

Southern California is a land of varied habitats indeed, extending from the barren deserts of Death Valley (elev. - 282 ft.) to the above-timberline mountain-tops of the San Bernardino Mountains (elev. 11,845 ft.), and includes within it the lush river valley of the Colorado River, the unique landlocked Salton Sea, and the productive off-shore waters of the Pacific. It is little wonder the area is rich in birdlife, and this fall period alone produced records of 406 species.

(Audubon's) Warblers at Desert Center, Riverside Co. Sept. 3 and a Ruby-crowned Kinglet near San Diego Sept. 6 establishing exceptionally early arrival dates, but Audubon's Warblers Sept. 13, Dark-eyed Juncos Sept. 22, White-crowned Sparrows Sept. 16 and Lincoln's Sparrows on the same day around San Diego were all a little earlier than normal. September 29-30 produced a very heavy influx of wintering species, including the first Red-naped and Red-breasted Sapsuckers, Hermit Thrushes, Golden-crowned and Fox Sparrows; this was noted by observers in Santa Barbara, San Pedro, San Diego and on San Nicholas I.

Again a large number and variety of rare stragglers, mostly from eastward, were turned up by the ever-increasing army of birdwatchers out searching for these vagrants. However, it is evident that a larger-than-normal number of these waifs occurred in Southern California this fall, and included such rarities as a Blue Jay, the eastern form of Solitary Vireo, Worm-eating Warblers and a Yellow-throated Warbler. Stragglers were noted throughout the period, but most occurred in late September and early October along the coast. A trip checking desert oases of Riverside, San Bernardino and Inyo Cos. Nov. 3-4 produced an amazing variety of birds including two Cape May Warblers, a Black-throated Blue Warbler, two Black-throated Green Warblers, two Blackburnian Warblers, two Rusty Blackbirds and a Dickcissel along with other rarities to the area.

Interesting waterfowl included Black-bellied Tree Ducks wandering north from Mexico and a King Eider caught up with the numerous scoters moving south from Alaska. Hawks were seen migrating south on Pt. Loma in fair numbers during late September and early October; most were Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawks but a single Broad-winged Hawk and the very rare Zone-tailed Hawk were included in the sightings. A tremendous variety of shorebirds was reported including a few species seldom found in California.

ALBATROSSES, SHEARWATERS — A single Black-footed Albatross off Los Angeles Sept. 8 was the only one reported off S. California. A few N. Fulmars were noted to as far south as San Diego in November indicating an influx this winter. Two New Zealand Shearwaters off San Diego Sept. 15 were unexpected. As usual a few Manx Shearwaters were seen from along the southern coast in November.

A detailed map of Southern California and Northern Baja California, Mexico. The map shows major cities, mountains, valleys, and rivers. Key features include:

- Cities and Towns:** San Francisco, San Jose, San Luis Obispo, San Rafael, Santa Barbara, Santa Monica, Santa Cruz, Santa Ana, San Gabriel, San Bernardino, San Marcos, San Jacinto, San Clemente, San Diego, Los Angeles, and Yuma.
- Mountains and Ranges:** Sierra Nevada, Santa Monica Mountains, San Gabriel Mountains, San Bernardino Mountains, San Jacinto Mountains, and the Coast Range.
- Valleys:** San Joaquin Valley, Central Valley, San Gabriel Valley, San Bernardino Valley, and the Coachella Valley.
- Rivers:** Colorado River, San Joaquin River, Santa Ana River, and the Los Angeles River.
- Other Features:** Death Valley National Monument, Joshua Tree National Monument, and the Pacific Ocean.

HERONS, STORKS, SPOONBILLS — The Little Blue Heron at N.E.S.S. was still present Sept. 10. One was seen near Oceanside, San Diego Co. Sept. 21 (AF, SW) and another was present at Bolsa Chica, Orange Co. after Nov. 22 (HK, NJS); this species is apparently on the increase as a visitor to California. Fewer than the normal numbers of Cattle Egrets reached the coast this fall although they remain common at the Salton Sea with over 3000 there Aug. 11. An immature Reddish Egret first seen around Imperial Beach Oct. 6 (PJ) was still present at the end of the period. As usual a few Louisiana Herons appeared along the coast in September and October, and by the end of the period at least six had been reported in San Diego and Orange Co.; one at the south end of the Salton Sea (hereafter S.E.S.S.) Aug. 4-11 was unusual. Wood Storks remained around S.E.S.S. until at least Sept. 28 when 47 were counted; one at N.E.S.S. Sept. 1-14 was unusual.

Roseate Spoonbills remained at the Salton Sea well into the fall with 13 still present at N.E.S.S. Sept. 16 and 35 at S.E.S.S. Oct. 13; the latest record was for one at S.E.S.S. Oct. 26. Along the coast two remained around Goleta, Santa Barbara Co. to Sept. 14 (TNM) and the bird seen in San Luis Obispo moved to nearby Morro Bay, remaining there until at least Sept. 15 (FT).

SWANS, GEESE, DUCKS — The only Whistling Swans away from the Owens Valley, where they occur regularly, were four on Morro Bay Nov. 30 and one in Riverside Nov. 21. A Brant appeared at Malibu, Los Angeles Co. Nov. 27 (HK *et al.*; photo to S.D.N.H.M.) and remained to the end of the period; a rare straggler to California. By Nov. 7 there were at least three "Blue" Geese with some 12,000 Snow Geese at S.E.S.S. Some 200 Ross' Geese at S.E.S.S. at the end of the period is a large number for that area and one near Lone Pine, Inyo Co. Nov. 25 was at an unusual locality.



Brant (immature, first winter), Malibu Lagoon, Calif. Nov. 27, 1973. Photo/Robert Kepkey.

Three Black-bellied Tree Ducks, representing the fourth acceptable record for California, were present at S.E.S.S. Oct. 15 - Nov. 4 (DVT *et al.*) with five there Oct. 26 (HK). Fulvous Tree Ducks were noted later than usual at S.E.S.S. with 40 on Oct. 18 and two still present Nov. 3; one at Furnace Creek Ranch in Death Valley (hereafter F.C.R.) Sept. 25 (HK) was most unusual but another on Newport Bay, Orange Co. Oct. 21 (EAC) may have

been an escape from nearby Lion Country Safari. As usual a few Blue-winged Teal were found in October and November with four males at Bolsa Chica Nov. 26 being the largest number reported. Two ♂ European Wigeon on Morro Bay Nov. 24-30 and another on Newport Bay Nov. 30 were the only ones reported. Very few Wood Ducks appeared this fall. A Greater Scaup, scarce away from the coast, was well studied at the unlikely location of Stove Pipe Wells in Death Valley Nov. 11 (VR *et al.*) An Oldsquaw at Huntington Beach, Orange Co. Nov. 9-30 was the only one reported by the end of the period. A ♂ Harlequin Duck was at Montana de Oro Park on the coast of San Luis Obispo Co. Aug. 26 - Nov. 30 (FT *et al.*); this species is proving to be a regular visitor to this area. Unexpected was an imm. ♂ King Eider, the first for S. California, at Malibu Nov. 22-30 (JD, LJ *et al.*; photo to S.D.N.H.M.). Up to three Surf Scoters around the Salton Sea in early August were summer stragglers but three at S.E.S.S. Nov. 21 and one at Desert Center, Riverside Co. Nov. 3 were fall migrants at inland localities. Black Scoters were commoner than usual along the coast in November with up to three together in some localities and being found south to San Diego Bay (one Nov. 25). Two Hooded Mergansers, scarce in S. California, were at F.C.R. Nov. 4 and another was on L. Mathews Nov. 21.

HAWKS — An imm. Goshawk was at Deep Springs, Inyo Co. Nov. 23; this species undoubtedly occurs in this area regularly in fall and winter. Single Red-shouldered Hawks near Big Pine, Inyo Co. Sept. 25, at F.C.R. Sept. 1-2 and around Desert Center Nov. 13 were outside the species' known range. An imm. Broad-winged Hawk on Pt. Loma, San Diego Co. Sept. 24 (JD) was the only individual positively identified this fall. Most exciting was the presence of an imm. Zone-tailed Hawk on Pt. Loma Sept. 19-20 (JD, JBu, GMcC); an extremely rare straggler to California. At least ten Rough-legged Hawks were reported during November with individuals south to Newport (Nov. 12-30) and S.E.S.S. (Nov. 27) indicating a flight of these raptors into the Region. Ten reports of Ferruginous Hawks scattered throughout the Region during November was about average. Seven imm. Bald Eagles were reported with two at L. Cachuma, Santa Barbara Co. Oct. 14, two at L. Mathews Nov. 21, one near Westmorland, Imperial Co. Nov. 18, another at S.E.S.S. Nov. 26-30, and one at Brock Ranch, Imperial Co. Nov. 25. At least 15 Ospreys were noted this fall with most seen along the coast. Only six Prairie Falcons were reported away from the n.e. portion of the Region, but in the northeast several were regularly seen. Single Peregrine Falcons over Santa Barbara I. Oct. 9, at Malibu Sept. 3, Pt. Loma Nov. 9 and at S.E.S.S. Oct. 26 were the only four wild birds reported. Nine Merlin were noted Sept. 29 - Nov. 24; a most discouraging number.

SHOREBIRDS — An Am. Oystercatcher seen on Anacapa I. Nov. 3-4 (LJ, BBr *et al.*) is undoubtedly the individual present there since 1964; another noted on Santa Cruz I. Sept. 9 (TNM) may well be the same bird seen there in 1972. Two Black Oystercatchers in Laguna Beach, Orange Co. Sept. 4 (EAC, SC) were well away from areas of normal occurrence. A Piping Plover, only

the second recorded in California, discovered at Malibu Nov. 18 (Olga Clark, *vide* GSS; photo to S.D.N.H.M.) was still present at the end of the period. A Snowy Plover near Tecopa, Inyo Co. Aug. 28 provides us with another inland locality record for this species. As usual a few migrant Am. Golden Plovers of the *dominica* race appeared along the coast with ten on San Nicholas I., Oct. 21 being the largest number reported; an individual of the *fulva* race was present in San Diego Nov. 9-30 and two more were seen at Playa del Rey, L. A. Co. Nov. 17. Two Ruddy Turnstones at N.E.S.S. Sept. 10 were the only individuals reported away from the coast. An **Upland Sandpiper** near Colton, San Bernardino Co. Sept. 10 (SC; * S.B.C.M.) is the fifth record for California. Solitary Sandpipers passed through the Region in small numbers Aug. 15 - Sept. 15 with late individuals seen at the Santa Clara Rivermouth Sept. 30 - Oct. 2 and near Colton Oct. 2. Single Red Knots at the Salton Sea Aug. 25 & Sept. 16 were the only individuals reported away from the coast. A **Sharp-tailed Sandpiper**, only the third reported in this Region, was well studied on Morro Bay, Sept. 24-30 (FT *et al.*). Pectoral Sandpipers appeared scarcer than usual with only 25 individuals reported Sept. 1 - Nov. 7; single birds at F.C.R. Sept. 1 and on San Nicholas I. Sept. 30 were of interest for locality. As usual a few Baird's Sandpipers passed through the Region with nearly 30 reported Aug. 10 - Sept. 29; one near Imperial Beach Oct. 25 was exceptionally late. Up to 20 Stilt Sandpipers were continually noted around S.E.S.S. throughout the period, as is normal; one at F.C.R. Sept. 1 (JF), another at N.E.S.S. Aug. 4 (JD) and three there Sept. 16 (EAC, SC) were new locality records. A few Sanderlings passed through the Salton Sea Aug. 15 - Sept. 15; the only inland locality in California where the species occurs regularly in small numbers. The bedraggled Red Phalarope persisted at N.E.S.S. until at least Aug. 20; the species was also very scarce along the coast this fall.

JAEGERS, GULLS, SKIMMERS — Pomarine Jaegers continue to be the common offshore jaeger while the Parasitic Jaeger is the species seen working along the coastline. Two Parasitic Jaegers were seen inland at N.E.S.S. Sept. 14 where they are proving to be regular in fall. Western Gulls (*Larus occidentalis livens*) lingered at the Salton Sea to late September with 30 on Sept. 14 and only one on Sept. 28. Over 400 Laughing Gulls were counted at S.E.S.S. Aug. 11 and 100 were still present Oct. 27, but only one could be found Nov. 8 and none thereafter. Franklin's Gulls may have been scarcer than usual for only eight individuals were reported with one in the Saline Valley Nov. 23, four around the Salton Sea Aug. 20 - Sept. 10, one near Anacapa I. Nov. 4, one at Balboa, Orange Co. Nov. 23 and another at Oceanside, San Diego Co. Oct. 20. A few Black-legged Kittiwakes appeared along the coast in November, but one at N.E.S.S. Sept. 16 (EAC, SC) was remarkable. An imm. Sabine's Gull on the beach at Huntington Beach, Orange Co. Nov. 3 may have been sick since they normally stay well out to sea when migrating along this coast. Black Skimmers remained on the Salton Sea to early September with 11 counted Aug. 25-26 and two still present Sept. 8; one on San Diego Bay Aug. 25 to the end of the period was only one reported on the coast.

ALCIDS — One or two Com. Murres reported in August and September had undoubtedly summered in the Region; a small influx was noted in November with individuals found to as far south as Imperial Beach (one Nov. 11). A single Craveri's Murrelet off San Diego Sept. 15 was the only one reported this fall.

DOVES, GOATSUCKERS, SWIFTS — As now appears normal a few Band-tailed Pigeons were found outside their normal range with single birds at Deep Springs Sept. 13, Scotty's Castle Sept. 1 and Kelso Nov. 3 in the n.e. portion of the Region and others at Dana Pt. Oct. 26 and near Imperial Beach August 30. Five White-winged Doves were reported from along the coast with one on San Nicholas I. Sept. 28-29, another in Long Beach Nov. 25 and three on Pt. Loma Sept. 16-23; in addition one in Big Pine Oct. 22 was well north of its normal range. A Spotted Dove at Desert Center Nov. 13-17 was well to the east of its known range, and had to fly over 50 miles of barren desert to reach that locality. A Ground Dove at F.C.R. Oct. 29 - Nov. 4 was far north of its normal range.

A **Whip-poor-will** at Long Beach Sept. 26 (C. Collins, *vide* SW; * to L.A.C.M.) is the third recorded away from our southern mountains, the previous two being in the fall and winter and both being identified as *c. v. vociferus*. Two or three migrant Poor-wills were found in October as appears to be normal. Four migrant Black Swifts were noted near Big Pine Aug. 26, and a flock of 12 was seen over Tapia Park, L. A. Co. Sept. 16; very little is known about the fall migration of this species.

WOODPECKERS — As usual a few Com. Flickers showing the characteristics of the eastern form *auratus* were noted in the n.e. portion of the Region during October and November and one was seen on Pt. Loma Oct. 4. Single Acorn Woodpeckers on Anacapa I. Nov. 2-3, in San Pedro Sept. 13 and on Pt. Loma Sept. 16 were at coastal localities outside their normal range; one in Morongo Valley Sept. 29 was a little east of its normal range but another near Westmorland Nov. 4 (EAC, SC) represents the first record for s.e. California. Very few Lewis' Woodpeckers reached the n.e. portion of the Region and single birds in Santa Barbara Nov. 23 and on Pt. Loma Sept. 30 were the only ones reported on the coast. An imm. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (*S. v. varius*) was carefully identified at Panamint Springs, Inyo Co. Nov. 4 (GMcC, JD); a very rare straggler to California. A Williamson's Sapsucker in Yucca Valley Oct. 13 was the only one found away from the mountains this fall. A Ladder-backed Woodpecker at Scotty's Castle Nov. 27 (GSS) represents the northernmost record for California. A Nuttall's Woodpecker well studied near Westmorland Sept. 3 (JD, SS) is the first recorded in s.e. California.

FLYCATCHERS — Single E. Kingbirds at F.C.R. Oct. 1 and at Shoshone, Inyo Co. Sept. 9 were the only two reported along the e. border of the Region; one on Catalina I. Sept. 9 and another near Imperial Beach Sept. 16 were the only coastal records. Seven Tropical Kingbirds were found along the coast with single birds at Goleta Oct. 20-27, Santa Barbara Nov. 16, the Santa Clara Rivermouth Sept. 24 - Oct. 1, San Pedro Sept. 21, and two near Imperial Beach Sept. 25-29 and another there Oct. 7; one near Ontario, San Bernardino Co. Sept.

30 (NJS; * to Western Foundation) represents one of the very few inland records for California. An E. Phoebe at Panamint Springs Nov. 11 (VR *et al.*) was the only record for this casual straggler. As usual a handful of reports were received for Gray Flycatchers on the coast. Reports of Vermilion Flycatchers were encouraging with at least six noted in the n.e. portion of the Region (three together at F.C.R. Nov. 11), two or three found around S.E.S.S., and over ten reported along the coast in Los Angeles, Orange and San Diego Cos.

CORVIDS, NUTHATCHES, CREEPERS — A Blue Jay near Panamint City in the Panamint Mts. Inyo Co. Oct. 24 (SDV; photo to S.D.N.H.M.) is only the second ever reported in the Region. A Yellow-bellied Magpie in Tapia Park, L. A. Co. Sept. 16 would be about 100 mi. out-of-range but was most likely a captive bird released locally. Up to six Com. Crows around F.C.R. Oct. 14 - Nov. 11 and up to 12 around S.E.S.S. Oct. 16 - Nov. 4 were in areas from which few records exist. A flock of Clark's Nutcrackers in the Cuyamaca Mts. of San Diego Co. during November were the only individuals reported outside their normal range. A few Red-breasted Nuthatches evidently moved into the Region during September and October since single birds were noted at numerous localities during that period including F.C.R. (Sept. 9), S.E.S.S. (Sept. 16, Oct. 26), Laguna Dam, Imperial Co. (Oct. 7), San Miguel I. (Oct. 4), San Nicholas I. (Sept. 30, Oct. 20) and San Diego (Sept. 22, Sept. 29, Oct. 20, 28 and Nov. 6 and two at S.E.S.S. Oct. 24 were at localities from which few records exist.

WRENS, THRASHERS, THRUSHES — Single Winter Wrens at Deep Springs Oct. 21, Scotty's Castle Nov. 14-23, Yucca Valley Sept. 18 and Morongo Valley Nov. 13 were all at desert oasis localities where they are proving to be regular in limited numbers. Five Brown Thrashers were located with single birds in Goleta Nov. 7 (*vide* TNM), Santa Barbara Nov. 11 (TNM), on San Nicholas I. Oct. 20-21 (LJ *et al.*), at Morongo Valley Sept. 18 (HB) and at Desert Center Oct. 27 (JD *et al.*); this species regularly reaches California in limited numbers. A number of interesting reports were received of Bendire's Thrashers outside their normal range including single birds near Lancaster, Los Angeles Co. Nov. 13 (HK), on San Nicholas I. Sept. 29 (LJ, JD), in San Diego Oct. 4-11 (JWDew), and near Imperial Beach Sept. 14 (HK), Oct. 21 (GSS *et al.*) and Nov. 8-30 (JD *et al.*); this appears to be the result of migrants moving in the wrong direction. As usual a few Sage Thrashers were found along the coast including at least five on San Nicholas I. Sept. 28 - Oct. 22. A few Varied Thrushes evidently pushed south into this Region as evidenced by at least 15 reports involving over 20 individuals; one at N.E.S.S. Nov. 23 and another near Santa Ana, Orange Co. the same day were the southernmost records. Three Townsend's Solitaires on San Nicholas I. Sept. 28-29 and single birds on Anacapa I. Nov. 2, on Pt. Loma Sept. 29 - Oct. 1 and at S.E.S.S. Oct. 27 are all of interest for locality.

KINGLETS, WAXWINGS, PHAINOPEPLAS, SHRIKES — A few Golden-crowned Kinglets reached extreme s. California, where they are rare, with single birds at Los Serranos, L. A. Co. Nov. 7, around San

Diego on Oct. 15, 30 & Nov. 9, and at S.E.S.S. Nov. 4 (* to S.B.C.M.); one at F.C.R. Nov. 4 was also at an unusual locality. Two Bohemian Waxwings in Independence, Inyo Co. Nov. 17 and a flock of 30 in the Saline Valley Nov. 23 were the only ones reported; this species is somewhat regular during November in the n.e. portion of the Region. Cedar Waxwings appeared scarcer than usual this fall. Phainopeplas wandered west to San Nicholas I. where 2-4 remained Sept. 28 - Oct. 23. An imm. N. Shrike in Lockwood Valley, L. A. Co. Nov. 24 (EA *et al.*) was far south and the only one reported this fall.

VIREOS, WARBLERS — A Gray Vireo at Avalon, Santa Catalina I. Sept. 7 (LJ) represents one of the very few records for the coastal areas. A Solitary Vireo of the e. race *v. s. solitarius* was on San Nicholas I. Sept. 30 (JD, LJ; * to S.D.N.H.M.); prior to this only a couple of sight records of this form exist for California. A Red-eyed Vireo, an inexplicably rare straggler to California, was seen at Deep Springs Sept. 1 and another was found at F.C.R. the following day (GMcC *et al.*). Only five Black-and-white Warblers were reported from along the coast. (one Goleta Sept. 17; one Santa Barbara I. Oct. 8; one Pt. Loma Sept. 22-23; one near Otay Sept. 26-27; one near Imperial Beach Sept. 27), but eight were found in the e. portion of the Region (one Oasis Sept. 26; one F.C.R. Sept. 9-13; one Panamint Springs Sept. 23; one Kelso Sept. 22; one Morongo Valley Sept. 11; and single birds near S.E.S.S. Oct. 18, 19 & 27). A **Worm-eating Warbler** was well studied near San Diego Aug. 17-21 (DR), and another was discovered on Pt. Loma Oct. 1 (HK *et al.*); there are but two previous records for the Region. A belated but most significant report is that of a ♂ **Golden-winged Warbler** in Claremont, L. A. Co. Dec. 20, 1972 (DAG; * to Pomona College). At least eleven Tennessee Warblers, a regular straggler to California, were found along the coast (Ventura to San Diego Cos. as well as on Santa Cruz and San Nicholas Is.) Aug. 29 - Nov. 1; in addition one was seen at F.C.R. Nov. 24, and at least five were noted at Kelso Oct. 20 - Nov. 10. As usual small numbers of Virginia's Warblers appeared along the coast with some 20 individuals being reported Aug. 29 - Oct. 23 and most occurring in September. Inland single birds were seen at Westguard Pass Sept. 8, near Clark Mt. Sept. 23, at Morongo Valley Sept. 14 and at S.E.S.S. the same day. A Lucy's Warbler near Imperial Beach Oct. 14 (JD) was the only one found along the coast this fall. A N. Parula, very rare in fall, was present near Otay Oct. 3-7 (JD *et al.*), and another was near Clark Mt. Oct. 23 (EAC, SC; * to S.B.C.M.). We had more than the usual number of Magnolia Warblers with one at Deep Springs Sept. 10 (TH), one at Panamint Springs Sept. 23 (LJ), one on Santa Barbara I. Oct. 8-9 (LJ), another in Monrovia, L. A. Co. Sept. 29 (MSanM) and single birds around San Diego Sept. 22-25, Sept. 30 - Oct. 1, Oct. 2, and Oct. 17-21 (JD, GMcC *et al.*). A Cape May Warbler on San Nicholas I. Sept. 29 (JD, LJ), one at Desert Center Oct. 27 - Nov. 3 (LJ *et al.*) and another there Nov. 3-10 (JD, VR *et al.*) were unexpected since this is one of the rarer stragglers to California. Sightings of Black-throated Blue Warblers include a female at Scotty's Castle in Death Valley Oct. 13 (JD, GMcC), a male at nearby Stove Pipe Wells Nov. 3 (JD, GMcC), a male at Morongo Valley Oct. 13-15 (GSS, DDeS) and a female in

Riverside Sept. 28 (JF), all inland localities, as well as along the coast with females at the Santa Clara River-mouth Oct. 14-15 (HK) and on Pt. Loma Sept. 29 (JBU *et al.*). Black-throated Green Warblers are normally very rare in California but this fall produced eight records with single birds inland at Scotty's Castle Oct. 21 (VR *et al.*), Kelso Nov. 3 (JD, GMcC), 29 Palms Nov. 3 (JD, GMcC), and in the San Bernardino Mts. Oct. 14 (EAC, SC), and others along the coast on San Nicholas I. Oct. 21 (LJ *et al.*), Pt. Loma Sept. 14-16 (GSS *et al.*), near Otay Sept. 20 (JD, GMcC) and near Imperial Beach Sept. 29-30 (EAC *et al.*). A bird identified as a Townsend's X Hermit Warbler was well studied near Imperial Beach Sept. 16 (JD, GMcC), a few specimens of this hybrid have been secured in the past and it probably is not that rare. Seven Blackburnian Warblers were reported, with one at Deep Springs Oct. 14 (TH), one at Stove Pipe Wells in Death Valley Nov. 4 (JD, GMcC), another at Kelso Nov. 3 (JD, GMcC) and single birds at Morongo Valley Oct. 15 (DDeS) and Oct. 28 (EAC, SC) in the interior, and single individuals at the Santa Clara River-mouth Oct. 7 (HK) and near Otay Sept. 23-25 (JD, GSS *et al.*) on the coast. A Yellow-throated Warbler on Pt. Loma Sept. 19 (TT) is the sixth reported in California. Three Chestnut-sided Warblers were found in the e. portion of the Region, with one at Deep Springs Sept. 26 (MSanM), one at Yucca Valley Sept. 18 (GSS, HB) and another at Desert Center Nov. 13 (GSS, HB), along with one on the coast near Imperial Beach Nov. 1-2 (JD, GMcC). A Bay-breasted Warbler was on Pt. Loma Sept. 29 (GMcC *et al.*); this species is one of the rarer stragglers reaching California. Over 30 Blackpoll Warblers were reported along the coast between Santa Barbara and San Diego Cos., including San Nicholas and Santa Barbara Is., Sept. 3 - Oct. 14; in addition single birds were noted inland at Oasis Sept. 13 (VR *et al.*), Sept. 29 (LJ), Deep Springs Sept. 13 (VR) and at Morongo Valley Sept. 29 (GSS, HB). A Prairie Warbler, a casual straggler to California, was seen in Goleta Oct. 15 (TNM *et al.*) and another was studied on Pt. Loma Sept. 26 (JAJ). Some 13 Palm Warblers were found along the coast Sept. 19 - Nov. 28 as expected but one at F.C.R. Oct. 29 (B & CY) was unexpected since few records exist from localities away from the coast. Single Ovenbirds near Clark Mt. Sept. 23 (EAC, SC; * to S.B. C.M.), in Kelso Oct. 20 (VR *et al.*) on San Nicholas I. Oct. 19 (LJ *et al.*) and around Santa Barbara Sept. 27 & Oct. 20 (*vide* TNM) provide us with more than the expected number of records. At least 20 N. Waterthrushes were found along the eastern border of the Region Aug. 23 - Sept. 26 supporting the theory that the species is a normal migrant through this area of California; in addition one was noted at Santa Barbara Aug. 16, another on Santa Catalina I. Sept. 8, two near Duarte Sept. 8 and one near Otay Sept. 3-4. A ♀ Hooded Warbler was well described from Pt. Fermin Sept. 29 (RB); a casual wanderer west to California. A Canada Warbler near Otay Sept. 8-11 was the only one reported this fall. About 50 Am. Redstarts were reported with 15 from the n.e. portion of the Region Sept. 1-15. A Painted Redstart, always rare in California, was seen in W. Los Angeles Nov. 1-3 (Gilbert King, *vide* GSS).

BLACKBIRDS, TANAGERS — Bobolinks are now expected migrants through this Region in small num-

bers; this fall nine were found inland with one at F.C.R. Sept. 9 and two more there Sept. 24, single birds at Kelso Sept. 2, 22 & 23 (* to S.B.C.M.) and three near Duarte Oct. 7-8; along the coast up to six were present in San Pedro Sept. 19 - Oct. 17 and at least 25 were seen around San Diego Sept. 3 - Oct. 8 while at least nine were found on the Channel Is. Sept. 28 - Oct. 21. As usual a few Yellow-headed Blackbirds reached the coast, with individuals wandering out to Santa Catalina I. (one Sept. 9), San Nicholas I. (two Sept. 30) and Santa Barbara I. (one Oct. 6). Single ♀-plumaged Orchard Orioles were identified on Pt. Loma Sept. 9 (JD *et al.*) and near Niland, Imperial Co. Nov. 18 (GMcC, JD); adult males were in Santa Barbara Sept. 15 - Nov. 30 (TNM *et al.*), N. Los Angeles Oct. 20 (GSS) and at Solana Beach, San Diego Co. Oct. 27 - Nov. 3 (ABA). A ♂ Scott's Oriole at Mt. Baldy Village Oct. 5 was at a very high altitude and a female on San Nicholas I. Sept. 28 was far west. Single N. Orioles showing the characters of *I. g. galbula* were noted on Santa Barbara I. Oct. 6, at Solana Beach Sept. 25-29, on Pt. Loma Sept. 21-22 and near Desert Center Sept. 3; this eastern form appears regularly in limited numbers within California. Four Rusty Blackbirds were found in the n.e. portion of the Region, where they are very rare fall migrants, with single birds at Stove Pipe Wells Nov. 25 (B & CY *et al.*), F.C.R. Oct. 29 (B & CY) and Nov. 4 (GMcC *et al.*), and at Kelso Nov. 4 (JD *et al.*). Great-tailed Grackles were reported along the length of the Colorado R. between L. Havasu and Imperial Dam in small numbers as well as at Ramer L. in the Imperial Valley, and are clearly becoming well established in s.e. California.

A ♂ Hepatic Tanager in Norwalk, L. A. Co. Oct. 1-14 (NJS) and another at Star Ranch Audubon Sanctuary, Orange Co. Sept. 5-13 (BMCI) were both well out-of-range. At least eight Summer Tanagers were found along the coast from Santa Barbara south to San Diego Aug. 18 - Oct. 22 including two on San Nicholas I. (one each on Sept. 28-29 and Oct. 21-22); all collected birds from this area have been identified as *P. r. rubra* from the eastern portion of the range.

FINCHES — Five ♂ Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were reported with one inland at Deep Spring Oct. 6 (TH), and single birds along the coast at Santa Barbara Sept. 3-10 (TNM), on San Nicholas I. Oct. 20-22 (LJ *et al.*) and around San Diego Sept. 20-22 (JD *et al.*) and Oct. 4 (GSS); two ♀-plumaged birds were also noted but are difficult to identify with certainty. A Blue Grosbeak near Otay Oct. 8 was quite late. Single Indigo Buntings were seen in Westguard Pass, Inyo Co. Sept. 8, at Shoshone Sept. 2, Yucca Valley Sept. 18, Encino Sept. 13 and two were present on San Nicholas I. Sept. 30; this species is regular in limited numbers. A Dickcissel was at F.C.R. Sept. 13-22 (M & NP), another was present there Oct. 29-Nov. 8 (B & CY, GSS *et al.*) and a third was on San Nicholas I. Oct. 1 (JD, LJ); this is a casual straggler to California. A few Evening Grosbeaks reached the n.e. portion of the Region in October with 20-30 in Big Pine at the end of the period; one at F.C.R. Oct. 13 provides an interesting record. A flock of 30 Gray-crowned Rosy Finches near Westguard Pass on Nov. 14 were the only ones found. A Red Crossbill at F.C.R. Nov. 4 was certainly unexpected and at a most unlikely locality.

SPARROWS, LONGSPURS — Single Lark Buntings, rare wanderers to California, were found at Deep Springs Sept. 1, F.C.R. Sept. 2, in El Monte Sept. 30 and near Oceanside Sept. 21. A Grasshopper Sparrow at F.C.R. Nov. 4 was evidently a migrant since it is not known to nest within many miles. Two Black-throated Sparrows were on the coast at Pt. Loma Oct. 11 and two more were noted around S.E.S.S., where they are rare, Aug. 4-11. A Dark-eyed Junco showing the characteristics of *J. h. hyemalis* in Tecopa Nov. 24 was the only "Slate-colored" Junco reported. Seven Gray-headed Juncos were found in the southern portion of the Region after Oct. 27 including one on the coast at Pt. Loma Nov. 9. Two Tree Sparrows at F.C.R. Nov. 4 and another at Desert Center Nov. 10 were the only three reported. A Clay-colored Sparrow, rare in California, was in San Pedro Sept. 19-23 (SW *et al.*), and another was on Pt. Loma Sept. 20 - Oct. 2 (JD *et al.*). The only Harris' Sparrows found this fall were one at F.C.R. Nov. 11 and another at nearby Bennett's Wells Nov. 24; a far cry from last fall. A single White-throated Sparrow at F.C.R. Oct. 13, three more there Nov. 4, and two in San Pedro Nov. 21 were the only ones reported. Interesting is that the only Swamp Sparrows found this fall were in the n.e. portion of the Region with single birds at F.C.R. Oct. 13 and Nov. 4 and another at Shoshone Oct. 20.

A McCown's Longspur, the rarest longspur reaching California, was near S.E.S.S. Nov. 18 (JD, GMcC). Up to 12 Lapland Longspurs in the Antelope Valley Nov. 13-17, one near S.E.S.S. Nov. 23 and another on San Nicholas I. Oct. 21-22 were the only ones found this fall. As usual a few Chestnut-collared Longspurs were reported, with two at F.C.R. Oct. 2 and another there Nov. 18, one or two in the Antelope Valley Nov. 13-17, and two on San Nicholas I. Oct. 20.

B. Hansen, Tom Heindel, Jerome A. Johnson, Lee Jones, Paul Jorgensen, Harry Krueger, Steven & Suisan Liston, Bev McIntosh, T. Nelson Metcalf, Peter Metropulor, Joseph Morlan (JM), Jess & Donna Morton (J & DM), Mike & Nancy Prather, Don Ramsey, Van Remsen, Martha J. Rodgers, Mike SanMiguel, Norbet J. Schmitt, Chuck Sexton, L. A. Shelton, G. Shumway Suffel, Wally Summer, Steven Summers, Fern Tainter, Jan Tarble, Tom Taylor, Don V. Tiller, Shirley Wells, Bob & Carol Yutzy. Other abbreviations and symbols: L.A.C.M., Los Angeles County Museum; S.B.C.M., San Bernardino County Museum; S.D.N.H.M., San Diego Natural History Museum; *, collected specimen. — **GUY McCASKIE, San Diego Natural History Museum, Balboa Park, San Diego, California.**



Guy McCaskie

CONTRIBUTORS — Ernest R. Abeles, Allen B. Altman, Jon Atwood, Keith Axelson, Alan Baldrige, Hal Baxter (HBa), Charles H. Bernstein, Barbara Benton (BBa), John Borneman (JBo), Richard Bradley, Bruce Broadbooks (BBr), Hank Brodtkin (HBr), John Butler (JBu), Eugene A. Cardiff, Steven Cardiff, Alan M. Craig, S. L. Dennis, Dave DeSante, Lawrence R. DeWeese, John W. DeWitt, Jon Dunn, Susan D'Vincent, Bruce Elliott, Dick Erickson, Jim Fairchild, David W. Foster, Alice Fries, Daniel A. Guthrie, Keith F. Hansen, Robert