

BIRD TREKS

FORT STEVENS & CLATSOP SPIT, *at the Mouth of the Columbia River!* Extension to the OREGON TOUR

Dates Saturday, 14 October through Tuesday, 17 October 2017: 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 town of 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

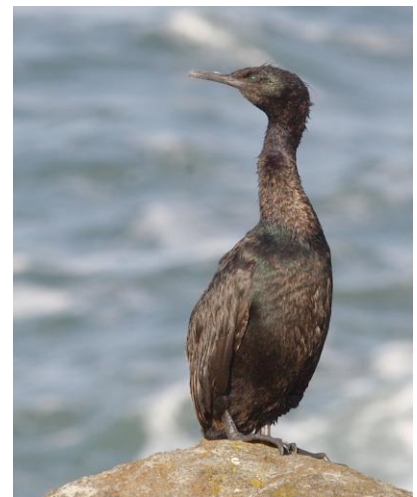
Marbled Godwit
Long-billed Dowitcher
Red-necked Phalarope
Pomarine Jaeger
California Gull
Heermann's Gull
Common Murre
Pigeon Guillemot
Barn Owl
Western Screech-Owl

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 North
American warblers



Pelagic Cormorant - - John Puschock

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

NORTHWEST COASTAL OREGON

14 - 17 October 2017

DAY

AGENDA

- 1 We'll begin from Portland immediately after the Coastal Oregon Tour (see separate itinerary), and drive directly to Fort Stevens State Park, unless there is a rare bird being reported that is within reasonable 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 **Wrentit**, 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 **shorebirds**, 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 **Red-throated Loon**, **Western Grebe**, **Pelagic Cormorant**, **Heerman's Gull**, **Bald Eagle**, **Orange-crowned Warbler**, and **Golden-crowned Sparrow**. 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 **seabirds**, **waterfowl**, and **songbirds**, and search the **gull 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 **Varied Thrush**, **Ruffed Grouse**, and possibly **Sooty Grouse**. **Western Screech-Owl** is also quite possible. Our second night in Astoria.
- 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 **Fort Columbia State Park** and **Chinook Park**, still on the Columbia River. Then we'll make our way to **Cape Disappointment**, **Fort Canby State Park**, and the **North Jetty of the Columbia River**. We'll be right across the Columbia from the South Jetty, looking for south bound migrants before they cross the mouth of the river. It will be a fun day of exploring **coastal southwest Washington**.
- 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 **Sooty Grouse** and some **high altitude birds**. The Oregon tour extension will end in Portland by mid-day.

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

<https://maps.google.com/maps/ms?msid=215986731009322774066.000462bd333cede384d72&msa=0&ll=46.445427,-123.266602&spn=1.105233,2.469177>

[More details on page 3]



Leader The leader of the Oregon Extension to Fort Stevens and Clatsop Spit has yet to be selected. Your leader will be 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 fee for this tour is \$1545 per person, based upon double occupancy. Single accommodations are available at an extra charge of \$185. We will take a maximum of seven people. On rare occasion we may extend the maximum to ten participants.

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. 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 32 years of experience in the travel industry and is a veteran birder. Contact her at Bailey Travel / Travel Time toll-free at **1-800-224-5399**, direct at **717-855-2128**, or e-mail her at **lori@trvltime.com**. By dealing with Lori you have the security of a 24-hour toll-free telephone number in case of any travel emergency. She can also assist you with all pre- and post-tour travel plans. There will be a small fee for these services.

Deposit A \$300 deposit will assure your reservation on the Oregon Extension. The balance is due 14 August 2017.

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** and mention **BIRD TREKS, ACCAM # F021096**. You can easily apply via the Internet at **www.allianztravelinsurance.com** or by phone at **1-866-884-3556**.