

Tillamook County

Oregon



Tillamook County Birding Locations

[Open a Map That Shows All Tillamook County Locations](#)

General Information		
Alder Creek Farms	Nehalem Bay Sewage Ponds	Nehalem Meadows
Nehalem Falls Campground	Barview Jetty Park	Garibaldi Boat Basin
Tillamook Forest Center	Pacific Oyster/Bay City	Bay City Sewage Ponds
Bay City To Tillamook	Blue Heron Cheese Company	Bay Ocean Spit/Tillamook Bay
Cape Meares SSV	Oceanside/Three Arch Rocks	Netarts Bay
Cape Lookout State Park	Munson Creek State NA	Upper Nestucca/Moon Creek
Whalen Island/Clay Meyers	Cape Kiwanda SNA	Nestucca Bay Wildlife Refuge
Neskowin Area	Cascade Head & Hart's Cove	

Authors/Editors: Jack Hurt, Chuck Gates, Ilene Samowitz

County Seat: Tillamook

County Size: 1133 square miles

High Elevation : Roger's Peak (3706 ft)

Rarities : Tundra Bean-Goose, Gargany, King Eider, Manx Shearwater, Lesser Sand-Plover, Piping Plover, Little Stint, Laughing Gull, Little Gull, Black-headed Gull, Red-legged Kittiwake, Blue-headed Vireo, Northern Wheatear

Top County Lister : Jeff Gilligan (305)

Year List Record : Phil Pickering 1985 (234)

County Contact Person: Email [Jeff Gilligan](#)

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Alder Creek Farm [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 64 A-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 20 D-3
geographic coordinates 45 42' 56" N 123 54' 16" W

[View A Google Map](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Oregon Coast Birding Trail. Click on the North Coast tab and go to section 26.

Nehalem Bay Sewage Ponds [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 64 A-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 20 D-3
geographic coordinates 45 42' 46" N 123 53' 35" W

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[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Nehalem Bay Sewage Ponds](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Oregon Coast Birding Trail. Click on the North Coast tab and go to section 27. The Nehalem Sewage Treatment Plant is "open" only from 7-4, M-F. The birder's access gate is locked otherwise. The north side ponds are now restricted to walking (assuming one can get in the STP). There have been problems with people going into the restricted area so please DO NOT DO THIS.

Nehalem Meadows [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 64 A-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 20 D-3
geographic coordinates 45 42' 24" N 123 53' 10" W

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Nehalem Meadows](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: From Nehalem, travel south on Hwy 101 to the Nehalem River. Just after crossing the river, take the first right (Tideland Rd.). Bird Tideland Road as it winds through the meadow. 3/4 of a mile down this road, you will find the Nehalem Sewage Ponds. Like many coastal sewage lagoons (see below), this is a good place to check at high tide as birds come here to avoid the rising tide. Golden-Plover, Baird's Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper and Stilt Sandpiper all have been found here. This is a good place to check for unusual waterfowl. Blue-winged Teal and Emperor Goose have both been found here. Check the

meadow for both White-tailed Kite, Merlin, Gyrfalcon and Peregrine Falcon. Winter sparrows can include Clay-colored, Tree, Swamp, and Harris's so check the more common White-crowned and Golden-crowned flocks. Watch for Purple Martins feeding in summer and Palm Warblers in winter.

Nehalem Falls Campground [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 64 C-2 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 20 D-4
geographic coordinates 45 43' 38" N 123 46' 19" W

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Location, Habitat, and Birds: Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Oregon Coast Birding Trail. Click on the North Coast tab and go to section 19.

Barview Jetty Park [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 64 D-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 20 F-1
geographic coordinates 45 34' 25" N 123 57' 03" W

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[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Barview Jetty](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Oregon Coast Birding Trail. Click on the North Coast tab and go to section 29.

Garibaldi Boat Basin [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 64 D-2 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 20 F-3
geographic coordinates 45 33' 21" N 123 54' 50" W

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Location, Habitat, and Birds: Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Oregon Coast Birding Trail. Click on the North Coast tab and go to section 30.

Tillamook Forest Center [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 65 D-5 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 21 F-6
geographic coordinates 45 35' 10" N 123 33' 29" W

Open Wed – Sun, 10 am to 4 pm (Closed Mon& Tues)

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[Tillamook Forest Center Map](#)

[Tillamook Forest Center Brochure](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Oregon Coast Birding Trail. Click on the North Coast tab and go to section 34.

Pacific Oyster/Bay City [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 64 D-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 20 F-3
geographic coordinates 45 31' 26" N 123 53' 32" W

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Pacific Oyster/Bay City](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Oregon Coast Birding Trail. Click on the North Coast tab and go to section 31.

Bay City Sewage Ponds [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 64 D-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 20 F-3
geographic coordinates (Bay City) 45 30' 58" N 123 53' 04" W

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[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Bay City Sewage Ponds](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: Directions from Bill Tice's "Sewage Ponds of Oregon" book (no longer in print) Just south of the small town of Bay City lies the sewage ponds. These can be accessed from two places. Park at the Tillamook Country Smoker and walk across Rt. 101 to the R&R tracks. These parallel the ponds and you can see most of them from there. To get to the other side of the ponds go a few feet south on 101 to Warren St, go west to Spruce. You will need to park along Spruce somewhere before it turns to the right as there are signs posted beyond saying "No Public Parking." Walk to around the corner to the right and you will reach the back entrance to the sewage pond in a few hundred feet. High tide brings shorebirds aplenty to this location. Waterfowl of just about every variety can end up here. Oddities that have been seen here before include Tree Sparrow, Tufted Duck, Garganey, Vesper Sparrow, Oldsquaw, Common Black-headed Gull, and Little Gull. As with any sewage facility, be especially nice to any workers that you encounter and please do not attempt to enter this facility without permission.

Bay City To Tillamook [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 64 D-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 20 F-3
geographic coordinates (Bay City) 45 31' 08" N 123 53' 10" W

[View A Google Map](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Oregon Coast Birding Trail. Click on the North Coast tab and go to section 32.

[Tillamook City Information](#)

Blue Heron French Cheese Company [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 58 A-2 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 26 A-3
geographic coordinates 45 29'01 " N 123 50' 42" W

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Location, Habitat, and Birds: Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Oregon Coast Birding Trail. Click on the North Coast tab and go to section 33.

Bay Ocean Spit/Tillamook Bay [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 58 A-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 26 A-2
geographic coordinates 45 32' 10" N 123 57' 10" W

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[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Bay Ocean Spit](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Bay Ocean Spit \(east side\)](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Bay Ocean Spit \(west side\)](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Oregon Coast Birding Trail. Click on the North Coast tab and go to section 35.

Cape Meares State Scenic Viewpoint [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 58 A-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 26 A-2
geographic coordinates 45 29' 16" N 123 57' 55" W

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[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Cape Meares](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Oregon Coast Birding Trail. Click on the North Coast tab and go to section 36.

Oceanside Beach/Three Arch Rocks National Wildlife Refuge [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 58 A-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 26 A-2
geographic coordinates 45 27' 50" N 123 59' 12" W

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Three Arch Rocks NWR](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Oregon Coast Birding Trail. Click on the North Coast tab and go to section **37**.

Netarts Bay [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 58 A-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 26 B-2
geographic coordinates 45 24' 07" N 123 56' 50" W

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[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Netarts Bay](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Oregon Coast Birding Trail. Click on the North Coast tab and go to section 38.

Cape Lookout State Park [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 58 B-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 26 B-2
geographic coordinates 45 22' 25" N 123 58' 08" W

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[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Cape Lookout](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Oregon Coast Birding Trail. Click on the North Coast tab and go to section 39.

Munson Creek State Natural Site [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 58 B-3 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 26 B-4
geographic coordinates 45 21' 42" N 123 45' 38" W

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Munson Creek Falls](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Oregon Coast Birding Trail. Click on the North Coast tab and go to section 40.

Upper Nestucca Moon Creek Area [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 58 B-3 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 26 C-5
geographic coordinates 45 18' 56.61" N, 123 40' 39.20"W

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Location: Heading South on Highway 101, take a left (East) onto Blaine Rd at the town of Beaver (just past the Shell Station). Drive 6.6 miles to the "town" of Blaine and go left (North) on Moon Creek Rd. After 1.0 miles, take a right on dirt road 3-8-20. This road climbs up into the coast range, ending at 1265' elevation, 3.5 mi from the turn off. At the road's end (just past the gravel pit turnaround on the left), park and walk the short trail (over a few dirt road blocks) onto another road that can be walked and birded for miles. This road has no motorized vehicle access. The roads in this area are in reasonable shape but sometimes do have obstacles. Other roads in the area are worth exploring, as are the camping areas along the Blaine Rd past Blaine. It is a good idea to come prepared for a vehicle issue (water, food, blanket, rope, etc), as these roads receive little traffic.

Habitat and Birds: Mixed conifers and riparian areas. Ruffed Grouse, Mt. Quail, Spotted Owl, Northern Saw-whet Owl, and Northern Pygmy-Owl have been identified in this area.

Whalen Island/Clay Meyers Natural Area

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DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 58 B-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 26 C-2
geographic coordinates 45 16' 23" N 123 56' 43" W

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[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Whalen Island County Park](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Clay Meyers NA](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Oregon Coast Birding Trail. Click on the North Coast tab and go to section 41.

Cape Kiwanda State Natural Area [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 58 C-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 26 D-2
geographic coordinates 45 13' 14" N 123 58' 21" W

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Cape Kiwanda State NA](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: Go to the [Oregon Birding Trails Website](#). Choose the Oregon Coast Birding Trail. Click on the North Coast tab and go to section 42.

Nestucca Bay Wildlife Refuge [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 58 C-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 26 E-2
geographic coordinates 45 10' 32" N 123 57' 12" W

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[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Nestucca Bay Wildlife Refuge](#)

[Fish & Wildlife Website](#)

Location: Nestucca Bay is about 25 miles south of Tillamook. Heading South on Highway 101, go just past the turn off to Pacific City (Brooten Road). From here, there are pull outs that allow for birding the fields and the refuge on both sides of the highway. From the bridge across the Little Nestucca River, drive .6 miles and turn right (West) on Christensen Road and proceed up to the lower parking lot of the Refuge. Walk up the road from the lower parking lot to the upper parking lot (1/2 mile). From the upper parking lot, walk up the path to the Refuge observation deck, where the ocean, Haystack Rock, Nestucca Bay, the Coast Range, and the Little Nestucca tide-water can be viewed. Bring a scope if you have one.

Habitat and Birds: There are six subspecies of geese on the Refuge, including Semidi Islands Aleutian Cackling geese and the only coastal wintering population of dusky Canada geese. Birding from the lower parking lot produces a variety of species including White-tailed Kite, Rough-legged Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Bald Eagle, Northern Harrier, American Kestrel and Northern Shrike. The woods along the road to the upper parking lot are good for a variety of sparrows, hummingbirds, vireos, kinglets, warblers, flycatchers and finches. Northern Pygmy-Owl and Ruffed Grouse may also be seen.

Neskowin Area [return to the top](#)

DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 58 D-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 26 E-2
geographic coordinates 45 06' 12" N 123 58' 53" W

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[eBird Hotspot Checklist for the Neskowin Area](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: Neskowin is about 30 miles south of Tillamook and about 10 miles north of Lincoln City. Heading South on Highway 101, take a right (West) into the parking lot at the main Neskowin entrance. From the parking lot, walk across the bridge at Hawk Creek and then right on Hawk Drive, which parallels Hawk Creek and is good habitat for sparrows, vireos, kinglets, warblers, American Dipper and Wilson's Snipe. Hawk Drive turns into Hawk Street and parallels the Neskowin Marsh Golf Course, which is good birding for waterfowl and shorebirds most of the year. Western Bluebird, Red-shouldered Hawk and Merlin are seen in this area. Continue birding past the Golf Course on the road along the National Wildlife Refuge. Take a right on the trail marked "Tsunami Evacuation Route" to enter the Refuge. At the bridge, look and listen for Sora, Virginia Rail, American Bittern and Green Heron. The trail continues up into a housing area, or you can come back to Hawk St and continue birding along the Refuge. On the way back to the parking lot on Hawk St, take the first road to the right (Corvallis St), then a left on Breakers Blvd to bird the Neskowin neighborhood area, then take a left on Salem St to the bridge and the trail out to the beach and Proposal Rock. Bald Eagle, Black Turnstone, Ruddy Turnstone, Sanderling, Surfbird, Black Oystercatcher, Whimbrel and a variety of gulls and terns are seen in this area. If interested in beach walking, one can walk North clear to the mouth of the Nestucca River (about 5 miles), although at high tide some areas may require heading up to the grassy areas.

Cascade Head & Hart's Cove Trailheads

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DeLorme (copyright 2001) Pg 58 D-1 DeLorme (copyright 2008) Pg 26 F-2
geographic coordinates

(Hart's Cove Access Road 1861) 45 03' 56" N 123 56' 54" W (Cascade Head Trailhead 3 Rocks Road) 45 01' 49" N 123 57' 18" W

[View A Google Map](#)

[eBird Hotspot Checklist for Cascade Head](#)

Location, Habitat, and Birds: For detailed directions and a simple map to both of these trailheads, click on this [LINK](#). Birding this area can be most productive in the summer (the Hart's Cove Trail is only open from July 16-December 31) when large sea bird colonies collect off the coast of Cascade Head. These colonies can number over 15,000 birds total (Common Murre; Double-crested, Pelagic, and Brandt's Cormorant; Pigeon Guillemot; Western Gull; Tufted Puffin; Rhinoceros Auklet; Black Oystercatcher; Peregrine Falcon); large mammal haul-out area on the beach of the two coves for Steller and California Sea Lions and Harbor Seals. The isolation of the area is itself a valuable resource. While hiking the trail, look and listen for Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Swainson's Thrush, Black-throated Gray Warbler and many other passerines. Look for loons, sea ducks, alcids, gulls, and the occasional tubenose offshore.