



late May at a time most of these migrants should have already passed through the Region.

The early arrival dates for some of our key migrants were: Fulvous Tree Duck, Apr. 14 at the Salton Sea; Black Tern, Apr. 14 at the Salton Sea; Vaux's Swift, Apr. 14 at Encino, Los Angeles Co.; W. Kingbird, Mar. 20 at the Salton Sea and Santa Barbara; Ash-throated Flycatcher, Apr. 8 at Santa Barbara; Traill's Flycatcher, May 2 at Whitewater, Riverside Co.; W. Flycatcher, Mar. 21 at Santa Barbara; W. Wood Pewee, Apr. 12 at the Brock Experimental Ranch near Holtville, Imperial Co.; Olive-sided Flycatcher, Mar. 19 at Santa Barbara (very early) and Apr. 17 at Whitewater; Swainson's Thrush, Apr. 23 at Morongo Valley, San Bernardino Co.; Bell's Vireo, Mar. 27 at San Diego; Solitary Vireo, Mar. 20 at the Salton Sea; Warbling Vireo, Mar. 20 at the Salton Sea; Nashville Warbler, Apr. 1 at San Diego; Yellow Warbler, Apr. 3 at San Diego; Black-throated Gray Warbler, Apr. 3 at Encino; Hermit Warbler, Apr. 23 at Morongo Valley; MacGillivray's Warbler, Apr. 17 at Whitewater; Yellow-breasted Chat, Apr. 16 at Morongo Valley; Wilson's Warbler, Mar. 20 at San Diego; Hooded Oriole, Mar. 24 at Santa Barbara; Bullock's Oriole, Mar. 20 at San Diego; W. Tanager, Apr. 17 at Brock Experimental Ranch near Holtville and Whitewater; Black-headed Grosbeak, Mar. 29 at Santa Barbara; Blue Grosbeak, Apr. 24 at San Diego and Morongo Valley; Lazuli Bunting, Apr. 2 at Brock Experimental Ranch near Holtville (a little early); Black-chinned Sparrow, Mar. 27 at Encino.

ALBATROSSES, SHEARWATERS, PETRELS—Three Black-footed Albatrosses were seen at the 60 mile bank off San Diego May 30 (JJ) and 4 or 5 were seen near San Clemente I. the following day (JJ). A Fulmar near Anacapa I. May 22 (JD) and 2 near San Clemente I. May 31 (JJ) were very late. Only 2 Pink-footed Shearwaters were found off San Diego Apr. 10 (C.F.O.), but 25 were reported off Oxnard, Ventura Co. May 22 (JD) and they

SOUTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION / Guy McCaskie

April was cooler than normal and the sky remained overcast for much of the time. This cool weather continued into May and appeared to have a delaying effect on northbound migrants. The peak movements of most species appeared to be a week or more later than normal, and re-markable numbers of a variety of species were still passing through the Region at the end of the period. Ron LeValley commented that he had never seen so many flycatchers as were at Oasis, Mono Co. on May 31—probably 750-1000 birds, mostly Empidonax flycatchers and W. Wood Pewees, with Dusky and Hammond's Flycatchers being more common than W. Wood Pewees and Traill's Flycatchers. Other such concentrations, but not involving quite as many birds and comprising thrushes, vireos, warblers and finches as well as flycatchers, were reported by others in

were "very numerous" near San Clemente I. May 31 & June 1 (JJ). Three or four Pale-footed Shearwaters were identified near San Clemente I. May 31 & June 1 (JJ). Only 15 Sooty Shearwaters were seen off San Diego Apr. 10 (C.F.O.), about 200 were visible from shore in Laguna Beach, Orange Co. Apr. 21 (JAJ), 500 were reported off Oxnard May 22 (JD) and they were "very numerous" near San Clemente I. May 31 & June 1 (JJ). Four Manx Shearwaters were seen off San Diego Apr. 9 (C.F.O.). Two Leach's Petrels were found off Oxnard May 22 (JD) and a "few" were seen near San Clemente I. May 31 & June 1 (JJ). Fifteen Ashy Petrels were reported off Oxnard May 22 (JD). Fifteen Black Petrels were seen off San Diego Apr. 9 (C.F.O.). Another 35 were noted there May 15 (GMcC), 3 were counted off Oxnard May 22 (JD), and a "few" were present near San Clemente I. May 31 & June 1 (JJ).

TROPICBIRDS, PELICANS—A Red-billed Tropicbird was seen at the 60 mile bank off San Diego May 30 (JJ), which is an early date for that far north. White Pelicans were noted migrating northward in large flocks by many observers in late March and early April.

HERONS—Three Cattle Egrets remaining around Goleta, Santa Barbara Co. throughout the period were the only ones reported away from the south end of the Salton Sea where they are now quite common permanent residents.

GESE, DUCKS—Again Black Brant were found inland at the north end of the Salton Sea with 75 there Apr. 13-18 (JF, EAC, GMcC), 1 there May 2 (EAC & SC) and 5 there May 8 (GMcC & BB), 1 was seen at the s. end of the Salton Sea Apr. 18 (GMcC), and another was found on L. Elsinore, Riverside Co. Mar. 20 (AS). Blue-winged Teal were reported in larger than normal numbers and over a larger area of the Region than usual; 8 were at Oasis, Mono Co. May 31 (RLeV); 6 or 7 were noted at Furnace Creek Ranch in Death Valley Apr. 11 (RLeV) and May 1 (GMcC); 1 was at Saratoga Springs, San Bernardino Co. May 1 (GMcC); 1 was noted at Lakeview, Riverside Co. May 1 (EAC & SC); 4-6 were regularly found around the Salton Sea in mid-April (JF, EAC, LJ, GMcC et al.); 1-3 were around Santa Barbara during most of Apr. (JA, RW & KA); 3 were at the mouth of the Santa Clara R., Ventura Co. on April 20 (DC), and another was seen in Ventura Apr. 6 (DC); all the birds reported were adult ♂♂, but it is likely some of the accompanying females were also of the species. The Eur. Wigeon present in Santa Barbara during the winter season was last noted Apr. 8 (RW). An Oldsquaw, a real rarity inland, was seen at the mouth of Salt Creek on the Salton Sea Apr. 17 (EAC & SC) and what was probably the same individual was noted at nearby Salton City May 9 (GMcC, KG & JD) and May 29 (GMcC). Single Surf Scoters were noted at the north end of the Salton Sea Apr. 18 (GMcC)

and 28 (AS) and 2 were seen there May 8 (AS); single individuals were found at the s. end of the sea Apr. 14 (LJ) and May 29 (GMcC) and 2 were at Salton City May 29 (GMcC); these birds are apparently reaching the Salton Sea while migrating north from the Gulf of California.

HAWKS, GROUSE, RAILS—A few Swainson's Hawks were noted this spring, with 1 in the Antelope Valley, Los Angeles Co. Apr. 18 (GSS), 1 near Lancaster, Los Angeles Co. May 8 (GSS), 1 near Riverside Apr. 17 (BB & JD), 2 near Mecca, Riverside Co. Apr. 14 (LJ) and 7 there May 8 (AS), 2 near Westmorland, Imperial Co. Apr. 17 (EAC & SC), and 3 near Plaster City, Imperial Co. Apr. 2 (GMcC); this species used to migrate through this Region in large flocks. A rather late Pigeon Hawk was noted in Goleta Apr. 8 (RW & KA). Two Blue Grouse, presumed to be a mated pair, were closely observed at about 9000 ft. elevation in the San Jacinto Mts. May 27 (LT); this presumably resident species is known to occur south only to Mt. Pinos, some 150 miles to the northwest. A Black Rail, a most secretive species, was seen in McGrath State Park, Ventura Co. May 22 (ERA).

SHOREBIRDS—An Am. Oystercatcher was seen on Anacapa I. on May 5 (RW) and May 15 (IM & LB) and another was on the Coronados I. Apr. 9 (C.F.O.); both localities are north of the species' normal range. Interior records of Snowy Plovers include 30 at Deep Springs Lake, Inyo Co. May 29 (RLeV) and 1 at Furnace Creek Ranch in Death Valley May 22 (GMcC, BB & GSS) from the n.e. portion of the Region, an area with few specific records of the species. An Am. Golden Plover at Playa del Rey, Los Angeles Co. Apr. 14 (HB) was the only one reported this spring. Ten Ruddy Turnstones, a common migrant along the coast, were inland at the n. end of the Salton Sea May 8 (GMcC, BB & AS), and 1 was found at the s. end the following day (GMcC, KG & JD). A Solitary Sandpiper, always a scarce species in spring, was noted in the San Fernando Valley, Los Angeles Co. Apr. 19-22 (JD & KG) and another was seen at Deep Springs May 23 (GSS). Four Wandering Tattlers together at Salton City May 8 (GMcC & BB), and 1 still present the following day (GMcC, KG & JD), represents the third interior record for this rocky coast-loving species in California. Knots continue to occur on the Salton Sea during April and May and it is now very obvious that a regular passage of these birds passes through that area on spring migration; this year birds were noted Apr. 17-May 15 (GMcC, BB, EAC, RLeV, et al.) with a high count of 150 on the early date (JF). Stilt Sandpiper is an interesting species in California; at the Salton Sea they occur regularly and in enough numbers to suggest they are on a normal migration route, but elsewhere in the state, and most of the southwest, they are recorded only casually; it would appear that the birds stopping at the Salton Sea are following a West Coast migration route that

involves a limited number of regular stopping spots connected by distances over which the birds fly non-stop. At the s. end of the Salton Sea 75 Stilt Sandpipers were counted Apr. 17 (GMcC), 6 May 2 (EAC & SC), 16 May 8 (BB & DC), and 25 the following day (GMcC, KG & JD); 7 were found near Brawley, Imperial Co. Apr. 18 (GMcC), and 1 was noted at the n. end of the Salton Sea May 2 (EAC & SC). A Semipalmated Sandpiper in breeding plumage was found at the n. end of the Salton Sea May 29 (GMcC); this species is now recorded on the Salton Sea almost every spring. Sanderlings were recorded inland on the Salton Sea during late April and all of May, as usual, with 20 noted May 29 (GMcC). Red Phalaropes usually migrate well off the coast in spring, frequently too far out to be recorded on boat trips off the coast; this year 250 were found off Oxnard May 22 (JD) and smaller numbers were noted off Santa Barbara May 9 and 15 (RW); on the coast 800 were present on the Saltwork ponds at Imperial Beach, San Diego Co. May 6 (GMcC) and smaller numbers were reported from elsewhere along the coast during the first half of May (PD, GSS et al.).

JAEGERS, GULLS—A total of 35 Pomarine Jaegers was noted off San Diego Apr. 9 (C.F.O.), but only one was reported off Oxnard May 22 (JD). A Skua was identified off Oxnard May 22 and 1 or 2 were seen near San Clemente I. May 31 & June 1 (JJ). An imm. Glaucous-winged Gull was seen inland at the Salton Sea May 8 (GMcC & BB). An adult yellow-legged W. Gull at the Salton Sea May 29 (GMcC) was very early. An imm. Mew Gull at the n. end of the Salton Sea May 8 (GMcC & BB) represents the third sighting for that inland locality. A Laughing Gull, extremely rare along the coast, was noted in Santa Barbara May 24 (KA & TNM). Franklin's Gulls were reported from localities throughout the Region instead of just around the Salton Sea as in previous years; along the coast 1 was seen near Anacapa I. May 22 (JD), one was found at Malibu, Los Angeles Co. Apr. 22 (A. King, fide GSS), and 1 was present in Oceanside, San Diego Co. Apr. 11 (PD); in the interior 1 was identified in Bishop on Apr. 30 (JMF) and another was seen on Big Bear L. Apr. 16 (LJ); around the Salton Sea 4 were counted at the n. end Apr. 13 (JF) with 2 still present Apr. 17 (JF, EAC & SC); 1 was there May 15 (RLeV), 1 was at Salton City May 29 (GMcC), and 8 were together near Westmorland May 9 (GMcC, KG & JD). A Black-legged Kittiwake was found inland at the n. end of the Salton Sea Apr. 17 (JF), a locality where it is recorded casually. Thirty Sabine's Gulls were found off Oxnard May 22 (JD) and 22 were noted near San Clemente I. May 31 & June 1 (JJ).

ALCIDS—Three Com. Murres near San Clemente I. May 31 & June 1 (JJ) were very late for that far south. Two Pigeon Guillemots off Oxnard May 22 (JD) were at the southern limit of their range. About 15 Xantus' Murrelets were noted

near the Los Coronados Is. Apr. 9 (C.F.O.), 11 were seen near Anacapa I. May 9 (RW), 40 were near Santa Cruz I. May 22 (JD), and "some" were present near San Clemente I. May 31 & June 1 (JJ). A single Cassin's Auklet was seen off San Diego Apr. 9 (C.F.O.), 8 were noted off Oxnard May 22 (JD), and a "few" were present near San Clemente I. May 31 & June 1 (JJ). A lone Rhinoceros Auklet was seen off San Diego Apr. 9 (C.F.O.). A **Horned Puffin** was identified 19 mi. s.e. of San Clemente I. June 1 (JJ) and a Tufted Puffin was seen 4 mi. closer to the island on the same day (JJ); these two sightings are for the southern limit of wandering for both species, and the former is the first record of a living Horned Puffin in S. California.

DOVES, SWIFTS, GOATSUCKERS—Reports of White-winged Doves to the north of their normal range included 1 at Scotty's Castle May 30 (RLeV) and June 5 (GMcC), and 1 at Furnace Creek Ranch May 30 (RLeV); 1 seen at Newport May 27 (AS) was the only one found along the coast. The overcast weather along the coast during much of the period appeared to force swifts to fly low and linger for a long time in the area; Vaux's Swifts were very conspicuous and in large numbers during late April and early May. Two Black Swifts were noted at Goleta May 6 (JA), up to 200 were present in the Santa Barbara area May 27-June 1 (JA & KA), 1 was identified flying over Casitas L., Ventura Co. May 31 (HB), 25 were over Encino, Los Angeles Co. May 30 (JD & KG) but only 1 could be found the following day (GSS), and 5 were seen in the San Gabriel Mts. May 19 (GSS). Up to 4 **Chimney Swifts** were seen over Encino May 28-31 (JD, KG, RW, GSS et al.) and a single bird was identified at Saratoga Springs, San Bernardino Co. by two separate parties (JA, RW & GSS); this species may prove to reach S. California each summer (see Devillers, Calif. Birds, 1:147-152, 1970). A Whip-poor-will was regularly heard and seen at L. Fulmor in the San Jacinto Mts. after May 23 (EAC, SC, GMcC et al.) where it is probably a regular summer visitor and nests (see Jones, Calif. Birds, 2:33-36, 1971).

FLYCATCHERS, SWALLOWS—A **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher**, a casual stray in spring, was watched feeding on the golf course in Yucca Valley, San Bernardino Co. May 22 (JAJ). The first Wied's Crested Flycatcher was noted at Morongo Valley May 15 (GSS) and 2 pairs were present shortly after; this is the n.w. outpost of regular occurrence. A ♀ **Purple Martin** at Saratoga Springs May 30 (GSS) represents one of the very few sightings of the species in the Death Valley region.

CROWS, THRASHERS, THRUSHES, SOLITAIRE—A flock of 20 Com. Crows over the open desert near Baker, San Bernardino Co. Apr. 14 (CL) was most unusual. Bendire's Thrashers were reasonably common near Cima in e. San Bernardino Co. after early April (RLeV, GMcC) but were unrecorded elsewhere. A Varied Thrush at Morongo Valley

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on the late date of Apr. 17 (JD) was at a rather unusual locality. Townsend's Solitaires were remarkably common in the n.e. portion of the Region in late May with numbers like 30 at Oasis May 19 & 20 reported (DDeS).

VIREOS, WARBLERS—Breeding Gray Vireos were found in the New York Mts. (EAS & SC) and the San Bernardino Mts. (JAJ & GSS) in mid-May. As usual we had a number of reports of warblers that had straggled westward. A ♀ Black-and-white Warbler was found at Scotty's Castle May 22 (GMcC & BB) and May 30 (RLeV) and a ♂ was seen there May 31 (RLeV), a ♂ was at Deep Springs May 20-22 (DDeS) and a ♀ was there May 21-22 (DDeS, GSS, BB), a ♀ was at Oasis May 31 (RLeV) and June 5 (GMcC, LJ & JD). A Tennessee Warbler, very scarce in spring, was banded at Morongo Valley May 7 (JMS). Single Virginia's Warblers were seen at Scotty's Castle May 22 (GMcC) and May 30 (RLeV), and at Morongo Valley Apr. 28 (AS & HB) and May 12 (AMC), the latter bird being photographed (slide to S.D.N.H.M.). A Lucy's Warbler was found near Scotty's Castle May 22 (GMcC, BB, GSS), up to 10 were present at Furnace Creek Ranch by late May (RW, RLeV, GMcC et al.), and 3 pairs were present at Morongo Valley after late April (JMS et al.). A Yellow-throated Warbler, the fourth for California, was identified at Scotty's Castle May 30 (RLeV & RG); the lores were thought to be white indicating the bird was of the race *albitora*. An Ovenbird was found at Oasis May 31 (RLeV et al.), 1 was flushed from an alfalfa field at Deep Springs June 5 (LJ, GMcC & JD), 1 was present in Yucca Valley May 15 & 16 (JAJ, RLeV et al.), one was discovered in Morongo Valley on May 31 (Leo Best & GMcC), and one was present in San Diego June 6-8 (Mrs. McCubbin & GMcC); this is a larger-than-normal number of reports for this Region. As usual, a few N. Waterthrushes were found, primarily in the eastern areas of the Region; 1 was at Deep Springs May 20 (DDeS) and 2 more were there May 29 (RLeV et al.), 1 was at Yucca Valley May 15 & 16 (GSS, JAJ, RLeV et al.), 1 was in Morongo Valley May 14 & 15 (JMS, RLeV et al.), and 1 was discovered on Anacapa I. May 9 (RW). Am. Redstarts were found in small numbers in the n.e. portion of the Region with 2 at Oasis May 31 (RLeV et al.), 4 at Deep Springs May 21-June 5 (DDeS, GMcC et al.), 9 at Scotty's Castle May 22-June 5 (GMcC, BB, GSS, RLeV et al.), 1 at Furnace Creek Ranch May 29 (JA), and 1 at Saratoga Springs June 6 (GMcC); 1 was banded at Morongo Valley May 14 (JMS), and 1 at the Salton Sea Apr. 8 (RLeV) was most likely a bird that had wintered there.

BLACKBIRDS, ORIOLES, TANAGERS—A ♂ Bobolink was present at Deep Springs May 19-22 (DDeS, GMcC, BB & GSS) and a ♀ was found at Scotty's Castle May 30 (RG); this species is proving to be regular in this area of the Region. A ♂ Baltimore Oriole was present in Santa Bar-

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bara April 3-11 (KA et al.), and 1 was found at
Furnace Creek Ranch May 30 (RLeV et al.); this
species is now recorded regularly in California.
Two ♂ ♂ Scarlet Tanagers were carefully identi-
fied at Saratoga Springs May 31 (GSS), and rep-
resent the third spring record for California. A ♀
Summer Tanager discovered at the northern lo-
cality of Deep Springs May 29 (JA, RW, RLeV
et al.), and 1 seen at Encino Mar. 26 (JD) were
the only ones reported away from known breeding
localities.

FINCHES, SPARROWS—The only Rose-breasted
Grosbeak reported was a ♂ at the Brock Experi-
mental Ranch near Holtville May 22 (LJ & DH).
A ♂ Indigo Bunting was at Deep Springs May 29-
June 6 (JD, GMCC, RLeV et al.), a ♀ was found
at Furnace Creek Ranch May 30 (RLeV) and
another ♀ was noted at Saratoga Springs June 5
(JD & GMCC); this species is somewhat regular
in limited numbers along the eastern border of
the state. An Evening Grosbeak in the New York
Mts. May 15 (EAC & SC), 2 at Oasis May 31
(RLeV et al.), and 3 on Mt. Palomar in San
Diego Co. May 25 (AM) were all outside their
normal breeding grounds and considered late wan-
derers. A Cassin's Finch at the Brock Experi-
mental Ranch May 22 (LJ) was late for a desert
locality. A late Slate-colored Junco was noted at
Scotty's Castle Apr. 11 (RLeV), and an equally
late Gray-headed Junco was found at the Brock
Experimental Ranch Apr. 17 (GMCC). A Harris'
Sparrow, scarce in s.w. California, was present at
a feeder in Monrovia, Los Angeles Co. April 12-
16 (GSS), and was accompanied by a rather late
White-throated Sparrow on Apr. 14 & 15 (GSS).

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CORRIGENDA Readers have pointed out the
following corrected species high counts for the
Christmas Bird Count, 1970-71, as published in
Am. Birds 25: 516-21. Mexican Duck, 19 (Tex.,
Balmorhea); Am. Woodcock, 44 (Va., Back Bay);
Green Kingfisher, 11 (Tex., Sheffield); Le Conte's
Thrasher, 17 (Calif., Taft-Maricopa); Townsend's
Solitaire, 42 (Ore., Prineville); Rufous-sided Tow-
hee, 429 (Va., Back Bay). In addition, Tufted
Titmouse listed for the Sespe Wildlife Area, Calif.
Count 892, should have been Plain Titmouse.