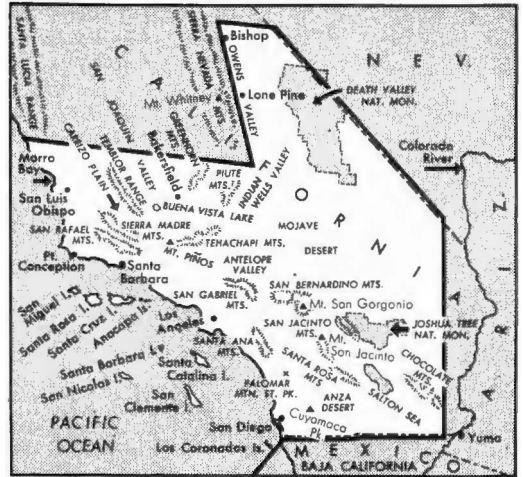


SOUTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION / Guy McCaskie

December was quite wet, but virtually no rain fell after that month, leaving the Region dry at the beginning of the rainless summer months. There were no spectacular flights of birds into the Region other than the larger-than-normal numbers of Purple Finches and Fox Sparrows along the coast. There appeared to be less than the normal number of unusual birds present in the Region this winter, but a *Pyrrhuloxia* seen in s.e. California gives us the first acceptable record of the species for the state.



LOONS, GREBES—Most observers commented on the scarcity of all three species of loons along the coast. A Red-necked Grebe seen near Lompoc, San Luis Obispo Co. on Feb. 18 (RLeV) was the only one reported. Horned Grebes, normally confined to the coast, were found inland; 1 at El Monte, Los Angeles Co. Dec. 4–Feb. 1 (GSS), 2 near San Jacinto, Riverside Co. Feb. 21 (EAC & SC), 7 on L. Elsinore, Riverside Co. Feb. 7 (AS), 1 or 2 around the n. end of the Salton Sea Jan. 23–Feb. 6 (JF, GSS, EAC et al.), and 1 at Salton Sea State Park, Riverside Co. Jan. 23 (JF).

SHEARWATERS—Four Fulmars seen off San Diego on Jan. 31 (EAC), and another seen there on Feb. 27 (GMcC) were the only individuals reported, indicating a paucity of birds in the Region. Pink-footed and Sooty Shearwaters were

very scarce off San Diego on Jan. 31 (EAC) and Feb. 27 (CFO). The Slender-billed Shearwater is of casual and sporadic occurrence along the coast of California with very few documented records available; 1 was collected (S.B.C.M.) from 4 found some 20 miles w. of San Diego on Jan. 31 (EAC). Manx Shearwaters were present in varying numbers off San Diego Co. throughout the winter with a maximum of 1000 reported on Jan. 31 (EAC).

HERONS—Cattle Egrets are now established as permanent residents in the Imperial Valley at the s. end of the Salton Sea where up to 1000 were present throughout the winter. Along the coast a Cattle Egret was seen at Pismo Beach, San Luis Obispo Co. on Feb. 7 (RW), 3 were present in Santa Barbara all winter (JA & RW), 2 were found at Point Mugu, Ventura Co. on Jan. 24 (RW), and 2 were present near Imperial Beach, San Diego Co. from the fall period until Jan. 16 (GMcC et al.). The only reports of Louisiana Herons came from Seal Beach, Orange Co. where 1 or 2 were present between Feb. 1 and Mar. 28 (GSS & RW). White-faced Ibis were present in the coastal marshes at Point Mugu and at Ocean-side, San Diego Co. It seems that this species is decreasing in numbers as a winter visitor in this Region.

SWANS, GEESE, DUCKS—A Whistling Swan near Bishop, Inyo Co. on Dec. 3 (JF), 3 near Big Pine, Inyo Co. on Dec. 13 (GMcC), and 2 on L. Cachuma, Santa Barbara Co. Jan. 18-23 (LC & TNM) were the only individuals reported. A Brant was present with the wintering population of Black Brant at the mouth of the San Diego R., San Diego Co. between Jan. 27 and Apr. 3 (TT, GMcC et al.); this species is very scarce along the Pacific Coast. Up to 5 Blue Geese were present with the Snow Geese at the Salton Sea s. end from the fall period through February (EAC, GMcC et al.). An imm. Ross' Goose found at Boneta, San Diego Co. on Dec. 26 remained through February (GMcC); this species is only casually reported in this Region away from the Salton Sea Nat'l Wildlife Refuge. A **Common Teal** found by Charles Velguth on L. Sherwood near Malibu, Ventura Co. on Jan. 3 remained until at least Mar. 1 (GSS et al.) and represents the third record for the Region. An influx of Blue-winged Teal coincided with the spring arrival of Cinnamon Teal into the Region during February and March; there were 7 reports of ♂♂ from along the coast (AF, RW, TNM, LC, BS, RP, BM & WDC), mostly for March, and a Mar. 6 report from the Salton Sea (BAC); in addition one was seen near Newport, Orange Co. on Dec. 25 (AS). Only 3 Eur. Widgeon were found among the numerous Am. Widgeon wintering in the Region; 1 was seen in Santa Barbara on Dec. 22 (WA), one was found at the s. end of the Salton Sea on Jan. 30 (GMcC), and another was present in Goleta, Santa Barbara Co. after Mar. 13 (RW & JA). One or 2 Wood Ducks

were seen in Goleta during December and January; the species is always scarce in this Region. Oldsquaws appeared to be more numerous than usual along the coast with 1 near Lompoc on Feb. 18 (RLV), 1 present in Santa Barbara Dec. 19–Mar. 14 (KA & TNM), 1 around Santa Monica, Los Angeles Co. Dec. 30–Jan. 16 (GSS & KG), 1 in San Diego Dec. 26–Feb. 20 (TT et al.), 1 at Imperial Beach on Feb. 6 & 13 (GMcC), and 1 along the Mexico–California border s. of Imperial Beach on Mar. 28 (GMcC); 1 was also seen inland at the Salton Sea on Feb. 13 (TT) where it is of casual occurrence. A Com. Scoter seen on Morro Bay, San Luis Obispo Co. on Dec. 27 (EAC & SC), and another seen at Point Mugu on Jan. 24 (RW & TNM) were the only ones found this winter. Four Hooded Mergansers were found near Saticoy, Ventura Co. on Jan. 26 (SF), and an adult ♂ was seen on L. Elsinore Mar. 6 (AS); this species is always very rare in this Region. Com. Mergansers are attracted to the large freshwater lakes in this Region, and can be quite numerous at such localities, as attested by 25 on L. Cachuma all winter (TNM et al.), up to 500 (Feb. 27) on L. Mathews, Riverside Co. in February and March (AS), and over 500 (Feb. 16) on L. Elsinore during the same period (AS); away from such localities the Com. Merganser is quite scarce and rarely reported, however 1 was seen in Carlsbad, San Diego Co. on Dec. 19 (AF).

HAWKS, EAGLES—A Red-shouldered Hawk seen in Palm Springs, Riverside Co. on Jan. 25 (JT) was e. of its normal range in California. Three Rough-legged Hawks were seen near Bishop on Dec. 2 (JF); one was found near Lost Hills, Kern Co. on Jan. 3 (GMcC), and another was seen on the Carrizo Plains, San Luis Obispo Co. on Jan. 9 (TT); 1 was near Lakeview, Riverside Co. on Feb. 13 (BAC), and another was present at the Salton Sea s. end Dec. 30–Feb. 6 (GMcC, GSS & JF). This species is probably of annual occurrence in the Owens Valley, and may also be regular along the w. edge of the San Joaquin Valley; it is quite rare in the coastal lowlands of s. California, and is casual in s.e. California. Ferruginous Hawks appeared in small numbers scattered throughout much of the Region; 3 were seen near Lost Hills on Jan. 3 (GMcC); 3 or 4 were reported present on the Carrizo Plains Dec. 5-6 (TNM), Dec. 12-13 (BJ), and Jan. 9 (TT); 1 was near Lakeview on Feb. 13 (BAC); 1 was near Newport on Dec. 25 (AS), and another was there on Dec. 25 & 29 (AS); 1 was near Oceanside on Feb. 14 (DL); 1 was at Escondido, San Diego Co. on Feb. 26 (AF); 2 were seen together in the Coachella Valley near Thermal on Jan. 30 (HB); and 1 was seen near Westmorland, Imperial Co. on Feb. 6 (JF) and 21 (EAC & SC). A Bald Eagle spent the winter on L. Cachuma (LC & TNM), 1 was seen on L. Arrowhead, San Bernardino Co. on Jan. 1 (JF), 3 were found at Big Bear L., San Bernardino Co. on Jan. 31 (BAC), 1 was present on Newport

Bay from the fall period to Dec. 28 (AS), up to 4 (2 ad. and 2 imm.) were at L. Mathews between Dec. 19–Mar. 20 (AS & JF), and 1 was seen at L. Elsinore on Mar. 6 (AS); a few are present in this Region every winter. Single Ospreys were reported near Big Pine on Dec. 4 (JF), in the Newport–Santa Ana area on Dec. 26 (JF), Jan. 2 (BB & GSS), and Jan. 21 (GSS), and at Del Mar, San Diego Co. on Mar. 21 (TT), and 2 were known to have spent the winter on L. Cachuma (TNM & RW). Prairie Falcons continue to be seen throughout most of the Region in limited numbers, but a Peregrine Falcon at Morro Bay all winter (RLeV) and one at Imperial Beach on Jan. 29 (GMcC) were the only reports for that species. Two Pigeon Hawks were present around Goleta throughout the winter (RW & JA), 1 was seen at the Sepulveda Rec. Area, Los Angeles Co. on Dec. 13 (KG), 1 was noted at the University of California, Los Angeles, on Dec. 1 (LJ), 1 was found in Pasadena on Dec. 28 (GSS), and single birds were noted around Westmorland on Dec. 19 (EAC, SC & JF), and Jan. 16 (JF); this species is never numerous in s. California.

CRANES, RAILS—A total of 1381 Sandhill Cranes (all Lesser) were at Soda L. on the Carrizo Plains on Feb. 6, 82 (75 Lesser and 7 Greater) were present on Pixley Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Tulare Co. on Feb. 7, 598 (all Lesser) were counted at Goose L., Kern Co. on Feb. 7, and 51 (8 Lesser and 43 Greater) spent the winter near Brawley, Imperial Co. (CDL); this survey probably includes all the Sandhill Cranes wintering in s. California this year. Only 2 Clapper Rails could be found in the extensive marshes at Point Mugu on Mar. 12 (RW, TNM et al.) despite thorough coverage and "rope dragging"; this species is in real danger of being exterminated along the s. California coast unless some effort is made to preserve *salicornia* marshes in their natural state. A Black Rail, rarely seen in the coastal marshes, was found at Morro Bay on Dec. 13 (RW), and another was spotted at Newport Bay on Feb. 20 (B & E Copper, fide GSS); in addition 1 was seen briefly at the s. end of the Salton Sea on Feb. 28 (GSS).

SHOREBIRDS—A Black Oystercatcher at Malibu on Mar. 1 (Ed Navajoski fide GSS) was at a locality outside that of regular occurrence. Mountain Plovers were present in the areas of normal occurrence, and 250 were seen near Lakeview on Feb. 21 (EAC & SC) where they may also prove to be regular. There were only 4 records of single Am. Golden Plovers this winter; at Goleta Jan. 2–Feb. 14 (SS & RW), at Playa del Rey, Los Angeles Co. Feb. 23 (HB), in Carlsbad Dec. 19 (AF), and in San Diego throughout the period (GMcC et al.). Two Stilt Sandpipers were noted at the s. end of the Salton Sea on Dec. 19 (EAC, SC & JF), and 5 were found there on Jan. 30 (GMcC & RLeV); this species occurs regularly in this area. A lone Sanderling at Salton City, Imperial Co. on Jan. 30 (GMcC & RLeV) pro-

vides us with another winter record for the Salton Sea. Up to 100 N. Phalaropes were present at Imperial Beach during the winter; this appears to be the only locality in California where this species regularly winters in numbers, and it may well be the only such locality in North America.

JAEGERS, GULLS, TERNS—Pomarine Jaeger continues to be the commonly occurring jaeger off the coast during the winter period; 8 were found off Newport on Dec. 27 (BB), and 25 were seen off San Diego on Feb. 27 (CFO). A Parasitic Jaeger seen near Morro Bay on Dec. 13 (RW & GSS) was the only one reported this winter. A first-year Glaucous Gull was present at Morro Bay Jan. 10–17 (TT, RLeV & GSS); one or two reach this Region each winter. The Glaucous-winged Gull is a regular winter visitor to the entire coast of this Region, but only rarely straggles inland; 1 was seen in Riverside on Jan. 10 (JF), and one or two were present around the Salton Sea s. end between Jan. 23 and Mar. 20 (GMcC, RLeV et al.). An imm. Thayer's Gull seen there on Jan. 23 (GMcC) represents the second record for that area. The Franklin's Gull has not previously been found in this Region during the winter so reports of single birds from five localities come as a surprise; they were seen at the mouth of the Santa Ynez River, Santa Barbara Co. on Jan. 30 and 31 (SS), around Santa Barbara between Jan. 30 and Feb. 28 (RW & JA), near San Bernardino on Jan. 3 & 4 (EAC & SC), at Malibu on Nov. 18, Dec. 30 and Feb. 15 (GSS et al.), and what may have been the same individual was seen at nearby Redondo Beach on Jan. 17 & 21 (KG & GSS). Black-legged Kittiwakes were noted in small numbers along the coast during the latter part of the winter, and appeared to be quite numerous offshore with over 100 found off San Diego on Feb. 27 (CFO). Two Common Terns wintered around the mouth of the San Diego River (GMcC); 1 or 2 of these birds appear to winter in this area each year but are virtually unrecorded elsewhere on the California coast at that time. Two Royal Terns were seen at Morro Bay on Jan. 11 (RLeV); this species regularly reaches this area, but has not been found farther north in recent years.

ALCIDS—A Com. Murre off Goleta on Jan. 2 (RW), 1 seen near Santa Barbara on Dec. 17 (KA), and 1 found off Newport on Dec. 27 (BB) were the only individuals of this species reported. Only 2 Xantus' Murrelets were found off San Diego on Jan. 31 (EAC) and again on Feb. 27 (CFO). Two hundred Rhinoceros Auklets were seen off Morro Bay on Jan. 12 (RLeV), and 30 were found off San Diego on Feb. 27 (CFO).

DOVES, OWLS, GOATSUCKERS—A White-winged Dove was present around Goleta between Dec. 12 and Jan. 2 (RW & JA), and 1 was seen in Duarte, Los Angeles Co. on Dec. 13 (MSanM); this spe-

cies is a casual wanderer to these two localities. Six were present at Agua Caliente Hot Springs, San Diego Co. on Feb. 3 (TT); this species nests at this locality, but is not known to winter there. Two Poor-wills were seen near Duarte on Dec. 7 (MSanM), and 7 were heard calling there on Mar. 6 (MSanM); one was found dead in La Crescenta, Los Angeles Co. on Feb. 18 (OC). A Saw-whet Owl spent the winter at Mecca Beach State Park on the shore of the Salton Sea (GMcC et al.); it was first noted roosting in a tamarisk tree on Jan. 23, at which time the number of pellets below the tree indicated a presence of more than a month, and was seen daily until Mar. 11; there are only 3 previous records of this owl at the Salton Sea.

HUMMINGBIRDS—In this Region much of the hummingbird migration, and considerable nesting activity occurs during the winter season. A few Costa's Hummingbirds can be found throughout the year, especially on the deserts in the s.e. portion of the Region; in the latter part of January there is an influx, and nesting can often be observed by the end of the month. Anna's Hummingbirds are common residents w. of the desert regions, with only the occasional straggler reaching the e. parts of the state; nesting normally starts in late December, and two broods can be brought off the nest by spring. Rufous Hummingbirds begin arriving from the south in late January, and are most conspicuous throughout the remainder of the winter period; they nest to the north of California, and appears to have a slow-moving, drawn-out migration through California. Allen's Hummingbirds normally appear about a week ahead of the Rufous Hummingbirds and pass through the Region relatively rapidly, with only the occasional straggler being found after late March. A resident population of Allen's Hummingbirds (*S. s. sedentarius*) from the Santa Barbara Is. is now well established on the Palos Verdes Peninsula, Los Angeles Co. In this area they appear to outnumber all other species of hummingbirds, and commence nesting in late December (SW).

WOODPECKERS—Flickers exhibiting the characteristics of Yellow-shafted Flickers were reported from seven localities with 1 near Bishop on Dec. 2 (JF), 1 at Furnace Creek Ranch in Death Valley on Feb. 21 (DDS), 1 at Morro Bay on Dec. 27 (EAC & SC), 1 at Santa Barbara from the fall period until Feb. 9 (RW), 1 near Newport on Mar. 21 (OC), 2 in Fontana, Riverside Co. on Jan. 3 (EAC & SC), and 1 near Westmorland Dec. 30–Jan. 16 (TT, GMcC & EAC); a few of these birds are reported in the Region every winter. An Acorn Woodpecker seen near Mt. Whitney Fish Hatchery on the e. slope of the Sierras, Inyo Co. on Dec. 3 (JF) was far from its normal range and beloved oak trees. A few Lewis' Woodpeckers were reported scattered over much of the Region with 15 near Santa Margarita, San Luis Obispo Co. on Dec. 13 (BJ), up to 15 at Furnace Creek Ranch in Death Valley throughout the period

(RLv et al.), 1 in the San Ynez Valley, Santa Barbara Co. on Feb. 17 (TNM), 1 near L. Cachuma on Jan. 26–27 (KA), 3 on Figueroa Mt., Santa Barbara Co. on Mar. 21 (RW), 1 near Castaic, Los Angeles Co. on Dec. 12 (BJ), and 3 in O'Neill Park, Orange Co. on Jan. 2 (AF). The White-headed Woodpecker present in Hollywood during the fall period was last seen on Dec. 27 (KG).

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH CREEPERS—A Gray Flycatcher spent the entire winter on Point Loma (TT); it was in the same locality where one remained last winter, and it appears likely the same individual is involved. A Com. Crow seen at Rammer L., Imperial Co. on Dec. 5 (EAC & SC) represents one of the very few records for the Imperial Valley. Mountain Chickadees descended to the foothills as normal, and even reached the coast in San Diego where 3 were seen on Dec. 20 (GMcC). A "few" Red-breasted Nuthatches seen in Santa Barbara during the winter were the only ones noted away from known breeding localities. Away from the mountains 2 Brown Creepers were present in Santa Barbara in January and February (JA & RW), and 1 was found near Newport on Dec. 5 (SS), and 1 was seen at Morrongo Valley, San Bernardino Co. on Jan. 24 (JF).

WRENS THROUGH SHRIKES—A Winter Wren, always scarce in this Region, was present in Santa Barbara all winter (LC & TNM). A Brown Thrasher, a casual stray to California, was seen in Santa Barbara between Jan. 2 & 16 (MM & RW). There were a few reports of Varied Thrushes from the w. portion of the Region; 1 was near Fillmore, Ventura Co. on Mar. 20 (LJ), 2 were seen near Newhall, Los Angeles Co. on Jan. 25 (HB), 1 was noted in Placento Canyon, Los Angeles Co. on Dec. 24 (HB) and Apr. 3 (HB), 1 was near Malibu on Jan. 10 (BB), 1 was found in Los Angeles on Mar. 20 (OC), 1 was seen near Riverside on Feb. 12 (SC), and 3 were discovered in Morrongo Valley on Jan. 24 (JF). Up to 6 Golden-crowned Kinglets were present in Santa Barbara in January and February (JA & RW) and 2 were still there on Mar. 14 (KA); this species is scarce along the coast. Two Golden-crowned Kinglets seen at the s. end of the Salton Sea on Dec. 30 (GMcC & TT) established the second record for that area. The fall period saw a few **Northern Shrikes** found in the extreme n.e. portion of the Region; this winter an individual wandered s. to the Salton Sea, being present at the s. end Jan. 23–26 (EAC, SC, GMcC, GSS et al.); this must represent one of the southernmost records in North America.

VIREOS, WARBLERS—A Bell's Vireo, casual during the winter, was seen near Imperial Beach on Dec. 27 (GMcC). A Solitary Vireo seen in Riverside on Dec. 25 (JF) and 1 present in San Pedro during December and January (SW) were the only 2 reported this winter. A **Warbling Vireo** was seen in Santa Barbara on Jan. 2 (MP); the

species is accidental during the winter. A **Tennessee Warbler** banded and photographed on Point Loma on Jan. 5 (JC) represents either an exceptionally late fall migrant or a wintering bird. A Nashville Warbler at the Sepulveda Rec. Area, Los Angeles Co. on Dec. 13 (KG) and 1 in Fullerton on Jan. 24 (CG) were the only 2 seen this winter. A Virginia Warbler was present in Los Angeles from the fall period through January (G. King fide GSS). Single Yellow Warblers, always rare in winter, were seen at the Salton Sea s. end on Dec. 30 (TT & GMcC) and Feb. 28 (GMcC & GSS). Two Black-throated Gray Warblers were present in Santa Barbara throughout the winter (RW & TNM), 1 was seen in Riverside Dec. 13–Feb. 25 (EAC, JF & MP), and 1 was seen in National City, San Diego Co. on Dec. 25 (TT); 1 or 2 are found in this Region every winter. A **Chestnut-sided Warbler** near Mecca, Riverside Co. Dec. 24–29 (D. Paulson & JMS) was possibly a very late fall migrant and not a wintering bird, for it could not be found again at later dates. A Palm Warbler, casual during the winter, was seen near Malibu on Dec. 27 & 30 (Dennis Heineman & GSS). A N. Waterthrush was seen at Imperial Beach on Dec. 26 & 27 (L. Tuttle & GMcC) and another was at the Salton Sea s. end Dec. 30–Feb. 6 (GMcC, TT, OC, PF et al.); this species is now being found in the Region most winters. A MacGillivray's Warbler was in Santa Barbara between Dec. 21 & 27 (RW), and the banded individual that spent last winter in Duarte was again present there Dec. 13–Jan. 23 (MSanM). Two Wilson's Warblers present in Santa Barbara from the fall period until Dec. 27 (RW) were the only ones reported. Up to 7 Am. Redstarts were present at the Salton Sea s. end throughout the winter (GMcC, EAC, JF et al.); 3 were seen near Westmorland on Dec. 5 (JF); and 1 was still present two weeks later (JF); this species regularly winters in the Imperial Valley.

ORIOLES, TANAGERS—Two Hooded Orioles were present in Santa Barbara throughout the winter (RW & MP), 1 was seen in San Pedro on Feb. 24 (SW), and another was seen in Valley Center on Feb. 26 (AF). A Scott's Oriole, very scarce in winter, was found in Santa Barbara on Dec. 12 (KA). Bullock's Oriole reports include 1 all winter in Santa Barbara (TNM) and another in nearby Goleta throughout the period (JA & RW), and 1 seen in San Diego on Feb. 28 (KG). A few orioles of a variety of species are regularly found in s. California each winter and this winter appears to have been poor for both numbers and variety. A Rusty Blackbird, a casual wanderer to California, was found at Scotty's Castle in Death Valley on Dec. 12 (GMcC). Three W. Tanagers were seen in Santa Barbara on Dec. 20 (KA), 1 was seen in nearby Montecito during December and January (TNM), and 2 were seen in San Diego on Jan. 10 (GMcC); a few of these birds can be found in the Region every winter. A Sum-

mer Tanager was present in Brush Canyon, Los Angeles Co. throughout December (KG), 1 was present in San Diego on Jan. 16 (GMcC & GSS), 1 was found in National City on Dec. 29 (PH), and 1 was seen on Point Loma on Feb. 13 (GMcC); this species is rare but regular along the coast during the winter.

FINCHES—A male **Pyrrhuloxia** found near Westmorland, Imperial Co. on Feb. 24 (JF) was seen by a number of observers during the following ten days (GMcC, GSS, EAC et al.); this is the first well documented record of the species in California, the previous two reports (one known to have been released from captivity) having no supporting details. A Rose-breasted Grosbeak was seen in Montecito on Dec. 23 (WHF) and 3 were frequenting a feeder in San Diego during December with one remaining until mid-March (H. Keough). A Black-headed Grosbeak remained in Santa Barbara during December and January (DH); the species is quite scarce in winter. The only report of Evening Grosbeaks was that of 6 on Figueroa Mt., Santa Barbara Co. on Mar. 21 (RW). Purple Finches continued to attract attention after the influx last November; they were noted on most of the Christmas Bird Counts conducted in the Region, were certainly more numerous than usual along the entire coast, and were noted in the Imperial Valley of s.e. California through January. A few Cassin's Finches were also reported in the lowlands with 10–15 around Rolling Hills, Los Angeles Co. all winter (SW), 7 banded in San Pedro during the period (SW), 4 seen at Furnace Creek Ranch in Death Valley on Dec. 25 (RLeV), and 5 found near Holtville, Imperial Co. on April 2 (GMcC). Red Crossbills did reach the Region as indicated in the fall; up to 30 were present in Santa Barbara after early January (JA & RW), 10 were seen on the Palos Verdes Peninsula on Mar. 24 (SW), 1 was seen in Hollywood on Feb. 3 (GSS), 1 was seen in San Diego on Dec. 20 (TT), and up to 10 were present on Point Loma between mid-January and the end of the period (JC et al.).

SPARROWS, LONGSPURS—A Lark Bunting was continually present in San Diego from Dec. 20 to the end of the period (TT et al.), and 2 were seen near Imperial Beach on Mar. 24 (GMcC); this species is scarce in California. One or 2 Green-tailed Towhees were present around San Diego throughout the winter, and 1 was seen at the s. end of the Salton Sea on Jan. 23 (GMcC). A Black-throated Sparrow seen in Duarte on Dec. 13 and Feb. 7 (MSanM) was w. of its normal range. Fourteen reports, involving at least 25 Slate-colored Juncos, was about normal; most of the reports were from the e. portions of the Region, but some came from the coast, as expected. A Gray-headed Junco, by far the scarcest junco occurring in the Region, was in Santa Barbara Jan. 2–4 (IM), 1 was in Hollywood between Jan. 16 and Feb. 3 (KG & GSS), 1 was seen in Riverside on Feb. 12 (EAC & SC), 1 was

found in Morrongo Valley on Jan. 23 (JF), single birds were noted at the Salton Sea s. end on Dec. 19-23 (EAC, SC & JF), Dec. 30 (GMcC & TT) and Mar. 6 (MP), and 2 were found near Holtville on Apr. 2 (GMcC). A single Harris' Sparrow found in Goleta on Dec. 13 (JA) was the only one reported. Two White-throated Sparrows wintered in Goleta (JA & RW) and another spent the winter in San Pedro (SW), 1 was seen in Topanga Canyon, Los Angeles Co. Feb. 7-24 (DDS), and 1 was found in Encino on Dec. 26 (ERA); a few of these birds reach California each year. Fox Sparrows were numerous along the coast and were even found in the s.e. portion of the Region where they are normally absent. Single Swamp Sparrows noted at the Salton Sea s. end on Dec. 19 (EAC & SC), and Jan. 23 (GMcC, EAC & SC) were the only 2 reported. Up to 10 Lapland Longspurs were noted at the Salton Sea s. end during December and January (EAC, RLeV, GMcC & OC); the species appears

to be regular in this area.

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