Birds of Douglas County, Part 3

The Hundred Valleys of the Umpqua

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Introduction

This is the third of 3 articles discussing the birds of Douglas County that Sawyer and Hunter envisioned during the early 1980s (please review the memoriam of Martha Sawyer in OB 18(1):12-13). Earlier articles described coastal Douglas County (Sawyer and Hunter 1988; Part 1) and a portion of the Cascades of Douglas County (Fix and Sawyer 1991; Part 2) (Figure 1).

This paper and accompanying checklist cover the lowland valleys, woods, and waters of central Douglas County, generally below 1200 ft. elevation and bounded approximately by a line connecting Drain, Glide, Tiller, Glendale, Camas Valley, and Elkton (Figure 1). Areas of extensive conifer forests, regenerating timber harvest units, and elevations above 1200 ft. within or outside of the boundary shown may not be well-represented here. The area of central Douglas County shown in DeLorme's Oregon Atlas and Gazetteer (1991) as a mosaic of white (non-wooded) and green (wooded) most accurately reflects the area covered by this paper.

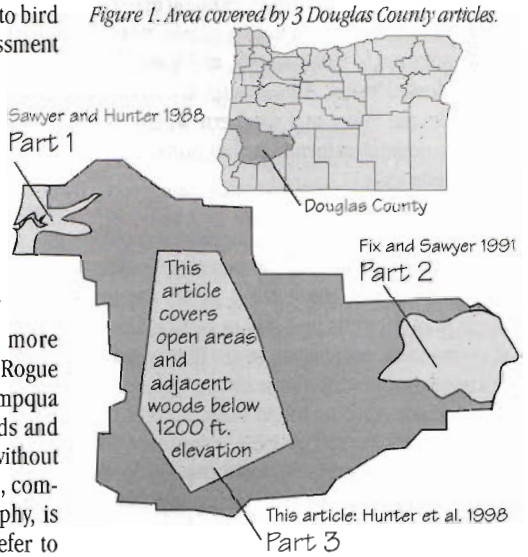
Contents of this article include (1) an overview of the environmental setting, (2) short notes on birds that characterize the Umpqua Valleys, (3) a discussion of known population changes, (4) descriptions of exploration possibilities within the valleys, (5) a checklist with timing and abundance of birds in the area, (6) site guides for some favorite places to bird in the Umpqua Valleys, and (7) an assessment of coverage of the 3 Douglas County articles.

Environmental Setting

The Umpqua Valleys are located south of the large and open Willamette Valley and north of the constricted Rogue River Valley. Many aspects of climate and plant communities are intermediate between the more moist Willamette Basin and the drier Rogue Basin. A characteristic feature of the Umpqua Valleys is the extensive mosaic of woods and open areas. There are few woodlands without open areas nearby, and vice versa. This, combined with the hill and valley topography, is probably what inspired residents to refer to the area as the "Hundred Valleys of the Umpqua."

Open areas in the Umpqua Valleys consist primarily of farmed and grazed bottomlands and grazed hillsides. Woods in the bottomlands often consist of some combination of Oregon ash, bigleaf maple, Oregon white oak, and Douglas-fir. Woodlands above the bottomlands are without the ash, and often are a mixture of Oregon white oak, California black oak, Pacific madrone, bigleaf maple, and Douglas-fir. A wide variety of combinations of these species occurs in hillside woodlands. Shrub habitats are generally patchy, and not extensive, primarily consisting of Himalayan blackberry or poison oak. Mosaics of grassland and hawthorn species, such as that west of Oakland, are quite rare. Oak savanna occurs on some hills. Aboriginal peoples probably maintained some of these by burning. Others were created in the past 100 years by logging the majority of the trees, leaving a few, and preparing and planting the ground with forage grasses. Most of these areas are currently maintained in a grass-forb composition through burning. Annual grasses are most prominent in these savannas, where they are beautiful green early in spring, and dry brown by early summer. In the southern part of Douglas County the terrain is more steeply dissected and rugged in places. Here the vegetation looks much more like the Rogue Valley foothills, where tanoak, canyon live oak, and several species of *Ceanothus* shrubs are more common.

Figure 1. Area covered by 3 Douglas County articles.



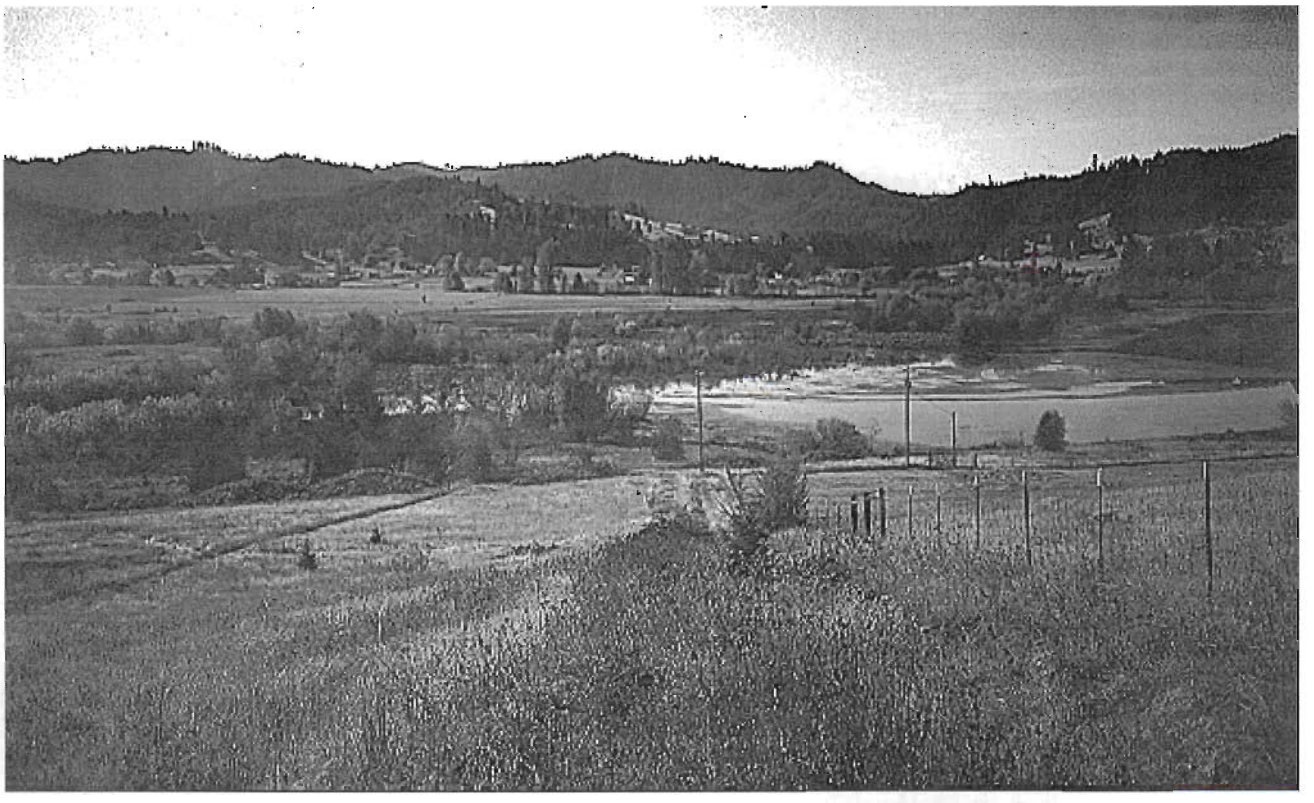
The main Umpqua River, North and South Umpqua Rivers, and Calapooya Creek are the primary stream systems in central Douglas County. The gradient of these reaches in the valleys is typically gentle, with areas of flat water broken here and there by attractive riffles and rapids. Near these more swift waters, large boulders and bedrock are often exposed. Gravel bars are present near large bends in these streams, and sometimes adjacent to broad, shallow portions of the river which are flowing over extensive bedrock. In addition to the bottomland vegetation already described, riparian areas have black cottonwood, willow species, red alder, and a highly diverse set of shrub species.

We are unaware of any natural lakes or marshes in the Hundred Valleys of the Umpqua. However, there are numerous man-made ponds and reservoirs that provide nesting, wintering, and migrating habitat for waterfowl, shorebirds, marshbirds, and long-legged waders. Vegetation is quite varied at these locations, and includes cattail, rushes, sedges, as well as more woody riparian vegetation as described for streams. Some of them have exposed mud in season.

Characteristic Birds

The Umpqua Valleys host a few species that, while present to varying degrees farther north in western Oregon, are noticeably more regular here in the Umpqua Valleys. In the Umpqua Valleys, these species are common enough to be routinely seen in a day's birding in proper season. All find more-than-satisfactory habitat in the mosaic of woods and fields in the Umpqua Valleys.

- *Acorn Woodpecker.* Uncommon to fairly common in mature and old open-canopy oak woods, or patches of oak woodlands. Regularly found in residential areas with older trees. Oaks are quite widespread and characteristic of the Umpqua Valleys, thus the ubiquitousness of this species. Their status is similar in



Plat I Reservoir from the northeast. ***Summer 1991.*** *Photo/Matt Hunter.*

the Rogue Valley. While quite easy to find in specific locations in the Willamette Valley, the Acorn Woodpecker is much more spotty in distribution.

• *Western Kingbird.* Common in all open areas dotted or edged with trees (or power poles) which are used for nest structures. Most common along floodplains, but also on rolling hills in open, grassy oak savannas. Western Kingbirds are also quite common in the Rogue Valleys. While they are found annually in the Willamette Valley, observing this species there is worthy of note, and breeding records are few except in smaller valleys nestled in the hills south of Hwy. 126 near the Umpqua Basin (Tom Mickel, pers. comm.).

• *Ash-throated Flycatcher.* Uncommon to fairly common in open oak savannas and on woodland edges. Requires trees large enough to have nest cavities. Most common on drier, warmer sites. While common in the Rogue Valley, this species is only a rare migrant in the Willamette Valley.

• *White-breasted Nuthatch.* Fairly common in most deciduous and mixed woodlands. Prefers older woodlands with larger trees and more open canopy, including older residential areas. This species is common in the Rogue Valley and uncommon to locally common in the Willamette Valley. Because of the predominance of oak in the Umpqua Valleys, this species is encountered much more frequently in the Umpqua Valleys than in the Willamette Valley.

• *Wrentit.* Uncommon to locally common in thick shrubby areas, including both open areas and sparsely-wooded areas. Status is similar in the Rogue Valley. Wrentits are locally common in the southern and western edges of the Willamette Valley, decreasing in abundance to the north.

• *Bullock's Oriole.* Common in open-canopy woodlands, woodland patches and strips, and oak savannas. Most regular along floodplains, but also quite regular up flanks of adjacent foothills as far as the open areas go. Sometimes it seems that one can be heard from almost anywhere in the Umpqua Valleys. Common in the Rogue Valley and southern Willamette Valley; uncommon and local farther north in the Willamette Valley.

• *Lesser Goldfinch.* Fairly common in open or semi-open areas including grassy, weedy areas adjacent to larger shrubs and trees, and in residential areas. This species is common in the Rogue Valley and southern Willamette Valley; uncommon locally farther north in the Willamette Valley.

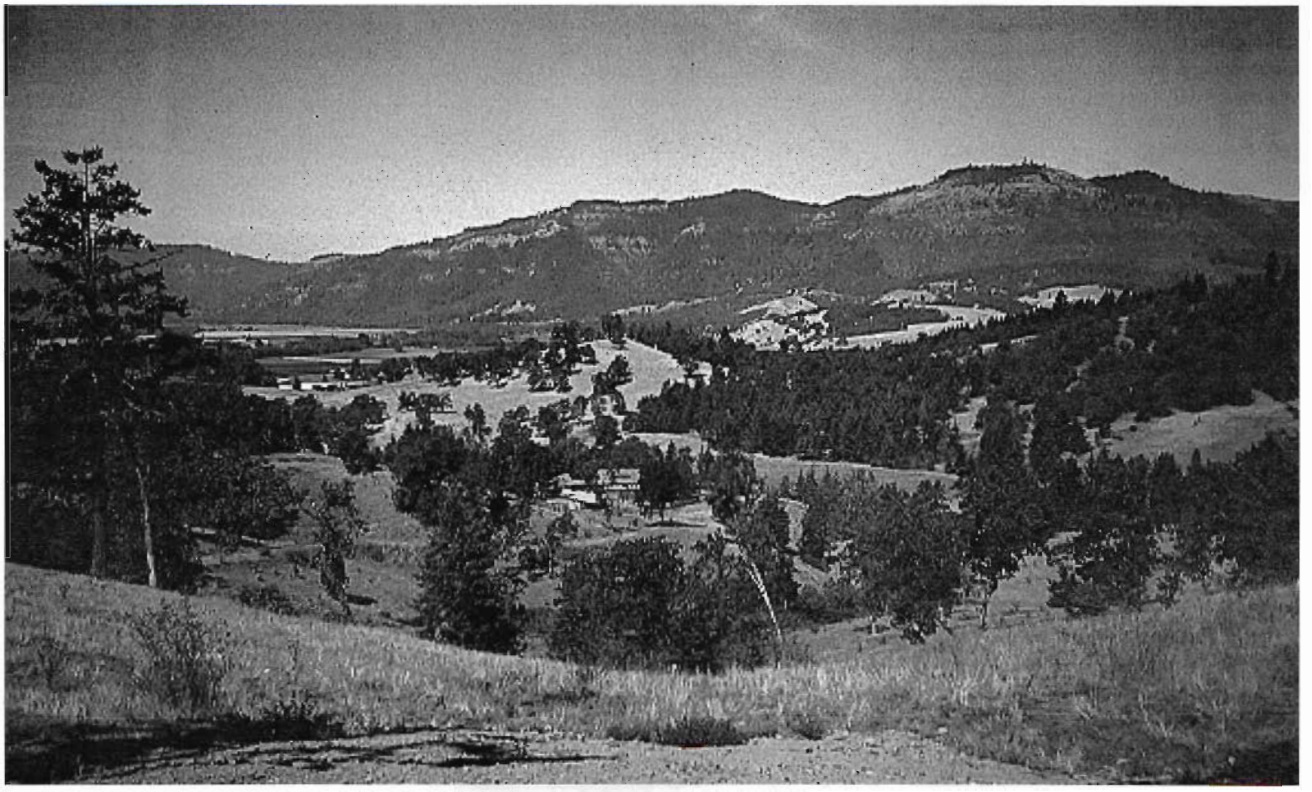
It would be instructive to mention a group of birds that are truly "uncharacteristic" of the Umpqua Valleys. These are ... gulls. Seeing more than 10 gulls in 1 day in central Douglas County, of any species, at any time of year, is a noteworthy event. Some recent high numbers include 35 Ring-billed Gulls at Plat I by Wilson on 18 December 1996; a group of 62 gulls at Evan's Pond (53 California Gulls, 3 Ring-billed Gulls, 1 Thayer's Gull, and 5 Glaucous-winged Gulls, ages also recorded) on 23 December 1996, by Hunter, upped to 69 birds at this location by Wilson on 26 December 1996. To our knowledge, this is the largest and most diverse group of gulls ever observed in the Umpqua Valleys. While gulls of many species are regular and even locally abundant (thousands of birds) in season in the Willamette Valley, and at least regular in small numbers in the Rogue Valley, gulls are truly unusual in the Umpqua Valleys. To our knowledge, Mew Gull and Herring Gull have yet to be observed in this area.

Bird Population Changes

Although many species may have experienced significant changes in populations in the Umpqua Valleys, few data are available to say with certainty what changes have occurred. More dramatic and long-term changes are easiest to detect.

• *California Condor.* Douglas County is privileged to have hosted the last reports of this magnificent species for the state of Oregon. These were at the north end of the area under consideration here, near the town of Drain: 2 birds in July 1903, and 4 birds in March 1904. In the 1800s the Condors may have been occasional transients in the Umpqua Valleys on their way north to feast on salmon carcasses along the shores of the Columbia River (see Gabrielson and Jewett 1940). But only memories of these great birds remain.

• *European Starling.* There was about a



Area where the lead author grew up in Umpqua. View is northwest. The "town" of Umpqua is between the center hill and the larger hill in background. Shows woods, pasture, and artificial savannah created by clearing and burning. Hills in background may contain grass-forb-shrub habitat amenable to Poorwill. Summer 1991. Photo/Matt Hunter.

40-year gap between the last report of California Condor and the first occurrence of European Starling in the Umpqua Valleys (based on Jobanek 1993). Starlings have increased dramatically since the 1940s, averaging about 14,000 birds during the last 20 years of Roseburg Christmas Bird Counts.

• *Burrowing Owls.* Gerald Mires (pers. comm.) reports that this species nested near Sutherlin from 1953 to 1956, in the area where Interstate 5 (hereafter I-5) is now located. Gabrielson and Jewett (1940) do not list the Umpqua Valleys within the breeding range of the Burrowing Owl, and there are no records of nesting before or after these early 1950s reports. Therefore, it is difficult to know if the Burrowing Owl was historically breeding in small numbers in the Umpqua Valleys, or if the early 1950s records were exceptional occurrences.

• *California Towhee.* Formerly the Brown Towhee, this species was reported as "fairly plentiful" in the Garden Valley area (a few miles northwest of Roseburg) by Shelton (1914), and as "a characteristic bird of the brushy hillsides in the interior valleys" of Douglas County by Gabrielson and Jewett (1940). In contrast today, the only known populations are small and very localized. At least 8 birds have been observed on a hillside east of I-5, just north of the town of Myrtle Creek. Another small population has been present near the town of Days Creek since at least 1979 (Kevin Sands, pers. comm.). A few observations have been made of California Towhees in and near Roseburg in the last two decades, but no other populations have been located consistently.

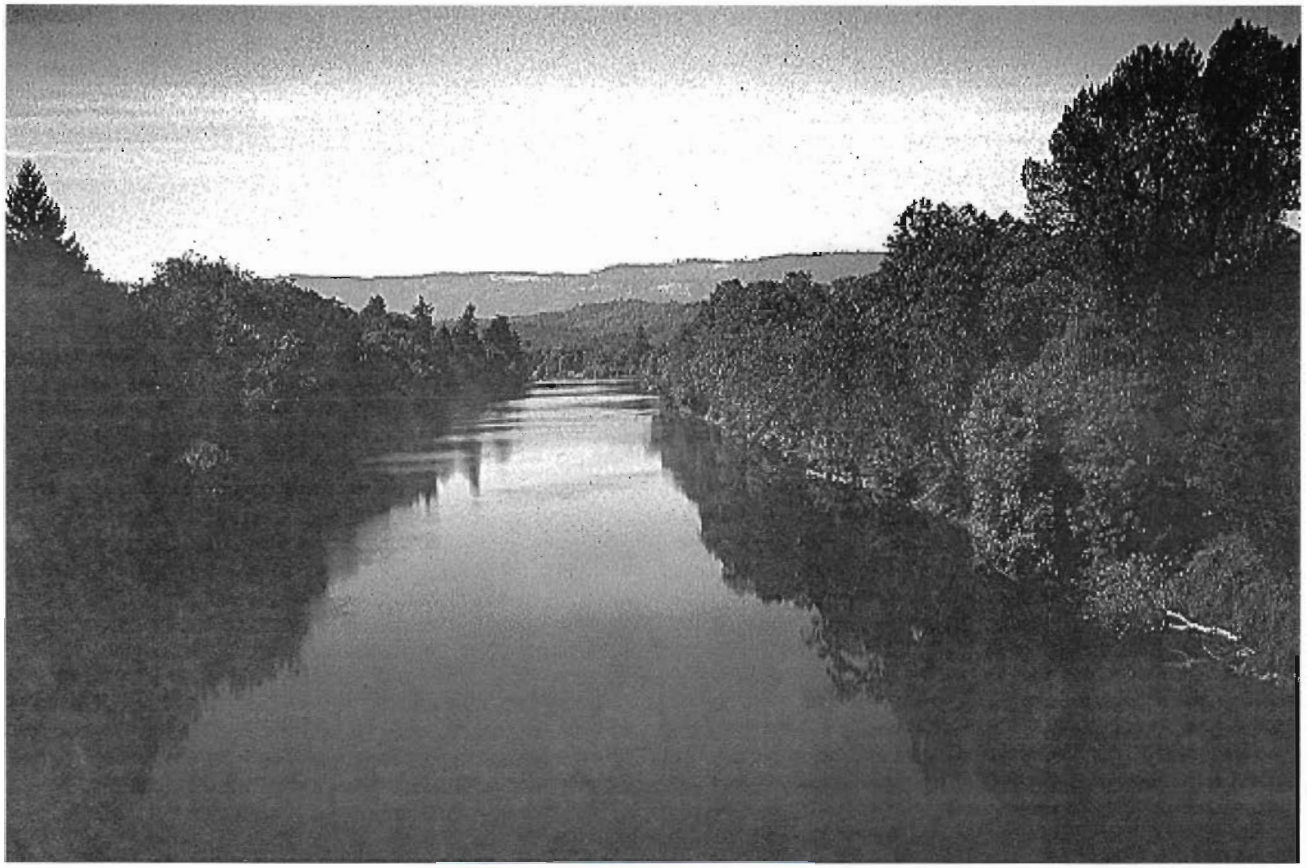
• *Lark Sparrow.* Referring to this species, Gabrielson and Jewett (1940) wrote, "noted frequently but not commonly in the Umpqua Valley." Unfortunately, Gabrielson and Jewett don't mention specifically if breeding was documented. In any case, we are aware of only one confirmed breeding record since their work. On 12 June 1978, while conducting a Breeding Bird Survey, Herb Wisner and Dan Gleason observed 2 adults feeding 1 or more young at a cemetery and Christmas tree farm west of Oakland and east of I-5 (Wisner 1978). A hillside behind and just north of Umpqua Community College has had 1-2 birds most summers since 1980. Young have not been confirmed there; however, little effort has been made to confirm breeding. There are at least 6 records of transients on typical migration dates in late April and early May. An interesting anecdote is the record of wintering Lark Sparrows in Alice and Fred Parker's yard (southwest Roseburg) dating from the mid-1970s (Figure 2; please see memoriam of Fred in OB 18(1):14). Alice attributes the decline of Lark Sparrows in her yard to the increase in tree cover over these years (pers. comm.). She says that while Lark Sparrows were decreasing in her yard, they were increasing at a neighbor's house near the river (South Umpqua). However, the neighbor's area also grew more shaded, and these birds eventually disappeared as well. So, are Lark Sparrows still wintering in the Umpqua Valleys, at an unknown feeder? Perhaps, but we are aware of no more than 5 winter records anywhere in the Umpqua Valleys in the last 10 years.

Data from a few regular bird surveys have allowed examination of changes in bird numbers in the Umpqua Valleys. These efforts have included winter raptor surveys, Christmas Bird Counts (CBC), and Breeding Bird Surveys (BBS). Winter raptor surveys over the past 10-15 years have shown fairly constant populations (Jim Collins, pers. comm.).

A coarse look at Roseburg CBC data reveals 2 species as having noticeable winter population changes in the last 20 years: Canada Goose and Double-crested Cormorant (Figure 3).

• *Canada Goose.* Sedentary populations of Canada Geese were introduced from eastern Oregon and Lake Washington near Seattle in the early 1980s by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (Jim Collins, pers. comm.). Nest platforms were placed in ponds and marshlands, and hunting regulations were tightened. The geese reproduced very well. The increasing winter population of Canada Geese is a reflection of the flourishing resident breeding population.

• *Double-crested Cormorants.* In the



Looking downstream on the North Umpqua River, where Garden Valley Road crosses, about 1.5 miles upstream from its confluence with the South Umpqua River. Here the water is relatively slow and deep. Summer 1991. Photo/Matt Hunter.

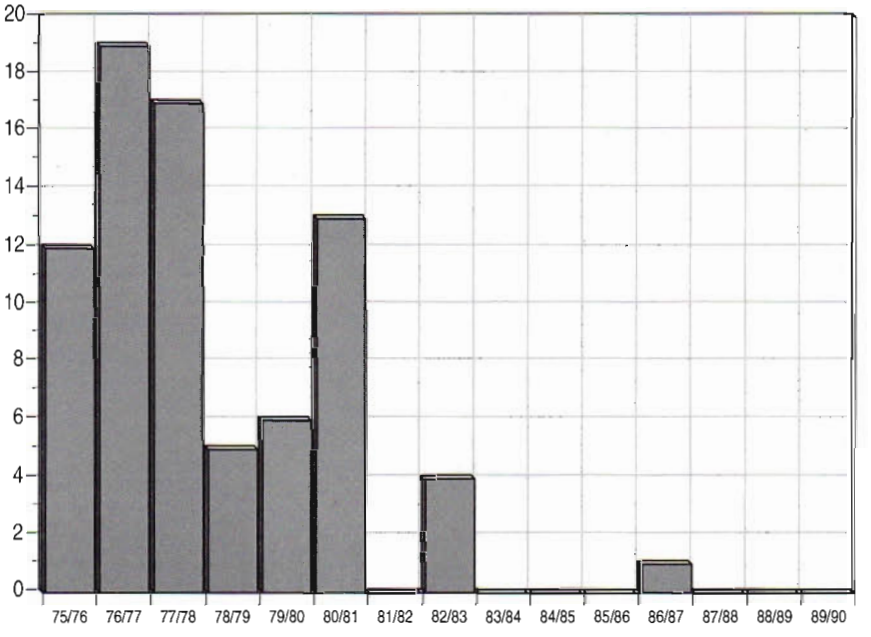
1980s, this species was considered regular but rare in the Umpqua Valleys from September through mid-March, uncommon only during a portion of their dispersal in August, and 1 record existed for June. During the 1990s, cormorants have been more common at all times of the year. Status in June and July is still unclear. Adults have recently been seen in May near several local water bodies, and evidence of breeding should be looked for. With that said, 2 water bodies that have hosted good numbers of the species have recently been drained (Ford's Pond and Evans' Pond). The influence of this change is unknown at this writing.

Four Breeding Bird Survey routes are all or partly within the area under consideration. These are the Umpqua, Days Creek (first third in area), Elkton, and Green routes. These routes began in 1968, 1970, 1972, and 1994 respectively. Analysis and interpretation of BBS data can be quite difficult at times, and has proved to be so for these routes. Some of the changes in bird abundance came at about the same time as a change in observers on some routes, leaving us wondering whether the changes were actually in bird abundance or in observer detection ability. Further, without information on habitat near each point along the route over the past years (up to 30!) we can only guess what factors are correlated with the changes. Both strong increases and decreases in numbers were observed for several species. However, changes in species abundance were sometimes different among routes. Therefore, we mention here only 2 species whose trends were fairly obvious and consistent on the 3 routes that have been run for 15+ years.

• *Chipping Sparrow.* Breeding Bird Survey data indicate a decrease on all routes from the late 60s and early 70s to about 1980, and consistently low numbers since then. Reasons for these changes are not known.

• *Yellow-breasted Chat.* Breeding Bird Survey data indicate a fairly consistent decrease over the past 20-30 years, such that

Figure 2. Maximum number of Lark Sparrows in Parker's yard in winter. None have been observed since winter 1986/87.



East end of North Bank Road, near Glide. Shows blackberry patch, pasture, grass hillsides and woods, and Scott Mtn. in the background to northeast, summer 1991. Photo/Matt Hunter.

numbers recorded in the 1990s were about 30 percent of what were recorded in the 1970s. Reasons for these changes are not known.

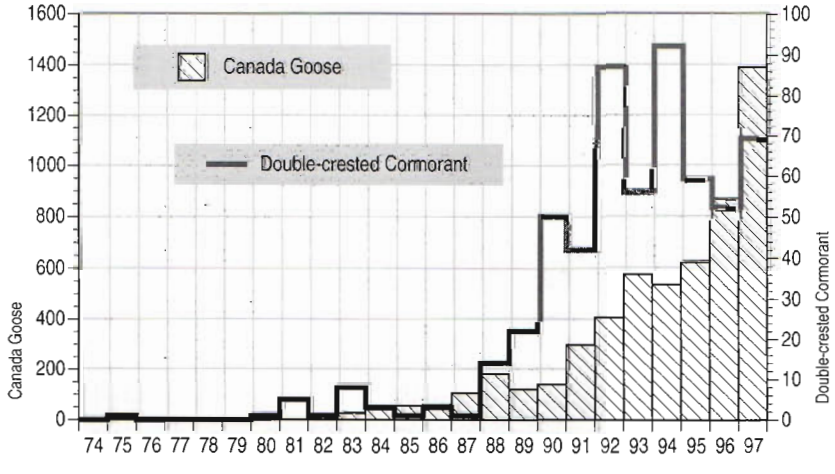
Exploration Possibilities

While we have come a long way in our understanding of bird status and distribution in central Douglas County, we also have formulated many questions. Several species are found regularly in the Valleys, but nesting has not yet been confirmed. Others are a bit more rare, and their status is essentially unknown. Others have not yet been observed, but the reason for the absence of records may simply be the lack of effort. Following are short discussions of these species.

• *White-tailed Kite.* Kites have been suspected of nesting in the Valleys since at least the early 1980s. However, nesting was not confirmed until 12 April 1997 when Wilson observed a kite sitting on a nest in a tall oak near Elkhead Road (NE of Oakland). Young were later observed at this site. Residents of nearby Scotts Valley Road (also NE of Oakland) report that this species is present year-round and nests in the vicinity. Therefore, there may be several additional pairs nesting in the Umpqua Valleys. Special effort should be made to document the breeding status of this species in the valleys.

• *Red-shouldered Hawk.* All but 1 record have been since 1980. Red-shouldered Hawks have been observed every month of the year in central Douglas County, indicating the possibility of nesting birds. While no pairs or nests have been located, no specific search has been made. The Camas Valley area might be a good place to look, since that area is actually part of the Coquille River basin where the species is more common.

Figure 3. Roseburg CBC totals for Canada Goose and Double-crested Cormorant.



• *Lewis' Woodpecker.* While most observations have been during migration periods, at least two were certainly outside the migration period (see checklist) and may indicate breeding birds. Most observations of this species in the valleys have been out North Bank Road (also called the Wilbur-Glide cutoff). Breeding has not been documented for this species and should be looked for.

• *Blue-gray Gnatcatcher.* We have only one report, 22 June 1979, near the rest area at the southern I-5/Winston interchange (Richard Smith, OB 5(5):19), which we have been unable to verify. Note that there are, astonishingly, 2 incorrect reports of this species in *Oregon Birds* field notes: A pair found "in Douglas Co." on 29 March 1982, by Martha Sawyer and Matt Hunter (OB 8(2)), and one 6 June 1982, Sexton Mountain, Martha Sawyer (OB 8(3)). Again, these are incorrect re-

View along North Bank Road, between Wilbur and Glide. Summer 1991. Photo/Matt Hunter.

ports. The source of these errors is unknown. In any case, the patch of *Ceanothus* just north of Myrtle Creek where the California Towhees breed seems like a potential spot for nesting. Hillsides west of I-5 between Riddle and Myrtle Creek, as well as brushy hillsides and clearcuts in the South Umpqua Basin near Tiller may have potential.

• *Plain Titmouse.* Two birds were reportedly seen near Tiller, late summer 1974 (Ken Knittle pers. comm.). One bird was seen along Wood Creek (a tributary of Days Creek) at an unspecified date in 1979 (Kevin Sands). There are 2 other reports that sound most likely to be this species: one bird, date unrecorded in the 1980s, at a feeder in Green (3 miles south of Roseburg), and a flock of about 7, date lost (1980s), at a feeder in Roseburg, across from the home of Alice Parker (*fide* Alice Parker). Small populations may exist in foothills near Green, Myrtle Creek, Tri City, Riddle, Canyonville, Tiller, Azalea, and Glendale. A survey of feeders in winter may turn up this species. Perhaps a note to feeder-watchers in the local newspaper, "News Review", would turn up a report. Calling birds might be detected by bicycle surveys in spring and summer.

• *Black Phoebe.* Most records are in winter and are assumed to have originated from populations south or west of Douglas County. Finding a nest in Douglas County has been hoped for, but never realized. Typical nest placement in southwest Oregon is under cement bridges. As mentioned in the Red-shouldered Hawk discussion, the Middle Fork Coquille River has its headwaters in southwestern Douglas County in the area of Camas Valley. This area may act as a travel way for phoebes from the Coquille Valley where they are more common, and would be a good place to check under small bridges.

• *California Towhee.* As mentioned previously, the distribution of California Towhee seems to be greatly reduced from earlier this century. However, only a small effort has been made to explore uninvestigated parts of the county for these birds. It is possible that small populations exist in the greater Roseburg area, and almost certainly in locations farther south. Habitats to search include extensive brushy hillsides, and diverse, brushy, valley bottoms. While the species is occasionally found in Himalaya blackberry (a common introduced shrub cover), they seem more frequent in more diverse native shrub communities.

• *Lark Sparrow.* As described previously, this species appears to have once been more common in the Umpqua Valleys. However, it is possible that some Lark Sparrows still nest undiscovered in grassy, open slopes with scattered large shrubs and small trees. The mosaic of grasslands and hawthorne species west of Oakland might be a good place to look. Young conifer plantations among otherwise grassy surroundings might also be worth checking. Much of the potential habitat for this species is likely on private land and would take special effort to investigate.

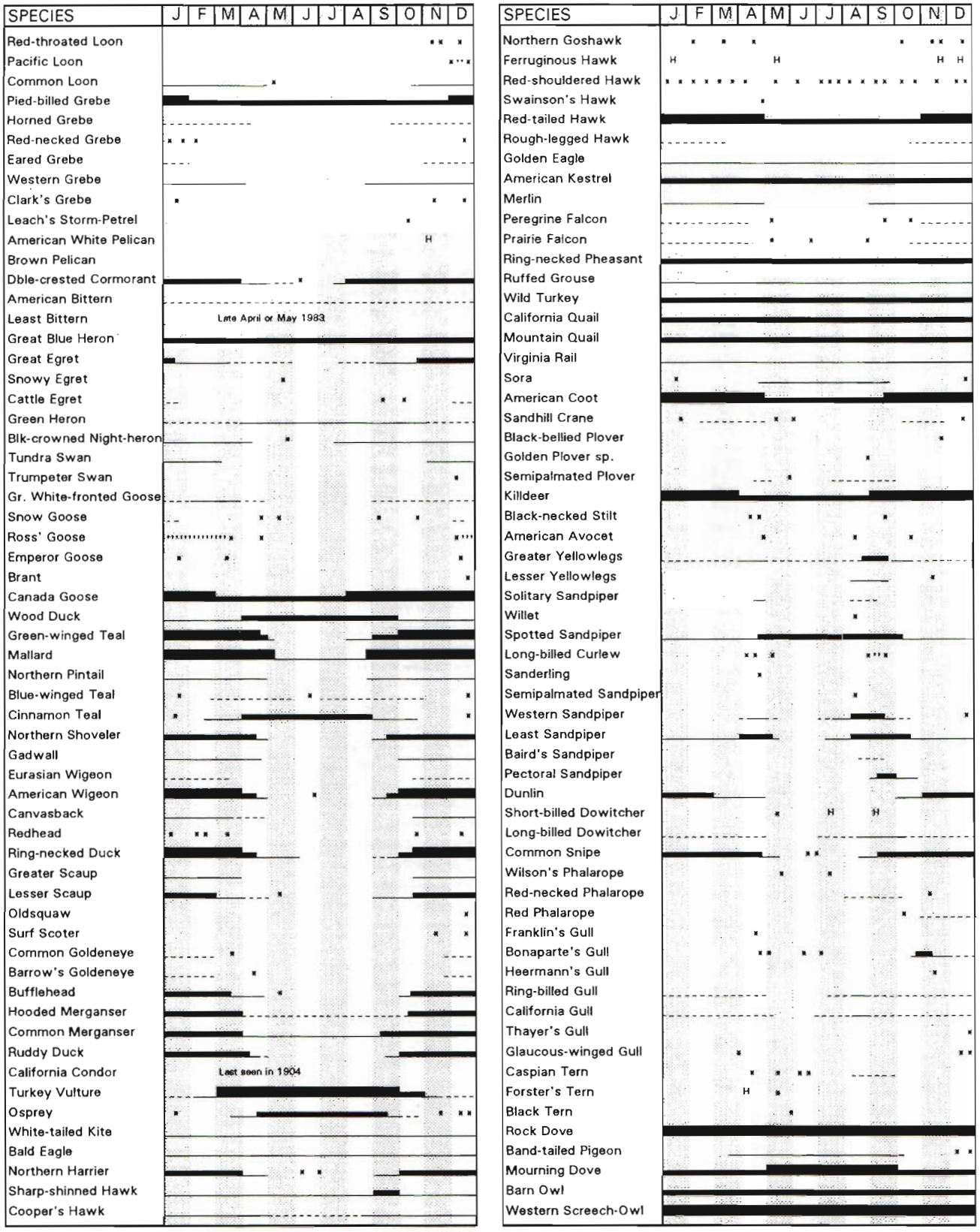
• *Grasshopper Sparrow.* This species has been reported east of Oakland on the Umpqua Breeding Bird Survey route on 8 of the last 31 years: 1969, 1974 (2), 1977, 1979, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1993. All detections were aural (Dan Gleason pers. comm.), which is not surprising as this species is notoriously difficult to see. Oddly enough, none of the local birders have ever repeated these sightings (hearings). However, this is not terribly surprising either since the song of this bird is only a step removed from that of an insect, particularly for those with less-than-acute hearing ability. Investigating the current status of this species in the unique area east of Oakland will require special effort and acute hearing.

• *Flammulated Owl.* No records. Flammulated Owls occur in open oaks and oak-pine forests in northern California. At least 3 summer records exist of Flammulated Owl from the Cascades of Douglas County, and 10+ records for Jackson and Josephine Counties to the south. It is possible that Flammulated

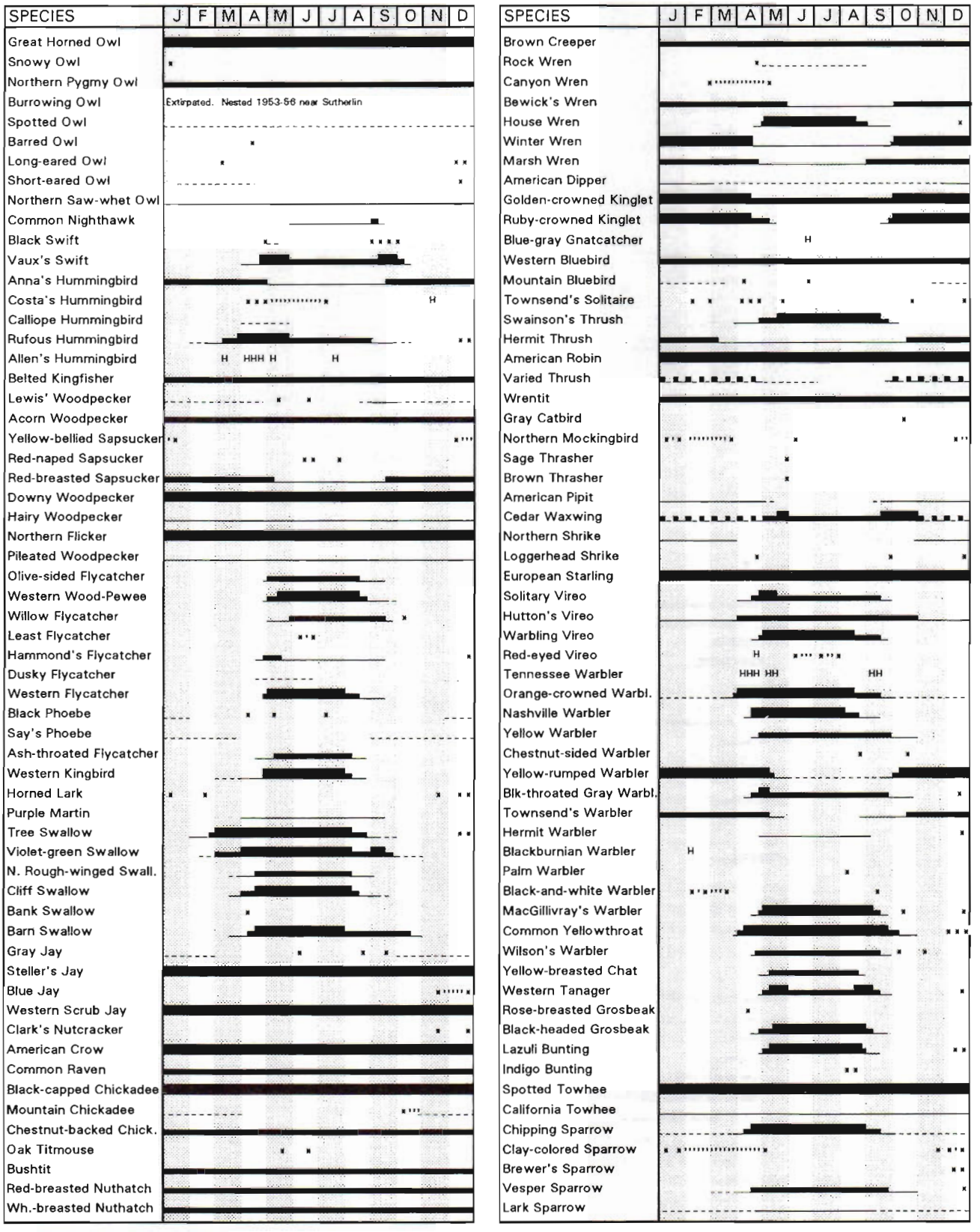
CODE	DEFINITION
▬▬▬	Common to Abundant.
▬▬▬	Uncommon to Fairly Common.
_____	Rare to Very Uncommon.
- - - - - - - - -	Casual. Not seen every year.
▪ ▪ ▪ ▪ ▪ ▪	Yearly fluctuation, in this case from rare to fairly common.
* *·····*	Individual Records of short or long duration respectively.
H	Hypothetical. Reported, but validity not currently determinable.

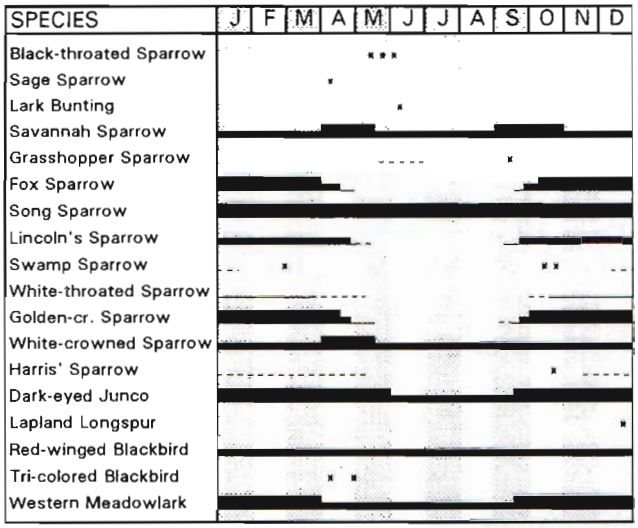
Owls breed in small numbers in oak and mixed evergreen woods in the foothills in and around the Umpqua Valleys. A factor that may limit the presence of this species at low elevations in the Umpqua Valleys is the strong presence of Western Screech-Owl. For this reason it may be best to search for Flammulated Owls at higher elevations (1500-3500 ft. or more). Dry forests and woods with some grassy understory or meadows nearby may be the best locations to look for these owls. Since these owls are cavity nesters, the presence of more mature and old-growth trees and snags would be favorable to their nesting. The best times to look (or listen) for Flammulated Owls are probably late May and all of June.

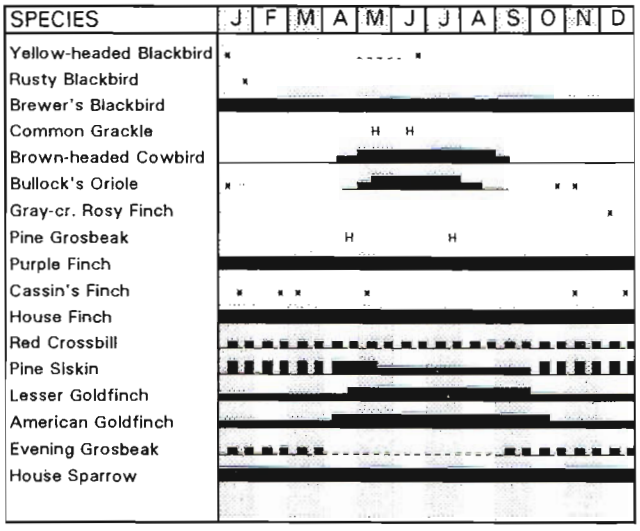
• *Poorwill.* No records.This species is uncommon in foothills of Jackson



County, and there are at least 10 records from the western Oregon Cascades and foothills east and north of the Umpqua Valleys. This species is potentially present on hills within the area under consideration. Likely places to look would be on foothills in habitats composed of incomplete or sparse shrub cover and only sparse grass or forb cover (including recent clearcuts). June and early July would probably be the best times to look for this species. Although they call any time during the night, they very reliably call just as the last evidence of daylight disappears.







Checklist of Birds

This checklist was developed through several years of review by local birders and biologists. It depicts, to the best of our knowledge, the current timing and relative commonness of all bird species known to have occurred in the Umpqua Valleys. The checklist is most representative of the period 1980-1997. However, even over this period some abundances have changed (as mentioned in the text). The letters across the top stand for each month of the year, starting with January. The bar thicknesses give the reader a general idea of the commonness of each species, relative to other species and times of year. Definitions refer to the experience of most observers when in proper habitat. The current depiction is necessarily dependent upon observer coverage in the Umpqua Valleys at different times of year. Some species show more records in mid-December, reflecting the greater coverage during the Christmas Bird Count season (for example, Swamp Sparrow). Increasing coverage will likely fill in knowledge gaps for some of the more unusual species. As in many locations, Douglas County is experiencing an increase in curious field ornithologists. Many new things are bound to be learned in the coming years.

Where to Find Birds

Here we describe several locations that are accessible and support some of the most diverse habitats and richest bird communities in central Douglas County. Figure 4 shows the general location of each site in central Douglas County, and directions are given in the text for each site. We suggest using DeLorme's Oregon Atlas and Gazetteer (DAG) and a Douglas County map at a minimum to explore the area and find your way. In this paper we will abbreviate coordinates in DeLorme's Oregon Atlas and Gazetteer in this form: DAG[page]: [vertical coordinate to tenths]/ [horizontal coordinate to tenths] (Hunter 1995).A map of Douglas County that has city maps with street names on the back may be helpful for some locations. County maps and information on bicycle trails can be obtained from the Roseburg Chamber of Commerce, 900 S.E. Douglas Ave., Roseburg, OR 97470, (541) 672-9731 or (800) 444-9584. County maps may also be available at various mercantiles. Also, Douglas County has a very nice web page with much helpful information including hiking and biking information, agency contacts, and much more (http://www.co.douglas.or.us/default.htm).While we here share some of our favorite spots with you, we also encourage you to take your maps, pioneering spirit, and perhaps one of us, and explore beyond the areas listed here. Enjoy, and let us know what you see!

Plat I Reservoir: (DAG35:A.8/7.0) A 193-acre (at high pool) flood control reservoir. Bordered by blackberry patches, pasture, fields, and willows, and some cattail and canary reedgrass marsh in southeast areas. It is a shallow reservoir (13.5 feet max near dam), and one of the best places in the valleys to find shorebirds. Great Egret, Pied-billed Grebe, puddle and diving ducks, Dunlin, Common Snipe, Belted Kingfisher and Ring-necked Pheasant are regular here in winter. Osprey, Green Heron, Song Sparrow, Common Yellowthroat, Red-winged Blackbird, Western Meadowlark, Marsh Wren, Western Kingbird, and swallows are regular here in spring and summer. It is accessible by vehicle on the north (boat ramp present), west, and south sides. Access is possible by foot to the central southeast area of marsh, brush and woods, but is usually difficult, muddy and wet. Mud edge and flats are usually present on the reservoir from late September to March or April and are viewable from nearly any location. The boat ramp is accessed by a road just north of the dam, off Plat I Rd. A nice walk is from the boat ramp east. You can look for sparrows and warblers, and scope the water and/or mudflats. The shore east of the boat ramp is a good place to find Pectoral Sandpipers. From here continue walking east into fields and brush where shrikes, White-tailed Kite, and Short-eared Owl have been seen (see checklist for season). Lincoln's Sparrow is regular here. Unusual species such as Swamp Sparrow, Grasshopper Sparrow, and Sage Thrasher have also been seen out this way. "Wild" Turkey can sometimes be seen across the road (west side) from the west border of the reservoir. One of the best places to see Purple Martin in the county (late July to late August or early September) is where Plat I Rd. crosses the reservoir's south arm. *How to get there:* From I-5, take Exit 136, head east on Central Avenue through Sutherlin to MP3 (Central Ave. becomes Nonpareil Rd.). A couple hundred feet past MP3, turn right (south) on Plat I Rd; dam is 0.7 miles on left. *More:* A loop can be made by continuing south then east on Plat I Rd. to meet Plat K Rd. Here you can continue north back to Nonpareil on Plat K Rd, or turn S on Plat K Rd. and explore the conifer forests

up Fraser Canyon (be prepared for gravel roads and possible log truck traffic). Kanipe Ranch is to the north; Cooper Creek Reservoir and Ford's Pond to the west.

Mildred Kanipe Memorial Park (Kanipe Ranch): (DAG35: A.2/7.2). OPEN March 15 to October 31. This 1100-acre ranch, bequeathed to Douglas County in 1982 (Beardsley 1982), was opened to the public in summer 1994. An accessible park of this size in western Oregon, including a variety of open and wooded habitat types, is quite unusual. Preparation of the park for visitors and policy for its use will be continuing, so be respectful and courteous. The topography of the park is generally rolling hills, and contains about 450 acres of pasture, 650 acres of woods with meadows (mostly oak, some conifer), a couple of intermittent streams with sparse patches of riparian habitat, and a small pond. Birds found here include Western Bluebird, Chipping Sparrow, Lazuli Bunting, White-breasted Nuthatch, Pileated Woodpecker, Bullock's Oriole, Solitary Vireo, Western Tanager, and Western Meadowlark. A pair of Red-eyed Vireos was located along the oak riparian area here in summer 1994 (Bob Straub, pers. comm.). There are several old ranching roads that go through the main parts of the park. These are easily walked, helping you to get through some areas of poison oak. Observe any signs or instructions that may have appeared since this writing. *How to Get There:* From I-5, exit to Oakland. From Hwy 99 at the historical town of Oakland, take Driver Valley Rd. (Rt. 22) to the northeast. About 4.5 miles from Hwy 99, take Elkhead Rd. (Rt. 50) to the north. About 2.5 miles north, on the left, will be a road leading to the parking area. *More:* Plat I Reservoir is nearby, as is Cooper Creek Reservoir and Ford's Pond. A good loop is to continue east out Driver Valley Road, which turns back southwest to come out not far from Plat K Rd.

Cooper Creek Reservoir: (DAG35: B.0/6.9) A rather large, 160-acre, sinuous reservoir, set in forested, steep terrain; fairly deep most of its length (up to 70 ft). The primary attraction is the southeastern tip where a variety of puddle and diving ducks winter. The marshy area at this end is also one of the best places to find Virginia Rails and large groups of snipe in winter. A few Barrow's Goldeneye formerly wintered in one or more of the inlets on the southwest side of the reservoir (visible only with scope from limited locations along the road along the northeast side, or bring your boat) but have not been observed in recent years. Some ducks from the flock at the southeastern tip travel to Plat I Reservoir when disturbed, and vice versa. Forest birds nearby in summer include Black-throated Gray Warbler, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Western Flycatcher, and Western Tanager. Wilson has been successful at getting

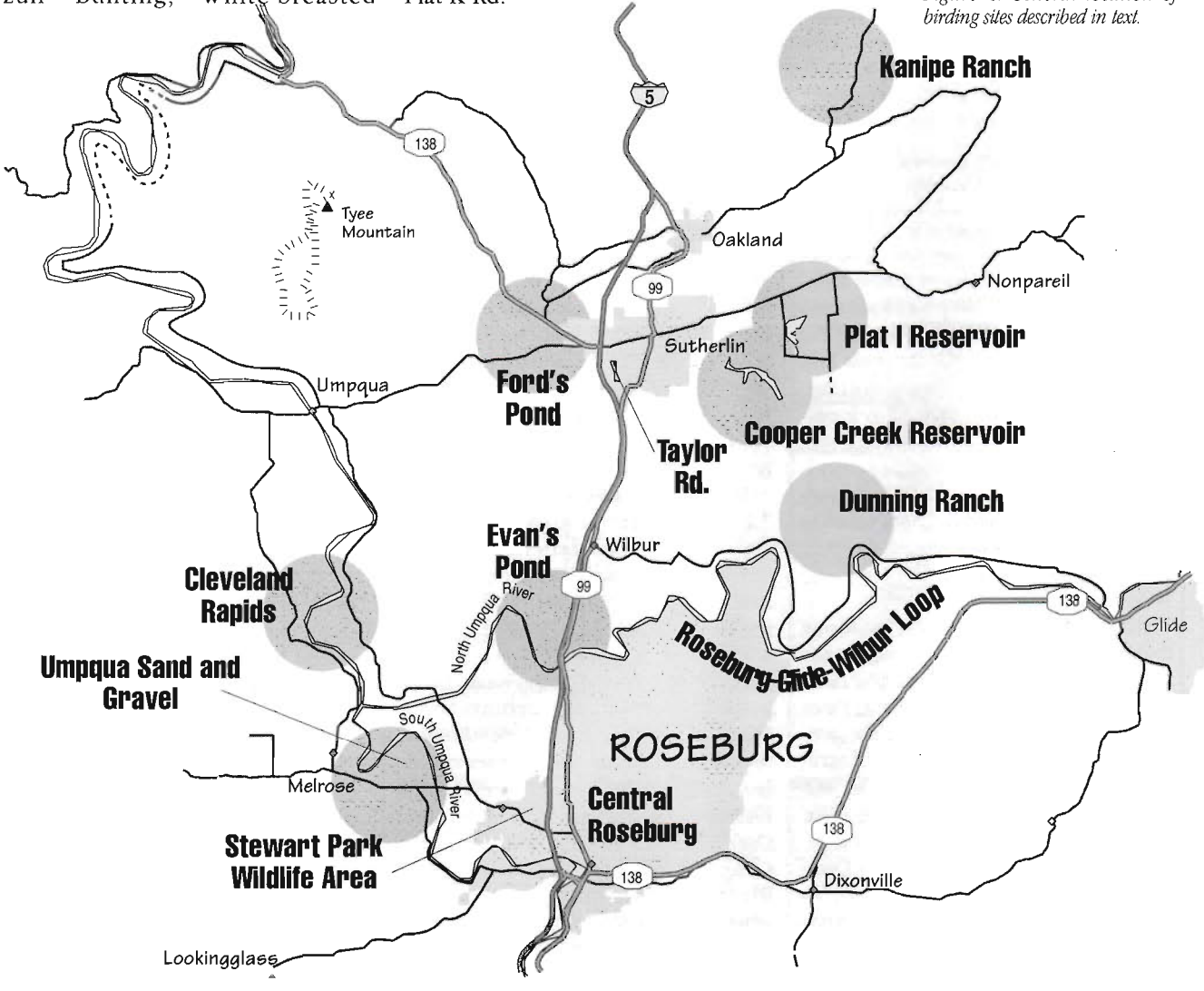


Figure 4. General location of birding sites described in text.

responses from a variety of owl species along the road: Northern Pygmy-Owl, Saw-whet Owl, Great Horned Owl, Spotted Owl, Long-eared Owl. The lower section of South Side Rd. on the way to the reservoir has open fields on either side, bordered by taller trees and snags. Rock Dove, American Pipit, and Savannah Sparrow are often found here in winter, and appear to provide food for occasional Peregrine Falcons, Prairie Falcons, American Kestrel and Merlin. All have been seen here, both perched and foraging. *How to get there:* From I-5, take Exit 136 and go east 3.3 miles on Central Avenue through Sutherlin (Central Ave. becomes Nonpareil Rd.); right on South Side Rd. for 0.9 miles; left on Cooper Creek Rd. Keep left to go to the southern tip; other paved roads along the way lead to boat ramps and picnic areas. *More:* Come back to South Side Road and turn left, continuing on a loop through woods and fields back to Central Avenue in Sutherlin (about 1.6 miles). At the city limits, the road name changes to Waite Rd., with which name it is signed at its junction with Central Avenue. Other places nearby are Plat I Reservoir and Ford's Pond described elsewhere.

Ford's Pond: (DAG35:A.9/6.1). Ford's Pond was formerly a 130-acre, old log pond surrounded by pastures, fields, and some woods, used mainly by leisure fisherfolk and wintering waterfowl. At the time of this writing Ford's Pond has been drained and is being developed into a housing area. The final status of habitat and access is unknown. It is possible that the pond might be refilled to add to the attractiveness of the housing area. The following account gives some idea of the former, current and possible future status. Puddle ducks, diving ducks, and a few Double-crested Cormorants were typically found here in fall through early spring. Also present in season were a few grebes and an occasional loon. In winter months the brush edges harbored flocks of sparrows. Osprey breed nearby and may still forage here if the pond is refilled and fish introduced. Ford's Pond is the location of the only Heermann's Gull, Black Tern, and Willett observations for the Umpqua Valleys. When the pond was drained the mud and small puddles became attractive to shorebirds. Former access was typically at the dike on the north end, along Hwy 138, or on the east side along Church Rd. These locations may still be accessible, while foot travel around the reservoir is likely restricted at this point. In any case, a scope is a necessity, as birds are often far on the south half of this large pond. A small (3 acre) cattail marsh and water or mud is located on the east side of Church Rd. just south of its junction with Hwy 138. Affectionately called "The Puddle," this area formerly had Virginia Rail and Sora in season. We are unsure how this area might be affected by the nearby development. *How to get there:* From I-5, take Exit 136; head W on Hwy 138 1.5 miles; Church Rd. and the dike will be on your left. *More:* A 37 mile loop can be made by taking Ft. McKay Rd. (good for hawks) to the west from the south end of Church Rd.; about 4.2 miles west on Ft. McKay Rd., (about a mile before you cross the Umpqua River), Tyee Rd. will go to the right (north). Tyee Rd. winds along the main Umpqua River for about 22.2 miles. Some Hooded Merganser, Common Merganser, Mallard, scaup species, Bald Eagle, and sparrows winter along this route. Tyee Rd. hits Hwy 138 where you can turn right (southeast) back to Ford's Pond and Sutherlin, a last leg of almost 9 or 10 miles. Also see Taylor Road below.

Taylor Road: (DAG35:A.9/6.4) Only a minute off I-5 this can be a productive stop, especially in winter. After an initial swath of hawthorn saplings on both sides of this approximately one-mile road, the left (west) side opens up into a 55-acre field which formerly was the site of the Sutherlin airport. Look for geese, pheasant, California Quail and Northern Shrike. To the right (east) look for waterfowl in the canal and in standing water near the south end. Red-shouldered Hawk has been found in trees to the right (east), and Wrentit, Bewick's Wren, and flocks of sparrows, including White-throated, have been found in the blackberries and willows along the fenceline. White-tailed Kite can sometimes be found at the north end of Taylor Rd., nearer the residences. The road turns to dirt just south of the residences. We recommend that you turn around on the gravel portion of the road and go out the same way you came in, particularly in winter. The area of the former airport is industrially zoned and for sale, and it may undergo major changes in the near future. *How to get there:* Take Exit 135 off I-5. If southbound on I-5, cross over to the east side of the freeway, pass up the onramp to I-5 northbound, and turn left at Comstock. If exiting from north-bound I-5, jog right and then left onto Comstock. At 0.1 mi. north on Comstock, turn right on Taylor Rd. *More:* See Ford's Pond, Evans' Pond, Cooper Creek, Plat I Reservoir.

Evans' Pond: (DAG35:B.6/6.2) Formerly a little-used log pond, this pond is similar in size and character to Ford's Pond and seems to be suffering a similar fate; at least it is being drained. Cormorants, coots, grebes, goldeneye, and occasionally terns and loons enjoyed this pond in season. Flocks of sparrows are often found along the dike in winter. Harris' Sparrow and Black Phoebe have been found near the west end of the dike. All 4 regular falcon species have been recorded in the large fields and surrounding tree perches north of the dike. Shorebirds have enjoyed the mud produced from draining the pond. *How to get there:* Evan's Pond can be reached by exiting at Winchester (Exit 129), then going north on Hwy 99 about 1.1 miles, then taking a left on an unmarked gravel road just before the railroad tracks to go west under I-5, then south along the west side of I-5. Park at the end of the road, just behind the highway weighing station and walk along the dike to view birds on the pond, in the fields, and in the brush. The pond can also be scoped from the weighing station on southbound I-5. *More:* Continue north on Hwy 99 to North Bank Rd. beginning in Wilbur (see paragraph on Roseburg-Glide-Wilbur Loop).

Central Roseburg: (DAG35:C.3/6.2) This section describes a series of sites: (1) Laurelwood Park, (2) the South Umpqua River and Elk Island, and (3) a portion of Roseburg's bike paths along the South Umpqua River.

(1) There is a small section of Roseburg called Laurelwood accessed only by Madrone St. (see "How to Get There" below). This neighborhood, and the small park in the center, is home to numerous Anna's Hummingbirds (especially in winter), and

Acorn Woodpeckers all year round. Bullock's Orioles, Black-capped Chickadee and White-breasted Nuthatch can also be found here. As you drive into Laurelwood via Madrone St., the park will be on your left in about 2 blocks.

(2) Park your car along the street near the park, and walk back out to Harvard Blvd., (the street from which you turned onto Madrone). Turn left (east) toward the river. Note that at the river, Harvard Blvd. splits into Washington St. (west-bound bridge) and Oak St. (east-bound bridge). When the river level is low (usually summer and early fall), birding directly along the river is possible, and sometimes Elk Island (just north of Washington St. Bridge) is accessible. The river can be accessed by walking down between the 2 one-way bridges. Walk down between the W ends of the bridges and go left (north) along the river. There are several sand and gravel roads that wind for short distances through the willows. It is the west channel around Elk Island that is shallow and often allows access to the Island. Bird the brush and trees on the river bank and the rocks and patches of brush in the dry part of the river channel (summer), as well as the shoreline. This area is very entertaining during late summer dispersal and fall migration, especially if Elk Island is accessible. All types of landbirds and waterbirds can be seen here. Belted Kingfisher, Bullock's Oriole, Yellow-breasted Chat, Yellow Warbler, Black-headed Grosbeak, Lesser and American Goldfinch and Lazuli Bunting are regular. On 1 August 1992 a male Indigo Bunting was found here. When birding along the river and on Elk Island I recommend birding with someone, as human transients are also frequent here.

(3) You can cross the Washington St. Bridge (or Oak St. Bridge) to the east side of the South Umpqua River. The bridges offer a great vantage point for scanning the river for ducks and herons, and to catch waterbirds migrating up or down the river. On the east side of the river, walk down below the bridge to find the bike path. Walk north on the bike path. The path first travels for a hundred yards or so on Douglas Avenue (which goes northeast then turns 90° to southeast. Before you cross the railroad tracks the bike path will take off to the left (northeast) parallel to the railroad tracks and along a few houses. The path soon leaves the houses behind and passes through weedy fields, brush, and young and old riparian habitat adjacent to the South Umpqua River. Lesser Goldfinches are often found in the weedy fields along the path, and Black-headed Grosbeaks, Bullock's Orioles, Western Wood-Pewees, and Western Flycatchers are regular in the wooded riparian area along the river. The path eventually comes back out in the open and passes next to some baseball fields (Gaddis Park) before passing under I-5. If you want to complete a loop back to Laurelwood, take a left (south) on the bike path, crossing the river under the interstate. On the south side, take a left (east). The path turns south-southeast on the east side of I-5, passes next to Roseburg High School, and merges again with city streets. Walk out to Harvard Blvd. and left (east) to Madrone, and left (north) into Laurelwood. The entire loop on the bike path is about 2 miles. Alternatively, on the north side of the river you can continue on the bike path west of I-5 to Riverfront Park. The oak woods and riparian area are visited by warblers, flycatchers, and vireos in migration, and hosted a Black-and-White Warbler in late winter 1996. *How to Get There:* To get to Madrone St. and Laurelwood Park, from I-5 take exit 124 and go east just a couple hundred yards from I-5 and take a left at the second light (Madrone St.). Laurelwood Park forms the second block in on Madrone St. Alternatively, Riverfront Park can be reached from the same exit (124) by driving west on Harvard Avenue for approximately 1/2 mile. Turn right on Stewart Park Drive and proceed north for approximately 0.3 mile, crossing the South Umpqua River, to the south entrance to the VA Hospital. Turn left before entering the VA grounds and park along the road shoulder. Walk on the paved path to the east, back towards I-5. *More:* At Riverfront Park the bike path continues west along the north side of the river for another mile or so. There is also a connecting path to Stewart Park Wildlife Area along this segment. The bike path goes through some woodlands, open area, and golf course, and Stewart Park.

Stewart Park Wildlife Area: (DAG35:C.2/6.1) This is a small reserve of wetland, fields, young woods, and an open-water duck pond in the city of Roseburg. The duck pond is adjacent to the dead-end entrance road and is completely visible. A few individuals of several species of puddle and diving ducks can be found on this pond during migration and winter. Great Blue Herons also frequent here, as do Green Herons in season. There is usually quite a flock of domestic ducks, which are both dropped off by those who don't want them, and fed by those who enjoy them. A nature trail begins just to the north of the pond, and leads through a small slough, young woods, and brushy and weedy areas. The trail is sometimes muddy during rainy seasons. An area of tall shrubs and a grassy area just south of the pond, viewed by walking south along a bike path, is a good area to check for sparrows and other migrant passerines. Common Yellowthroat, Song Sparrow, Black-capped Chickadee, and both goldfinches can be found here. For more information, see Jones and Gordon (1979). A new wetland mitigation area just south of the main pond is already beginning to attract a variety of waterfowl. *How to get there:* Take Exit 125 and go west on Garden Valley Rd. for about 0.3 miles to a lighted intersection just past the Fred Meyer (located on the left, S, side). Turn left at this intersection and drive straight back (south-southwest) about 100 yds to the parking area adjacent to the small pond. *More:* If driving, several other areas described in this article are nearby and worth visiting. A bike path leads south from the parking lot through a golf course and eventually connects with a path along the river, as described in the Central Roseburg paragraph.

Roseburg-Glide-Wilbur Loop: The route goes through some large grass fields, lowland pastures, dry oak and mixed woods, and visits a few areas of open water. This is a good route for raptors in winter, and the Glide to Wilbur section is one of the areas where Lewis' Woodpeckers are most frequently seen. The route is also good for open-area breeding birds such as Western Kingbird, Western Bluebird, Vesper Sparrow, and American Goldfinch. From Roseburg, take Diamond

Lake Blvd. (Hwy 138) east towards Glide. At 0.3 mile past MP11, a 3-acre private pond, dubbed Cow Pie Pond, can be viewed from the road. Teal of various species can be viewed here in season, and the pond sometimes has small numbers of shorebirds in season. This is the location of the only Semipalmated Sandpiper record for the Umpqua Valleys. Continuing northeast on Hwy 138, at MP11.8 Whistler's Bend Park Rd. takes off to the left (northeast) before a mercantile. Drive 2.6 miles out Whistler's Bend Park Rd. and take a left on South Bank Rd. About 0.5 miles down South Bank Rd. on the left is a pond that usually has several species of diving and dabbling ducks in winter. Continuing down Whistler's Bend Park Rd. another 0.15 miles brings you to the gate at Whistler's Bend Park, giving access to a broad, flat bend in the North Umpqua River. Common Merganser, Mallard, Spotted Sandpiper, and Great Blue Heron are regulars here. Make your way back out to Hwy 138, and continue east to North Bank Rd., at MP 14.8. Take a left (north) here. You can stop anywhere that looks interesting (where it is safe) along this route to Wilbur. Look around the pastures and fields for hawks in winter, and Western Kingbirds in summer. The central portion of this section goes through a mosaic of fields and oak woods, and in some cases approaches an oak savannah. This habitat is some of the best area to look for the rare Lewis' Woodpecker, and the uncommon Ash-throated Flycatcher. Golden and Bald Eagles can sometimes be seen on this route soaring over the nearby hills. There are also several elevated vantage points from which to view the North Umpqua River. This route can just as well be done in the reverse order. *More:* The Dunning Ranch, described next, is accessed along this route (see below). Once you reach Wilbur, you can continue south on Hwy 99 to Evan's Pond, or go north to visit Ford's Pond, Cooper Creek Res., or Plat I Reservoir.

Dunning Ranch: (DAG35:B.4/7.2). This 6,581-acre ranch was obtained by the Bureau of Land Management through a land exchange in May 1994, and designated the "North Bank Habitat Management Area". The primary interest in obtaining the land was the presence of an endangered animal, the White-tailed Deer, and several species of plants that may be listed in the future. The area extends over three miles north from North Bank Road and is over three miles wide. The area contains a mixture of grassy hillslopes, oak woods, and mixed woods consisting of white oak, Douglas-fir, Pacific madrone and bigleaf maple. Poison oak is also widespread in the area. Several small creeks are present. Motor vehicles are not allowed. Walking and hiking is probably best along old roads as much of the area is somewhat steep. Hunting is allowed, so be alert during hunting seasons. There are good numbers of "Wild" Turkey, Western Screech-Owl, Acorn Woodpecker, Western Tanager, Hutton's Vireo, Brown Creeper, and Western Meadowlark. Very little birding has been done in this area, so many other upland and forest species are likely to be found here. As with the Kanipe Ranch, accessible land such as this in southwest Oregon lowland foothills is rare indeed. The size of this area makes it feasible for multi-day backpacking. The attractiveness of the site was mentioned by Kruse to William Sullivan and ended up as the first area described in Sullivan's new book, "100 Hikes of Southern Oregon". *How to get there:* The best access is along North Bank Road (see the Roseburg-Glide-Wilbur Loop discussion). Five gates are present along the road that provide access to the area: mileages from Wilbur are 5.2, 10.4 12.0, 12.1, and 12.2. Additional information and maps can be obtained from the Bureau of Land Man-

agement office in Roseburg, 777 NW Garden Valley Rd., Roseburg, OR 97470, (541) 440-4930.

Umpqua Sand and Gravel: (DAG35: C.0/5.6) NEED TO ASK PERMISSION. Call (541) 673-1088. Gate is usually open 8:00 am - 5:00 pm Monday through Friday and 8:00 am - noon Saturday. You may also drive in and inquire at the office during open hours. If gate is closed, it is about a half-mile walk in. Whether you drive or walk in, always notify the office of your presence before walking out near the ponds and river. The sand and gravel area proper is a group of 3 or more ponds situated a couple hundred yards from the South Umpqua River. Fields, crops, and orchards form the southern border. The ponds have varied depths, being very good for all species of both puddle and diving ducks in season. There probably is no greater concentration of numbers and species of waterfowl anywhere else in the Valleys. Superb patches of "kack" (generally wet areas with rank weeds, briars or willows; see Irons and Fix 1990) are adjacent to the roads and ponds, as well as significant areas of more homogenous blackberry, willow, and cattail marsh. These areas harbor numerous sparrows and a few Marsh Wrens. Single Swamp Sparrows were found here during each Christmas Bird Count conducted by the senior author (1991, 1992, 1996), and Orange-crowned Warblers during two of the three (one in 1991, two in 1996). Dirt roads (often muddy) lead between and around most of the ponds, near the river, and through a patch of woods. Black-crowned Night-Heron have occasionally been seen along the river. Wrentit are often heard singing in the shrubs under the tall cottonwoods between the ponds and the river. *How to get there:* From I-5, take Exit 125, head W on Garden Valley Rd. 2.0 miles; W on Melrose Rd. (Rt. 167) 1.1 miles; N on Shady Rd. 0.3 miles to gate. Remember: call first or inquire at the office during work hours. *More:* During winter you may not have time to go elsewhere because the area has so much to offer, but you can continue west on Melrose Rd. to Melrose, go right (north) on Melqua Rd. through mixed woods and some fields to Hubbard Cr. Rd., then right (east) through the area of Umpqua and either right (south) on Garden Valley Rd. or straight (east) on Ft. McKay Rd. (Umpqua-Sutherlin Rd in DAG) to Sutherlin. Alternatively, you could backtrack on Melrose Rd. to Garden Valley Rd. and go left (north) to Umpqua this way. Cleveland Rapids Park, described below, is accessed on this route.

Cleveland Rapids park: (DAG35: B.6/5.3). This Douglas County park on the main stem Umpqua River features approximately one half mile of river frontage and its accompanying riparian zone. Extensive stands of maple, cottonwood, and an understory of willows and blackberries play host to many birds throughout the year. From the parking area at a boat launch one can walk south along the edge of the trees for about a quarter mile. The river is accessible at two additional points on this walk. Bird the trees and undergrowth as well as the fields of scotchbroom and blackberries. All types of landbirds can be seen along here. Yellow-breasted Chat, Yellow Warbler, Black-headed Grosbeak, Lesser and American Goldfinch, Lazuli Bunting, and Willow Flycatcher are regular during the breeding season. Walking north from the boat launch takes you to an area of thicker undergrowth with most of the same species as the southward trip. At the eastward bend in the road that takes you back to Garden Valley road, be sure to check the blackberry and willow patches for resident Wrentits and summertime Willow Flycatchers. Be sure to check the river for Spotted Sandpiper, Great Blue Heron, Osprey, 5 species of swallows (Barn, Cliff, Violet-green, Tree, Rough-winged), Common Merganser, and Belted Kingfisher. *How To Get There*: Cleveland Rapids park can be reached by exiting I-5 at Garden Valley (Exit 125), and then following Garden Valley Road north and west for 8.1 miles to Cleveland Rapids Road. Turn left on Cleveland Rapids Road for another 1.2 miles to the park and river on the left. *More*: Two other parks, River Forks and Singleton Parks, are worth brief stops, especially in winter. These parks are on opposite sides of the North Umpqua River from each other, at its confluence with the South Umpqua River. Winter flocks of passerines are often found in the woods and brush along the river, and river birds include Common Merganser, Belted Kingfisher, and Double-crested Cormorant.

Areas Lacking Ornithological Coverage in Douglas County

It is apparent from Figure 1 that while the Sawyer and Hunter (1988), Fix and Sawyer (1991), and this paper cover some very different parts of the county, complete coverage of the county was not attained by these 3 articles. The coverage so far most accurately reflects 3 centers of birding activity in Douglas County: (1) the ocean, estuaries, shores, coastal rivers, and adjacent habitats; (2) the Diamond Lake Ranger District at the east edge of the county; and (3) the lowland valleys, woods, and waters of central Douglas County. The more rugged regions of the county, including much of the Coast Range, southern Douglas County, and the western foothills of the Cascades are not directly treated by any of the three articles. Although a few folks have spent some time in these areas, these regions are relatively unfamiliar to most modern field ornithologists. They have high potential for many interesting ornithological discoveries.

Some of the species mentioned in "Exploration Possibilities" actually have a better chance of being observed not in the valleys, but in the unexplored foothills: in particular, Poorwill and Flammulated Owl. Prime habitat in which to look for Poorwill would be where shrub cover is between 5 and 30 percent, and grass/forb cover is thin enough or patchy enough to allow noticeable bare ground. Large clearcut areas exhibiting approximately these characteristics on private or BLM land would be likely sites to check. A good place to start looking for Flammulated Owl might be in forests near some of the "meadows" and "prairies" named on DeLorme's Oregon Atlas and Gazetteer on page 28, and other open areas or open forests in that area. There is currently only one record of Canyon Wren from the valleys: February through at least 5 May 1985, at a rocky cliff area at the west edge of the Umpqua Valleys, in the east slope of the Callahan Mts., east Coast Range (Maertz). It is unlikely that there is more habitat for this species within the valleys. However, the east Coast

Range as well as the western Cascade foothills are fairly rocky in Douglas County. It is likely that there are more of this species in isolated rocky cliff areas east, south, and west of the valleys. The west side of Scott Mtn. (DAG35:B.1/8.5) has high potential. Populations of California Towhee, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, and Plain Titmouse, if they exist, may also extend some distance into the foothills. In addition, these areas likely have high populations of many shrub-loving species such as Mountain Quail, Nashville Warbler, and hummingbird species.

At higher elevations in southern Douglas County, more typical "mountain" species may be present. Fox Sparrows breed on King Mountain, which is located 1 mile south of the junction of Douglas, Josephine, and Jackson Counties. Suitable habitat may also be present on Quartzmill Peak and Green Mountain a few miles to the north and northeast in Douglas County. Dusky Flycatchers and Green-tailed Towhees should also be looked for here, as they are often in habitat occupied by breeding Fox Sparrows. Townsend's Solitaire and Mountain Bluebird might be present in small numbers as well. Look also for potential sites to observe and monitor raptor migration. Steve Hoffman of Hawkwatch International considers sites displaying rates of 4 or more raptors per hour to be worth monitoring in the Pacific Northwest (pers. comm.).

Many of the lower elevation foothills within the valley area are privately owned, requiring permission for access. However, some of the more moderate elevation, rugged terrain surrounding the valleys is managed by the BLM (Bureau of Land Management), although private land is prominent at these elevations as well. The U.S. Forest Service manages land farther east and southeast of the Umpqua Valleys. To explore these areas it will be necessary to obtain good maps to navigate these hills. Contact the Roseburg BLM, 777 NW Garden Valley Rd., Roseburg, OR 97470, (541) 440-4930, and the Umpqua National Forest, P.O. Box 1008, 2900 NW Stewart Parkway, Roseburg, OR 97470, (541) 672-6601 for maps of these federally managed lands. Ask for detailed maps with topographic lines on them and recent road numbers.

Keep good notes wherever you go, as many others will be interested in what you find. Please send notes from any time spent in Douglas County to the senior author or to the Umpqua Valley Bird Club, c/o Ron Maertz, 257 Brown St., Glide, OR 97443. Of particular interest would be anything regarding any of the species listed under "Exploration Possibilities", any species listed as casual or not listed at all on the accompanying checklist, and any notes on explorations in areas of Douglas County not directly covered by the three articles. Alternatively, we encourage folks more familiar with locations not covered by the three papers to publish their experiences and observations.

Acknowledgments

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