

Oregon's Cascades Mountain Lodges | Species List

July 8 – 18, 2023 | with Naturalist Journeys



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Compiled by Steve Shunk

TOUR SUMMARY

Oregon's magnificent Cascade Mountains can be experienced in myriad ways. We explored the expansive forests around 11 different volcanoes—each over 8,000 feet—by basing ourselves at three magnificent lodges: Crater Lake Lodge, Suttle Lodge, and Timberline Lodge. We saw glaciers flowing from the summit of Mt. Hood—Oregon's highest—and we stood at the rim of the caldera that holds Crater Lake—the world's eighth deepest. We found nearly 100 bird species that breed in the diverse forests around these lakes and peaks, many of them busy feeding fledglings. And we spent plenty of time just absorbing the crisp mountain air.

Below is a list of the birds and other wildlife we encountered, with descriptions of those encounters and the frequency of each species' occurrence. At the end is a list of the destinations visited, with links to selected eBird lists and the master eBird tour report. Join us next time for a summer excursion exploring Oregon's Cascade Mountain Lodges.

FAMILY COMMON NAME: Family scientific name

Species Common Name *Species scientific name*

GO—Identified by sight or sound by guide(s) only

HO—Heard only and identified by guide(s) and at least one client

Species (##)—Number of days tallied over 9 birding days.

BIRDS (98 species recorded, of which 11 were HO or GO):

DUCKS, GEESE, AND SWANS: ANATIDAE

Canada Goose *Branta canadensis*—(5) Many scattered across the lake and meadows at Sparks Lake (30+), then a few at Suttle Lk., and a few at Wizard Falls.

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*—(2) A group of 4 at Trillium Lk.

NEW WORLD QUAIL: Odontophoridae

California Quail *Callipepla californica*—(2) Individuals seen only at Sisters Ponderosa Lodge.

PIGEONS AND DOVES: Columbidae

Rock Pigeon *Columba livia*—(3) Seen a couple of times when passing through Bend, and then at least 8 birds on the canyon walls of Crooked River Gorge (Ogden Wayside).

Eurasian Collared-Dove (I) *Streptopelia decaocto*—(1) One bird seen at Sisters Ponderosa Lodge.

Mourning Dove *Zenaida macroura*—(1) HO at Scout Lake.

NIGHTJARS: Caprimulgidae

Common Nighthawk *Chordeiles minor*—(1) HO above the canopy from the Jack Creek trail.

SWIFTS: Apodidae

Vaux's Swift *Chaetura vauxi*—(2) Three birds seen at Wizard Falls and then one more at Wildwood Rec area.

White-throated Swift *Aeronautes saxatalis*—(1) At least 2 seen over the gorge at Ogden Wayside.

HUMMINGBIRDS: Trochilidae

Anna's Hummingbird *Calypte anna*—(1) Just one at Wildwood Rec area.

Rufous Hummingbird *Selasphorus rufus*—(2) One seen feeding next to Crater Lake lodge and another later by GO.

SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES: Scolopacidae

Wilson's Snipe *Gallinago delicata*—(1) One bird HO (calling) at Sparks Lk.

Spotted Sandpiper *Actitis macularius*—(5) Heard by GO at Sparks Lk., then seen daily along the shores of Suttle Lake and once on the White River.

HERONS AND EGRETS: Ardeidae

Great Blue Heron *Ardea herodias*—(1) Two birds seen along the shore of Sparks Lk.

NEW WORLD VULTURES: Cathartidae

Turkey Vulture *Cathartes aura*—(9) Along with raven, one of only two birds seen daily during the trip.

OSPREY: Pandionidae

Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*—(6) One bird seen fishing over Suttle Lake.

HAWKS, KITES, AND EAGLES: Accipitridae

Sharp-shinned Hawk *Accipiter striatus*—(1) A single bird seen flying over Shevlin Park.

Cooper's Hawk *Accipiter cooperii*—(1) Another flyover, at Crater Lake Lodge.

Swainson's Hawk *Buteo swainsoni*—(1) One bird seen on a utility pole while driving Hwy 97 near Culver.

Red-tailed Hawk *Buteo jamaicensis*—(4) All Red-tails were seen flying or perched on utility poles in transit.

OWLS: Strigidae

Northern Pygmy-Owl *Glaucidium gnoma*—(1) Bird-of-the-trip for several folks, we enjoyed good views of the staked-out pygmy-owl at a nest site that was originally found by our May tour group.

KINGFISHERS: Alcedinide

Belted Kingfisher *Megaceryle alcyon*—(3) Two kingfishers were seen around the outlet at Suttle Lk., and another at Wizard Falls Hatchery.

WOODPECKERS: Picidae

We didn't do as well as we had hoped on woodpeckers, but they offered several trip highlights, nonetheless.

Williamson's Sapsucker *Sphyrapicus thyroideus*—(1) Another big trip highlight; after some searching, we found a pair of Williamson's at Scout Lake.

Red-breasted Sapsucker *Sphyrapicus ruber*—(3) We had two great RB sapsucker experiences during the trip; first, we had an adult and a fledgling feeding in the willows below eye level and at close range at Shevlin Park; the second pair were still feeding nestlings at a known aspen nest on Indian Ford Creek.

Lewis's Woodpecker *Melanerpes lewis*—(1) As another big trip highlight, we had great looks at 3 Lewis's Woodpeckers at Shevlin Park.

Downy Woodpecker *Dryobates pubescens*—(1) We had 2 Downies in an odd location, with one adult and a fledgling in a poplar at Ogden Wayside.

Hairy Woodpecker *Dryobates villosus*—(5) We saw several Hairies on the trip, including a family group of 2 fledglings and an adult at Wildwood Rec Area.

Pileated Woodpecker *Dryocopus pileatus*—(1) As another woodpecker at an unexpected site, we first heard and then saw a Pileated from the Godfrey Glen Trail at Crater Lake; a first in the park for our guide!

Northern Flicker *Colaptes auratus*—(6) After two flickers being HO at Crater Lake, we saw 2 at Shevlin Park and a few in the Sisters area.

FALCONS AND CARACARAS: Falconidae

American Kestrel *Falco sparverius*—(1) One kestrel was seen on a utility line along the highway near Sisters.

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS: Tyrannidae

Olive-sided Flycatcher *Contopus cooperi*—(3) Our first look was a bird seen well after a horrendous attempt to hike the Annie Creek Trail at Crater Lake (which had many downed trees); later, we had HO birds at Indian Ford and Jack Creeks and another seen at Scout Lake.

Western Wood-Pewee *Contopus sordidulus*—(4) Seen twice—at Indian Ford Ck. and Scout Lk.—and HO twice outside of Sisters.

Willow Flycatcher *Empidonax traillii*—(2) We had an interesting encounter with a single bird that was singing along the shore of Trillium Lake and then flew up into the conifer stand above us; a second bird was HO at Wildwood Rec Area.

Hammond's Flycatcher *Empidonax hammondii*—(3) One bird was seen well on Indian Ford Creek—near the sapsucker nest—and two others were HO, at Jack Ck. and Trillium Lk.

Dusky Flycatcher *Empidonax oberholseri*—(1) We worked hard to see a pair of Dusky Flycatchers on the Jack Creek trail.

Western Flycatcher *Empidonax difficilis*—(3) Frustratingly, this bird was HO 3 times during the trip: at Crater Lake, Canyon Ck., and Wildwood Rec area.

Western Kingbird *Tyrannus verticalis*—(1) A single bird seen on highway utility wires near Sisters.

VIREOS: Vireonidae

Cassin's Vireo *Vireo cassinii*—(2) Another frustrating HO bird, heard at Crescent Creek and Jack Creek.

Warbling Vireo *Vireo gilvus*—(3) This one was seen at Crescent Creek and then HO at Calliope Crossing and Wildwood Rec area.

SHRIKES: Laniidae

Loggerhead Shrike *Lanius ludovicianus*—(1) Seen from the highway near Culver, en route to Mt. Hood.

CROWS AND JAYS: Corvidae

Canada Jay *Perisoreus canadensis*—(3) HO at Crater Lake and Trillium Lk., and then seen at Wildwood.

Pinyon Jay *Gymnorhinus cyanocephalus*—(1) Seen from the road just south of the Redmond Airport.

Steller's Jay *Cyanocitta stelleri*—(8) As a common bird of the western forests, we saw Steller's Jays almost daily, with highest numbers at Wildwood Rec. area.

California Scrub-Jay *Aphelocoma californica*—(3) Seen from the Bend Parkway, and then by GO in the Sisters area.

Black-billed Magpie *Pica hudsonia*—(1) One magpie was seen at Ogden Wayside

Clark's Nutcracker *Nucifraga columbiana*—(7) A regular fixture at our highest elevation sites, we had plenty of nutcrackers at Crater Lake and Timberline Lodge, but none in the Sisters and Suttle Lk. areas.

American Crow *Corvus brachyrhynchos*—(4) We had crows when driving through Redmond and Bend, and one was HO at Trillium Lake; but, our best crow sightings were at Wildwood Rec Area, when we had young birds screaming in the forest.

Common Raven *Corvus corax*—(9) With the Turkey Vulture, one of only 2 birds seen daily, with all ravens outside the urban areas.

TITS AND CHICKADEES: Paridae

Black-capped Chickadee *Poecile atricapillus*—(1) We first heard this chickadee at Wildwood Rec Area, and then we had them again at our lunch stop in the backyard of Wraptitude Restaurant.

Mountain Chickadee *Poecile gambeli*—(6) Our most widespread chickadee, seen several places at Crater Lake and in the Sisters area, with high counts of 4 at Crescent Ck. and Calliope Crossing; none at Timberline.

Chestnut-backed Chickadee *Poecile rufescens*—(3) Though not nearly as widespread as the Mountain, the Chestnut-backed was our most abundant chickadee; Steve first plucked one out of the tree as we were getting into the vans at the Godfrey Glen trailhead at Crater Lake, but we then had 15 around Trillium Lake and another single bird at Wildwood.

SWALLOWS AND MARTINS: Hirundinidae

Tree Swallow *Tachycineta bicolor*—(1) All our Tree Swallows were nesting birds on upper Indian Ford Ck.

Violet-green Swallow *Tachycineta thalassina*—(6) We had Violet-greens daily at Crater Lake and then again at Shevlin Park, Ogden Wayside, and Timberline Lodge.

Cliff Swallow *Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*—(1) Seen only over the Crooked River Gorge at Ogden Wayside.

LONG-TAILED TITS: Aegithalidae

Bushtit *Psaltriparus minimus*—(2) We had 2 birds at Shevlin Park and 2 at Ogden Wayside.

KINGLETS: Regulidae

Golden-crowned Kinglet *Regulus satrapa*—(7) Several of our Golden-crowned Kinglets were HO or GO, but we saw one at Godfrey Glen trail at Crater Lk. and another at Suttle Lodge.

NUTHATCHES: Sittidae

Red-breasted Nuthatch *Sitta canadensis*—(7) Like the Steller's Jay, this common western forest bird was seen at many locations, with high counts of 4 each at Annie Creek and Trillium Lk.

White-breasted Nuthatch *Sitta carolinensis*—(3) Seen only in the Sisters area, including one at Cold Springs and one at Sisters Ponderosa Lodge.

Pygmy Nuthatch *Sitta pygmaea*—(3) As a ponderosa pine specialist, we only had Pygmies in Bend and Sisters, with a group HO at Shevlin Park and pairs at Calliope Crossing and Ponderosa Lodge.

CREEPERS: Certhiidae

Brown Creeper *Certhia americana*—(7) We had creepers at Crater Lk., Jack Ck., and Trillium Lk., plus 3 at Calliope Crossing.

WRENS: Troglodytidae

Canyon Wren *Catherpes mexicanus*—(1) One bird was HO down in the Crooked River Gorge at Ogden Wayside.

House Wren *Troglodytes aedon*—(2) Surprisingly few birds around, with 3 birds HO on Indian Ford Ck.

Pacific Wren *Troglodytes pacificus*—(1) One bird seen poorly at Wildwood Rec area.

DIPPERS: Cinclidae

American Dipper *Cinclus mexicanus*—(3) We enjoyed the antics of dippers at three well-known locations: Suttle Lake outlet, Wizard Falls, and Salmon River at Wildwood.

STARLINGS AND MYNAS: Sturnidae

European Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*—(2) Single birds seen twice at Sisters Ponderosa Lodge.

THRUSHES: Turdidae

Western Bluebird *Sialia mexicana*—(1) Only in the Sisters area, with birds on Indian Ford Ck. and at the Sisters Ponderosa Lodge.

Mountain Bluebird *Sialia currucoides*—(2) One pair seen twice in their regular location, around the meadows below Crater Lk. Lodge.

Townsend's Solitaire *Myadestes townsendi*—(1) One bird was HO on the Castle Crest Trail at Crater Lake.

Swainson's Thrush *Catharus ustulatus*—(2) We had lots of Swainson's Thrushes in the Mt. Hood region, with a couple at Trillium Lk., 10 counted at Wildwood Rec Area, and one at Wraptitude.

Hermit Thrush *Catharus guttatus*—(2) Two on the Godfrey Glen Nature Trail at Crater Lk., and one at the head of Jack Creek.

American Robin *Turdus migratorius*—(7) Seen almost daily from Crater Lk. to Mt. Hood, with a high count of 8 at Wildwood Rec Area.

WAXWINGS: Bombycillidae

Cedar Waxwing *Bombycilla cedrorum*—(1) One seen on the wetland trail at Wildwood.

OLD WORLD SPARROWS: Passeridae

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*—(4) We had several birds at the Sisters Ponderosa Lodge and more at Ogden Wayside.

FINCHES AND EUPHONIAS: Fringillidae

Evening Grosbeak *Coccothraustes vespertinus*—(4) Stunning Evening Grosbeaks stuck around long enough for scope views at Scout Lake and Wildwood, and we also had flyovers at Crater Lk.

House Finch *Haemorhous mexicanus*—(2) Only seen at Sisters Ponderosa Lodge.

Purple Finch *Haemorhous purpureus*—(3) Our first was HO at Calliope Crossing, and then we had a few mixed with Cassin's Finches at Timberline Lodge.

Cassin's Finch *Haemorhous cassinii*—(7) Fairly common at Crater Lake and Timberline Lodge, plus one at Scout Lk.

Red Crossbill *Loxia curvirostra*—(6) Beside 4 birds at Mt. Hood's Alpine Campground, we repeatedly saw a large flock (21-28 birds) at Crater Lake Lodge, which spent some time on the lodge's rock wall appearing to collect either minerals or grit from the surface.

Pine Siskin *Spinus pinus*—(5) Small flocks seen daily at Crater Lk. and Timberline, with the largest numbers of 13 and 10 respectively.

Lesser Goldfinch *Spinus psaltria*—(3) One bird seen at Shevlin Park and 2 at Sisters Ponderosa Lodge.

NEW WORLD SPARROWS: Passerellidae

Chipping Sparrow *Spizella passerina*—(7) HO several places, from Crater Lk. to Suttle Lk, and seen at Sparks Lk. and Timberline.

Fox Sparrow *Passerella iliaca*—(2) Heard by GO at Crater Lk Lodge, and then seen at Scout Lk. and Jack Ck.

Dark-eyed Junco *Junco hyemalis*—(8) The most abundant bird of the trip—of the "Oregon" subspecies—with the highest numbers at Crater Lake and Timberline Lodges and the largest count of 50 at Timberline.

Savannah Sparrow *Passerculus sandwichensis*—(1) One seen at the edge of the meadow at Sparks Lake.

Song Sparrow *Melospiza melodia*—(5) HO at Suttle Lk. and Jack Ck., with 2 seen at Calliope Crossing and many at Wildwood Rec Area.

Spotted Towhee *Pipilo maculatus*—(1) Our only bird of the trip was one seen well in the Wraptitude backyard.

NEW WORLD BLACKBIRDS: Icteridae

Bullock's Oriole *Icterus bullockii*—(1) We saw one adult male oriole in the poplars at Ogden Wayside.

Red-winged Blackbird *Agelaius phoeniceus*—(1) We found one Red-winged Blackbird at the Sparks Lake meadow.

Brown-headed Cowbird *Molothrus ater*—(2) One at Calliope Crossing and one at Scout Lk.

Brewer's Blackbird *Euphagus cyanocephalus*—(3) One Brewer's at Sisters Ponderosa Lodge and a flock of 4 at Timberline Lodge.

NEW WORLD WARBLERS: Parulidae

MacGillivray's Warbler *Geothlypis tolmiei*—(4) MacGillivray's eluded us as HO at Sparks and Suttle Lakes and Cold Springs, then we had 2 at the Jack Creek trail and brief glimpses of one at Trillium Lake.

Common Yellowthroat *Geothlypis trichas*—(5) Yellowthroats were HO until we saw one at Trillium Lk.

Yellow Warbler *Setophaga petechia*—(3) One at Crescent Creek and 2 at Calliope Crossing, then HO at Jack Ck.

Yellow-rumped Warbler *Setophaga coronata*—(8) "Butter-butts" were seen throughout the tour, with a high count of 4 at the Godfrey Glen Nature Trail at Crater Lake.

Hermit Warbler *Setophaga occidentalis*—(1) We had good looks at a single male on one of our early morning walks at Crater Lk. Lodge.

Wilson's Warbler *Cardellina pusilla*—(1) Three birds were seen at Wildwood Rec Area.

CARDINALS, GROSBEAKS, AND ALLIES: Cardinalidae

Western Tanager *Piranga ludoviciana*—(7) Tanagers delighted us throughout the tour, in singles and pairs at many locations.

Black-headed Grosbeak *Pheucticus melanocephalus*—(3) We first saw this one at Shevlin Park, then Calliope Crossing and Wildwood.

Lazuli Bunting *Passerina amoena*—(1) Laz Bunting was heard by GO at Ogden Wayside.

MAMMALS

Western Gray Squirrel *Sciurus griseus*—(1)

Douglas's Squirrel *Tamiasciurus douglasii*—(2)

Yellow-bellied Marmot *Marmota flaviventris*—(3)

Belding's Ground Squirrel *Spermophilus beldingi*—(1)

Golden-mantled Ground Squirrel *Spermophilus lateralis*—(8)

Yellow-pine Chipmunk *Neotamias amoenus*—(5)

Mountain Cottontail *Sylvilagus nuttallii*—(2)

Mule Deer *Odocoileus hermionus*—(2)

North American River Otter *Lontra Canadensis*—(1)

REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS

Western Fence Lizard *Sceloporus occidentalis*—(1)

Rough-skinned Newt *Taricha granulosa*—(1)

Coho Salmon *Oncorhynchus kisutch*—(1)

DESTINATIONS VISITED

Click the highlighted sites below to see the checklists for those visits. Click this link to see the [master eBird trip report](#).

Day 1, July 9—Hwy 97 Redmond to Crater Lake

Day 2, July 10—Crater Lk. Rim Village, [Annie Ck. trail and campground](#), Mazama Village, Sun Notch, Vidae Falls

Day 3, July 11—[Crater Lk. Rim Village](#), Castle Crest Wildflower Trail, Mazama Village, Godfrey Glen, West Rim

Day 4, July 12—Crater Lk. Rim Village, Chemult, Crescent Ck. campground, Sparks Lk., [Shevlin Park](#), Suttle Lk.

Day 5, July 13—Suttle Lk., Glaze Meadow, [Calliope Crossing](#), Cold Springs, Three Creek Rd., Sisters Best Western.

Day 6, July 14—Scout Lk., Suttle Lk., [Head of Jack Ck.](#), Canyon Ck., Wizard Falls.

Day 7, July 15—Suttle Lk., Sisters Best Western, [Ogden Wayside](#), Timberline Lodge.

Day 8, July 16—Timberline Lodge, [Trilium Lk.](#), White River, Alpine campground.

Day 9, July 17—Timberline Lodge, [Wildwood Rec Area](#), Wraptitude/Welches, Timberline Lodge.

Day 10, July 18—Hood River, Multnomah Falls