

Marion County, Oregon



Marion County Birding Locations

[Open a Map of All Marion County Locations](#)

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

GENERAL INFORMATION	NORTH OF SALEM	Champoeg SHA
Woodburn Sewage Ponds	St. Louis Fish Ponds	Gervais Sewage Ponds
Willamette Mission S.P.	Mt. Angel Sewage Ponds	Mt. Angel Abbey
Brooks Sewage Ponds	Staats Lake	Torvend Rd. Pond
Quarry Ave. Ponds	The Oregon Garden	SOUTH OF SALEM
Minto-Brown Island Park	Ankeny NWR	Hunsaker Rd. Pond
HWY 20 TO THE CASCADES	Silver Falls S.P.	Fisherman's Bend
Minto County Park	Big Cliff Reservoir	Tumble Ridge Trail
Detroit Flats	Upper Arm Detroit Lake	Breitenbush Campground
Breitenbush Mountain	Breitenbush Saddle	Ollalie Meadows

If you have only a short time in our county, try these locations first!			
SPRING	Minto-Brown Island Park	Champoeg SHA	Detroit Flats
SUMMER	Minto-Brown Island Park	Champoeg SHA	Silver Falls S.P.
FALL	Minto-Brown Island Park	Detroit Flats	Ankeny NWR
WINTER	Minto-Brown Island Park	Ankeny NWR	The Oregon Garden

Author(s): Matthew Schneider, John Notis, Chuck Gates

County Seat: Salem

County Size: 1,194 Square Miles

High Elevation : Mount Jefferson N. Ridge (9,000+ feet)

Rarities : Leach's Storm-Petrel, Least Bittern, Little Blue Heron, Cattle Egret, Gyrfalcon, Mountain Plover, Hudsonian Godwit, Ruff, Iceland Gull, Elegant Tern, Least Tern, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Costa's Hummingbird, Least Flycatcher, Eastern Phoebe, Vermilion Flycatcher, Brown Thrasher, Louisiana Waterthrush, Yellow-throated Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Painted Redstart, Magnolia Warbler, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Pine Grosbeak, White-winged Crossbill

Top County Lister : Roy Gerig (274)

Year List Record : Roy Gerig 2014 (222)

County Contact Person: Email [Glen Lindeman](#) [return to the top](#)

Introduction: Marion County has a wide variety of birds that range from huge flocks of winter Canada and Cackling Geese on the valley floor to Northern Pygmy-owls and Red Crossbills in the higher elevation conifer forests. Marion County is covered by two different eco-regions; the Willamette Valley eco-region in the west and the Cascade eco-region in the east. The Willamette Valley portion of the county is consists mostly of agriculture lands with scattered oak groves, remnants of once vast prairies, forested buttes, wetlands, ponds, some hedgerows, wooded streams and rivers. Birds of interest that occur in this portion of Marion County include large flocks of wintering waterfowl, Red-shouldered Hawks, Acorn Woodpeckers, Rufous Hummingbirds, Bullock's Orioles, Black-headed Grosbeaks, and Savannah Sparrows. The Cascade portion of Marion County is dominated by conifer forests. Other types of habitat in this eco-region are high-elevation lakes, reservoirs, small patches of sub-alpine habitat (on Olallie Butte and the northwestern flank of Mount Jefferson), meadows, and deciduous woods along streams, rivers, and wet lower-elevation slopes. Sought after birds in the Cascade region include Sooty Grouse, Mountain Quail, Ruffed Grouse, Hermit Warbler, Gray Jay, American Dipper, Hutton's Vireo, Barrow's Goldeneye, Clark's Nutcracker, and Harlequin Duck. A good resource for birds and birding in Marion County is the local [Salem Audubon Society](#). Here you can get current bird information and access their newsletter. This chapter is known for its friendly people and charitable dissemination of information about local birds. [return to the top](#)

NORTH OF SALEM

Champoeg State Heritage Area

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DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 60 B-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 28 D-3
geographic coordinates 45° 15' 19" N 122 54' 15"

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Champoeg SHA](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Willamette Valley Birding Trail. Click on the Trail Guide and choose the Heritage Loop Guide. Section H-5.

Woodburn Sewage Ponds

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DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 60 C-2 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 28 E-3
geographic coordinates 45 07' 54" N 122 50' 19" W

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Location, Habitat, and Birds: From I-5 take exit 271. Take Hwy 214 2.5 miles east through town and turn south at the junction of 99E. Follow 99E about a mile and watch for the Hwy 214 junction. Just after this junction, you will cross RR tracks, go past Cleveland Street and look for the next main paved road to your left. There is a big oak tree across from the turn. Take this road to the east for about a block and it will turn into a dirt road that accesses the ponds. If you are there on a week day, it is a good idea to stop by the office and ask permission to view the ponds. There is no access allowed but you can see the ponds from outside the fence.

St. Louis Fish Ponds County Park

[return to the top](#)

DeLorme DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 60 D-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 28 E-2
geographic coordinates 45 06' 47" N 122 55' 54" W

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for St. Louis Fish Ponds County Park](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: From I-5 north of Salem, take exit 263 and travel west on Brooklake Road. Turn right on River Road and travel 4.7 miles to French Prairie Road. Go straight north on French Prairie for .6 miles to St. Louis Road. Turn right and travel east for 1.7 miles. Turn right on Tesch Lane and drive .7 miles to the entrance of the park. This area is under-birded and needs to be surveyed for bird activity.

Gervais Sewage Ponds

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DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 60 D-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 28 E-3
geographic coordinates 45 06' 50" N 122 53' 28" W

[View A Google Map](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: These directions from Bill Tice's book, "The

Sewer Ponds of Oregon". From Hwy 99E take Douglas St to the west. Just before you reach the R&R tracks take 4th Street to the right/north. Take it all the way to the end (which is about 3 blocks) and park before the gate to the sewage ponds.

Willamette Mission State Park [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 59 D-8 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 28 F-1

geographic coordinates 45 04' 46" N 123 01' 53" W

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Willamette Mission SP](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Willamette Valley Birding Trail. Click on the Trail Guide and choose the Willamette Loop Guide. Section W-4.

Mt. Angel Sewage Ponds [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 60 D-2 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 28 F-4

geographic coordinates 45 04' 25" N 122 49' 06" W

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Mt. Angel Sewage Ponds](#) (more eBird data needed for this site)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: From 99E in Woodburn, take Hwy 214 SE for 7 miles to Mt. Angel. On the north end of town, look for Marquam St. Take Marquam west until it makes a 90 degree turn to the north. Just after this turn, look for a dirt road off to your left (west). This road will take you to the ponds. Just like most other Willamette Valley sewage ponds, the normal fare includes waterfowl, shorebirds, and Larids. Also like other Willamette Valley sewage ponds, this one should be checked regularly for rarities. You just never know._

Mt. Angel Abbey [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 60 D-2 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 28 F-4

geographic coordinates 45°03'25.7"N 122°46'41.7"W

[\(45.057145, -122.778255\)](#)

[View A Google Map](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Willamette Valley Birding Trail. Click on the Trail Guide and choose the Willamette Loop Guide. Section W-6.

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

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 60 D-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 28 F-2

geographic coordinates 45 03' 20" N 122 57' 27" W

[View A Google Map](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: Brooks is located east of I-5 just north of

Salem. From I-5 take exit 263 and travel east on Brooklake Road. Just before you cross the railroad tracks, turn right (south) on Richland Avenue. Take this road 0.25 miles and look for the entrance to the ponds on your right. Check in at the office on weekdays. Before returning to I-5, you might check some other ponds in Brooks. The Norpac Ponds are also on Richland but are about 0.25 miles north of Brooklake Road. These are private ponds and must be viewed from the road.

Staats Lake [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 59 D-8 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 28 F-1

geographic coordinates 45°00'22.2"N 123°01'34.9"W

([45.006158, -123.026347](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Staats Lake](#) (more eBird data needed for this site)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: A nice paved trail goes all around this lake. Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Willamette Valley Birding Trail. Click on the Trail Guide and choose the Willamette Loop Guide. Section W-3.

Torvend Rd. Pond [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 60 D-2 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 28 F-3

geographic coordinates 45°01'28.0"N 122°50'22.4"W

([45.024435, -122.839562](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: From Salem take Hazelgreen Rd. (I-5 exit 260) east for 6.6 miles. Then take a left on Torvend Rd and drive 1.1 miles. The best place to park is the wider shoulder on the lower end of the pond. This is a deep water pond in winter/spring/early summer and a mudflat/shallow pond in late summer/fall.

Quarry Ave. Ponds [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 60 D-2 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 28 F- 4

geographic coordinates 45°02'00.1"N 122°46'33.9"W

([45.033363, -122.776095](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: From Silverton, head north on First Street (Hwy 214) and drive about a mile north. Turn right onto Hobart Road, then the second left onto Quarry Avenue and drive to the end. There are two ponds one on your right and one on your left.

The Oregon Garden [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 54 A-2 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 34 A-4

geographic coordinates 44°59'43.7"N 122°47'32.2"W

([44.995474](#), [-122.792268](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for The Oregon Garden](#)

[Oregon Gardens Checklist](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#).

Choose the Willamette Valley Birding Trail. Click on the Trail Guide and choose the Willamette Loop Guide. Section W-5.

SOUTH OF SALEM

Minto-Brown Island Park [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 53 A-8 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 34 A-1

geographic coordinates 44°55'27.5"N 123°04'23.9"W

([44.924299](#), [-123.073297](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

[Park Map](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#).

Choose the Willamette Valley Birding Trail. Click on the Trail Guide and choose the Willamette Loop Guide. Section W-2.

Ankeny National Wildlife Refuge [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 53 B-8 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 34 C-1

geographic coordinates 44°48'06.9"N 123°03'48.5"W

([44.801908](#), [-123.063485](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Ankeny NWR](#)

[Ankeny Trails and Refuge Map](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#).

Choose the Willamette Valley Birding Trail. Click on the Trail Guide and choose the Willamette Loop Guide. Section W-1.

Hunsaker Road Pond [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 54 B-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 34 C-2

geographic coordinates 44°47'18.1"N 122°56'27.9"W

([44.788367](#), [-122.941080](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#).

Choose the Willamette Valley Birding Trail. Click on the Trail Guide and choose the Willamette Loop Guide. Section W-9.

HWY 20 TO THE CASCADES

Silver Falls State Park [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 54 B-3 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 34 B-5

geographic coordinates 44°52'17.7"N 122°39'06.2"W

([44.871588](#), [-122.651717](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Silver Falls SP](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Cascades Birding Trail. Click on the Trail Guide and choose the Mt. Jefferson Loop Guide. Section 41.

Fisherman's Bend [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 54 C-4 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 35 C-6

geographic coordinates 44°45'25.4"N 122°30'38.6"W

([44.757052](#), [-122.510719](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Cascades Birding Trail. Click on the Trail Guide and choose the Mt. Jefferson Loop Guide. Section 40.

Minto County Park [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 55 C-5 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 35 C-7

geographic coordinates 44°45'14.1"N 122°23'46.4"W

([44.753929](#), [-122.396233](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Cascades Birding Trail. Click on the Trail Guide and choose the Mt. Jefferson Loop Guide. Section 39.

Big Cliff Reservoir [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 55 C-6 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 35 D-9

geographic coordinates 44°43'24.3"N 122°14'57.4"W

([44.723427](#), [-122.249268](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Cascades Birding Trail. Click on the Trail Guide and choose the Mt. Jefferson Loop Guide. Section 38.

Tumble Ridge Trail [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 55 C-7 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 35 D-10

geographic coordinates 44°43'20.7"N 122°11'15.5"W

([44.722419, -122.187637](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: Travel 2.0 miles west of the town of Detroit on Hwy 22 and look for the parking area for the Trailhead just on the east bank of Tumble Creek and on the north side of the road. This trail provides a chance to walk into a typical west-slope forest of the Cascades. The trail goes through timber and clearings and has riparian areas along the creek. Expect to find summer species like Varied Thrush, Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Pacific-slope Flycatcher, Red Crossbill, Spotted Towhee, Pacific Wren, Sooty Grouse, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Violet-green Swallow, Steller's Jay, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Hermit Warbler, Western Tanager and Purple Finch along with other, more common forest species.

Detroit Flats [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 55 C-7 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 35 D-10

geographic coordinates 44°43'43.3"N 122°08'51.0"W

([44.728697, -122.147493](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Detroit Flats](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Cascades Birding Trail. Click on the Trail Guide and choose the Mt. Jefferson Loop Guide. Section 36.

Upper Arm Detroit Lake [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 55 C-7 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 35 C-10

geographic coordinates 44°44'52.3"N 122°08'33.4"W

([44.747870, -122.142612](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Cascades Birding Trail. Click on the Trail Guide and choose the Mt. Jefferson Loop Guide. Section 35.

Breitenbush Campground [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 56 B-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 36 C-1

geographic coordinates 44°47'10.7"N 121°58'19.5"W

([44.786301, -121.972074](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Cascades Birding Trail. Click on the Trail Guide and choose the Mt. Jefferson Loop Guide. Section 34.

Breitenbush Mountain - (*DeLorme, Google, and Geographic Coordinates are for the access road to Breitenbush Mountain, not the*

Mountain itself.) [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 56 B-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 36 C-2

geographic coordinates 44°46'53.3"N 121°57'09.9"W

Access Road ([44.781463, -121.952739](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Cascades Birding Trail. Click on the Trail Guide and choose the Mt. Jefferson Loop Guide. Section 33. Forest species.

Trails in the Area: See Access Road Coordinates Above

South Breitenbush Gorge Up FR 4685 for 2.2 miles [-44.765234, -121.925697](#)

Crown Lake Trail - Up FR 4685 for 7.3 miles and right on FR 330 for 1.1 miles [44.761372, -121.887802](#)

Roaring Creek Trail Up FR 4685 for 8.4 miles - [44.769175, -121.894383](#)

Breitenbush Saddle [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 56 B-2 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 36 C-3

geographic coordinates 44°48'38.6"N 121°52'54.0"W

([44.810711, -121.881663](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Cascades Birding Trail. Click on the Trail Guide and choose the Mt. Jefferson Loop Guide. Section 32.

Olallie Meadows [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 56 B-2 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 36 C-3

geographic coordinates 44°51'35.5"N 121°46'25.7"W

([44.859851, -121.773811](#))

[View A Google Map](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Cascades Birding Trail. Click on the Trail Guide and choose the Mt. Jefferson Loop Guide. Section 31.