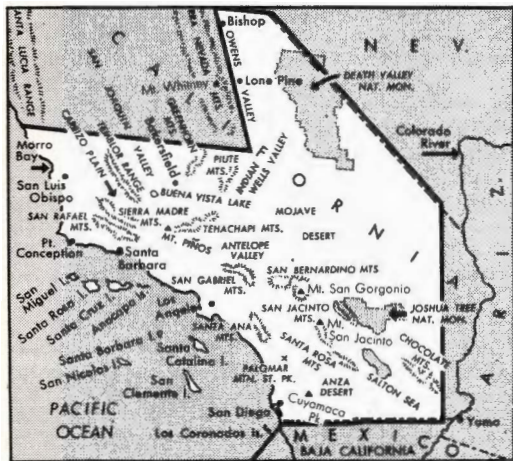


SOUTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION

/ Guy McCaskie

Locally the fall was dry. However, I do not believe that local weather conditions have any affect on migrants passing through the area, other than concentrating them at limited water sources during very dry years. With the continuing growth of interest in birds, and the ever-increasing army of birdwatchers in the Region comes the expected influx of reports to handle, many of which contain records of the casual and accidental nature. This fall 52 species considered accidental or unrecorded in s. California ten years ago (see R. L. Pyle, *Annotated Field List Birds of s. California* rev. ed., A. Small, 1961) were reported; of these 40 were land birds, and involved over 320 individuals. I believe this is largely the result of better and more knowledge-

able observers, and not a dynamic change in migratory patterns of birds. The majority of these birds are west of their normal ranges, but some reach us as a result of migrating northward instead of southward (reverse migration) and others by wandering a little farther south than usual.



Aaron M. Bagg (*Audubon Field Notes*, 24:4-13, 1970) suggested that eastern species were reaching California by flying "down-wind" in easterly airflows developing over south Texas. A quick look at the warbler species supposedly flying "down-wind" reveals that Black-throated Blue, Blackpoll and Palm Warbler, among the commoner ones, are all extremely rare in Texas during the fall, thus casting much doubt on the theory. Recently George T. Austin (*Condor*, 73:455-462, 1971) suggested that many of the eastern species of warblers occurring in California were doing so as regular migrants (implying that they are following normal migration routes). This may be true for those species (i.e. Northern Waterthrush and Am. Redstart) breeding in the Pacific Northwest and wintering on the west coast of n. Mexico, but it seems unlikely for the Blackpoll Warbler (McCaskie, *California Birds*, 1:95-104, 1970) and others wintering farther south and eastward. I can see no logical reason for a Prairie or Black-throated Blue Warbler to move from its breeding range in n.e. North America to a wintering ground in the area of the Caribbean via the California coast. In my opinion following the Pacific coast would be a longer and more dangerous route for any eastern species than a direct line flight; even many of our western species (i.e. Nashville Warbler and Hermit Warbler) manage to avoid it, taking a more easterly route to their wintering grounds. The possibility of wandering out over the Pacific and perishing increases as the birds move south, for the coastline veers strongly eastward, and the birds would have to constantly adjust for this in order to survive the flight and reach their wintering grounds. I am inclined to believe most of the eastern birds found on the Pacific coast are lost, many doomed to drown in the ocean, and are disoriented individuals with faulty migratory instincts.

PROCELLARIIDS — Fulmars appeared off the coast in large numbers during November, being seen on all

offshore boat trips that month, and also being reported from numerous points along the shore from Morro Bay south to Imperial Beach. A single Least Petrel off San Diego Sept. 11 (GMcC et al.) was the only one found this fall.

PELICANS, BOOBIES, FRIGATEBIRDS — More Brown Pelicans and boobies pushed northward from the Gulf of California during August and September than previously recorded (McCaskie, *California Birds*, 1:117-142, 1970). Ten Brown Pelicans on the Salton Sea Aug. 7 (EAC, SC, JF) were the first arrivals, and a high count of 26 was obtained there Sept. 6 (GMcC, RWe); 5 on Oct. 12 (DWA) were the latest reported. Away from the Salton Sea a single bird was present at Finney L., Imperial Co. Aug. 11-14 (GMcC et al.), 1 was noted at L. Arrowhead in the San Bernardino Mts. Sept. 4 (LAS), and 1 landed on Hansen Dam in the San Fernando Valley Aug. 29 (JDu). As usual all the birds were immatures, apparently in their first year. Blue-footed Boobies appeared in incredible numbers, apparently pushing northward across the Imperial Valley to the Salton Sea (also up the Colorado R.); some continued northward, veering westward at the San Bernardino Mts. and continuing across the Los Angeles Basin to the Pacific; once on the coast they apparently dispersed both north and southward, giving us records from a number of coastal localities. Two at the Salton Sea Aug. 7 (LJ, JDu, EAC, JF) were the first noted there, then they rapidly increased, and a high count of 48 was recorded Sept. 6 (GMcC, RWe); numbers started to dwindle, and only two rather weak individuals could be found on Nov. 6 (DR), and none on later dates. Some birds were noted along the suspected route from the Salton Sea to the ocean between mid-August and early September, including 2 near Thousand Palms Aug. 15 (PS), 1 near North Palm Springs Aug. 21 (Norman Lavers, fide TRW), 1 near Whitewater Aug. 15 (fide GSS), 2 near Sunnymead Aug. 23 (Mike Stimmons, fide EAC), 1 in Mira Loma Aug. 23 (EAC), 3 on L. Elsinore Aug. 26—Sept. 3 (AF, GMcC); 1 on Puddingstone Reservoir Aug. 12 had been joined by 6 others Aug. 20 (Bob Copper, fide GSS) with 1 still present at the end of the period; 1 on Hansen Dam Aug. 18—Sept. 6 (JDu, IMacG et al.), and 1 over Tarzana Aug. 20 (JDu). Along the coast 7 were found at Port San Luis, San Luis Obispo Co. Aug. 22 (EAC, SC), 1 seen off Goleta, Santa Barbara Co. Sept. 1 (RWe), single birds reported from a number of localities along the Los Angeles Co. coast Aug. 21-25 (GSS, RB, HB, SW et al.), 1 near Santa Catalina Is. Aug. 21 (GMcC et al.), 1 off Imperial Beach, San Diego Co. Sept. 6 (RAR, BR), and 18 were found around Los Coronados Is. Aug. 20 (JJ) with 4 still present Sept. 25 (RCF). A single bird along the Palos Verdes Pen. Nov. 21 (RB), 1 off Long Beach Nov. 11 & 14 (RB), and a flock of 38 on the Los Coronados Is. Nov. 21 (GMcC et al.) may have been birds heading south from more northern points. The only Brown Boobies found were a single imm. at the north end of the Salton Sea Aug. 28-Sept. 6 (GMcC, RAR, BR, RLeV, RWe), and another at the south end of the sea Aug. 29-Sept. 18 (RS, JA, GSS, ST, JW). Along the coast an imm. Magnificent Frigatebird was photographed 40 miles south of San Diego Sept.

11 (Russ Duncan, fide GMcC), 1 was at La Jolla, San Diego Co. Sept. 15 (GMcC), and an exceptionally late bird was near Gaviota, Santa Barbara Co. Nov. 2 (WA); in addition 2 imms. were seen together at the Salton Sea Aug. 28 (GMcC) where they are casual visitors.

HERONS, IBIS — An imm. **Little Blue Heron**, a casual straggler to California, was seen near Oceanside, San Diego Co. Oct. 25 (AF) and Dec. 6 (SW), and another that appeared in Harbor Park of San Pedro, Los Angeles Co. Nov. 24 (SW, GSS et al.) was still present at the end of the period. Cattle Egrets appeared to be rather scarce away from the south end of the Salton Sea, where as many as 1300 were reported; 1 at Imperial Beach, San Diego Co. Aug. 25 (GMcC), 1 in Santa Barbara on Aug. 24 (KA), 1 or 2 around Goleta Aug. 7-17 (IMacG, FS), and another near San Luis Obispo during the period (FRT) being the only birds reported. The only Louisiana Herons, rare but regular fall and winter visitors to the south coast marshes, were 2 at Bolsa Chica, Orange Co. Nov. 25 (SW) and 1 at Imperial Beach after Nov. 20 (GMcC et al.). Least Bitterns were found in marshes along the coast and at the Salton Sea, as would be expected, but 1 at Mesquite Springs in Death Valley Sept. 4 (RWe, JDu) was at a most unlikely spot. Wood Ibis remained at the south end of the Salton Sea until Sept. 16, when 2 were still present (DVT); an additional report from the coast was of 5 at Newport, Orange Co. Sept. 8 (LJ, SW), and 3 there the following day (RAR, BR). White-faced Ibis were noted along the entire coast from San Luis Obispo, where 46 were counted Sept. 25 (FRT), southward; 97 at Furnace Creek Ranch in Death Valley on Sept. 11-12 (RS) was a large number for that locality.

WATERFOWL — A Whistling Swan, rare in this Region, was present in San Elija Lagoon, San Diego Co. after Nov. 19 (GMcC et al.) and another was present at Furnace Creek Ranch Nov. 26-27 (TH, BB, GSS). At the Salton Sea N.W.R. 50 White-fronted Geese were first noted Oct. 7, and had moved south, as usual, by mid-November (DVT). Ten Snow Geese on Oct. 10 had increased to 10,000 by the end of the period, and 2 Blue Geese were noted with them Nov. 1 (DVT). Up to 75 Ross' Geese were also present during November (DVT); in addition a straggler was found on the coast in Goleta Nov. 18 (RWe), and 2 more were around Newport Nov. 21 (JMS). Fulvous Tree Ducks remained later than is normal at the Salton Sea, with 40 seen Oct. 9 (DVT) and 2 still present Oct. 24 (DVT). A Eur. Widgeon, rare but regular on the Pacific coast, was found at Pismo Beach, San Luis Obispo Co. Nov. 13 (FRT), and another found in Santa Barbara Oct. 12 was dead 2 days later (RWe, TNM). An Oldsquaw, rare on the coast this far south, was at the mouth of the Santa Clara R., Ventura Co. Oct. 31 (JCB), and another was present in Goleta from Oct. 21 to the end of the period (KA, TNM et al.); one was also found inland at the south end of the Salton Sea Oct. 31 (GMcC, ST, LJ). A White-winged Scoter, very rare away from the coast, was discovered on Los Serranos L. in Chino, San Bernardino Co. Oct. 30 (EAC, SC). A Surf Scoter, also a rare straggler away from the coast, was near China L., Inyo Co. Oct. 22 (JDo). The only Com. Scoter reported along the

coast was one in Morro Bay Nov. 13 (RWe). Single Hooded Mergansers, quite rare in s. California, were noted at Playa del Rey, Los Angeles Co. Nov. 8 (HB), Malibu, Los Angeles Co. Nov. 25 (ERA) and at Goleta from Oct. 30 to the end of the period (RWe, JA, KA). A Red-breasted Merganser at Saratoga Springs in Death Valley Nov. 25 (TH) was rather unusual.

HAWKS — An ad. Goshawk seen at 8500ft. elevation in the San Jacinto Mts. (JF) provides us with another record for these southern mountains; another was reported at Furnace Creek Ranch Oct. 2 (RS). A few Rough-legged Hawks reached the Region in November with 1 near Bishop, Inyo Co. Nov. 26 (RWe, BB), 1 at Oasis, Mono Co. Nov. 13 (JF), 2 near San Simeon, San Luis Obispo Co. Nov. 14 (RWe), 1 near Blackwell's Corners, Kern Co. Oct. 27 (ST), 1 near Palmdale, Los Angeles Co. Nov. 7 (JDu, KG) & 27 (HB), and 1 near Warner's Hot Springs, San Diego Co. Nov. 26 (AF). Ferruginous Hawks were more numerous than usual with between 1 and 4 individuals reported during October and November from such localities as Oasis after Oct. 24 (LCB, BB, JF), Little Lake, Inyo Co. Nov. 20 (RLeV), Furnace Creek Ranch Nov. 21 (RLeV), Blackwell's Corners Oct. 27 (ST), the Carrizo Plains, San Luis Obispo Co. Nov. 26 (IMacG), San Simeon Nov. 14 (RWe), Santa Maria, Santa Barbara Co. Nov. 13 (RWe) & 26 (IMacG), Buelton, Santa Barbara Co. Nov. 13 (RWe) and 23 (WA), Palmdale after Oct. 30 (JDu, KG, HB), L. Mathews, Riverside Co. Nov. 12 (JF), Otay, San Diego Co. Oct. 9 (GMcC), Imperial Beach after Oct. 29 (ST, JW et al.), and at the south end of the Salton Sea Oct. 16 (DVT). One or two Bald Eagles were present on L. Cachuma, Santa Barbara Co. after Oct. 31 (RWe, TNM et al.), 1 flew over Santa Barbara Nov. 9 (KA), 1 along the Palos Verdes Pen. Los Angeles Co. Oct. 20 (RB), 1 at Newport after Nov. 6 with 2 present Dec. 1 (GSS et al.), and 1 at the south end of the Salton Sea Nov. 24 (DVT). A Peregrine Falcon was at Morro Bay Oct. 10 (Jerry Maisel, fide GSS) and 2 were there Nov. 13 (RWe) & 26 (NSanM), 1 was near Ventura Oct. 17 (RWe), 1 was near Legg L., Los Angeles Co. Nov. 2 (JT), 1 was near San Pedro, Nov. 1-12 (SW, GSS), 1 was near Oceanside Sept. 20 (AF), and 1 was at the south end of the Salton Sea Aug. 18 (LJ). A few Pigeon Hawks were noted in October and November, as usual, but total numbers are dropping each year.

CRANES, RAILS — A Sandhill Crane at L. Cachuma Oct. 31 (RWe) was somewhat out of its normal range. A **Yellow Rail** was flushed near Newport Dec. 1 (GSS), and a bird possibly of this species was seen at the same spot Oct. 5 (SW); there are only three previous records for the Region. Black Rails were reported on a number of occasions around Newport, and it seems certain that a few still persist in the extensive marshes here.

SHOREBIRDS — An Am. Oystercatcher was found on Anacapa Is. Oct. 2 (LJ, BB) and Nov. 20 (JDu, IMacG), and 3 were seen together on Los Coronados Is. Nov. 21 (GMcC et al.); they are extremely rare this far north. A Black Oystercatcher at Pt. Mugu, Ventura Co. Nov. 1 (Ed Navojosky, fide GSS), and another on Pt. Fermin, Los Angeles Co. Sept. 8 (TH)

were at coastal localities outside their normal range. An average number of Am. Golden Plovers was found along the coast, with single birds at Goleta Aug. 17 (IMacG) and Sept. 8 (RWe), and 4 there Oct. 2-3 (RWe); 1 at Santa Barbara Sept. 6 (BS); 1 at the mouth of the Santa Clara R. Sept. 1 (TNM); 1 at Playa del Rey Oct. 22 (HB); 2 at Seal Beach, Orange Co. Sept. 20 (JMS); 1 at Bolsa Chica Nov. 14-30 (TH, RWi, MW); between 1 and 4 at Newport Sept. 6-9 (LJ, JDu, RAR); 1 in San Diego from Aug. 31 to the end of the period (GMcC et al.); 2 in Coronado Sept. 6 (ST); 1 near Olay Oct. 30 (GMcC); 1 in Imperial Beach Oct. 2 (JF), and 2 there Oct. 9 (JF). It would be of greater interest if observers would indicate which of the two rather distinct races, *P. d. dominica* or *P. d. fulva*, are involved when reporting; both occur, but the status of each is not clear. A Black Turnstone, accidental away from the coast, was found at the north end of the Salton Sea Sept. 15 (GSS, JA). A few Solitary Sandpipers were found in the Region, as usual, including 1 at Crowley L., Mono Co. Aug. 25-26 (AS), 1 at Scooty's Castle Sept. 11 (RS, TM), 2 at Saratoga Springs Sept. 5 (GMcC, RWe et al.), 2 near Big Pine, Inyo Co. Sept. 6 (TH), 1 on L. Henshaw, San Diego Co. Aug. 22 (GMcC), 1-2 in the Sepulveda Recreational Area, Los Angeles Co. Aug. 20-Sept. 3 (JDu), a very late bird at Malibu Oct. 2 and 8 (ERA, LJ), and 3 or 4 around Imperial Beach Sept. 7-26 (RAR, ST, JW et al.). Knots are scarce inland during the fall but 1 was at Hansen Dam Sept. 25-28 (JDu), 2 were at the north end of the Salton Sea Sept. 6 (GMcC, RWe), 13 on Sept. 7-8 (ST), 8 on Sept. 15 (GSS, JA), and another Oct. 25 (JF). A Rock Sandpiper was found at San Simeon Nov. 14 (RWe), an area where the species is proving to be a regular winter visitor. Pectoral Sandpipers were found in small numbers (up to 18 together) along the entire coast between Aug. 29 and Nov. 4; in addition 1 was found at Furnace Creek Ranch Oct. 2 (RS, TM), another at Tacopa, Inyo Co. Sept. 5 (RWe, JDu), 1 was seen at the north end of the Salton Sea Sept. 1 (EAC, SC), 1-3 were at Hansen Dam Aug. 26-Sept. 6 (JDu, HB), and 1 was at the Sepulveda Recreational Area Aug. 24-28 (JDu). As usual a number of Baird's Sandpipers were found during August and September with the largest numbers reported on Crowley L.—15 on Aug. 25 (AS); 6 at the mouth of the Santa Clara R. on Oct. 1 (HHA) were the latest. The only Stilt Sandpipers reported from the Salton Sea were 3 on Aug. 25 (JA) and 5 on Sept. 5 (ST); along the coast where it is much scarcer up to 4 were present at Goleta Aug. 27-Sept. 18 (KA, RWe, TNM), another bird there on Sept. 24 (BB, GSS), and one was found at Newport Sept. 8 (SW). A Buff-breasted Sandpiper, the fifth record for California, was present on the Palos Verdes Pen. Sept. 5-17 (SW, GSS et al.). Up to 10 Sanderlings were found together at the Salton Sea during the period; it is becoming clear that this species is regular at this inland locality. Inland records of Red Phalaropes include a single bird at the south end of the Salton Sea Aug. 31 (HK), 1 at the north end of the sea Sept. 5 (RLeV, RAR, BR) 2 there Sept. 8 (ST), and 1 at Deep Springs, Inyo Co. Oct. 16 (LJ, BB MSanM).

JAEGERS, GULLS, TERNS, SKIMMERS — Single Parasitic Jaegers were seen at the Salton Sea Aug.

30 (RS, TM), Sept. 5-6 (RAR, BR, GMcC, RWe), Sept. 15 (GSS, JA), and Oct. 7 (GMcC, CSL), and two Sept. 12 (RAW); this species is being found every fall at this inland locality. A lone ad. Long-tailed Jaeger was well seen off San Diego Sept. 11 (GMcC et al.); this is the rarest jaeger close to the California coast. A Skua was reported off Santa Barbara in the Santa Barbara Channel Sept. 11 (RWe, BS); there are very few documented records of this species in southern California waters. A third year Glaucous-winged Gull at the south end of the Salton Sea after Oct. 31 (GMcC et al.) was the only one reported away from the coast. Western Gulls, yellow-legged birds from the Gulf of California, remained at the Salton Sea until mid-September, with 25 counted on Sept. 6 (GMcC, RWe). Laughing Gulls remained around the south end of the Salton Sea until quite late, with 8 counted on Oct. 25 (DVT). Reports of Franklin's Gulls were more numerous and widespread than normally, with 1 at Furnace Creek Ranch Oct. 24 (GMcC, JW, LCB), 1 at Malibu, Sept. 21-23 (GSS, JDu), another there Nov. 1 (Ed Navojosky, fide GSS), 1 around San Pedro Nov. 8-19 (SW, GSS), 1 at Huntington Beach, Orange Co. Nov. 16 (RWi, MW), 1 at San Elija Lagoon Nov. 20 (GMcC, LJ), 1 in San Diego Oct. 9 (JDu, KG), 1 near Imperial Beach Oct. 6 (GMcC, CSL), up to 7 at the north end the Salton Sea Aug. 15-Sept. 15 (JA, GSS, LJ et al.), 1 at the south end of the Salton Sea Sept. 6 (GMcC, RWe), 12 together there Oct. 23 (JDu, KG) and 2 there Oct. 25 (JF). An imm. Sabine's Gull, only casually found inland in California, was on L. Elsinore, Riverside Co. Aug. 26 (AF), and another was seen near China L. Sept. 27 (JDo). A count of 15 Gull-billed Terns at the south end of the Salton Sea Sept. 6 was normal, but one there on Oct. 7 (GMcC, CSL) was quite late. Arctic Terns regularly migrate south off the California coast in fall, being encountered in good numbers on all boat trips this year; however, documented records from shore are lacking; a bird of this species was present at Malibu Sept. 21-23 (JDu et al.), but the fact that it was oiled probably explained its presence. The 2 ad. Black Skimmers were still present at the north end of the Salton Sea Aug. 25 (JA), but only one could be found Aug. 28 (GMcC) and none on later dates; an adult was seen on the coast at Newport Sept. 6 (LJ, BB, JA, GSS et al.), and one, possibly the same individual, was near Imperial Beach Sept. 18-19 (GMcC, GSS, BB); prior to this year there was but one record of this species from the coast of California.

ALCIDS — A Xantus' Murrelet, apparently of the nominate form *hypoleuca*, was seen near San Clemente Is. Sept. 4 (RLeV et al.); there are very few documented records of this race from California waters. Two Craveri's Murrelets were well seen near San Clemente I. Sept. 4 (RLeV et al.) and another was studied off San Diego Sept. 11 (GMcC et al.); this species is clearly regular off southern California in the late summer. A Tufted Puffin, rarely reported off southern California, was found off Santa Barbara Sept. 11 (RWe, WA, TNM).

DOVES, OWLS, WOODPECKERS — A Band-tailed Pigeon at Corn Springs near Desert Center, Riverside Co. Oct. 25 (TH), 1 near Olay, San Diego Co. Oct. 14 (GMcC) and 5 on the Palos Verdes Pen. Nov. 15

(SW) were away from their normal range and habitat. The only White-winged Doves reported on the coast were 2-3 around Goleta after Oct. 20 (RWe, KA, TNM), 1 in the Sepulveda Recreational Area Sept. 16 (JDu), and 1 near Imperial Beach Sept. 8 (GMcC). Two Long-eared Owls were seen at Wild Rose in the Panamint Mts., Inyo Co. Oct. 23 (LCB), 1 was studied at Scotty's Castle Oct. 30 (RS), 1 was flushed in Morongo Valley, San Bernardino Co. Oct. 15 (JDu, KG), and another was discovered in Playa del Rey Oct. 29 (HB). A Saw-whet Owl photographed at Mesquite Springs in Death Valley Nov. 20 (RLeV, DDeS) was certainly out of normal habitat. As usual a few "Yellow-shafted Flickers" were found, most being in the eastern portion of the Region, but at least four on the coast; the earliest was 1 at Kelso, San Bernardino Co. Oct. 2 (EAC, SC). An Acorn Woodpecker at Morongo Valley Sept. 18 (JF) was a little east of its normal range, and another near Afton, San Bernardino Co. Sept. 24 (JA) was a considerable distance out on the desert. A flight of Lewis' Woodpeckers produced a rash of records throughout the Region; fair numbers were found in San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara Cos., and in the coastal mountains south to San Diego Co., along the coast 1 was at Goleta Nov. 3-7 (KA, RWe), 1 was on the Palos Verdes Pen. Nov. 21 (RB), 1 was in Beverly Glen of Los Angeles Oct. 2 (JT), and 2 were near Oceanside Oct. 6 (AF) with 1 still present Oct. 14 (SW); in the eastern portion of the Region they were common to Death Valley, 3 were found on Clark Mt., San Bernardino Co. Oct. 3 (EAC, SC), 2 were in Kelso Oct. 2 (EAC, SC), 1 or 2 were noted in Morongo Valley between Sept. 7 and Oct. 11 (ST, HHA, WR), and 2 were at the Brock Experimental Ranch near Holtville, Imperial Co. Sept. 19 (ST, JW). An imm. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, believed to be of the eastern form *varius* (Devillers, *California Birds*, 1:47-76, 1970), was carefully studied at Scotty's Castle Oct. 24 (GMcC, JW, JDu, KG); only three documented records of this form are known from California.

FLYCATCHERS — As usual a few E. Kingbirds were found including 1 at Deep Springs Sept. 6 (TH, DDeS), 1 at Scotty's Castle Sept. 11 (RS, TM), 1 in Morongo Valley Sept. 18 (JF), and 1 at Goleta Oct. 20 (RWe), 1 in Santa Barbara Sept. 22-28 (KA) and 1 near Imperial Beach Sept. 2-3 (GMcC, ST) on the coast. In contrast to last fall, Tropical Kingbirds were quite numerous along the coast with 1 at Morro Bay Nov. 13 (RWe), a minimum of 6 found around Goleta between Sept. 26 and the end of the period (RWe, TNM et al.), single birds at Santa Barbara Oct. 26-Nov. 20 (KA, RWe), at the mouth of the Santa Clara R. Sept. 30 (HHA), at Malibu Oct. 17-23 (ERA, HB, LJ, GSS), near Otay Oct. 2-10 (GMcC, LJ), and at least 7 around Imperial Beach Sept. 26-Nov. 6 (GMcC, ST, JW et al.). A Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, a casual straggler to California, was in Morongo Valley Oct. 11-13 (WR, EAC, SC, GSS), and another was near Imperial Beach Nov. 3-6 (GMcC, ST, JW et al.). A Vermilion Flycatcher in Goleta Nov. 25 (RWe) was a little farther north than normal; a few occur in coastal San Diego Co. each fall and this year was no exception.

JAYS, MAGPIES, CREEPERS, WRENS — Steller's Jays were numerous in the foothill canyons of the Los Angeles Basin (JDu), 1 was at Forest Lawn in Los Angeles Oct. 31 (JDu), 1 was in Riverside Nov. 8 (JF), and 2 were at Morongo Valley Nov. 6 (EAC, SC) and 25 (RS) indicating a down-mountain movement this fall. A Black-billed Magpie in Death Valley Nov. 13 (GMcC, JDu, KG, ST) was south of its normal range. A Brown Creeper at Scotty's Castle Oct. 16 (RWe, LJ, BB) represents one of the few records for the low portion of Death Valley. Two Winter Wrens were found in Santa Barbara during the fall (TNM) where they are probably regular in limited numbers; 1 in Griffith Park in Los Angeles Nov. 17 (JR) and another at Scotty's Castle Nov. 20 (RLeV, DDeS) were a little more unusual.

THRASHERS, THRUSHES, KINGLETS, SHRIKES — A **Catbird**, only the fourth record for the Region, was well described from Santa Barbara Dec. 1-3 (TNM). A Brown Thrasher, a rare wanderer to California, was seen near Westguard Pass in the White Mts., Inyo Co. Sept. 4 (RWe), 1 was found at Deep Springs Oct. 16 (LJ, BB, MSanM, RWe), 1 was discovered at Corn Springs near Desert Center Oct. 24 (TH), and another was at Goleta Oct. 13 (KA). A Crissal Thrasher near Clark Mt. Oct. 3 (EAC, SC) and another near Tecopa Oct. 17 (JT) were at the northern limit of their range in California. The only Varied Thrushes reported this fall were 1 at Furnace Creek Ranch Oct. 2-3 (RS), 1 at Mesquite Springs on Oct. 30 (RS), 2 at L. Cachuma Oct. 31 (RWe), 1 near Newhall, Los Angeles Co. Oct. 31 (HB), 1 in Riverside Nov. 25 (JF) and 1 in Kelso Oct. 3 (EAC, SC); it was certainly not a flight year for this species. A Townsend's Solitaire on the Palos Verdes Pen. Nov. 30 (SW), 1 near Imperial Beach Oct. 2 (JW, ST) and 1 at Finney L. Oct. 31 (ST, GMcC) were the only ones reported in the lowlands. A Golden-crowned Kinglet at the Brock Ranch near Holtville Nov. 26 (RS) and one on the Palos Verdes Pen. Oct. 9-10 (SW) were the only ones found away from the mountains. An imm. N. Shrike near Crawley L. Nov. 26 (Hal Baxter, fide GSS) was the only one reaching the Region.

VIREOS, WARBLERS — A Hutton's Vireo at Deep Springs Sept. 26 (LJ) was outside its normal range. A Gray Vireo at Furnace Creek Ranch Oct. 21 (GSS) was exceptionally late. A Black-and-white Warbler was at the Piedras Blancas Lighthouse, San Luis Obispo Co. Nov. 14 (RWe), and single birds were seen at Morro Bay Sept. 24 (MSanM), on Pt. Fermin Sept. 8 (TH), in San Pedro Oct. 17 (LJ, RWe), aboard a boat 70 miles west of San Diego Oct. 14 (JJ), near Imperial Beach Sept. 19 (GMcC) and Sept. 28-30 (GMcC, ST, GSS), at Deep Springs Sept. 6 (DDeS) and Oct. 16 (LJ, RWe, BB, MSanM); this species regularly straggles west to California. A **Prothonotary Warbler** was well seen at Furnace Creek Ranch Sept. 12 (RS, TM), only the eighth record for the Region. A **Worm-eating Warbler**, the second record for s. California, was found near Otay Sept. 12 (LJ, GMcC, BB, GSS). Single Tennessee Warblers were found at Goleta Sept. 12, Oct. 2, 3, Nov. 3 & 30 (RWe, KA), in Santa Barbara Nov. 23 (KA), in Montecito, Santa

Barbara Co. Dec. 2 (RWe), at Hansen Dam Sept. 3 (Ron Beck, fide JDu) and Oct. 15-16 (HB, JDu), near Otay Sept. 12 (GMcC, LJ, BB), Sept. 28 (ST), and Oct. 9 (GMcC, LJ), near Imperial Beach Sept. 19 (GMcC, GSS, LJ, et al.), in Morongo Valley Sept. 7 (ST), at Furnace Creek Ranch Nov. 21-27 (RLeV, DDeS, GSS, BB) and at Thousand Palms Oasis Nov. 25 (RS, TM); this species regularly straggles west to California in the fall. Records of Virginia's Warblers from the coastal portion of the Region include 1 in Malibu Sept. 30 (GSS), 1 in w. Los Angeles daily Oct. 17-Dec. 6 (Gilbert King, fide GSS), 4 near Otay Sept. 12-25 (JDu, JA, GSS et al.), and 4 around Imperial Beach Sept. 1-25 (GMcC, ST, JW et al.); in addition 1 was seen at Scotty's Castle Sept. 4 (GMcC, GSS, RWe, JDu). A Lucy's Warbler, very rare along the coast, was near Otay Sept. 22 (JA) and another was near Imperial Beach Oct. 17 (GMcC, ST, JW). A Magnolia Warbler was found at Goleta Oct. 24 (RWe), 1 was seen in Tuna Canyon near Malibu Sept. 20 (ERA), and single birds were present near Imperial Beach Sept. 19 (GMcC, LJ, JDu, GSS), Oct. 2-3 (GMcC et al.) and Oct. 17 (GMcC); a larger number than usual for this straggler to California. A **Cape May Warbler** near Otay Sept. 26 (GMcC, JW et al.) and another near Imperial Beach on the same day (GMcC, JW et al.) represent the third and fourth records for the Region. As usual a few Black-throated Blue Warblers straggled into the Region with a ♀ at Goleta Sept. 26 (RWe, JA), 1 near Santa Barbara Nov. 3 (VP), and another at Valley Center, San Diego Co. Nov. 11 (AF), a ♂ on Pt. Loma, San Diego Co. Oct. 28-29 (GMcC et al.), a ♂ at Scotty's Castle Oct. 16 (LJ, BB, RWe, MSanM), another at Wild Rose in the Panamint Mts. Oct. 23 (LCB), and a ♀ at Furnace Creek Ranch Oct. 12 (WR); it is interesting to note that 4 of the 7 records this fall are away from the coast and 3 of those are on the e. border of the State. A Black-throated Green Warbler, a casual straggler to California, was in San Pedro Oct. 11-17 (TH, LJ, GSS, SW et al.) and another was in Boneta, San Diego Co. Nov. 7-9 (GMcC, ST et al.). A Blackburnian Warbler, a species now being found each fall, was seen in Morongo Valley Oct. 15 (JDu, KG), 2 were present near Otay Oct. 2-3 (LJ, GMcC et al.) with one still present Oct. 6 (GMcC, CSL), and 1 was near Imperial Beach Nov. 7 (GMcC, ST). A Chestnut-sided Warbler, a relatively scarce straggler to California, was on Pt. Fermin Oct. 17-21 (LJ, RWe, SW), and another was near Imperial Beach Oct. 2-3 (GMcC, JW, ST et al.). A **Bay-breasted Warbler**, a casual wanderer to California, was well seen at Morro Bay Nov. 13 (RWe). As usual Blackpoll Warblers straggled to the coast in small numbers with 1 at Goleta Oct. 25 (RWe), 1 in Santa Barbara Sept. 23 (KA), 1 at Hansen Dam Oct. 6 (Ron Beck, fide JDu), 1 on Pt. Fermin Sept. 24 (GSS), at least 8 around Imperial Beach Sept. 26-Oct. 27 (GMcC, ST, JW et al.) and single birds near Otay Sept. 26, Oct. 3 and Oct. 14 (GMcC, ST, JW et al.); a lone bird at Deep Springs Oct. 16 (LJ, BB, MSanM) and another near Scotty's Castle Oct. 2 (RS) provide us with two of the very few interior records in California. A **Pine Warbler** was carefully studied near Imperial Beach Sept. 18 (GMcC,

LJ, HB), an accidental straggler to California. The only Prairie Warbler found was a single bird at Goleta Nov. 8 (GSS, RWe). A few Palm Warblers find their way to the California coast each fall and this year was no exception, with 1 at Morro Bay Nov. 13 (RWe), 1 at Los Osos, San Luis Obispo Co. Nov. 13 (EAC, SC), single birds in Goleta Oct. 10 (JP), Oct. 20 (KA), Oct. 30 (KA) and Nov. 30 (KA), 2 in Santa Barbara Nov. 7-20 (RWe), 1 in Ventura Oct. 10 (JCB), 1 at Malibu Oct. 2 (LJ) and 2 there Oct. 22 (JDu), 1 near Otay Oct. 5 (GMcC), and 1 near Imperial Beach Sept. 26 (ST, JW). A single Ovenbird studied at 29 Palms, San Bernardino Co. Oct. 17 (RF) was the only one reported this fall. A few N. Waterthrushes regularly migrate through California, with most apparently staying to the east of the Sierras; this fall 1 was seen at Oasis Sept. 11 (RS, TM), 1 was at Deep Springs Sept. 4 (GMcC, GSS, JDu, RWe) and another was there Sept. 11 (RS, TM), 1 was at Furnace Creek Ranch Oct. 3 (RS) and 1 was at the south end of the Salton Sea Oct. 7 (GMcC, CSL); along the coast single birds were found in Goleta Sept. 8 (KA) and Oct. 9 (KA), 1 crashed into a San Fernando Valley window Sept. 28 (A. Langton, fide JDu), and 1-3 were found near Imperial Beach Sept. 18-22 (GMcC, GSS, LJ, JA et al.). The ♀ **Hooded Warbler**, carefully identified near Newhall Oct. 24 (HB), was an accidental straggler to California. We had more than our share of **Canada Warblers** this fall with 1 on Pt. Fermin Oct. 17-21 (LJ, RWe, SW et al.), 1 near Imperial Beach Sept. 28-29 (GMcC, GSS, ST) and another there Oct. 30 (GMcC). As usual we had a number of Am. Redstarts reported; in the eastern portion of the Region, an area through which they appear to migrate regularly, 4 were at Deep Springs Aug. 31 (RS), there Sept. 11 (RS, TM), and singles were Oct. 2 (RS) and another Oct. 16 (LJ et al.), at Scotty's Castle Sept. 12 (RS, TM), 1 at nearby Mesquite Springs Oct. 24-25 (LCB), at Furnace Creek Ranch Sept. 12 (RS, TM) and Oct. 24 (LCB), in Kelso Oct. 2-3 (EAC, SC), 3 were around Morongo Valley Sept. 7 (ST), 4 were at the south end of the Salton Sea Oct. 7 (GMcC, CSL), 3 there Nov. 25 (RS, TM), and another at nearby Westmorland Oct. 31 (GMcC, LJ); along the coast and elsewhere single birds were found around Santa Barbara Sept. 8 (WA), Oct. 1 (RWe) and Dec. 3 (RWe), 1 was photographed 9 miles off Santa Barbara when it came aboard a yacht Sept. 18 (Victor Myer, fide GMcC), 1 was on the Palos Verdes Pen. Oct. 17-19 (SW), single birds were on Point Loma Sept. 17 (GMcC) and Oct. 10 (GMcC), near Imperial Beach Sept. 19 (GMcC), Oct. 2 (ST, JW) and Oct. 3-8 (GSS et al.), and in Riverside Oct. 3-10 (JF).

BLACKBIRDS, ORIOLES, TANGERS — This fall Bobolinks were found inland as well as along the coast with 1 at Deep Springs Sept. 10 (RS, TM), 1 at Scotty's Castle Oct. 16 (LJ, MSanM, BB, RWe), 1 at Furnace Creek Ranch Sept. 11-12 (RS, TM) and another there Oct. 2-3 (RS), 4 in Morongo Valley Sept. 4 (RAR, BR) and another there Sept. 18 (JF); along the coast 3 were at Goleta Oct. 3 (KA) with 1 still present Oct. 9 (RWe), 2 at Malibu Oct. 10 (LJ), 2 at Harbor L. in San Pedro Sept. 16 (SW), 1 near Otay Oct. 9 (JDu), and up to 20 around Imperial

Beach Sept. 3-Oct. 17 (GMcC, ST, JW et al.). An Orchard Oriole was found near Westguard Pass in the White Mts. Sept. 4 (GMcC, RWe, JDu, GSS), 1 was at Mesquite Springs Oct. 24-25 (LCB), 1 was near Westmorland Oct. 31 and Dec. 4 (GMcC, ST et al.), and 1 was near Imperial Beach Sept. 25-27 (JDu, ST, GMcC) with two present Sept. 26 (JW); this species is a rare but regular wanderer to California. We had our usual number of Baltimore Orioles reported with 1 in San Luis Obispo from Nov. 6 to the end of the period (FRT), 1 in Goleta Oct. 13 (KA), 1 in Montecito after Nov. 23 (TNM et al.), 1 on Point Loma Oct. 30 (GMcC), 1 in Imperial Beach Sept. 30 (GMcC) and others near there on Sept. 25 (JDu) & 26 (ST, JW). A Rusty Blackbird, possibly a regular migrant in e. California, was at Furnace Creek Ranch Nov. 21 (RLeV, DDeS). The only Summer Tanagers found on the coast were 2 near Olay Oct. 3 (LJ, GMcC); 1 at Deep Springs Oct. 16 (LJ et al.) was north of its normal range.

FINCHES — An imm. ♂ Rose-breasted Grosbeak at Furnace Creek Ranch Oct. 31 (RS), 1 at Kelso Oct. 2 (EAC, SC) and another in Goleta Oct. 25 (RWe) were the only ones found this fall. As usual a few Indigo Buntings reached the Region with 1 at Deep Springs Aug. 31 (RS), 1 in Goleta Aug. 17 (FS), 1 on the Palos Verdes Pen. Sept. 16 (SW), single birds in San Pedro Aug. 28 (SW) and Sept. 1 (SW), and single birds near Imperial Beach on Sept. 23 (GMcC) and Oct. 8 (GMcC). An imm.-plumaged Painted Bunting was found at Deep Springs Aug. 31 (RS), one of the very few records for California. More Dickcissels were found than normally with 1 in Goleta Oct. 3 (RWe), up to 3 around Imperial Beach Sept. 18-23 (GMcC, JA et al.) and another there Oct. 8 (GMcC).

SPARROWS — There were interesting reports of Lark Buntings, with 2 at Deep Springs Sept. 4 (GMcC, GSS, JDu, RWe) and 1 still present Sept. 6 (DDeS), 3 at Furnace Creek Ranch Sept. 12 (RS, TM), 1 near Imperial Beach Sept. 6 (ST) and another there Sept. 18-19 (LJ, GMcC et al.). Grasshopper Sparrows are rarely found in the fall but 1 was at Furnace Creek Ranch Oct. 12 (WR) and 1 in the San Fernando Valley Oct. 31 and Nov. 8 (JDu, GSS, IMacG et al.). Single Black-throated Sparrows were found along the coast, where they are rare, near La Cumbre Peak, Santa Barbara Co. Nov. 16 (KA), at Hansen Dam Sept. 28 (JDu), and near Imperial Beach Oct. 6 (GMcC, CSL). A normal number of Slate-colored Juncos were found with flocks of Oregon Juncos. A Gray-headed Junco was found on La Cumbre Peak Nov. 16 (KA) and single birds were on Point Loma Oct. 10 (GMcC) and Nov. 5-7 (GSS et al.). Again Tree Sparrows were found in the Death Valley area with 1 at Deep Springs Oct. 16 (RWe), 2 at Furnace Creek Ranch Oct. 24 (GMcC, JW et al.) and Nov. 13 (GMcC, ST, KG et al.) and 1 there Oct. 31 (RS) and Nov. 27 (GSS, BB, RWe), and 1 at Saratoga Springs Nov. 23 (RLeV, DDeS). A number of Clay-colored Sparrows were reported from six localities with 1 at Furnace Creek Ranch Oct. 23 (LCB), 1 in Morongo Valley Oct. 6 (GSS), 1 at Goleta Nov. 7-8 (GSS, RWe) and another there Nov. 11-14 (JA), 1 in San Pedro Nov. 18-23 (SW), 1 on Point Loma Sept. 15 (GMcC), and single birds near

Imperial Beach Sept. 18 (GMcC et al.), Sept. 26 (ST, JW) and Oct. 2-3 (GMcC et al.). All the Harris' Sparrows reported were in Death Valley with 2 at Scotty's Castle Nov. 20 (RLeV, DDeS), 1 at Emigrant Ranger Station Nov. 20 (RLeV, DDeS), 1 at Stovepipe Wells Nov. 20 (RLeV, DDeS), and 2 or 3 at Furnace Creek Ranch after Oct. 16 (GMcC, BB, GSS, RWe et al.). The only White-throated Sparrows were 1 at Deep Springs Oct. 16 (RWe, LJ, MSanM), 1 at Scotty's Castle Oct. 24-25 (JW, LCB et al.), 1 at Furnace Creek Ranch Oct. 16 (RWe, ST et al.), and 1 in San Pedro after Nov. 18 (SW). Fox Sparrows were numerous along the coast and were also present in small numbers on the southwestern desert. A Swamp Sparrow at Deep Springs Oct. 16 (LJ, RWe, BB, MSanM) and another at Malibu Nov. 28 (RWe) were the only ones found.

LONGSPURS, SNOW BUNTINGS — A single McCown's Longspur was seen near Olay Nov. 6 (GMcC, BB et al.); this is the scarcest of the longspurs occurring in California. A few Lapland Longspurs were discovered, as expected, with 1 at Furnace Creek Ranch Nov. 13 (KG, GMcC et al.), up to 12 around Lancaster in the Antelope Valley Oct. 30-Nov. 7 (JDu, KG, GSS et al.), 1 near Perris, Riverside Co. Nov. 20 (EAC, SC), 1 near Goleta Oct. 26 (RWe, JA) and another there Oct. 31 (RWe), and 1 near Olay Nov. 14 (GMcC, ST). Chestnut-collared Longspurs were more numerous and widespread than is normal with 20 at Deep Springs Oct. 17 (EAC, SC) and 6 there Oct. 24-25 (JW, GMcC, LCB), 2 at Furnace Creek Ranch Oct. 24 (GMcC, JDu, KG), 1 near China L. Nov. 13 (GMcC, ST, LJ), 40-50 around Lancaster Oct. 30-Nov. 7 (JDu, KG, GSS et al.), 2 at Big Bear L. in the San Bernardino Mts. Oct. 23 (EAC, SC), 8 in the San Fernando Valley Oct. 31 (Ron Beck, fide JDu), 2 near Woodland Hills, Los Angeles Co. Nov. 1 (JDu, LJ), 1 at Northridge, Los Angeles Co. Nov. 7 (IMacG), 2 near Chatsworth Nov. 15 (IMacG), 1-3 near Goleta Oct. 26-31 (RWe, JA, BB), and 1 in Santa Barbara Oct. 25 (RWe). A Snow Bunting was well seen at Saratoga Springs in Death Valley Nov. 15 (RAH), providing the second record for the Region.

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