



The Sandpiper

FEBRUARY / MARCH 2015



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. Bring your binocular(s) and have a great morning birding! Meet in the parking lot at the end of South I Street (Klopp Lake) in Arcata at **8:30 a.m.** Trips end around 11 a.m.

eBird Site Survey-Shay Park. Rob is going to take a break from formal surveys at Shay Park for a couple of months. He may do them on his own time, so e-mail him (migratoriusfwlr@gmail.com) if you'd like to receive an e-mail announcement.

Sunday, February 8: 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 a.m.** Call Jude Power or David Fix (707-822-3613) for more information.

Sunday, February 15: Southern Humboldt Community Park. Jay Sooter (707-444-8001) and/or John Gaffin will 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 bring your own if possible. Steady rain cancels. Meet at **9:30 a.m.**, parking by the kiosk near the farmhouse in the main entrance.

Sunday, February 15: Eureka Waterfront. Meet at **9 a.m.** at the foot of W. Del Norte St., where we will scope for birds off the public dock until everyone assembles. We will then drive to the base of the Hikshari' Trail at Truesdale Street and bird along the trail to the Elk River Wildlife Sanctuary. Leader: Ralph Bucher (707-499-1247; thebook@reninet.com).

Sunday, March 8: Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge. See February 8.

Sunday, March 15: Southern Humboldt Community Park. See February 15.

Sunday, March 15: Eureka Waterfront. See February 15.

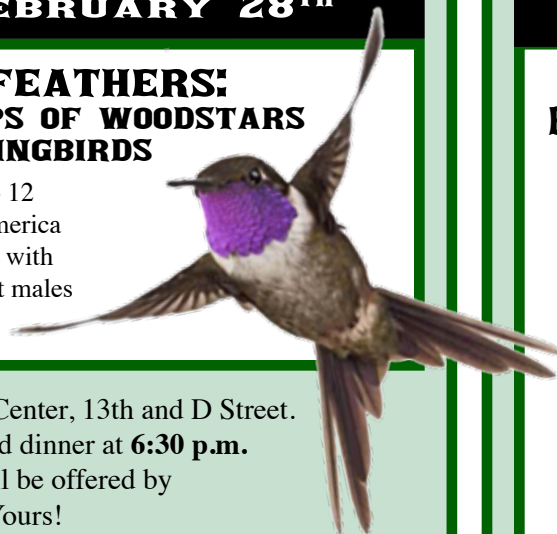
Saturday, March 28: Patrick's Point State Park. Gary Lester (707-839-3373) will lead a 3-hour walk through the forests and along the bluffs of this beautiful local park in search of landbirds and seabirds. Wear sturdy shoes. Meet in front at the park entrance at **9 a.m.**; free parking is available along Patrick's Point Drive; please mind the posted signage.

Winter Raptor Surveys: If you are interested in participating in one or more of this winter's raptor surveys in Loleta and Ferndale, contact Ken Burton (707-499-1146 or shrikethree@gmail.com) for more information or to be put on the notification list. **Last one is in February.**

ANNUAL BANQUET SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH

SINGING WITH FEATHERS: THE FABULOUS COURTSHIPS OF WOODSTARS AND OTHER 'BEE' HUMMINGBIRDS

Dr. Christopher J. Clark has traveled to 12 countries in North, Central, and South America to study various species of hummingbird, with particular focus on courtship displays that males produce for females.



Place: Arcata D Street Neighborhood Center, 13th and D Street.

Social hour begins at **5:30 p.m.** and dinner at **6:30 p.m.**

Meat and veggie options will be offered by caterer Uniquely Yours!

Ticket price is a sliding scale between \$35 and \$50.

Send check made out to RRAS to P.O. Box 1054, Eureka, CA 95502, with "Banquet" in notation line. Banquet info: rras.org or 667-6163.

The last day to make reservations is February 26.

MARCH PROGRAM FRIDAY, MARCH 13TH

CONSERVATION OF AMERICA'S ENDEMIC PREDATORS: THE STORY OF ENDANGERED RED WOLVES

Postgraduate wildlife researcher **Kristin Brzeski** will give an overview of the history of America's lesser-known wolf, the red wolf, which is endemic to the southeastern United States. She will describe contemporary threats wild red wolves face and the research being conducted to promote red wolf survival in the wild.



Program starts at **7:30 p.m.**

at Eureka High School Auditorium, 1915 J Street, Eureka.
Bring a mug to enjoy shade-grown coffee, and please come fragrance-free.

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Thinking of Joining the National Audubon Society?

If so, please use the coupon below. By sending in your membership on this form, rather than replying to solicitations from National Audubon, \$20 is sent directly to RRAS. This is how NAS rewards local chapters for recruiting national members. (Otherwise, the RRAS dues share per new member is only a couple of dollars.) Thank you.

Chapter Membership Application

Yes, I'd like to join.

Please enroll me as a member of the National Audubon Society and of my local chapter. Please send AUDUBON magazine and my membership card to the address below.

My check for \$20 is enclosed. (Introductory offer)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

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Local Chapter Code: C24 C1ZC240Z

Please make checks to the National Audubon Society.

Send this application and your check to:

National Audubon Society

P.O. Box 422250

Palm Coast, FL 32142-2250

-----LOCAL CHAPTER-----

REDWOOD REGION AUDUBON SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 1054,EUREKA, CA 95502



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SUNRISE AT THE REFUGE A.K.A ALEUTIAN CACKLING GOOSE FLY-OFF & FAMILY FUN DAY

By Denise Seeger

The public is invited to join the staff and Friends of Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge for a family fun day on Sunday, March 1, rain or shine. Meet at the Richard J. Guadagno Headquarters and Visitor Center, 1020 Ranch Road in Loleta. The gate will open at 6 a.m.

View the habitats of southern Humboldt Bay at sunrise. Watch thousands of Aleutian Cackling Geese fly off their night-time roosts. The fly-off usually occurs within 15 minutes before or after sunrise. Sunrise will be at 6:49 a.m.

Family fun activities inside the Visitor Center will include bird silhouette painting, making bird houses and feeders, and other arts and crafts from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. Bring a mug for coffee, tea, or cocoa.

This is a popular and free event. We encourage everyone to please carpool to ease parking congestion on the refuge. For more information or special accommodation, please call (707) 733-5406 or visit www.fws.gov/refuge/humboldt_bay.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

By Hal Genger

Welcome to 2015! What a year last year was: hot weather, cold weather, drought, then rain, rain, rain. Who knows what the weather will have to offer this year? Rain or shine, RRAS remains actively planning events to entertain, educate, and get people outdoors. (Notice the upcoming field trips announced elsewhere in this issue.)

This month you can attend a docent training seminar geared toward our weekly walks at the Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary. A Marsh Docent Training is announced in this issue, so please come if you are interested in becoming a docent or just want to learn about the sanctuary. Also, as I mentioned in the last issue, we have organized a Birdathon fundraiser in partnership with the Northcoast Environmental Center in honor of the late Tim McKay. The Birdathon will happen on any day between May 1 and 9, 2015. We hope all birders will participate and coerce their friends to go with them to look at birds! For more information, check out the Birdathon website at <http://yournec.org/events/birdathon>.

This year Christopher Clark will present Singing With Feathers: The Fabulous Courtships of Woodstars and Other "Bee" Hummingbirds at the annual banquet and auction on February 28 (announced elsewhere in this issue).

Jared Wolfe has a line-up of presenters scheduled for the general meetings starting again in March. IMPORTANT! The location of our general meetings has changed from the Six Rivers Masonic Lodge in Arcata to the auditorium at Eureka High School. Come feel the cushioned seats that you won't need to stack after the talk!

Thank you all for your continued support! Let's keep Audubon active in 2015!

CONSERVATION NOTES

By Jim Clark

"Look, we are plowing!" said the fly on the back of the ox.

Latin American political comment

Our chapter's specific purposes are to:

(a) Act to promote a wise, balanced, responsible, and ethical use of natural systems on a local, national, and global scale; and

(b) Protect the biotic and abiotic components of local, national, and global natural systems.

As a chapter member of the National Audubon Society, we emphasize birds in fulfilling our purposes. The language used in our specific purposes is meant to convey our understanding that, among other things, bird conservation requires a holistic approach. Our chapter's use of science, education, and law to further our cause should be reflected by each individual member. An important component in addition to the 3-legged stool of science, education, and law is recreation. As in most Audubon chapters, birding is our "official" form of recreation. It increases our personal knowledge of birds, bonds and attracts members, and can contribute to science. By itself, however, birding does not help to fulfill our chapter purposes unless combined with other chapter activities. This is true for individual members as well as the chapter as a whole.

Members can support our purpose by becoming an officer, director, or committee chair or by putting your bird list on eBird. The Conservation Committee provides an opportunity to take your commitment to bird conservation to the next level by supporting or creating specific projects. Our policy statement on addressing the environmental effects of large-scale marijuana cultivation in any future state legislation that regulates and/or legalizes marijuana has been released to the public (www.rras.org under News). We have started work on a position on the proposed Highway 101 Last Chance Grade bypass in Del Norte County, and we have begun working with Humboldt County Division of Natural Resources to improve access and protection for the Clam Beach County Park coastal wetland. Other important potential bird conservation projects are:

- Control of nonnative plants that displace bird food plants or harbor bird predators,
- Corvid control through garbage control,
- Eureka General Plan Update,
- Coordinate field trips to educate on conservation issues,
- That special issue or topic that you are passionate about.

Show the fly on the back of the ox who is boss! We have a lot of plowing to do. Conservation Committee meets the second Wednesday of each month (next meeting February 11) at the Golden Harvest Restaurant in Arcata at noon.

SAVORING THE MILESTONES

In the April-May 2012 *Sandpiper*, I wrote of the inevitability of Alan Barron reaching 400 species in Del Norte County. On October 27, 2014, it happened: Alan refound the Prairie Warbler discovered by Sky Lloyd. When I saw the Bell's Sparrow that Rob Fowler spotted near Grouse Mountain in 2013—the 3rd county bird that ROFO had found for me—it prompted me to reflect on the vital role that the College of the Redwoods and Humboldt State University play in the Humboldt birding scene. That is, they serve as pipelines to maintain a local supply of young, talented, and energetic birders intent on exploring the area's avian riches. Alan's milestone is all the more amazing in that he did it with significantly less help than we residents of Humboldt receive from fellow birders.

I encourage you to read words of congratulation to Alan from 18 of his friends and colleagues at http://www.rras.org/docs/Congratulations_to_Alan_Barron.pdf, plus the article I wrote at http://rras.org/docs/sandpiper/201204_Sandpiper.pdf that details some of his many contributions to our knowledge of local natural history.

There is also a Humboldt County milestone to report: Rob Fowler reached 400 species (like Alan, not counting any introduced birds) with the Brambling he saw on November 11. Rob, too, has found more than his fair share of his tallied 400 species and, together with David Fix, shares the distinction of reaching 400 faster than any other Humboldt resident: 11 years. It goes without saying that Rob's enthusiasm for all things avian—including serving as eBird liaison for Humboldt and Del Norte counties, RRAS field trip chair and frequent leader, RRAS board member, lecturer, and owner-operator of Fowlerope Birding

Tours—has been instrumental in maintaining the vibrancy of the North Coast birding scene.

Birders new to our area help to mitigate the natural course of events where long-time residents don't hit the field as often as they did during their exploration phase, owing to family and work responsibilities and—speaking for myself—a noticeable decline in the stamina required for dawn-to-dusk forays. I relish seeing names unfamiliar to me as cited observers in the *Sandpiper* Field Notes, on the Bird Box, and eBird reports, for it signals to me that the local birding scene is evolving—as it must—and its future is a bright one. With the overall graying of birder demographics, not all communities can make this claim.

Again, on behalf of birders everywhere who have benefitted from Alan and Rob's willingness to share their knowledge, congratulations on achieving your respective significant milestones.

I have a milestone myself to report: the next *Sandpiper* issue will be my 150th column (not counting the results of the 9 student nature writing contests that I've organized and cojudged, which have appeared in the *Sandpiper's* annual Children's Issue). From my first column in 1992, about Doc Harris's impending 400 species for Humboldt—before I owned a modem, so I had to hand deliver a floppy disc to the *Sandpiper* staff layout party—it's been a long, fun ride, one I couldn't have done without editorial and proofreading suggestions made by a number of folks that include Jan Andersen, David Fix, Rob Fowler, Doc Harris, John Hunter, Gary Lester, and of course, my wife Sue.

Tom Leskiw

AUDUBON NATURE WRITING DEADLINE MARCH 20

RRAS is sponsoring its 10th annual student nature writing contest. Up to 6 cash prizes will be awarded for the best essay(s) or poem(s) on "What Nature Means to Me" by Humboldt or Del Norte County students in grades 4 through 12. Winners will be published on the RRAS website, www.rras.org, with awards presented at the 20th Annual Godwit Days Festival in Arcata in mid-April.

Entries should be no more than 450 words in length; one entry per person. Topics suitable for exploration include, but are not limited to, bird feeding, duck hunting, animal rescue, and observations of the natural world. Entries must include the student's name, home address, phone number, and e-mail, plus teacher name, grade, school, phone, and e-mail. Deadline for receipt is Friday, March 20, 2015.

Send submissions as text within the body of an e-mail to tomleskiw@suddenlink.net or mail a printout to Louise Bacon-Ogden, 2337 B Street, Eureka 95501.



STUDENT BIRD ART ENTRIES DUE BY MARCH 20

For the 12th year, RRAS and Friends of the Arcata Marsh are cosponsoring a Student Bird Art Contest in conjunction with Godwit Days. Some \$550 in prizes will be awarded to Humboldt County students in grades K-12 who submit a drawing of one of 40 suggested species or another common local bird. Prize(s) also will be awarded for the best rendition of a bird in its natural habitat.

Entries will be judged by local wildlife artists and educators. Awards will be presented at the 20th Annual Godwit Days Spring Migration Bird Festival on Saturday, April 18, at 11 a.m. All entries will be displayed at the Arcata Community Center during the Festival, and copies of winning artwork will be shown at the Arcata Marsh Interpretive Center during May.

A flyer with complete rules and a list of suggested birds is posted at <http://godwitdays.org/learning/activitieschildren/bird-art-contest/> or can be picked up at the Arcata Marsh Interpretive Center, Strictly for the Birds in Old Town Eureka, or by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to Louise Bacon-Ogden, 2337 B Street, Eureka 95501. Flyers have been mailed to all schools in Humboldt County. Artwork may be dropped off at Strictly for the Birds, 123 F Street, Eureka, or the Arcata Marsh Interpretive Center, 569 South G Street, Arcata, or mailed to Louise at the address listed above. Entries must be received by Friday, March 20, to be considered. Questions should be e-mailed to sueleskiw@suddenlink.net.

RRAS THANKS 2014 VOLUNTEERS

We want to thank the following volunteers who contributed to RRAS's activities during the past year:

Jan Andersen, Samantha Bacon, Louise Bacon-Ogden, Pat Bitton, Gary Bloomfield, Adam Brown, Ralph Bucher, Ken Burton, Joe Ceriani, Ted Cheeseman, Sing Chew, Donna Clark, Jim Clark, Daryl Coldren, Jill Demers, Lowell Diller, Cedric Duhalde, Betsy Elkinton, David Fix, Rob Fowler, Gary Friedrichsen, John Gaffin, Hal Genger, Harriet Hill, Sandra Hunt von Arb, Larry Karsteadt, Tony Kurz, Sue Leskiw, Tom Leskiw, Gary Lester, Gene Lodes, Paul Lohse, Tristan McKee, Michael Morris, Moe Morrissette, Cindy Moyer, Laurie Ness, Syn-dee Noel, Judie Norton, Lew Norton, Chet Ogan, Ed Pandolfino, Susan Penn, Jude Power, CJ Ralph, Gil Saliba, Denise Seeger, Keith Slauson, Jay Sooter, Matt Wachs, Anna Weinstein, Carol Wilson, Jared Wolfe, Gretchen Ziegler, and George Ziminsky.

GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

The annual Great Backyard Bird Count takes place February 13 to 16, 2015. This count can be done anytime and anywhere of your choosing. For information on how to participate, go to <http://gbbc.birdcount.org>.

REDWOOD REGION AUDUBON MARSH DOCENT TRAINING

Do you want to be a docent or just refresh your knowledge and skills? RRAS is giving a docent training class at the Marsh Interpretive Center on South G Street in Arcata on February 21, 2015, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Leaders will include Susie Van Kirk giving an overview of the history of the region, Bob Gearheart giving background information on the waste treatment needs and the beginning of the Project, Larry Karstadt talking about docent etiquette, and finally, Rob Fowler discussing birds and how to identify some of the tough ones. Please come join us! For more information call Gary Friedrichsen at (707) 496-6581.

Field Notes

SUMMARY OF NORTHWESTERN CALIFORNIA BIRD REPORTS

By Daryl Coldren

November 1 to December 31, 2014

Field Notes is a compilation of bird-sighting reports for Del Norte, Humboldt, and Trinity counties. Sources include the RRAS Bird Box (707-822-LOON), the online northwestern California birding and information exchange (nwcaldbird@yahoo.com), eBird (<http://ebird.org/content/klamathskiyou>), and reports submitted directly to the compiler. Reports may be submitted to any of the sources mentioned above or to Daryl Coldren: (916) 384-8089; QuiAvisPetit@aol.com.

CBC = Christmas Bird Count; FOS = first of season; HO = Hold Over from previous period; MOB = many observers; NC = Not Confirmed by another party/not photographed; NWR = National Wildlife Refuge; UO = Unknown Observer

Snow Goose: many reports of 1-6, *Arcata Bottoms, Bayside Cutoff, Humboldt Bay NWR, Ferndale Bottoms*, 4 Nov-31 Dec (MOB) • **Ross's Goose:** 1, *Arcata Bottoms*, 16 Nov (RF); 1, *Centerville*, 16 Nov (SLe) • **Harlequin Duck:** 10, *Point St George*, 2 Nov (AB); 1-2, *Humboldt Bay-King Salmon*, 6-22 Dec (MWa, RF, MOB); 1-2, *Humboldt Bay-N. and S. Jetties*, 9 Nov-1 Dec (AL, BB, RF, MOB); 1, *Arcata Marsh-Klopp Lake*, 7 Dec (CH) • **Long-tailed Duck:** 1, *N. Jetty*, 1 Nov (AL); 1, *Humboldt Bay-Field's Landing*, 12-14 Dec (SM) • **Barrow's Goldeneye:** 1, *Field's Landing*, 9-14 Dec (BE, RF, MOB); several?, *Smith River*, 14 Dec (UO, fide AB) • **Laysan Albatross:** 1 (dead), *beach N. of Point St George*, 4 Dec (WW) • **Short-tailed Shearwater:** 1, *N. Jetty*, 8 Nov (TK, CR, BE, BH) • **Brown Booby:** 1 (HO), *Trinidad-Pilot Rock*, 2 Nov (SLa, MMo); 1 (alive) and 1 (dead), *near Smith River mouth*, 16 Dec (CR) • **American White Pelican:** 1 (present since Nov 2013), *several locations from Crescent City Harbor, Lake Tolowa, Point St George*, 1 Nov-14 Dec (AB, LB, RF, MOB); 1 (perhaps the bird from Del Norte), *Arcata Marsh*, 26 Dec (AL) • **Cattle Egret:** 1-2 (HO), *Alexandre Dairy*, 8 Nov-26 Dec (AB, SLI) • **Green Heron:** 1, *Mad River Fish Hatchery*, 10 Nov-8 Dec (BK, ML, BE, CB) • **Osprey:** 1, *Orleans-Sandy Bar*, 3 Nov (KM); 1, *Mad River Fish Hatchery*, 10 Nov (BK); 1, *Eureka*, 25 Nov (SG); 1, *Samoa*, 20-26 Dec (BE, GC, MWe); 1, *Blue Lake Cottonwoods*, 6 Dec (MMa) • **Golden Eagle:** 1-2, *Bear River Ridge*, 1-19 Nov (JH, AL, DK, MOB); 1, *Orleans-Sandy Bar*, 3 Nov (KM); 1 (1st year, a rarity in Del Norte), *Alexandre Dairy*, 14 Nov-14 Dec (LB, AB, SLI); 2 (another 1st year), *Alexandre Dairy* 28 Nov-12 Dec (LB) • **Northern Goshawk:** 1 adult, *Bald Hills Rd*, 25 Nov (CB) • **Ferruginous Hawk:** many reports of 1-4, *Arcata Bottoms, Loleta Bottoms, Bear River Ridge, Ferndale Bottoms*, 1 Nov-31 Dec (MOB) • **Rough-legged Hawk:** many reports of 1-2, *Arcata Bottoms, Bear River Ridge, Ferndale Bottoms, Bald Hills Rd, Point St George*, 1 Nov-31 Dec (MOB) • **Crested Caracara:** 1, *Eel River Estuary Preserve*, 11 Nov (RM) • **Sandhill Crane:** 1 (HO), *Alexandre Dairy*, 1 Nov-26 Dec (AB, SLI, RF, MOB); 1, *Ferndale Bottoms-Meridian Ave*, 14 Nov (AL); 2, *Ferndale Bottoms*, 15



Snow Bunting
Bear River Ridge, HUM, © Brad Elvert



Painted Bunting
Arcata, HUM, © Gary Bloomfield

Dec (BE) • **Pacific Golden-Plover:** 1-2, *Loleta Bottoms*, 8 Nov-22 Dec (RF, MC, KB, MOB); 13, *Eel River Estuary Preserve*, 14 Nov (CR, AL, TK) • **Red Knot:** 1-15, *Arcata Marsh*, 12 Nov-31 Dec (ML, AL, OH, BE, MOB); 1, *N. Jetty*, Nov 30-7 Dec (RF, ML, CeD) • **Rock Sandpiper:** 1-4, *N. Jetty*, 1 Nov-28 Dec (AL, RF, TK, EF, MOB) • **Franklin's Gull:** 1, *Smith River Bottoms-Fred Haight Dr.*, 1 Nov (RF, MOB); 1, *Arcata Bottoms*, 1-20 Dec (NM, RF, JH, DK, MOB); 1, *Ferndale Bottoms*, 16-23 Nov (OH, RF, EF, MOB); 1, *Loleta Bottoms-Cannibal Island Rd.*, 6 Dec (TK, CR) • **Glaucous Gull:** 1, *Redwood Creek Mouth*, 8 Dec (BE); 1, *N. Spit*, 18 Dec (CeD); 1, *Elk Creek*, 22 Nov (SLI); 1, *Crescent City*, 16 Dec (AB) • **Caspian Tern:** 1-6, *Eureka-Hikshari Trail*, 1-12 Dec (BE, CO); 1, *Arcata Marsh*, 8 Nov (TQ); 1, *Arcata Marsh*, 16 Dec (EE); 1, *Eureka*, 20 Dec (KB) • **Common Tern:** 1, *Arcata Marsh*, 22-31 Dec (EE, AL) • **Forster's Tern:** 1 (1st for Del Norte CBC), *Lake Earl*, 14 Dec (fide AB) • **Elegant Tern:** 120 (HO), *Crescent City Harbor*, 2-6 Nov (AB); 1 (1st for Del Norte CBC), *Crescent City Harbor*, 14 Dec (AB) • **White-winged Dove:** 1, *Eureka*, 2 Nov (CR); 1, *Arcata Bottoms-Moxon Dairy*, 18-29 Dec (AM, MOB) • **Burrowing Owl:** 1, *Bear River Ridge*, 1 Nov-25 Dec (JH, DK, AL, TK, CR, MOB); 1, *Clam Beach*, 9 Nov (LK, CeD, MP); 2, *S. Spit*, 12 Dec (BE) • **White-throated Swift:** 4, *S. Humboldt Community Park*, (JS, JG) • **Selasphorus Hummingbird:** 1, *McKinleyville*, 1 Dec (RF, CO) • **Say's Phoebe:** 1, *Bear River Ridge*, 1-11 Nov (JH, DK, AL, BB); 1, *Arcata Bottoms*, 11-14 Nov (TK, CR, AT, RF, ML); 1, *Hoopa Airstrip*, 27 Dec (MG, DC, DB, JP, DF); 1, *Ferndale*, 7 Nov (OH); 1, *Loleta Bottoms*, 15 Nov (CeD) • **Tropical Kingbird:** 1, *Point St George*, 1 Nov (RF, MOB); 1, *Cannibal Island Rd.*, 8-15 Nov (RF, MOB); 3, *Crescent City*, 8 Nov (AB); 2, *Crescent City Harbor*, 10 Nov (AB); 1, *Crescent City Harbor*, 20 Nov-12 Dec (JLo, JLu, AB, LB); 1, *Crescent City Sewage Plant*, 22 Nov (SLo); 1, *Lake Earl*, 14 Dec (UO fide AB) • **Loggerhead Shrike:** 1 (returning for 2nd winter), *Loleta-Quinn Rd.*, 2-28 Dec (GC, MOB) • **Red-eyed Vireo:** 1 (one of only a handful of winter records for all of N. America), *Crescent City Cemetery*, 14-18 Dec (TK, CR, AB, MOB) • **Blue-headed Vireo:** 1 (2nd Del Norte record), *Crescent City Cemetery*, 14 Dec (TK) • **Blue Jay:** 1, *Willow Creek*, 1 Nov-27 Dec (MOB) • **Horned Lark:** 2, *Crescent City Harbor*, 9 Nov (AB, SLI); 2-9, *Bear River Ridge*, 2-25 Nov (CR, EF, AL, RF, CD, MOB); 1, *Hoopa*, 27 Dec (MG, DC, DF, JP, DB); 2, *Bald Hills Rd-Lyons Ranch*, 7 Dec (CB) • **Tree Swallow:** 12, *Samoa*, 7 Nov (CO); 2, *Arcata Marsh*, 13 Dec (DK); 1, *Shelter Cove*, 23 Dec (MW) • **Violet-green Swallow:** 1-7, *Arcata Marsh*, 30 Nov-30 Dec (AL, DK, BB, MOB) • **Barn Swallow:** 1-20, *Arcata Marsh*, 13-31 Dec (AL, MC, EE, DK, MOB); 8, *Shelter Cove*, 23 Dec (MW); 12, *Clam Beach*, 24 Dec (GL, LL) • **Rock Wren:** 2, *Alderpoint Rd-"Rock Wren Rocks."* 14 Nov (EF) • **Northern Mockingbird:** 1, *Arcata-D St.*, 9-11 Nov (EF, AL); 2, *Eureka*, 20 Dec (RF, RH, GL); 1, *Ferndale Bottoms*, 1 Nov (JH, DK); 1, *Ferndale-Market St.*, 22-25 Nov (OH, CO, LK); 1, *McKinleyville*, 8 Nov (CH); 1, *Shelter Cove*, 23 Dec (MW) • **Lapland Longspur:** 2-6, *Loleta Bottoms*, 8 Nov-6 Dec, (RF, EF, TK, CR, MOB); 1, *Ferndale Bottoms*, 20-23 Nov (AL, CR); 8-15, *Eel River Estuary Preserve*, 14-22 Nov (CR, AL, RF); 1-2, *Bear River Ridge*, 9-25 Nov (RF,

CO, LK, GC, MOB); 2, *Smith River Bottoms-Pala Rd.*, 19-22 Nov (AB, SLI) • **Chestnut-collared Longspur:** reports of up to 6, *Bear River Ridge*, 2-25 Nov (RF, JH, SB, AL, DC, TK, CO, CR, MOB) • **Snow Bunting:** 2, *Bear River Ridge*, 2-17 Nov (BE, MOB) • **Northern Waterthrush:** 1, *Arcata Marsh*, 2 Nov-31 Dec (AL, RF, MC, EE, MOB) • **Palm Warbler:** many reports of 1-3, *Arcata Marsh, Arcata Bottoms, Ferndale Bottoms, Humboldt Bay NWR, Bear River Ridge-Kinman Pond, Eureka, McKinleyville*, 2 Nov-31 Dec (MOB) • **Wilson's Warbler:** 1, *Whitlow*, 6 Nov (JG); 1, *Arcata-Shay Park*, 15 Nov-6 Dec (RF, MOB) • **Black-throated Gray Warbler:** 1, *Pacific Shores*, 14 Dec (CO) • **MacGillivray's Warbler:** 1, *McKinleyville*, 2-26 Dec (GL, LL) • **Clay-colored Sparrow:** 2, *Pala Rd.*, 1 Nov (RF, MOB); 1, *Arcata Bottoms-Moxon Rd.*, 10-13 Nov (EF, ML, LK); 2, *Arcata Bottoms-V St Loop*, 16 Dec (DK) • **Vesper Sparrow:** 1, *V St Loop*, 2 Nov (LL, AL, ML); 1, *Bear River Ridge*, 5-13 Nov (CO, IG, BE) • **Lark Sparrow:** 2, *Bear River Ridge*, 17 Nov (CO) • **Bell's Sparrow:** 1, *Lyons Ranch*, 13 Dec (ML) • **Swamp Sparrow:** 1-3, *Arcata Marsh*, 15 Nov-31 Dec (MC, AL, BB, EF, RF, MOB); 1, *Humboldt Bay NWR*, 28 Dec (EF); 1, *McKinleyville-School Rd Trail*, 28 Dec (MMc) • **Harris's Sparrow:** 1, *Willow Creek*, 25 Nov-27 Dec (MH, ML); 1, *Arcata Bottoms-Foster Ave.*, 6-9 Nov (EF, CR, TK) • **Western Tanager:** 2, *Titlow Hill Rd.*, 7 Nov (AL) • **Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** 1, *McKinleyville*, 28 Nov-1 Dec (CW, MOB) • **Painted Bunting:** 1, *Arcata-Zehndner Ave.*, 11-15 Nov (GB, MOB) • **Tricolored Blackbird:** 1-3, *Mad River Bottoms*, 6 Nov-20 Dec (RF, TK, CR, CB, DC, MOB) • **Orchard Oriole:** 1, *Ferndale*, 15 Nov (OH); 1, *town of Smith River*, 14-26 Dec (fide AB, LB, KB, EE) • **Bullock's Oriole:** 1, *Arcata*, 21 Nov (EF); 1, *Ferndale*, 21 Nov (OH) • **Brambling:** 1, *Sunny Brae*, 10 Nov-31 Dec (GJ, MOB).



Brambling
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Samantha Bacon, Alan Barron, Dawn Blake, Gary Bloomfield, Bob Brown, Lucas Brug, Camden Bruner, Ken Burton, Daryl Coldren, Mark Colwell, Greg Chapman, Eric Culbertson, Nevin Cullen, Cédric Duhalde (CeD), Chris Dunford (ChD), Elias Elias, Brad Elvert, Elizabeth Feucht, David Fix, Rob Fowler, Gary Friedrichsen, John Gaffin, Megan Garfinkel, Steve Gellman, Ian Gledhill, Michael Harris, Stan Harris, Cliff Hawley, Owen Head, Cheryl Henke, Rob Hewitt, Brendan Higgins, Mark Higley, Jared Hughey, Ken Irwin, Glen Jones, Logan Kahle, Deven Kammerichs-Berke, Gail Kenny, Bill Kieser, Tony Kurz, Steve Ladwig (SLa), Alexandra Lamb, Matt Lau, Laurie Lawrence, Sky Lloyd (SLI), Stephanie Leja, Gary Lester, Lauren Lester, Paul Lohse, Jim Lomax (JLo), John Luther (JLu), Mark Magneson (MMa), Sean McAllister, Matthew McConnell (MMc), Natalie McNear, Kristi Mergenthaler, Annie Meyer, Robin Montgomery, Michael Morris (MMo), Chet Ogan, Michael Park, Jude Power, Tom Quetchenbach, Alexander Robinson, Casey Ryan, Keith Slauson, Jay Sooter, Steve Stump, Scott Terrill, Matt Wachs (MWa), Mike Wease (MWe), Wendell Wood, Carol Wilson, George Ziminsky. Thanks to everyone who submitted sightings! Special thanks as always to Rob Fowler.