

# Selected Seabirds, Shorebirds and Coastal Birds of Oregon

(all photos from National Wildlife Federation  
Website- E-Nature)

# Loons

Information – Large bodied, swimming water birds with thick necks, rounded heads and very pointed, spear-like beaks. Boldly patterned compared to most other water birds.

# Red Throated Loon



# Pacific Loon



# Common Loon



# Grebes

Information – similar in profile to loons with sharp, pointed beaks, but not nearly as boldly patterned.



# Red-necked Grebe



# Western Grebe





# Geese

Information – longer legged than ducks for walking and grazing on land, males and females look alike. The two on the test are easy to tell apart from each other.

# Brant



# Canada Goose



# Scoters

Information – a type of sea duck,  
generally black bodied during summer,  
look at beaks, heads and wing-edges to  
tell them apart.



# Black Scoter



# Surf Scoter



# White-winged Scoter



# Bufflehead – another duck

Information – a small but very boldly patterned duck, regularly seen in ponds in the Willamette Valley, but also in bays on the coast.



# Bufflehead



# Auks

Information – this is a diverse group of birds that have short stubby wings they can fly with, but are very well suited for flying under water in pursuit of prey. You have seen several of these in films in class.

# Common Murre



# Pigeon Guillemot





# Marbled Murrelet



# Rhinoceros Auklet



# Tufted Puffin



# Horned Puffin





# Great Blue Heron

Information – Official bird of Portland – regularly seen on shores of bays and marshes and even beaches.

# Great Blue Heron



# Shorebirds

Information – there are lots of birds who walk around on shore looking for small invertebrates – these are by no means the most common ones you would encounter, but some of the more readily identifiable ones.

# Snowy Plover



# Black Oystercatcher





# Black Turnstone



# Raptors – Birds of Prey

Information – Both of these raptors ((birds of prey with big talons (claws) for grabbing prey) feed on fish and are regularly seen on our field trip.

# Osprey



# Bald Eagle



# Raptors – Birds of Prey

Information – you will see this bird on lakes and rivers all over Oregon, but we also see it in the bays of the coast.



# Belted Kingfisher



# Tubenoses

Information – this group of birds may have gull-like bodies, but they are in a completely different order of birds. They have tubes on their nostrils that aids them in sensing the smell of plankton and fish out on the open ocean and their well-developed salt gland is also located here.

# Black-footed Albatross



# Northern Fulmar





# Sooty Shearwater





# Storm Petrels

Information – These very small tubenoses “patter” – basically dance across the top of the water looking for food. This behavior alone can be used to help identify them and would be listed on any slide on the id test.

# Fork-tailed Storm Petrel



# Leach's Storm Petrel



# Gulls

Information – There is a huge variety of “seagulls” out there – these are five you might see in Oregon. To tell them apart, start with the beak, then the feet, then the back.

# Mew Gull

(note – no marks on bill)





# Ring-billed Gull

(note – ring on bill – identified - ta da!)



# California Gull

(red spot on beak, yellow legs)



# Herring Gull

(red spot on bill, pink legs, light gray back)



# Western Gull

(red spot on bill, pink legs, dark back)



# Terns

Information – a bit like dainty gulls, but much pointier beaks, longer, narrower wings and they dive for their food.



# Forster's Tern



# Pelicans

Information – big beaks, one's brown,  
one's white – easy peasy!

# American White Pelican



# Brown Pelican (Summer)



# Brown Pelican (Winter)





# Cormorants

Information – another group easy to identify as a cormorant but challenging to tell apart when you start. Black, snaky necks, ride low in the water and perch with wings spread to dry out.

# Double-crested Cormorant (note orange face patch)



# Brandt's Cormorant

(looks all black – may have a little blue on face but hard to see, the brown one is a young one)



# Pelagic Cormorant

(red face is less obvious, but white patches at base of tail show up, especially in flight)

