

Birds at North Mountain Park: Occurrence, Seasonality and Numbers over a 15 Year Period – 9/1999 through 8/2014.

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In the past 15 years at North Mountain Park 142 species have been documented. In 2009 I wrote a report summarizing the first decade of accumulated data from monthly bird counts (9/1999-8/2009). In this report an additional 10 years are covered (9/2009-8/2014) and added to the information already available. Included in this 15-year report are unusual sightings that were posted (and verified) at the Visitor Center, plus data from eBird, where individuals post their own sightings. These added species, usually off-course and not seen again, are included in the species accounts with the dates noted, and on the checklist marked with an asterisk. The past 5 years added 12 species to the list: Blue-winged Teal, Virginia Rail, Greater Yellowlegs, Eurasian Collared Dove, Eastern Kingbird, American Pipit, Purple Martin, Steller's Jay, Gray Catbird, Townsend's Warbler, Tri-colored Blackbird and Snow Bunting. The dove and the jay can be expected to become permanent additions, the other 3 were transients.

The last 5 years have seen some losses as well as additions. Several are residents: Ring-necked Pheasant, California Quail, American Kestrel, Killdeer, and Western Meadowlark. Loss of habitat is the most likely cause for the near absence of all but the kestrel; that loss is not easily explained. Some species no longer seen were migrants on their way north or south, or nomads like Lewis's Woodpecker and Red Crossbill.

There has been an interesting switch in occurrence of House Finch and Purple Finch in the past 5 years. House Finch was one of the park's most frequently seen birds during the first 10 years, appearing on 61% of counts, its frequency since 2009 is 20%; Purple Finch was uncommon, seen on 22% of counts; but in the last 5 years its frequency has increased to 33%. The latter species is also much more common at local feeders, including mine. There is no evidence that these changes are related, and no clear explanation for this situation.

Another change that has been noted is the diminishing presence of Killdeer. Formerly present on 60% of counts, in the past 5 years they have been seen only 40% of the time. And nesting has not been documented for several years.

The park's birdlife, however, is generally stable. There have been no major changes in habitat. Perhaps the most serious problem is the persistence of feral cats stalking birds, mostly invading from the adjacent houses across Mountain Avenue. The toll taken country-wide by roaming cats is

uncountable, and it is present locally. This serious concern is difficult to manage.

Species seen most regularly

NMP is a pleasure for birders in all seasons. Listed below are the resident and migrant species that are easiest to see all year plus those that are seen regularly in the proper season. Some are seen in flocks, others as individuals, but all can be expected to be seen on most visits in the proper season.

Residents – year round

Canada Goose
Mallard
Great Blue Heron
Red-tailed Hawk
Mourning Dove
Anna's Hummingbird
Acorn Woodpecker
Downy Woodpecker
Northern Flicker
Western Scrub-Jay
American Crow
Black-capped Chickadee
Wrentit
American Robin
European Starling
Spotted Towhee
Song Sparrow
Red-winged Blackbird
Brewer's Blackbird
Lesser Goldfinch

Wintering birds

Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Hermit Thrush
Golden Crowned Sparrow
White-crowned Sparrow
Fox Sparrow
Dark-eyed Junco

Summer breeders

Green Heron
Tree Swallow
Western Wood-Pee wee
Western Kingbird

House Wren
Yellow-breasted Chat
Black-headed Grosbeak
Bullock's Oriole

Species Accounts

This section contains a brief summary of the 142 species that have been seen in NMP from September 1999 through August 2014. Data are primarily from monthly counts, augmented by selected sightings from birders posted on the bulletin board at the visitor center, or on eBird by individuals. The summaries include the status of all species seen at NMP and its wider spread in the Rogue Valley - status in bold type indicates use at NMP.

Status:

Resident - present all year in the park and usually a breeding bird.

Migrant - Transients present in spring and fall while *en route* to and from nesting grounds farther north or higher altitudes.

Wintering birds that arrive in fall and stay through the winter e.g.

White-crowned and Golden-crowned Sparrow.

Summer breeding birds that winter in southern U.S. and/or Central America and are here only for the nesting season.

Visitor - Birds that use the park irregularly or seasonally and those that are occasional or rare drop-ins. If helpful, the kind of visitation is noted, like 'occasional winter', or 'rare and out-of-range'.

Breeding status - categories are 'documented, presumed, probable, possible or non-breeding.

Occurrence: number of times seen at NMP, range in number of individuals on a count, season of use. Terms used are Common, Fairly common, Uncommon, Rare and Regular/irregular. The text should make the designation clear.

Remarks: - observations about unusual occurrences.

The species (in AOU Checklist order)

Canada Goose Widespread **resident** of the Rogue Valley, regular winter visitor to NMP. First seen 12/1999, 1-24 seen on 43 counts from August - April. Often overhead, but also in the playing fields and along Bear Creek. A pair observed courting once in April but there are no records of this species in the park during the nesting months.

Seen 23 times since the 10-year report, mostly in winter and often

overhead. Usually in pairs but occasionally flocks.

Wood Duck. Uncommon **resident** in the Rogue Valley and NMP. First seen 12/1999; 1-6 seen on 48 counts in all months. Occurrence increased from one sighting in 1999 to 10 in 2003 and remains at that level; greatest number of individuals seen on a count was in December 2004. Nesting was documented in 2003 when 7 juveniles were seen accompanied by parents in May and June. Nesting may have occurred subsequently but is not documented.

This species is a much diminished presence since the 10-year report. Seen on pond 3 times, once each in 2010, 2011, and 2022. No indication of nesting, although appropriate boxes are available.

American Wigeon Winter **visitor** seen regularly on large ponds in the Rogue Valley; rare **visitor** to NMP. Seen twice in the winters of 2004 and 2006.

No sightings since the ten-year report in 2009.

Mallard Common **resident** of the Rogue Valley and NMP. First seen 12/1999. 1-24, seen on 101 counts throughout the year. Has nested annually close to the southernmost pond, ducklings are seen in May and June, a brood of 7 was seen in June 2005, 5 in 2006 and 11 in May 2008. One of the most frequently seen birds at NMP. Seen on 38 counts since the ten-year report in 2009. Has bred every year near upper or lower pond and ducklings grace the landscape in August.

Blue-winged Teal Rare winter **visitor** seen once on 4/12 2012 and photographed.

Northern Shoveler Winter visitor on lakes and ponds in the Rogue Valley; rare **visitor** seen only once at NMP, in May 2008.

No sightings since the ten-year report in 2009.

Ring-necked Duck Common winter **visitor** to the Rogue Valley, uncommon but regular **visitor** in winter months (January, February, March) to NMP. First seen 1/2001; 1-10 seen on 21 counts December – April.

One sighting on 4/20/2013 since the ten-year report in 2009.

Lesser Scaup Common in winter in the Rogue Valley; rare **visitor** at NMP, seen once 2/2007.

No sightings since the ten-year report in 2009.

Common Goldeneye Regular winter bird in the Rogue Valley (particularly below Lost Creek Dam), rare **visitor** to NMP. Seen 3 times - January 2003,

February 2004, and April 2008.

No sightings since the ten-year report in 2009.

Bufflehead Large flocks winter in the Rogue Valley, uncommon winter **visitor**, 1-2 seen on 8 counts from November to March (but also quite a few sightings on the bulletin board).

No sightings since the ten-year report in 2009.

Hooded Merganser Uncommon wintering bird in the Rogue Valley and uncommon **visitor** at NMP. First seen 11/2002, 10 sightings since, usually on the big pond.

Several individuals seen once during the winter every year since 2009. On the upper pond.

Common Merganser Common resident; uncommon **visitor** to NMP. Seen 10 times in winter - November to April, once in May. Seen regularly all year long on the Rogue River, and followed by chicks in early summer.

One sighting of 3 birds in February 2011.

Ring-necked Pheasant Introduced, now resident in the Rogue Valley and former **resident** of NMP. First seen 5/2000; 1-3 on 6 counts 2000-2003, none since 9/2003. A large housing development built across Mountain Avenue from the park in 2005 eliminated all the open grassland that is essential habitat for pheasants.

No sightings since the ten-year report in 2009.

California Quail Common **resident** of the Rogue Valley and NMP when the renovation of the park began in 1999, but numbers have diminished severely in the past few years. First seen 5/2000; 1-27 seen 53 times. Nesting took place in the park regularly; seven chicks accompanied by a parent were seen in August 2003, a family was seen in July 2006. From 2000 – 2006 flocks of up to 27 birds were present in late summer, by 2008 and 2009 there were few sightings each year, and of single birds. But in June 2007 and July 2009 quail chicks were spotted, indicating nesting in or close to NMP. Loss of habitat from the housing development across Mountain Avenue, accompanied by a simultaneous increase in the cat population, are the chief suspects in the decline of the quail in NMP.

Since the 10-year report there have been 8 sightings, the first was of 12 birds in September 2009. All other sightings were of 1-5 individuals in winter and spring. This species was decidedly affected by the increased human presence in the park's surroundings.

Pied billed Grebe Common **resident** of quiet waters in the Rogue Valley,

rare winter **visitor** to NMP.

Not seen in the park since January 2007.

Double-crested Cormorant Uncommon resident of the Rogue Valley; rare **visitor** to NMP.

Not seen since May 2003.

Great Blue Heron Common resident of the Rogue Valley, uncommon summer **visitor/breeding bird** in NMP. First seen 2/2000, seen every year since, mostly in spring; 1-4 seen on 43 counts. A small rookery was established in the riparian woodland in 2001 when a pair nested in a large cottonwood. By 2002 a second pair was nesting in the same part of the tree and there were two in 2003-2004. In 2005 a 3rd pair started building in February but abandoned. A dead adult was found below a nest in May 2006. In 2007 3 birds started nests but abandoned; a Great-horned Owl nested in a nearby tree and there is presumably a connection between the herons' abandonment and the arrival of the owls. In 2008/2009 single birds were seen several times, and not in the breeding season.

Since the ten-year report in 2009, seen 3 times in winter – Jan 2010, December 2010 and 2012.

Great Egret Winter resident in Rogue Valley's wetlands, but a rare **visitor** to NMP. Single birds seen 4 times in winter.

No sightings since the ten-year report in 2009.

Green Heron Uncommon migrant and summer breeding bird in the Rogue Valley, summer **breeding bird** in NMP. First seen 5/2000; 1-7 seen 27 times from May through September. Nesting first observed in 2002 when 3 juveniles were seen with parents in July. One juvenile was observed in August 2008.

Seen 9 times during the breeding season (May-August) from 2010-2013 both before breeding and later in the summer with juveniles, but not in 2014. The nests have not been located but are presumably in the riparian corridor along Bear Creek.

Black-crowned Night Heron First (and only) sighting on the count on 10/29/2009.

Turkey Vulture A summer breeding bird in Oregon; an uncommon **visitor** to NMP during migration and in summer. First seen 4/2000, 1-500 on 38 counts (500 moving slowly south in October), usually overhead, occasionally roosting at night (e.g. 3 in March 2007).

Seen 20 times from September 2009 through summer 2014. Mostly

overhead although occasionally at roost.

Osprey Summer breeding bird in the Rogue Valley; rare **visitor** at NMP. Seen 6 times over the ponds from April to September.

No sightings since the ten-year report in 2009.

White-tailed Kite Uncommon wintering bird in the Rogue Valley, some may stay in the Page 7 valley to breed; rare **visitor** to NMP. Has occurred three times at NMP in mid-winter. Forages for rodents by hovering over open fields. Its preferred habitat for foraging and nesting is in short supply in NMP.

No sightings since the ten-year report in 2009.

Bald Eagle Uncommon winter **visitor** to the Rogue Valley, much larger numbers east of the Cascades; **rare** visitor to NMP. Seen twice at NMP, in January 2005 and March 2009.

No sightings since the ten-year report in 2009.

Northern Harrier Uncommon resident of the Rogue Valley, but some may migrate south in winter; rare winter **visitor** to NMP. Single individuals observed 5 times at NMP in December - February. A hawk of the open fields, it courses back and forth over open land foraging for rodents. Nests in the Rogue Valley but the scarcity of its habitat in NMP makes it unlikely here.

No sightings since the ten-year report in 2009.

Sharp-shinned Hawk Uncommon resident of the Rogue Valley; uncommon **visitor** to NMP. First seen 10/2001, single bird seen on 10 counts in winter and spring. A hawk of the woods, where it feeds on small birds.

No sightings since the ten-year report in 2009. Two sighting since 2009; one in September 2011, another in November 2013.

Two seen in the past 5 years; in September 2011 and November 2013.

Cooper's Hawk Uncommon resident in the Rogue Valley and a close relative and larger version of the Sharp-shinned Hawk; an uncommon **visitor** to NMP. First seen 10/2001, seen 19 times from November – April, once in August. A hawk of the woods, where it feeds on small birds. Seen taking crow off the playing field in March 2005.

Six sightings since the 10-year report; one bird seen once every fall/winter in the last 5 years, except in 2011.

Red-shouldered Hawk Uncommon resident in Ashland and expanding its range slowly northward up the Rogue Valley; uncommon **visitor** to NMP. First seen 12/2999, single birds seen on 12 counts but not every year.

Most sightings in 2004 (4) in the winter. This hawk is increasing in numbers in the valley and nesting has been documented in several places, including the area north of Emigrant Lake along old Rte. 99.

Seen 4 times since the 120-year report; one bird in October 2011, a pair in January 2013, then a single bird in March 2013.

Red-tailed Hawk Common and widespread Rogue Valley resident, uncommon **visitor/nester** in NMP. First seen 11/1999; 1-2 seen on 21 counts in most years. Pair nested successfully in the woods in 2001 & 2002.

Sightings since 2009, 12 in all, usually in winter. No sign of nesting since 2002.

Golden Eagle Uncommon resident of the Rogue Valley; rare **visitor** to NMP. Seen 4 times in March/April. Pair nested successfully in a tall conifer below Roxy Ann Peak in Medford in 2001.

No sightings since the ten-year report in 2009.

Virginia Rail Seen once on 9/28/2013.

American Coot Common in winter on Rogue Valley ponds but rare winter **visitor** to NMP. First seen 12/2006, 1-3 individuals seen on 8 winter counts December – March. Nests on lakes and ponds in the valley and the local mountains where reeds provide cover and nesting material.

Three winter sightings, in March and April 2012, since the 10-year report.

Killdeer Common **resident**, of the Rogue Valley and NMP. First seen 11/1999; 1-12 seen on 70 counts in all months, usually 1-5. In July of 2006 10 were seen in a flock, though no juveniles were noted. This bird of the open grassland has continued to reside in the southern part of the park; often seen in the playing fields and on the oak-studded hillside. During the breeding season several birds do broken-wing displays on the hillside, signaling a nest close by. Nests have been found twice, once between the soccer fields and once on gravel surrounding the electrical sub-station.

No longer a common resident, this species was seen 14 times since 2009. Mostly 1-3 birds but 24 on the playing fields on 10/29/2011, a very unusual occurrence. No signs of nesting for several years.

Spotted Sandpiper Uncommon resident of the Rogue Valley, rare **visitor** in NMP. Seen on 3 counts in spring.

No sightings since the 10-year report.

Greater Yellowlegs Seen once on 9/1/2009.

Wilson's Snipe Uncommon resident of Rogue Valley lakes and ponds, rare **visitor** to NMP; 1-2 seen on 9 counts October – March.

One seen once in the past 5 years - on 12/26/2013.

Ring-billed Gull Common non-breeding resident of the Rogue Valley; rare **visitor** to NMP. Seen on 5 counts in February and March, flock of 20 once, other times 1-2.

One seen once in the past 5 years - on 3/25/2013.

California Gull Rare **visitor** to NMP, 3 birds seen once in April 2006. Winters in small numbers elsewhere in the valley.

No sightings since the 10-year report.

Rock Pigeon A resident of the Rogue Valley, an uncommon and sporadic **visitor** to NMP. First seen 4/2000, 1-22 on 16 counts but usually 1-6 (22 in August 2008). Breeds under freeway bridges, rarely present in NMP during the breeding season.

Twelve sightings of 1-6 birds since the 10-year report. Scattered throughout the year.

Band-tailed Pigeon Migrant that comes to breed in the Rogue Valley and surrounding hills, small flocks stay the winter; rare **visitor** to NMP. 1-2 seen 4 times in April, May, July and August.

Two sightings since the 10-year report; one individual on 8/23/2010, two on 8/24/2014.

Eurasian Collared Dove A recent invasive species with a rapid expansion rate. First seen on a monthly count on 5/21/2011. Seen on 16 counts since it appeared, and has apparently become **resident** in the park.

Mourning Dove Common **resident** of the Rogue Valley and NMP, First seen 5/2000, 1- 48 seen on 80 counts but usually fewer than 10. A few present in the park during every breeding season, but nesting not yet documented.

1-16 individuals seen on 41 counts since 2009. Their presence has apparently not been affected by the Eurasian Collared Dove but the number of individuals seen on visits is much reduced.

Owls: These nocturnal species are under-represented on daytime counts, thus our data do not reflect to real occurrence of owls in NMP.

Western Screech-Owl Uncommon resident of the Rogue Valley, rare **visitor** to NMP. Five sightings in February, March, September and

November; one found roosting in a nest-box in 2008 during a clean-out.

Two sightings since the 10-year report; on 8/28/2011 and 8/25/2012.

Great Horned Owl Uncommon resident of the Rogue Valley, uncommon **visitor/breeding bird** at NMP. A pair nested in 2007/2008, and were the apparent cause of desertion of the Great Blue Herons that were already on nests. First seen in February 2000; 1-2 seen 10 times in 2000, 2002 and 2008. Seven of the 10 sightings were in 2008; in April chicks were seen in the nest.

No sightings since the 10-year report.

Northern Pygmy-Owl An uncommon Rogue Valley resident, but a rare **visitor** to NMP. One bird seen twice in winter.

No sightings since the 10-year report.

Northern Spotted Owl Seen once roosting in a tall conifer on 1/23/2013.

Northern Saw-whet Owl Seen once on 11/23/2014 perched on a post, photo taken.

Common Nighthawk A migrant and summer breeding bird in the Rogue Valley; rare **visitor** to NMP. Five birds seen in September 2008 and May 2009. The open and often rocky flatlands that are breeding habitat for this species are not present in NMP.

No sightings since the 10-year report.

Vaux's Swift Migrant and summer breeder in the Rogue Valley, observed overhead at NMP in spring and fall. 1-20 seen on 9 counts usually in May.

One overhead sighting during the breeding season each year since 2009.

Anna's Hummingbird Common resident in the Rogue Valley; uncommon but regular **resident** in NMP. First seen 1/2001. 1-4 seen on 35 counts in all months. Nesting documented in 2006 when a female was observed on eggs at the edge of the bridge over Bear Creek. This hummingbird has expanded its range northward during the past decade and has become a fairly common resident of the Rogue Valley.

Observed 24 times since 2009 and seen often on other occasions. Present in every month.

Rufous Hummingbird Common summer breeder in the Rogue Valley, rare **visitor** to NMP. A neo-tropical migrant that comes to the Rogue Valley to breed. First seen 2/2001, 1-6 seen on 9 counts from April – August. Not seen every year; nesting not documented although possible. Most sightings in August in the post-breeding season.

Since 2009 there have been 6 sightings, all in the summer. Could be nesting in the park but this has not been documented.

Belted Kingfisher Year-round resident of the Rogue Valley, fairly common **resident** along Bear Creek in NMP. First seen 2/1999, 1-2 seen on 46 counts, in most months. Breeds in burrows in banks along the river, but such habitat is not present close to NMP and nesting here has not been documented.

Seen 6 times since the 10-year report, mostly in the winter.

Lewis's Woodpecker Rogue Valley resident, although few breeding records, rare **visitor** to NMP, seen once in September 2001. Settles in an oak-rich area for the winter, often not the same as last year's. Moves elsewhere to breed but breeding sites unknown.

No sightings since the 10-year report.

Acorn Woodpecker Uncommon but regular **resident of** the Rogue Valley and NMP. First sighting was one bird in 9/1999, but not seen again until 5/2001 when the colony became established. Seen increasingly since 2001 (56 sightings), and in greater numbers since 2004. This woodpecker nests communally in dead-tree cavities. There are only a few such sites available in the park, so the population may have reached its limits. In 2004 a nesting attempt in old oak snag south of the visitor center was disrupted by starlings; in 2005 nesting was successful in a snag close to Bear Creek which is now gone. Current nest holes have not been verified, but there are apparently 1- 2 families nesting in the woodlands. This species is closely associated with oaks, and caches acorns in holes in dead trees or utility poles.

Seen in every month and on 41 counts since the 10-year report. The colony location changed location in 2010 and settled in the protected area on the east side of the park. Starlings had been observed harassing them at nest holes and may have been the cause of their moving. There is still, however, a permanent colonial group in the park.

Red-breasted Sapsucker Uncommon resident of the Rogue Valley, a rare **visitor** to NMP. First seen 1/ 2002; single bird seen on 3 counts in January, August and November.

One sighting since the 10-year report, on 12/20/2012.

Downy Woodpecker Common **resident** in the Rogue Valley and in NMP. First seen 12/1999, 1-3 seen on 52 counts in all months. Cavity nester; pair observed nesting in 2003, juvenile seen; brood patch evident on an adult banded by KBO in May 2007. 1-2 pairs in the park, both in the woods along Bear Creek.

Seen 18 times since the 10-year report, always 1-2 birds.

Hairy Woodpecker A Rogue Valley resident found in habitat similar to the Downy Woodpecker's; rare **visitor** to NMP. First seen 9/1999, 1-4 on 8 counts. Seen far less frequently than its congener; not seen after 8/2002 until 11/2008.

Two sightings since the 10-year report, on 11/26/20 and 2/22/2014.

Northern Flicker Common **resident** of the Rogue Valley and NMP. First seen 10/1999; 1-6 on 101 counts in all months. A cavity nester that will also use a nest box; both situations have occurred at NMP. Apparently nests in the park every spring, although many times not observed. Pair used a hole in a snag in 2003 and again in 2007; two pairs used nest boxes in 2004. Flickers are doing well in NMP.

Seen on 47 counts since the 10-year report; 1-4 in all months. May be nesting in the protected area, since they are in the park all year.

Pileated Woodpecker Uncommon resident of the Rogue Valley; a rare **visitor** to NMP. Single bird seen twice in May 2000 and September 2005.

No sightings since the 10-year report.

American Kestrel Common Rogue Valley wintering bird, less common during the breeding season but does breed; rare **visitor** at NMP but also a **nestor**. First seen 11/2000, seen on 9 counts 2001 – 2006.

Not seen in the park since 2006. Nested in the duck box at the edge of Bear Creek in NMP in 2003, and in a hole in the transformer structure at the south end of the park in 2006.

No sightings since the ten-year report in 2009.

Merlin Winter visitor to the Rogue Valley, sporadic during the nesting season; rare **visitor** at NMP. First seen 10/2002, single bird seen 7 times, most recently in June 2009.

One sighting since the ten-year report in 2009 - on 11/23/2013.

Peregrine Falcon Uncommon resident of the Rogue Valley, rare **visitor** to NMP. Seen once in February 2004. Nests annually on the cliffs of Pilot Rock.

Seen 2 times since 2009 – on 2/25/2012 and 3/25/2013. 2012.

Western Wood Peewee Neotropical migrant, summer **visitor/breeding bird** throughout the Rogue Valley and in NMP. First seen 9/1999, 1-7 seen on 37 counts from May through September, in every year. Brood patch

evident on an adult banded by KBO in June 2008. Always at least one breeding pair in the park.

Seen and heard on 13 counts and in every breeding season since the 10-year report. This bird's call is so regular and so distinctive it is very easy to identify.

Willow Flycatcher Summer visitor and possible breeding bird in the Rogue Valley; rare but regular **migrant** at NMP. Seen pre- and post-season on 8 counts in almost every year. Its preferred breeding habitat is shrub habitat, especially riparian willow thickets. Breeding has not been documented in the valley.

Seen on 3 counts pre- or post-breeding in 2010, 2011 and 2013. No documentation of nesting in the park.

Hammond's Flycatcher Uncommon migrant through the Rogue Valley, rare **visitor** to NMP. Seen once in April 2009. A neo-tropical migrant that nests in dense coniferous forest at high elevations around the valley.

No sightings since the 10-year report.

Pacific-slope Flycatcher Regular migrant through the Rogue Valley, rare **visitor** to NMP. Seen 5 times in spring and fall. Seen on one count since 2009, one bird on 4/21/2014.

Black Phoebe Uncommon but regular **resident** in the Rogue Valley and in NMP; a solitary species, population small. First seen 11/1999, 1-3 on 40 counts. Nested under the bridge at the south end of the park 2006-2009; juvenile seen there in August 2007. Apparently a single pair in NMP.

Seen 26 times since the 10-year report, usually one individual. Nested under the bridge at the south end of the park in 2012.

Ash-throated Flycatcher Uncommon **summer visitor** and breeding bird in the Rogue Valley, and in NMP. First seen in 6/2000; seen 9 times May-July. Probable nester in 2001-2002 and quite certainly in 200, when a brood patch was in evidence on an adult banded by KBO in May.

Seen 3 times since the 10-year report, and both times in 2012, first in May and then in September and presumed to be in transit. However, on 4/21/2014 a pair was investigating the nest hole at the top of a tree close to the lower pond. They were not seen again.

Western Kingbird Regular summer **visitor/breeding bird** in the Rogue Valley and in NMP. First seen 6/2000, 1-5 seen on 29 counts April-September, every year except 2002. 1-3 pairs have nested on power poles and the steel bars of the electrical sub-station at the south end of the park.

Juvenile seen in nest in May 2007.

There have been 10 sightings during the breeding season since the 10-year report and nesting has been documented almost yearly.

Eastern Kingbird Seen once on 2/17/2012.

Cassin's Vireo Uncommon summer breeding bird in the Rogue Valley, rare **visitor** to NMP. Two sightings of a single birds in May 2002 and 2005.

No sightings since the 10-year report.

Hutton's Vireo Resident in the oak woodlands of the Rogue Valley, rare **visitor** to NMP. Seen on two counts, in August 2000 and June 2001. This vireo is usually alone and is nowhere in great numbers.
No sightings since the 10-year report.

Warbling Vireo Uncommon summer breeding bird in the Rogue Valley and surrounding mountains; spring and fall **visitor** to NMP. First seen 5/2000, seen on 6 counts in May and July-September. Flock of 13 on May 2000, 1-3 on other counts.

Five sightings since the 10-year report; in May and August 2011.

Steller's Jay First sighting - two birds on 11/23/2013.

Western Scrub-Jay Common **resident** of the Rogue Valley and NMP. First seen 9/1999, 1-18 seen on all 115 counts, usually 1-10. At least 3-4 pairs in residence but nesting has not been officially documented. This vocal bird is easy to find, see, and hear as it flies from tree to tree and calls frequently. It is noticeably quieter and often furtive during the breeding season, but has presumably bred every year. Juveniles reported in June 2004 and July 2008. During a KBO banding session in May 2007, a jay was caught which had an evident brood patch.

There have been 49 sightings since the 10-year report. This bird continues to be a regular and plentiful resident.

American Crow Common resident of the Rogue Valley, non-breeding **resident** of NMP. First seen 11/1999, 1-30 seen on 77 counts in all months. Small flocks often in the ball fields along with blackbirds. Nests locally in tall conifers, but apparently not in NMP.
Since the 10-year report crows have been seen 39 times. From 1-28 individuals but usually fewer than 5. Seen in every month although they have not nested in the park.

Common Raven Common resident of the Rogue Valley, an uncommon **visitor** to NMP. First seen 12/1999, 1-7 seen on 17 counts from August to May. Not present in the breeding season. Usually in the playing fields

along with crows and blackbirds.

Four sightings of 1-6 birds since the 10-year report.

Purple Martin Seen once on 4/18/2014.

Tree Swallow Common summer **visitor/breeding bird** in the Rogue Valley and in NMP. Of the 5 species of swallows in the valley, this one is seen most regularly and in greatest numbers. Nest boxes in all 3 ponds are occupied annually by this swallow; in one a nest-cam was placed for several seasons, and the process of nesting watched by an audience inside the nature center. First seen 4/2000, 1-150 seen on 45 counts from March – August, one early sighting in February. Pairs have also bred successfully in several nest boxes placed around the park.

Sightings on 19 counts since the 10-year report. The number of breeding pairs has increased since rat-proof nest boxes were installed. In 2014 4 pairs used them. All fledged chicks, although two skeletons and two carcasses were found when the boxes were cleaned out in October. Predation did not seem to be the cause; starvation is more likely. It was a very hot and dry summer.

Violet-green Swallow Common summer breeding bird in the Rogue Valley, a rare **visitor** to NMP. Two sightings - two in July 2000 and one in April 2009. A colonial nester; known local breeding sites include rocky bluffs along the north side of Emigrant Lake and the basalt cliffs of the Table Rocks.

Two sightings since the 10-year report; one pre-season, one post-season.

Northern Rough-winged Swallow Migrant and limited breeding bird in the Rogue Valley; rare migrant **visitor** to NMP. First seen 5/2000, 2-4 seen on 7 counts in spring months.
No sightings since the 10-year report.

Cliff Swallow Abundant summer breeder in the Rogue Valley, rare **visitor** to NMP. Two sightings of a single bird in June 2000 and 2001. A colonial nester, often under bridges or porches, etc. Large colonies at Hyatt Lake and on Rte. 99 under the I-5 at the base of Mt. Ashland.

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Two sightings since the 10-year report; one pre-season, one post-season.

Barn Swallow Common summer visitor/breeding bird in the Rogue Valley, uncommon **visitor** and occasional **breeder** in NMP. First seen 5/2000; 1-6 on 22 counts. Usually a colonial nester, often under eaves of barns and many other buildings. But in NMP a solitary pair nested under the bridge at the north end in 2006 and 2007.

Four June sightings since the 10-year report. In flocks foraging above the upper pond - from 1-9 individuals.

Black-capped Chickadee Common **resident** in the Rogue Valley and in NMP. First seen 9/1999; 1-13 on 90 counts in all months. Nesting documented in 2007 when a brood patch was evident on an adult banded by KBO in May. There was also evidence of nesting by this species in a nest box. Probably nests every year but goes unmarked.

Seen 37 times on counts since the 10-year report; 1-8 birds but usually 5 or less. In all months;

Oak Titmouse Common resident of the Rogue Valley but an uncommon **visitor** to NMP. First seen 3/2001 in the park; 1-2 on 13 counts through 8/2007. Sightings decreased from 5 in 2001 to 1 in subsequent years; and none after 2007.

Sighted on 15 counts at various times of year. Nesting documented in a cavity in an old oak near the upper pond in both 2013 and 2014.

Bushtit Uncommon **resident** of the Rogue Valley and NMP. First seen 2/2001; 1-40 seen on 29 counts in all months except June and December. Usually in small flocks foraging through the shrubs. Pair observed building nest in April 2009.

Seen 17 times on counts since the 10-year report. A few flocks but mostly 1-2 birds seen together at a time. Several nests found and watched.

White-breasted Nuthatch Common resident of the Rogue Valley; an uncommon but regular **resident** of NMP. First seen 12/1999; 1-2 seen on 35 counts in all months. Nesting not documented but probable. This bird is a cavity nester and forages on tree trunks and branches. More often heard than seen, and easily identified by its call. It could easily be overlooked if not vocalizing.

Seen 24 times since the 10-year report. Nesting documented in an old oak where it nested in 2013.

Brown Creeper Uncommon **resident** of the Rogue Valley woodlands, rare **visitor** to NMP. First seen 1/2001; single birds seen on 6 counts – 5 in winter, one in July. No documentation of nesting. This unobtrusive species is easily missed but still appears never to have taken up residence in the park, although appropriate habitat is available.

One bird seen on a count on 9/22/2009. May be more frequent, but this quiet bird is hard to detect as it climbs up tree trunks.

Bewick's Wren Common **resident** of the Rogue Valley and NMP. First seen 2/2000; 1- 4 seen 35 times, usually 3-4 times a year but only once in 2009. Seen in every month. Used a nest box in 2006, brood patch evident on an adult banded by KBO in May 2007.

One or two birds seen 2-3 times each year since 2009; 26 sightings in all. Present in all months.

Status has not changed since monitoring began in 1999.

House Wren Common summer breeding bird in the Rogue Valley; rare **visitor/breeder** in NMP. First seen 5/2001; 1-3 seen on 7 counts from April – August. But seen sporadically and missing in 5 of the 9 breeding seasons covered.

Seen 5 times since 2009; present in the spring of 2011, 2013 and 2014. In 2014 a bird was observed exploring nest box #3 in May, but then A Tree Swallow pair took over.

Pacific Wren Uncommon resident of the Rogue Valley, rare **visitor** at NMP seen 3 times. First seen 2/2004, then twice in 2006, one bird each time. More common in the eastern part of the Rogue Valley and at somewhat higher elevations.

Seen twice since 2009, in February and November 2013.

Marsh Wren Fairly common migrant and wintering bird in the Rogue Valley, rare **visitor** to NMP. Seen twice, in November 2000 and October 2007.

No sightings since the 10-year report.

American Dipper Common resident in the Rogue Valley in appropriate habitat; uncommon **visitor** in Bear Creek in the park. This bird lives on and in fast mountain streams where it forages around and under rocks for invertebrates. Most often seen along Ashland Creek, occasionally on Bear Creek. First seen at NMP along Bear Creek in 1/2000; single birds seen on 9 counts from 2000 – 2005, mostly in winter months, not again until 9/2009 when the KBO banding crew heard one singing along the creek. This species is very territorial, as noted during the annual counts along Ashland Creek by Bob Quaccia. It may forage beyond its breeding territory in winter. There has been no indication of nesting at NMP.

Seen 3 times in Bear Creek since the 10-year report; on 12/26/2010, 9/27/2012 and 2/23/2013.

Golden-crowned Kinglet Winter resident of Rogue Valley woodlands that breeds at high elevations; rare winter **visitor** to NMP. First seen 12/2000, 1-8 seen on 9 counts in winter.

Two sightings since the 10-year report; on 11/6/2010 and 3/25/2014.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet Common wintering bird in the Rogue Valley; frequent **visitor** in winter at NMP. First seen 11/2002, 1-10 on 38 counts from November – April. This migratory species moves north to breed.

Seen 23 times since 2009. Small flocks of 4 and 13 in the winter months.

Swainson's Thrush Migrant and summer breeding bird in the Rogue Valley, rare fall **migrant** at NMP. 1-2 birds seen twice in September.

No sightings since the 10-year report.

Western Bluebird Common resident of the Rogue Valley, rare winter **visitor** to NMP. First seen 11/2000, 2-17 on 17 counts. Most sighting in October, November and December.

Sightings on 3 counts since the 10-year report; in July 2011, December 2012 and April 2014. Occurrence continues to be spotty at the park even though there are many elsewhere in the valley.

Hermit Thrush Uncommon wintering bird in the Rogue Valley and fairly common breeding bird in the surrounding mountains; an uncommon winter **visitor** to NMP. First seen in the park 10/2000, 1-11 seen on 19 counts October – May, usually single birds. The migratory pattern of this species is in question; the montane breeding population far exceeds the wintering valley population and it seems likely that a part neo-tropical, part altitudinal migration is taking place.

Ten sightings on counts on the non-breeding season (September-March) since 2009.

American Robin Common **resident** of the Rogue Valley and NMP. First seen 9/1999, 1-80 on 88 counts. Breeding documented in the park several times: 5 juveniles seen with parents in August 2002. KBO here Large flocks occur in winter.

Seen on almost every count (49/60) since the 10-year report. Nesting reported every year. One of the park's most familiar birds.

Varied Thrush Uncommon **visitor** in winter to the Rogue Valley and NMP. First seen in 1/2002, 1-11 on 6 counts, 5 in the winter of 2006-2007. This thrush breeds at high elevations and descends to the valleys for the winter, as well as migrating south. In November 2006 thrushes began arriving in large numbers and stayed to winter in the Rogue River Valley, a very unusual occurrence.

Seen on two counts since the 10-year report; two individuals in November and December 2012.

Gray Catbird First (and only) sighting in the park on 6/26/2014.

Wrentit Fairly common **resident** in the Rogue Valley and at NMP, usually found in riparian habitat, and more often heard than seen – its call is distinctive. First occurrence 1/2000, 1-2 heard on 46 counts, seen only occasionally. Brood patch evident on an adult banded by KBO in May 2007. Presumably nests every year, since this bird does not migrate and is very much bound to its territory.

Present (usually heard) on 10 counts since 2009; always 1-2 individuals. No change in status.

Northern Mockingbird Uncommon resident of the Rogue Valley, rare **visitor** to NMP. Seen once in November 2006. A small colony of mockingbirds has been in residence in Whetstone Savannah (the oak savannah habitat below Table Rock). There have been sporadic sightings in other parts of the valley but there are no other breeding records. In the past decade this species has not spread in the valley.

No sightings since the 10-year report.

European Starling Widespread **resident** of the Rogue Valley and NMP. First seen 9/1999, 1-63 seen on 111 counts. Large flocks in winter. This introduced species is considered a threat to many native cavity nesters as it is aggressive and numerous. In NMP it has been observed contesting Acorn Woodpeckers for a cavity in an old oak close to the visitor center; the starlings won the contest.

Seen on almost every count (53/60) since the 10-year report. Status unchanged.

American Pipit Seen once on 2/17/2012.

Cedar Waxwing Common resident of the Rogue Valley, fairly common **visitor** to NMP. First seen 9/1999; 1-158 seen on 43 counts in all months except June/July. Large flocks September – November when elderberries and other fruits are ripe.

Seen on 22 counts throughout the year since the 10-year report. Courting pairs observed in May 2014 and nesting presumed.

Nashville Warbler Common summer breeding bird in the Rogue Valley, rare spring **migrant** at NMP. One bird seen twice in April and September 2008.

Since 2009, one bird seen on 8/24/2014.

Orange-crowned Warbler Migrant through the Rogue Valley and a harbinger of spring that arrives in early April; uncommon **migrant** in NMP.

First seen 4/2000, 1-15 seen on 10 counts in spring and fall. Was not observed at NMP in 2008 or 2009.

Seen again in migration on 8 counts 2011-2014; usually on bird, one there were 4.

Yellow Warbler Spring and fall migrant and breeder in the Rogue Valley; rare **migrant** in NMP. 1-2 birds seen on 8 counts *en route* to and from breeding grounds, most in May or August.

Seen during migration on 4 counts; usually 1-2 birds, one flock of 15 in September 2013.

Yellow-rumped Warbler Uncommon in the Rogue Valley in winter, more present in spring and fall when the neo-tropical portion of the population is migrating to breeding grounds at high elevations around the valley. Uncommon **visitor** to NMP. 1-20 seen on 13 counts from September through May, mostly in spring months. Not present during the breeding season.

Seen on 13 counts since 2009. Usually 1-4 individuals but flocks of 10-15 on 3 occasions.

Black-throated Gray Warbler Migrant and breeding bird in the Rogue Valley, particularly in the western part where breeding is probable in several riparian areas; uncommon fall **migrant** in NMP. 1-3 seen on 5 counts, once in August and 5 times in September.

Sighted on 3 counts in the fall since 2009, on 9/20/2010, 9/25/2013 and 8/24/2014.

Townsend's Warbler First (and only) sighting in the park was on 5/21/2011.

MacGillivray's Warbler Uncommon breeding bird in the Rogue Valley; rare **visitor** to NMP. One bird seen twice, in August 2004 and September 2008.

One bird seen once since 2009, on 8/24/2014.

Common Yellowthroat Summer visitor and breeder in the Rogue Valley; **migrant** in NMP. First seen 9/1999, 1-10 seen on 24 counts and in every year in spring and fall. Breeds in reeds in fresh water marshes; there is a small amount of this type of habitat, perhaps not enough for breeding.

Seen on 8 counts since the 10-year report; in early spring or fall.

Wilson's Warbler Common migrant and uncommon breeding bird in the western part of the Rogue Valley; uncommon spring and fall **migrant** in

NMP. First seen in May 2000, 1-15 seen 10 times, most in April and May. Nests predominantly at higher elevations, although nesting has been documented in the western part of the valley.

Seen on 8 counts since 2009, on spring or fall migration.

Yellow-breasted Chat Uncommon but regular summer **visitor/breeding bird** in the riparian habitat of the Rogue Valley and in NMP. First seen and heard in May 2001, 1-3 seen on 22 counts from May through July and in every year. 1-2 pairs nest in dense vegetation along Bear Creek in the park. An adult seen in mating display in May 2003; brood patches evident on adults banded by KBO in June 2007 and 2008.

Present on 7 counts and in every spring since the 10-year report; more often heard than seen. The distinctive vocal timber and varied calls of this species are unmistakable, once learned. There was one pair in 2014, and in a new location a few hundred yards west along the creek.

Western Tanager Common summer visitor and breeding bird in the Rogue Valley, uncommon **migrant** in spring and fall in NMP. Seen on 21 counts, a few in spring, but mostly in August and September.

Seen on 10 counts since the 10-year report, all between mid-May and late September.

Spotted Towhee Common **resident** in the Rogue Valley and in NMP. One of the most frequently encountered birds in the park. Although it is secretive, its plaintive calls are heard frequently from the brushy habitat that is its preference. First seen 9/1999, 1-12 on 103 counts, seen or heard in every month and on almost every count. An estimated 3-6 pairs in the park, but there are no observations of nests or juveniles.

Seen/heard on all counts since 2009, in numbers from 1-11. Its status has not changed through the years.

California Towhee Uncommon **resident** of the Rogue Valley and NMP. First seen 5/2000, 1-2 seen on 19 counts from 2000-2009 in scattered months throughout the year. The valley is the northernmost limit of this bird's range. Although there seem to be more sightings in other parts of the valley, there has been little change in occurrence in the park.

No change in status since the 10-year report. Single birds were seen on 10 counts scattered through the year.

Chipping Sparrow A fairly common breeding bird in summer in the higher elevations of the Rogue Valley; a rare **visitor** to NMP. One bird seen once in September 2002. This neo-tropical migrant winters mostly south of the border, although there is an occasional sighting here in winter.

No sightings since the 10-year report.

Fox Sparrow Fairly common winter bird in the Rogue Valley basin, breeds at higher elevations; uncommon **visitor** in winter to NMP. First seen 11/1999, 1-6 seen on 35 counts from September through April. There are 4 sub-species of this sparrow generally recognized, and there is question whether the wintering birds in the valley are breeding in the surrounding mountains or whether another sub-species migrates north to breed here. 1-3 often on the ground under the feeders during feeder watch sessions.

Seen on 19 counts since the 10-year report from October through April. Often solitary but several sightings of 8 birds.

Song Sparrow Common **resident** of the Rogue Valley and NMP. First seen 9/1999, 1- 22 seen on 107 counts and in all months, larger numbers in winter. This bird is closely associated with riparian vegetation especially the dense shrubbery in the woodlands of the park. Presumably nests every year in the park; brood patch in evidence on adults banded by KBO in May 2007 and July 2008. An estimated 5-7 pairs nest in the park. It is one of the most frequently encountered birds.

Seen on 36 counts since 2009; in every year and in all months. 1-2 birds per count but usually fewer than 5. Its status has not changed.

Lincoln's Sparrow Uncommon **visitor** in winter to the Rogue Valley and in NMP. First seen 10/1999, 1-5 seen on 24 counts from September - December and again in April. Nests at high elevations in wet meadows such as on the south slope of Mt. Ashland. More secretive than the Song Sparrow, but often seen under the feeders.

Seen 8 times since 2009. Status unchanged since 10-year report, one birds usually.

White-throated Sparrow This eastern sparrow is a rare **visitor** in winter in the Rogue Valley and in NMP. First seen 12/2003, single birds seen on 4 counts in winter. Usually in company with White-crowned and Golden-crowned Sparrows.

No sightings since the 10-year report.

White-crowned Sparrow Fairly common winter **visitor** in the Rogue Valley and in NMP. First seen 10/1999, 1-20 seen on 56 counts from September through April. Migrates north and up into the mountains to breed. Often in company with Golden-crowned Sparrow but in much smaller numbers.

Seen on 22 counts. Usually 1-10 birds but 15-17 birds on several counts. several

Golden-crowned Sparrow Common **winter visitor** in the Rogue Valley and in NMP. First seen 10/1999, 1-60 seen on 77 counts from September through April. Seen in flocks on the ground under the feeders during feeder watches, largest numbers in midwinter.

Migrates north and up into the mountains to breed.

Seen on 40 counts since 2009. Numbers variable but usually only one, usually more than 10.

Dark-eyed Junco Common resident of the Rogue Valley that winters throughout the lowlands and breeds in coniferous forests at higher elevations; an uncommon but regular **visitor** in winter in NMP. First seen 11/1999, 1-32 seen on 47 counts from September – May. Seen mostly on the ground or in low shrubs. Although not a common species, it is seen regularly every winter.

Seen on 27 counts since 2009. In numbers ranging from 1-44.

Snow Bunting Rare and out-of-range **visitor** to the Rogue Valley and NMP. One seen in Talent in March 1994, one at NMP in October 2002. This migratory species winters in northern U.S. east of Oregon, is rare west of the Cascades.

Not seen since the initial sighting.

Black-headed Grosbeak Summer **visitor/breeder** to the Rogue Valley and NMP. First seen 5 /2000, 1-9 seen on 30 counts from April to August. Nests every year in NMP, and although considered uncommon because its occurrence falls in that category, its regularity makes it a frequently seen species during the breeding season. One or two pairs arrive every spring. Brood patch evident on adult sanded by KBO in 2007/2008, 3 juveniles seen in July 2008.

Seen 11 times since the 10-year report' 1-8 individuals. Not seen in 2014 for reasons unknown.

Lazuli Bunting A neo-tropical migrant that breeds in the Rogue Valley, but a rare **visitor** to NMP. Seen twice, in May and July 2007.

No sightings since 2007.

Red-winged Blackbird Common **resident** of the Rogue Valley and NMP. First seen 9/1999, 1-88 seen on 100 counts, and in every month. Breeds in the cattails around the ponds; two juveniles were seen in July 2006. Probably a number of nests, but it is difficult to estimate the number of pairs as this species can be polygynous.

Seen 54 times since 2009. Present every month. A partial migrant, its numbers begin to rise in February and pairing begins in early March.

Its status has not changed since the 10-year report.

Usually fewer than 10 birds on a count, but in March 20-40 birds were present.

Western Meadowlark Common resident of the Rogue Valley, uncommon **visitor** to NMP. 1-17 seen on 17 counts but not during the breeding season. Probably more common before the ball fields were constructed, as this is a bird of the open grasslands.

Seen on 3 counts since the 10-year report.

Brewer's Blackbird Common **resident** of the Rogue Valley and NMP. First seen 10/1999, 1-33 on 76 counts in all months. Usually seen around the ball fields and rarely in the natural area of the park. A brood patch was evident on an adult banded by KBO in June 2008, and 3 juveniles seen in July 2008, so presumably there were nesting pairs close to the park.

Seen on 27 counts since 2009 in numbers from 1-18, usually 10 or under. Status is the same since the 10-year report.

Brown-headed Cowbird Common resident of the Rogue Valley; fairly common **visitor** to NMP during the breeding season. First seen 4/2000, 1-11 seen on 23 counts from April to September every year. This cowbird is a brood parasite; laying an egg in the nest of another (usually smaller) bird and leaving it to be raised by the unknowing host. It probably parasitizes nesting birds in NMP, although there are no reports of such observations. The most common documentation of parasitism is when a huge cowbird chick is seen being fed by a small warbler or other passerine after fledging. In winter it gravitates towards pastures, dumps, etc. and congregates with other blackbirds, crows and ravens.

1-6 birds seen on 10 counts since 2009. Its presence in the park has not changed.

Bullock's Oriole Common summer **visitor/breeding bird** in the Rogue Valley and at NMP. First seen 5/2000, 1-8 seen on 26 counts from April until August. 1-2 pairs apparently nest in NMP and juveniles are often present in July. Like the Black-headed Grosbeak, this species is a regular returnee to nest in the park.

1-6 seen on 11 counts since 2009. Probably two nesting pairs in 2014.

Purple Finch Uncommon **resident** of the Rogue Valley, present in NMP in all except the breeding months. First seen 9/1999, 1-5 seen on 26 counts and in all months except June/July. Apparently does not nest in the park.

In "The Birds of Jackson County" a checklist of the county's birds, the category "Uncommon to the fairly common" is given to the Purple Finch, a title that covers a lot of ground. The bird probably is better characterized as

simply "fairly common" and it appears on its way to becoming simply "common". It was seen in the park on 22 counts in the past 5 years and in numbers from 1-10, an increase in both categories from the 10 preceding years.

House Finch Common **resident** of the Rogue Valley and NMP. First seen 10/1999, 1- 16 seen on 78 counts, in all months. Breeding was documented in July 2006 when 4 juveniles were seen begging from an adult.

Since 2009 the House Finch presence on the counts has decreased in number of months seen and in the period of time it was seen. It has been recorded on 20 counts, a dramatic drop from the first 10 years; usually 1-2 birds, only twice more than 10 birds.

Pine Siskin Fairly common winter **visitor** to the Rogue Valley and NMP. First seen 11/1999, and on 22 counts since. 1-77 on 22 counts from November through April. Usually 1-10, but large flocks of over 70 seen twice.

Since the 10-year report seen on 9 counts, November to May, often in flocks of 10-50.

Red Crossbill Uncommon visitor to the Rogue Valley; **rare visitor** to NMP. One bird seen once in March 2007, a winter when there was an influx of this species in the valley.

No sightings since 2007.

Lesser Goldfinch Common **resident** of the Rogue Valley and NMP. 1-76 seen on 89 counts in all months. Nest found in an ornamental shrub in 2006; a juvenile observed being fed by an adult in July 2006. One of our most common and easily seen birds.

Seen on 43 counts throughout the year and in all years since 2009. often in flocks, the largest was 90 on 9/25/2013.

American Goldfinch Fairly common **resident** of the Rogue Valley and NMP. First seen 10/1999, 1- 30 seen on 53 counts in all months. Not seen as frequently as its close relative the Lesser Goldfinch. Presumably nests but nesting has not been documented.

Seen on 27 counts since 2009. Often in flocks, the largest was 35 birds on 4/20/2013. of

Evening Grosbeak Sporadic visitor to the Rogue Valley, rare **visitor** to NMP. Five sightings of 1-6 birds in April, May and September. This species roams around the valley in winter and its presence cannot be predicted; in summer it breeds at higher elevations.

Seen only twice since 2009; a flock of 18 on 4/19/ 2010 and 5 on 5/21/2011.

House Sparrow Common **resident** of the Rogue Valley and in NMP. First seen 1/2000, 1-10 seen on 35 counts in all months. This introduced species is well established all over the U.S. It is a cavity nester. Nesting has not been documented in the park but very probably occurs.

Seen on 17 counts since 2009 and in every month. Nested in 2014 in a box in the upper pond.