

Oregon: Mountain Peaks to Pacific Beaches Species List | July 25-Aug. 01, 2026 with Naturalist Journeys



Compiled by guide Christian Newton with local guide David Jaffre. Our clients included Jimmy, Jim III, Susan, Terry, Patti, Lynn, Estelle, John, Melissa, Eileen and Karen.

We started on June 25th arriving at Portland Airport to clear skies and warm temp. Singing Lesser Goldfinch let us know we are in the West. We had a little prebirding going to Chinook Landing Marine Park and then a quick lunch. With everyone gathered we headed East to Wildwood Recreation Site. Picking up our first of many Chestnut-backed Chickadee. We headed East again to Timberline Lodge. Mount Hood towered over the lodge with a little bit of cloud cover, but that did burn off and gave us beautiful looks the next couple of days. We birded Salmon Creek, Trillium Lake (amazing reflection of Mount Hood), and the best being a mile high ride on the Ski Lift that took us to 7,200'. Horned Larks and Ravens were the main birds up here. We hiked down and enjoyed Townsends Chipmunk, Yellow-bellied Marmots, and Golden Mantled Ground-Squirrels. On the 27th we made our journey West going through Willamette Valley, staying two nights in Corvallis. We visited: Oregon trail Museum, Willamette Falls, Baskett Slough NWR, Finley NWR, Ankeny NWR. Picking up California Quail, Cinnamon Teal, Bald Eagle, Western Flycatcher and several small flocks of Red Crossbill. On the 29th we left the valley continuing West stopping at Mary Peak where Sooty grouse flushed from the road and family of Mountain quail ran across the road. A quick stop at Harris Covered Bridge and then lunch in Newport. Yaquina Bay Light House the next stop, where several thousand Common Murres were nesting. Harbor Seal loafed along the beach. We headed North to Garibaldi running along the coast. Next two days we stayed in Garibaldi and visited: Lewis and Clark NHP, Nehalem Bay SP (Snowy Plover), Haystack Rock (Tufted Puffins), Ecola SP (Pacific Loon, Pigeon Guillemot, Steller's Sealion on the base of Tillamook Lighthouse), Klookchy Creek County Park, Tillamook Bay. Last minute Glaucous Gull at the Garibaldi Harbor was a nice send off as we headed back to Portland airport.

BIRDS 121 species were recorded, of which 5 were heard only. Details are included below.

The eBird link below details the 121 species of birds our group observed during the tour. If you're new to eBird be sure to click "Show All Details" on the right side of the list to expand the report and reveal where and when each of the birds were seen and how many.

[Oregon: Mountain Peaks to Pacific Beaches | July 25-Aug. 01, 2026 | eBird Trip Report](#)

Following is a list of the mammal's, butterfly's, tree's we were fortunate to observe during the trip.

Common Name *species name* – observation

MAMMALS (9):

Roosevelt Elk *Cervus canadensis* (Largest of the Elks, also known as Olympic Elk. Can be seen in many locations in Northwest Oregon. We saw two cows and their calves outside of Ecola SP).

Western Gray Squirrel *Sciurus griseus* (Not nearly as common as the Eastern. A couple seen while we made our way through Willamette Valley. One seen along the coast.)

Douglas's Squirrel *Tamiasciurus douglasii* (Heard several throughout the Mount Hood region and around Mary's Peak. Similar to Red Squirrel, but darker fur, call isn't as fast as a Red Squirrel.)

Townsend's Chipmunk *Tamias townsendii* (Seen throughout Western Oregon. Very common in conifers)

Brush Rabbit *Sylvilagus bachmani* (Saw one, very exciting. Smaller bunny, pale inside ears. Seen on road up to Mary's Peak.)

Eastern Cottontail *Sylvilagus floridanus* (Saw a few around the Corvallis area. Loose population around Willamette Valley area)

Harbor Seal *Phoca vitulina* (Loafing along the beach at Yaquina Light House)

Steller Sea Lion *Eumetopias jubatus* (Large and brown resting along the Tillamook Lighthouse, scope views only from Ecola SP)

Nutria *Myocastor coypus*- (Large aquatic rodent, introduced. Seen at Ankeny NWR, mama and youngster.)

Butterflies (3):

Painted Lady *Vanessa cardui*- (Seen dancing around the rocks, coming down Mount Hood. About 6,500 ft.

Western Tiger Swallowtail *Papilio rutulus* (Seen a few places in the Willamette Valley, large yellow and black butterfly)

Woodland Skipper *Ochlodes sylvanoides* (Common skipper around Mount Hood. Saw only one as we were walking down the mountain.)

Trees (7):

Douglas Fir *Pseudotsuga menziesii*: Oregon's state tree, all over. Massive trees when in Old Growth.

Western Red Cedar *Thuja plicata*: Seen throughout the Old Growth forests.

Western Hemlock *Tsuga heterophylla*: Likes moist, dense forest. Generally Old Growth and 2nd year growth. Can get towering trees.

Sitka Spruce *Picea sitchensis*: (Generally found along the coast, seen at Ecola SP and Lewis and Clark NP.)

Vine Maple *Acer circinatum* (Found throughout the forests, generally lower canopy tree).

Bigleaf Maple *Acer macrophyllum*:)Large leaves, can get towering trees, mixed in with the conifers.)

Pacific Madrone *Arbutus menziesii*: (smooth, red bark; found a tree at Finley NWR.)