



The massive influx of Pelecaniformes last summer was still evident into September with continuing reports of pelicans, boobies and frigatebirds. Virtually all the herons ever recorded in California were found in the Region this fall indicating a movement. Acorn Woodpeckers appeared to stage a small invasion of the coast, and Lewis' Woodpeckers invaded the entire Region. A number of the Corvidae irrupted, resulting in many records of Piñon Jays and Clark's Nutcrackers far from their normal ranges, as well as a few records of Steller's and Scrub Jays, Black-billed Magpies and Com. Crows away from areas of normal occurrence. The Region experienced a massive flight of Red-breasted Nuthatches; apparent by a few White-breasted and Pigmy Nuthatches, Brown Creepers and Golden-crowned Kinglets were also involved. Varied Thrushes were much commoner than usual, occurring in many areas where normally absent. The numbers of Evening Grosbeaks found in the eastern portions of the Region were spectacular, and some even occurred west to the coast, indicating an exceptionally heavy flight during October; a few Purple and Cassin's Finches as well as Red Crossbills may have also been involved with this influx.

SOUTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION / Guy McCaskie

Southern California received more than average rain-fall during October and November, with unknown effect on bird movements. In general the numbers of our regular migrants appeared higher than normal, but numbers of vagrants were probably down, even though a greater-than-normal variety was reported. With the increased interest in birdwatching there are bound to be more stragglers discovered, so relative abundance from year to year must be based on one's own observations within a regularly worked area.

GREBES — Inland records of Horned Grebes include 2 at Furnace Creek Ranch in Death Valley Oct. 9, one near Tecopa, Inyo Co., Nov. 4, and one on Hansen Dam in the San Fernando Valley Oct. 21-28; this species is rare away from the coast in California.

SHEARWATERS, PETRELS — A dead Fulmar found on the beach at the mouth of the Santa Clara R., Ventura Co. Nov. 4 was the only one reported this fall; numbers of this species reaching s. California waters vary greatly from year to year. The Pale-footed Shearwater is quite rare off California, however, 2-3 were seen during a boat trip off San Diego Sept. 9. A single Ashy Petrel found about 5 mi. off La Jolla Sept. 9 was the only one reported. Numbers of Least Petrels reaching California waters in the late summer

were probably high, for some 80 were encountered off San Diego Sept. 9, and at least 5 were seen between Dana Pt., Orange Co. and Catalina I. Sept. 17.

PELICANS, BOOBIES, FRIGATEBIRDS — On Oct. 15 over 1000 White Pelicans were seen flying south in the Owens Valley in small groups during a half hour of observing, undoubtedly birds migrating from colonies in the Great Basin; interestingly, a high count of 1450 was made at the s. end of the Salton Sea (henceforth S.S.S.) Oct. 20. Brown Pelicans continued to be conspicuous along the coast with most appearing to be immature. At the Salton Sea imm. Brown Pelicans were present from the major influx of July to Oct. 28 when the last bird was seen; 76 counted Sept. 15 was the largest number noted since mid-August, but 52 were still present Oct. 8. Numbers of Blue-footed Boobies at the n. end of the Salton Sea (S.S.N.) gradually decreased after mid-August with 3 last noted Sept. 24; at S.S.S. single birds were noted Oct. 8 & 26. A single imm. Blue-footed Booby, first noted on L. San Marcos, San Diego Co. in late August, was found killed by some mammal Dec. 14 (PMcB), and represents the only record of this species away from the Salton Sea this year. One of the two Brown Boobies at S.S.N. was found dead in late August, and the other remained until at least Sept. 4, the same day a third immature was found at Salton City on the w. shore of the Sea.

Immature Magnificent Frigatebirds continued to be noted along the coast until early September with 8 sightings involving 12 individuals — Goleta (one Aug. 28, one Sept. 5), Malibu (two Aug. 21), Newport Bay (one Aug. 30), La Jolla (two Aug. 31, two Sept. 7), San Diego (one Sept. 9), and Imperial Beach (two Aug. 27-28). At the Salton Sea, where individuals had been present since mid-June, 4 were seen together Aug. 15 & 26, and 2 were still present Sept. 1. This will be long remembered as the greatest year for frigatebirds in California.

HERONS, STORKS, SPOONBILLS — At least 3 Little Blue Herons, very rare stragglers to California, were present in coastal Orange County during the period, for an immature at Bolsa Chica Sept. 11 (CS) had been joined by an adult Nov. 6, and these two were accompanied by another immature in late November; in addition single immatures were noted on nearby Newport Bay Oct. 31 & Nov. 21 (CS). Cattle Egrets appeared more widespread and numerous this fall. Along the coast they were recorded at three localities in San Luis Obispo Co. in November, two localities in Santa Barbara Co., Nov. 4-30, one locality in Ventura Co. (13 at Pt. Mugu Nov. 25), four localities in Los Angeles Co. Oct. 26-Nov. 27, four localities in San Diego Co. Sept. 4-Nov. 13, for a total of 70 birds sighted, and even reached the Santa Barbara Is. (10 on San Nicholas I. in early November). Inland, and away from the S.S.S. where the Cattle Egret is a common resident, it was noted at Ridgecrest, Kern Co., (two Nov. 19), and near Rancho California, Riverside Co. (6 on Nov. 7). An imm. Reddish Egret that appeared at the s. end of San Diego Bay Sept. 19 was still present at the end of the period; this species

is a very rare straggler to California. As usual imm. Louisiana Herons appeared along the s. coast with one noted at Marina del Rey Aug. 25-27, one-three at Seal Beach after Oct. 25, one at Bolsa Chica Aug. 27, and another around Imperial Beach after Oct. 7; an adult at S.S.S. after Nov. 22 was most unusual since there are only two other records for the Sea. Wood Ibis remained at S.S.S. later than usual with 50 present Sept. 22, and eight still there Sept. 29. The Roseate Spoonbills that appeared at S.S.S. in July remained until early October with 5 seen Sept. 15, and 4 thereafter to Oct. 8 (DVT); single birds were also noted at S.S.N. Aug. 20 & Sept. 8.

WATERFOWL — The only Whistling Swans reported were one near Big Pine in the Owens Valley Oct. 30, and a flock of 30 there Nov. 26. On Nov. 2 four Blue Geese were noted with some 12,000 Snow Geese at S.S.S., an area where this bird is regularly recorded. A Fulvous Tree Duck well seen at San Elijo Lagoon Sept. 10 (SS) represents the only modern day record for San Diego County. A few ad. ♀ Blue-winged Teal were found along the coast as usual; one was also seen at Furnace Creek Ranch Oct. 14. The Harlequin Duck that summered at Marina del Rey moulted into ad. plumage during October and was still present Nov. 30; another ♀ was seen near Morro Bay during November at the exact spot where one spent much of last winter. The only interior record of Surf Scoter was that of two at China L., Inyo Co. Oct. 29 (JDo). Single Hooded Mergansers were found near Big Pine Oct. 30, at Malibu Nov. 3-6, at Santee, San Diego Co. Nov. 3, and at S.S.S. Nov. 14-17; the species is rare in s. California. A lone Red-breasted Merganser at Saratoga Springs, San Bernardino Co. Nov. 26 was unusual.

HAWKS — A Goshawk at Deep Springs, Inyo Co. Nov. 12 was in an area where the species may be expected, however, an adult seen near Hemet, Riverside Co. Nov. 19 (MSanM) was far south, but there are three recent sightings from around the 8000-ft. level of the nearby San Jacinto Mts. that suggest nesting (Willow Creek Aug. 26, 1971; Tahquitz Valley June 25, 1972; Skunk Cabbage July 11, 1972 — JF). Single Red-shouldered Hawks seen at Scotty's Castle, Inyo Co. Aug. 19, and near Mecca, Riverside Co. Sept. 8 were well to the east of their normal range in California. The only Broad-winged Hawks reported this fall were an immature on Pt. Loma, San Diego Co. Sept. 23 (JB), and an adult at Furnace Creek Ranch Nov. 18 (GMcC, SS, BB); this species is proving to be a regular migrant and winter visitor in California in limited numbers. The only report of a Swainson's Hawk away from the Owens Valley, where it nests, was one at Kelso, San Bernardino Co. Oct. 29. Most unusual was the presence of a Zone-tailed Hawk in Big Pine, Inyo Co. Aug. 27-28 (TH, GSS, LJ); there are less than a dozen reports of this species for California, and all but one of these are from the southern border; the exception is one reported without details in Death Valley, Jan. 11, 1934. Some 20 reports of Ferruginous Hawks were received with birds scattered throughout the Region in small numbers during

October and November. The only Bald Eagle seen was an immature at S.S.S. Nov. 19. A few Ospreys were noted along the coast as usual, and 5 were reported from the interior including one at Furnace Creek Ranch Sept. 15. Only four reports of Peregrine Falcons were received, but one of these was of two together at Deep Springs Oct. 9. A dozen sightings of Pigeon Hawks were received, with most coming from the coast, as usual.

CRANES, RAILS — About 6000 Sandhill Cranes were present at Soda Lake on the Carrizo Plains Nov. 18 where numbers spend the winter each year; 18 at S.S.S. Oct. 25, and 2 more there Nov. 11 were unusual since few have been seen here in recent years; however, one seen flying overhead near San Pedro Oct. 4 was even more unusual. A single Black Rail was being seen off and on at Newport Bay during November.

SHOREBIRDS — An Am. Oystercatcher on Santa Cruz I. Dec. 2 (PJ) represents the third modern record of the species in California, one having been present on Anacapa I. from May, 1964 to the present, and another at Avila Beach in San Luis Obispo Co. from Oct. 1964 to Feb. 1965. Single Black Oystercatchers seen at Malibu Nov. 27 and on Pt. Loma Oct. 7-8 were far from areas of normal occurrence. Five Snowy Plovers at Deep Springs Aug. 19 were the only ones reported from the n.e. portion of the Region where its status is unclear. A Mountain Plover near San Simeon Nov. 24 was at a coastal locality from which few records exist; single birds near Big Pine Sept. 24 & Oct. 7, one at Furnace Creek Ranch Sept. 23, and 2 there on Oct. 10 are sightings from the n.e. portion of the Region where it has been considered rare. Along the coast a single Am. Golden Plover was at San Luis Obispo Aug. 20-31, 3 were at Goleta, Sept. 5 with another there Sept. 23, one was at the Santa Clara Rivermouth Aug. 21, one was found in the San Fernando Valley Sept. 19, two at Newport, Sept. 7 had been joined by a third Sept. 15, lone birds were seen around San Diego Sept. 16 & Oct. 1, and another there Sept. 10 was still present to Nov. 30; others were found near Imperial Beach Oct. 1 & 10; these are normal numbers for the coast in fall. A lone Am. Golden Plover was seen at S.S.N. where it is much less common, Sept. 8. Twenty-three Solitary Sandpipers were found away from the coast between mid-August and mid-September with one very late at Furnace Creek Ranch Oct. 14; along the coast 2-3 were around Goleta during September, 2 were at Malibu in late August, one was in San Pedro Sept. 20, 2 were near Newport Aug. 16, and 3-4 were near Imperial Beach in late August.

A Wandering Tattler at Sepulveda Dam in inland San Fernando Valley Sept. 1 (DL) was most unusual; the species is accidental away from the coast. The only interior records of Knots were one at S.S.N. Sept. 8, and 2 at Salton City Sept. 24. Over 90 Pectoral Sandpipers were reported during September and October from coastal localities where they occur regularly as fall migrants; the only inland sightings were one on Baldwin L. in the San Bernardino Mts., Sept. 23, and another near Calipatria, Imperial Co. Sept. 24. About 25 Baird's Sandpipers were seen along the

coast between mid-August and mid-September with a very late bird reported at Legg L. in Los Angeles Oct. 21; inland one was seen at Deep Springs Aug. 19, two were at Furnace Creek Ranch Aug. 19 with another there Sept. 7, and one was found on Baldwin L. Sept. 23. A few Short-billed Dowitchers were identified by call in the n.e. portion of the Region where their status is undetermined, but should be expected as a migrant in small numbers. As usual Stilt Sandpipers were present at S.S.S. during September and October with a high count of 50 on Sept. 24; one at Newport Nov. 18 was the only one found away from the Salton Sea. A single Ruff was well seen at Morro Bay Oct. 6 (RW); there are now over a dozen records of this bird for California. Red Phalaropes were quite scarce along the coast this fall, and numbers seen from boats well offshore were lower than normal; the only inland records were of single birds seen at the Salton Sea Sept. 8 & 24. One at the Santa Clara Rivermouth Oct. 21 was most unusual because it was an ad. ♀ in full summer dress; never before has this editor seen a Red Phalarope at this time of the year with anything more than a trace of the red plumage.

JAEGERS, LARIDS—Parasitic Jaegers appeared more numerous than usual along the Santa Barbara and Ventura County beaches with 75+ seen by one observer. Single Parasitic Jaegers were seen inland at S.S.N. Sept. 8 & 24. An ad. Long-tailed Jaeger, by far our rarest jaeger, was noted between San Diego and San Clemente I. Sept. 9, and two more were seen near Anacapa I. Sept. 16. Western Gulls (*Larus occidentalis livens*) lingered at the Salton Sea to the end of September with 11 there Sept. 24. Laughing Gulls, too, remained at the Salton Sea until the end of September with 14 counted on Sept. 22. An imm. Laughing Gull followed a boat out of San Diego for 35 mi. Sept. 9, producing one of very few coastal records for this species. Franklin's Gulls were unusually scarce this fall with only 4 reported: one at Furnace Creek Ranch Oct. 10, one at S.S.N. Sept. 1, one in King Harbor, Los Angeles Co. Nov. 26, and another in nearby San Pedro Oct. 24. An imm. Heermann's Gull at S.S.N. Sept. 24 represents one of the few inland records for this species. Common Terns are numerous along the coast during the fall, with fair numbers present at the Salton Sea, but records from elsewhere in the Region are virtually nonexistent, so one seen near Big Pine Sept. 24, and another seen on Big Bear L. in the San Bernardino Mts. Sept. 28 are of interest. At the Salton Sea all 13 Black Skimmers were present Sept. 4, but were gone by Sept. 24. Along the coast a single Black Skimmer remained at the Santa Clara Rivermouth until at least Sept. 9, but 1-4 were near Imperial Beach Sept. 7-Nov. 11; it would appear this species has extended its range northward to include s. California, and it will be interesting to watch and document its spread in the next decade.

ALCIDS—A very early Com. Murre was seen off Imperial Beach Oct. 14, another was found dead at Mission Beach Oct. 29; a red was seen at the Santa Clara Rivermouth Nov. 6. A Marbled Murrelet, rare in s. California waters, was noted near Santa Cruz

I. Oct. 9. In recent years one or two Craveri's Murrelets have been found annually off San Diego, however on Sept. 9 some 30 were seen during a round trip from San Diego to San Clemente I. A Tufted Puffin found dead at Ocean Beach in San Diego Sept. 11 was far south of its normal range.

DOVES THROUGH HUMMINGBIRDS—Each year a few Band-tailed Pigeons wander away from their normal range; this year 2 were seen at Desert Center, Riverside Co. Aug. 27, one was found exhausted in Carpinteria Sept. 16, and another lingered around San Pedro, during October and November. A White-winged Dove was seen in San Pedro Oct. 23, another was found in La Mesa, San Diego Co. Sept. 28, and 3-4 were present around Imperial Beach during October; one on Santa Rosa I. Sept. 15 was unexpected. One at Furnace Creek Ranch Oct. 14 was north of its normal range. Ground Doves continue to persist in the San Bernardino Valley with 2 seen in Riverside Aug. 23, and another near Corona Oct. 11; this species became established in that area some 20 years ago. A Ground Dove at Furnace Creek Ranch Oct. 10 was well to the north of its normal range. A single Yellow-billed Cuckoo at Furnace Creek Ranch Sept. 3 gives us one of the very few modern fall records. A Saw-whet Owl banded near Duarte, Los Angeles Co. Oct. 22 was probably a migrant, since it was away from normal habitat. Most interesting was the report of 10 migrant Black Swifts in Sespe Canyon, Ventura Co. Oct. 4, and 6 more near Lebec, Kern Co. the following day; few fall sightings have been reported in the past. An Anna's Hummingbird remained in Big Pine, Oct. 6-24, east of its normal range in California.

WOODPECKERS—There were 18 Yellow-shafted Flickers reported from various localities in Santa Barbara, Los Angeles, San Diego, Inyo and Imperial Co. during October and November. Unexpected were the sightings of Acorn Woodpeckers along the coast, outside their normal range and habitat, with singles on the U.C.L.A. campus Oct. 22, at Redondo Beach Nov. 12, on the Palos Verdes Pen. Nov. 26, in San Pedro Sept. 9, in Torrey Pines S.P., San Diego Co. Oct. 26, on Pt. Loma Sept. 8 & Oct. 8, and near Imperial Beach Sept. 10; what forced these birds to leave their beloved oaks is unknown. Lewis' Woodpeckers staged a flight into the Region this fall, being found in the Owens Valley and most of the e. portion of the Region south to Riverside Co.; in the coastal mountains they were present all the way south to San Diego Co. (Japatal Valley and Cuyamaca S.P.); along the coast individuals reached as far south as Los Angeles Co. (Malibu Nov. 14 and San Pedro Oct. 18), and San Diego Co. (Santee in Nov.), and even appeared on Santa Cruz I. A Williamson's Sapsucker at Yucca Valley, San Bernardino Co. Oct. 15 was at a desert oasis at the base of a mountain range in which the species nests, and another in Cuyamaca S.P. was in typical habitat but in a mountain range in which it does not nest; however, single birds on the Palos Verdes Pen. Nov. 2-3 & 26, and another near Lakeside Nov. 25-30, were in coastal localities where the species

is virtually unrecorded. A lone Hairy Woodpecker at Oasis, Mono Co. Aug. 24-Sept. 2 was in the lowlands away from normal habitat. A White-headed Woodpecker at Pt. Fermin Sept. 19-29 was unusual since the species hardly ever wanders from its mountain home.

FLYCATCHERS — An E. Kingbird at Scotty's Castle, Inyo Co. Sept. 2-8 was the only one reported from the e. portion of the Region, and only 4 singles were found along the coast: Goleta Aug. 31, Santa Barbara Sept. 3 & Sept. 18, and near Imperial Beach Sept. 10. Tropical Kingbirds appeared scarcer than usual along the coast with only 4 reported: Goleta Oct. 30, Malibu Oct. 28-29, Imperial Beach Sept. 28-Oct. 1, and again Oct. 14-19. An E. Phoebe was present at Furnace Creek Ranch Oct. 14-17 (GMcC, JF), one was seen at Kelso Nov. 24 (RW), and another was in San Pedro Oct. 17-18 (SW *et al.*); this species is a casual straggler to California. A *Coue's Flycatcher* at the Brock Ranch near Holtville, Imperial Co. Oct. 28 (SC *et al.*) represents the fifth acceptable record for California. The only Vermilion Flycatchers reported from along the coast were one in San Pedro Oct. 10-18, and another near Imperial Beach Oct. 14.

CORVIDS — Steller's Jays were found away from the mountains in Inyo Co. at such localities as Deep Springs from late September through October with some still present into November (one in the Saline Valley Nov. 24), but numbers were generally small, and the birds did not appear to push southward into s. California. In the Los Angeles area one seen in Claremont Nov. 5, and another seen near Beaumont Nov. 15 could well have descended from the local mountains. Several were seen on the Palos Verdes Pen., however the species is suspected of establishing itself as a resident there (*Am. Birds*, 26:907, 1972). Scrub Jays wandered from their normal habitat and range out onto the desert areas of Inyo and San Bernardino Cos. with single birds seen at Furnace Creek Ranch Sept. 20 & Oct. 14, around Tecopa Oct. 13-14 & Nov. 5, a flock of 12 seen in Kelso Sept. 30, and another one there Oct. 10. In this Region Black-billed Magpies are resident in the extreme n.e. corner (Deep Springs) and along the Owens Valley south to Olancía and normally do not wander, however, 6 individuals were reported from s. Inyo Co. during November. A Com. Crow at the S.S.S. Nov. 5 and a flock of 36 there from Nov. 19-31 were most unusual. Piñon Jays dispersed widely, being found in many lowland localities of Inyo and San Bernardino Cos., as well as spreading westward in the mountains around L. Arrowhead, in the foothills at the n. end of the San Fernando Valley and even reaching the coast in Santa Barbara Co. In October Clark's Nutcrackers staged an invasion that produced records of the species throughout most of the Region. In the desert regions of Inyo, San Bernardino, Riverside and San Diego Cos. reports included one at Cow Creek in Death Valley Oct. 4, 3 near Clark Mt. in extreme e. San Bernardino Co. Sept. 30, single birds at Kelso Oct. 10 & 15, three at Yucca Valley Oct. 4, singles at Morongo Valley Oct. 2-3 & Nov. 11, and Cottonwood Springs

Oct. 19, and 2 at Agua Caliente Springs Oct. 8. Along the coast one was seen in Santa Barbara Nov. 12, two were at nearby Montecito Oct. 24, five were in San Pedro Sept. 29, and single birds were found on Pt. Loma Sept. 17 & Oct. 29. Other out-of-range records include 25 near Tejon Ranch, Kern Co. Oct. 11-12, three or four at the n. end of the San Fernando Valley Oct. 3, one on the U.C.L.A. campus Oct. 13, one in Riverside Oct. 31, and one in Pine Valley Nov. 19.

CHICKADEES, NUTHATCHES, CREEPERS — Mountain Chickadees descended into the coastal lowlands in September, being fairly common around Santa Barbara and commoner than usual in the Los Angeles Basin, but none were found in coastal San Diego County. White-breasted Nuthatches were present in small numbers throughout the coastal lowlands from mid-September onward, indicating a movement from the local mountains; they were also present at Big Pine throughout the period, and one was found far out on the desert at Kelso Sept. 30. Red-breasted Nuthatches spread across the entire Region during September and October, the species being present at every desert oasis from Inyo Co. south to Imperial Co. but apparently absent in November; along the coast the species was most numerous late September — early October, with numbers much reduced by the end of November. The Pygmy Nuthatch is not much of a wanderer, however a number were reported from lowland localities this fall, including 15 in Big Pine Sept. 1, one in Morongo Valley Aug. 22, six around Santa Barbara from Aug. 29 onward, a few around the Palos Verdes Pen. after Oct. 6, 7 in Hollywood Oct. 15, 10 on the U.C.L.A. campus Sept. 17-Oct. 31, and up to 15 on Pt. Loma Oct. 15-Nov. 5. A few Brown Creepers also descended into the coastal lowlands, with 12+ being found around Santa Barbara during October and November, and at least 6 around San Diego.

WRENS, THRASHERS, THRUSHES — A Winter Wren at Scotty's Castle Nov. 23, and another near Oceanside Oct. 25 were both in areas from which few records exist. A Brown Thrasher at Deep Springs Oct. 9 (LJ), and another in N. Palm Springs Oct. 9-10 (Paul & Violet Orr, *vide* GSS) were the only two reported this fall. A Sage Thrasher at Furnace Creek Ranch Sept. 14, one in Goleta Oct. 15, and another in Duarte Sept. 11 were all at somewhat unusual localities. Varied Thrushes were far more numerous and widespread than usual from late October onward. They were present throughout the Owens Valley and at all the desert oases of Inyo, San Bernardino and Riverside Cos. after Oct. 22 with 10 around China L. Nov. 1-15, and 12 at Morongo Valley Nov. 19; they were also present in the Panamint Mts., as indicated by a count of 10 on Telescope Peak Oct. 22, and fairly common throughout the coastal mountains south to San Diego Co. Numbers also occurred along the coast and throughout the Los Angeles Basin, including Palos Verdes Pen., Riverside, and Lakeside. A Swainson's Thrush on the Palos Verdes Pen. Nov. 26 was exceptionally late. The only coastal reports

of Townsend's Solitaires received were of one in Goleta Nov. 15 and another in San Pedro Nov. 29.

KINGLETS, WAXWINGS, SHRIKES — Golden-crowned Kinglets also staged an invasion into the Region occurring in many areas where their appearance is noteworthy. In the high desert areas of Inyo and San Bernardino Cos. they were found at Deep Springs (6 on Oct. 13 and two Oct. 22), Furnace Creek Ranch (3 on Nov. 4), China L. (one on Oct. 23), Tecopa (two on Oct. 15), and Kelso (one on Nov. 24). In the coastal mountains they pushed south to the Laguna Mts. (10 in Cuyamaca S.P. Nov. 26). Along the coast at least 20 were found in the Santa Barbara area, about the same number was found in the Los Angeles area, at least 3 were present on Pt. Loma after Oct. 17, and one was near Imperial Beach Oct. 26. Bohemian Waxwings were present throughout Inyo Co. in late November with 15 in Bishop Nov. 24, up to 65 in the Saline Valley Nov. 23-25, one at Scotty's Castle Nov. 23, 20 at Furnace Creek Ranch Nov. 19 and 6 more there Nov. 26, and 12 in Shoshone on the same day; numbers such as these indicate an invasion to the south of their normal winter range, a phenomenon experienced every 4-5 years. The only N. Shrikes reported were one near Oasis Nov. 25, one at Deep Springs Nov. 12, and another near Westguard Pass Nov. 25, all localities in the extreme n.e. corner of the Region.

VIREOS, WARBLERS — A Solitary Vireo present near Imperial Beach on Sept. 29 (GMcC) appeared to be of the eastern race *V.s. solitarius*, thus far undocumented in California. A Red-eyed Vireo at Scotty's Castle Sept. 2 (GMcC) and another at Finney L. in the Imperial Valley Sept. 4 (JF) were both well observed; this species is extremely rare in s. California. At least 16 Black-and-white Warblers, a rare but regular vagrant to California, were found along the coast (single birds at Goleta on Oct. 4, 15 & 30; one in Santa Barbara Sept. 21-23; one near Malibu Sept. 4; one on Pt. Fermin Oct. 10; singles on Pt. Loma Sept. 16, Oct. 3, 5, 8, 11 & 17; singles near Imperial Beach Sept. 8 & Nov. 5, and one near Otay Sept. 10-11), and 4 others were seen at desert oases in Inyo and San Bernardino Cos. (one at Scotty's Castle Sept. 2; single birds at Kelso Aug. 20 & Oct. 10, and one at Morongo Valley Oct. 2). A **Prothonotary Warbler**, a casual straggler to California, that remained in Coronado, San Diego Co. Oct. 25-27 was photographed by George Bauslaugh (GMcC). Reports of Tennessee Warbler, a regular straggler to California in limited numbers, included at least 16 individuals along the coast Aug. 27-Nov. 5, as well as on the high desert, where it is rare, with one in Shoshone Sept. 23 and another in Morongo Valley Oct. 14. Virginia Warblers were more widespread than usual, although the numbers present in such well-worked localities as Imperial Beach were lower than expected; along the coast at least 6 were found in Santa Barbara Co. 20 in Los Angeles Co. one in Orange Co. and 23 in San Diego Co. with most appearing in late August and early September. Inland, records of interest included birds at Oasis, Lancaster, Duarte, Desert Center, and Brawley. A single Lucy's

Warbler near Morro Bay Nov. 24-25 (EAC & SC), and another near Imperial Beach Aug. 31 were the only ones reported on the coast, where it is a very rare straggler. A Parula Warbler in Goleta Sept. 25 (JA & RW) was the only one found this fall; it is exceptionally rare during the fall. Single Magnolia Warblers were seen at Deep Springs Aug. 19 (JD & KG) and Aug. 27-Sept. 2 (GSS, LJ & GMcC) in the n.e. corner of the Region as well as at Goleta Sept. 20 (RW), Marina del Rey Sept. 15 (DAG), and near Imperial Beach Oct. 6 (TP). Sightings of Black-throated Blue Warblers include singles at Deep Springs Oct. 22 (LJ & GMcC), Tecopa Oct. 14 (JT), and Morongo Valley Oct. 10 (LJ), all localities on the high desert, as well as along the coast at Santa Barbara Sept. 14 & 21 (RW), San Pedro Sept. 7 (SW), Pt. Loma Oct. 24 (FD), and near Imperial Beach Oct. 14 (L.A.A.S.). The Black-throated Green Warbler is normally very rare in California, however, this fall one was at Scotty's Castle Nov. 4 (MSanM & SS), one was present on Pt. Fermin Sept. 19-20 (EN & LJ), one was near Otay Sept. 30 (GSS & BB), and another was near Imperial Beach Oct. 20-21 (GMcC & EAC). A Blackburnian Warbler was in Goleta Sept. 14 (RW), one was present in San Pedro Oct. 22-23 (GSS & LJ), one was found in Costa Mesa Oct. 9-10 (CS), and another was located near Otay Sept. 30 (GSS, BB & LJ); this species is now found every year in limited numbers along the coast of California. A Yellow-throated Warbler discovered in the South Coast Botanic Gardens of San Pedro Oct. 21 (GM) was well seen by a number of observers and clearly determined to be of the form *albilora* since the entire eye stripe was white; this represents the fifth record for California. The only Chestnut-sided Warbler was one seen in Goleta Nov. 4 (RW); this species is a casual vagrant to California. As usual a number of Blackpoll Warblers appeared along the coast Sept. 10-Oct. 28. A Prairie Warbler, always a casual straggler to California, was present at Marina del Rey Sept. 6 (Larry Sansone, *fide* GSS). As usual a few Palm Warblers turned up along the coast in October and November with two in San Luis Obispo Co. 10 in Santa Barbara Co. 4 in Los Angeles Co. and 10 in San Diego Co. however 5 seen together near Imperial Beach Oct. 21 were unusual. A Palm Warbler at Deep Springs Oct. 13 (SS & RM) and another in Yucca Valley Oct. 2 (GSS) were the only sightings from inland localities this fall. An Ovenbird seen at Oasis Sept. 24 (KG), and another found on Pt. Loma Oct. 9 (RS) were the only two reported; this species is a regular straggler in very limited numbers. Northern Waterthrushes appear to be regular migrants in small numbers along the e. side of the Sierra Nevada Mts. during late August and early September with a few stragglers continuing into October; 23 individuals were noted at 8 localities Aug. 25-Oct. 29. Records from the coast and the Los Angeles Basin include one in Goleta Sept. 14-20, single birds at Malibu Sept. 2 and 14, one at L. Sherwood Oct. 28, and one banded near Duarte Oct. 1. A ♂ Hooded Warbler was well seen at Kelso Oct. 10 (LJ); there are now at least 15 records of this species for California. Single Canada Warblers, normally one of the rarer stragglers to California, were found at Rincon Pt., Ventura Co. Oct. 23 (RW), near

Malibu Sept. 9 (DAG), near La Jolla Sept. 15 (RM), and near Otay Sept. 25-26 (GMcC & RM). American Redstarts were found in small numbers along the e. slope of the Sierras where they appear to be regular migrants: 37 birds at 9 localities Aug. 27-Oct. 13. Along the coast one was seen at San Simeon Nov. 24, 5 were noted around Santa Barbara Sept. 16-Oct. 15, 4 were in the Los Angeles area Aug. 27-Oct. 13, one was in Costa Mesa Sept. 27, and at least 12 were around San Diego Sept. 10-Oct. 21. A Painted Redstart, an extremely rare straggler to California, was well seen near Imperial Beach Sept. 24 (Mrs. Shelton, *fide* GMcC).

BOBOLINKS, ORIOLES, TANAGERS — As appears to be normal, a few Bobolinks passed through s. California, with single birds at Furnace Creek Ranch Sept. 7 & Nov. 4 being the only ones found in the e. part of the Region, and one near San Luis Obispo Oct. 6-8, two in Goleta Sept. 24, one in the San Fernando Valley Oct. 4, and up to 6 near Imperial Beach Sept. 10-Oct. 21. Reports of ♀-plumaged Orchard Orioles included singles at Deep Springs Sept. 6 (RW), Furnace Creek Ranch Nov. 19 (GMcC), Shoshone Sept. 23 (LJ & KG), Pachalka Spring on Clark Mt. Sept. 30 (EAC & SC), Goleta Sept. 21 (KA), and Encino Aug. 26 (JD); this species is proving to be of regular occurrence in limited numbers in California. A few Baltimore Orioles were noted as is now expected: singles from 6 localities Sept. 16-Oct. 30. Two Boat-tailed Grackles at S.S.S. Nov. 17 provide us with another record of this species for the Imperial Valley. A ♂ Hepatic Tanager was seen at Scotty's Castle Sept. 6 (RW), and another was studied in Morongo Valley Oct. 13 (JF); this species is still very rare away from the very limited breeding area in the San Bernardino Mts. Single migrant or vagrant Summer Tanagers were seen at Oasis Aug. 30, Scotty's Castle Aug. 25, Furnace Creek Ranch Nov. 23, Corn Springs in e. Riverside Co. Aug. 27, at Goleta on Sept. 16, and near Malibu Sept. 2; two at Brock Ranch in Imperial Co. Sept. 24 were probably birds that had nested locally.

FINCHES — Single Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were seen at Kelso Sept. 23 (LJ) & 30 (EAC), Finney L. at S.S.S. Aug. 12 (LB), Brock Ranch Sept. 24 (EAC), San Pedro Sept. 24-26 (SW), and on Pt. Loma Oct. 9 (RS); a few of these birds appear in California each fall. In the n.e. portion of the Region Indigo Buntings reported included one at Deep Springs Sept. 2, two at Scotty's Castle Aug. 25, one in Kelso Sept. 30, and one collected on Clark Mt. Oct. 1; along the coast one was seen in Goleta Oct. 1 and another was found near Lakeside Sept. 26. Most interesting were 3 reports of ad. ♂ Painted Buntings far from metropolitan areas with one in Los Osos, San Luis Obispo Co. Nov. 18-28 (FT), one at Furnace Creek Ranch Nov. 4 (GMcC & MSanM), and the other in Kelso Oct. 21 (Alfred Driscoll, *fide* EAC); ad. ♂♂ in metropolitan areas have been treated as escapes, however, specimens of immatures have been taken with the Region during the fall period, indicating that stragglers do reach California. A Dickcissel, a casual straggler to Califor-

nia, was seen in Kelso Sept. 13 (JA), another was noted at Yucca Valley Oct. 4 (SS & RM), one was studied on Pt. Loma Oct. 19 (TT), and another was seen near Imperial Beach Oct. 8 (GMCC).

Evening Grosbeaks swarmed across the n.e. part of the Region during October, being recorded at such localities as Big Pine, Deep Springs (20 on Oct. 9), Scotty's Castle, Furnace Creek Ranch (15 on Oct. 3-30), China Lake (18 on Oct. 8-15), Shoshone, Tecopa, Kelso, Clark Mt. and as far south as the Beaumont-Banning area (several Nov. 1-7). In the coastal mountains they were reasonably common, pushing south to San Diego Co. (one on Mt. Palomar Oct. 9 and 7 in Cuyamaca S.P. Oct. 22). Along the coast they were found in Santa Barbara Co., and throughout the Los Angeles Basin (two in San Pedro Oct. 13, 15 in W. Los Angeles Oct. 11, one at U.C.L.A. Oct. 16, 20-30 Glendale in late Nov., 2-8 in Claremont Oct. 3-Nov. 5, and one at Riverside Nov. 4-5), with some actually reaching San Diego Co. (1-2 at La Mesa Oct. 31-Nov. 8). Purple Finches appeared to be more numerous than usual in the lowlands, and even reached such localities as Big Pine and Furnace Creek Ranch. A few Cassin's Finches descended into the coastal lowlands with at least 6 seen around Montecito during November, 1-2 found on the Palos Verdes Pen. and a number seen around San Bernardino in November. Grey-crowned Rosy Finches were present around Westguard Pass and vicinity in the White Mts. during November (1000+ on Nov. 11, 450 on Nov. 18, and 300 on Nov. 22) as may prove to be normal, and 200 were seen to the south in the Saline Valley Nov. 25. A single Gray-crowned Rosy Finch studied atop Mt. Pinos Nov. 12 (PJM) represents the southernmost record for the species in California. A few **Black Rosy Finches** were present with other rosy finches at Westguard Pass, with 2-3 noted there Nov. 11 (EAC & SC), 2 on Nov. 18 (GMCC *et al.*), and another nearby at Gilbert Pass Nov. 20 (GSS); there are only two previous records of the species for California. Pine Siskins were much more common than usual along the coast, and also appeared in numbers throughout the east, including the deserts of e. San Diego and Imperial Cos. Three Lawrence's Goldfinches at Deep Springs Sept. 6, and 2 on Santa Rosa I. Sept. 15 were at most unusual localities. A few Red Crossbills were on the move with one seen on the U.C.L.A. campus Oct. 17, about 10 were seen in San Pedro Nov. 25, and 6 were over Pt. Loma Nov. 5.

SPARROWS, LONGSPURS — Reports of Lark Buntings, a rare wanderer to California, included single birds at Deep Springs Sept. 2, Furnace Creek Ranch Sept. 6-9, Morongo Valley Aug. 27-28, and near Imperial Beach Oct. 8-21 with 2 present on the latter date. Single Grasshopper Sparrows at Furnace Creek Ranch Oct. 22, Kelso Sept. 30, Goleta Sept. 21, and at the Sepulveda Recreational Area Aug. 11 were all away from known breeding areas, and are assumed to be migrants. Two **Sharp-tailed Sparrows** found at Newport Bay Nov. 20 (CS) were still present Nov. 30; there are less than a dozen records for this species in California. Single Black-throated Sparrows in the San Fernando Valley Aug. 25, in San Pedro Sept. 14-15, and near Imperial Beach Aug. 29 were all west

of their normal range; 5 banded near Duarte Sept. 22-Oct. 1 were suspected of having been raised locally although they were somewhat west of their known breeding range.

At least 40 Slate-colored Juncos were reported from various points within the Region during October and November with one at Tecopa Oct. 14 being the earliest. In the e. desert regions Gray-headed Juncos were noted at Deep Springs, Tecopa, Yucca Valley, Morongo Valley, and at Brock Ranch; one was seen in the San Bernardino Mts. at Camp Angeles Oct. 7; along the coast single birds were seen in Quatal Valley, Ventura Co., on the Palos Verdes Pen., and on Pt. Loma. In recent years a few Tree Sparrows have been found in the northeast; this fall they were found near Deep Springs, Mesquite Springs in Death Valley, Furnace Creek Ranch, and Kelso. The only Clay-colored Sparrows noted this fall were one at Furnace Creek Ranch Oct. 9, single birds in Goleta Sept. 14 & Nov. 7-8, and another near Imperial Beach Oct. 21. The number of Harris' Sparrows found in the east was higher than usual with at least 40 at Furnace Creek Ranch Oct. 22-Nov. 13. (25+ on Nov. 26), and others at China L., Panamint Springs, Shoshone, Kelso, Deep Springs and Scotty's Castle. On the coast one was in Monrovia after Oct. 30, and two were discovered near Malibu Nov. 27. Only 9 White-throated Sparrows were reported seen in the Region this fall, but one at Westguard Pass on Sept. 24 was exceptionally early. A Swamp Sparrow at Gaviota Nov. 23 and another in Goleta Nov. 19 were the only two reported; a few of these birds normally occur in California every winter. A Lapland Longspur near Deep Springs Nov. 11, another seen at Furnace Creek Ranch Oct. 22, and 3 in the Cuyama Valley, Santa Barbara Co. Dec. 3 were the only ones reported; numbers are usually higher. Chestnut-collared Longspurs were not as numerous and widespread as last fall, however, 2 were at Furnace Creek Ranch Oct. 14 with 4 there Oct. 22, two were near Ridgecrest Nov. 19, 3 were in Kelso Oct. 1, 7 were near Big Bear L. Oct. 7 with 3 still present Oct. 10, one was noted at the Santa Clara Rivermouth Oct. 21, and another was seen near Marina del Rey Oct. 14.

CONTRIBUTORS — Kevin Aanerud, Ernest R. Abeles, Jon Atwood, Keith Axelson, Barbara Berton, Leo R. Best, Bill Boarman, John Borneman, Richard Bradley, Bruce Broadbooks, John Butler, Eugene A. Cardiff, Steven Cardiff, Marie Cox, Fay Dalton, Dave DeSante, John Dow (JDo), Jon Dunn, Jim Fairchild, John M. Finkeiner, Robert Fleischer, Alice Fries, Kimball Garrett, Ron H. Gerstenberg, Pamela Green, Daniel A. Guthrie, Tom Heindel, Lee Jones, Paul Jorgensen, Chuck S. Lawson, David Lewis, Clifford R. Lyons, Ed Navojosky, Rich Mackintosh, Gerald Maisel, Peggy McBride, T. Nelson Metcalf, Peter J. Metropulos, Ted Parker, Mike Prather, Nancy Prather, Van Remsen, Mike SanMiguel, Chuck Sexton, L. A. Shelton, Trudy Siptroth, Richard Stallcup, Nick Story, G. Shumway Suffel, Steven Summers, Fern R. Tainter, Jan Tarble, Tom Taylor, Don V. Tiller, Gerald Tolman, Bruce Webb, Richard Webster, Shirley Wells — **GUY McCASKIE, San Diego Natural History Museum, Balboa Park, San Diego, California.**