



Pacific Northwest Trip: The Olympic Peninsula

November 4 - 7, 2021

Tentative Itinerary

Note: In “normal” years this trip will include a day trip to Neah Bay. The Makah tribe has closed Neah Bay to non-tribal tourists, so we are changing the itinerary to include a day of Ocean Shores.

Thursday, November 4

After dodging early morning traffic on I-5, we will work our way north from Portland to Ocean Shores. We will walk a couple of miles at Damon Point State Park looking for wintering waterfowl and loons, but also oddities. At the Point Brown Jetty, our main target will be Rock Sandpiper. After checking out the Hoquiam Sewage Ponds we will finish the day. Staying in Aberdeen.

Friday, November 5

Today we will make a couple of stops along the Hood Canal to look for waterfowl including Barrow's Goldeneye. After exploring Crocker Lake, we will drive up to Port Townsend. First up is usually Kai Tai Lagoon where we often find a Eurasian Wigeon. At Point Wilson anything but the slack tide will work to our advantage; we are hoping for alcids, loons and sea ducks moving through there, but there could also be the odd land migrant like a Snow Bunting. Then we are off to Port Angeles where we will stay for the duration of our trip.

Saturday, November 6

On this day we will explore the Sequim area making stops at the John Wayne Marina, Dungeness Spit, John Wayne Marina, Schmuck Rd, and the Three Crabs area. Sequim sits in the rain shadow of the high Olympics, so does get some unusual birds for the area. We are hoping to find Marbled and maybe Ancient Murrelets, but also loons and waterfowl including Long-tailed Duck. Yellow-billed Loon is rare, so we will need a lot of luck finding one, but they will be around in small numbers.

Sunday, November 7

Before starting our trek back, we will bird Ediz Hook and the Port Angeles harbor in the morning. This sheltered area is often fantastic for murrelets and ducks and can also host rarities. On the way back, we will again make stops along the Hood Canal including Dosewallips State Park. If time permits, we will even pop into Billy Frank Jr. Nisqually NWR. Expect to be back in Portland by 7 pm.