

# Tillamook County, Oregon



## Tillamook County Birding Locations

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

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

<b>GENERAL INFORMATION</b>	<b>NEHALEM AREA</b>	Alder Creek Farms
Nehalem Bay Sewage Ponds	Nehalem Meadows	Nehalem Falls Campground
<b>TILLAMOOK BAY AREA</b>	Barview Jetty/Barview Jetty Park	Garibaldi Boat Basin
Tillamook Forest Center	Pacific Oyster/Bay City	Bay City Sewage Ponds
Kilchis Point Reserve	Tillamook Bay Viewpoint	Bay City To Tillamook
Blue Heron Cheese Company	Bay Ocean Spit/Tillamook Bay	Cape Meares State Park and Lighthouse
Oceanside/Three Arch Rocks	<b>SOUTH COUNTY COAST SITES</b>	Netarts Bay
Cape Lookout State Park	Whalen Island/Clay Meyers	Cape Kiwanda State Natural Area
Nestucca Bay Wildlife Refuge	Neskowin Area	Cascade Head & Hart's Cove
<b>INLAND SITES</b>	Munson Creek State NA	Upper Nestucca/Moon Creek

<b>If you have only a short time in our county, try these locations first!</b>			
<b>SPRING</b>	Bay Ocean Spit/Tillamook Bay	Barview Jetty/Barview Jetty Park	Cape Meares State Park and Lighthouse
<b>SUMMER</b>	Tillamook Forest Center	Cape Lookout State Park	Cape Kiwanda State Natural Area
<b>FALL</b>	Bay Ocean Spit/Tillamook Bay	Tillamook Bay Viewpoint	Cape Lookout State Park
<b>WINTER</b>	Nehalem Meadows	Barview Jetty/Barview Jetty Park	Netarts Bay

**Authors/Editors:** Jack Hurt, Chuck Gates, Ilene Samowitz, MIke Golden, Paul Sullivan, Ken Chamberlain

**County Seat:** Tillamook

**County Size:** 1133 square miles

**High Elevation :** Roger's Peak (3706 ft)

**Rarities :** Tundra Bean-Goose, Gargany, King Eider, Manx Shearwater, Lesser Sand-Plover, Piping Plover, Little Stint, Laughing Gull, Little Gull, Black-headed Gull, Red-legged Kittiwake, Blue-headed Vireo, Northern Wheatear

**Top County Lister :** Jeff Gilligan (305)

**Year List Record :** Phil Pickering 1985 (234)

**County Contact Person:** Email [Jeff Gilligan](mailto:Jeff.Gilligan@tillamookcountyor.gov)

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## **NEHALEM AREA**

### **Alder Creek Farm** [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 64 A-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 20 D-3  
**geographic coordinates** 45°42'56.5"N 123°54'16.6"W  
([45.71564, -123.90483](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

**Location, Habitat, and Birds:** Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Oregon Coast Birding Trail. Click on the North Coast tab and go to section 25.

### **Nehalem Bay Sewage Ponds** [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 64 A-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 20 D-3  
**geographic coordinates** 45°42'53.5"N 123°53'09.3"W  
([45.714850, -123.885918](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Nehalem Bay Sewage Ponds](#)

**Location, Habitat, and Birds:** Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Oregon Coast Birding Trail. Click on the North Coast tab and go to section 27. The Nehalem Sewage Treatment Plant is "open" only from 7-4, M-F. The birder's access gate is locked otherwise. The north side ponds are now restricted to walking (assuming one can get in the STP). **There have been problems with people going into the restricted area so**

**please DO NOT DO THIS.** Like many coastal sewage lagoons (see below), this is a good place to check at high tide as birds come here to avoid the rising tide. Golden-Plover, Baird's Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper and Stilt Sandpiper all have been found here.

## **Nehalem Meadows** [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 64 A-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 20 D-3  
**geographic coordinates** 45°43'06.8"N 123°52'58.6"W  
([45.718541, -123.882957](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Nehalem Meadows](#)

**Location, Habitat, and Birds:** From Nehalem, travel south on Hwy 101 to the Nehalem River. Just after crossing the river, take the first right (Tideland Rd.). Bird Tideland Road as it winds through the meadow. 3/4 of a mile down this road, you will find the [Nehalem Sewage Ponds](#). This is a good place to check for unusual waterfowl. Blue-winged Teal and Emperor Goose have both been found here. Check the meadow for both White-tailed Kite, Merlin, Gyrfalcon and Peregrine Falcon. Winter sparrows can include Clay-colored, Tree, Swamp, and Harris's so check the more common White-crowned and Golden-crowned flocks. Watch for Purple Martins feeding in summer and Palm Warblers in winter.

## **Nehalem Falls Campground** [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 64 C-2 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 20 D-4  
**geographic coordinates** 45°43'34.4"N 123°46'15.3"W  
([45.726231, -123.770908](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

**Location, Habitat, and Birds:** Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Oregon Coast Birding Trail. Click on the North Coast tab and go to section 18.

# **TILLAMOOK BAY AREA**

## **Barview Jetty and Barview Jetty Park** [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 64 D-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 20 F-1  
**geographic coordinates** 45°34'22.1"N 123°57'06.0"W  
([45.572807, -123.951680](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Barview Jetty](#)

**Location, Habitat, and Birds:** Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Oregon Coast Birding Trail. Click on the North Coast tab and go to section 28.

## **Garibaldi Boat Basin** [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 64 D-2 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 20 F-3  
**geographic coordinates** 45°33'21.2"N 123°54'53.1"W  
([45.555883, -123.914756](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

**Location, Habitat, and Birds:** Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Oregon Coast Birding Trail. Click on the North Coast tab and go to section 29.

## **Tillamook Forest Center** [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 65 D-5 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 21 F-6  
**geographic coordinates** 45°35'06.0"N 123°33'38.4"W  
([45.585007, -123.560652](#))

Open Wed – Sun, 10 am to 4 pm (Closed Mon& Tues)

[View A Google Map](#)

[Tillamook Forest Center Map](#)

[Tillamook Forest Center Website](#)

**Location, Habitat, and Birds:** Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Oregon Coast Birding Trail. Click on the North Coast tab and go to section 32.

## **Pacific Oyster/Bay City** [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 64 D-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 20 F-3  
**geographic coordinates** 45°31'26.3"N 123°53'34.3"W  
([45.52357, -123.89458](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Pacific Oyster/Bay City](#)

**Location, Habitat, and Birds:** Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Oregon Coast Birding Trail. Click on the North Coast tab and go

to section 30. Walk the trail north of the parking area and you will be rewarded with good looks at the bay and associated bay birds.

## **Bay City Sewage Ponds** [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 64 D-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 20 F-3  
**geographic coordinates** 45°30'52.8"N 123°53'07.9"W  
([45.514666, -123.885537](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Bay City Sewage Ponds](#)

### **Location, Habitat, and Birds:**

Bay City Sewage Lagoons

From Hwy 101 in Bay City, across from Habitat for Humanity, turn west on Warren St., cross the railroad tracks and proceed to Spruce Street. Turn West on Spruce Street, then turn right (north) on Elliott Street. Proceed north on Elliott to the gate to the lagoons. There is a small area to turn around and park outside the gate. You can view most of the ponds from outside the gate. Do not enter the ponds. High tide brings shorebirds aplenty to this location. Waterfowl of just about every variety can end up here. Oddities that have been seen here before include Tree Sparrow, Tufted Duck, Garganey, Vesper Sparrow, Oldsquaw, Common Black-headed Gull, and Little Gull. As with any sewage facility, be especially nice to any workers that you encounter and please do not attempt to enter this facility without permission.

## **Kilchis Point Preserve** [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 64 D-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 20 F-3  
**geographic coordinates** 45°30'45.2"N 123°52'50.7"W  
([45.512565, -123.880752](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Kilchis Point Preserve](#)

[Kilchis Point Reserve Website](#)

**Location, Habitat, and Birds:** From Highway 101, across from Habitat for Humanity in Bay City go west on Warren Street, cross the RR tracks and go to Spruce Street. At this jct. turn left into the parking lot for the Reserve. There is a restroom. The preserve has 2 miles of trails with good surfaces, and many exhibits along the way, giving natural history, Native American usage, and pioneer history. It has riparian habitat, wetland, brush, deciduous and coniferous trees. The trail extends to a kiosk that overlooks Tillamook Bay.

## **Tillamook Bay Viewpoint** [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 64 D-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 20 F-3  
**geographic coordinates** 45°30'43.6"N 123°53'12.5"W  
([45.51212, -123.88681](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

**Location, Habitat, and Birds:** From Hwy 101 in Bay City, across from Habitat for Humanity, turn west on Warren St., cross the railroad tracks and proceed to Spruce Street. Turn West on Spruce Street, then South on Hare Street, then West on Salmon Street and continue to the end. Park near the end, but **do not block the driveway of the last house**. You can walk down to the beach and view the bay at low tide.

## **Bay City To Tillamook** [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 64 D-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 20 F-3  
**geographic coordinates** 45°29'57.4"N 123°51'17.9"W  
([45.499288, -123.854979](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

**Location, Habitat, and Birds:** Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Oregon Coast Birding Trail. Click on the North Coast tab and go to section 31.

[Tillamook City Information](#)

## **Blue Heron French Cheese Company** [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 58 A-2 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 26 A-3  
**geographic coordinates**  
45°28'01.0"N 123°50'33.9"W ([45.466946, -123.842742](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

**Location, Habitat, and Birds:** Located on Hwy 101 north of Tillamook. It's south of the Tillamook Cheese Factory and Fred Meyer. Pull into the parking lot and position yourself to view the large agricultural area to the east. There are often raptors like Rough-legged Hawks (winter) and White-tailed Kite. Scan the gull flocks for rarities and look for high tide shorebirds.

## **Bay Ocean Spit/Tillamook Bay** [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 58 A-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 26 A-2  
**geographic coordinates** 45°30'24.6"N 123°56'37.0"W  
([45.506820, -123.943624](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Bay Ocean Spit](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Bay Ocean Spit \(east side\)](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Bay Ocean Spit \(west side\)](#)

**Location, Habitat, and Birds:** Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Oregon Coast Birding Trail. Click on the North Coast tab and go to section 33.

## **Cape Meares State State Park and Lighthouse**

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DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 58 A-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 26 A-2  
**geographic coordinates** 45°29'09.1"N 123°58'28.5"W  
([45.485848, -123.974571](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Cape Meares](#)

**Location, Habitat, and Birds:** Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Oregon Coast Birding Trail. Click on the North Coast tab and go to section 33.

## **Oceanside Beach/Three Arch Rocks National Wildlife Refuge** [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 58 A-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 26 A-2  
**geographic coordinates** 45°27'38.2"N 123°58'12.8"W  
([45.460612, -123.970210](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Three Arch Rocks NWR](#)

**Location, Habitat, and Birds:** Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Oregon Coast Birding Trail. Click on the North Coast tab and go to section 35.

## **SOUTH COAST COUNTY SITES**

### **Netarts Bay** [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 58 A-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 26 B-2  
**geographic coordinates** 45°25'12.9"N 123°56'11.1"W  
([45.420240, -123.936405](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Netarts Bay](#)

**Location, Habitat, and Birds:** Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Oregon Coast Birding Trail. Click on the North Coast tab and go to section 36.

### **Cape Lookout State Park** [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 58 B-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 26 B-2  
**geographic coordinates** 45°21'45.8"N 123°58'13.9"W  
([45.362713, -123.970533](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Cape Lookout](#)

**Location, Habitat, and Birds:** Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Oregon Coast Birding Trail. Click on the North Coast tab and go to section 37.

### **Whalen Island/Clay Meyers Natural Area**

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DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 58 B-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 26 C-2  
**geographic coordinates** 45°16'21.9"N 123°56'59.2"W  
([45.272747, -123.949787](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Whalen Island County Park](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Clay Meyers NA](#)

**Location, Habitat, and Birds:** Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Oregon Coast Birding Trail. Click on the North Coast tab and go to section 40.



## **Cape Kiwanda State Natural Area** [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 58 C-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 26 D-2  
**geographic coordinates** 45°12'55.8"N 123°58'14.0"W  
([45.215494](#), [-123.970558](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Cape Kiwanda State NA](#)

**Location, Habitat, and Birds:** From Pacific City, take Pacific Avenue west and cross the Nestucca River. After crossing the bridge, take an immediate right on Cape Kiwanda Drive. Travel 1.0 mile to the parking area near the beach. Cars are allowed on the beach here but be wary of soft sand. Birds that can be seen here include shorebirds, scoters, loons, grebes, cormorants, Brown Pelican, alcids and gulls.

## **Nestucca Bay Wildlife Refuge** [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 58 C-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 26 E-2  
**geographic coordinates** 45°09'44.4"N 123°57'04.7"W  
([45.162332](#), [-123.951310](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Nestucca Bay Wildlife Refuge](#)

[Nestucca Bay Wildlife Refuge Website](#)

**Location:** Nestucca Bay is about 25 miles south of Tillamook. Heading South on Highway 101, go just past the turn off to Pacific City (Brooten Road). From here, there are pull outs that allow for birding the fields and the refuge on both sides of the highway. From the bridge across the Little Nestucca River, drive .6 miles and turn right (West) on Christensen Road and proceed up to the lower parking lot of the Refuge. Walk up the road from the lower parking lot to the upper parking lot (1/2 mile). From the upper parking lot, walk up the path to the Refuge observation deck, where the ocean, Haystack Rock, Nestucca Bay, the Coast Range, and the Little Nestucca tide-water can be viewed. Bring a scope if you have one.

**Habitat and Birds:** There are six subspecies of geese on the Refuge, including Semidi Islands Aleutian Cackling geese and the only coastal wintering population of dusky Canada geese. Birding from the lower parking lot produces a variety of species including White-tailed Kite, Rough-legged Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Bald Eagle, Northern Harrier, American Kestrel and Northern Shrike. The woods along the road to the upper parking lot are good for a variety of sparrows, hummingbirds, vireos, kinglets, warblers,

flycatchers and finches. Northern Pygmy-Owl and Ruffed Grouse may also be seen.

## **Neskowin Area** [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 58 D-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 26 E-2  
**geographic coordinates** 45°06'11.6"N 123°58'55.3"W  
([45.10321, -123.98204](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for the Neskowin Area](#)

**Location, Habitat, and Birds:** Neskowin is about 30 miles south of Tillamook and about 10 miles north of Lincoln City. Heading South on Highway 101, take a right (West) into the parking lot at the main Neskowin entrance ([45.10321, -123.98204](#)). From the parking lot, walk across the bridge at Hawk Creek and then right on Hawk Drive ([45.103109, -123.982833](#)), which parallels Hawk Creek and is good habitat for sparrows, vireos, kinglets, warblers, American Dipper and Wilson's Snipe. Hawk Drive turns into Hawk Street and parallels the Neskowin Marsh Golf Course, which is good birding for waterfowl and shorebirds most of the year. Western Bluebird, Red-shouldered Hawk and Merlin are seen in this area. Continue birding past the Golf Course on the road along the National Wildlife Refuge. Take a right on the trail marked "Tsunami Evacuation Route" to enter the Refuge. At the bridge, look and listen for Sora, Virginia Rail, American Bittern and Green Heron. The trail continues up into a housing area, or you can come back to Hawk St and continue birding along the Refuge. On the way back to the parking lot on Hawk St, take the first road to the right (Corvallis St), then a left on Breakers Blvd to bird the Neskowin neighborhood area, then take a left on Salem St to the bridge and the trail out to the beach and Proposal Rock. Bald Eagle, Black Turnstone, Ruddy Turnstone, Sanderling, Surfbird, Black Oystercatcher, Whimbrel and a variety of gulls and terns are seen in this area. If interested in beach walking, one can walk North clear to the mouth of the Nestucca River (about 5 miles), although at high tide some areas may require heading up to the grassy areas.

## **Cascade Head & Hart's Cove Trailheads** [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 58 D-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 26 F-2  
**geographic coordinates**

**Hart's Cove Access Road 1861** ([45.06491, -123.99545](#))  
**Cascade Head South Trailhead** ([45.041920, -123.992283](#))  
**Cascade Head North Trailhead** ([45.065861, -123.948498](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Cascade Head](#)

**Location, Habitat, and Birds:** Birding this area can be most productive in the summer (the Hart's Cove Trail is only open from July 16-December 31) when large sea bird colonies collect off the coast of Cascade Head. These colonies can number over 15,000 birds total (Common Murre; Double-crested, Pelagic, and Brandt's Cormorant; Pigeon Guillemot; Western Gull; Tufted Puffin; Rhinoceros Auklet; Black Oystercatcher; Peregrine Falcon); large mammal haul-out area on the beach of the two coves for Steller and California Sea Lions and Harbor Seals. The isolation of the area is itself a valuable resource. While hiking the trail, look and listen for Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Swainson's Thrush, Black-throated Gray Warbler and many other passerines. Look for loons, sea ducks, alcids, gulls, and the occasional tubenose offshore.

## **INLAND SITES**

### **Munson Creek State Natural Site** [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 58 B-3 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 26 B-4  
**geographic coordinates** 45°21'56.5"N 123°46'25.2"W  
([45.365701, -123.773663](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Munson Creek Falls](#)

**Location, Habitat, and Birds:** Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Oregon Coast Birding Trail. Click on the North Coast tab and go to section 38.

### **Upper Nestucca Moon Creek Area** [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 58 B-3 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 26 C-5  
**geographic coordinates** 45°18'48.7"N 123°40'45.4"W  
([45.313538, -123.679277](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

**Location:** Heading South on Highway 101, take a left (East) onto Blaine Rd at the town of Beaver (just past the Shell Station). Drive 6.6 miles to the "town" of Blaine and go left (North) on Moon Creek Rd. After 1.0 miles, take a right on dirt road 3-8-20. This road climbs up into the coast range, ending at 1265' elevation, 3.5 mi from the turn off. At the road's end (just past the gravel pit turnaround on the left), park and walk the short trail (over a few dirt road blocks) onto another road that can be walked and birded for miles. This road has no motorized vehicle access. The roads in this area are in reasonable shape but sometimes do have obstacles. Other roads in the area are worth exploring, as are the camping areas along the Blaine Rd past Blaine. It is a good idea to come prepared for a vehicle issue (water, food, blanket, rope, etc), as these roads receive little traffic.

**Habitat and Birds:** Mixed conifers and riparian areas. Ruffed Grouse, Mt. Quail, Spotted Owl, Northern Saw-whet Owl, and Northern Pygmy-Owl have been identified in this area.