

## Western USA 2006

### Itinerary

July 20 Taxi to Schiphol, left home about 08.50. At Schiphol we reshuffled our luggage because two bags were too heavy. Flight KL601, departure 13.20 and arrival at Los Angeles 14.45. Shuttle bus to Alamo Car Rental, Jeep, 4WD. We left 16.30, easily found Hwy 10 (East), and stopped at a Bestn Western Motel, Redlands.

July 21 Awake at 05.00. Some trouble in finding a supermarket. Full breakfast and children enjoyed a swim. Bought a flashlight, left at 11.30, and drive via Gila Bend to Ajo. Very hot during the afternoon (124 °F!). Saw our first cacti after Gila Bend. In Ajo a motel, too warm for camping! Many Lesser Nighthawks and Whip-poorwills.



July 22 Awake at 03.45. A male Hooded Oriole on the roof of the motel and a Cactus Wren family was a nice start of the day. Via Hwy 85 to Organ Pipe Cactus NP. Enjoyed the scenic 'short' drive (20-30 mile!). In the afternoon we drove via Tucson (Hwy 85; Hwy 86 East) to Patagonia (Hwy 82 and 83). Still warm and again a motel night.





Organ Pipe Cactus NP (below).



July 23 Rose at 04.00. At 06.30 at the entrance gate of the Patagonia Sonoita Creek Preserve. Beautiful riparian forest and pastures. Birds included Violet-crowned Hummingbird, Vermillion Flycatcher, Summer Tanager, Gray Hawk, Lark Bunting, Blue Grosbeak, Say's Phoebe, etc. Annelien, Wessel and Imie returned to the hotel for a swim. Thereafter we headed to the famous backyard of the Patton's to watch hummingbirds. Nice views of Inca Dove's, Blue Grosbeak, Lark Bunting and hummingbirds. Very warm and humid. Afternoon drive to Patagonia Lake State Park. We didn't like the park, too many people and too much



noise. While driving back, we had stunning views of a male Montezuma Quail crossing the road. Drive to Carr Canyon, Huachuca Mountains. Just after entering the entrance road there was a poorly maintained campground showing signs as clothing and bags of illegal immigrants. After asking at a local restaurant, we drove another eight miles over a dirt road to a much nicer campground. Saw our first Mexican Jays. We arrived rather late, 19.00-19.30, and had to hurry to cook and pitch up the tent with the last available daylight.



July 24 Rose at 04.00. Several Yellow-eyed Junco's, White-breasted Nuthatch, Western Scrub Jay, Plumbeous Vireo and Hermit Thrush at the campsite. We were unable to find the starting point of the trail to "Comfort Spring". Walked part of a trail to Miller Canyon. Many flowers and a single (male) Broad-billed Hummingbird. Warm. To our surprise, there was a third campground, and here the scenic trail to "Comfort Spring" started. Found some droppings of Black Bears. We met some other birdwatchers who advised us to return and walk along an almost dry river. Here we saw Bushtit and Virginia's Warbler, as well as many bags and clothing of illegal immigrants.









July 25 Left the campground of Carr Canyon at 06.00. Arrived at the Ramsey Canyon gate at 07.00. We were too early, the gate opens at 08.00. Wild Turkeys along the entrance road. Walked a trail and had good views of Sulphur-bellied Flycatchers, Black Phoebe and Mule Deer, including a very young one. Lots of hummingbirds at the feeders, including Berylline, Violet-crowned, Broad-tailed, White-eared, Blue-throated, Magnificent, Black-chinned, Anna's, Broad-tailed, Rufous and a likely Allan's Hummingbird! Walked back-(about half a mile- along the trail, where we had stunning views of a young Black Bear and its mum, climbing trees and playing together! Left at 13.30 and drove to the Turkey Track Road to Ash Canyon B&B, where we saw a rare and local Lucifer's Hummingbird. Along Hwy 80, after passing Douglas, between Bernadino and Apache, we had beautiful views of our first Roadrunner and a Scaled Quail. Brief walk at the Stewart Campground at the Coronado National Forest, Chiricahua Mts. Good views of our first pair of Painted Redstarts. Because the campground was rather gloomy, we decided to have a look at the next campground, which proved to be beautiful. While cooking, a ranger called Shandy checked whether we had paid our camping fee. When she noticed that I was a birdwatcher, she asked if I had ever seen a Spotted Owl! No! Stopped cooking immediately, stored all cooking utensils in a bear proof (metal) cupboard, and we all jumped into our car to follow her! Beautiful views of two full size and spotted immatures along the entrance road to South Fork Road.



July 26 After a good night sleep, we rose at 04.00, and found a Spotted Owl again. We met Shandy at the start of the trail along the South Fork of Cave Creek. Due to the drought, which persists already for some years, the local population of Elegant Trogon has been decimated, and the entire population included a single breeding pair only and six males. Although the walk was nice, birdwise the first part was not productive. While returning, we saw a male Hepatic Tanager, our first Mexican Chickadee, Bridled Titmouse, Dusky-capped and Hammond's Flycatcher, Sulphur-bellied flycatcher, etc., but no Trogons. Shandy returned home to collect her dog. Meanwhile we waited for her in the garden of the South Western Research Station, where we saw a pair of Blue-throated Hummingbirds and a Peregrine. When Shandy returned, we drove to a little road just behind the research station towards the river. We had lunch together when a stunning male Elegant Trogon turned up! In contrast to my earlier experience with other trogons, this bird was restless, perched only briefly in the lower elevation of trees and even on the ground. The bird was also quite "mobile" and in 10-15 minutes travelled several hundreds meters along the stream. Together with Shandy we searched for Red-faced Warbler and Olivaceous Warbler, but birds were quiet. We had distant views of a pair of Short-tailed Hawks. Some rain at the end of the afternoon. In Rodeo we bought a cinnamon role, food and gasoline.





July 27 Morning walk at South Fork. Best birds were Painted Redstart and Mexican Chickadee. Returned to the Sunny Flat campground by 10.00 a.m. and left at noon. Close to Rustler Park we met a professional bird-guide and some birdwatchers. Apart from some Western Bluebirds, they told us they had come across a mixed flock including Red-faced Warbler! We returned immediately and by sheer luck found the flock. The flock was huge, tens of nuthatches (all 3 species!), Grace's Warblers, female Olivaceous Warbler and at least one Red-faced Warbler! Continued to Twinlakes at Willcox, where we visited the sewage pond behind the golf course. Beautiful views of Scaled Quail, Baird's Sandpiper, Stilt Sandpiper, Wilson's Phalarope, etc. We bought groceries in Willcox and drove to Morenci.



Since the local motel had no vacancies and we didn't like a motel we had seen earlier, we decided to drive to Alpine. Although the distance to Alpine was only 80-90 miles, this drive turned out to be a disaster. The drive was about three hours and mostly in the dark since we had left Morenci at 18.00. Apart from the many curves and hairpins, a thunderstorm started, we had lots of rain, hail and fog, road (re)constructions were ongoing everywhere, a fallen tree blocked the road, and the fuel tank was almost empty.... I was really very happy when we arrived finally at Alpine.





July 28 Heavy rain next morning. We enjoyed a well deserved breakfast. A brief drive to Luna Lake, where we saw Bald Eagle, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Green-tailed Towhee, etc. Left at 13.00 and arrived at Petrified Forest NP by 15.00. The scenery was stunning and very impressive. Only 'new' bird was Rock Wren. Briefly visited the Painted Desert and saw several rock paintings. Drive to Holbrook, overnight stay at a Best Western motel plus swimming pool.





July 29 I went for a brief pre-breakfast walk and found some petrified wood. While driving towards Grand Canyon NP, we passed a burned forest, where we had nice views of Western Bluebird, Hepatic Tanager, Black-throated Gray Warbler and a Lewis's Woodpecker. Arrived at Grand Canyon NP (Mather Point) at noon. Despite many tourists, we had a productive walk to Grand Canyon Village along the famous Vermillion Cliffs. Good views of Zone-tailed Hawk and at least six Californian Condors (all adults, including # 87 and 7; no. 7 may be one of the first released birds), Western Scrub Jay, Mountain Chickadee, Juniper Titmouse and Canyon Wren. We camped at the Desert View campground.



July 30 We didn't sleep well due to thunderstorms and rain. All awake at 04.30. During breakfast, a mixed flock passed including White-breasted Nuthatch, Juniper Titmouse, Red Crossbill (heard only) and Chipping Sparrow. Walk to Desert View, where we enjoyed the scenery. We left Grand Canyon NP at 09.00 to drive towards Monument Valley. We stopped at Little Colorado River Gorge, a Navajo Indian reserve, where we spotted a Roadrunner. We arrived in Kayenta at noon, where we bought groceries, gasoline and pizza. Although Monument Valley is scenic, the traffic is heavy. Via Mexican Hat – Hwy 261 and 275- we drove to Natural Bridges National Monument (Utah), where we arrived at 16.00 and had a brief drive to see the three natural bridges.





July 31 Walked the Sipapa Bridge trail, started at 06.30. Close views of Turkey Vultures and a female Blue Gray Gnatcatcher. We enjoyed the walk, which included some steep cliffs with wooden stairs. Along the river we found petrified wood and some possible artefacts of Anazazi Indians. In the ranger station, Wessel and Imie earned their first “junior ranger” certificate and obtained a badge after they had solemnly sworn their junior ranger oath. Left for Hwy 95, which indeed was truly scenic! In fact, we all thought this road is more scenic than the Monument Valley drive.



Around lunchtime we bought some (good) food and a piece of petrified wood in Hanksville. Drive via Hwy 191 to Wellington and Duchesne. The scenery became more and more alpine-like, and we had nice views of an immature Golden Eagle perched on the road and several Sage Thrashers. Some rain. Stopped near Evanston (Best Western motel).





Aug 1 After a good night sleep (awake at 08.00!) and breakfast, we had some difficulties in finding Hwy 89 North since it was pouring with rain. We were hungry but didn't find any shop selling sandwiches in Bear Lake. Finally, we managed to buy some food in Montpelier and drove back (7-8 miles) to the Bear Lake National Wildlife Refuge, a large fresh water marsh. Birds included American Bittern, Whooper Swan and Sandhill Crane. In the afternoon we stopped at Alpine, where we (again) visited a local marsh. We saw a (male) Lazuli Bunting, Cedar Waxwing, Osprey, etc. In Grand Teton (Wyoming) the weather was cold, rainy and windy. Saw a female and two immature Moose, Mountain Bluebird, Whooper Swan, (stray) American Black Duck, etc. Due to the poor weather conditions, we stayed at a motel at Jacksonhole.

Aug 2 Early morning drive to the Tower Falls campground in Yellowstone NP. Recorded our lowest temperature of the holiday (30 °F). Brief walk at the West Thumb geyser basin, where we saw White-crowned Sparrow, Mountain Chickadee, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, and Dark-eyed Junco (pink-sided race). We found a beautiful spot to pitch up our tent and had great views of Williamson's Sapsucker, Steller's Jay and some squirrels. In the afternoon we looked for petrified wood at the Blacktail Plateau Drive, meanwhile enjoying close views of Gray Jay and Northern Flicker. Blue skies, nice weather.







Aug 3 Beautiful weather, but cold early morning. Drive to Canyon, where a Bison corpse had attracted a Grizzly the previous day. We missed the bear and went to West Thumb. Around noon arrived at the visitors centre of Grant Village, where the children saw a movie about the large bush fires of 1988. Outside the visitor centre, I saw two Common Loons that loudly called while flying over the parking lot! Visited Old Faithful in the afternoon, where we bought some food and enjoyed Old Faithful itself. Drive to Madison, where the children attended a ranger lecture to obtain their (Yellowstone) junior ranger batch. Dinner at Canyon. Drive to the Mirror Plateau, where we dipped on bears.



Aug 4 An early morning attempt to spot bears at the Mirror Plateau, but again dipped. Walked a trail from Canyon to Crystal Lake. A nice trail including geysers, forest, lakes and alpine meadows. We bought groceries and drove to the Tower Falls campground, where we played cards. Due to the rain, we stayed in the car and then went to the shop at Tower Falls. When it stopped raining (about 19.30), we returned to the "bear spot" and finally saw a distant



female Grizzly with a cub. While driving back to the campground, we passed the shop at Tower Falls, where a female Black Bear and two cubs were scavaging.





Aug 5 Pre-breakfast walk to Tower Falls produced a male MacGillivray's Warbler, Clark's Nutcracker and two singing Dippers. After breakfast, a drive to Lamar Valley, where we walked the trail to the petrified trees, which was according to our information "extremely strenuous". Annelien and Wessel spotted a Coyote. We saw Bald Eagle, Kestrel, Red-tailed Hawk and Prairie Falcon. Although we found several petrified trees, we didn't discover the two vertical (petrified) trees. Wessel found a large Elk antler, which we collected and put into the car. Imie or Annelien found also a pair of antlers, which we left 'in situ'. We drove to the visitor centre at Fishing Bridge, where we had fries and hamburger. Went to Pelican Creek. Wessel and Imie enjoyed playing in the water. Annelien and Imie found small pieces of obsidian. At the Mirror Plateau, we saw a juvenile Gray Wolf and a male Moose.

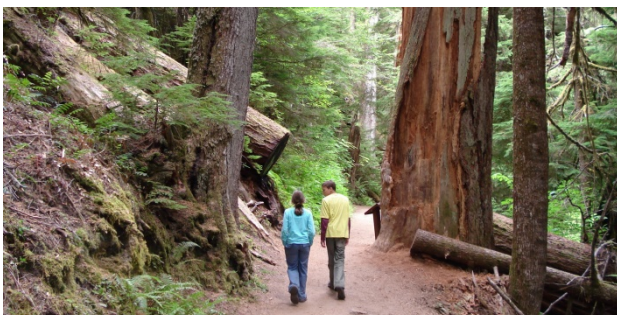


Aug 6 At Tower Falls we saw a Red Fox, of which Imie took some nice pictures. We left Yellowstone at 11.00. Visited Mammoth Hot Springs and left Yellowstone NP via the West "entrance". We bought groceries and drove to Arco, where we stayed at the Lost River Motel (Idaho). The landscape is typical for the "high-desert" and –in my view- very scenic.



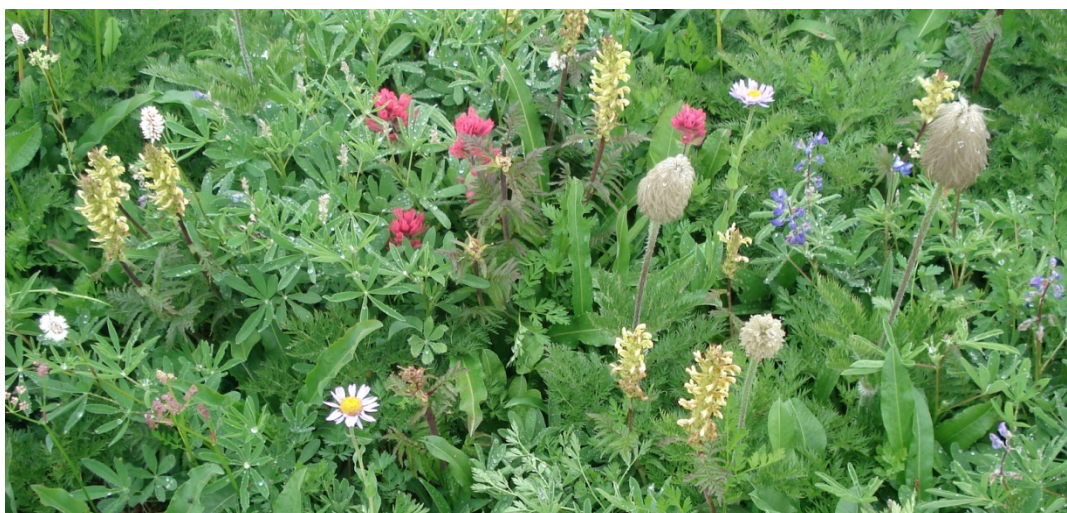
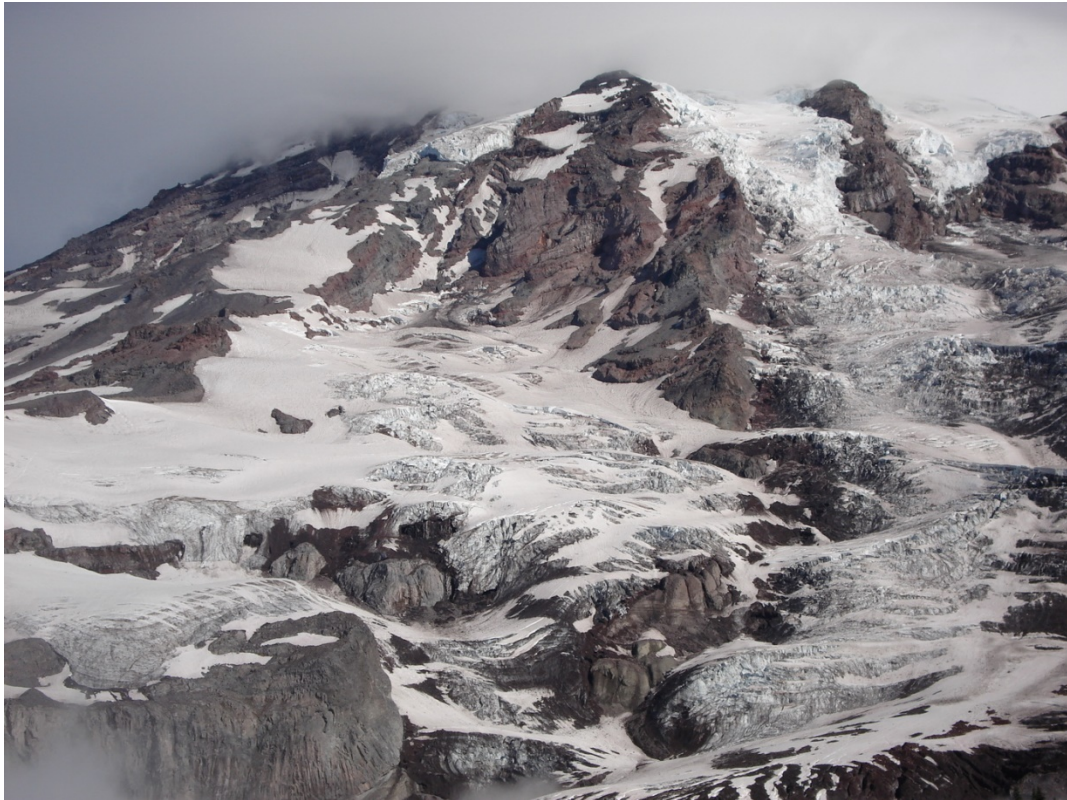


- Aug 7 Annelien and I had a local walk at Arco. We saw some birds and bought fritters for breakfast. Left at 10.30 and drove to Craters of the Moon NP. Drove the 7 mile roundtrip and then walked a trail that included several small caves. The children enjoyed cave climbing. Via Carey, Mountain View and Boise, we drove to Huntington. Still very warm ( $> 100^{\circ}\text{F}$ ). We passed a nice campground at Huntington. Although we considered camping, mosquitoes were abundant and it was still very warm. Still, we saw Californian Quail, Great Horned Owl and Caspian Tern. Drive to Baker City, where we found the very nice and cheap Oregon Trail motel (USD 52 per night), including a swimming pool and a discount breakfast).
- Aug 8 Prebreakfast walk with Annelien in 'historic' Baker City to see some "old" Victorian buildings. At the post office, we send home several pieces of petrified wood that we had collected earlier. We also tried to get rid of our famous antler, but its overall size was far too large. Went to a local shop that specialized in overseas shipping, but they also told that its size was problematic. We left Baker City around 11.00 and drove to and along the Columbia River. Via Hwy 97 to Brooks Memorial State Park (Washington), where we camped for one night and which we didn't like. We saw Pacific Slope Flycatcher, Western Bluebird and a possible female Magnolia Warbler, Waxwing with immatures, Dusky Flycatcher and Western Wood Pewee.
- Aug 9 Drove to Toppenish, where we spent a few hours at the Toppenish National Wildlife Reserve. I hoped to see Bobolinks, but we dipped. Drive to Mt. Rainier National Park (Cougar campground, spot D14). Walked the trail to some 1 000-year old trees. In the afternoon walked to Snow Lake (15.30-17.15). We enjoyed this beautiful trail. Lots of wildflowers and several good birds, including Olive-sided Flycatcher, Golden-crowned Kinglet and Varied Thrush.





Aug 10 Walked the Skyline Trail in Mt. Rainier NP. Despite some fog, there were stunning alpine meadows full of wildflowers, Hoary Marmot and Mule Deer. Good views of Mt. Rainier, Mt. Adams and Mt. Hood. We returned to the ranger station around 13.00 and had diner. Although calling at close range, I failed to see a Blue Grouse. Beautiful (close) views of a Gray Fox eating a squirrel!





Aug 11 Left the Cougar campground at 07.30 with the clouds hanging very low and all mountains being invisible. While driving to Westport along a rather boring road, the weather improved. We found a motel (Ocean Avenue Inn) and drove to the harbour to find out where the boat for the pelagic trip would be leaving. At 14.00 we went to the beach. Impressive numbers of Sooty Shearwaters were passing (rough estimate 10 000+). Returned to the motel at 17.00. The children enjoyed watching movies, and Annelien and I went to the South Jetty after dinner. We had great views of Surf Birds in full summer plumage. This flock also included a single Wandering Tattler. Also saw an immature Marbled Murrelet, Red-throated Loon (summer plumage), etc.



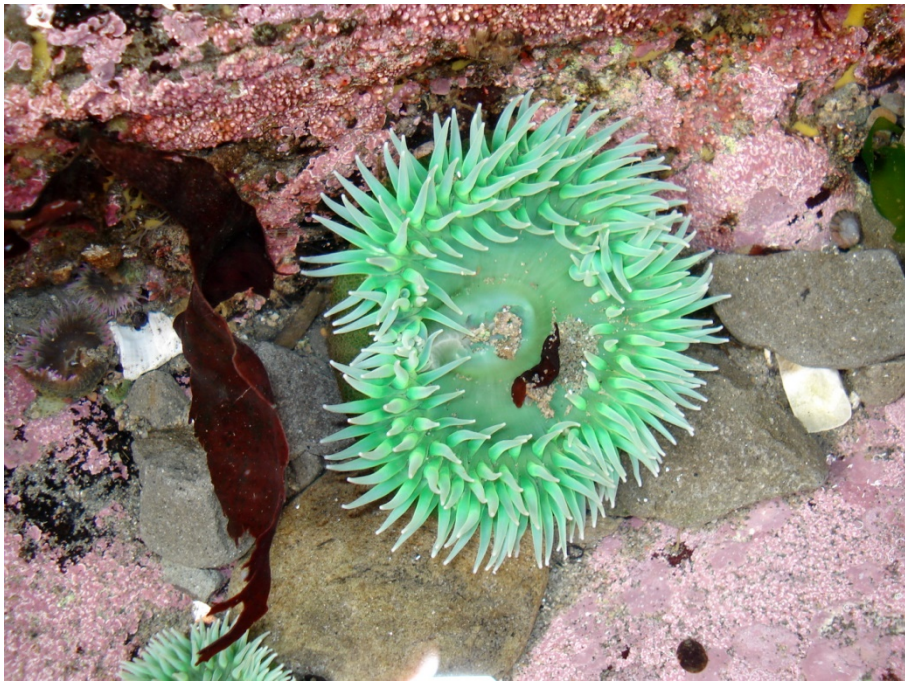
Aug 12 Left Westport at 06.00 for the "Westport Pelagic". Despite the favourable weather conditions, the ocean surface was rough and I didn't feel too well during the first hours. We returned at about 15.30. Birdwise, the trip was outstanding. Good and close views of Sooty, Pink-footed and Flesh-footed Shearwater, four species of Jaegers / Skuas including Long-tailed, Parasitic and Pomarine Jaeger, and stunning views of a (dark gray) South-polar Skua! Also may Fork-tailed and Leach Storm-petrel, great views of both Black-footed Albatross (100+) and an (out-of-season) adult Laysan Albatross, Tufted Puffin, Cassin's Auklet, adult Sabine's Gull, etc. In addition, we saw a Blue Shark, Harbour Porpoise, Dal Porpoise, Elephant Seal, Harbour Seal, Northern Fur Seal, Sunfish and Humpback Whale. We had BBQ and Annelien and I had an evening walk at the South Jetty of Westport.

Aug 13 Very tired yesterday evening, slept over 07.00. Bought some fritters and doughnuts and left around 10.30 to Aberdeen, to look for a hospital. Annelien had a large, red spot on her leg that she didn't like. Left the hospital around 13.30-14.00. The drive towards the Olympic National Park was boring, but after entering the Olympic NP the scenery improved. The weather was fine, in the 70's, but a thick fog was hampering the visibility at Ruby Beach. We stayed at a campground near Mora, just north of La Push. Pitched up our tent besides some impressive fir trees. Went to the beach around 18.00, characterized by lots of drift wood and stones. Birds included three females Harlequin Duck, and brief views of a Beaver.

Aug 14 Prebreakfast walk at the campground, lots invisible birds heard. New bird was a female Red-breasted Sapsucker. Went to the beach after breakfast and walked to the tidal pools at The Arch. Animal of the day was a River Otter that was walking along the river and swimming in the harbour.

Aug 15 At the campground a female Williamson's Sapsucker and Swainson's Thrush. Drive to the Hoh Rainforest. Beautiful forest. Best birds were a female and five immature Hooded Merganser swimming in the small pools near the main entrance. Bought groceries and (Ben & Jerry's) ice cream in Forks and visited the beach. Walked with Wessel towards the end of the jetty, where we saw a female Harlequin Duck and Harbour Seals.







Aug 16 Close to our tent we saw a male Wilson's Warbler and an Evening Grosbeak. Drive to the North via Forks and stopped at a view spots where we could get close access to the Pacific ocean, e.g. in Pysht (flock of 50-60 Harlequin Duck), Crescent Beach (another Wilson's Warbler, White-winged and Surf Scooter, more Harlequin Duck and a Gray Whale at Tonque Point). Wessel and Imie played baseball with some kids at the campground at Tonque Point. Bought a new bag in Port Angeles and stopped briefly at Ediz Hook, the local jetty. Lots of gulls (1 000+), the only (single) Black Turnstone of the holiday, etc. Cooked at Lake Crescent, where the children enjoyed a swim, and collected firewood at the beach.





Aug 17 Cleaned the tent and drove to Tongue Point, where we pitched up our tent to dry. Meanwhile we spotted at least seven Marbled Murrelet. Drive to Eatonville, since we were unable to find any other room close to the airport.

Aug 18 Brief night and some troubles in finding the correct exit to Seatac airport. Delivered the car at Alamo (08.50), and finally managed to ship the antler "home" in a bicycle box.





## BIRDS

### GAVIIDAE

**Red-throated Loon** *Gavia stellata*- Seen on 3 days, best views were those of two adults in breeding plumage at Westport, Aug 11.

**Common Loon** *Gavia immer* - Two birds flying over the parking lot of the visitor center of Grant Village in Yellowstone NP, Aug ). Seen also on various days at the Olympic Peninsula.

### PODICIPEDIDAE

**Eared Grebe** *Podiceps nigricollis* - A single bird on July 27.

**Pied-billed Grebe** *Podilymbus podiceps* - Common, highest count (20+) at Luna Lake, Alpine, July 28.

**Western Grebe** *Aechmophorus occidentalis* - Seen on 3 days, e.g. 4 birds at the sewage pond at Willcox, July 27.

### DIOMEDEIDAE

**Laysan Albatross** *Phoebastria immutabilis* - A single adult seen well during the Westport Pelagic. Below (left).

**Black-footed Albatross** *Phoebastria nigripes* - Common, a total of 147 birds including adults and immatures during the Westport Pelagic. Below (right)



### PROCELLARIIDAE

**Northern Fulmar** *Fulmarus glacialis* – Common, over 400 birds, including light phase, intermediate and dark forms during the Westport Pelagic.

**Sooty Shearwater** *Puffinus griseus* - By far the most numerous bird seen during the Westport Pelagic. Estimated about 7 950 birds! Also large numbers from the beach at Westport, August 11.

**Flesh-footed Shearwater** *Puffinus carneipes* – Two poorly seen, close views of a third bird during the Westport Pelagic.

**Pink-footed Shearwater** *Puffinus creatopus* - Common, about 360 birds seen, most often in small flocks mixed with other Shearwaters during the Westport Pelagic.



## HYDROBATIDAE

**Leach's Storm-Petrel** *Oceanodroma leucorhoa* - A total of 48 birds seen during the Westport Pelagic.

**Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel** *Oceanodroma furcata* - A total of 88 birds seen during the Westport Pelagic.

## PELECANIDAE

**Brown Pelican** *Pelecanus occidentalis* - Very common at the Olympic Peninsula.

**American White Pelican** *Pelecanus erythrorhynchos* - Seen in Yellowstone NP.

## PHALACROCORACIDAE

**Double-crested Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax auritus* - Common, seen on 10 days.

**Pelagic Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax pelagicus* - Seen only at the Olympic Peninsula.

**Brandt's Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax penicillatus* - Only seen during the Westport Pelagic.

## ARDEIDAE

**American Bittern** *Botaurus lentiginosus* - One bird seen at the Bear Lake National Wildlife Refuge, August 1.

**Great Blue Heron** *Ardea herodias* - Common, seen on most days.

**Great Egret** *Ardea alba* - Seen at Huntington, August 7.

**Snowy Egret** *Egretta thula* - A single bird at Bear Lake National Wildlife Refuge, August 1.

**Black-crowned Night-Heron** *Nycticorax nycticorax* - A single bird seen at Bear Lake National Wildlife Refuge.

## THRESKIORNITHIDAE

**White-faced Ibis** *Plegadis chihi* - A single bird at Luna Lake (July 28). Common (200+) at Bear Lake National Wildlife Refuge, August 1.

## ANATIDAE

**Trumpeter Swan** *Cygnus columbianus* - Seen in both Grand Teton NP and in Yellowstone NP.

**Canada Goose** *Branta canadensis* - Common, seen on various days.

**Mallard** *Anas platyrhynchos* - Common, seen in good numbers on various days. Good views of 2 birds of the 'Mexican' form at a sewage pond at Willcox, July 27.

**American Black Duck** *Anas ribripes* - A single bird at Grand Teton NP, August 1.

**American Wigeon** *Anas americana* - A female at Pelican Creek near Fishing Bridge, Yellowstone NP, August 5.



**Northern Shoveller** *Anas clypeata* - Two females at Bear Lake National Wildlife Refuge. Also a (single) female on August 13.

**Cinnamon Teal** *Anas cyanoptera* - Seen at Luna Lake and at Bear Lake National Wildlife Refuge.

**Ring-billed Duck** *Aythya collaris* - Seen on 3 days, e.g. at Bear Lake National Wildlife Refuge.

**Redhead** *Aythya americana* - A female at Willcox, July 27 .

**Harlequin Duck** *Histrionicus histrionicus* - Three females in the harbour of La Push, August 3. Rather common at the Olympic Peninsula, e.g. 150+ birds (including flocks of up to 50-60 birds) at Pysht, August 16.

**Surf Scoter** *Melanitta perspillata* - A single male at Westport, August 11. Two birds during the Westport Pelagic. Common at the Olympic Peninsula.

**White-winged Scoter** *Melanitta fusca* - Two birds flying at Tongue Point, Olympic Peninsula, August 16.

**Barrow's Goldeneye** *Bucephala islandica* - Seen in Yellowstone NP.

**Bufflehead** *Bucephala albeola* - Seen at Pelican Creek near Fishing Bridge, Yellowstone NP, August 5.

**Hooded Merganser** *Lophodytes cucullatus* - A female and 5 immatures near the entrance of Hoh Rainforest, August 15.

**Common Merganser** *Mergus merganser* - Seen on six days, common at the Olympic Peninsula.

**Red-breasted Merganser** *Mergus serrator* - Two birds at the Olympic Peninsula, August 16.

**Ruddy Duck** *Oxyura jamaicensis* - Common (50+) at Twinlakes (Willcox).

#### ACCIPITRIDAE

**Northern Harrier** *Circus cyaneus* - Seen on various days, most common at Bear Lake National Wildlife Refuge.

**Sharp-shinned Hawk** *Accipiter striatus* - Seen on three days.

**Cooper's Hawk** *Accipiter cooperii* - Single birds at Ramsey Canyon, July 25, and at Cave Creek, July 26.

**Northern Goshawk** *Accipiter gentiles* - Heard calling near the Rustler Park Campground, July 26.

**Gray Hawk** *Asturina nitida* - Good scope views of a single adult bird perched in a tree along the river at Patagonia Sonoita Creek Preserve, July 23.

**Zone-tailed Hawk** *Buteo albonotatus* - Beautiful views of a single adult bird while walking between Mather Point and Grand Canyon Village at Grand Canyon NP, July 29.

**Short-tailed Hawk** *Buteo brachyurus* - Two birds flying high over Rustler Park Campground, July 26.



**Red-tailed Hawk** *Buteo jamaicensis* - Common, seen on various days during the first half of the holiday.

**Swainson's Hawk** *Buteo swainsoni* - Seen on 5 days.

**Osprey** *Pandion haliaetus* - Most common in Grand Teton NP and in Yellowstone NP.

**Golden Eagle** *Aquila chrysaetos* - A juvenile bird, perched on the road while travelling from Bear Lake National Wildlife Refuge to Alpine, August 1.

**Bald Eagle** *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* - Most common at the Olympic Peninsula.

#### CATHARTIDAE

**California Condor** *Gymnogyps californianus* - At least seven adult birds at the Vermillion Cliffs while walking from Mather Point to Grand Canyon Village at Grand Canyon NP, July 29. Large! Some birds were seen well and at close range while flying. All condors are ringed and are carry radio transmitters. Numbers of several rings could be read: 87 and 7. The latter bird may be one of the first that was released during the re-introduction programme.

**Turkey Vulture** *Cathartes aura* - Very common, particularly in Southern Arizona. Two singles, migrating, at Tongue Point, Olympic Peninsula, August 16.

**Black Vulture** *Coragyps atratus* - Relatively rare, singles seen on July 25 and 29.

#### FALCONIDAE

**Merlin** *Falco columbarius* - A single bird near the beach of La Push (Aug 15).

**American Kestrel** *Falco sparverius* - Common, seen on most days of the tour except on the Olympic Peninsula.

**Prairie Falcon** *Falco mexicanus* - Two adults hunting in Lamar Valley at Yellowstone NP, August 5.

**Peregrine Falcon** *Falco peregrinus* - Single birds seen on 3 days.

#### PHASIANIDAE

**Montezuma Quail** *Cyrtonyx montezumae* - One of the biggest surprises of the tour! While driving from a campground that we didn't like (Patagonia Lake State Park) a male walked across the road. Stunning views!

**California Quail** *Callipepla californica* - Seen at Huntington on August 7 and on August 9.

**Gambell's Quail** *Callipepla gambelii* - Seen on three days in SE Arizona, first birds on July 22.

**Scaled Quail** *Callipepla squamata* - Two birds seen along Hwy 80 between Bernardino and Apache on July 25, a single bird on July 27.

**Chukar** *Alectoris chukar* (Introduced) - A flock of about ten birds crossed the road at a mountain pass in Utah on July 30.



**Blue Grouse** *Dendragapus obscurus* - Heard at the Cougar Campground, August 10. Later that day, heard a single bird calling at close range near the ranger station at the start of the Skyline trail.

**Wild Turkey** *Meleagris gallopavo* - At least two birds at the entrance road of Ramsey Canyon, July 25.



Scaled Quail

#### GRUIDAE

**Sandhill Crane** *Grus canadensis* - About 50 birds at Bear Lake National Wildlife Refuge. Several birds seen in Yellowstone, including at least one “lesser” on August 6.

#### RALLIDAE

**American Coot** *Fulica Americana* - Seen on various days in good numbers.

#### CHARADRIIDAE

**Black-bellied Plover** *Pluvialis squatarola* - A flock of about 50 birds at Ediz Hook (Port Angeles) on August 16.

**Semipalmated Plover** *Charadrius semipalmatus* - Seen on three days in low numbers.

**Killdeer** *Charadrius vociferous* - Seen on various days.

#### HAEMATOPODIDAE

**Black Oystercatcher** *Haematopus bachmani* - Distant views of two birds near The Arch at the Olympic Peninsula, August 14.

#### RECURVIROSTRIDAE

**American Avocet** *Recurvirostra americana* - Seen at Twinlakes, Willcox, on July 27.

**Black-necked Stilt** *Himantopus mexicanus* - As previous species.

## SCOLOPACIDAE

**Lesser Yellowlegs** *Tringa flavipes* - A single bird on August 7.

**Solitary Sandpiper** *Tringa solitaria* - Seen on four days in low numbers.

**Spotted Sandpiper** *Actitis macularia* - Single birds on July 27 and August 5.

**Whimbrel** *Numenius phaeopus* - Seen at Westport on August 11-12.

**Long-billed Curlew** *Numenius americanus* - A single bird on July 27.

**Marbled Godwit** *Limosa fedoa* - Over 100 birds at the South Jetty of Westport during the Westport Pelagic.

**Black Turnstone** *Arenaria melanocephala* - A single bird at Ediz Hook at Port Angeles, August 16.

**Wandering Tattler** *Heteroscelus incanus* - Great views of a single bird in a mixed flock with Surfbirds at the South Jetty of Westport, August 11.

**Surfbird** *Aphriza virgata* - A flock of eight birds at the South Jetty.

**Sanderling** *Calidris alba* - A flock of ten birds at Westport on August 11.

**White-rumped Sandpiper** *Calidris fuscicollis* - A single bird at Twinlakes, Willcox.

**Baird's Sandpiper** *Calidris bairdii* - Seen on three days, highest count of five birds at Twinlakes, Willcox.

**Western Sandpiper** *Calidris mauri* - Seen on various days, e.g. 20+ at Twinlakes, Willcox.

**Least Sandpiper** *Calidris minutilla* - See previous species.

**Stilt Sandpiper** *Calidris himantopus* - A surprise, four birds in a flock with Long-billed Dowitchers at Twinlakes.

**Long-billed Dowitcher** *Limnodromus scolopaceus* - Four birds at Twinlakes.

**Wilson's Phalarope** *Phalaropus tricolour* - A total of 100+ birds at Twinlakes.

**Red Phalarope** *Phalaropus fulicaria* - A small flock of four birds during the Westport Pelagic.

**Red-necked Phalarope** *Phalaropus labatus* - Small flocks, total estimated of 92 birds during the Westport Pelagic.

## LARIDAE

**Long-tailed Jaeger** *Stercorarius longicaudus* - A single adult bird during the Westport Pelagic.

**Parasitic Jaeger** *Stercorarius parasiticus* - A total of eight birds during the Westport Pelagic.



**Pomarine Jaeger** *Stercoarius pomarinus* - A total of 6 birds, mostly adults, during the Westport Pelagic.

**South Polar Skua** *Stercorarius maccormicki* – One of the best birds seen during the Westport Pelagic! Distant views of a single bird in a large flock of gulls and shearwaters. Good views of a second single (juvenile) bird (slate grey, dark phase).

**Sabine's Gull** *Xema sabini* - A total of 25 adults, all single birds, during the Westport Pelagic. Below.



**California Gull** *Larus californicus* - Common, over 400 birds during the Westport Pelagic.

**Ring-billed Gull** *Larus delawarensis* - Seen in low numbers on three days of the tour.

**Western Gull** *Larus occidentalis* - Common at Westport and the Olympic Peninsula.

**Glaucous-winged Gull** *Larus glaucescens* - Common at Westport and the Olympic Peninsula.

**Heerman's Gull** *Larus heermanni* - Common, particularly in the harbour of Westport and during the Westport Pelagic.

**Black Tern** *Chlidonias niger* - Two birds at Bear Lake National Wildlife Refuge.

**Caspian Tern** *Sterna caspia* - Seen on six days, highest count (10+) at Huntington, August 7.

**Forster's Tern** *Sterna forsteri* - A single bird at Bear Lake National Wildlife Refuge.

**Arctic Tern** *Sterna paradisaea* - A total of 13 birds, in 2-3 small flocks, during the Westport Pelagic.

#### ALCIDAE

**Common Murre** *Uria aalge* - Seen during the Westport Pelagic, estimated 1,500+ birds.

**Pigeon Guillemot** *Cephus columba* - A total of 92 birds during the Westport Pelagic.

**Marbled Murrelet** *Brachyramphus marmoratus* - A single bird at Westport, August 11. More common –seven birds, including juveniles, at Tongue Point, Olympic Peninsula, August 17.

**Cassin's Auklet** *Ptychoramphus aleuticus* - Seven individuals seen during the Westport Pelagic.

**Rhinoceros Auklet** *Cerorhinca monocerata* - A total number of 34 seen during the Westport Pelagic.

**Tufted Puffin** *Fratercula cirrhata* - Four adults seen during the Westport Pelagic.

#### COLUMBIDAE

**Mourning Dove** *Zenaida macroura* - Common on most days except on the Olympic Peninsula.

**White-winged Dove** *Zenaida asiatica* - Very common on July 22-23 (SE Arizona).

**Eurasian Collared Dove** *Streptopelia decaocto* (Introduced) - A few seen in SE Arizona.

**Inca Dove** *Columbina inca* - Seen at Ajo, July 21. Best views of two birds in a mixed flock with other doves at the famous Patton's (hummingbird) garden, Patagonia, July 23.

**Common Ground Dove** *Columbina passerine* - Two pairs at the Patton's garden, Patagonia, July 23.

**Rock Dove** *Columba livia* – (Introduced) Very common in SE Arizona.

**Band-tailed Pigeon** *Columbina fasciata* - Seen on two days of the tour.

#### CUCULIDAE

**Greater Roadrunner** *Geococcyx californicus* - Great views of single birds at Douglas along Hwy 80 on July 25, and North of the Grand Canyon at a Navajo Indian reserve on July 30.

#### STRIGIDAE

**Western Screech Owl** *Otus kennicottii* - Heard at the campground of Tower Falls (Aug 4).

**Great Horned Owl** *Bubo virginianus* - Beautiful views of two birds, likely a pair, at broad daylight at Huntington.

**Spotted Owl** *Strix occidentalis* - One of the best birds of the tour. Two, almost full grown, immatures seen at close range along the entrance road to South Fork, July 25. A single bird was still present next morning.



#### CAPRIMULGIDAE

**Lesser Nighthawk** *Chordeiles acutipennis* - Seen in SE Arizona, common at Ajo.



**Common Nighthawk** *Chordeiles minor* - Seen on various days, including at Ajo.

#### APODIDAE

**White-throated Swift** *Aeronautes saxatalis* - First seen at South Fork, July 26.

**Vaux's Swift** *Chaetura vauxi* - Like the previous species also seen on various days including South Fork.

#### TROCHILIDAE

**Broad-billed Hummingbird** *Cynanthus latirostris* - Seen in SE Arizona. First birds at the motel in Patagonia on July 22, more common on July 23 and 25.

**White-eared Hummingbird** *Hylocharis leucotis* – At least two birds at Ramsey Canyon, July 25.

**Berylline Hummingbird** *Amazillia beryllina* - A single adult bird seen well at Ramsey Canyon.

**Violet-crowned Hummingbird** *Amazillia violiceps* - At least six birds at the hummingbird feeders at the main entrance of the Patagonia Sonoita Creek Preserve. Also two birds at Ramsey Canyon.

**Blue-throated Hummingbird** *Lampornis clemenciae* - Four birds at Ramsey Canyon. Also two birds on July 26-27.

**Magnificent Hummingbird** *Eugenes fulgens* - Three birds at Carr Canyon and Ramsey Canyon.

**Lucifer Hummingbird** *Calothorax Lucifer* - Two birds at Turkey Track Road to Ash Canyon B&B, July 25.

**Black-chinned Hummingbird** *Archilochus alexandri* - One of the most common species in SE Arizona, first seen at Patagonia, July 22.

**Anna's Hummingbird** *Calypte anna* - At least four birds at Ramsey Canyon.

**Broad-tailed Hummingbird** *Selasphorus platycercus* - First seen along a trail at Carr Canyon. Also seen on July 25-26.

**Rufous Hummingbird** *Selasphorus rufus* - One of the common hummingbirds of SE Arizona. First seen at Patagonia Sonoita Creek Preserve on July 23.

**Allan's Hummingbird** *Selasphorus sasin* - Two birds at the Patagonia Sonoita Creek Preserve.

#### TROGONIDAE

**Elegant Trogon** *Trogon elegans* - One of the best birds of the tour. A stunning male along a little stream close to the South Western Research Station. The bird was quite mobile and perched briefly on ground, shrubs, trees, etc., in this way travelling along the creek. The population of Elegant Trogons is vulnerable and decreasing due to persisting drought.

#### ALCEDINIDAE

**Belted Kingfisher** *Ceryle alcyon* - Seen on four days in low numbers.

## PICIDAE

**Acorn Woodpecker** *Melanerpes formicivorus* - Common in SE Arizona.

**Lewis's Woodpecker** *Melanerpes lewis* - Scope views of a female between Holbrook and Grand Canyon NP in a patch of burned forest, July 29.

**Gila Woodpecker** *Melanerpes uropygialis* - Two birds at Organ Pipe Cactus NP, July 22, and another two birds on July 23.

**Williamson's Sapsucker** *Sphyrapicus thyroideus* - Seen at Yellowstone NP. A pair near the Towerfalls campground, August 2, and a single male at West Thumb, August 3.

**Red-breasted Sapsucker** *Sphyrapicus rubber* - A single bird at the Mora campground, Olympic Peninsula, August 14.

**Red-naped Sapsucker** *Sphyrapicus nuchalis* - A single female at Yellowstone NP, August 2.

**Hairy Woodpecker** *Picoides villosus* – Seen at the at the Olympic Peninsula, August 15.

**Ladder-backed Woodpecker** *Picoides scalaris* - Two birds at Patagonia, July 23.

**Arizona Woodpecker** *Picoides arizonae* - A single bird at Organ Pipe Cactus NP, July 22.

**Gilded Flicker** *Colaptes chrysoides* - Common at Organ Pipe Cactus NP.

**Northern Flicker** *Colaptes auratus* - Common at the Patagonia Sonoita Creek Preserve.

**Pileated Woodpecker** *Dryocopus pileatus* - Singles heard on August 16 and seen flying near Tongue Point, Olympic Peninsula, August 17.

## TYRANNIDAE

**Olive-sided Flycatcher** *Cantopus cooperi*

Three birds singing and seen well while walking the Snow Lake trail, Mt Rainier NP, August 9.

**Greater Pewee** *Contopus pertinax* - A single bird at Miller Canyon, July 24.

**Western Wood Peewee** *Contopus sordidulus* - Common, seen on various days.

**Dusky Flycatcher** *Empidonax oberholseri* - A single bird at Brooks Memorial State Park, August 8.

**Hammond's Flycatcher** *Empidonax hammondi* - Several birds at the South Fork of Cave Creek.

**Pacific Slope Flycatcher** *Empidonax difficillis* - A single bird at Brooks Memorial State Park.

**Say's Phoebe** *Sayornis saya* - Single birds at the Patagonia Sonoita Creek Preserve, July 23, and at the South Western Research Station, July 26.

**Black Phoebe** *Sayornis nigricans* - Single birds at Ramsey Canyon on July 25 and July 28.



**Vermillion Flycatcher** *Pyrocephalus rubinus* - Good views of a pair plus juvenile at the Patagonia Sonoita Creek Preserve, July 23.

**Dusky-capped Flycatcher** *Myiarchus tuberculifer* - At least three birds at the South Fork of Cave Creek, July 26.

**Ash-throated Flycatcher** *Myiarchus cinerascens* - Three birds at Ajo, July 22.

**Brown-crested Flycatcher** *Myiarchus tyrannulus* - A single bird at Ramsey Canyon, July 25.

**Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher** *Myiodynastes luteiventris* - At least four birds at Ramsey Canyon. Heard at Cave Creek.

**Cassin's Kingbird** *Tyrannus vociferans* – Single birds near South Fork of Cave Creek.

**Western Kingbird** *Tyrannus verticalis* – Common in SE Arizona.

**Eastern Kingbird** *Tyrannus tyrannus* - A total of nine birds at the Toppenish National Wildlife Reserve.

#### LANIIDAE

**Loggerhead Shrike** *Lanius exubitor* - Seen on 2 days in SE Arizona.

#### VIREONIDAE

**Hutton's Vireo** *Vireo huttoni* - Singles on July 25 and July 27, two birds on Aug 9.

**Plumbeous Vireo** *Vireo plumbeous* - A single bird at the campground of Carr Canyon, July 24.

#### CORVIDAE

**Steller's Jay** *Cyanocitta stelleri* - Seen on most days of the tour.

**Western Scrub Jay** *Aphelocoma californica* - A flock of at least 10 birds, including immatures, was roaming the campground of Carr Canyon, July 24.

**Mexican Jay** *Aphelocoma ultramarine* - Seen at Carr Canyon up to five birds per day.

**Pinyon Jay** *Gymnorhinus cyanocephalus* - Poor and brief view of a distant bird at a patch of burned forest while travelling to Grand Canyon NP, July 29.

**Gray Jay** *Perisoreus canadensis* - Seen at Yellowstone NP and Mt Rainier NP.

**Clark's Nutcracker** *Nucifraga columbiana* – As previous species but less common.

**American Magpie** *Pica hudsonia* - Seen on six days.

**American Crow** *Corvus brachyrhynchos* - Common at the Olympic Peninsula.

**Northwestern Crow** *Corvus caurinus* - Seen at Tongue Point, Olympic Peninsula, on August 16-17.

**Common Raven** *Corvus corax* – Common, seen on most days of the tour.

**Chihuahuan Raven** *Corvus cryptoleucus* - First seen near Tucson, July 22. Common from SE Arizona to Grand Canyon NP.

#### ALAUDIDAE

**Horned Lark** *Eremophila alpestris* - Two immatures seen when walking to the petrified trees at the Lamar Valley, Yellowstone NP, August 5.

#### HIRUNDINIDAE

**Tree Swallow** *Tachycineta bicolor* – Common except in SE Arizona and Olympic Peninsula.

**Violet-green Swallow** *Tachycineta thalassina* - Seen at Miller Canyon, July 24.

**Bank Swallow** *Riparia riparia* - A flock of 10+ birds at Bear Lake National Wildlife Refuge.

**Barn Swallow** *Hirundo rustica* - Common, seen in good numbers.

**Cliff Swallow** *Petrochelidon pyrrhonota* - As previous species.

#### PARIDAE

**Bridled Titmouse** *Baeolophus wollweberi* - Seen at Carr Canyon and at South Fork of Cave Creek.

**Juniper Titmouse** *Baeolophus ridgwayi* - Seen at Grand Canyon NP and Natural Bridges NP.

**Black-capped Chickadee** *Poecile atricapilla* - Two birds at Yellowstone NP, August 2.

**Mountain Chickadee** *Poecile gambeli* - Rather common at Grand Canyon NP and Yellowstone NP.

**Mexican Chickadee** *Poeceli sclateri* – Seen along the trail at South Fork of Cave Creek , July 26-27. 27.

**Chestnut-backed Chickadee** *Poeceli rufescens* - Common (10+) at Hoh Rainforest, Olympic Peninsula.

#### AEGITHALIDAE

**Bushtit** *Psaltiriparus minimus* - Two birds in a mixed flock near Comfort Spring, Huachuca Mts, July 24.

#### CERTHIIDAE

**Brown Creeper** *Certhia americana* - Singles at South Fork, July 25 and 26.

#### SITTIDAE

**Red-breasted Nuthatch** *Sitta canadensis* - At least six birds in a mixed flock near Rustler Park, July 27. See also Red-faced Warbler.

**White-breasted Nuthatch** *Sitta carolinensis* - Seen at Carr Canyon on July 24 as well as on other days. Also present in the mixed flock at Rustler Park.



**Pygmy Nuthatch** *Sitta pygmaea* - At least 20+ birds in the mixed flock near Rustler Park.

#### TROGLODYTIDAE

**Bewick's Wren** *Thryomanes bewickii* - Seen on two days in SE Arizona.

**Winter Wren** *Troglodytes troglodytes* - Singles seen at the Olympic Peninsula.

**Rock Wren** *Salpinctes obsoletus* - Seen at Petrified Forest NP, Desert View (Grand Canyon NP), and Natural Bridges National Monument).

**Canyon Wren** *Catherpes mexicanus* - Two birds at Mather Point, Grand Canyon NP.

**Cactus Wren** *Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus* - A total of nine birds at Ajo and Organ Pipe Cactus NP.

#### CINCLIDAE

**American Dipper** *Cinclus mexicanus* - Singing (displaying?) at Tower Falls, August 5. Also seen at Mt Rainier NP, August 9.

#### REGULIDAE

**Golden-crowned Kinglet** *Regulus satrapa* - Finally good views of this uncommon bird –at least to my experience, when walking to Snow Lake at Mt Rainier NP.

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet** *Regulus calendula* - Two birds at (West Thumb geyser basin, Yellowstone NP. SYLVIIDAE

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** *Polioptila caerulea* - A bird along the trail to Sipapa Bridge at Natural Bridges National Monument..

#### TURDIDAE

**Mountain Bluebird** *Sialia currucoides* - Seen on three days.

**Western Bluebird** *Sialia mexicana* - Seen on six days.

**Varied Thrush** *Ixoreus naevius* - A single immature bird along the trail to Snow Lake at Mt Rainier NP.

**American Robin** *Turdus migratorius* - Common.

**Swainson's Thrush** *Catharus ustulatus* - One bird at the Mora Campground at the Olympic Peninsula, August 15.

**Hermit Thrush** *Catharus guttatus* – Single birds at the campground at Carr Canyon, July 24, and at South Fork of Cave Creek, July 26.

#### MIMIDAE

**Northern Mockingbird** *Mimus polyglottus* – Almost daily in SE Arizona.

**Gray Catbird** *Dumetella carolinensis* - Two birds at the Toppenish Wildlife Reserve, August 9.

**Curve-billed Thrasher** *Toxostoma curvirostre* - Common in SE Arizona, e.g. 10+ birds at Organ Pipe Cactus NP, July 22.

**Sage Thrasher** *Oreoscoptes montanus* - Seen on three days.

#### STURNIDAE

**European Starling** *Sturnus vulgaris* (Introduced) - Common, seen on various days.

#### MOTACILLIDAE

**American Pipit** *Anthus rubescens* - Five birds in wet alpine meadows along the edge of melting snow, Skyline Trail at Mt. Rainier NP, August 10.

#### OTILOGONATIDAE

**Phainopepla** *Phainopepla nitens* - Common in SE Arizona. First seen on July 22 and at least 100+ birds at Patagonia, July 23.

#### BOMBYCILLIDAE

**Cedar Waxwing** *Bombycilla garrulous* - Seen on 3 days.

#### PARULIDAE

**Nashville Warbler** *Vermivora ruficapilla* - A female along the dry creek of the Comfort Trail, Miller Canyon, July 24.

**Lucy's Warbler** *Vermivora luciae* - Three birds at the Patagonia Sonoita Creek Preserve, July 23.

**Yellow Warbler** *Dendroica petechia* - A single bird on July 23.

**Black-throated Gray Warbler** *Dendroica nigrescens* – Low numbers seen from July 24-30.

**Yellow-rumped Warbler** *Dendroica coronata* - Seen on three days, most common (8+) at Luna Lake (Alpine, July 28).

**Grace's Warbler** *Dendroica graciae* - At least 10+ birds in the mixed flock near Rustler Park, July 27.

**MacGillivray's Warbler** *Oporornis tolmiei* - A single male at Tower Falls, Yellowstone NP, August 5.

**Common Yellowthroat** *Geothlypis trichas* - Five birds at Patagonia Sonoita Creek Preserve, July 23.

**Wilson's Warbler** *Wilsonia pusilla* - A single bird on August 8. Three birds at Tongue Point, Olympic Peninsula, August 15-16.

**Red-faced Warbler** *Cardellina rubrifrons* - This species proved difficult to find in SE Arizona. Finally, we crossed a huge mixed flock near Rustler Park on July 27. This flock consisted of three species of Nuthatches, Grace's Warbler, Olive Warbler, etc. Possibly, we also saw a single Red-faced Warbler very briefly on July 26, also close to Rustler Park.



**Pained Redstart** *Myioborus pictus* - Two birds seen at Ramsey Canyon, July 25. Another two birds at the Stewart Campground of Coronada National Forest (July 25). Single males at South Fork of Cave Creek.

**Yellow-breasted Chat** *Icteria virens* - A total of eight birds on July 23. Best views of a singing male in the garden of the Patton's at Patagonia, but also seen at the Patagonia Sonoita Creek Preserve.

#### PEUCEDRAMIDAE

**Olive Warbler** *Peucedramus taeniatus* - Yes! Like the Red-faced Warbler, this species was difficult to find. Fortunately, a female was seen in the mixed flock at Rustler Park, July 27.

#### CARDINALIDAE

**Northern Cardinal** *Cardinalis cardinalis* - A pair at Organ Pipe Cactus NP, July 22-23.

**Black-headed Grosbeak** *Pheucticus melanocephalus* - A single male seen on July 23. Common at Carr Canyon.

**Blue Grosbeak** *Guiraca caerulea* - Two birds seen at the Patagonia Sonoita Creek Preserve and another two birds in the garden of the Patton's, July 23.

**Lazuli Bunting** *Passerina cyanea* - A male at Alpine, August 1. Two birds on August 7.

#### THRAUPIDAE

**Hepatic Tanager** *Piranga flava* - Good views of a male at the South Fork of Cave Creek. Two birds on July 29.

**Summer Tanager** *Piranga rubra* - Common at the Patagonia Sonoita Creek Preserve.

**Western Tanager** *Piranga ludoviciana* - Seen in low numbers on five days.

#### EMBERIZIDAE

**Spotted Towhee** *Pipilo maculatus* - A single bird on August 8.

**Green-tailed Towhee** *Pipilo chlorurus* - A single bird at Luna Lake, Alpine, July 28. Two birds at Yellowstone NP, August 4.

**Canyon Towhee** *Pipilo fuscus* - Seen at Organ Pipe Cactus NP, July 22-25.

**Albert's Towhee** *Pipilo alberti* - Two birds in the garden of the Patton's at Patagonia.

**Rufous-winged Sparrow** *Aimophila carpalis* - A juvenile in the garden of the Patton's, Patagonia.

**Chipping Sparrow** *Spizella passerine* - Singles on three days.

**Lark Sparrow** *Chondestes grammacus* - Three birds at the Patagonia Sonoita Creek Preserve. Four birds at the South Western Research Station, July 26.

**Savannah Sparrow** *Passerculus sandwichensis* - A single bird on August 5 and 30+ birds at the Toppenish National Wildlife Reserve, August 9.

**Song Sparrow** *Melospiza melodia* - Seen on three days.

**Lincoln's Sparrow** *Melospiza lincolnii* - Singles on August 5 and August 7.

**Dark-eyed Junco** *Junco hyemalis* (div. ssp) - Various subspecies seen from August 2 onwards.

**Yellow-eyed Junco** *Junco phaeonotus* - Common at Carr Canyon, July 24.

**White-crowned Sparrow** *Zonotrichia leucophrys* - Seen on four days.

#### ICTERIDAE

**Hooded Oriole** *Icterus cucullatus* - Four birds at Ajo, July 22.

**Bullock's Oriole** *Icterus bullockii* - A total of three birds at Arco, August 6-7.

**Western Meadowlark** *Sturnella neglecta* - Seen on three days.

**Red-winged Blackbird** *Agelaius phoeniceus* - As previous species.

**Yellow-headed Blackbird** *Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus* - Like the previous species, most common at Bear Lake National Wildlife Refuge.

**Brewer's Blackbird** *Euphagus cyanocephalus* - Seen on six days, first seen at the Bear Lake National Wildlife Refuge.

**Great-tailed Crackle** *Quiscalus mexicanus* - Common in SE Arizona.

**Brown-headed Cowbird** *Melothrus ater* - At least 10 birds at the Patagonia Sonoita Creek Preserve, July 23.

#### FRINGILLIDAE

**Red Crossbill** *Loxia curvirostra* - Seen or heard on various days.

**Evening Grosbeak** *Coccothraustes vespertinus* - Brief views of a single bird at the Mora campground, Olympic Peninsula, August 16.

**House Finch** *Carpodacus mexicanus* - Common in SE Arizona.

**Lesser Goldfinch** *Carduelis psaltria* - As the previous species.

**Pine Siskin** *Cardualis pinus* - Seen on five days in low numbers.

#### PASSERIDAE

**House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus* (Introduced) - Common, seen on most days of the tour.



## MAMMALS

### CARNIVORA

**Black Bear** *Ursus americanus* – A mother and cub at Ramsey Canyon, July 25. A mother and two cubs at Tower Falls, Yellowstone NP, August 4. Below (Ramsey Canyon).



**Grizzly Bear** *Ursus horribilis* - Distant views of mother with cub near Tower Falls, August 4.

**River Otter** *Lutra canadensis* - Nice views of an Otter walking and swimming near the harbour of La Push, August 14.

**Striped Skunk** *Mephitis mephitis* - Nice views close to the tent at the Sunny Flat Campground, Coronado National Forest, July 26.

### CANADIAE

**Coyote** *Canis latrans* - A single seen by Wessel and Annelien at the Lamar Valley, Yellowstone NP, August 5.

**Gray (Timber) Wolf** *Canis lupus* - Good views of a pack of three adults and four immatures close to Tower Falls. Howling one morning.

**Red Fox** *Canis niger* - Seen at close range at Tower Falls, August 4.

**Gray Fox** *Urocyon cinereoargentatus* - A single at Mt Rainier NP eating a Chipmunk.

Gray Wolf (top) and Gray Fox (below).



OTARIIDAE

**Northern Fur Seal** (Steller Sea Lion) *Eumetopias jubatus* - A single during the Westport Pelagic.  
PHOCIDAE

**Harbor Seal** *Phoca vitulina* - Seen during the Westport Pelagic and at the Olympic Peninsula.

**Elephant Seal** *Mirounga angustirostris* - Distant views of a single during the Westport Pelagic.

SCIURIDAE

**Yellowbelly Marmot** *Marmota flaviventris* - Three near the campground at Tower Falls.



**Hoary Marmot** *Marmota caligata* - Four along the Skyline trail at Mt Rainier NP.



**Whitetail Antelope Squirrel** *Ammospermophilus leucurus* - Five in Organ Pipe Cactus NP.

**Roundtail Ground Squirrel** *Citellus tereticaudus* - One in Organ Pipe Cactus NP.

**Golden-mantled Squirrel** *Citellus lateralis* - Seen on various days.

**Columbian Ground Squirrel** *Citellus columbianus* - Seen at Yellowstone NP.

**Rock Squirrel** *Citellus variegates* - A single at Natural Arches.

**Least Chipmunk** *Eutamias minimus* – Common.

**Arizona Gray Squirrel** *Sciurus arizonensis* - Seen in SE Arizona.

**Red Squirrel** *Tamiasciurus hudsonicus* - A single in Yellowstone NP. Probably underrecorded.

#### CASTORIDAE

**Beaver** *Castor canadensis* - A single at Luna Lake, July 28. Brief views of a single animal near the harbour of La Push, Olympic Peninsula.

#### LEPORIDAE

**Blacktail Jackrabbit** *Lepus californicus* - Seen on July 28-30.

**Dessert Cottontail** *Sylvilagus auduboni* - Like previous species.

#### CERVIDAE

**Elk** *Cervus canadensis* - Seen at Yellowstone NP. Found three antlers, a single and a pair, along the trail to the petrified trees in Lamar Valley.

**Mule (Blacktail) Deer** *Odocoileus hemionus* - A female with a young immature at Ramsey Canyon.



**Whitetail Deer** *Odocoileus virginianus* - Singles on various days. Below at Mt Rainier.



**Moose** *Alces alces* - A female and two immatures at Grand Teton NP.

ANTILOCAPRIDAE

**Pronghorn** *Antilocapra americana* - Seen on three days. Largest number (20+) at Lamar Valley.



## BOVIDAE

**Bison** *Bison bison* - Common in Yellowstone NP..



**Bighorn Sheep** *Ovis canadensis* - A small herd of six animals at Grand Canyon NP.

## DELPHINIDAE

**Harbor porpoise** *Phocoena phocoena* - Five seen during the Westport Pelagic.

**Dall Porpoise** *Phocoenoides dalli* - Two seen well during the Westport Pelagic.

## ESTRICHTIIDAE

**Gray Whale** *Estrichtius gibbosus* - A single swimming at Tongue Point.

## BALAENOPTERIDAE

**Humpback Whale** *Megaptera novaeangliae* - Two seen well during the Westport Pelagic.