
 BIRDS OF THORNTON CREEK, LINCOLN COUNTY, IN 1991

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ABSTRACT.--This is a continuation of Faxon and Bayer (1991), which summarized Faxon's 1973-1990 observations. In 1991, Faxon made observations during 168 days and recorded 111 species. Monthly frequencies of occurrence are given for each species.

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A. INTRODUCTION

Faxon continued his bird observations at Thornton Creek in 1991, but it is not feasible to pool them now with his 1973-1990 records in Faxon and Bayer (1991) and re-publish them.

Rather than wait for several years of records to accumulate before publishing a volume for all of Faxon's observations, there are two good reasons to publish these results now. First, it allows Faxon's data to be available, so that changes can be more readily apparent. This is important because Faxon's 18+ year data set is unsurpassed in its year-around continuity for the Oregon Coast Range. Second, if Faxon's 1991 results aren't published now, they may never be published because circumstances change, and there is no guarantee that either Faxon or Bayer will have the time or energy to publish the results in the future.

Because this is a continuation, Faxon's study area, methods, and results (especially about migration) are not repeated here; the reader is urged to consult Faxon and Bayer (1991) for details.

B. AUTHORS' DIVISION OF LABOR

Faxon and Bayer divided duties essentially the same way as in Faxon and Bayer (1991:4). Faxon made the observations, recorded the daily records for species, tallied the number of species noted each day, and commented on a rough draft of this article. Bayer tallied monthly frequencies

for each species, calculated averages, put data in these computer files, extracted comments from Faxon's monthly checklist and from his Bird Field Notes column in the Sandpiper (the newsletter of Yaquina Birders and Naturalists), and prepared this article for publication.

C. STUDY AREA

Location: Township 10S, Range 9W, Sections 20, 29, & 30
 Area Studied: >10? acres (>4 ha)
 Habitat(s) Studied: Mixture
 Elevation: 50-800 ft (15-244 m)
 Distance to Coastline: >10.9 mi (>17.7 km).

Faxon studied the same area in 1991 as before; his study area is described in Faxon and Bayer (1991:9-17). Although all observations were on the 640 acre (259 ha) Faxon Farm, the extent of the Farm observed each day was variable, so that is why the "Area Studied" is unknown. The Faxon's also had bird feeders at their Farm.

The Habitats where birds were recorded were a mixture of habitats, including creek-riparian, ponds, fields, bird feeders, coniferous forest, and deciduous forest (Faxon and Bayer 1991:9).

D. METHODS AND SHORTCOMINGS

Methods are unchanged from those given in Faxon and Bayer (1991:18); see Tables 1-3 for data about 1991 observations.

Shortcomings are examined in Faxon and Bayer

(1991:18-20), and all those remain the same, but there is an addition: transcription and calculation error. In Faxon and Bayer (1991), Bayer only double-checked final statistical calculations; in this article, Bayer double-checked the number of species/day, monthly frequencies, and data transcriptions as well as statistical calculations.

When double-checking, Bayer found that he made 11 errors in handling 483 monthly frequencies of species, which is an error rate of 2.3%. In 10 of the 11 errors, the error amounted to one decile less or more than what was first calculated; and in one case, the error amounted to two deciles. Thus, there are probably some errors in the monthly frequencies of species given in Faxon and Bayer (1991), but the error rate is probably small and probably would not materially change the results.

E. FACTORS INFLUENCING FAXON'S BIRDING

E-1. EARLY INFLUENCES

In Faxon and Bayer (1991), Faxon chose not to write a Preface nor write about some of the reasons why he has birded and recorded observations at Thornton Creek for so long. However, Faxon's activities and some of his background can be surmised from Faxon and Bayer (1991:4, 9-11, 18-19); further, at the end of section 3-A-3 (p. 18) in that work, newspaper articles about him are cited. Since then, Faxon has been chosen the 1992 Lincoln County Tree Farmer of the Year (Anonymous 1993).

In spite of Faxon's reticence to write about himself, Bayer feels that learning about Faxon's influences is important in understanding why he has recorded his observations for so many years. Unfortunately, while preparing Faxon and Bayer (1991), Bayer misplaced Faxon's letter of 21 December 1985, which explained some of Faxon's birding background. In his letter of 22 November 1992, Faxon also added some more comments. The following is excerpted from those letters to Bayer:

"As for what started me off taking detailed field notes, if by that you mean my day by day tally, that is quite another story. The [informal] meetings [of birders from the Marine Science Center, MSC, in the early 1970's] had absolutely nothing to do with it.

"You need to remember that I have been an active birder ever since I can remember. I was drawing pictures of birds and keeping a list of the birds I had seen by the time I was six years old [1954].

"Probably the original impetus for my interest was sparked by my Father [Milton]. He never was a birder, per se, but still was interested in birds to a point. One thing he always used to do was write down the date of the first returning swallow on the barn wall. He kept

track of that for many years. So it was probably from him that I first got the idea of keeping a list of any kind.

"You also need to understand that in our family, Mom [Inez, who passed away on 22 July 1992; her obituary is in the 29 July 1992 Newport "News-Times," p. C14] was everyone's cheerleader. Whatever anyone was doing, Mom became interested in it, asking questions, encouraging them in their interest. From a very early age I began drawing birds (Mallard ducks were my favorite), and Mom was always encouraging my art. In fact, once, when I was five, or possibly six, I drew a picture of a Mallard drake which she thought was so good that she sent it to the Consumers Power magazine, which always has a page of children's art. They didn't ever use it, and Mom always said she thought it was because they didn't believe that a five old had drawn the picture. Maybe so. I really was ahead of my age in art at that point.

"My third grade teacher at Eddyville, Inez Hilliker, now deceased, also played a part in my birding interest. My interest was already well developed, and she, being an avid birder, fed the fire. The record I have of a migrant flock of 250 or so Western Bluebirds here was made in her company one spring day when she came over and we went birding. I still cherish that as one of the highlights in many years of birding. The influence of Inez Hilliker was certainly important and came at a time when my interest was already expanding, but the influence of my Mother, while more subtle, was of greater importance.

"By my high school years, I was a great fan of Gabrielson and Jewett (1940). I used to sit in the Eddyville High School Library and read their Birds of Oregon by the hour. That book probably spent more time in my house than it did at school. It was from those eminent ornithologists that I was introduced to habitat studies, something that remains an integral part of my birding to this day. They were also very big on arrival and departure dates, a fact which no doubt left an indelible impression on me.

"The major weaknesses of Gabrielson and Jewett's (1940) work finally began to catch up with me, however. As my birding skills increased, I began to see birds not in their book. Specifically, on May 13, 1974, I saw a female Lark Bunting here at home. By that time I had already been keeping daily tallies for over a year. The bunting sighting left me with no help from my favorite authors. At that point I sent a letter to Portland Audubon, as it was the only group I knew of in Oregon that might be able to supply me with the information I was looking for. I asked about sightings of the species in the state, and also asked if there were birders in the Newport area with whom I might get in touch.

"The reply came of course from Harry Nehls. He informed me that a male Lark Bunting in breeding plumage had indeed been seen in Oregon, at the mouth of the Salmon River, the previous

spring, by the president, at that time, of Portland Audubon Society. He also gave to me the name of Pete Rothlisberg [of the MSC], and suggested I get in touch with him, which I did. That led to my becoming acquainted with [other birders at the MSC, including] Bob Olson, Laimons Osis, and Paul Reed, and opened the door for my beginning to bird away from my own home.

"So far as the detailed field notes goes, my starting of that project owes its beginning to a number of things, all of which predate my association with the local birding group [at the MSC]. I had been keeping year lists of birds seen on our property since at least 1961 (and probably sooner, but the '61 list is the earliest one extant) and the daily listing was pretty much just an outgrowth from that, pushed along by the various influences, which I have already described.

"In later years, when we [Darrel, his Father, and his Mother] took trips to eastern Oregon, or to other places, if I was driving, it was always my Mother who kept the trip list of birds. I would tell her what I saw, and she would write it down. I have quite a few of the original trip lists yet that are half her handwriting, and half mine. Perhaps I am at this point only being nostalgic, but let me share something personal. I am, by nature, rather a perfectionist. It somewhat galls me not to have the things I want to be in order not to be in perfect order. My trip lists were always done with each species being recorded in order, in printed script, with each change in geographic boundary neatly recorded following the last species seen in the previous county/state/etc. When Mom began helping me keep trip lists, at first I was irritated because she didn't follow my organizational style. It got even worse as her health, and consequently her handwriting, deteriorated. Some of her notes became almost illegible. One day it dawned on me that there would come a time that I would appreciate being able to look back over those trip lists and see my Mother's scrawl. And so it is. Those notes are now among my most prized possessions.

E-2. FAXON'S BIRDING IN RECENT YEARS

Faxon's birding (in terms of number of observation days, not necessarily species/month, Faxon and Bayer 1991:18-19, 21) has waned somewhat recently. The following explanation is from his 22 November and 11 December 1992 letters to Bayer:

". . . my observation effort has begun to fall off in recent years. Frankly, this puzzles me a bit. I still like very much to look at birds, but the intensity of my interest has very definitely taken a nosedive. I believe this is due to a combination of factors.

"Someone has said that middle age is when you hear two voices, one saying 'Why not!,' and the

other, 'Why bother?' Well maybe so. I find it more difficult now to stir up the same enthusiasm for birding that I used to have. So simple age [Faxon is 44 years old] may be a part of that.

"Changing responsibilities are another. Since I began to take responsibility in 1988 for both a pastorate and the housework [while living with his parents], I simply have not had the time to be as interested. That was, you may recall the major reason I resigned from writing field notes for the Sandpiper in May 1992. Additionally, I think there is a psychological factor involved. Up until three years ago, I pretty much took care of morning chores outdoors, came in, ate breakfast, and was outside again by 8 AM. Now with more household chores, plus a regimen of daily exercises for my back [because of a serious injury] that takes about 40 minutes, I quite often do not leave the house until 9:30 AM. By that time, the best birding is already over with, and I am feeling a bit more pressure to get on with my work. Psychologically, it makes it more difficult to keep notes.

"A third factor is that during the 1970's, and most of the 1980's, I usually had someone with whom I could go birding--my sister Letha (Faxon) Weaver or my nephew Glenn Faxon. Letha used to sometimes accompany me on Sunday afternoon excursions to Yaquina Bay. Glenn occasionally let me know if he saw something unusual hanging around the Farm, and we used to go birding on Yaquina Bay and to Eastern Oregon. Neither Letha nor Glenn ever really birded with me at Thornton Creek. Well both of the aforementioned are married, I am not, and there really isn't anyone to go birding with like there was. That dampens my enthusiasm.

E-3. FAXON'S ORNITHOLOGICAL TRAINING

Faxon has no formal training in ornithology.

E-4. OTHER COMMENTS

Bayer observes that Faxon didn't have any contact with MSC birders prior to 1974; any influence that they may have had later in the 1970's was probably minor compared to other factors motivating him. MSC birders began informal monthly birding trips in February 1974 and continued them most months through November 1977, but Faxon attended only a few of these field trips (e.g., July, October, and November 1975, April 1976, May 1977). Since the MSC was out of Faxon's way, he also didn't often have a chance to visit birders there who routinely chatted about birds when they often ran into each other along the few hallways of the MSC that was then all in one building. But Faxon did participate in most Yaquina Bay Christmas Bird Counts during the 1970's.

Accordingly, during the 1970's, Faxon was

more regularly influenced by reading Harry Nehls' field note columns in the Audubon Warbler (which is published by Portland Audubon Society and which Faxon began reading in about 1978) and American Birds (which Faxon began receiving in about 1976) than by local birders.

Also, from about 1976-1980, Faxon received the Chat (which is published by the Audubon Society of Corvallis) and occasionally contacted Fred Ramsey with field notes for Thornton Creek. In 1978, Faxon began receiving SWOC Talk (precursor of Oregon Birds) and continues to get and read Oregon Birds.

In October 1980, birders, mostly from the MSC, organized a Lincoln County birding group (Yaquina Birders, and later, Yaquina Birders & Naturalists) and published a nearly monthly newsletter that became known as the Sandpiper. Faxon was one of the earliest members and contributed field notes to the first newsletter with field notes in October 1980 and was part of the Lincoln County Rare Bird Alert System that formed in February 1983. He continued to contribute field notes to the Sandpiper and wrote its field notes column from October 1985 through May 1992. Thus, in the 1980's, Faxon was probably much more influenced by other Lincoln County birders than previously; nevertheless, he was also influenced by his correspondence with Harry Nehls and his reading of the Audubon Warbler, American Birds, and Oregon Birds. In the 1980's, Faxon also made more trips birding throughout the state and participated in Christmas Bird Counts, other than the one at Yaquina Bay.

In recent years, Faxon no longer receives or reads the Audubon Warbler, American Birds, or Chat, so his birding influences are now more from Oregon Birds and the Sandpiper.

F. EXPRESSING FREQUENCIES AS PERCENTILES, NOT DECILES

Previously, frequencies of occurrence each

month were expressed in deciles (i.e., 0-10)(see Faxon and Bayer 1991:7-8), but here they are expressed as percentiles, which can be easily converted to deciles by rounding them to the nearest 10%.

The reason for this change is that it more accurately allows statistical testing for differences in frequencies of occurrence within and among years. This is possible because the number of observation days each month in Table 1 can be multiplied by the frequency of occurrence for each species for each month given in section I-4 to calculate the number of days that the species was seen or heard. This cannot be done as accurately with deciles because Faxon regularly had 14 or more observation days per month, so that a particular decile is not necessarily specific to one particular number of observation days during which a species was recorded (e.g., a decile of 1 could result from a species being noted in either one or two days in a month with 14 observation days).

Perhaps in a future edition, all Faxon's data will be converted to percentages.

G. OTHER CHANGES OR UPDATES TO FAXON AND BAYER (1991)

There are four additional comments:

- 1) In the Table 3.4 Legend (Faxon and Bayer 1991:25), the "@" symbol and explanation are given but aren't used; disregard the "@." This symbol was used in an earlier draft of the Table.
- 2) A comment about Bushtits in 1976 was found and is noted in section I-4 for Bushtits.
- 3) A comment about a Slate-colored Junco in 1990 was found in the November 1990 Sandpiper and was added to section I-4 for Dark-eyed Juncos.
- 4) Faxon notes that he has never seen flickers with yellow-shafts at Thornton Creek.

H. TABLES

Table 1. Number of Observations and number of Taxa/Observation at Thornton Creek in 1991. Taxa noted by "spp." were each counted as one taxon. There was one Observation per day.

This is a continuation of Tables 3.1 and 3.3 in Faxon and Bayer (1991:22, 24).

Codes:
 Observation=day with six or more taxa/day; days with fewer taxa or no observation effort are listed in Table 2.
 N=number of Observations/Month
 SD=Standard Deviation
 --=not applicable
 MAX=maximum.

Yr	Taxa/Observation..... January.....				February.....				March.....				April.....				May.....			
	N	Mean	SD	Range	N	Mean	SD	Range	N	Mean	SD	Range	N	Mean	SD	Range	N	Mean	SD	Range
91	17	20.5	3.2	14-26	14	17.6	2.2	14-21	18	17.9	3.6	11-23	20	25.1	8.3	8-40	10	30.9	3.1	25-35

Yr	Taxa/Observation..... June.....				July.....				August.....				September.....				October.....			
	N	Mean	SD	Range	N	Mean	SD	Range	N	Mean	SD	Range	N	Mean	SD	Range	N	Mean	SD	Range
91	13	35.2	3.4	31-41	22	27.2	3.9	19-33	20	26.3	4.6	17-33	12	21.1	3.9	16-28	15	20.1	5.1	12-28

Yr	Taxa/Observation..... November.....				December.....				Total Observations/Year
	N	Mean	SD	Range	N	Mean	SD	Range	
91	0	-	-	0	7	14.1	3.0	10-17	168

Table 2. Dates when no observations were made or in which five or less bird taxa were recorded at Thornton Creek in 1991. This is a continuation of Table 3.2 in Faxon and Bayer (1991:22-23).

1991: Jan. (6-8, 13-14, 17-18, 20-21, 23, 27-29, 31), Feb. (3-4, 8-11, 13, 17-19, 21, 24-26),
 March (3-4, 10-11, 15-18, 22-25, 31),
 April (2, 7, 10, 13-14, 16, 21-22, 28-29), May (4-5, 7, 9-13, 17-25, 27-29, 31),
 June (3, 9-18, 23-26, 29-30), July (7-8, 14-15, 21-22, 28-29, 31), Aug. (4-8, 11-12, 18-19, 25-26),
 Sept. (1-2, 5-6, 8-12, 15-16, 19, 21-23, 25, 27, 30),
 Oct. (7, 9, 12-15, 17-18, 20-21, 24-25, 27-28, 30-31), Nov. (1-30), Dec. (1, 3-4, 8-9, 11-12, 15-31)

Table 3. Total number of taxa recorded each month at Thornton Creek in 1991. A month with 60% of MAX taxa or more is considered to be a month with Tolerable Observation Effort (TOE)(Faxon and Bayer 1991:20, 25); the only month that doesn't qualify with TOE in 1991 is November.

This is a continuation of Table 3.4 in Faxon and Bayer (1991:25), but note that "@" symbol in the previous Table 3.4 legend wasn't used and isn't necessary.

Codes:
MIN=minimum
MAX=maximum

Record=one bird taxon seen or heard during one Observation
Monthly Records (calculated from Table 1)= (number of Observations) X (Mean Taxa/Obs.), rounded to the nearest whole number.
Total Records=sum of Monthly Records for each year
Total Taxa=total number of taxa recorded each year
Records/Taxon=Total Records for year divided by the total number of taxa noted that year
Records/Obs.=Total Records for year divided by the number of Observations that year from Table 1
. =zero ("." is used to enhance readability)
#Taxa=total number of taxa seen during 1991.

Year	Taxa/Month.....												Total Records	Total Taxa	Records per..	
	Ja	Fe	Mr	Ap	My	Jn	Jl	Ag	Sp	Oc	Nv	De			Taxon	Obs.
1991	44	33	38	59	56	52	52	53	47	45	0	26	3962	111	35.7	23.6
1973-1991 MIN	27	27	31	47	48	47	45	46	45	40	28	26	-	93	-	-
1973-1991 MAX	44	45	48	66	79	61	68	68	72	55	47	44	-	113	-	-
60% of MAX	26	27	29	40	47	37	41	41	43	33	28	26	-	68	-	-

Table 4. Monthly and annual total precipitation (i.e., rainfall + snow + sleet + hail) at Thornton Creek in 1991. This is a continuation of Table 2.1 in Faxon and Bayer (1991:17). There was

no snow in 1991.
For 1973-1990 only, AV=average.
For 1973-1991, MIN=minimum and MAX=maximum.

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
1991	7.17	9.43	8.92	10.30	5.71	1.62	0.22	1.56	0.19	4.12	12.13	10.41	71.78
AV	12.78	12.99	10.54	6.64	5.11	3.44	1.32	1.70	3.00	6.11	13.29	13.54	90.47
MIN	1.31	5.20	2.61	2.32	1.25	0.77	0.22	0.24	0.01	0.48	3.45	4.06	66.95
MAX	22.41	28.05	17.69	10.30	10.92	8.74	3.47	4.26	7.61	13.80	24.69	25.64	125.73

I. 1991 SPECIES ACCOUNTS

I-1. FIRST AND LAST DATES

These are the first and last dates, respectively, that a species was recorded. Note that a species may have been present before a First or after a Last date (see Faxon and Bayer 1991:29-30). A First or Last date is only listed if there appears to be enough observations to somewhat accurately determine the date.

See Table 2 for dates when there were few or no observations, which may accordingly have affected observed First and Last dates.

-=not possible to assign a First or Last date because the species was present continually or erratically throughout the year, because observation effort may have been inadequate to determine the First or Last date reasonably accurately, or because the date was not recorded.

I-2. NO RECORDS

If a species was not recorded at all during 1991, although it had often been present in previous years, the species is listed with "No Records" in the First and Last columns.

I-3. DAILY FREQUENCY

Observation Day=day in which six or more species were recorded.

1-100=relative Daily Frequency (in percentiles) for a month with at least eight Observation Days. It was calculated by dividing the number of Observation Days that a species was recorded by the total number of Observation Days and then multiplying the result by 100.

#=in a month with at least eight Observation Days, a species had a Daily Frequency of 0%, but it was recorded during a day when five or less species were noted.

.=in a month with Tolerable Observation Effort (TOE)(Table 3), a species was not recorded at all. Thus, the species was either absent or overlooked. A "." was used instead of a "0" (zero) to enhance readability of when a species was present (Faxon and Bayer 1991:8).

A=in a month with less than eight Observation Days, a species was recorded at least once during the 1-15th.

Z=in a month with less than eight Observation Days, a species was recorded at least once during the 16th-end of a month.

?=a species was not recorded during a non-TOE month. Because of the low observation effort, it is not clear if the species was absent or if it was present, but missed.

I-4. SPECIES ACCOUNTS

	Yr	First	Last	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Great Blue Heron	91	-	-	12	.	.	5	10	.	9	20	8	13	?	Z
Green-backed Heron	91	No Records			.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	?	.
White-fronted Goose	91	10/16	10/16	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	7	?	.
Canada Goose	91	05/02	05/02	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Canada Goose	91	10/08	10/08	.	.	.	.	10	.	.	.	.	7	?	.

On 5/2/1991, three were seen flying east.

Wood Duck	91	03/29	06/08	.	.	11	25	.	31	.	.	.	7	?	.
Wood Duck	91	10/08	10/08	.	.	11	25	.	31	.	.	.	7	?	.

On 6/4/1991, a female and eight young were noted.

Green-winged Teal	91	01/09	05/14	35	7	.	.	10	?	.
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On 1/15/1991, ten were counted. These numbers are unusually high for this site and are probably a result of the abnormally cold, freezing weather in late December 1990.

	Yr	First	Last	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Mallard	91	-	08/25	76	93	94	75	70	8	5	5	.	.	?	A

On 1/11/1991, seven were counted. These numbers are unusually high for this site and are probably a result of the abnormally cold, freezing weather in late December 1990.

On 8/25/1991, a female and seven fully fledged young were observed.

	Yr	First	Last	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
American Wigeon	91	01/01	03/06	65	29	6	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	?	.

On 1/10, 11, and 15/1991; 15, 8, and 16 were counted, respectively. These numbers are unusually high for this site and are probably a result of the abnormally cold, freezing weather in late December 1990.

	Yr	First	Last	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Ring-necked Duck	91	-	04/26	47	.	.	10	.	.	.	.	.	.	?	.

On 1/11, 12, 15, and 16/1991; 2-4 were counted each day. These numbers are unusually high for this site and are probably a result of the abnormally cold, freezing weather in late December 1990.

	Yr	First	Last	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Bufflehead	91	-	04/30	59	43	33	10	.	.	.	.	.	.	?	.
Hooded Merganser	91	-	04/30	12	.	22	20	.	.	.	.	.	.	?	.
Common Merganser	91	02/23	02/23	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	?	.
Common Merganser	91	06/09	06/09	.	7	.	.	.	#	?	.
Turkey Vulture	91	03/21	10/11	.	.	22	70	60	69	91	85	67	20	?	.

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Yr First Last Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec
 Sharp-shinned Hawk 91 - - 6 . # 17 27 ? .
 On 10/6/1991, a Sharp-shinned and a Cooper's Hawk together harassed a flock of American Crows. Six Sharp-shins were counted on 10/10/1991.

Cooper's Hawk 91 - - 18 9 10 8 40 ? .
 On 10/6/1991, a Sharp-shinned and a Cooper's Hawk together harassed a flock of American Crows.

Yr First Last Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec
 Northern Goshawk 91 03/30 03/30 . . 6 ? .
 Red-tailed Hawk 91 - - 53 57 6 40 20 62 59 55 67 73 ? A
 Peregrine Falcon 91 09/06 09/06 # . ? .
 On 9/6/1991, one was seen by Richard Faxon (1991 Sandpiper 12[Sept.]:2).

Merlin 91 04/17 04/17 . . . 5 ? .
 Ruffed Grouse 91 - - 53 50 22 75 50 . 14 10 . 40 ? A
 On 5/25/1991, recently hatched young were noted.

Yr First Last Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec
 Mountain Quail 91 04/27 04/30 . . . 10 ? .
 Killdeer 91 No Records ? .
 Greater Yellowlegs 91 08/16 08/16 5 . . ? .
 Solitary Sandpiper 91 04/30 05/02 ? .
 Solitary Sandpiper 91 08/30 09/13 . . . 5 10 . . 5 25 . ? .
 Spotted Sandpiper 91 04/30 05/04 . . . 5 # ? .
 Common Snipe 91 - 04/30 18 . 11 20 ? .
 Band-tailed Pigeon 91 05/01 10/11 30 85 100 65 17 27 ? .
 On 9/26/1991, 100 were counted.

Yr First Last Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec
 Mourning Dove 91 No Records ? .
 Western Screech-Owl 91 - - 6 . 56 7 ? .
 Great Horned Owl 91 - - 24 . 6 5 . . 5 5 42 7 ? .
 Northern Pygmy-Owl 91 09/03 - 75 93 ? .
 Northern Saw-whet Owl 91 - - 6 8 . ? .
 Common Nighthawk 91 07/18 07/18 5 . . ? .
 Vaux's Swift 91 05/06 05/06 10 ? .
 Rufous Hummingbird 91 02/23 09/13 . 21 56 95 100 100 100 65 25 . ? .
 Belted Kingfisher 91 - - 35 21 . 10 . 23 23 80 33 60 ? A
 Red-breasted Sapsucker 91 No Records ? .
 Downy Woodpecker 91 - - 29 29 . 20 10 23 9 35 . ? .
 Hairy Woodpecker 91 - - 82 57 67 30 20 38 82 20 42 33 ? A
 Northern Flicker 91 08/10 04/30 82 50 89 60 . . . 30 75 100 ? A

Faxon notes that, as of 22 November 1992, he has never seen a "yellow-shafted" flicker at Thornton Creek, although he has often looked for them.

Yr First Last Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec
 Pileated Woodpecker 91 07/13 04/30 6 43 39 50 . . 18 50 42 53 ? A
 Olive-sided Flycatcher 91 05/25 06/07 # 15 . . . ? .
 Western Wood-Pewee 91 05/16 07/30 30 23 9 . . ? .
 Willow Flycatcher 91 06/01 08/10 92 59 10 . ? .
 Hammond's Flycatcher 91 05/08 08/24 50 54 59 15 . ? .
 Pacific-slope Flycatcher 91 05/02 08/31 60 100 73 20 . ? .
 On 8/31/1991, a heavy movement of them passing through was observed.

Yr First Last Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec
 Western Kingbird 91 05/24 05/24 # ? .
 Tree Swallow 91 04/08 07/09 . . . 75 100 100 27 . . ? .
 Violet-green Swallow 91 03/19 09/03 . . 39 85 100 100 100 55 8 . ? .
 No. Rough-wing. Swallow 91 08/16 08/16 5 . . ? .
 Cliff Swallow 91 04/19 08/31 . . . 40 100 100 100 90 . ? .
 Barn Swallow 91 04/15 09/14 . . . 55 100 100 100 100 33 . ? .

	Yr	First	Last	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Gray Jay	91	No	Records	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	?	.
Steller's Jay	91	-	-	100	100	100	100	90	100	23	100	100	100	?	A
Scrub Jay	91	10/10	10/10	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	7	?	.
American Crow	91	-	-	94	100	100	100	100	100	100	95	83	100	?	.
Common Raven	91	-	-	29	50	28	30	.	23	.	20	83	13	?	A
Black-capped Chickadee	91	-	-	53	43	61	75	90	100	27	45	58	.	?	A

On 6/22/1991, a nest with five young was seen.

Chest.-backed Chickadee	91	-	-	53	43	44	.	.	15	5	60	58	67	?	A
Bushtit	91	No	Records	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	?	.

On a previously overlooked 4 x 6 notecard that Faxon gave to Bayer, Faxon wrote that on 2/23/1976, after an absence of over a year, he saw two flocks, numbering approximately 30 and 15 birds (see Faxon and Bayer 1991:61).

	Yr	First	Last	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Red-breasted Nuthatch	91	No	Records	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	?	.
Brown Creeper	91	-	-	6	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	8	7	?	.
Bewick's Wren	91	-	-	24	29	.	10	.	38	9	15	.	33	?	A
House Wren	91	05/11	07/04	.	.	.	.	50	54	9	.	.	.	?	.
Winter Wren	91	08/02	05/30	94	100	94	100	100	.	.	40	92	100	?	A
Golden-crowned Kinglet	91	08/15	04/26	94	57	50	30	.	.	.	10	8	73	?	A
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	91	-	04/30	12	.	22	50	.	.	.	.	.	.	?	A
Western Bluebird	91	11/02	-	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	7	A?	.

On 10/29/1991, two flocks with a total of 20 bluebirds were seen; on 11/2, another flock with about five were counted.

	Yr	First	Last	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Swainson's Thrush	91	05/02	10/20	.	.	.	.	60	100	100	100	100	60	?	.

Their fall 1991 migration was impressive with massive numbers of birds moving south nightly from mid-September to 10/8 (1991 Sandpiper 12[Oct.]:2). Faxon further writes that to fully appreciate this migration, get up on a ridge away from town about a half-hour before daylight. As soon as the sky begins to lighten, the birds begin to call. This continues for about 15 minutes before the birds drop down into the trees during daylight hours.

	Yr	First	Last	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Hermit Thrush	91	-	01/01	6	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	?	.
American Robin	91	-	-	53	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	67	100	?	A

The first spring migrants were seen on 1/16/1991. On 10/23/1991, many were seen with Cedar Waxwings that were feeding on chittum (cascara) berries.

	Yr	First	Last	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Varied Thrush	91	09/28	05/03	53	.	39	20	30	.	.	.	8	67	?	A
Wrentit	91	-	-	12	29	17	45	60	69	36	100	67	73	?	A
American Pipit	91	04/18	04/19	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	7	?
American Pipit	91	10/11	10/11	.	.	.	10	.	.	.	.	.	.	?	.
Cedar Waxwing	91	06/07	-	.	.	.	.	.	54	95	95	42	13	?	.

On 10/23/1991, many were seen with American Robins that were feeding on chittum berries; on 10/29/1991, only one remained.

	Yr	First	Last	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
European Starling	91	-	07/09	71	100	89	95	100	46	5	.	.	.	?	.
Solitary Vireo	91	04/27	07/30	.	.	.	5	30	.	27	.	.	.	?	.
Hutton's Vireo	91	-	-	35	57	61	20	.	46	9	35	33	40	?	.
Warbling Vireo	91	05/05	08/20	.	.	.	.	70	100	91	35	.	.	?	.
Orange-crowned Warbler	91	04/09	07/11	.	.	.	35	80	46	41	.	.	.	?	.
Yellow Warbler	91	05/17	06/08	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	?	.
Yellow Warbler	91	09/13	09/13	.	.	.	.	#	38	.	.	8	.	?	.
Yellow-rumped Warbler	91	-	05/16	53	7	.	30	20	.	.	.	.	.	?	.
Black-thr. Gray Warbler	91	04/20	10/06	.	.	.	20	100	92	36	50	25	7	?	.

In 1991, fall migration was in full swing by early August with Wilson's and Black-throated Gray Warblers being particularly noticeable.

1991 Birds of Thornton Creek

	Yr	First	Last	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Townsend's Warbler	91	04/20	04/20												
Townsend's Warbler	91	09/13	09/24	.	.	.	5	.	.	.	.	17	.	?	.
Hermit Warbler	91	05/05	08/20	.	.	.	.	70	100	64	20	.	.	?	.
MacGillivray's Warbler	91	05/08	06/22	.	.	.	.	40	23	.	.	.	.	?	.
Common Yellowthroat	91	04/15	05/03												
Common Yellowthroat	91	08/17	10/11	.	.	.	20	20	.	.	15	.	13	?	.
Wilson's Warbler	91	04/20	09/14	.	.	.	35	100	100	82	100	42	.	?	.

In 1991, fall migration was in full swing by early August with Wilson's and Black-throated Gray Warblers being particularly noticeable.

	Yr	First	Last	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Western Tanager	91	05/06	09/26	.	.	.	.	30	69	95	75	17	.	?	.
Black-headed Grosbeak	91	05/14	09/07	.	.	.	.	50	100	73	75	25	.	?	.
Rufous-sided Towhee	91	-	-	100	100	78	90	80	100	36	15	25	93	?	A
Chipping Sparrow	91	05/08	05/08	.	.	.	.	10	.	.	.	.	.	?	.
Savannah Sparrow	91	04/30	04/30	.	.	.	5	.	.	.	.	.	.	?	.
Fox Sparrow	91	09/12	04/22	100	64	61	60	.	.	.	.	25	100	?	A
Song Sparrow	91	-	-	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	?	A
Lincoln's Sparrow	91	No Records		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	?	.
White-throated Sparrow	91	12/05	-	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	?	A
Golden-crowned Sparrow	91	09/29	05/16	29	57	50	65	80	.	.	.	8	27	?	A
White-crowned Sparrow	91	04/04	-	.	.	.	90	100	100	100	100	100	53	?	.
Dark-eyed Junco	91	-	-	100	100	100	100	.	100	41	20	33	.	?	A

The lack of junco records in May 1991 could be because they were overlooked, not because they were absent.

A Slate-colored Junco was also noted on 10 November 1990 in the November 1990 Sandpiper but was inadvertently not included in Faxon and Bayer (1991:79).

	Yr	First	Last	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Red-winged Blackbird	91	02/22	05/15	.	7	.	.	30	.	.	.	.	.	?	.
Brewer's Blackbird	91	04/19	04/20	.	.	.	10	.	.	.	.	.	.	?	.
Brown-headed Cowbird	91	04/24	08/13	.	.	.	20	100	100	68	10	.	.	?	.
No. (Bullock's) Oriole	91	No Records		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	?	.
Purple Finch	91	01/05	01/05												
Purple Finch	91	01/05	-	24	.	.	75	100	100	100	100	92	60	?	.
House Finch	91	03/19	04/06	.	.	6	10	.	.	.	.	.	.	?	.
Red Crossbill	91	06/08	-	.	.	.	.	.	23	41	55	25	7	?	A
Pine Siskin	91	02/15	08/01	.	7	6	35	30	46	.	5	.	.	?	.
American Goldfinch	91	05/02	-	.	.	.	.	80	100	91	100	83	33	?	.
Evening Grosbeak	91	01/01	01/25												
Evening Grosbeak	91	04/18	-	35	.	.	15	50	92	64	100	83	47	?	.

On 5/26/1991, adults were seen with young.

House Sparrow	91	No Records		?	.
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J. LITERATURE CITED

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