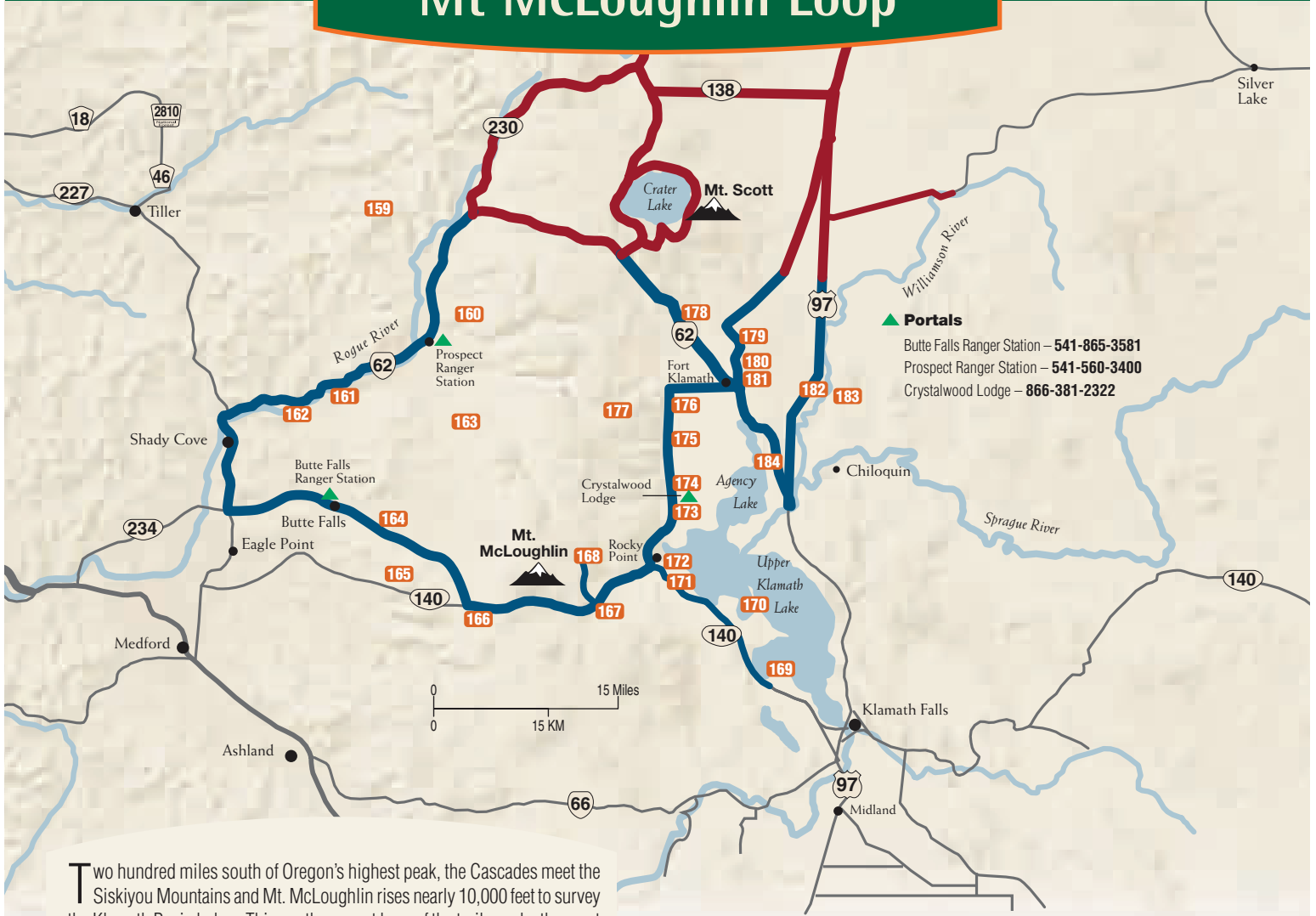


Mt McLoughlin Loop



▼ Klamath Basin Birding Trail continues in Northern California

Two hundred miles south of Oregon's highest peak, the Cascades meet the Siskiyou Mountains and Mt. McLoughlin rises nearly 10,000 feet to survey the Klamath Basin below. This southernmost loop of the trail may be the most ecologically diverse on the entire route. Southeast of Crater Lake, the Spring River joins the Williamson for some spectacular riparian birding. Collier State Park serves as a base for your exploration while you search for hummingbirds, nuthatches, warblers and flycatchers. On the eastern flank of Mt. McLoughlin, a series of gushing springs lines the geological boundary between the Upper Klamath Basin and the steep Cascade foothills. Odessa, Malone, Crystal, and Mare's Egg Springs all feature superb examples of forest and wetland species together. Enjoy nesting Red-necked Grebe, Yellow Rail and Least Bittern on a morning canoe tour off Rocky Point, and then visit Crystalwood Lodge in the afternoon to see nesting Sandhill Crane and Pileated Woodpecker only a few hundred yards apart. Around the southern end of the trail, Mountain Quail, Red-breasted Sapsucker and Hermit Warbler exemplify the mixed conifer forested communities of this region, and all three species can be found from Willow Prairie to the Mill Creek Bridge. The shores of Lost Creek Reservoir turn the Rogue River into a shorebird magnet each fall, while the open water invites mergansers, goldeneyes, loons, grebes, and gulls. High above, on the Rogue-Umpqua Divide, Huckleberry Gap invites nesting Lazuli Bunting, Willow Flycatcher, and Townsend's Solitaire.

159. Huckleberry Gap

Umpqua NF, Tiller RD. *From junction of Hwys 230 and 62, W of Crater Lake; S on Hwy 230 5.8 mi to R on FR 68; 13.5 mi on FR 68 to junction of FR 30; L on FR 900 1 mi to dispersed campsites and parking on L.*

High altitude wet meadow with rock outcroppings on Rogue-Umpqua Divide; excellent spot for nesting Lincoln's Sparrow, Willow and Olive-sided Flycatchers, White-crowned Sparrow, Lazuli Bunting, and Townsend's Solitaire.



Sponsor: American Bird Conservancy

160. Mill Creek Bridge

Rogue River-Siskiyou NF, High Cascades RD. *From Prospect, 6.1 mi N on Hwy 62 to R on FR 60; 2.3 mi E to bridge over creek, just past junction with FR 6050.*

Riparian surrounded by mixed conifer; nesting MacGillivray's, Wilson's, and Yellow Warblers, Western Tanager, Black-headed Grosbeak, and Swainson's and Hermit Thrushes. Both FR60 and FR6050 lead to Huckleberry Campground (site 151) FR6050 has good owl diversity with Barred, Spotted, Flammulated and Long-eared nesting; FR 60, between bridge and Huckleberry Campground,

watch for Blue and Ruffed Grouse and Mountain Quail.



Sponsor: Leupold & Stevens, Inc.

161. Joseph Stewart State Park

Oregon State Parks. *From Prospect, 8.8 mi S on Hwy 62 to park entrance on R.*

Large reservoir with expansive mudflats, depending on water level, surrounded by pine forest; high concentration of migrant and wintering waterfowl, including Barrow's and Common Goldeneyes, Hooded Merganser, scoters, and a variety of loons, gulls and grebes; nesting species include Varied and Swainson's Thrushes, Fox Sparrow, Pine Siskin, Osprey, and occasional Red-shouldered Hawk; in late summer and fall, exposed flats draw migrating shorebirds, as well as American Pipit and occasional longspurs; trees introduced around park attract many migrant songbirds.



162. McGregor Park

US Army Corps of Engineers. *From Prospect, 14.1 mi S on Hwy 62, past Lost Creek Reservoir, to R on Takelma Drive; 0.3 mi to park entrance on R.*

Riparian and open water wetland below Lost Creek dam known locally by fishermen as "Holy Water" because of huge trout here; hosts wintering waterfowl including American and Eurasian Wigeon, Ring-necked Duck, Bufflehead, and Redhead; paved access

roadway with parking areas and benches for waterfowl viewing at close range; Yellow-breasted Chat nests annually.



Sponsor: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Portland District

163. Medco Pond

Plum Creek Timber Co.. *From Prospect, 12 mi S on CO 992 (Butte Falls-Prospect Hwy) to shore access; park in roadside turn-outs.*

Shallow and deep water ponds and dry meadow bordered by agricultural land and mixed conifer and ponderosa pine forests; excellent transition zone for wide diversity of species; resident waterfowl, Bald Eagle, Great Gray Owl, and Steller's and Gray Jays; nesting Williamson's Sapsuckers, Western Tanager and Sandhill Crane.



164. Willow Lake

Rogue River-Siskiyou NF, High Cascades RD; Medford Water Commission. *From White City, 29.1 mi E on Hwy 140 to L on FR 37/CO 821; 10.6 mi N to FR 37 junction; 0.8 mi further on CO 821 to L on FR 3050; 1.1 mi S on FR 100 to dam. From Butte Falls, 8.9 mi S on Butte Falls-Fish Lake Rd (CO821) to R on FR 3050.*

Open water surrounded by mixed conifer forest; resident Bald Eagle, Chestnut-backed and Mountain Chickadees, Blue and Ruffed Grouse, Mountain Quail, and Williamson's and Red-breasted Sapsuckers; nesting Bald Eagle, Osprey, Western Tanager, Hermit, Townsend's and Wilson's Warblers,

and Swainson's Thrush; excellent for wintering waterfowl, including Ruddy and Ring-necked Ducks, plus migrant Common Loon; American White Pelican in summer; fee for recreation on west side of lake. Late summer mudflats good for migrant shorebirds and outstanding for dragonflies.



Sponsor: National Forest Foundation

165. Willow Prairie

Rogue River-Siskiyou NF, High Cascades RD. *From White City, 29.1 mi E on Hwy 140 to L on FR 37/CO 821; 1.6 mi N to L on FR 3738; 1.3 mi W to L on FR 3735; 0.2 mi to FR 430 at campground entrance; park in day use area.*

Wet meadow and beaver pond surrounded by mixed conifer forest; up to six pairs of resident Great Gray Owls; nesting Sandhill Crane, Western Tanager, and MacGillivray's and Hermit Warblers; resident Mountain Quail.



166. Fish Lake Trail

Rogue River-Siskiyou NF, Ashland RD. *From Klamath Falls, 2.2 mi S on Hwy 97 to W Hwy 140 exit; 0.2 mi to R on Hwy 140; 41.9 mi past Fish Lake Dam, to L on FR 37; 0.6 mi S to day use parking on L. From Medford, at Hwy 62/140 junction, 28.1 miles E on Hwy 140 to R on FR 37 (Big Elk Road); 0.6 mi S to day use parking on L.*

Mature Douglas-fir and grand fir forest, with riparian and emergent marsh vegetation along creek; resident

species include nuthatches, Brown Creeper, American Dipper, Belted Kingfisher, and various sparrows; breeding and migrant species include variety of warblers, woodpeckers, and wrens; easy, 0.5-mi trail along North Fork Little Butte Creek Fish Lake Dam.



167. Great Meadow

Fremont-Winema NF, Klamath RD. *From Klamath Falls, 2.2 mi S on Hwy 97 to W Hwy 140 exit; 0.2 mi to R on Hwy 140; 33 mi to signed trailhead parking on L.*

Wet and dry meadow habitats, surrounded by subalpine and mixed conifer forest; nesting species include Rufous Hummingbird, Spotted Sandpiper, American Pipit, Hermit Thrush, Common Nighthawk, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Western Tanager, and Vaux's Swift; resident forest birds include Golden-crowned Kinglet, Mountain Chickadee, Steller's and Gray Jays, Red Crossbill, Pileated Woodpecker, and Spotted Owl.



Sponsor: Klamath County Tourism

168. Fourmile Lake

Winema NF, Klamath RD. *From Klamath Falls, 2.2 mi S on Hwy 97 to W Hwy 140 exit; 0.2 mi to R onto Hwy 140; 34.6 mi to R on FR 3661; 6.2 mi to campground at lakeshore.*

Large subalpine lake at base of Mt. McLoughlin; diversity of habitats along last 2-mi of FR 3661, from wet meadow, ponds, and marsh to dry meadow and subalpine forest; lake supports concentration of gulls and diving birds in



PHOTO BY KEVIN SMITH

White-throated Swift



PHOTO BY KEVIN SMITH

Yellow-headed Blackbird



PHOTO BY U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Great Blue Heron

BIRDING TIP

Drink before you're thirsty, eat before you're hungry. You will better withstand longer days in the field or on the road if you stay fueled and hydrated. Take snacks and water along with you on a hike to keep your observation skills sharp; keep them in the car for times you are miles from town.

migration, including loon, grebes, and diving ducks; nesting species include Red Crossbill, Gray and Steller's Jays, chickadees, nuthatches, and Western Tanager; trails enter Sky Lakes Wilderness.

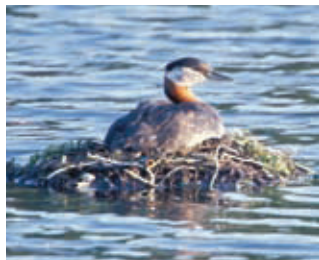


PHOTO BY KRIS FALCO

Red-necked Grebe

169. Howard Bay, Upper Klamath Lake

Klamath County Parks. *From Klamath Falls, 2.2 mi S on Hwy 97 to W Hwy 140 exit; 0.2 mi to R on Hwy 140; 10 mi to boat ramp and large pull-out on L (2.8 mi past Running Y Resort).*

Shallow open water with adjacent grassland and pine forest; excellent location for migrating gulls and terns and wintering waterfowl, plus nesting marsh birds and forest species.



Sponsor: Running Y Resort

170. Eagle Ridge County Park

Klamath County Parks. *From Klamath Falls, 2.2 mi S on Hwy 97 to W Hwy 140 exit; 0.2 mi to R onto Hwy 140; 18.3 mi to R on Eagle Ridge Road (8.8 mi N of Running Y Resort); use caution when wet – road may be impassable; 3 miles to park entrance.*

Open water with marsh and willow habitat along shore and mixed conifer and shrubs on ridge above road; nesting Clark's, Western, and Eared Grebes and Black Tern; forest supports Western Tanager, Yellow-rumped Warbler, House Wren, Chipping Sparrow, and Cassin's Vireo; excellent in fall migration; good canoe birding most of year and ski birding in winter.



Sponsor: Klamath County Tourism

171. Odessa Creek Marsh

Fremont-Winema NF, Klamath RD. *From Klamath Falls, 2.2 mi S on Hwy 97 to W Hwy 140 exit; 0.2 mi to R on Hwy 140; 22.8 mi to R on FR 3639; 1.0 mi to campground; park in day-use area.*

Ponderosa pine forest overlooking Odessa Creek marsh, with transition from marsh to riparian and pine habitats; concentrations of woodpeckers in campground, including Pileated and White-headed Woodpeckers; resident forest species include Mountain Chickadee, nuthatches, Brown Creeper, Red Crossbill; forests also host nesting Western Wood-Pewee, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Cassin's and Warbling Vireos, and Williamson's and Red-naped Sapsuckers; dense marsh area invites Common Yellowthroat and Marsh Wren; marsh best explored by canoe for chance to view Sora, Virginia Rail, American and Least Bitterns, and Black-crowned Night-Heron.



Sponsor: Klamath County Tourism

172. Rocky Point

Fremont-Winema NF, Klamath RD/USFWS; *From Klamath Falls, 2.2 mi S on Hwy 97 to W Hwy 140 exit; 0.2 mi to R onto Hwy 140; 25.5 mi to R on Rocky Point Road; 2.8 mi to boat launch and day use parking on R, just past resort.*

Extensive marshland and shallow open water on Upper Klamath National Wildlife Refuge, borders mixed conifer forest; marsh hosts rare nesting Red-necked Grebe plus Black and Forster's Terns, Least and American Bitterns, American White-Pelican, Willow Flycatcher, and Osprey; resident Great Blue Heron, Bald Eagle, and Northern Harrier; nesting bitterns and terns best viewed by boat.



Sponsor: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

173. Malone Spring

Fremont-Winema NF, Klamath/USFWS. *From Klamath Falls, 2.2 mi S on Hwy 97 to W Hwy 140 exit; 0.2 mi to R onto Hwy 140; 26.4 mi to R on Westside Drive (FR 34/531); 6.2 mi to signed entrance on R.*

Transition from marshland to aspen/willow riparian and mixed conifer forest; excellent location to view species of all three habitats, including Dusky and Willow Flycatchers, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-breasted and Williamson's Sapsuckers, and Sora and Virginia Rail; excellent canoe birding.



Sponsor: National Forest Foundation

174. Crystalwood Lodge

Privately Owned. *From Klamath Falls, 2.2 mi S on Hwy 97 to W Hwy 140 exit; 0.2 mi to R on Hwy 140; 26.4 mi to R on Westside Drive (FR 34/531); 9.6 mi N to signed driveway on R.*

Dry and wet meadows, aspen and cottonwood galleries, and riparian habitat, sandwiched between mature mixed conifer forest and expansive marshes of Upper Klamath National Wildlife Refuge; brief transition between habitats concentrates species; resident White-headed and Pileated Woodpeckers and nesting sapsuckers, Sandhill Crane, and Yellow-headed Blackbird; wintering Tundra Swan, Bald Eagle, and Rough-legged Hawk, and migrant Snow and Ross's Geese; boat launch connects with Upper Klamath Canoe Trail through refuge marshlands; check in at lodge office when birding.



Sponsor: Crystalwood Lodge

175. Mare's Egg Spring

Fremont-Winema NF, Klamath RD. *From Crystalwood Lodge on Upper Klamath Lake, 6.2 mi N on Westside Rd to parking area on R; W side of Wood River Valley.*



Bald Eagle

PHOTO BY U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Spring feeding Crane Creek and draining into Wood River Valley, surrounded by mixed conifer forest; excellent for migrating warblers, nesting rails, and resident grouse; Yellow and Virginia Rails and Sora; Blue and Ruffed Grouse; up to eight warbler species; resident Pileated Woodpecker and nesting Flammulated Owl; spring named for rare Mare's Egg algae that requires cold deep spring water; great canoeing.



Sponsor: Crystalwood Lodge

176. Sevenmile Guard Station

Fremont-Winema NF, Klamath RD. *From Klamath Falls, 2.2 mi S on Hwy 97 to W Hwy 140 exit; 0.2 mi to R on Hwy 140; 26.4 mi to R on Westside Drive (FR 34/531); 25.8 mi to R on Sevenmile Road (FR 1439); 2 mi E to L on Hackler Road; 2.5 mi N to L on Nicholson Road; 1.5 mi to guard station parking. From Fort Klamath, off Highway 62, 3.9 mi W on Nicholson Road to guard station.*

Cottonwood, aspen and willow along Sevenmile Creek surrounded by mixed conifer; adjacent agricultural lands; forest hosts resident Ruffed Grouse, Northern Goshawk, Northern Pygmy-Owl, Pileated Woodpecker, Steller's and Gray Jays, and three species of Chickadee; nesting birds include Flammulated and Northern Saw-whet Owls, Vaux's Swift, Rufous Hummingbird, Williamson's Sapsucker, Hammond's, Dusky, and Cordilleran Flycatchers, Nashville, MacGillivray's and Wilson's Warblers, and Purple and Cassin's Finches; creek supports resident American Dipper; agricultural lands invite high concentration of raptors in winter; gorgeous fall colors.



Sponsor: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



PHOTO BY PARADISE BIRDING

Yellow-breasted Chat

177. Sevenmile Marsh

Fremont-Winema NF, Klamath RD. From *Sevenmile Guard Station* (see site description), 0.3 mi on FR 3300 to R on FR 3334; 5.7 mi to trailhead and campground.

High-elevation wetland surrounded by mixed conifer forest; nesting Lincoln's Sparrow, Spotted Sandpiper, MacGillivray's Warbler, Swainson's Thrush and Willow Flycatcher; resident and nesting forest species include Clark's Nutcracker, Gray and Steller's Jays, nuthatches, chickadees, Western Tanager, and Yellow-rumped Warbler.



Sponsor: Klamath County Tourism

178. Sun Pass State Forest

Oregon Department of Forestry. From Ft. Klamath, 1.3 mi E on Hwy 62 to L on Sun Mountain Road (FR 623); 3.2 mi N to Kimball State Park; Sun Mountain Road beyond park entrance enters Sun Pass Forest. From Hwy 62 E, at S entrance to Crater Lake NP, 0.6 mi S to L on FR 6237 (Annie Creek Sno-park); after 0.25 mi, R into Sun Pass Forest.

Riparian habitat along Sun Creek surrounded by forest with open stands dominated by ponderosa pine; nesting Pileated, White-headed, Black-backed, and Hairy Woodpeckers and Williamson's Sapsucker; Great Gray Owl observed between Highway 62 and Sun Creek; other raptors include all

three accipiters, Red-tailed Hawk, and Northern Pygmy-Owl; common nesting species include Yellow-rumped Warbler, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Western Tanager, and Evening Grosbeak; open to vehicles seasonally, between July 1 and November 1; other times, access is via mountain bike, foot, or horse.



Sponsor: National Forest Foundation

179. Jackson F. Kimball State Park

Oregon State Parks. From Ft. Klamath, 1.3 mi E on Hwy 62 to L on FR 623; 3.2 mi N to park entrance on L.

Mixed conifer surrounding headwaters of Wood River, with aspen and willow riparian downstream; resident Blue and Ruffed Grouse, Red-breasted and Williamson's Sapsuckers, and Western Screech-Owl; excellent migration and nesting diversity with Lincoln's Sparrow, Warbling Vireo, Audubon's, MacGillivray's, and other warblers.



PHOTO BY PARADISE BIRDING

Ruffed Grouse

180. Wood River Picnic Ground

Fremont-Winema NF, Chiloquin RD. From Ft. Klamath, 1.3 mi E on Hwy 62 to L on Sun Mountain Road (FR 623); 1 mi N to L on FR 960; 0.6 mi to parking area.

Large aspen and cottonwood stands and marshy wetland surrounded by lodgepole and ponderosa pine; supports nesting Wood Duck, Sora, Virginia Rail, Wilson's Phalarope, Common

Nighthawk, snipe, and swallows; aspen and cottonwood galleries invite all three sapsucker species, Western and Mountain Bluebird, Warbling Vireo, and Black-headed Grosbeak; pine forest supports nesting Western Wood-Pewee, Red Crossbill, Hermit Thrush, and Cassin's Vireo; resident forest species include White-headed Woodpecker, Steller's Jay, Mountain Chickadee, Pygmy Nuthatch, and Northern Pygmy-Owl; excellent for migrating songbirds, and wintering raptors and Northern Shrike.



Sponsor: Klamath County Tourism

181. Fort Klamath Museum

Klamath County. From Fort Klamath, 1.8 mi S on Hwy 62 to signed entrance on R.

Nearly 8 acres of grassland in Wood River Valley that has never been plowed; adjacent mixed conifer forest with riparian habitat along Fort Creek across Hwy 62; excellent diversity of breeding and migrant birds, including Black-headed Grosbeak, Bullock's Oriole, vireos, warblers and sparrows; winter birding on adjacent ranchland good for raptors, including Bald Eagle and Rough-legged Hawk; town of Fort Klamath excellent winter habitat for sparrows and finches.



Sponsor: Oregon Tourism Commission

182. Head of Spring Creek

Fremont-Winema NF, Chiloquin RD. From Hwy 62/97 junction, S of Chiloquin, 7.8 mi N on Hwy 97 to L at main park entrance; 3 mi to L on FR 9732; 4.1 mi to parking at picnic area.

Lush, spring-fed creek with emergent and riparian vegetation; nesting species include Western Wood-Pewee and other flycatchers, Western Tanager, Black-headed Grosbeak, MacGillivray's Warbler, and Williamson's Sapsucker; higher elevation resident forest birds, include Red-breasted Sapsucker, Clark's Nutcracker, and Gray Jay; trail follows creek 1.8-mi to Collier State Park (site 183).



Sponsor: Klamath County Tourism

183. Collier State Park

Oregon State Parks. From Hwy 62/97 junction, S of Chiloquin, 7.8 mi N on Hwy 97 to L at main park entrance; 0.3 mi to R at signed entrance to Williamson River campground; 1.4 mi to R into campground.

Riparian habitat along Williamson River, surrounded by aspen and mixed conifer forest; river species include nesting Osprey, resident American Dipper and Common Merganser, and migrant goldeneyes; excellent for migrant songbirds and summer hummingbirds; forest species include Gray and Steller's Jays, Clark's Nutcracker, chickadees, and nuthatches; excellent museum and other facilities across highway at visitors' center.



Sponsor: Running Y Resort



PHOTO BY PARADISE BIRDING

Northern Flicker

184. Wood River Wetlands & Petric Park

Bureau of Land Management, Klamath District; Klamath Co. Parks. N end of Agency Lake; from Hwy. 62 at Klamath Falls, 5.1 mi. S on Modoc Pt. Rd to Petric Park; from Hwy 97 at Chiloquin, 3.3 mi W on FR 64 (OR 422) to Modoc Pt. Rd.; 0.8 mi S to Petric Park.

Riparian, marsh and open water; excellent for water birds, including Clark's Grebe, Black Tern, Wilson's Phalarope, and American White Pelican; nesting songbirds include Bullock's Oriole, Lesser Goldfinch, Willow Flycatcher, and Tricolored Blackbird; wintering and migrant waterfowl concentrations on Agency Lake easily viewed from park.



Sponsor: Bureau of Land Management