic Eider Makes News

beach, flew away, 23 Jul (SMcA): **Caspian Tern (IN):** 180, South Spit, 23 Jul (MW): **Royal Tern (IT, NC, PDO):** 1, lower Eel River estuary, 28 Aug (KI): **Common Tern (ID):** 1-8, mouth, Elk River, 27 Jul-22 Aug (mo): **Forster’s Tern (EM):** 1, mouth of Elk River, 27 Jul (SMcA).

**Skimmers Finally Arrive!**

**Black Skimmer (GW):** 2, mouth Elk River, 17-27 Aug (MW, et al), wow another new bird for the all time northcoast list. **Long-billed Murrelet (FR; ND, NC):** 1 in “near breeding plumage” (how identified?) 500 m. west mouth of Eel River, 15 Jul (EE, et al.): **Ancient Murrelet (FR):** 1, 3 miles SW Crescent City, 24 Aug (EE): **Tufted Puffin (FR):** 1 juv, Castle Rock, 11 Jul (MeH); **Black Swift (FR):** 6, Salmon Creek and Borden Creek, Trinity Co., 3 Jul (GL); **Vaux’s Swift (EL):** 1 nest with 5 chicks, inside Chimney, Fieldbrook, 12 Jul (BY); **Willow Flycatcher (EM):** 7 reports of 7 birds from Redwood Creek estuary, near 101 bridge on Klamath R., Big Lagoon, Shay Park, AMP, 29 Jun-29 Aug (KI, JT, et al.). **Philadelphia Vireo (FR):** 1, Mad River Bottoms, 1-2 Jul (KI, et al. photos): **Red-eyed (?)Vireo:** 2, one being chased by the other, reported as Yellow-green Vireos, but identification disputed by some, near 101 bridge, Klamath River, 5-6 Jul (KI, et al.); 1, BBHR, 23 Aug (KI): **Bank Swallow (FR):** mouth Mattole R., 26 Aug (DW, RS); 1, Lanphere Dunes, 29 Aug (JT): **White-breasted Nuthatch (FR):** 1, Kneeland, 5 Jul (BB, DVZ): **Brown Thrasher (second record for Mendocino County) Chadbourn Gulch near Westport, MEN 21 Jun (RLeV): **Gray Catbird (FR, ND; NC):** 1, Blue Lake Bottoms, 9 Jul (KI): **Northern Parula (FR):** 1, south of Centerville Beach, 28 Jun (SMcA); 1, Blue Lake, 1 Jul (DM); 1, Pacific Shores, 30 Jun (AB, et al.): **Chestnut-sided Warbler (FR):** 1 each, Dry Lagoon (28 Jun), Westhaven (6 Jul), Big Lagoon (12 Jul), Klamath River Est (7 Jul) all KI.: **Black-throated Gray Warbler (EM):** 1, Cooper Gulch, 29 Aug (T&SL): **Black-and-white Warbler (FR):** 1, Trinidad, 1 Jul (KI): **American Redstart (FR):** 9 reports from Centerville Beach Road, Bayshore Mall, Arcata Bottoms, Orick Dump, BBHR, Enderts Beach Road, 28 Jun-24 Aug (SMcA, JT, KI, TL, AB, EC). **Hooded Warbler (FR):** 1 caught, photographed, banded, Eureka, 7 Jul (BP, fide LG); **Summer Tanager (FR):** 1, Blue Lake Bottoms, 4 Jul (SC); **Green-tailed Towhee (EL):** 2 worn adults (breeders?), Salmon Mountain, 7 Aug (DF, JP): **Spotted Towhee (IP, IL, ID):** 1 in juvenile plumage, Azalea Hill, 17 Jul (bred locally? Do they migrate in this plumage? GL): **Rufous-crowned Sparrow (IL):** 2 ad and 1 new fledgling, 2.5 miles upstream from Eel Rock, 27 Jun (GB): **Clay-colored Sparrow (EM, ND, NC; would be earliest record ever by 2 weeks):** 1, AMP, 25 Aug (RF): **Lark Sparrow (EL):** 1 juv, Kneeland, 10-11 Aug (BB, DVZ): **Grasshopper Sparrow (EL):** 1-2 adults, 1-3 juv seen on 17 days in Jul, Kneeland (BB, DVZ).

**Sparrow Species To Be**

**Thick-billed Fox Sparrow (FR):** 1, Salmon Mtn, 7 Aug (DF, JP): **Lincoln’s Sparrow (ID):** 1, AMP, 28 Aug (JT, et al.): **Lapland Longspur (SSO, NC, IIT; would be the earliest record ever by 3 weeks):** 1 reported flying over Eureka, 18 Aug (BS): **Rose-breasted Grosbeak (FR):** 1, BBHR, 3 Jul (KI): **Indigo Bunting (FR):** 1, AMP, (holdover), 29 Jun (GC); 1 male photos, Kneeland, 2-7 Aug (BB, DVZ): **Bullock’s Oriole (EL):** 1 female with 2 young, Douglas City, 2 Jul (DK): **Hooded Oriole (FR):** 1 male, Arcata, 30 Jun (SC); 1 pair and 2 young, Arcata, 30 Jul (BA, KR); 1 female, probable (ID not 100%), Westport, 22 Aug (JW, DT). **Lawrence’s Goldfinch (FR):** 1 male feeding 2 fledglings, Kneeland, 1-13 Aug, photos (BB, DVZ): **Evening Grosbeak (MS):** 5 reports of 1-6 from Fieldbrook, east of Trinidad, Azalea Hill, Eureka, 3-27 Jul (CL, KI, GL).
Many thanks to all who shared reports with us this summer: Brian Acord, Frank Anderson, Tim Arnard (sp?); Alan Barron, Gary Bloomfield, Barbara Burek, Scott Carey, Mark Colwell, Gail Coonen, Eileen Cooper, Ann Constantino, Ruth Crane, Gary Crites, Bruce Deuel, Elias Elias, David Fix, Rob Fowler, John Gaffin, Luke George, Melody Hamilton, Stan Harris, Pablo Herrera, Stacy Hintz, Roger Hoestery, Denise Homer, John Hunter, Ken Irwin, Matt Johnson, Dale and Margie Kuhn, Dick Laursen, Carol Lawrence, A. Lauvent (sp?); Tom and Sue Leskiw, Gary Lester, Ron LeValley, Sylvia Maldee, Cheryl Millet, Dan Maxwell, Sean McAllister, Erica McBride, Wendy Mellberg, Michael Morris, Michelle Forys, J & S Nelson, Chet Ogan, Aieda Parkinson, Becky Pierce, Jude Power, Krystal Rogers, Kerry Ross, S. Salmo, Barry Sauppe, Robert Sutherland, Jim Tietz, Dorothy Tobkin, Steve Tucker, Dan Van Zile, Margaret Varga, Chuck Vaughn, Matt Wachs, Doug Wallace, Matt Whinny, Jerry White, Jared Wolfe, J Wright, Bryan Yost.
The more or less “official” number for the Aleutian Canada Goose population this spring was 70-75,000, quite a comeback from the 790 known to exist in 1973/74! Typical summer weather, dull overcast most days, in the 60’s, generally calm with some afternoon wind, no rain after mid May. Migration is over, many birds are already through nesting, the usual summer “swarms” of Selasphorus hummingbirds seem to have shown up at feeders a few weeks earlier than normal and early fall migrant Willets, Least Sandpipers, Greater Yellowlegs and Short-Billed Dowitchers all appeared by at least 24 Jun. Abbreviations used: AMP = Arcata Marsh Project; AOP = Arcata Oxidation Pond; BBHR = Base of Bald Hills Road; BSLP = Butcher Slough Log Pond; EL = Expected Location; FR = Few Records; GW = Gee Whiz Report; HBNWR = Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge; HO = Hold Over from previous report; ID = Interesting Date; InD = Incomplete Description; IIT = Interesting, if true; IL = Interesting Location; IP= Interesting Plumage; MRSWA = Mad River Slough Wildlife Area; MS = Monitored Species; NC = Not Confirmed by a second party; ND = No Description; SHCP = Southern Humboldt Community Park near Garberville; UD = Update Report.


More Ducky sightings

Summer Shorebirds
Pacific Golden Plover (ID, ND, NC): 1, HBNWR, 6 May (SmcA); Black-necked Stilt (ID): 1, MRSWA, 10 Apr (MJ, BZ); 1-2, HBNWR, 6-8 May (KR, JT, RG, et al.); Avocet (ID): several present, at least 1 incubating, HBNWR, 8 May (JT); 2 broods of 3 young each, HBNWR, 13 Jun (JP, et al.); Lesser Yellowlegs (ID): 1, V. St. Loop, 3 May (RR, SH); 1, HBNWR, 6 May (KR); Solitary Sandpiper (FR): 1, Loleta Bottoms, 15 May (DF, DI); Surfbird (ID): 1, North Jetty, 30 Apr (RR, SH); Red Knot (ID): 8, breeding plumage, Vance Road, 19 May (SC); 8 breeding plumage + 4 winter plumage, Woodley Island, 21 May (DF); Pectoral Sandpiper (ID, NC, ND): 1, HBNWR, 5 May (BSA); Wilson's Phalarope (FR): 1, HBNWR, 21 May (MW); 1, AOP, 26 May (SH, photos); Parasitic Jaeger (ED): 1 ad, 14 miles offshore, 1 May (JT, et al.); 1 ad, mouth of Eel River, 13 Jun (SC); Franklins’s Gull (FR): 1 subadult, off Ft. Bragg, 16 May (DT); 1 ad, breeding plumage complete with pink glow on breast. So. Spit/King Salmon, 24 Jun (MM, KR, SmcA): Heermann’s Gull (ED): 1, Entrance Bite, Humboldt Bay, 10 Jun (MW): Sabine’s Gull (EL, ED): 35-40. Off Eureka 15-24 miles, 1 May (JT et al.): Caspian Tern (EL): 61 on Sand Island, courtship, nest building, late Apr/early May (MC); 20 nests seen there on 6 Jun (MC), about 90 adults in Humboldt Bay, 11 Jun (MW). Elegant Tern (ID): 3, King Salmon, 24 Jun (MM): Marbled Murrelet (MS): > 10 Apr, up to 30 detections daily at Boyes Prairie, SmcA), 19 on water off Dry Lagoon, 30 Apr (SmcA); 10-12, near mouth Humboldt Bay, 1 May (JT, MC, et al.); 2, Entrance Bite, Humboldt Bay, 18 Jun (MW); “lots,” Prairie Creek State Park, 20 Jun (PH): Rhinoceros Auklet (IL): 2, Green Rock on water, 30 Apr (RR, SH); 10-15 scattered at sea to 24 miles, 1 May (MC, et al.): Collared Dove (GW): 2, McKinleyville, 5 May (JH): 1, Pt. St. George, 20 May (AB, JG). Common Nighthawk (MS): 1, flying over Clam Beach, 10 Jun (JSe); 2, Trinidad, 19-20 Jun (KI); 2, Crannell, 24 Jun (KI); 1, Hiller Park, 26 Jun (KI): Common Poorwill (FR): 2, Ft. Jones, 3 May (MW, EMcB): Flammulated Owl (FR): 1, Ft. Jones, 4 May (MW, EMcB); Western Screech Owl (ED): 1, Eureka, 26 May (CO); 2, Ft. Jones, 3 May (MW, EMcB): Short-eared Owl (ID): 1, MRSWA, 5 May (JD); Black Swift (FR): 5 reports of 1-3 from MRSWA, AMP, Bayside, Azalea Hill, Trinidad, 13-29 May (JT, DF, LL, KI, anon); 1 reported from BBHR, 20 Jun (PH): White-throated Swift (EL): 3-4 at Wagner Bridge, 2 May and 6 June (SmcA, JS); 4, middle fork of Eel River on Covelo Road Bridge, 13 Jun (KR): Magnificent Hummingbird (HO): last seen at feeder on Pigeon Point Road, 17 May (DW): Costa’s Hummingbird (HO): the bird at the Fortuna feeder since last Sep was last seen on 22-23 Apr (BN, JN): Calliope Hummingbird (FR): 1, near Alderpoint, 4 May (BSA, TMcK); 1, near Miranda, 5 May (KK): Another WOW Hummingbird

Broad-tailed Hummingbird (GW, NC, IIT): 1 male (seen from 8 feet without binoculars at feeder, good description seems to rule out similars, Klamath River, Siskiyou Co., 9 Apr (B&PC)) if confirmed this would have been the first ever, Northwest Record!! Selasphorus sp. (IP): 1 seen through scope, Trinidad Head appeared to have a reddish gorget on the right half, but a green gorget on the left half! (back not seen), 5 May (DoH): Yellow-bellied/Red-naped type Sapsucker (FR): 1, Bayshore Mall, 12 May (TL): Olive-sided Flycatcher (23 May-4 Jun, SC, RC), Western Wood Pewee (18 May, TL), Dusky Flycatcher (14 May, DF, DI), Hammond’s Flycatcher (14 May, DF, DI), and Ash-throated Flycatcher (4 May-11 Jun, KK, KJ, GC) all were reported from normal locations and on expected dates (mo), but the Gray Flycatcher at Orleans, 12 May (BSA), and the Least Flycatcher at BBHR, 21 Jun (KI) were noteworthy to say the least! Five reports of Willow Flycatchers from Crannell, the mouth of Redwood Creek, Davison Road, and Enderts Beach, 3-21 Jun (KI, AB, JG) and 4 reports of Western Kingbirds from the SHCP, Loleta, the V. St. Loop and Hufford Road, 5-23 May (MB, DoW, RS, DF, DI, SC) were more normal, but a Western Kingbird at mouth of Redwood Creek on 26 June seemed late for a migrant and the Eastern Kingbird on Trinidad Head, 19 Jun (MM) was definitely a surprise!! Yellow-throated Vireo (FR): 1 singing. BBHR 16-26 Jun (KI, et al.): Plumbeous Vireo (FR): 1, Vigo Street Marsh, 21 May (TL, SmcA, KR); Red-eyed Vireo (FR): 1, Patricks Point Drive, 22 Jun (KI); 1, Enderts Beach, 21-24 Jun (AB, JG, TL); 1, Elk Head, 27 Jun (KI): Gray Jay (MS): 1, Aldergrove Road, 3 May (RR, SH); 2 ad, 3 juv, Essex Lane, Jun (BP); 1, Onion Mtn, 22 Jun (CO): Scrub Jay (IL): 1, King Salmon, 20 May-1 Jun (MW): Clark’s Nutcracker (FR): 2, Onion Mtn, 22 Jun (CO): American Magpie (EL): 10+, Ft. Jones, 3-4 May (MW, EMcB).
Bank Swallows Increasing?

Bank Swallow (FR): 10 going into holes at colony north of Smith River, 26 May (JH); 1, Orick, 5 Jun (KI); 2 at bank downstream from Fernbridge, 16 Jun (KR); Oak Titmouse (EL): 30-35, Ft. Jones and vic, 3-4 May (MW, EMcB); White-breasted Nuthatch (EL): 2 Kneeland, 16 Jun (BB, DVZ); Rock Wren (FR): 1, Kneeland, 24 May (BB, DVZ); 1, Island Mtn. Ranch, 14 Jun (KR); Canyon Wren (FR): 4, Island Mtn. Ranch, 14 Jun (KR); House Wren (IL): 1 nesting in a box, McKinleyville, 17-24 May (JaH); Gray Catbird (IIT, NC): 1, at a grain feeder!, Arcata, 6 May (GH), description sounds pretty good! Northern Mockingbird (FR): 1, Dos Rios, 13 Jun (KR); Sage Thrasher (FR): 1, V St. Loop, 3-4 May (MeH, et al. photos); 1, mouth Redwood Creek, 3 Jun (KI); 1, Enderts Beach, 21 Jun (AB, JG); Northern Parula (FR): 1, Stagecoach Road, 13 Jun (KI); 1 Fish Hatchery Road, 16 Jun (KI); Chestnut-sided Warbler (FR): 1, BBHR, 10-24 Jun (Ki, et al.); 1 female, Enderts Beach, 27 Jun (AB); Magnolia Warbler (FR): 1, near Crescent City, 14 Jun (AB); 1, Hiller Park, 24-26 Jun (KR, MaM, KI); Blackburnian Warbler (FR): 1, Orick, 18 Jun (KI); Yellow-throated Warbler (FR): 1, Little River Drive, 8 Jun (KI); Palm Warbler (ID): 1, AMP, 27 Apr (RF, SB); Bay-breasted Warbler (FR): 1, Elk Head, 19 Jun (KI); Black-and-white Warbler (FR): 1, AMP, 24 Apr (FA); 1, Fairhaven, 19 May (SC); 1, Patricks Point Drive, 22 Jun (KI); American Redstart (FR): 1, Elk River Wildlife Area, 18 Jun (TL, SMcA); 1, Dry Lagoon, (KI); 1, BBHR, 19-27 Jun (2 present on 24, 26 Jun, Ki, et al.); 1, Bayshore Mall, 23 Jun (TL).

Ovenbird (FR): 1, South Fork Mountain, 19 Jun (PH); Canada Warbler (FR): 1, Scenic Drive, near Trinidad, 19 Jun (KI); Summer Tanager (FR): 1, Stagecoach Road, 16 Jun (KI, MeH, TL); Green-tailed Towhee (FR, EL): x-10+. Horse Mt, 14 May (DF, DI); 12 Jun (MW, EMcB, PH, et al.); Rufous-crowned Sparrow (EL; FR): 2, Cain Rock Trestle, 2 May (SMcA); 2 Middle Fork, Eel River at Dos Rios, 13 Jun (KR); Clay-colored Sparrow (FR): 1, Alexandre Dairy, 28 Apr (AB, JG); 1 singing, MRSWA, 13 May (JT); Lark Sparrow (EL): 1, Fortuna, 27 Apr (RC); 5, near Alderpoint, 15 Jun (KR); Grasshopper Sparrow (EL): 18-20, SHCP, 14 May (DW, RS); 3, Copenhagen Road, 29 May (KI); 3, Garberville, 14 Jun (KR); 4, Alderpoint, 14 Jun (KR); Thick-billed Fox Sparrow (FR): 1-x, singing, Horse Mt, White Mt, 14 May, 12 Jun (DF, DI, PH); White-throated Sparrow (ID): last date at Sunnybrae feeder, 21 May (SH); Harris's Sparrow (FR): 1 ad, Lanphere Dunes, 1-5 May (PH, RF, photos); White-crowned Sparrow (IL): Singing birds were recorded at Bayshore Mall, 20 Jun (SH) and north of Grouse Mountain, 22 Jun (TL); Rose-breasted Grosbeak (FR): reports from Ft. Dick, Patricks Point Drive, Elk Head, Trinidad, Arcata, Ferndale Bottoms, 5 May-24 Jun (mo); Indigo Bunting (FR) (all males): 1, Blocksberg, 3 Jun (BSa); 1, Crescent City, 4 Jun (AB); 1, Patricks Point Drive, 21-22 Jun (KI); 1, AMP, 22-27 Jun (DM, MW, EMcB, SC, SH, photos); Painted Bunting (GW, FR): 1 imm male, good description, Red Mountain southeast of Piercy, County, 2 May (RS, ZC, JHe, et al) (only the third documented northcoast record!); Hooded Oriole (FR): 4 reports from Arcata, Lanphere Dunes, AMP, Bayside, 26 Apr-8 May (EE, SB, RF, DF).

That’s all I have room for. Many thanks to all who shared observations with us this month, sorry I didn’t have room to include them all: Frank Anderson, Louise Bacon-Ogden, Steve Bailey, Art Barab, Mary Barber, Alan Barron, Charles Bartolotta, Gary Bloomfield, Kristin Brown, Barbara Burek, Scott Carey, Brit Carlson, Lena Carroll, Zoe Chapman, Anna Cherokovsky, Bob and Patti Claypole, Mark Colwell, Eric Concannon, Ruth Crane, Gary Crites, Jeff Dayton, Bruce Deuel, Elias Elias, David Fix, Rosalie Foeger, Rob Fowler, Joe Friedman, Joe Gartland, Rebecca Green, Melody Hamilton, Joey Harris, Stan Harris, Jeff Hedin, Donna Heim, Pablo Herrera, Jake Houck, Denise Homer, Greg Hummel, John Hunter, David Irons, Ken Irwin, Ken Jarvela, Matt Johnson, Kyle Keegan, Siddig Kilkenny, Dale Kuhn, David Lancaster, Carol Lawrence, Sue and Tom Leskiw, Gary and Lauren Lester, Ron LeValley, Vanessa Loverti, Yalu Lozada, Dan Maxwell, Sean McAllister, Erica McBride, D. McClure, Tristan McKee, Jason Meyer, Michael Morris, Mark Morrissette, Beverly and Jim Neal, Eric Nelson, Barbara Parke, Aida Parkinson, Jude Power, Richard Ridenhour, Kerry Ross, Barry Sauptpe, Jay Seeger, Bruce Slocum, Jay Sooter, Paul Springer, Seiko Sudo, Robert Sutherland, Jim Tietz, Dorothy Tobkin, Amber Transou, Richard Tryon, Steve Tucker, Dan Van Zile, Margaret Varga, Matt Wachs, Doug Wallace, Don Watenbarger, Carol Wilson, Miriam Yates, Bryan Yost, Bill Zielinski.
Another new big day record for Godwit Days with 132 species recorded. A mixed month weatherwise, Wintering Oregon Juncos and Fox Sparrows have left feeders in the lowlands and have been replaced by Band-tailed Pigeons (Feathered Vacuum Cleaners!); a few Golden-crowned and White-throated Sparrows still linger at lowland feeders. Most spring migrants have arrived on or slightly before historic schedules, early broods of Mallards and Western Canada Geese are afloat, spring Wood Ducks have returned to the AOP, and we are moving into the nesting season with a vengeance. There is no Sandpiper scheduled for June, but one is planned for July, so please keep the reports coming in for the big July issue.

Abbreviations Used: AB = Arcata Bottoms; AMP = Arcata Marsh Project; AOP = Arcata Oxidation Pond; ECWMB = Edward C. Wagner Memorial Bridge (southern Humboldt County, Highway 101, also known as “Smith Point Bridge”); ED = Expected Date; EL = Expected Location; EM = Expected Migrant; EN = Expected Numbers; ERB = Eel River Bottoms; ES = Most Likely an Escaped Captive Bird; FR = Few Records; GW! = Gee Whiz Report; HBNWR = Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge; IL = Interesting Location; mo = Many Observers; MRWA = Mad River Wildlife Area; MS = Monitored Species; NB = Nesting Behavior; NR = Nesting Record; PP = Palmers Point, Patricks Point State Park; UD = Update Report.

PACIFIC LOON (ED, EN): “large flight,” “lots” migrating north past Trinidad and North Jetty, 11, 18 Apr (SC)

OSPREY (ID): 1, Douglas City 31 Mar, 16 Apr (DK): WHITE-TAILED KITE (IL): 1, Salmon Creek, near Miranda, 18 Apr (KK): BALD EAGLE (MS): 6 reports of 1-2 from Eel River Bottoms, King Salmon, Blue Lake Fish Hatchery, South Fork of Trinity River, 4-18 Apr (SC, MW, GD): RED-SHOULDERED HAWK (NR): 1 on nest, Shay Park, 28 Mar (RF, SC): GOLDEN EAGLE (MS): 1 subadult flyby, Shay Park (“golden nape, white tail with terminal band”), 7 Apr (SC); 1 with nesting material, Benbow, 21 Mar (JS, DW); 1 pair, Mail Ridge, 31 Mar (RF, JC); 1 pair, Salmon Creek, Southern Humboldt, 16 Apr (KK): MERLIN (MS): 1, Hookton Road, 1, Cannibal Road, both 18 Apr (GD): PEREGRINE FALCON (MS): 10 reports of 1-2 from Garberville, Cannibal Road,
HBNWR, College of the Redwoods, King Salmon, AMP, 28 Mar-18 Apr (mo): RUFTED GROUSE (EL): 1 drumming, 1 miles up Titlow Hill Road, 4 Apr (SC); 1, Hennessy Ridge Road, 18 Apr (RH, et al.): BLUE GROUSE (EL): 1 near Bridgeville, 9 Apr (MaM): MOUNTAIN QUAIL (EL): “several,” 1 mile up Titlow Hill Road, 4 Apr (SC); calling, Salmon Creek ( southern Humboldt); 16 Apr (KK): COMMON MOORHEN (FR): 1, Hauser Marsh, 7, 14-15 Apr (FF, SH, et al., TC); 1 Lake Cleone, MKSP, 20 Apr (DT).


Douglas City, 24 Apr (DK): **EUROPEAN GOLDFINCH (GW, ES):** 1 male, McKinleyville, 15 Apr (BM); 1 male, west Arcata, 16 Apr (JP).

And Last but not Least, the sight of a live **MOUNTAIN LION** on a trail north of Requa must have given KL and AL not only a thrill but a few butterflies! Boy would I like to see one of those just once!

Many thanks to David Fix for filling in for me last month when I was out of town: Many thanks to the following who shared observations with us this month: Brian Acord, Marge Adams, Frank Anderson, Ode Bernstein, Gary Bloomfield, Barbara Burek, Scott Carey, Lena Carroll, Jim Clark, Tracy Cline, Jennifer Curtis, Bruce Deuel, Doyle, Barry Sauppe, Fred Ferguson, David Fix, Rob Fowler, Jim Gain, Flip Garrison, The Godwit Days Observation Board (GB), Gorgon and Tammy Haag, Stan Harris, Pablo Herrera, Rob Hewitt, Denise Homer, David Juliano, Kyle Keegan, Dale Kuhn, Tom Leskiw, Amy Lester, Kelsey Lester, Gary Lester, John Mahan, Sean McAllister, Tristan McKee, Sheri Miller, Bill Moore, Michael Morris, Mark Morrissette, Stephanie Morrissette, Mortz, Beverly Neal, Chet Ogan, Francis Oliver, L. Pollard, Jude Power, Judith Putman, Crystal Rogers, Kerry Ross, Bill Scoggins, Mary Severdia, Kieth Slauson, Jay Sooter, Steve Sosinsky, Paul Springer, Jim Tietz, Dorothy Tobkin, Steve Tucker, Matt Wachs, Doug Wallace, Catharine Walling. Don Wattenbarger. Even though your sighting may not be listed individually, please know that your efforts are deeply appreciated. Everyone’s reports are copied into the regional notebooks maintained for decades.
Field Notes
by David Fix
1 March-28 March 2004

Weeks of pleasant weather, falling rivers (so soon?), and the leaf-greening of creekbottoms marked this Field Notes period. The wintering Red-tailed Hawks and American Kestrels have begun to clear out, and Aleutian Canada Goose flocks have been staging for weeks in the dairy pastures. Selasphorus hummingbirds, most species of swallows, and Orange-crowned Warblers for weeks have reappeared. Wintering Yellow-rumped Warblers, White-crowned Sparrows, and Dark-eyed Juncos have begun to sing, sing with the lengthening days, and many will soon depart. ABRVTNS: AB – Arcata Bottoms; AMP – Arcata Marsh Project; AOP – Arcata oxidation ponds; BSLP – Butcher Slough logpond; ERB – Eel River Bottoms; NJHB – north jetty of Humboldt Bay.

RED-NECKED GREBE: 1, Crab Park, 13 Mar (KR, MW); CLARK’S GREBE: 1, Cock Robin l. bridge, 23 Mar (KR, MW); LAYSAN ALBATROSS (late report): 1, 4 mi. W Eureka, 10&18 Feb (JM); BLACK-FOOTED ALBATROSS: 40, 4 mi. W Eureka, 5 Feb (JM); NORTHERN FULMAR: seen, 4 mi. W Eureka, 10&18 Feb (JM); GREEN HERON: 1, Hilfiker St. pond, Eureka, 15 Mar (MW); AMERICAN BITTERN: 1, Blue Lake Fish Hatchery, 7 Mar (SC).

TUNDRA SWAN: 3, AB, 6 Mar (RF); apparent departure of some So. Humboldt Bay-Eel R. birds noted as a flock of 56 flew N over Arcata, 8 Mar (JK) and 75 over, 17 Mar (JT); SNOW GOOSE: 3, with Aleutians, Lanphere Rd., 29 Feb-6 Mar (JT, RF); ROSS’S GOOSE: 8, with Aleutians, Lanphere Rd., 6 Mar (RF); 1, Cannibal I. Rd., 23 Mar (KR, MW); ALEUTIAN CANADA GOOSE: 5000+, AB, 5-6 Mar (SH); 3000+, AB, 7 Mar (SH); EURASIAN WIGEON: 1, AB, 7-11 Mar (JD, TCC, P&VS, V&DF); EURASIAN GREEN-WINGED TEAL: 1 male, Butcher Slough off Klopp Lake, 4 Mar (RF), 20 Mar (JT et al.), and 28 Mar (SC); REDHEAD: female, AMP, 20 Mar (JT); LONG-TAILED DUCK: 1 male, Klamath R. mouth, 6 Mar (ST); HARLEQUIN: 2, King Salmon, 18 Mar (MW); BARROW’S GOLDENYEYE: 1, Lewiston Lake, 6 Mar (PH, CO et al.); HOODED Merganser: 2-4, Mad R. Slough at Lanphere Rd., 1-6 Mar (JT); seen at Lewiston Lake, 6 Mar (PH, CO et al.); 6, near mouth of Mad R., 7 Mar (KR); pair, at ponds on Grassy Valley Trail between Lewiston and Douglas City, 7 Mar (DK); 1, on pond at King Salmon, 18 Mar (MW); OSPREY: 1, flying over AMP with a fish, 6 Mar (SC); it or another there 19 Mar (JK); 1, upper Trinity R., 9 Mar (DK); 1, So. Fk. Trinity R., 13 Mar (JT, RG)

Bald Eagle: 1 ad., Klamath R. mouth, 6 Mar (ST); 1, ‘third year’, Hawkins Bar, 4 Mar (Abe Walston); 1 ad. over Sunset School in Arcata, 5 Feb (anom.); 3, Lewiston Dam, 6 Mar (PH, CO et al.); ad. 14 Mar and imm. 20 Mar, Trinity R. two miles below the N. Fork (AP); ad., Crab Park, 23 Mar (KR, MW); ad., Samoa Bridge, 27 Mar (SC); GOLDEN EAGLE: 1, Garberville, 28 Feb (CO); 1, So. Humboldt Comm. Park near Garberville, 2 Mar (RS, DW); 2, Hamilton Ponds along Trinity R., 6 Mar (PH, CO et al.); 2, So. Fk. Trinity R., 13 Mar (JT, RG); FERRUGINOUS HAWK: 1 ad., Rohnerville Airport, 4 Mar (LB); MERLIN: 6 reports of singles from AMP, Lanphere Dunes, Lanphere Rd., and Elk R. mouth, 6-20 Mar (SC, RF, JT et al.); PEREGRINE FALCON: 4 reports of 1-2 from AB, Arcata, etc., 5-21 Mar (JD, TCC, JK, P&VS, D&DF, MG, GW); PRAIRIE FALCON: 1, AB, 29 Feb, it appears a bird wintered in the area (JD, TCC).

RUFFED GROUSE: 1, So. Fk. Trinity R., 13 Mar (JT, RG); COMMON MOORHEN: wintering imm. at AMP seen as late as 11 Mar (P&VS, V&DF); SNOWY PLOVER: one pair as well as 14 ‘scrapes’, s. end Clam Beach, 7 Mar (KR); RED KNOT: 1, Klopp Lake, 21 Mar (SC); several, NJHB, 27 Mar (SC); LESSER YELLOWLEGS: 1, seemingly wintered, V St. Loop, AB, 13 Mar (KR, MW); SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER: 1, Klopp Lake, 20 Mar (JT et al.); RUFF: 1, ERB, 13 Mar (KR, MW); THAYER’S GULL: 1 ad., crippled, Arcata Plaza where unusual, 7 Mar (RF, JT); 1, first-winter, lower Mad R., 24 Mar (JT et al.); GLAUCOUS GULL: 1, first-winter, on roof of house at 27° & Alliance, Arcata, 10 Mar (EE); this individual may have been seen earlier in the winter locally;
CASPIAN TERN: 1, North Bay, 21 Mar (SC); 13, lower Mad R., 24 Mar were in-migrants (JT et al.); MARBLED MURRELET: 1, King Salmon, 18 Mar (MW); 6 pairs, NJHB, 21 Mar (SC); LONG-BILLED MURRELET: 1, Trinidad, 21 Mar, not confirmed (MG, GW); NORTHERN PYGMY-OWL: 1, captured crowned sparrow at Bayside feeder, 7 Mar (JP, DF); 1, Founders Hall, HSU, 11 Mar (JK); 1, unusual in lower Eel riparia at Cock Robin I., 13 Mar (KR, MW); WESTERN SCREECH-OWL: 1 calling, Eureka yard, 27 Mar (TL); RUFOUS HUMMINGBIRD: 1 male, Douglas City, 6 Mar (DK); YELLOW-SHAFTED FLICKER: 1, Mad R. County Park 25 Mar (GF); PILEATED WOODPECKER: 1, Rock Creek Ranch, So. Fk. Smith R., 16 Mar (DW); SAY’S PHOEBE: 1, Lewiston Lake, 6 Mar (PH, CO et al.); PACIFIC-SLOPE FLYCATCHER: 1, 28 Mar, Eureka (TL); TREE SWALLOW: 40, AMP, (SC) and seen at Lewiston Lake (PH, CO) both 6 Mar.

VIOLET-GREEN SWALLOW: 10, AMP, 6 Mar (SC); BARN SWALLOW: ‘many’, Klopp Lake, 21 Mar (SC); CLIFF SWALLOW: 1, AMP, 20 Mar (JT et al.); BROWN CREEPER: 1, ‘Mt. Trashmore’, AMP, 20 Mar, seldom encountered there (JT et al.); AMERICAN DIPPER: attended nest, So. Fk. Trinity R., 13 Mar (RG, JT); NORTHERN SHRIKE: 1, Port Kenyon Rd., 13&23 Mar (KR, MW); HERMIT THRUSH: what were thought to be wintering birds were heard singing at Eureka, 22&24 Mar (TL) and at Bayside, 25 Mar (DF); WESTERN BLUEBIRD: 2-7 seen 16 of 26 days in Feb at Kneeland (BB, DVZ); MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD: 1 male, Douglas City, 5 Mar (Margie Kuhn).

ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER: ‘first noted 21 Mar, increasing by 23 Mar’ (KI); NASHVILLE WARBLER: 1, BSLP, 5 Mar (KR); BLACK AND WHITE WARBLER: one wintering at AMP seen as late as 10 Mar (RF, MJ); YELLOW WARBLER: one wintering at AMP seen as late as 20 Mar (JT et al.); HERMIT WARBLER: 1 singing, Eureka, 29 Mar (TL); PALM WARBLER: 1-2, wintering in AMP and along So. I St., to 20 Mar (JK, FA); WILSON’S WARBLER: 1, Shay Park, 28 Mar (RF, JC); COMMON YELLOWTHROAT: one (of several, remarkably) wintering at AMP seen as late as 20 Mar (JT et al.); BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK: 1 singing, Eureka, 27 Mar (CO); SWAMP SPARROW: 1, AMP, 10 Mar (RF, MJ); ‘SLATE-COLORED’ JUNCO: 1, McKinleyville yard, 19 Mar (KR); BULLOCK’S ORIOLE: second-yr. male, Arcata yard, 15 Mar (GB); COMMON GRACKLE: 1, continuing through at least 4 Mar near Lake Earl (AB); PINE SISKIN: 12, AMP, 6 Mar (JK); RED CROSSBILL: 6, Lanphere Dunes, 6 Mar (JT); EVENING GROSBEAK: 2, So. Fk. Trinity R., 13 Mar (JT, RG).

Many thanks to the following who shared reports this month: OBSERVERS: Frank Anderson, Laura Bradley, Barb Burek, Scott Carey, Tall Chief Comet, Jennifer Curtis, Jeff Dunk, Elias Elias, David Fix, Vic and Donna Fonde, Rob Fowler, Greg Frankfurter, Mourad Gabriel, Rebecca Green, Stan Harris, Pablo Herrera, Ken Irwin, Matt Johnson, Jherime Kellerman, Dale Kuhn, Margie Kuhn, John Mahan, Chet Ogan, Kerry Ross, Paul and Virginia Springer, Robert Sutherland, Jim Tietz, Steve Tucker, Matt Wachs, Doug Wallace, Abe Walston, Darrel Warnock, Greta Wengert, Dan Van Zile.
Field Notes
by Stan Harris
11 January-29 February 2004

The post-Christmas Count let down has come and gone and things are starting to happen again, some REALLY high tides at the same time as heavy rains made for interesting flooding on the coastal plain here and there. City workers skimmed the marsh pennywort mats and some cattails from the AMP units in Feb, causing a shift and departures of some birds, but many ducks had departed AMP units before the mat removal operations. All in all a pretty much HOHUM period with few surprises.

Abbreviations Used: AB = Arcata Bottoms; AMP = Arcata Marsh Project; AOP = Arcata Oxidation Pond; BSLP = Butcher Slough Log Pond; ED = Expected Date; EL = Expected Location; EN = Expected Numbers; ERB = Eel River Bottoms; FR = Few Records; GW = Gee Whiz Report; HBNWR = Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge; HO = Hold Over from previous months; ID = Interesting Date; IL = Interesting Location; IN = Interesting Numbers; IP = Interesting Plumage; MKSP= McKerricher State Park; mo= Many Observers; MRWA = Mad River Wildlife Area, MS = Monitored Species; NC = Not Confirmed by a second party; ND = No Description; SRB = Smith River Bottoms; UD - Updated report.

Great Grebes
Red-necked Grebe (EL, EN): 1-2, King Salmon, 3-5 Feb (JT); 1, Stone Lagoon, 21 Feb (SC): Clark’s Grebe (EL): 1, North Humboldt Bay, 8 Feb (JT): Black-footed Albatross (EN, EL): 8, off Eureka 5 miles, 19 Jan (JM): Laysan Albatross (FR): 1, off Eureka 5 miles, 19 Jan (JM): Northern Fulmar (ED, EN): “few to many” seen from shore, northern Mendocino County, 21 Dec-20 Jan (DT); 100, off Eureka 5 miles, 19 Jan (JM): Snowy Egret (IN): 50, V St. Loop, 8 Feb (PS): Greater White-fronted Goose (EN): 7 reports of 1-“several” from AB, MRWA, HBNWR, 21 Jan-22 Feb (BF, JT, KG, RK, RF): Lesser Snow Goose (EN): 11 reports of 1-3 from Noyo Harbor (flyby), Bald Hill at Ft. Bragg, AB, Arcata , SRB, 23 Dec-29 Feb (mo): Ross’s Goose (EN): 5 reports of 1-“a dozen” from Ft. Bragg, HBNWR, AB, SRB, 16 Jan-22 Feb (DT, MM, KR, SH, PS): Aleutian Canada Goose (EM, IN): 9 reports of 100 to 10,000's from ERB, HBNWR, AB, SRB, 14 Jan-22 Feb (mo) and 5 reports of A.M flights of 130 to 2,410 flying south past McKinleyville, Patricks Point, 30 Jan-21 Feb (KR, KI): Cackling Canada Goose (FR): 4-6, AB, 19-23 Feb (KR): Tundra Swan (IL, EL): 3, Bald Hill, Ft. Bragg, 11 Jan (DT); 35, AB, 8 Feb (BA); 442, ERB, 150, HBNWR, 4 (only) SRB, mid winter aerial inventory, all 21 Jan (JD, SH); 20 flyover, Arcata, 20 Feb (GB): Eurasian Wigeon (EN, EL): 8 reports of 1-3 males from HBNWR, No. H. Bay, V St. Loop, Alexandre Dairy, 31 Jan-29 Feb (AB, RF, KR, JT, PS, SC): Blue-winged Teal (EN): 1 male, BSLP, 22 Jan, 8-14 Feb (JB, SH); 1 male, Alexandre Dairy, 31 Jan (AB, RF); 1 male, Allen Marsh, 27 Jan-14 Feb (OB, SH); 1 male, Hauser Marsh, 27 Jan (OB); 1 male, Moxon Road, 19 Feb (KR): Pintail (IL): 1 pair, BSLP, 13 Jan (MD).

Teal from Asia
Eurasian Green-winged Teal (FR): 7 reports of 1-2 from AOP, Allen Marsh, Alexandre Dairy, 10 Jan-21 Feb (JT, SH, PL, AB): Canvasback (IN): 1 pair, Klopp Lake, 22-29 Jan (JT, P&VS, RF, CO); 118 (only), mid winter inventory, Lake Earl, 21 Jan (JD, SH): Redhead (FR): 1 male, Allen Marsh, 22-25 Jan (SH, PL): Ring-necked Duck (IN): 23 pairs, Fulmar Lane, 9 Feb (CW): Harlequin (EL): 5-7, Glass Beach, 21 Dec-20 Jan (DT); 1, North Jetty, 1 Feb, (PR); 1-2, King Salmon, 3-5 Feb (JT): White-winged Scoter (MS): 30 off Big Lagoon, 21 Feb (SC): Black Scoter (FR): 15, MKSP, 28 Dec (DT): Long-tailed Duck (FR): 1, Crab Park, 14 Jan (KR, MW); 1, Trinidad, 14 Jan (MeH): 7 (!), mouth, Klamath River, 31 Jan (JH): 1, mouth, Smith River, 18 Jan (KR, JK): Common Goldeneye (IL): 1 female, V St. Loop, F 16Jan-24 Feb (MeH, KR); 1 female, AMP, 1 Feb (JK): Hooded Merganser (FR): 6 pair, pond near Lewiston Lake, 29 Jan (DK); 1, V St. Loop, 24 Feb (KR); 3 female type, Lanphere Road, 29 Feb (JT); x, Klamath River, 30 Jan (RF): 2 pair, Lagoon Creek, 15 Jan (JD); 1 female, South Fork, Smith River 1 mile above Craigs Ck, 18 Jan (AP).
Osprey (ID): 9 reports of singles from Eureka, No. Humboldt Bay, AOP, Hammond Bridge, Trinidad, Big Lagoon, 21 Jan-21 Feb (mo); Bald Eagle (MS): 21 reports of 1-2 from Eel River, south Hum. Co, HBNWR, Arcata, McKinleyville, Dow’s Prairie, Trinidad, near Bluff Creek, Redwood Creek, AB, SRB, 10 Jan-19 Feb (mo); Ferruginous Hawk (FR): 2, Monument Road, 7 Feb (PH); 1, ERB, 14 Jan (KR, MW); 1, west Arcata, 20 Jan (GB); 1, Alexandre Dairy, 31 Jan (AB, RF): Rough-legged Hawk (IN): only 5 reports of singles from Mail Ridge, Bear River Ridge, Cannibal Road, Freshwater, mouth of Jacoby Creek, 14 Jan-7 Feb (KR, MW, JG, EC, PH, BA), a rather poor year for this species: Golden Eagle (EL): 1, Highway 101, northern Mendo Co, 22 Jan (JT); 1, Garberville x 101, 28 Feb (CO, BOB); 2, Bear River Ridge, 7 Feb (PH): Merlin (MS): 9 reports of 1-2 from HBNWR, Arcata, AMP, AB, North Spit, 16 Jan-15 Feb (mo): Peregrine (MS): 15 reports of 1-3 from ERB, HBNWR, King Salmon, Elk River, AMP, Arcata, 12 Jan-21 Feb (mo).

**Galloping Gallinule**


Caspian Tern (ID): 6 reports of 1-4 from HBNWR, King Salmon, North Bay, 3-8 Feb (MW, JT); Forster’s Tern (EL, EN): up to 20 seen on 6 dates, 10 Jan-29 Feb, AMP, AOP (SH): Band-tailed Pigeon (IN): 70, Mail Ridge, 22 Jan (JG); 5-12, Sunny Brae, 25 Jan-21 Feb (SH); 1, Eureka, 23 Feb (TL): Pygmy Owl (FR): 1, BSLP, 22 Jan (DH); 1 seen to catch and eat a vole, Douglas City, 4 Feb (DK); 1, Bear River Ridge, 7 Feb (PH): 1, Trinidad, 14 Feb (MeH): Burrowing Owl (FR): 1, South Spit, 20 Feb (AC): Long-eared Owl (FR, NC, ND): 1 reported calling at dusk, V St. Loop, 21 Jan (GB): Short-eared Owl (EL): 4-12, MRWA, 31 Jan-15 Feb (JT, RG): 1, Hookton Slough, HBNWR, 10 Feb (JG), once again confirming the vital importance of perennial grassland for winter habitat for this special species: Saw-whet Owl (FR): 1, Garberville, 16 Jan (GL): Rufous Hummingbird (ID): 1 male, Eureka, 3 Feb (GL): Lewis’s Woodpecker (FR): 1, Mail Ridge, in same tree as one seen last Oct!, 23 Feb (JG): Yellow-shafted Flicker (FR): 1, good phone description clearly eliminates an intergrade, Chezom Road x Redwood Creek, 12 Feb (FA): Pileated Woodpecker (FR): 1, Douglas City, 11 Jan-4 Feb (DK); 1, Trinidad, 15 Feb (MeH): Say’s Phoebe (FR): 1, Fountain Ranch, 21 Feb (RF): Gray Jay (EL): ca 9, near Trinidad, 6 Feb (RG), ID from description of appearance and actions given to KR, GL: Horned Lark (EL, IL): “several,” Bear River Ridge, 7 Feb (PH); 2, mouth of Lake Talawa, 7 Feb (fide AB): Tree Swallow (ID): 8 reports of 1-10 from Centerville Beach, AMP, AB, Wedding Rock, 13 Jan-29 Feb (mo): Barn Swallow (ID): 5 reports of 1-7 from AMP, AOP, Arcata, 22 Jan-6 Feb (JT, RF, SH, KR, EE, RG): White-breasted Nuthatch (EL): 1, Mail Ridge, 22 Jan (JG): Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (FR; IL): 1, Rio Dell, 4 Feb (GL): Western Bluebird (MS): 18, Mail Ridge, 28 Feb (JG); 2-9 seen on 24 of 31 days in Jan at Kneeland (BB, DVZ): x, Bear River Ridge, 7 Feb (PH); 2, Trinidad, 15 Feb (MeH).

**Solitary Thrush**

Townsend’s Solitaire (IL): 1, downtown Willow Creek, 6 Feb (AW): Mockingbird (FR, HO): 1, Freshwater, 27 Jan (RH); 1, Douglas City, 10 Jan-9 Feb, hold over from last Oct (DK); 1, Eureka, daily through 25 Feb, hold over from at least 7 Nov (BF): Nashville Warbler (ID): 1, Arcata, 18 Jan (GB): 1, Trinidad, 14 Feb (MeH): Yellow Warbler (ID; HO): 1, AMP, 14 Jan-28 Feb (JM, SJ, RF, EE): Hermit Warbler (UD): 1 female, Eureka, 14 Dec-8 Jan (BF): Palm Warbler (ED): 1, AMP, 25 Jan-28 Feb (RF, MV); 1, AB, 8 Feb (P&VS): Black-and-white Warbler (FR): 1,