



TOGETHER FOR NATURE

Idaho's Cassia Crossbill

July 9-12, 2020

Tentative Trip Itinerary

July 9: We will be leaving Portland early, so that we can make a handful of productive stops en route. We will look for Ash-throated Flycatcher and Bank Swallow near The Dalles, may stop for Tricolored Blackbird and Forster's Tern near Boardman, before pulling into Spring Creek near the crest of the Blue Mountains in the afternoon. Driving time: 4.5 hrs

Lodging: La Grande, Oregon

July 10: Today we bird from La Grande to Twin Falls, Idaho. There is excellent birding near La Grande. Red Bridge State Park and Bird Track Springs are great spots to pull in for a little while to look for Black-backed and White-headed Woodpecker, Gray Catbird, but you never know what will await you in the Blue Mountains. Alternatively we can go up Moss Creek guard station for high elevation species with an outside chance for Spruce Grouse. From there we will work our way to Twin Falls, swinging in at Indian or Blacks Creek Reservoir which can be very active wetlands for many different breeding species. Driving time: 4.5 hrs

Lodging: Jerome/Twin Falls, Idaho

July 11: The Cassia Crossbill experience Our main day will take us up the South Hills to Porcupine Springs CG and/or Bostetter CG where we of course want to find the Cassia Crossbill. Other birds include Green-tailed Towhee, Vesper and Brewer's Sparrow, Cassin's Finch, Hammond's, Dusky and Cordilleran Flycatcher and Yellow-breasted Chat. From the top of Pike Mountain the views will be splendid in all directions. The road up is typically very birdy too. Driving time 3 hrs.

Lodging: Jerome/Twin Falls, Idaho

July 12: We will drive all the way back from Twin Falls to Portland today. This will be a full day worth of driving, but we will manage to stretch our legs a few times and get some birds in en route.

Trip Leaders

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