

Jefferson County, Oregon



Jefferson County Birding Locations

[Open a Map That Shows All Jefferson County Locations](#)

IMPORTANT!! THIS TABLE IS MEANT TO BE READ LEFT TO RIGHT (ROWS), NOT UP AND DOWN (COLUMNS)!!

GENERAL INFORMATION	MADRAS NORTH & EAST	Olallie Lake
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Crooked R. Nat. Grasslands	Metolius, Culver Area	Haystack Reservoir
<u>SOUTH COUNTY</u>	Gray Butte & Skull Hollow	Rimrock Springs
Peter Ogden Wayside	Alder Springs	SISTERS NORTH
Prairie Farm Springs	Green Ridge	Black Butte
Jefferson Wilderness	Camp Sherman	Round Lake
Abbott Butte	Metolius Preserve	Suttle Lake
Corbett Snow Park		

If you have only a short time in our county, try these locations first!			
SPRING	Green Ridge	Camp Sherman	Alder Springs
SUMMER	Green Ridge	Camp Sherman	Alder Springs
FALL	Haystack Reservoir	Suttle Lake	Green Ridge
WINTER	Suttle Lake	Camp Sherman	Haystack Reservoir

Author(s): Craig Miller, Chuck Gates, John Notis

County Seat: Madras

County Size: 1791 sq. mi.

High Elevation : 10,497 ft Mount Jefferson

Rarities : Broad-winged Hawk, Glaucous Gull, Common Tern, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Ancient Murrelet, Broad-tailed Hummingbird, Least Flycatcher, Blue Jay, Wood Thrush, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Hooded Warbler, Summer Tanager, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Common Redpoll

Top County Lister : 255 Lewis Rems

Year List Record : Chuck Gates (2014) 222

County Contact Person: Email [Chuck Gates](mailto:Chuck.Gates@oregon.gov) [return to the top](#)

MADRAS NORTH AND EAST

Olallie Lake [return to the top](#)

W DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 56 B-2 DeLorme (copyriht 2008) Pg 36 C-4

Geographic Coordinates 44 48' 20" N 121 47' 07" W and Jefferson Park 44 42' 44" N 121 48' 15" W Jefferson Park Trailhead 44 42' 24" N 121 52' 29" ([44.80979, -121.78653](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

Best Times to Visit: Summer and Fall (Winter inaccessible except by skiing)

Habitat: High Elevation Lakes, Subalpine Forests, and Timberline

General Birds in Area: Waterfowl and Finches.

Location: From Bend, drive to Sisters, and then stay on Hwy 20/126 to Hwy 22 to Detroit. Turn right on Road 46 for 17.5 miles (follow signs to Breitenbush Hot Springs Resort). Turn right on Road 4690 and travel for 8.1miles (Road 4690 turns into a gravel road after 6miles) then turn right on Road 4220. Follow Road 4220 for 6 miles to Olallie Lake. To locate the Jefferson Park trailhead, travel about 10 miles east of Detroit and turn north on Forest Road 2243. Take this road 7.4 miles to the parking area at the trailhead. The park is a 5 mile hike in wilderness areas so make sure proper preparations are made.

To get back to Detroit, you can either go back the same way you came or

you can continue on Road 4220 and make a loop out of the drive. Continuing on the loop back to Road 4690 on Road 4220, the road becomes very rough. You must have a high clearance vehicle. This way is not recommended unless you like rocky, slow roads, it is scenic though!

Amenities: Birding, car camping at some of the smaller lakes, hiking, and photography. There are some campsites with restrooms. Paul Dennis Mt. Hood National Forest Campground is right on the shore of Olallie Lake. There are tent sites, and both cabins and yurts for rent. There are numerous small lakes and ponds if you continue on Road 4220. Olallie Lake is a water source, so swimming is not allowed. At Triangle Lake there is a horse camp. Horseshoe Lake was my favorite.

Disclaimer: There may be many more amenities at some areas, and some of them may not be open at times in others. We have tried to be as accurate as we could! It is best to always take a couple of good, detailed maps with you.

Key Species: Clark's Nutcracker, Gray Jay, Western Tanager, Pacific-slope Flycatcher, Red Crossbill, Pine Siskin, Evening Grosbeak and Gray-crowned Rosy-finch.

Exceptional Species: Harlequin Duck, Black-throated Blue Warbler, "Timberline" Brewer's Sparrow, White-winged Crossbill.

Gateway (Geographic Coordinates 44°46'33.4"N 121°04'58.9"W
([44.77595, -121.08302](#))

Trout Creek Campground & Area Geographic Coordinates 44°48'58.4"N
121°05'44.1"W ([44.816219, -121.095593](#))

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 57 B-8 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 37 C-10

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[View A Google Map](#)

Best Times to Visit: Spring and Fall

Location: From Bend, drive north on Hwy 97 to Madras, bear right and stay on Hwy 97. Turn left on Cora Drive/Clark Drive to the town of Gateway. Follow the signs to Trout Creek Recreation Area, the road to Trout Creek on the map is called Clemens Drive turning into Cook Lane and then turning into Coleman Road.

Amenities: Birding! Car camping, hiking, boat launch, picnicking, photography. Campground has restrooms.

Habitat and Birds: Black-capped Chickadees can be found in the riparian woodland along the sides of the river. This is also a good area to check for migrant songbirds and Red-eyed Vireos can occasionally be seen. The area is good for raptors in the summer including Prairie Falcons, Golden Eagle and Swainson's Hawk. Other common species include Bushtit, Ring-necked Pheasant, Gray Partridge, Chukar and Nashville Warbler. Rare birds reported from this area include Eastern Kingbird and Yellow-throated Vireo.

Ashwood Area [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 80 A-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 76 B-2
Geographic Coordinates [44°44'01.4"N 120°45'16.1"W](#)
([44.73373, -120.75447](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

Location: Directions: North on Hwy 97 to Madras, continued North on Hwy 97 (bear right); turn right on Pony Butte Road. This road also has a sign that says "Ashwood 17 miles). Across the street from this turn is a large red barn with a silver roof and other surrounding outbuildings. If the weather has been dry, a good scenic trip back to Madras is to take the dirt Ashwood Road back to Madras. This road travels south out of Ashwood and winds its way through grasslands and high desert. There is a large reservoir about half way back to Madras that can be good for waterfowl and waders. This is the largest body of water in the area.

Habitat and Birds: Canyon with riparian vegetation and creek. This is a great area for the secretive Mountain Quail. Rock and Canyon Wren can be found on the canyon walls. Loggerhead Shrike, Sage Thrasher, and other desert species are common along the Ashwood Road.

Best Times to Visit: Late Spring or summer.

Pelton Dam and Reregulation Dam Overlook

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(**Geographic Coordinates** 44°43'20.4"N 121°14'32.7"W
([44.722344, -121.242409](#))

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[View A Google Map](#)

Best Times to Visit: Spring, Fall & Winter

Habitat: Deep Water, Mud Flats, and Agricultural Fields

Directions: From Warm Springs, travel south on Hwy 97 for 2.6 miles. Turn right (west) on NW Pelton Dam Road. Slow and bird the ponds here. Continue about 0.5 miles to Disney Lane. Turn right (west) on Disney and bird to the end. There is a parking area here and a rest room. The viewing area is toward the canyon edge on a good trail (<50 yards). Return to Pelton Dam Road and continue south to Pelton Dam, Lake Simtustus and Pelton Park. Continue a short distance more and you will come to a switchback in the road where Willow Creek comes into Lake Simtustus. This area is very birdy.

Amenities: Birding! Dry Creek Recreation Area provides opportunities for camping and photography. The Warm Springs Museum is a must see and a great place to have a picnic.

Pelton Dam is a large water area surrounded by riparian woodland with some mud flats. It holds much wildfowl in season. The surrounding area holds Mountain Quail and Chukar. In the summer Great Blue Herons nest and there is an impressive Turkey Vulture roost. In winter there are always large sparrow flocks near the car park.

Pelton Dam Regulation Overlook is a smaller dam with shallow water. This is often the best place to find shorebirds in the county but a scope is required. Good waterfowl here most of the year too.

Key Species: Pied-billed Grebe, Eared Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Canada Goose, Greater White-fronted Goose, California Quail, Western Screech-owl, White-crowned Sparrow, Golden-crowned Sparrow and Yellow-breasted Chat.

Exceptional Species: Red-necked Grebe, Eurasian Wigeon, Green Heron, Ross's Goose, Black Tern, Band-tailed Pigeon, Eastern Kingbird, Gray

Catbird, Northern Mockingbird, White-throated Sparrow and Black-throated Sparrow.

Agency Plains [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 57 C-7 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 37 C-10
Geographic Coordinates 44°44'19.6"N 121°08'55.0"W
([44.738763, -121.148611](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

Location: This is an area of agricultural lands north of Madras between Hwy 97 and Hwy 26. There are many access roads.

Habitat and Birds: In the summer Swainson's Hawks, being replaced in the winter by other raptors including Rough Legged Hawks and is good for wintering flocks of Sparrows, Pipits and Horned Larks. A few Long Billed Curlews breed in this area. This was the last stronghold for Gray Partridge in Central Oregon. It is rarely seen now.

Madras Sewage Ponds [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 57 D-8 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 37 E-10
Geographic Coordinates 44 37' 22" N 121 06' 39" W
([44.623817, -121.110281](#))

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Location: From downtown Madras, turn east on "C" St. and follow it out of town. This road becomes SE Grizzly Rd. and will pass right next to the sewer ponds. Outside of business hours, there is no access to these ponds but they can easily be viewed from the road. If personnel are present, it's OK to check in with the office. They often will allow you to get a closer look around the ponds.

Habitat and Birds: Many ducks are attracted here in the winter. Expect Bufflehead, Lesser Scaup, Common Goldeneye, Barrow's Goldeneye, Mallard, American Wigeon and Green-winged Teal. Low numbers of shorebirds pass through during the migration periods.

Buck Butte and Madras East [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 57 A-7 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 76 C-1
Geographic Coordinates 44°37'42.2"N 121°03'30.8"W
([44.628391, -121.058550](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

Location: This area can be accessed from several locations. One common way is to travel east on B St. from Hwy 97 in Madras. This road becomes the Ashwood Road and can be followed all the way to Ashwood. From Highway 97, you can also access the area using "C" St. in Madras and traveling east on the Grizzly Road or you can enter using Loucks Road north of the intersection of Highways 97 and 26. Once you enter the area east of Madras, carefully assess road conditions. D Street, the Ashwood Road, NFD 1167, Hereford, Loucks, and Dover Ln. are good for passenger cars. Other side roads may require 4-wheel drive. Make several loops from road to road. There is quite a diverse habitat set here and the birding can be very productive.

Habitat and Birds: Desert species like Sage Thrasher, Brewer's Sparrow, Northern Shrike, and Sagebrush Sparrow can be found. The Gray Flycatcher can be found in Juniper stands and Canyon Wrens are common in the rimrock areas. Look for Lazuli Bunting along NFD 1176. Virginia Rail and Bullock's Oriole are found on the same road. Northern Mockingbird has been recorded in this area several times. Cassin's Finches and Common Nighthawks nest in the area. Raptors include Prairie Falcons and Swainson's Hawks.

Little Willow Creek Reservoir [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 80 B-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 80 B-1
Geographic Coordinates 44°37'46.8"N 120°52'20.8"W
([44.629662, -120.872447](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

Location: Directions: **CAUTION: DO NOT DRIVE THIS ROAD DURING OR AFTER RAIN. THE MUD WILL EAT YOU!!** From the corner of Hwy 97 and B St. in Madras, head east. This road will eventually become the Ashwood Road and will turn to gravel after the prison (You can make a nice detour south at the prison entrance to an area of nice springs but the road is not great). From the prison entrance, go east for 6.4 miles to a junction at

the Hay Creek Ranch. Turn left (east) and go 4.3 miles to the reservoir. This is a private reservoir so please bird from the road. The marshy area below the dam is off limits but you can hear Sora and other marsh residents from the road. If you want an adventure, you can continue north along this road 11.7 miles to Ashwood where you can take a paved road back to Hwy 97. *The birding along this Ashwood Road can be productive but know that you are entering a very remote region of the county.*

Habitat and Birds: This road weaves through grassland, juniper and sage as well as some farmland. The reservoir is one of the largest bodies of water in the county and can be good for fall and spring waterfowl.

Best Times to Visit: Late Spring or summer.

Brewer Reservoir [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 80 B-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 80 B-1

Geographic Coordinates 44°35'50.1"N 120°55'38.2"W
([44.597264](#), [-120.927274](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

Location: Directions: CAUTION: DO NOT DRIVE THIS ROAD DURING OR AFTER RAIN. THE MUD WILL EAT YOU!! IT'S NOT AS BAD AS THE LITTLE WILLOW CR. ROAD BUT... From the corner of Hwy 97 and B St. in Madras, head east. This road will eventually become the Ashwood Road and will turn to gravel after the prison (You can make a nice detour south at the prison entrance to an area of nice springs but the road is not great). From the prison entrance, go east for 6.4 miles to a junction at the Hay Creek Ranch. Continue south toward the ranch house. From Hay Creek Ranch go 1.7 miles south to the reservoir. *The birding along this Ashwood Road can be productive but know that you are entering a very remote region of the county.*

Habitat and Birds: This road weaves through grassland, juniper and sage as well as some farmland. The reservoir is one of the largest bodies of water in the county and can be good for fall and spring waterfowl.

Best Times to Visit: Late Spring or summer.

CULVER AREA

Perry South Campground [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (© 2001) Pg 57 D-5 DeLorme (© 2008) Pg 37 E-7

Geographic Coordinates 44°35'03.9"N 121°27'22.9"W
([44.58441, -121.45636](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

Location: From Sisters, drive west on Hwy 20/126 and turn right, (north), on Road 11, to Road 1170, and turn left on to Road 64. It is near the mouth of the Metolius River where it flows into Lake Billy Chinook. A beautiful campground with large ponderosa trees, boat ramp, and scenic setting.

Amenities and Birds: Perry South Campground has birding, car camping, hiking, picnicking, photography and a boat launch. Campsites with restrooms. Best Times to Visit: Spring, Fall & Winter. Birds seen here include Mountain Quail, W. Screech-owl, N. Pygmy-owl, Common Poorwill, Vaux's Swift, Lewis's Woodpecker, Loggerhead Shrike, Pinyon Jay and Clark's Nutcracker along with other more common species.

Fly Lake [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 57 D-5 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 37 F-7

Geographic Coordinates 44°32'22.2"N 121°25'55.7"W
([44.5395, -121.43215](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

Location: From Sisters, drive west on Hwy 20/126 and turn right, north, on Road 11, to Road 1170, and turn right on to Road 64. It is on the corner of Road 64 and Graham Road; you will have to look closely for Road #016. It is a 4-Wheel Drive road, but is only about two blocks or less, so you could park and walk to Fly Lake.

Best Times to Visit: Spring, Fall & Winter.

Lake Billy Chinook [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 57 D-6 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 37 E-8
Geographic Coordinates 44°33'25.8"N 121°15'45.6"W
([44.55717, -121.26266](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklists for Lake Billy Chinook](#)

Location: From Madras, travel south about 8 miles on Hwy 97. Turn west on SW Iris Drive and travel about 4 miles through the town of Culver until Iris dead ends at Feather Dr. Turn north on Feather and take it several miles following the signs to Cove Palisades State Park. Turn west on Frazier Dr. and turn west at the Cove Palisades Store. Follow the signs to Lake Billy Chinook. Crooked River Campground is located at the entrance to the canyon that hosts the park. For information on Crooked River CG birding click [here](#).

Amenities: Lake Billy Chinook is a resort area and has multiple amenities. Birding, picnicking, boat launch, kayaking, marina, boat rentals, supplies, swimming, flush toilets, camp store, cabins for rent, etc. This is the site of the Cove Palisades State Park.

Habitat and Birds: Large open water body surrounded by steep cliffs and juniper scrub. This reservoir rarely freezes and often holds ducks, grebes and Common Loon. Often large numbers of gulls are attracted to the boat ramp at the Cove Palisades State Park. At the same location, it is possible to see Chukar and Canyon Wren on the surrounding cliffs. There are several car parks that give access to the water. Often these hold interesting birds, especially in the migration periods and winter (often Yellow-rumped Warbler and Varied Thrush can be found in the winter). Other species to look for include Bushtit, Double-crested Cormorant, Common Merganser, Tundra Swan, Bald Eagle, Golden Eagle, Cooper's Hawk, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Ring-billed Gull, California Gull, Rock Wren and Bullock's Oriole. Rare birds that have been reported from this location include Long-tailed Duck, Surf Scoter, White-winged Scoter, Pacific Loon, Herring Gull, Sabine's Gull, Glaucous Gull, Black Swift and Northern Mockingbird.
(Part of this area is in the Utopia Christmas Bird Count Circle)

Best Times to Visit: Spring, Fall & Winter.

Crooked River National Grasslands [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 57 D-8 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 37 F-10
Geographic Coordinates (Large Area)

[Crooked River National Grasslands Map](#)

Location: This large area is located mostly east of Hwy 97 and extends from north of Madras to Grizzly Butte on the south side. There are multiple access points (some described below). It is suggested that you simply get a grassland map and go exploring. CAUTION: Deep ruts and rough, dirt roads are the norm, not the exception so be careful. Below, I will list some areas that can be accessed by most vehicles and have access roads that are passenger car friendly.

SW King Lane and Osborne Springs - 44.487985, -121.165921 - East of the town of Culver, you will find [Haystack Reservoir](#). From the SW corner of the reservoir, take King Lane east for 2 miles and you will be back at Hwy 97. Osborne Springs is an old homestead on this road. Good for Gray FC, BG Gnatcatcher, migrant passerines in the spring and all the other sage species.

East of Haystack (Jasper Road) - From Haystack, continue east to SE Laurel Lane. Take this road slowly and bird along the way. Turn left on Jasper Road and you will have about 10 miles of open grasslands in front of you. Jasper Road is generally good for passenger cars but there are many opportunities to take side roads that may or may not require a more rugged vehicle.

Madras to Grizzly - From the corner of 5th and J St. in Madras, turn east. On J St., travel 1.0 mile to a round-a-bout. Turn south on Grizzly Road. On your right will be the [Madras Sewer Ponds](#). Continue on this road for 8.7 miles. Stop in different habitat areas and search for sage and juniper birds. At 8.7 miles, the road will fork (44.541606, -121.018983). The right fork will take you to [Rimrock Springs](#) and, eventually back to Hwy 26. The left fork will take you farther out into the grasslands and to the ghost community of Grizzly (only a ranch house remains). Should you take the right fork, the road will go for 5 miles to Grizzly. Turn right at Grizzly and follow the road south until it hits pavement. Take the pavement west to Hwy 26.

Habitat and Birds: The flat "grasslands" is mostly Juniper forest and sagebrush lands. On the slopes of Gray Butte there are some interesting springs where Lazuli Buntings can be found and migrant songbirds. The flat areas have breeding Lark, Sagebrush, Vesper and Brewers Sparrows. Sage Thrashers are common and you can see Prairie Falcons, Golden Eagles, Gray

Flycatchers and Loggerhead Shrikes in the summer. In the winter look for Northern Shrike and winter raptors.

Best Times to Visit: Spring and summer. (This area is in the Utopia Christmas Bird Count Circle)

Amenities: Birding! Horse & car camping. Campground has a restroom.

This spot deserves more attention from birders. A nice loop is to start at Peter Ogden Wayside, continue through Hawk Alley, stop at Haystack Reservoir, continue to Cyrus Springs and end your day of birding with Rimrock Springs Wildlife Management Area.

Key Species: American Goldfinch, Gray Flycatcher, Ash-throated Flycatcher, Townsend's Solitaire, Sage Thrasher, Northern Shrike, Loggerhead Shrike, Horned Lark, Brewer's Sparrow, Vesper Sparrow, Lark Sparrow, Sagebrush Sparrow, Western Meadowlark

Exceptional Species: Long-eared Owl, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

Metolius and Culver Area [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 57 D-7 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 37 E-9

Geographic Coordinates

Metolius	44.585268, -121.176462
Metolius Sewer Ponds	44.596381, -121.169512
Culver	44.520573, -121.214270
Culver Sewer Ponds	44.5278, -121.22069
Crooked River CG	44.54407, -121.25828

[View A Google Map](#)

Best Times to Visit: Fall and Winter

Habitat: Sewer Ponds, Irrigation Ponds, Agricultural, and Deciduous Trees.

(Part of this area is in the Utopia Christmas Bird Count Circle)

Directions: Metolius Sewer Ponds: Located on SW Culver Hwy on the very north end of Metolius. Not open on weekends or after hours. Please check in with staff at the little brick building on the grounds. Culver Sewer Ponds: Located NW of Culver. In Culver, take "C" Street west past the Seed Mill and railroad tracks. Turn right (north) on 8th Street. Take 8th to the end and

turn left to the ponds. You can view these ponds from a two track road on the east side of the ponds. It can get muddy here so be careful. Crooked River Campground is on the way to Lake Billy Chinook right before you start down the steep hill and on the left.

Key Species: Waterfowl, Rough-legged Hawk, Northern Harrier, Prairie Falcon, Ring-necked Pheasant, Long-eared Owl, Yellow-breasted Chat, White-crowned Sparrow and Golden-crowned Sparrow.

Exceptional Species: Great Egret, Peregrine Falcon, Blue Jay, Northern Mockingbird, Harris's Sparrow.

Haystack Reservoir [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 57 D-8 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 37 F-10

Geographic Coordinates 44°29'38.7"N 121°09'39.1"W
([44.49409, -121.16087](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklists for Haystack Reservoir](#)

Location: On Hwy 97, go south of Madras about 9 miles past the turnoff to Culver. Look for Jericho Lane. Take Jericho to the east and travel about a mile. Follow the signs to Haystack Reservoir on Haystack Dr. which is south of Jericho Lane. It is approximately 35 miles from Bend to Haystack Reservoir.

Habitat and Birds: Open water, willows and surrounding Juniper forest. This is a local hotspot for shorebirds, ducks and grebes. There are two good migrant songbird areas: to the south end of the western car park, and at the south end of the reservoir. Shorebirds often congregate on the SE and SW corners of the reservoir. Often, the best scanning can be done from the east campground boat ramp. Bald Eagles are general present year round and the surrounding agricultural fields are good for winter raptors.

Amenities: There is a nice campsite on the other side of the reservoir. Birding, car camping, hiking, photography and boating. Campsites with restrooms.

Best Times to Visit: Fall and winter.

Key Species: Common Loon, Pied-billed Grebe, Horned Grebe, Eared Grebe, Western Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Greater White-fronted Goose, Bald Eagle, Golden Eagle, Wood Duck, American Avocet, Canvasback, Blue-winged Teal, Prairie Falcon, Solitary Sandpiper, Dunlin, Redhead, Common Goldeneye, Semipalmated Plover, Western Sandpiper, Baird's Sandpiper, Great Horned Owl, Red-necked Phalarope, Forster's Tern, Downy Woodpecker, Long-eared Owl, Clark's Grebe, American Pipit

Exceptional Species: Great Egret, Trumpeter Swan, Snow Goose, Greater Scaup, Black Scoter, Surf Scoter, White-winged Scoter, Red-breasted Merganser, Black-necked Stilt, Long-tailed Jaeger, Glaucous-winged Gull, Franklin's Gull, Herring Gull, Thayer's Gull, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Black-bellied Plover, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Barn Owl, Eastern Kingbird, Red-throated Loon, Northern Waterthrush, Pacific Loon, Harris's Sparrow, Red-necked Grebe, Lapland Longspur, Tricolored Blackbird

SOUTH COUNTY

Gray Butte & Skull Hollow [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 51 A-8 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 43 A-10
Geographic Coordinates 44°25'43.1"N 121°05'18.6"W
([44.428640, -121.088491](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklists for Gray Butte and Skull Hollow](#)

Location: On Hwy 97, go south of Madras about 9 miles past the turnoff to Culver. Look for Jericho Lane. Take Jericho to the east and travel about a mile. Follow the signs to Haystack Reservoir on Haystack Dr. which is south of Jericho Lane. . It is approximately 35 miles from Bend to Haystack Reservoir. From Haystack, continue east on SW King Lane. At 1.6 miles past the east entrance to Haystack Reservoir, the road forks. Take the left fork which becomes Laurel Lane. Travel 2.2 miles on Laurel and you will come to [a set of corrals](#). Turn into the road that goes past the corrals. This is the road to Gray Butte. The sage areas are full of sparrows. At .5 miles up this road,

you can take a side trip to the west that will loop you back to Haystack. This road has several old homesteads on it. There are no buildings left but the orchards and ornamental trees are still there and make for good birding (gnatcatchers used to nest here but are rarely found now). Continue up Gray Butte traveling south. The road peaks and begins to weave down-slope. At 1.2 miles from Laurel, the road forks again. Take the right fork (the left will take you through good country and back to Hwy 26). This area is called Skull Hollow and has more Junipers. **Skull Hollow is often impassible to two-wheel drive vehicles due to deep rutting so check the road carefully if you lack 4-wheel drive.** Several water troughs have been set up along the way and these are popular with the local birds. The road comes out of Skull Hollow and reaches pavement. Turn left to return to Hwy 26 or right to go the O'Neil Valley in Crook County.

For a nice side trip, check out Cyrus Horse Corrals (). After turning off Laurel at the [corrals](#), go 0.5 miles south and turn right on Hagman Lane (unsigned). Take Hagman west for 1.5 miles to the main camp. Search this area for nesting **Blue-gray Gnatcatchers**. There are other springs and orchards to check just a short distance west from Cyrus. Return the way you came and proceed on to Gray Butte and Skull Hollow.

Habitat and Birds: Riparian springs, sage, and surrounding Juniper forest. Check the riparian areas for Lazuli Buntings. Near the top of the Gray Butte Road, there is an Orchard. This area has had Mountain Quail and Lewis's Woodpecker. Brewer's Sparrows are abundant and Lark Sparrows are often present. Long-eared Owls can sometimes be found in the willow patches. Watch for Rattlesnakes as they do frequent this area.

Rim Rock Springs WMA [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 51 A-8 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 76 C-1
Geographic Coordinates 44°29'46.6"N 121°02'37.7"W
([44.49628, -121.0438](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklists for Rimrock Springs WMA](#)

Location: Rimrock Springs Wildlife Management area is located on Hwy 26 between Madras and Prineville. From Madras, travel south on Hwy 97 to the Jct of Hwy 26. Take 26 SE (follow the signs to Prineville). About 10 miles down this road is a wayside with bathrooms and a hiking trail to access the

wildlife area. I would recommend traveling a mile further toward Prineville and looking for a dirt road called Ramms Rd. (this is sometimes labeled as Grizzly Rd on some maps). Take this road for $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile and turn left on NFD Rd. 1270. This will take you to a parking area and better access to the wildlife area.

Habitat and Birds: A series of reed fringed pools surrounded by juniper forest and sagebrush. This is a good area for ducks, rails and Northern Harriers. The open juniper forest is home to many Brewers Sparrows and Mountain Bluebirds with Sagebrush Sparrows and Sage Thrashers in the denser sagebrush. Others include American Bittern, Cinnamon Teal, Blue-winged Teal, Gadwall, Golden Eagle, Prairie Falcon and Virginia Rail. Rarities include Burrowing Owl, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Swamp Sparrow and Tricolored Blackbird.

(This area is in the Utopia Christmas Bird Count Circle)

For more information contact: Crooked River National Grassland, 813 Southwest Highway 97, Madras, Oregon 97741 (541) 475-9272

Peter Skene Ogden Wayside [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 51 A-7 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 43 B-9

Geographic Coordinates [44°23'25.6"N 121°11'30.5"W](#)
([44.39044, -121.19181](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

[View Photos From Here](#)

Best Times to Visit: Spring, summer and fall.

Habitat: Gorge with Sheer Cliffs

General Birds in Area: Cliff and Canyon birds (This area is in the Utopia Christmas Bird Count Circle)

Key Species: White-throated Swift, Violet-green Swallow, Canyon Wren

Directions: From Bend, drive north on Hwy 97. It is near the Deschutes County and Jefferson County line. Turn left at sign before you come to the new suspension bridge over the Crooked River. This is a nice spot to stop and stretch your legs and peer over the side into the canyon.

Amenities: Birding! Looking into the canyon - quite scenic and the wayside has nice, big, restrooms. **This is simply one of the best places in the world to see large numbers of White-throated Swifts at eye level.**

Alder Springs [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 51 A-6 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 43 A-8

Geographic Coordinates 44°25'59.8"N 121°21'27.9"W
([44.433282, -121.357751](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

[Alder Springs Website](#)

Location: From HWY 97 Just north of Terrebonne, turn west on Lower Bridge Rd. Travel about 10 miles and turn left on Holmes Rd. Travel 2.2 miles to the entrance road on the right. Turn in and go a short distance to a gate. This gate is unlocked but needs to be closed behind you. Travel another 5 miles to Alder Springs. FROM SISTERS From Sisters travel 5 miles east on Hwy 126. Turn left on Holmes Rd. Travel about a mile and a half to a "T" in the road. Take a right and go 6.5 miles to milepost 7. Turn left onto the entrance road to Alder Springs.

Habitat and Birds: Riparian Habitat, cliffs and open dry brush habitat. Associated with the cliffs are Golden eagles, Canyon and Rock Wrens and White Throated Swifts. Close to the river Lazuli Buntings, Dippers and Lewis's Woodpeckers. During migrations periods many migrants drop it. In the upper dry areas, there are breeding sparrows (Brewer's and Lark), Gray Flycatcher and you can find Pinyon Jays passing through.

Best Times to Visit: Spring, Summer, and Fall

Amenities: Birding! Dispersed camping, hiking, picnicking and photography.

Key Species: Hooded Merganser, Common Poorwill, Rufous Hummingbird, Lewis's Woodpecker, Pacific-slope Flycatcher, Green-tailed Towhee and Bullock's Oriole.

SISTERS NORTH

Prairie Farm Springs [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 50 A-4 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 37 F-6
Geographic Coordinates 44°33'15.8"N 121°35'13.2"W
([44.5535, -121.58432](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

Location: Travel west out of Sisters about 5 miles to Indian Ford Rd. Turn north on Indian Ford and travel just a short distance and turn left on Forest Rd. 11. Take this road about 10 miles until the pavement ends and take a left on Forest Rd. 1150 (SW Prairie Farm Cutoff) Go 6 miles and turn left on Forest Rd. 800 (SW 6 Creek Rd.). Go a short distance and turn right on SW Prairie Farm Rd. Go 1.5 miles and look for a dirt road off to your right which will lead to the springs.

Habitat and Birds: The surrounding forest holds Woodpeckers, Hermit, Nashville and Townsend's Warbler, Flycatchers and Sooty Grouse. The springs can be good for fall migrants and summer nesters.

Green Ridge [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 56 D-4 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 36 F-5
Geographic Coordinates
(Hawkwatch Trailhead) 44°32'02.7"N 121°36'11.0"W
([44.534082, -121.603059](#))
(Hawkwatch Survey Site) 44°32'12.3"N 121°36'17.2"W
([44.536763, -121.604779](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklists for Green Ridge](#)

[East Cascade Audubon Society Green Ridge Hawk Watch Info](#)

Location: Take Hgwy. 20 west of Sisters 6 miles (one mile east of Black Butte Ranch) to the Forest Rd.(FR) 11 Jct. Go north on FR 11 for 10 miles to end of pavement. At the end of pavement bearleft on FR 1150 for 7 miles. Follow signs to Green Ridge Lookout. Turn left on FR 1154 also follow

lookout sign. Go for 1 mile to FR 1140 jct. also lookout sign Go left on FR 1140 for approx 1/4 mile to 600 road jct. (the first jct.) Go right on 600 RD for approx 1 mile. There will be a parking spot on the right in old clear-cut marked with blue ribbon. If you go to the top of the ridge you have gone too far. The trail to the site 1/4 mile goes to the north and is well marked with blue ribbon. When the ribbon stops you are there. The migrating birds will be flying north to south on your left, your right , or straight overhead depending on the winds. To explore more of this ridge, purchase a Deschutes Nat. Forest Map from any Forest Service Office.

Habitat and Birds: Upland forest of pines, cedar and fir. During the fall migration (September and October) large numbers of raptors migrate over from rival Bonny Butte to the north. ECAS monitors this migration each year. The surrounding forest holds woodpeckers, Hermit, Nashville and Townsend's Warbler, flycatchers and Sooty Grouse.

Best Times to Visit: Spring, Summer, and Fall

Whiskey Springs [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 50 A-4 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 37

Geographic Coordinates [44°28'12.8"N 121°34'23.2"W](#)
([44.469927, -121.573163](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklists for Whiskey Springs](#)

Location: Travel west about 5 miles to the sign for Green Ridge and Indian Ford Campground. Turn right/north on Road 11 or Green Ridge Road. Take this road about 8.5 miles and turn left on NFD 1140 near the big orange sign. Go about 1.7 miles to the spring. The spring is well hidden on the left side of the road. Look for deciduous vegetation among the pines and firs. There is a widened area for parking just past the spring. ***Whiskey Springs is private property but birders are granted permission to visit as long as the property is not damaged. Modification of the spring in order to improve viewing or photography is not allowed. Recent vandalism has made the owner concerned. Please help preserve access to this very special location by leaving it the same way you found it.***

Habitat and Birds: The surrounding forest holds Woodpeckers, Hermit, Nashville and Townsend's Warbler, Flycatchers and Sooty Grouse. The springs can be good for fall migrants and summer nesters.

Best Times to Visit: Spring, Summer, and Fall

Black Butte [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 50 A-4 DeLorme (2008) Pg 42 Pg A-5

Geographic Coordinates 44°24'42.0"N 121°36'24.7"W
([44.41168, -121.60685](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

Best Times to Visit: Summer and Fall (Winter inaccessible except by skiing)

Habitat: Subalpine Forests, and Timberline

General Birds in Area: Forest Species such as woodpeckers, finches, Clark's Nutcracker, Hammond's Flycatcher, Sooty Grouse, Wild Turkey, Green-tailed Towhee, Fox Sparrow, Mt. Chickadee, nuthatches and Brown Creeper.

Location: [Black Butte Website](#)

Jefferson Wilderness Trail Heads [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 50 A-3 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 42 A-3

Geographic Coordinates (There are multiple access points to this restricted area. This is a non-motorized wilderness area so detailed planning should take place before accessing this area. For detailed information on access points go [here](#).)

[View A Google Map](#)

Location: Leave Sisters west on Hwy 20/126, turn right on Road 12. Take Road 12 to Road 1234. Follow signs.

Amenities: Birding! There is car camping at Round Lake and the campsite has a restroom. Hiking, photography, and backpacking. The trailhead at Jack Lake has a restroom.

Habitat and Birds: High elevation forest. The burns close to Round Lake have been a good location for Black backed and Three Toed Woodpecker. Lazuli Buntings have taken to the burnt open areas and Sooty Grouse and Mountain Quail can be found. Other key species include Northern Goshawk, Spotted Owl, American Three-toed Woodpecker, Black-backed Woodpecker, Pileated Woodpecker, Clark's Nutcracker, American Dipper and Chestnut-backed Chickadee.

Camp Sherman [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 56 A-4 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 42 A-5

Geographic Coordinates

Camp Sherman 44 31' 24" N 121 37' 58" W ([44.460092, -121.643633](#))

Lake Creek Lodge 44 27' 36" N 121 38' 36" W ([44.445071, -121.654047](#))

Candle Creek Campground 44 26' 42" N 121 39' 13" W

([44.575385, -](#)

[121.619145](#))

Wizard Falls Fish Hatchery 44 31' 24" N 121 37' 58" W

([44.523261, -121.632289](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklists for Camp Sherman](#)

Best Times to Visit: Spring and summer.

Habitat: Riparian and River corridor

General Birds in Area: forest birds, neo-tropic migrants and hummingbirds. Make sure you stop at the Bridge in Camp Sherman and follow the trails on both sides of the river downstream. American Dippers are always present at the bridge and there is plenty of bird activity along the river. Lake Creek Lodge has a trail and hummingbird feeders. Stop in at the lodge and ask to use the trails and hike the area. Listen for the Olive-sided Flycatchers and Western Wood- Pewees at Lake Creek Lodge. MacGillivray's Warblers like the trail along the river here. Other common species include Black-headed Grosbeak, White-headed Woodpecker, Red-breasted Sapsucker, Hammonds and Dusky Flycatcher, Cassin's Vireo, Western Bluebird and Swainson's Thrush.

Exceptional Species: Broad-tailed Hummingbird, Black-chinned Hummingbird, American Redstart, Summer Tanager, Pine Grosbeak and Common Redpoll.

Location: To find Camp Sherman, from Sisters, drive west on Hwy 20/126 for 9.3 miles, turn right on to Road 14. Drive north on Road 14 for 2.7 miles and the road will fork. Take the left fork (the right fork will get you to Camp Sherman too but it's less interesting) and travel 2.1 miles to Forest Road 1419 (1/2 mile past the fork, you will find Lake Creek Lodge). Turn right and travel 1/2 mile to Camp Sherman. It is approximately 35 miles from Bend to Camp Sherman. To find Wizard Falls Fish Hatchery, travel north from Camp Sherman on Forest Road 14 for 4.6 miles and look for road 1400/640 to the left. Take this road and cross the river to the fish hatchery. To find Candle Creek Campground, continue past the turnoff to Wizard falls on road 14 until you come to Bridge 99 (Lower Bridge). This is about 2.8 miles past the Wizard Falls Fish Hatchery Road. Cross the Metolius River and the road becomes Road 12. Travel 1/2 mile and you will see a 4-way intersection. Veer to the right (this keeps you on Rd 12). About 1/4 of a mile past the 4-way you will cross Abbott Creek. After crossing, look for the signs to Candle Creek Campground.

Amenities: Birding! Car camping, hiking, photography and picnicking. Campsites with restrooms. There is access to numerous trailheads with opportunities for backpacking.

Round Lake [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 50 A-3 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 42 A-3
Geographic Coordinates 44°26'32.9"N 121°47'26.1"W
([44.442471, -121.790581](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

Location: From Sisters, drive west on Hwy 20/126 for 13.2 miles. Turn right on Forest Road 1210. Travel 1/4 mile and turn left on the Round Lake Rd. (this is still Road 1210). Travel just under 5 miles and look for Forest Road 600 on your left. Take 600 3/4 of a mile to the trailhead for the lake.

Best Times to Visit: Late Spring, Summer, Fall

Habitat and Birds: The burns close to Round Lake have been a good location for Black-backed and American Three-toed Woodpecker. Lazuli Buntings have

taken to the burnt open areas and Sooty Grouse and Mountain Quail can be found.

Abbott Butte [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 56 D-3 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 36 F-4

Geographic Coordinates 44°31'48.4"N 121°40'15.5"W

([44.5301, -121.67096](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

Location: To find Abbott Butte, from Sisters, drive west on Hwy 20/126 for 9.3 miles, turn right on to Road 14 (follow the signs to Camp Sherman). Drive north on Road 14 for 2.7 miles and the road will fork. Take the left fork which is Road 1419 (the right fork will get you to Camp Sherman) and travel 2.1 miles to the intersection of Forest Road 1419 and Road 1216 (SW Camp Sherman Road). Continue north without turning and you will be on Forest Road 1420. Go 3.6 miles to Forest Road 12. Turn right and go 1.5 miles. Turn left on the 800 Road. Explore this road as far as your vehicle permits. You can make a loop around Abbott Butte by staying right at each intersection and returning to Forest Road 12 (use a good map here). If you aren't that adventurous, return to Forest Road 12 after exploring Road 800. Continue north on Road 12 for 1.2 miles and turn left on Forest Road 1280. Bird this road as it loops around Abbott Butte. Reverse your course to return to Camp Sherman or Sisters.

Habitat and Birds: Upland forest of pines and fir with many burned areas and clear-cuts. The surrounding forest holds woodpeckers (Black-backed, Lewis's, American Three-toed, and more), warblers (Hermit, Nashville and Townsend's), flycatchers (Olive-sided, Dusky, Hammond's, Pacific-Slope) and Sooty Grouse. This is a good area for Lazuli Bunting.

Metolius Preserve [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 50 A-3 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 42 A-4

Geographic Coordinates

METOLIUS PRESERVE N. KIOSK - 44°26'48.0"N 121°40'48.6"W

([44.446678, -121.680172](#))

METOLIUS PRESERVE S. KIOSK - 44°25'56.3"N 121°41'48.1"W

([44.432310, -121.696685](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklists for Metolius Preserve](#)

Location: For maps, directions, and information, go to The [Deschutes Basin Land Trust Website](#) TO SOUTH FORK KIOSK FROM SISTERS Drive 10.6 miles west of Sisters on Hwy 126/20. Take a right on Forest Rd. 2064 (Warm Springs Rd.). Travel 2.6 miles on 2064. Turn right on Forest Rd. 800. Go ¼ mile and turn right on Forest Rd. 810. Go ¼ mile to the kiosk. Maps are available here. TO NORTH FORK KIOSK FROM SISTERS, Drive 9.8 miles west of Sisters. Take a right on Rd. 14 (Camp Sherman). Travel 2.6 miles until you come to a "Y". Stay left and go 2.2 miles. Turn left on Forest Rd. 1216. Drive 1.4 miles and take a left on Forest Rd. 600. Drive ¼ mile to the kiosk. Maps are available here.

Habitat and Birds: Upland forest of Pines and fir. This is a prime birding spot that holds most of the upland forest birds. White Headed and Pileated Woodpeckers (close to north fork of Lake Creek) are fairly easy to see. Both Sooty Grouse and Ruffed Grouse can be found. This is a fantastic area. Unusual strays that are more common to the east have been found here in the summer. A list of species can be found at The [Deschutes Basin Land Trust Website](#)

Suttle Lake [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 50 A-3 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 42 A-4

Geographic Coordinates 44°25'08.1"N 121°45'20.9"W

West Shore ([44.418916, -121.755810](#))

East Shore ([44.427677, -121.730641](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklists for Suttle Lake](#)

[Suttle Lake Information](#)

[Suttle Lake Lodge](#) - **A must see destination!!** Feel free to drop in and check it out.

Location: From Sisters, drive west on Hwy 20/126 for 13.2 miles. Best Times to Visit: All seasons

General Birds in Area: Water birds, Bald Eagle, mountain warblers, and woodpeckers

(This area is in the Santiam Christmas Bird Count Circle)

Amenities: Birding! Car camping, hiking, picnicking and photography. The campsites have restrooms. Suttle Lake is a resort area and has a small restaurant, boating, cabins for rent, etc. There is a nice hiking trail that goes around Suttle Lake. Blue Lake is near Suttle Lake and part of Blue Lake is in Corbett State Park.

Habitat and Birds: Large Lake surrounded by forest. The lake holds wildfowl. And the surrounding forest holds most of the local woodpeckers and Pygmy Owl

Key Species: Common Loon, Pied-billed Grebe, Eared Grebe, Western Grebe, Common Goldeneye, Barrow's Goldeneye, Hooded Merganser, Bald Eagle, Black-backed Woodpecker, Pileated Woodpecker, Gray Jay, Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Winter Wren, American Dipper, MacGillivray's Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Hermit Warbler and Lincoln's Sparrow.

Exceptional Species: Pacific Loon, Red-necked Grebe, Clark's Grebe, Greater Scaup, Long-tailed Duck, White-winged Scoter, Black Scoter, Surf Scoter, Red-breasted Merganser, Herring Gull, Sabine's Gull and Northern Waterthrush.

Corbett Snow Park and Adjacent Forest Service Road [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 50 A-3 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 42 A-3

Geographic Coordinates 44°25'13.7"N 121°47'22.8"W
([44.42046, -121.78967](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

Best Times to Visit: Late Spring, Summer and Fall

Habitat: Mountain Ponds and Marshes, Pine and Fir Forests

General Birds in Area: High Mountain birds (This area is in the Santiam Christmas Bird Count Circle)

Location: From Sisters west on Hwy 20/126 past Suttle Lake. Turn left at signs to Corbett Sno Park. Continue through parking lot to a dirt road, Forest Service Road #800, and then follow Road #800 to multiple, small beautiful lakes.

Amenities: Birding, car camping, hiking, photography, snow shoeing and cross country skiing. There is a restroom at the Sno Park.

Key Species: Northern Goshawk, Williamson's Sapsucker, Black-backed Woodpecker, American Three-toed Woodpecker, Willow Flycatcher, Gray Jay, Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Lincoln's Sparrow and maybe a possible resident Boreal Owl.