



Photos by Andy Cameron

**ABOVE:** A house sparrow seen in Lewis and Clark National Historical Park. **RIGHT:** A young bald eagle sits atop a hollow tree trunk.

## BIRDWATCHING AT LEWIS AND CLARK NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

Public lands are the home of a diverse array of bird species

BY ANDY CAMERON

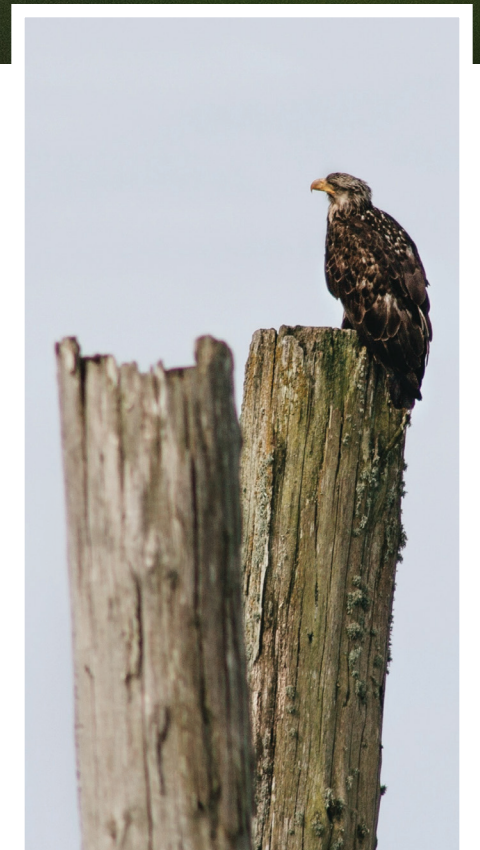
Composed of numerous sites encircling the mouth of the Columbia River, Lewis and Clark National Historical Park is well positioned as one of the North Coast's top bird-watching sites. The park features numerous biomes, including coniferous forests, intertidal estuaries and expansive plains. As such, birdwatchers are treated to year-round opportunities to observe a diverse array of species.

National Park Week, which begins on Saturday, offers a timely reason to head out and explore the avian species inhabiting this rich trove of public lands. Birders hoping to maximize the experience and minimize travel from Astoria can do no better than a trip to Fort Clatsop. Harboring a localized sampling of park habitats, this site allows observation of small songbirds, stunning raptors, ambling seabirds and swimming ducks.

### Songbirds

To locate the smaller species, particularly

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