



Birding at Limantour

A short walk from the main parking lot will bring you to Limantour's ponds and marshes, creating a virtual paradise for those seeking waterfowl. The wetlands, which are surrounded by coastal strand, coastal scrub, and woodlands, also provide a fairly protective area for several songbirds.

A trail leads west to Muddy Hollow Creek or walk along the edge of Drakes Bay out to the end of Limantour Spit. Pick up the Muddy Hollow trail to the right of the vault toilets and follow it past saltmarsh and through coastal scrub. Late fall and early winter offer the best opportunities for viewing a variety of ducks, including the ring-necked duck and the American wigeon. Continue your exploration on Limantour Spit. Explore the dunes, Drakes Bay, and Estero de Limantour as you look for shorebirds, loons, snowy plovers, and brown and white pelicans.

Resident Birds (Present all year - numbers vary)

Black Phoebe
Marsh Wren
Bewick's Wren
Wrentit
Common Yellowthroat
White-Crowned Sparrow
Song Sparrow
Double-crested Cormorant
Pied-billed Grebe
Black-Crowned Night-Heron
Great-blue Heron
Snowy Egret
Wood Duck
Long-billed Curlew
Belted Kingfisher
Snowy Plover

Summer Birds

Pied-billed Grebe
American Coot
Osprey
Cinnamon Teal
American Bittern
Virginia Rail
Sora
Brown Pelican
Green-backed Heron

Winter Birds

Red-throated Loon
Pacific Loon
Common Loon
Horned Grebe
Red-necked Grebe
Western Grebe
Clark's Grebe
Canada Goose
Green-winged Teal
Mallard
Northern Pintail
Gadwall
American Wigeon
Canvasback
Ring-necked Duck

Winter Birds cont.

Greater Scaup
Lesser Scaup
Common Goldeneye
White-winged Scoter
Bufflehead
Red-breasted Merganser
Ruddy Duck
Black-bellied Plover
Sanderling
Western Sandpiper
Common Snipe
Pine Siskin
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Yellow-rumped Warbler

Migrants

White Pelican
Brant Goose
Short-billed Dowitcher
Red-necked Phalarope