





# SWIFTY\*

Providing homes for birds in need

\*Swallows In Flight To Yachats

# SWIFTY nest box program:

Swallows: >250 boxes

Purple Martins: ~90 boxes

Chickadees: 15 boxes

Ducks: 10 boxes

Owls: 3 boxes

Kestrels: 2 boxes

Ospreys: 1 platform





What swallow species are found in  
Lincoln County?

Tree Swallows  
Violet-green Swallows  
Barn Swallows  
Purple Martins

Cliff Swallows  
Bank Swallows  
Rough-winged Swallows

What do our local swallow species  
have in common?

Small - most weigh less than 1 ounce

Amazing fliers

Aerial insectivores

Migratory

Numbers are declining

# Why are swallow numbers declining?

Climate change - wildfires, warming

Shrinking food supply - flying insects

Fewer natural nesting sites

Habitat loss

Competition from invasive alien birds -

European Starlings, House Sparrows

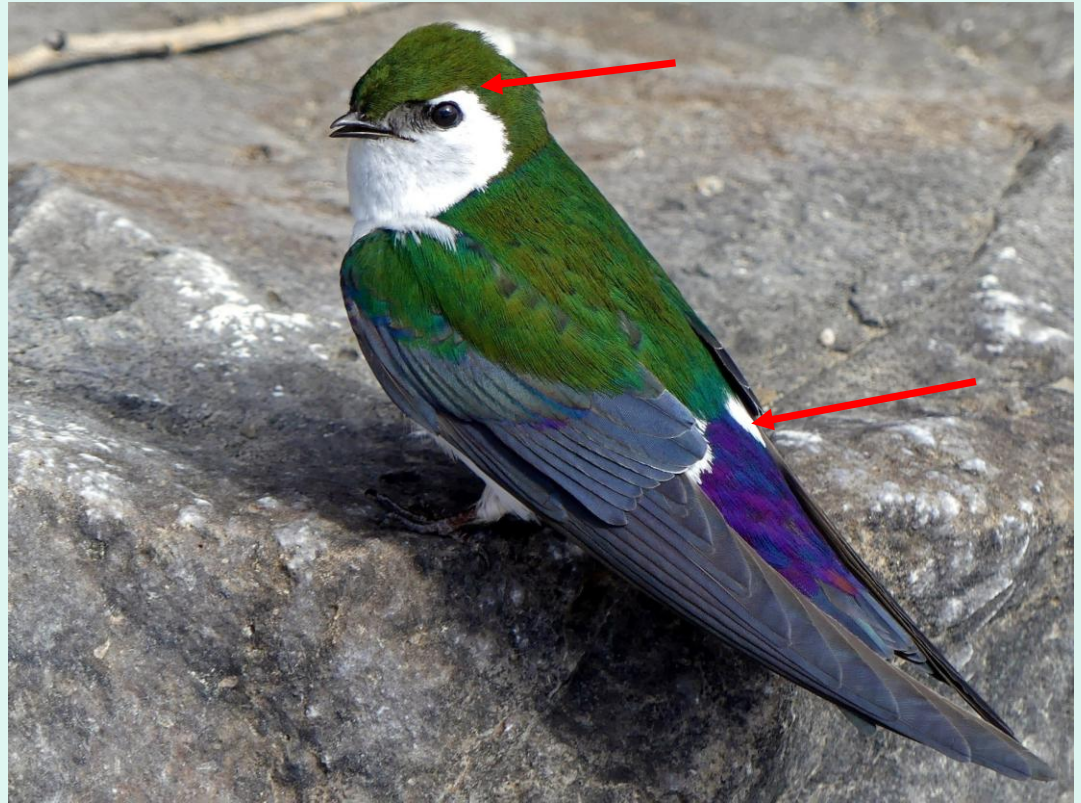
# Identifying swallows

Tree Swallow



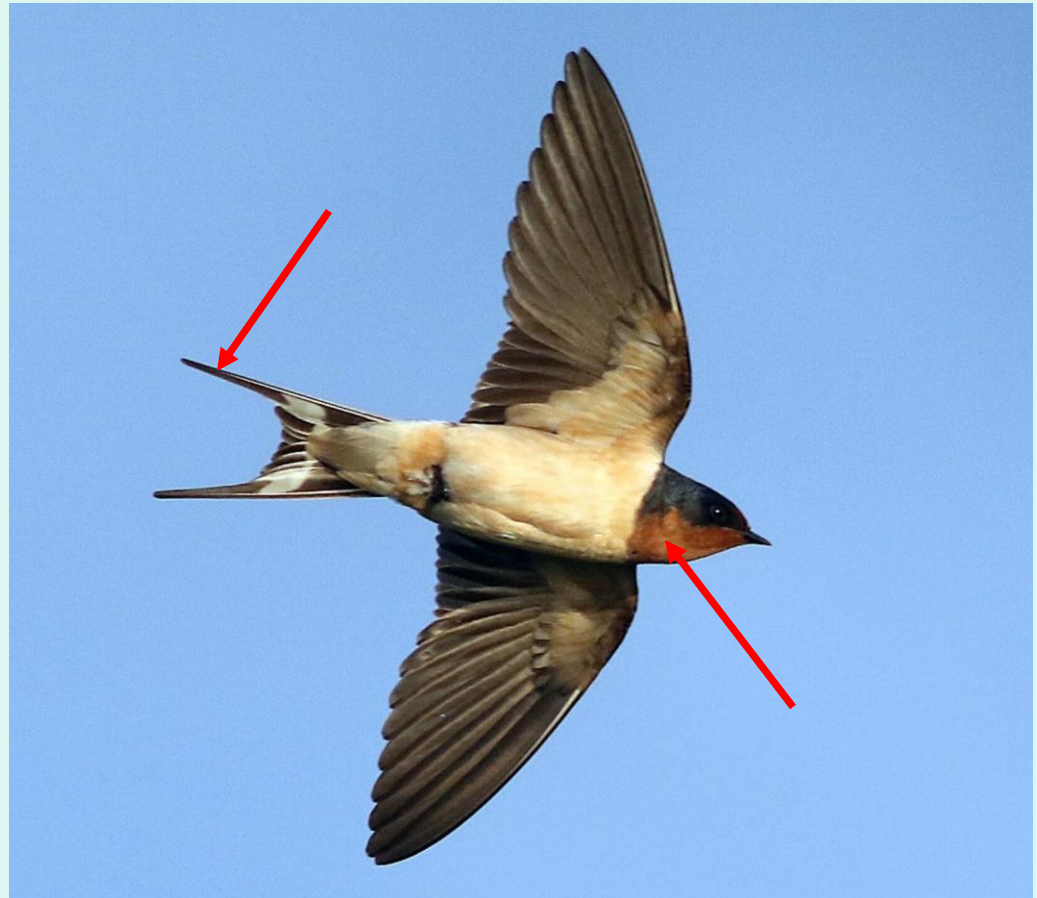
# Identifying swallows

Violet-green  
Swallow



# Identifying swallows

Barn Swallow



# Identifying swallows

Purple Martin



Adult male



Adult female

# Tree Swallows



Common around grassy meadows

Cavity nesters - use bird boxes

Migrate to Mexico and Central America

Arrive here in March/April

# Violet-green Swallows



Common around grassy meadows  
Cavity nesters - use bird boxes  
Migrate to Southern US and beyond  
Arrive in March/April

# Barn Swallows



Common around grassy meadows

Nests: mud cups under cover - barns!

Migrate to Central and South America

Arrive in April

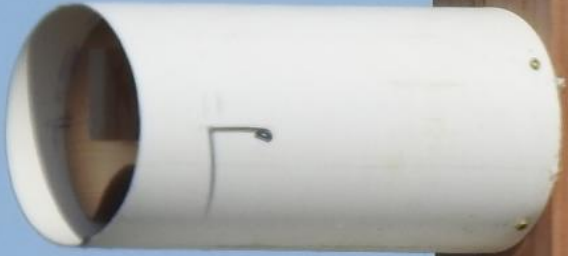
# Purple Martins



Biggest swallows in N. America: weigh ~2 oz  
Common East of Rockies, rare in West  
Cavity nesters - use bird boxes  
Migrate to South America  
Arrive in April







# Tree and V-g Swallow nesting

Nesting months: May - July

Number of eggs: 4 - 7

Incubation period: ~15 days

Time to fledge: ~22 days

Food consumption: ~6,000 bugs/family/day









# Purple Martin Factoids:

Nest in colonies near or over water

Nesting months: May - August

Number of eggs: 4 - 5

Incubation period: ~15 days

Time to fledge: ~28 days

Shorthand name: PUMA

# More PUMA Factoids:



# More PUMA Factoids:

Eastern N America: *Progne subis*

~400,000 breeding pairs (declining)

Western N America: *Progne subis arboricola*

~3,500 breeding pairs

Lincoln County: *Progne subis arboricola*

~140 breeding pairs

*Progne subis arboricola* migrate to SE Brazil

16,000 mile round trip every year!

**PUMAs are almost totally dependent  
on nest boxes provided by humans!**

# PUMA Landlords





# Successes, failures, problems

Swallows

Purple Martins

Ducks & Mergansers

Chickadees

Owls

Kestrels

Osprey

# Results from 2024

Ducks/Mergansers

8 boxes monitored

4 successful

27 fledges

(3 swallow nest attempts)

# Where to see PUMAs

Florence - Old Town Park;  
Port of Florence (marina)

Hatfield MSC parking lot

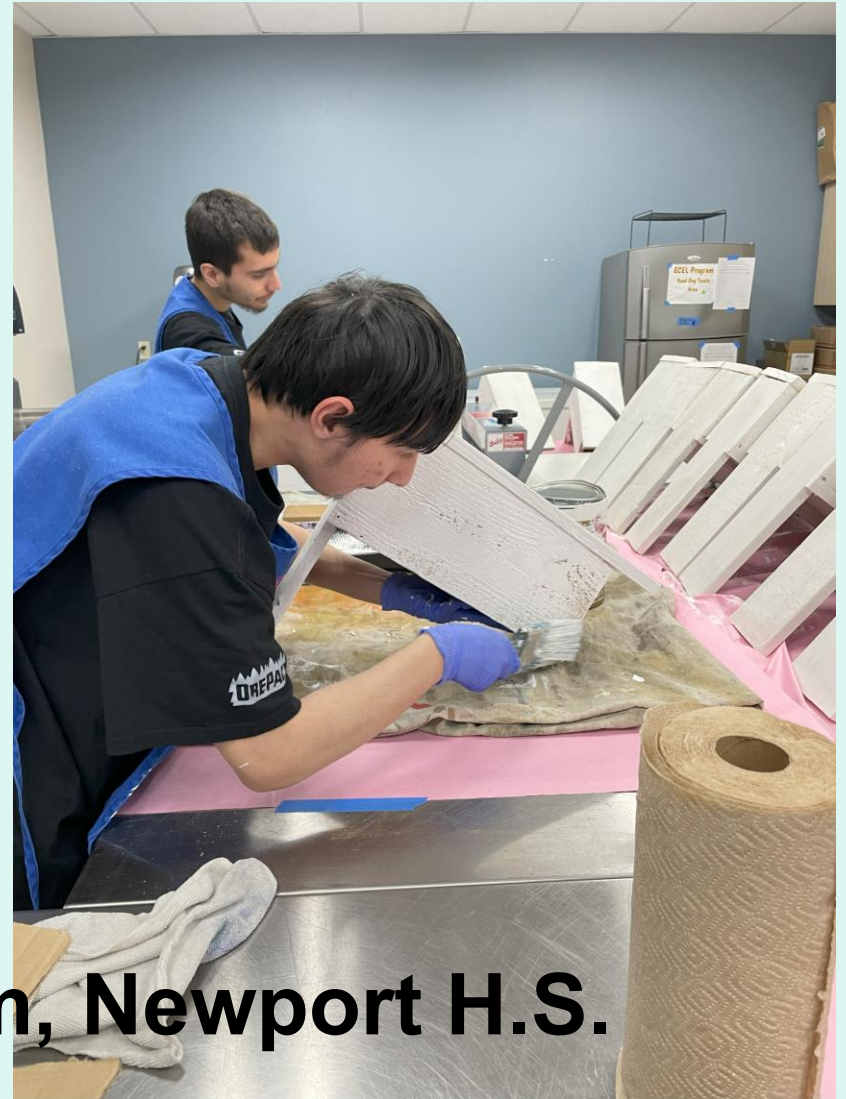
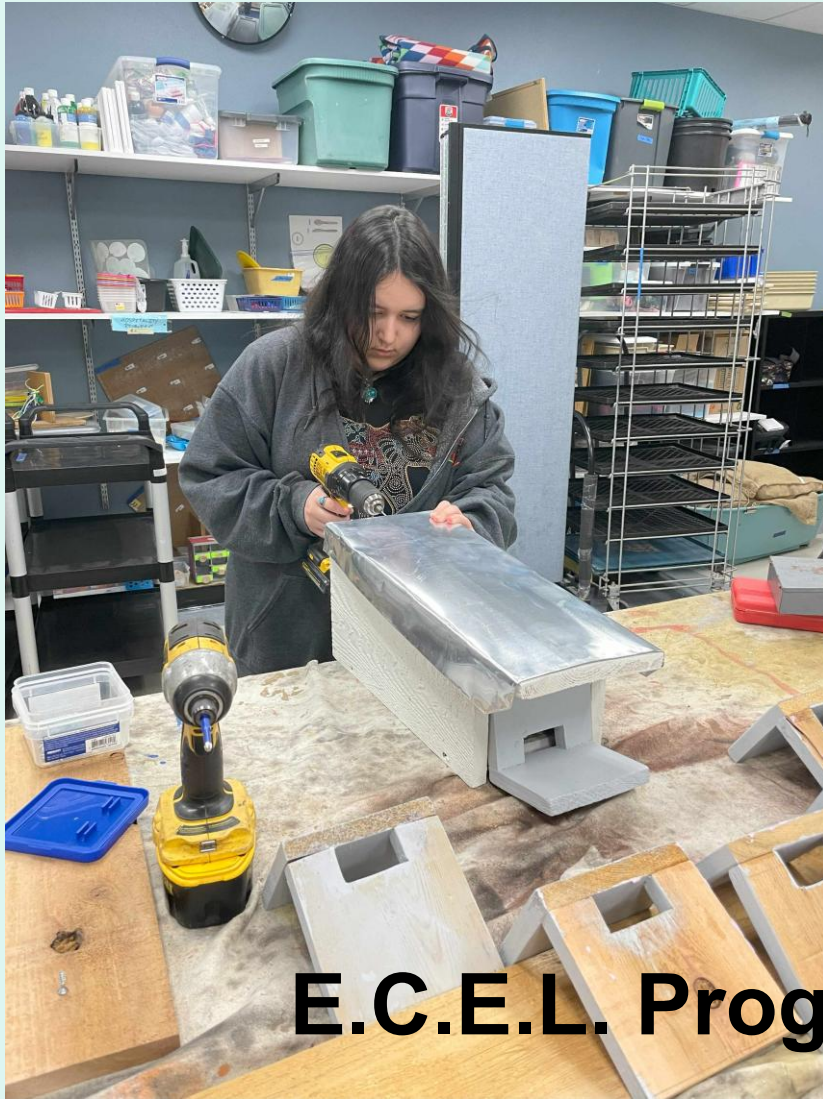
Port of Alsea - marina

Siletz Hwy at Kernville

# SWIFTY Partners

Oregon Parks and Recreation  
Lincoln County Parks and Recreation  
MidCoast Watersheds Council  
US Fish and Wildlife Service  
Hatfield Marine Science Center  
Port of Alsea (Waldport)  
Seven Capes Bird Alliance

# Building Nest Boxes



**E.C.E.L. Program, Newport H.S.**

# Building Nest Boxes



**4-H group, Lions Club**

# Nest Box installation



# Nest Box installation



# Bird information

American Bird Conservancy

<https://abcbirds.org/>

Cornell University - Nestwatch

<https://nestwatch.org/>

SWIFTY

<https://swiftyswallows.weebly.com/>

Seven Capes Bird Alliance

<https://www.sevencapes.org/home>

Merlin - an app for your smartphone  
that will identify birds by their calls

Thank you Lions for  
your generous support  
of SWIFTY!