

## MIDDLE PACIFIC COAST REGION / Dave DeSante and Van Remsen

Both readers and contributors should note that the boundaries of our Region have been extended to include all of northern California north of the line



extending along the southern limits of Monterey, Kings, Tulare and Inyo Cos. and west of a line formed by Rt. 395 north to Bishop and Rt. 6 north from there to the Nevada line. The map of our Region has also been revised to indicate some of the current and more often mentioned birding areas.

The extremely dry hot weather that has characterized the central and southern parts of our Region since February 1972 came to an abrupt end this fall. Much of September was characterized by overcast skies, comparatively unusual southerly winds along the coast and several days of light rain. This pattern continued through October with localized fairly heavy rain Oct. 1-2 and Oct. 9-16 and through November with steady heavy rain Nov. 4-17. This exceptionally rainy fall weather broke many records such as a 47-year old record in Monterey (AB) and produced more rain in Stockton by Nov. 17 than occurred there during the entire previous year (DMS). By mid-November a good snowpack had already developed in the Sierra (BK). The weather in the northern part of the Region, however, was nearly the opposite of that in the central and southern parts: both Prairie Creek (MK) and the Klamath Basin (EJO) reported mild, dry weather with rainfall well below average.

Most observers commenting on the fall migration considered the season to be excellent in both numbers and variety of birds. Many people made frequent use of such superlatives as "best ever in this area", "best in recorded history", "I've never seen so many . . .", etc. Basically, three major events characterized the fall period. The first was the exceptional number of landbird migrants found along the coast. The second was Laurence C. Binford's unparalleled discovery on Sept. 21 of Pt. Diablo, a high open hill just n.w. of the Golden Gate Bridge, Marin Co., as a concentration point for observing diurnal migrants, particularly raptors. The third was a massive invasion into the lowlands and coast of our Region by nearly all of our characteristic montane and northern invasion species. These three phenomena are treated in detail in the following paragraphs.

**LANDBIRD MIGRATION ALONG THE COAST**—The landbird migration along our coast was particularly well documented this fall, primarily by Stallcup's nearly daily coverage of Pt. Pinos and by the veritable army of enthusiastic birders in the previously somewhat neglected Humboldt Bay area. Unfortunately, Pt. Reyes Bird Observatory (P.R.B.O.) did not submit complete data from S. Farallon; what data were received, however, indicate that it was an exceptional fall there as well. Substantial migration of landbirds began along the coast about Aug. 18 and continued, with new birds arriving nearly every day, virtually throughout September and October.

———— S.A. ————

The basic requirement for a good grounding of landbirds along our coast in fall appears to be the disintegration

of the normal high pressure system that exists over the ocean west of our Region and produces our characteristic NW offshore wind. This disintegration is usually associated with the appearance of a high pressure system east of California often over the Great Basin. Depending on the strength and location of this continental high, the resulting winds along our coast can vary from NE through E and S to SW but typically are light. This situation often produces the low overcast, by now famous on S. Farallon and the coast as a harbinger of eastern vagrants and large numbers of landbirds. We had more than our share of such weather this fall and, as would be expected, excellent number of landbirds occurred on the coast including many eastern vagrants.

Despite the continual favorable weather for landbirds on our coast, several waves were quite pronounced. The first occurred Aug. 18-24 and was characterized by good numbers of montane species such as Wilson's and Hermit Warblers. Particularly noteworthy was the passage of 1000+ warblers (80% Wilson's) through Angwin, Napa Co., during this period (WT). The second wave occurred Aug. 29-Sept. 3 and included the largest flight of W. Flycatchers ever recorded at Palomarin Ranch, Bolinas, (P.R.B.O.) or on outer Pt. Reyes (LCB, VR, RS) along with fair numbers of most western warblers. A surprising number of very early eastern vagrants were captured on S. Farallon during this time (TM). The third major wave occurred Sept. 15-17 with a "spillage of birds" until Sept. 21 and, besides producing a spectacular number of vagrants, saw another major flight of W. Flycatchers (P.R.B.O., J&SL *et al.*), as well as a major movement of Warbling Vireos and Yellow and Townsend's Warblers. The fourth major wave, Sept. 30-Oct. 4, occurred in conjunction with the season's first storm and produced the largest landfall of passerine migrants on S. Farallon to be recorded in five years of continual censusing of the island. An estimated 7400-9600 landbirds, mostly Zonotrichia, were present on the island on the morning of Oct. 2 (P.R.B.O.)! The fifth major wave occurred Oct. 20-25 and produced surprisingly good numbers of vagrants as well as an excellent flight of Townsend's Warblers.

**HAWK MIGRATION AT PT. DIABLO** — Perhaps more has been learned this fall concerning hawk migration in our Region than in all the previous falls combined, thanks to Binford's Pt. Diablo hawk watch. Hawks migrating through the coastal counties are apparently funneled past Pt. Diablo before crossing the Golden Gate. Actually, many did not cross the short water gap and some turned around and came back after flying half way across. On 28 partial days of observation totalling 101 hours Sept. 21-Nov. 20, 4026 raptors were counted, giving an overall rate of about one bird per 90 seconds. Species totals were 1652 Red-tailed Hawks, 823 Sharp-shinned Hawks, 597 Cooper's Hawks, 463 Turkey Vultures, 242 unidentified Accipiters, 114 Sparrow Hawks, 70 Marsh Hawks, 23 Red-shouldered Hawks, **18 Broad-winged Hawks** (1 dark phase), 8 White-tailed Kites, 6 Ospreys, 4 Golden

Eagles, 2 Rough-legged Hawks, 1 Ferruginous Hawk, 1 probable imm. Goshawk, 1 unident. Buteo, and 1 unident. falcon. Noteworthy by their absence were Peregrine Falcons and Pigeon Hawks; whether they use a different migration route, are simply not detected at this observation point, or are just extremely rare has not been determined. Also noteworthy was the documentation of the migratory nature of Red-shouldered Hawks and White-tailed Kites, and that Rough-legged Hawks, Ferruginous Hawks, and Golden Eagles, while not uncommon as wintering birds in Marin and Sonoma Cos., seldom move farther south along the coast by this route. N. California had only 5-6 satisfactory records for Broad-winged Hawk prior to this fall (first record in 1967); thus the 18 Broad-winged recorded Sept. 21-Nov. 2 were amazing. The most on a single day were 5 on Oct. 5. The question as to whether this is an annual occurrence, previously overlooked, or an exceptional year will be unanswered until next fall.

**INVASION OF MONTANE AND NORTHERN SPECIES** — One of the prominent features of the fall was the outstanding invasion of most of our montane winter-invading species to the lowlands of our Region. The large numbers of these species that occurred along the coast in September and October suggested that our Region was about to witness the most massive invasion in recorded history. The influx, however, seemed to diminish rapidly in late November and we were left with an outstanding but not unprecedented number of birds. Foremost among the montane invaders were Evening Grosbeaks which were recorded virtually throughout the lowlands of the Region beginning in early and mid-September. The major influx along the coast occurred between Sept. 27 and Oct. 14 when they were recorded in at least 14 locations between Humboldt Bay and Big Sur. No less than 256 passed Pt. Diablo between Oct. 3 and Nov. 20 with the major influx Oct. 3-7 accounting for 192 (LCB). One even reached S. Farallon for the first island record on Oct. 3 (P.R.B.O.). A second major influx occurred in the latter half of October, perhaps peaking around Oct. 25, and brought more birds to the coast, particularly to the Bay Area and Monterey, but also supplied large numbers to the Central Valley (C.V.) from Davis (DAG) and Sacramento (BK) to Fresno (AC, R&KH). A third major influx to the central coast and C.V. occurred Nov. 17-24. The origin of these grosbeaks is, of course, an intriguing question. The fact that numbers of these birds were recorded moving in the Sierra during the fall and that most had disappeared by late November indicates that substantial numbers moved down from the Sierra. However, good numbers were seen moving south in the Cascades between Alturas and Tule L. Nov. 26 (DDeS, RS, *et al.*) indicating that a more northern origin is also possible.

Clark's Nutcrackers reached the coast in exceptional numbers during the early fall but were gone by the end of the season. At least 47 individuals were found at 17 locations between Prairie Creek (*fide* MK) and Monterey Sept. 21-Oct. 27, including singles on S. Farallon Oct. 5 and Oct. 27 (P.R.B.O.). As none

were seen after this last date, the question remains, did they return to the mountains, move further south or perish in the ocean? Red-breasted Nuthatches, after a two-year absence, staged a large but not massive invasion to the coast and lowlands. Interestingly, the arrivals of most individuals coincided with the major landbird waves, indicating that the same weather factors may influence the flights of both invading species and long-distance migrants. Exceptional numbers of Golden-crowned Kinglets occurred both along the coast and in the C.V. from Oct. 6 to November. At least 50 were present in Caswell Park, San Joaquin Co., in Oct. (MM), an unusually high count for the C.V. The main flight reached the coast during the Oct. 20-25 wave at which time they were the commonest migrant on Pt. Reyes (DDeS, VR, LCB).

A sizeable invasion of Purple Finches occurred along the coast in early and mid-October. At least 100 were on Pt. Reyes Oct. 3 (RS, GM *et al.*) while 1228 passed Pt. Diablo Oct. 5-Nov. 20 with a peak of 876 Oct. 13 (LCB). Better than average numbers were in the C.V. at Davis (DAG), Sacramento (BK) and Fresno (AC) after early October. Small flocks of Red Crossbills were seen along the coast, primarily during late October and early November — certainly not a major invasion. Only 7 passed Pt. Diablo Oct. 23-Nov. 8 (LCB) but 2 were in Sacramento Nov. 1 (*fide* BK). Pine Siskin numbers were greater than the past 2 falls, both on the coast and in the C.V., but were certainly not up to invasion standards; only 144 passed Pt. Diablo (LCB). Similarly, most observers felt Am. Goldfinches to be in slightly better than average numbers, yet only 17 passed Pt. Diablo (LCB). Lesser Goldfinches were thought to be in average numbers; 179 passing Pt. Diablo may be normal for a fall (LCB).

Smaller numbers of several other montane species reached the coast or lowlands and were undoubtedly part of the same invasion. A down-mountain movement of Steller's Jays was recorded along the w. slope of the Sierra between Chico (TM) and Sacramento (BK). Between Oct. 15 and Nov. 3 as many as 70 in a day (Oct. 26) crossed an Auburn, Placer Co., hillside, an elevation of only 1000 ft. (MA). Piñon Jays invaded the crest and w. slope of the Sierra during the early fall: 20 were near Parker Pass, Tulare Co., Sept. 7 (AC) and 20 were at the Wawona Tunnel, Yosemite, on the same day (WB); 20 were at Saddlebag L., 10,056 ft., Yosemite, Sept. 9 and several were heard near Lion Pt., 35 mi. n.e. of Fresno, Oct. 6 & 13 (AC). A lone individual was at Pt. Diablo Oct. 7 (LCB, J&SL) for what may be only the fifth coastal record for the Region. Several Mountain Chickadees reached the lowlands on both the e. and w. side of the Sierra. Two Mountain Bluebirds reached the coast: 1 at Pt. Pinos Oct. 21-22 (RS, AB) and 1 at Pt. Diablo Nov. 8 (LCB, BE). Likewise, 2 Townsend's Solitaires reached the coast: 1 in Tilden Park, Berkeley, Sept. 30 (AP) and 1 at Pt. Diablo Oct. 3 (LCB). A Cassin's Finch was present in Oakland Nov. 5 (DE) for one of the very few coastal records.

Several other species of landbirds invaded the Region in good numbers this fall and, while they cannot generally be considered to be part of our Sierran montane avifauna, they may have been triggered by similar



conditions. Band-tailed Pigeons returned to the Bay Area in large numbers this fall. No less than 20,241 passed Pt. Diablo Sept. 28-Nov. 30 with a peak of 4471 Nov. 5 (LCB). The origin of these birds? D.F.G. reported large numbers of pigeons leaving Oregon, Washington and British Columbia early this year (*S.F. Chronicle*, Sept. 24, 1972). The destination? D.F.G. reported 25-30,000 present in the Santa Cruz and n. Santa Lucia mts. by the end of Nov. (BE). Lewis' Woodpeckers were present in unprecedented numbers in the foothills surrounding the Sacramento Valley after mid-September. Noteworthy concentrations included at least 147 that passed over Auburn Sept. 13-17 (MA), at least 70 along 3 mi. of Putah Creek, Yolo-Solano Co., Sept. 19 (FB) and hundreds flycatching from the foothill oaks e. of Sacramento Nov. 5 (TM, DAG, BW *et al.*). Despite these amazing numbers, comparatively few reached the coast, these mostly in the Bay Area (JL, DDeS *et al.*). A massive invasion of Varied Thrushes inundated nearly all parts of the Region this fall, the first major influx occurring Oct. 1923. Noteworthy records were 30 at a single location in the Sierran foothills, Madera Co., and 50 along a small stretch of the San Joaquin R. near Fresno (AC, R&KH). A second influx in late November brought even more to the coast, especially Monterey Co., (AB) and saw singles at Mammoth Lakes and Lee Vining, Mono Co. (JF). Winter Wrens occurred in exceptional numbers along the coast, arriving as early as Aug. 29 at Pt. Reyes and Rodeo Lagoon (RS, VR). A single was along the Sacramento R. near Chico Nov. 4 where they are rare (TM).

In contrast to the above species, Robins were present in only fair-to-poor numbers throughout the fall until late November when the first large influx began. Similarly, Cedar Waxwings were present in below average numbers during the fall, the only sizeable influx occurring early-mid-October. Despite this scarcity of Cedars, 2 Bohemian Waxwings were noted this fall, the first very early, Sept. 18-19 at Inverness, Marin Co. (G. Brady), the second Nov. 6 in Sacramento (GM).

**LOONS THROUGH PETRELS** — Loon migration followed normal patterns, although 20 Arctics and 5 Commons at Pt. Reyes Nat'l Seashore (P.R.N.S.) Sept. 2 was a large number for so early (LCB, RS, VR). An Arctic Loon, extremely rare inland, was at L. Tahoe Nov. 25 (GMcC). Very early Red-necked Grebes were at Rodeo Lagoon Aug. 29 (RS, VR, WMP) and Limantour, P.R.N.S., Sept. 5 (WMP). A Horned Grebe at Abbott's Lagoon, P.R.N.S., Sept. 2 (LCB, RS, VR) was also very early. An incredible concentration of Eared Grebes covered Mono L. Sept. 14 — perhaps 100,000 birds! This seems unbelievable, but a similar figure was arrived upon by a different observer (JF) last year at this location (*fide* HK). One thousand W. Grebes, a very large concentration, were on Drake's Bay, P.R.N.S., Oct. 22 (VR, LCB). Very late-nesting Pied-billed Grebes (pair with recently hatched young) were noted at Rodeo Lagoon Aug. 22 (WMP).

The only Black-footed Albatross noted s. of Humboldt Co. was one near the Farallons Sept. 6 (TM);

this species was virtually absent off the c. coast this fall. Only very small numbers of Fulmars were reported. After mid-Sept., Pink-footed Shearwaters often outnumbered the normally more common Sooty Shearwater on boat trips. The very rare Pale-footed Shearwater was found off Monterey Aug. 20 (G. Hunn, LCB, *et al.*). New Zealand Shearwaters were scarce, peaked early, and left the region early (RS *et al.*); the largest sighting was 20 off Monterey Aug. 23 (RM) and the latest were 4 off Bodega, Sonoma Co., Oct. 8 (BDP *et al.*). Five Manx Shearwaters were on Monterey Bay Oct. 15 and 7 on Oct. 18 (RS, RLeV). One or two Forked-tailed Petrels were found on Monterey Bay Oct. 2, 18 and 21 (J&RW, RS). The only Leach's Petrel was a white-rumped bird off Humboldt Co. Oct. 1 (RS, TC, *et al.*). Thirty-five Ashy Petrels off Humboldt Co. Oct. 1 were very far north (LCB, RS, DDeS *et al.*), as were 10 Black Petrels off Bodega Bay Oct. 8 (BDP, GB). The usual petrel flock off Moss Landing in Monterey Bay comprised 4000 Ashy and 400 Black on Sept. 23; built up to 6000 Ashy and 1000 Black on Oct. 8 and 4500 Ashy and 800 Black on Oct. 18; then decreased to 250 Ashy and no Black by Nov. 22 (AB, RS, J&RW *et al.*). Present in this flock was a **Wilson's Petrel** Aug. 18-Oct. 18 (AB, LCB, RS, *et al.*); this species has now been found there every fall since 1967. Also in this flock were 1-3 **Least Petrels** Oct. 8 (AB) and Oct. 18 (RS). Another was well-described off Humboldt Co. Oct. 1 (DDeS, RS, RLeV *et al.*); this is the farthest north report on the Pacific Coast; however, there is still no specimen for N. Calif., although there are at least 5 well-documented sight records.

**PELICANS THROUGH HERONS** — White Pelicans were reported in normal numbers with a maximum of 800-900 in s. S.F. Bay Oct. 18-24 (HLC, BE). Coastal and S.F. Bay censuses showed Brown Pelican numbers were unchanged from last fall (D.F.G., BE). The high percentage of first and second-year birds (50-85%), as noted during the summer period, was evidence of a successful breeding season in Mexico (AB *et al.*). A **Magnificent Frigatebird** at Santa Cruz Oct. 20 (*fide* RGr) was a leftover from this summer's invasion. Heron and egret populations all appeared normal. Cattle Egrets invaded the Region this fall—reports were received from virtually every locality. Six birds from 4 localities were reported in Oct., with the earliest bird on the Farallons Oct. 12 (DAi); and then from Nov. 17 to the end of the period, 25 individuals, mostly imm., were found at 10 coastal and 3 inland localities. An ad. **Yellow-crowned Night Heron** appeared at San Rafael, Marin Co., Nov. 5 and is apparently wintering; this is the same locality where an ad. has summered for 5 consecutive years (ABu). There is no winter record for this Region.

**WATERFOWL** — D.F.G. reports showed that hunters at the wildlife refuges in the Region killed 86,484 ducks, 1,873 geese, and 2,833 coots this fall through Nov. 26; this is less than 2% of the total refuge populations. In the Tule L.-Lower Klamath refuges, "dark geese" (Canada and White-fronted) peaked at 560,450 and "white geese" (Snow and Ross') peaked at 315,150 all on Nov. 8 (D.F.G. aerial surveys). These

numbers are nearly the same as last fall. The main exodus of all geese and ducks from the Tule L. area occurred on Nov. 12 (EJO). Black Brant were very scarce along the coast this fall; almost no migrating flocks were detected (AB *et al.*); two were found inland at Tule L. Nov. 26 where they are very rare (DDeS, RS). Single sub-ad. or imm. Emperor Geese were near Chico Oct. 15 (TM, LT *et al.*, photos), Humboldt Bay Nov. 11 & 14 (different birds - DS, DE, TS, RM), and Big Lagoon, Humboldt Co., Nov. 11 (shot by hunter, *fide* DE). These are the first of this species in the Region since 1968. The only Blue Goose reported was 1 at Tule L. Oct. 21 (G. Peyton). A Ross' Goose found dead at Arcata Nov. 24 was the first Humboldt Co. record (DE).

Thirteen Fulvous Tree Ducks at Woodland, Yolo Co., Aug. 28 (DAG) and 15 there Sept. 2 (B&RL) were very large numbers for so far north. D.F.G. aerial surveys obtained the following peak numbers at Tule L.-Lower Klamath: Mallards — 138,200; Pintails — 992,000; Am. Widgeons — 306,000 and Shovelers — 221,000. The principal arrival date at Tule L. for Pintail was Aug. 6, for Shoveler Aug. 13 and for Mallard and Am. Widgeon Aug. 27 (EJO). Pintails apparently reach the C.V. earlier than other waterfowl; the percent increase from the Oct. 25 to the Nov. 22 census (about 25%) was very low compared with other species (D.F.G.). Single Eur. Widgeons were at Palo Alto Nov. 12-end of period (DDeS, TC, BY), Sacramento N.W.R. Nov. 18 (DDeS *et al.*), Humboldt Bay Nov. 24 (LCB, VR), and Tule L. Nov. 26 (RS). Eight Wood Ducks flying south over the ocean at Pt. Pinos Sept. 15 was an unusual observation (RS).

The big numbers of diving ducks were late in returning this fall and only small numbers had appeared by the end of the period (BE, LCB, DDeS). Redheads peaked at 2200 and Ring-necked Ducks at 400 at Tule L. (EJO). Numbers of Canvasbacks at Tule L. were about twice normal, peaking at 16,380 (EJO). Barrow's Goldeneyes were found inland at De Saba Res., Butte Co., Nov. 8-17 (BW), Feather R. near Oroville Nov. 19-21 (GN), Honey L. Nov. 24 (GMcC), and Tule L. Nov. 26 (DDeS). They have wintered at the first two locations in previous years. Single ♀ or imm. Oldsquaws were at P.R.N.S. Oct. 22 (VR, LCB), Pt. Pinos Oct. 28 (AB), and on the Klamath R., Del Norte Co., Nov. 12 (DE, RM); an ad. ♂, very rare in this Region, was on Humboldt Bay from Nov. 16 to the end of the period (DE, TS, RM *et al.*). The resident Harlequin Ducks at Ano Nuevo (5-6♂♂, 1♀) were present all fall (WB, SB *et al.*). Twelve ♂♂ Harlequins were found together along the n. Sonoma Co. coast Oct. 1 (L. Lawlor, *fide* VR). Two imm. Surf Scoters, a rare species inland, were at De Saba Reservoir Nov. 8-17 (BW, TM). A Com. Merganser along the Sacramento R., Butte Co., Aug. 16 was very early (TM).

**RAPTORS THROUGH RAILS** — A large southward movement of Turkey Vultures involving at least 1000 birds was noted at Chico Sept. 28 (LT, TM). A few days later (Oct. 3-4) much farther south (Fresno Co.) hundreds again were noted moving south (RHG). White-tailed Kites were considered scarce this fall in Sonoma Co. (LWG) and in no better than average

numbers elsewhere. Four obviously migrating White-tailed Kites were noted together high above P.R.N.S. Sept. 2 (LCB, RS, VR). Four Goshawks were reported from the Sierra, 1 from the Warner Mts. Nov. 25 (DAG, RS) and 1 at Tule L. Nov. 26 (DDeS). A very probable Goshawk (imm.) was observed at Pt. Diablo Nov. 17 (LCB) - there are very few satisfactory coastal records. Three to four times the normal number of Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawk reports were received, but this reflected mainly the more thorough reporting by contributors. Last fall Sharp-shinned reports outnumbered Cooper's 3 to 1, but this year the ratio was nearly 1 to 1 (71 vs. 70 coastal reports). A ratio of 4 Sharp-shinned to 3 Cooper's was found at Pt. Diablo (see above), which agrees fairly well with the ratio from other localities. On Aug. 22, an albino Red-tailed Hawk returned to Ft. Barry, Marin Co., for the fourth consecutive year (WMP). An ad. **Harlan's Hawk** well-described from Loleta, Humboldt Co., Oct. 29 (RLeV) may be a first coastal record for Calif. In addition to the 18 birds recorded at Pt. Diablo, single imm. **Broad-winged Hawks** were found at San Francisco Sept. 20 (LCB) and the Big Sur Rivermouth, Monterey Co., Oct. 12 (RS). Normal to above-normal numbers of all other raptors were reported, including 15 coastal Peregrine Falcons and an unprecedented 20 Pigeon Hawks. Unfortunately, more thorough reporting by contributors was probably the sole reason for the increases, but perhaps next fall more valid comparisons can be made. Despite a fairly promising summer, one raptor definitely below normal this fall was Swainson's Hawk; this decreasing species should definitely be on the Blue List for Calif. Golden Eagles peaked at Tule L. Nov. 15 with 21 birds (EJO), and a few days later, Nov. 19, 11 imm. were migrating s. at Woodland (DDeS). Bald Eagles peaked at Tule L. Nov. 15 with 68 birds (EJO). A Prairie Falcon was at 10,056 ft. at Saddlebag L. Sept. 9 (TC). Between Sept. 9 and Oct. 15 at P.R.N.S. no ad. ♂♂ were found among 28 Sparrow Hawks, although 3 ♂♂ were seen on Oct. 21 (DDeS); the possibility of differential migration peaks or routes should be investigated.

Eleven Mountain Quail were noted at the s. edge of their coastal distribution at sea level near Jenner, Sonoma Co., Oct. 6 (LWG). A survey of Clapper Rail populations in the Dumbarton Bridge area of S.F. Bay showed no decline from a 1970-71 study; 60-70 were counted in one study area Nov. 21 (RG, BE). Single Black Rails unrecorded in the Region since 1967, were heard and seen near Tomales Pt., P.R.N.S., in Oct. (G. Brady, DDeS); one was found near the Dumbarton Bridge Oct. 24 (BE) and was later seen by nearly every observer in the S.F. Bay area through the end of the period. D.F.G. aerial surveys showed that Am. Coots peaked at 93,500 at Tule L. Lower Klamath Oct. 25.

**SHOREBIRDS** — Two Semipalmated Plovers were at Los Banos N.W.R. refuge, Merced Co., Aug. 16 (ROW) and one was at Woodland Oct. 25 (BK); this species is a rare migrant in the C.V. Good numbers of Snowy Plovers were reported: 83 were at the Pajaro Rivermouth Nov. 10 — highest count last year, 33 (J&RW). One hundred were found at Bodega Bay Nov. 24 (ABu) and 200 at Limantour Nov. 19 (AP) — both



exceptional numbers. Am. Golden Plovers were scarce this fall, particularly in Humboldt Co. (DE). A Ruddy Turnstone, very rare in the C.V. was at Davis Aug. 19-26 (TM, DAG). More than 1000 Long-billed Curlews were near Woodland Nov. 19, an outstanding concentration (TM, RS). Big numbers of Whimbrels were noted at four separate localities on Sept. 2: flocks of 150 and 120 flying s. at P.R.N.S. (LCB, RS, VR), 25 at Salmon Creek, Sonoma Co., (JH), 21 at the Pajaro Rivermouth (J&RW), and 60 at the Dumbarton Bridge (PM). More than the normal number of Solitary Sandpipers, very rare in this Region particularly along the coast, were reported: 1-2 at the Carmel Rivermouth Aug. 20 (DDeS, RS, VR) and Sept. 20 (BE), and singles at Honey L. Aug. 25 (B&RL), Woodland Sept. 2, 10 (B&RL, JH), Los Banos Sept. 8-12 (ROW), and Chico Sept. 17 (TM, BW). More than the normal number of coastal Lesser Yellowlegs reports were received. This species peaked inland at Woodland with 20 birds Sept. 16 (B&RL); the only other report of over 20 of this species was at the same place and date in 1968. Single Rock Sandpipers were reported from Pt. Pinos Nov. 5 (AB) and the Farallons in mid-Nov. (P.R.B.O.). At least 112 Pectoral Sandpipers were reported from the coast Sept. 7-Oct. 31 and at least 40 from the C.V. Aug. 30-Oct. 7 — two excellent falls in a row for this species. Thirty at Pescadero Creek, San Mateo Co., Sept. 23 (PM) were the most ever reported from a coastal locality. A **Sharp-tailed Sandpiper** was caught and banded at Bolinas Lagoon, Marin Co., Oct. 4 (P.R.B.O.); there are now satisfactory records for this species from 4 of the last



*Curlew Sandpiper, immature, Pescadero Creek, San Mateo Co., Sept. 17, 1972, Photo/Doug Cheeseman.*

7 fall seasons. An imm. **Curlew Sandpiper** was at Pescadero Creek Sept. 16-17 (TC, DDeS, PM); good photos were obtained for California's second state record. It was an excellent fall for Baird's Sandpipers: 44 coastal and 14 C.V. birds were reported, with the latest coastal bird at P.R.N.S. Oct. 15 (DDeS) and latest C.V. bird at Chico Oct. 17 (TM). Marbled Godwits, rare in the C.V. were at Chico Sept. 12-21 (TM) and Woodland Sept. 2 (B&RL). Red Phalaropes had an average-to-poor year offshore and very few birds were found along the immediate coast. Wilson's Phalaropes peaked at Chico Aug. 9 and Woodland Aug. 5, about 3 weeks earlier than N. Phalaropes at both places. (TM, B&RL). Shorebird peaks at Tule L. were 80,000 Least Sandpipers, 72,000 W. Sandpipers,

34,000 Am. Avocets, 18,000 Long-billed Dowitchers, 8000 N. Phalaropes, and 2000 Wilson's Phalaropes (EJO).

**JAEGERS, GULLS, TERNS** — Pomarine Jaegers were scarce along the coast (RS *et al.*) but were in average numbers offshore with a peak of 45 Sept. 23 off Monterey (AB *et al.*) Parasitic Jaegers, however, were very scarce offshore, no more than one being seen on any boat trip, but there were a number of reports from the immediate coast along with one at the San Mateo Bridge, S.F. Bay, Oct. 8 (BE), one at Palo Alto Nov. 22 (VR, TC, SB, BY), and one inland at Eagle L., Lassen Co., Sept. 22 (DS). A dead Long-tailed Jaeger was found at the mouth of the Salinas R., Monterey Co., Sept. 30 (DAi). Single Skuas were recorded on Monterey Bay 4 times this fall (AB, RS, RM *et al.*) and at least one was off Humboldt Co. Oct. 1 (DDeS, RLeV, TC *et al.*).

Arrivals of the big numbers of gulls were late this year (DDeS). A first-winter Thayer's Gull at L. Tahoe Nov. 25 was probably a first record for that locality (GMcC). On Oct. 22 a migratory influx of 8000 California Gulls was in Drake's Bay and another 3000 were on Abbott's Lagoon (LCB, VR), and then on Oct. 24 they were suddenly all over Golden Gate Park (LCB). The first Mew Gulls were noted in the Region Oct. 18-22 (RS, BE, *et al.*), later than the normal first arrivals. Franklin's Gulls were at Chico Aug. 19 (BW, LT), Arcata Aug. 22-26 (RLeV) and Oct. 13 (DS), Palo Alto Sept. 16-24 (TC, BE) and Oct. 15 (WB), and Alviso, Santa Clara Co., Nov. 9 (RG). Of 800 Heermann's Gulls at Pt. Pinos Aug. 19, 25% were first-year birds, 75% second-year, and none were adults (VR). An adult was at L. Merced, San Francisco, Nov. 28 — a very late date for an adult. (BE). Black-legged Kittiwakes were virtually absent from the Region this fall and Sabine's Gulls were very scarce.

A Com. Tern at 10,056 at Saddlebag L. was at an unusual location (TC). Very few Arctic Terns were reported offshore. A carefully identified imm. was at Pt. Pinos and an adult at the Salinas Rivermouth both Oct. 8 (DDeS). Elegant Terns had another excellent year along the coast (LCB, DDeS, WB). The latest birds were 2 at Pacific Grove Nov. 17 (AB). As many as 26 were in Humboldt Bay Sept. 30 (TS). Single Black Terns, very rare along the coast, were at Santa Cruz Aug. 30 (WB), Moss Landing Sept. 15-17 (WB), and Arcata Sept. 22-Oct. 1 (TS, DE, RLeV *et al.*)

**ALCIDS** — Single **Thick-billed Murres**, possibly different individuals, were photographed and well-described from Monterey Bay Sept. 23 (RS, RLeV *et al.*) and Oct. 7 (GMcC, RS, TC *et al.*). Marbled Murrelets were reported from seven locations from Monterey to Crescent City. The only Xantus' Murrelets reported were 5-7 on Monterey Bay Sept. 23 (AB, TC *et al.*) and Oct. 18 (RS). A **Craveri's Murrelet** was photographed after flying onto a boat off Monterey Aug. 8 (RM) for only the second record in recent times (see Summer report). Small numbers of Cassin's Auklets were recorded on Monterey Bay until Oct. 7 (VR



*et al.*) and Oct. 15 (RS) when 100 and 50+ respectively were seen; but then on Oct. 18 1000+ were noted (RS) and they were passing Pt. Pinos Oct. 17 at 40 per hour (BE). A Tufted Puffin, seldom reported away from breeding sites, was found on Monterey Bay Oct. 7 (GMcC, RS); 3 were off Bodega Bay Oct. 8 (BDP *et al.*).

**PIGEONS THROUGH GOATSUCKERS** — A White-winged Dove was at the Carmel Rivermouth Oct. 7 (RLeV, DDeS *et al.*) and Oct. 26 (*vide* AB). Two Mourning Doves that passed Pt. Diablo Oct. 13 were the only ones seen there during the entire fall, an excellent indication of the scarcity of this species on the n.w. coast (LCB). A Roadrunner near Ukiah, Mendocino Co. in October (*vide* MaAS) was at a new location for this species but was the only report of the fall. Large numbers of Barn Owls were reported throughout the Region and 18+ on outer Pt. Reyes during the fall (RS, VR *et al.*) may indicate a successful breeding season. A Great Gray Owl at Wawona Meadows, Yosemite, 4050 ft., during Oct. and Nov. (NM *et al.*) may have been part of the down-mountain movement. A very early Long-eared Owl was on S. Farallon Sept. 2-3 (TM); another migrant was at Pt. Reyes Oct. 21-22 (Eds. *et al.*). Fifteen reports of Short-eared Owls from the C.V. and coast are average for a fall but 20+ together in the Arcata Bottoms Nov. 24 was an unusually large concentration (VR, LCB). Several Poor-wills in the C.V. and on the coast, most in mid-October, provide probable migration records. Seven Common Nighthawks recorded as migrants over Chico Aug. 21-Sept. 12 (TM) were the only reports for the fall.

— S.A. —

Nocturnal species may be subject to a potentially serious danger in our Region: road kill. Two Screech, 1 Long-eared, 3 Short-eared, 4 Saw-whet and several Barn Owls as well as 2 Poor-wills were picked up dead along roads, mostly in the C.V., this fall (BM, RS *et al.*). Most interesting was the fact that the fatalities of each species were clumped at specific times during the fall coinciding with the timing of other migration records for these species. This suggests that fall dispersal or migration brings many young or inexperienced birds into fatal encounters with California's increasingly heavy traffic. It is likely that large high trucks are responsible for the heaviest toll. Reptiles and amphibians have already been shown to suffer dramatic losses at the expense of the "better and faster freeway" and as more and more of these roads are penetrating even the remote areas of our Region, we may expect this problem to become more serious.

**SWIFTS THROUGH WOODPECKERS** — Migrant swifts were reported in unusually good numbers this fall. Two Black Swifts were over S. Farallon Sept. 8 (P.R.B.O.), a flock of 60 passed Pt. Diablo Sept. 28, 9 passed there Oct. 13 (LCB) and 2 were over Pt. Pinos Oct. 14 (RS, AW, RLeV). While apparent migrations of Vaux's Swifts were noted in Prairie Creek and along the Klamath R. as early as Aug. 15-16

(MK, ODS), individuals and sizeable flocks were noted all along the coast between Sept. 17 and Oct. 20. At least 1275 passed Pt. Diablo during this period with the peak flight being 1018 Sept. 29 (LCB). Another 1000+ were seen at sundown at Chicken Pt., San Rafael, Sept. 30 (ABU). The concentrations of hummingbirds that can be attracted to a good feeder in our Region is astounding. Remsen began setting up feeders in the Berkeley Hills in mid-August and within 2 weeks attracted a stable population of 3-400 Anna's Hummingbirds of which 85% were ♂♂. *Selasphorus* hummers peaked at about 100 in early September; their numbers then quickly dropped as they left our Region but 3, probably Rufous, remained at the end of the period. Departure dates of *Selasphorus* hummers from other parts of the Region likewise fell between Sept. 17-28.

Five "pure", 4 "hybrid" and 6 "undetermined" Yellow-shafted Flickers were found in the Region this fall. Pileated Woodpeckers have added a second location to their range in the Santa Cruz Mts.; several were heard and seen at Portola Park, San Mateo Co., in early September and 1, probably an imm. ♂, was picked up dead (BE). Acorn Woodpeckers were reported in excellent numbers throughout the Region, generally associating with a good acorn crop. Several along the coast in September and October may have been part of the montane invasion. Three "Red-naped" Sapsuckers — very rare in our Region — were found this fall: 1 at Pt. Pinos Sept. 25 (RS), 1 in Palo Alto Nov. 11 (TC) and 1 in San Mateo Co. Nov. 19 (PM).

**FLYCATCHERS THROUGH WRENS** — Two E. Kingbirds were found this fall: 1 at Pt. Reyes Sept. 2 (RS, LCB, VR) and 1 at Bodega Bay in mid-September (LWG *et al.*). Seven Tropical Kingbirds were found along the coast this fall, but all occurred somewhat earlier than usual, Sept. 17-mid-October. Only 6 W. Kingbirds and 2 Ash-throated Flycatchers found along the coast during the early fall illustrate the scarcity of these species there. Two Great Crested Flycatchers, the sixth and seventh for the Region but the first on the mainland, were found this fall: 1 at Rodeo Lagoon on the exceptionally early date of Aug. 25 (WMP, BF *et al.*) and 1 at Pt. Lobos, Monterey Co., Sept. 17 (*vide* RS). An Eastern Phoebe was near the Spreckles Sugar Pond near Salinas, Monterey Co., Nov. 29-Dec. 2 (BG). While only the eighth fall or early winter record for the Region it falls at the time when the majority of these birds have been found. Only 5 individuals Hammond-Dusky type flycatchers were recorded from the C.V. or the coast during the fall. At least 3 Least Flycatchers were banded on S. Farallon this fall: Sept. 1, Sept. 19 & Oct. 5 (TM, P.R.B.O.). There are now at least 13 fall records for the Region, nearly all on S. Farallon.

A major flight of Violet-green Swallows passed through the Region in early and mid-October and included 200 at Searsville L., Stanford, Oct. 10 (DDeS), 100+ at Olema March Oct. 14 (J&SL), 500 at the Carmel Rivermouth Oct. 14 (RS) and 1097 over Pt. Diablo during this time (LCB). A few swallows of most species lingered until late September and Barn Swal-

lows were in good numbers on Pt. Reyes until Oct. 15 (DDeS) but a Barn Swallow at San Luis N.W.R. Oct. 29 (PM) and a probable Bank Swallow at Sacramento N.W.R. Nov. 4 (TM) were very late. A Black-billed Magpie, possibly a wild bird, was near Arcata after Nov. 22 (TS, DE *et al.*). Another returned for the second straight winter near Napa (BDP). Black-capped Chickadees may be spreading south into Humboldt Co.: 2 were at Fairhaven Aug. 26-Oct. 10 (RLeV, DE, TS *et al.*) and 2 were at Gold Bluff Beach, Prairie Creek Park, Nov. 12 (DE, RM). Three Chestnut-backed Chickadees at the Wawona Tunnel, Yosemite, Oct. 8 (S&KB) add another location to their known Sierran range. A Rock Wren was at Pt. Pinos Sept. 15-26 (RS, DDeS *et al.*); they are rare on the coast away from their breeding grounds.

**MIMIDS THROUGH VIREOS** — Four Sage Thrashers were found w. of the Sierra this fall: singles on S. Farallon Sept. 8-15 & Oct. 3 (BW, P.R.B.O.), 1 at Volta W.A., Merced Co., Sept. 12 (ROW) and 1 near Kneeland for the first Humboldt Co. record, Oct. 24 (DE, TS *et al.*). Hermit Thrushes were reported in much larger numbers this fall than last. The latest Swainson's Thrushes were 4 at Pt. Reyes Oct. 15; with them was a **Gray-cheeked Thrush**, the fourth fall individual in the Region (DDeS). Encouragingly, good numbers of W. Bluebirds were reported throughout the Region during the season. A Blue-gray Gnatcatcher was at the mouth of Jacoby Creek on Humboldt Bay after Nov. 7 for the Humboldt Co. record (RM, DE, TS *et al.*). At least 10 N. Shrikes from the Great Basin, 3 in the C.V. and at least 6 in Humboldt Co., all after Oct. 20 and most in late November, may be slightly above normal for the Region. The number of Starlings recorded in the Region, including the number of flocks in the tens of thousands, continues to increase at an alarming rate. A **Gray Vireo**, the first record for the Region, was carefully described from Pt. Reyes Sept. 17 (DE, LS). A **Red-eyed Vireo** was at Fairhaven Sept. 26-27 (RLeV, DE, TS *et al.*) and "lots" (?) of Red-eyed Vireos were reported from S. Farallon in October (P.R.B.O.). There may be only 7 previous fall records for the Region.

**WOOD WARBLERS** — In marked contrast to last fall, most of our western warblers were present along the coast in better-than-average numbers. Both Yellow and Townsend's Warblers occurred in exceptional numbers, not only on the coast but also in such interior locations as Lafayette, Contra Costa Co., (LF). A minimum of 26 Hermit, 25 Nashville and 21 Black-throated Gray Warblers along the coast were many more than the usual sprinkling. A high count of 8 Nashville Warblers along with 200 Yellows at the Carmel Rivermouth Sept. 12 was exceptional (RS). Late Nashvilles were 4 around Humboldt Bay in November including 2 at Eureka Nov. 21-22 (DE, TS *et al.*). Late Black-throated Grays included 1 at Sacramento Nov. 19 (RS, GM, TM) and 1 at Bodega Bay Nov. 25 (LWG). MacGillivray's and Wilson's Warblers, the earliest warblers to leave our Region, were the only species present in normal or less than normal numbers. Only 13 MacGillivray's were reported from the coast,

the latest being 1 at Belmont, San Mateo Co., Nov. 1 (FN). A Wilson's Warbler at Lafayette Oct. 7 (LF) was the only report after Sept. 29; they had become very scarce on the outer coast by mid-September. The only chat reported was 1 on S. Farallon, Sept. 3 (TM).

Four Audubon's Warblers at the RCA Station, Pt. Reyes, Sept. 2 (RS, LCB, VR) and 2 there Sept. 7-8 (DDeS) were exceptionally early. Substantial numbers arrived on the coast Sept. 24-26 and during the Oct. 2-3 wave, but numbers did not arrive inland and in the C.V. until mid-October (LF, BK, DMS). The earliest Myrtle Warblers were 1 at Pt. Reyes Sept. 24 (LWG) and 1 at Pt. Pinos Sept. 26 (RS), but a massive influx, during which time they greatly outnumbered Audubon's, occurred along the coast south to the Bay Area Oct. 2-3 (RS, DDeS, MK). No further influx occurred until Oct. 20, after which time numbers increased steadily along the coast particularly in the Bay Area and Monterey (DDeS, RS, AB *et al.*). On the whole, Audubon's were considered to be in better numbers than last year but were still outnumbered by Myrtles in many locations along the coast. A detailed census in the Humboldt Bay Area Nov. 24-25 showed Myrtles in many locations along the coast. A tally in the Humboldt Bay Area Nov. 24-25 showed were very scarce in the C.V. this fall: only 4 were reported, all after Oct. 10.

No fewer than 21 species of vagrant warblers were reported this fall, 3 more than the previous record set in 1968 and 1971. As usual, Blackpoll Warblers predominated with at least 38 individuals on the mainland coast, 27 at Pt. Pinos and 11 at Pt. Reyes, all between Sept. 15 and Oct. 23. The major influx occurred Sept. 16-17 when at least 16 were seen, but substantial numbers also occurred rather late at Pt. Pinos where 8 were found on Oct. 16 (RS). Palm Warblers were also plentiful this fall with at least 24 individuals on the mainland coast Oct. 4-Nov. 25, including at least 10 at Pt. Pinos Oct. 4-Nov. 5 and 7 in the Humboldt Bay area Oct. 20-Nov. 25 (DE, TS *et al.*). "Gobs and gobs" were reported from S. Farallon Sept. 16-mid-November (P.R.B.O.). An excellent fall for Am. Redstarts produced at least 17 along the coast from Pt. Reyes to the Carmel Rivermouth, all between Aug. 24 and Oct. 15. At least 11 more were on S. Farallon Aug. 27-Oct. 1 (P.R.B.O.). A banner fall for Black-and-white Warblers saw 8 along the c. coast Sept. 14-Oct. 20, 1 on S. Farallon Sept. 9 (P.R.B.O.) and 1 in Eureka Nov. 21-23 (TS, DE *et al.*). An average or better-than-average fall for Tennessee Warblers produced at least 5 along the coast Sept. 3-Oct. 20 and at least 5 more on S. Farallon Sept. 2-Oct. 11 (TM, P.R.B.O.). Similarly, at least 6 N. Waterthrushes on the coast Aug. 20-Sept. 25 and 3 more on S. Farallon (P.R.B.O.) were slightly more than average.

A **Worm-eating Warbler**, the third fall record for the Region, was found in Pacific Grove in early November at the exact spot where 1 occurred 3 years ago (WR). Five **Virginia's Warblers** were found this fall: 1 at Rodeo Lagoon Aug. 23 (DR), 1 at Toro Park near Salinas Sept. 10 (BG), 1 on Pt. Reyes Oct. 3 (RS), 1 at Pt. Pinos Oct. 4 (AW, RS) and 1 on S. Farallon Oct. 5 (BW). There have now been 11 individuals recorded in the fall in our Region. A **Lucy's**



Warbler at Pt. Pinos Oct. 14 (RS, AW) was only the fourth fall record for the Region. Two *Parula* Warblers were found this fall, a ♀ at Pt. Pinos Sept. 18 (V.L. Yadon *vide* RS) and a ♂ at a different location on Pt. Pinos Sept. 19-25 (RS, AB *et al.*). There are now 7 fall records for the Region. A *Magnolia* Warbler on S. Farallon Sept. 15-18 (P.R.B.O.), 1 at Pt. Pinos Sept. 15-16 (RS, DDeS *et al.*) and 2 there on Sept. 17 (WR *et al.*), 2 at Rodeo Lagoon Sept. 16 (WMP) with 1 remaining until Sept. 21 (LCB) and 1 at Pt. Reyes Sept. 16 (RGr, J&SL *et al.*) illustrates the wave nature of these vagrant occurrences. Another *Magnolia* was on S. Farallon Aug. 27 (P.R.B.O.). A *Cape May* Warbler was on S. Farallon Sept. 17 (P.R.B.O.), the seventh fall record for the Region. A ♂ Black-throated Blue Warbler was at Fairhaven Sept. 30 (RLeV, DA *et al.*), a ♀ was at L. Merced, San Francisco, Oct. 2 (NS), a ♂ was at Davenport, Santa Cruz Co., Oct. 4 (RS), another ♂ was at Tilden Park, Oct. 17 (VH *et al.*) and singles were on S. Farallon Oct. 2 & 19 (BW, P.R.B.O.) — a good number for this rare vagrant in our Region. A Black-throated Green Warbler, the fourth fall record for the Region, was at Pt. Pinos Oct. 20-21 (RS, AW *et al.*). A Blackburnian Warbler was on S. Farallon Sept. 3-5 (TM, P.R.B.O.), another was there Oct. 26 (P.R.B.O.); 1 was on Pt. Reyes Sept. 20 (*vide* ABu) and 1 was in Pacific Grove in early November (WR). An imm. Chestnut-sided Warbler was along Putah Creek near Davis Aug. 27 and an identically plumaged bird was at the same spot Sept. 16 (DAG). The fact that none could be found on intervening dates and that both dates were wave days on the coast suggests that 2 birds were involved. Another imm. was at Olema Marsh, Marin Co., Oct. 13 (JH). Single Prairie Warblers were on S. Farallon Aug. 30, Sept. 28 and Oct. 27 (TM, BW, P.R.B.O.), 1 was on Pt. Reyes Sept. 6 (RS, GM, J&SL), 1 was at Pt. Pinos Oct. 23 (WR) and 1 was at Eureka Nov. 21-23 (DE, TS *et al.*) — an amazing number for a single fall. At least 7 Ovenbirds were present on S. Farallon Sept. 3-Nov. 5 (TM, P.R.B.O.). This secretive species is apparently overlooked on the coast. A ♂ Kentucky Warbler was found in Eureka Nov. 21-22 (TS, DS *et al.*) and was collected by Dr. Harris, Humboldt State College, Nov. 23 for the first fall record for California. A ♂ Hooded Warbler, the fourth fall record for the Region was at Tilden Park Aug. 22 (RS *et al.*). Two Canada Warblers were on S. Farallon Sept. 1 with 1 remaining until Sept. 3 (TM, P.R.B.O.) another was there Sept. 16 (P.R.B.O.) and 1 was at Pt. Pinos Sept. 15-17 (RS, AW *et al.*). There are now 6 fall individuals for the Region.

**ICTERIDS THROUGH SPARROWS** — Five Bobolinks were at the Spreckles Ponds near Salinas Sept. 21 with 2 remaining until Sept. 24 (BG) and 2 were on S. Farallon Oct. 11 (BW). Singles were at Pt. Pinos Sept. 22 and Oct. 13 (RS *et al.*) and at Arcata Sept. 27-28 (BED, DE, TS *et al.*). At least 5 Yellow-headed Blackbirds were present on the coast where they are rare while late singles were at Honey L. Nov. 24-25 (GMcC, TC *et al.*). Several Tricolored Blackbirds were seen around Humboldt Bay during the fall (LCB, DE, TS *et al.*). They are virtually unknown

from the n.w. coast of our Region. At least 6 Orchard Orioles were present on S. Farallon Sept. 1-Oct. 24 (TM, P.R.B.O.) and a ♀ was at Pt. Pinos Sept. 20 (RS, WR, *et al.*), an amazing number for a single fall. A Hooded Oriole on S. Farallon Sept. 2-3 (TM) was a first fall record for the island. A Rusty Blackbird was on S. Farallon Oct. 20-22 (P.R.B.O.), the first island record. Another was near Eureka Nov. 16 (BED). There were only three previous records for the Region. The second Regional record of Hepatic Tanager was an imm. ♂ at Carmel Highlands Sept. 9-10 (D. Graham, AB, *et al.*). Five Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were found this fall: Mammoth L. Aug. 15 (*vide* JMF), Corte Madera, Marin Co., Aug. 17 (*vide* MAS), Manila, Humboldt Co. Sept. 30 (RLeV) and singles on S. Farallon Oct. 2 & 5 (BW). An imm. Blue Grosbeak was at Pt. Pinos Oct. 13 (RS) only the second Monterey Co. record. An Indigo Bunting was at the Carmel Rivermouth (RS, GM *et al.*) Oct. 12. A Dickcissel, the sixth fall record for the Region, was in the Arcata Bottoms Nov. 12-17 (T. Osborn, DE, TS *et al.*). Lawrence's Goldfinches were nearly common at Pt. Pinos this fall: a maximum of 35 was present Sept. 20 (RS).

A Green-tailed Towhee along Putah Creek, near Davis, Aug. 27 (DAG), 1 photographed near Mill Valley, Marin Co., Sept. 11 (*vide* MAS) and 1 seen at Pt. Diablo Nov. 17 (LCB) were the only coastal reports. The only Lark Bunting was 1 at Spreckles Ponds near Salinas Sept. 21 (BG). The Sharp-tailed Sparrow returned to the e. end of the Dumbarton Bridge in November (BE). A Black-throated Sparrow was captured at Palomarin Ranch Oct. 7 for the first Marin Co. record (P.R.B.O.). Singles were on S. Farallon Aug. 18 and Sept. 4-16 (P.R.B.O.). Two ad. Sage Sparrows at Volta W.A. Sept. 19 (ROW) probably represent the northern-most individuals of the race breeding in the s. San Joaquin Valley. Oregon Juncos were present in the lowlands in good numbers this fall and at least 20 Slate-colored Juncos were found with them. Single Tree Sparrows were on S. Farallon Oct. 4&5 (BW, P.R.B.O.) and another was in Bayside, Humboldt Co., Nov. 25 (*vide* DE). Four Clay-colored Sparrows were at Pt. Pinos Sept. 17-28 (RS, LCB *et al.*), several were on S. Farallon (BW) and 1 was banded at Palomarin Ranch Nov. 5 (P.R.B.O.) while another was seen in the Arcata Bottoms the same day (*vide* DE). The first island record of Black-chinned Sparrow was 1 present on S. Farallon Aug. 30-Sept. 4 (TM, P.R.B.O.).

The first White-crowned Sparrows arrived during the Sept. 15-17 wave along with a very few Golden-crowned but the major influx both on the coast and in the C.V. of both species occurred during the massive Sept. 30-Oct. 4 wave. Better than average numbers of both Fox and Lincoln's Sparrows were recorded this fall, their movements also coinciding with the major waves. Two Harris' Sparrows on the coast and 1 in the C.V., all in November, were noteworthy but 17 found in the Surprise Valley-Honey L. area Nov. 24-25 (RS, DDeS, TC) indicate a massive invasion into the Great Basin. At least 33 White-throated Sparrows were recorded this fall, 10 more than last year's record-breaking number. Five Swamp Sparrows reported this

fall included 1 at Dry Lagoon Nov. 12, the first Humboldt Co. record (DE) and 1 at Honey L. Nov. 24, the first Great Basin record for our Region (TC). One or 2 Chestnut-collared Longspurs were with 50-75 Laplands at Honey L. Nov. 24-25 (GMcC, DDeS *et al.*). Lapland Longspurs were present on S. Farallon after Oct. 7 (P.R.B.O.), 2 were near Manila Oct. 13 (DE), 1 was at Pt. Pinos Oct. 22 (RS) and 1 was near Woodland Dec. 3 (DAG). Two Chestnut-collared Longspurs on S. Farallon Oct. 19 and a Snow Bunting there Oct. 26 (P.R.B.O.) were first island records. Another Snow Bunting was at the s. spit of Humboldt Bay Oct. 29 (RLeV) and, what may have been the same bird was there Nov. 11 (DE, DS, RM).

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