

# BIRD TREKS

## **FORT STEVENS & CLATSOP SPIT** *At the Mouth of the Columbia River* **Extension to the Oregon Tour**

**Dates** Saturday, 6 October through Tuesday, 9 October 2012: 4 days and 3 nights

**We'll visit** Fort Stevens State Park, Coffenbury Lake, and the South Jetty at the mouth of the Columbia River. This area is without a doubt THE BEST vagrant and migrant trap in the entire state of Oregon.

Down the coast to Del Ray State Park and the Seaside sewage lagoons.

Ecola State Park for songbirds, seabirds, and whales, plus Saddle Mountain State Park to search for Varied Thrush and Ruffed Grouse.

Some of the many species that we hope to see include . . .

Red-throated Loon  
Pacific Loon  
Western Grebe  
Sooty Shearwater  
Brandt's Cormorant  
Pelagic Cormorant  
Bald Eagle  
Red-shouldered Hawk  
Sooty Grouse  
California Quail  
Pacific Golden-Plover

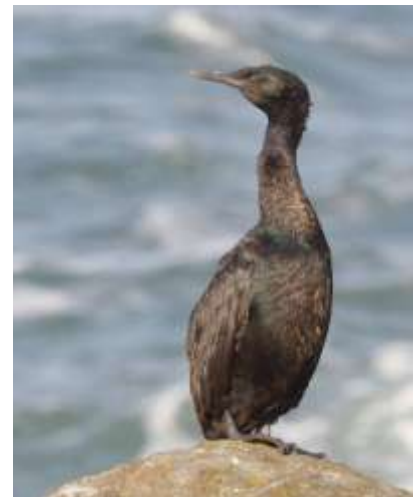
Marbled Godwit  
Long-billed Dowitcher  
Red-necked Phalarope  
Pomarine Jaeger  
California Gull  
Heermann's Gull  
Common Murre  
Pigeon Guillemot  
Barn Owl  
Western Screech-Owl  
Chestnut-backed Chickadee

Varied Thrush  
Townsend's Solitaire  
Wrentit  
Orange-crowned Warbler  
Townsend's Warbler  
Golden-crowned Sparrow  
Yellow-headed Blackbird  
Red Crossbill

Recent rarities at the mouth of the Columbia River . . .

Yellow-billed Loon  
Lesser Sand-Plover  
Spotted Redshank  
Long-toed Stint  
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper

Ruff  
Ash-throated Flycatcher  
Mountain Bluebird  
Rose-breasted Grosbeak  
McKay's Bunting  
. . . and numerous Eastern warblers



**Pelagic Cormorant** - - John Puschock

*[Day-by-day itinerary begins on page 2]*

# NORTHWEST COASTAL OREGON

## FORT STEVENS, CLATSOP SPIT & COLUMBIA RIVER MOUTH

6 - 9 October 2012

- | <u>DAY</u> | <u>AGENDA</u>   |
|------------|---|
| 1          | We'll begin from Portland and drive directly to Fort Stevens State Park, unless there is a rare bird being reported that is within easy driving range. We'll make a full round of the birding stops at Fort Stevens, including the South Jetty, Coffenbury Lake, and a few other nice beaches and trails. We should be able to find <b>Wrentit</b> , an area specialty. We'll try to be at the ponds near the South Jetty parking lot at high tide for our best chance to find a variety of <b>shorebirds</b> , both regulars and rarities. Please consider knee-high boots for the best coverage of these ponds. We'll spend all three nights in nearby Astoria.   |
| 2          | The most likely scenario is that we will pick up exactly where we left off yesterday, at Fort Stevens State Park. This is not only a prime birding area, but also has a great reputation for rarities, much like Cape May Point on the Atlantic Coast. Some of the more likely species that we will see include <b>Red-throated Loon</b> , <b>Western Grebe</b> , <b>Pelagic Cormorant</b> , <b>Heerman's Gull</b> , <b>Bald Eagle</b> , <b>Orange-crowned Warbler</b> , and <b>Golden-crowned Sparrow</b> . After a full round of all the prime spots, we'll drive south to Del Ray, the Seaside sewage ponds, and Ecola State Park. We should find a number of new <b>seabirds</b> , <b>waterfowl</b> , and <b>songbirds</b> , and search the <b>gull</b> flocks for anything out of the ordinary. We'll do our best to be at Saddle Mountain State Park between 5 and 6 PM for a multitude of <b>Varied Thrushes</b> , <b>Ruffed Grouse</b> , and hopefully <b>Sooty Grouse</b> . <b>Western Screech-Owl</b> is also reasonable. |
| 3          | Depending upon the tides and weather, we'll spend at least part of the day at Fort Stevens and the South Jetty. But, with Washington State just a short bridge crossing away, it seems a shame not to pay a visit to Oregon's neighbor to the north. We'll make stops at <b>Fort Columbia State Park</b> and <b>Chinook Park</b> , still on the Columbia River. Then we'll make our way to <b>Cape Disappointment</b> , <b>Fort Canby State Park</b> , and the <b>North Jetty of the Columbia River</b> . We'll be right across the Columbia from the South Jetty, looking for migrants before they cross the mouth of the river. It will be a fun day of exploring <b>coastal southwest Washington</b> .   |
| 4          | We have about a two-hour drive to the Portland Airport. If everyone will make their departure flights for noon or later, we'll have a couple of hours to check some coastal spots, or perhaps return to Saddle Mountain for another try at <b>Sooty Grouse</b> and some <b>high altitude birds</b> . The Oregon tour extension will end in Portland by mid-day.   |

A map of our tour route can be seen by clicking here:

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?hl=en&ie=UTF8&msa=0&ll=45.846978,-123.614044&spn=0.701184,1.763306&z=10&msid=117812928873209532533.000462bd333cede384d72>



**Leader** The Oregon Extension to Fort Stevens and Clatsop Spit will be led by **Bob Schutsky**. Bob is quite familiar with the birds of Oregon and will give you a wonderful tour of this incredibly beautiful area of the Pacific Northwest.

**Price** The tour fee is \$1295 per person, based upon double occupancy. Single accommodations are available at an extra charge of \$165. See our separate itinerary for the details and price of the full Oregon Tour.

**Includes** Expert guide service, lodging for three nights, **ALL meals** for the entire tour, all entrance fees, and ground transportation within both Oregon and Washington. **ALL tips** are included in the tour fee, except for anything that you may wish to give to your tour leader(s).

Does not include the cost of airfare to and from Portland, Oregon. BIRD TREKS will, upon request, gladly help you obtain the best possible airfare. Also not included are the costs of alcoholic beverages and items of a personal nature.

**Extra Services** We offer the services of our exclusive BIRD TREKS travel agent, **Lori Heathcote**, in arranging your air travel. Lori has 26 years of experience in the travel industry and is a veteran birder. Lori can be reached through Bailey Travel at **1-800-224-5399**, or e-mail **lori@baileytravel.com**. By dealing with Lori you have the security of a 24-hour toll-free telephone number in case of any travel emergency. There may be a fee for these services.

**Deposit** A \$300 deposit will assure your reservation on the Oregon Extension. The balance is due 6 August 2012.

**Refund and Cancellation Policy** With written notice more than 60 days prior to the first day of the tour, 100% of your deposit will be refunded, minus a \$75 service fee. With 30-60 days notice, you will receive a 50% refund of the full cost of the tour. No refund can be made with less than 30 days notice. You will receive a full refund if you provide a replacement for your spot on the tour. No partial refund can be given once the tour begins. We **STRONGLY RECOMMEND** that you purchase trip cancellation insurance to protect your investment. Contact **Allianz Global Assistance** (formerly Access America) and mention **BIRD TREKS ACCAM # F021096**. You can easily apply via the Internet at **www.allianztravelinsurance.com** or by phone at **1-800-284-8300**.

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