

MIDDLE PACIFIC COAST REGION **/ Russell Greenberg and Rich Stallcup**

Spring throughout North California was exceptionally cool with nearly constant, blustery northwest winds along the coast and in the north Coast Range. A late snow storm April 24 dropped 14 inches at Calaveras State Park (below C.S.P.), hail at Auburn, and completely blanketed the Sierras along Interstate 80 from Colfax to Truckee. A very late Sierran cold spell May



18 and 19 dropped temperatures into the low twenties and caused Black Oaks to lose their new leaves. This probably had an adverse affect on warblers, vireos and Black-headed Grosbeaks which were then well into nesting activities. Only four rainy days were reported during the period at Auburn and the only hot days were in the last week of May when temperatures along the south coast and in the Central Valley (below C.V.) reached the high nineties and rose to 72° at C.S.P.

The strong northwesterlies on the coast were probably responsible for the large numbers of Red Phalaropes with the usual Northern Phalaropes, the more than usual observations of petrels for spring in Monterey Bay (AB) and relatively few landbird migrants reaching the Farallon Islands (below F. Is.) (P.R.B.O.).

LOONS, GREBES—Loons departed on time and passing of all was reported as typical. Common Loons were found at eight inland localities which is normal. Two Arctic Loons that stayed at the F.Is. into June (P.R.B.O.) and a Red-throated Loon on Crespi Pond, Monterey Co., May 2 (AB) to May 5 (RS) were the only oddities. A few Red-necked Grebes lingered later than is normal and one at Monterey May 5 (OAS) and May 6 (AB), one at King Salmon, Humboldt Co., May 5 (DE, TS), one at Mendocino Staircase May 12 (DW, TL) and one at Drakes Beach May 20 (WMP) are some of our very few May records. The usual few Horned Grebes were found inland (AE, RS) and one at San Rafael May 27 was late (WMP). Eared Grebes peaked at Chico on Apr. 26 with 120 (PM) which was near the peak date at other C.V. localities. At Pt. Bonita 1700 W. Grebes was a high number for May 5 (MLR).

TUBENOSSES—Twenty-five Black-footed Albatrosses were 20 mi. w. of Eureka Apr. 20 (DE, TS). A concentration was found 1-15 mi. n.w. of Pt. Pinos with 30 on May 5 (OAS) and 50 on May 18 (C.F.O.). Those on the latter date were joined by a single Laysan Albatross, likely the same individual that wintered in the area. The possibility this was the same bird that was

released from Alameda Naval Station Apr. 22, 1973 has been reasonably argued (VR). The highest number of Pink-footed Shearwaters was 15 on May 5 at Monterey Bay (O.A.S.) and 5000 Sooty Shearwaters seen from Pt. Pinos was an early influx (AB). One or 2 Ashy Petrels per pelagic trip was more than usual and was probably owing to persistent NW winds (AB, RS). Fork-tailed Petrels, also associated with offshore winds, were in Monterey Harbor with 35 on May 14, 20 on May 15 and three on May 16. (RR, VR, SB). Most amazing was a Leach's Petrel seen from the Coast Guard pier May 14 (RR); this species is rarely reported within 50 mi. of shore.

PELICANS THROUGH HERONS—Total White Pelicans reported was over 1000 from four C.V. localities in April and May which is normal (BED, PM, RS). Brown Pelicans returned to Pacific Grove May 21 (AB), the Pajaro R. mouth May 30 (J&RW) and the F. Is. May 31 (P.R.B.O.) which are typical dates. An adult and an immature at the Pajaro R. Apr. 16 (J&RW) either wintered or were very early. Brandt's Cormorants returned to their nesting rocks in Humboldt Co., in early April (DE, TS). Green Herons returned in April with five at Woodland, Yolo Co., late in the month (RS), one at Gray Lodge Wildlife Area, Butte Co., Apr. 10 (BED) and one at the Garcia R. mouth Apr. 11 (OJK). An ad. Little Blue Heron was at Palo Alto May 3 & 21 (BY, BD). Last spring an adult defended a nest site on nearby Blair I. and no doubt other nesting attempts have been made in S. San Francisco (S.F.) Bay and on W. Marin I. in the north bay. Up to 17 Cattle Egrets wintered in the Watsonville area (RS) with nine still present Apr. 26 (JM). Two were at Novato Apr. 20 through the end of the period (LCB), two were at Alviso Apr. 20 (BY, TC, BS) and two were still present at Arcata at the end of the period (DE, TS). A single bird flew into the Audubon Canyon Ranch rookery at Bolinas Lagoon in mid-April but did not nest (P.R.B.O.); there is still no breeding record for this region.

WATERFOWL—The last Whistling Swans were three at the Garcia R. mouth May 2 (OJK) which is late. Most of the Black Brant this winter along the California coast mass in S. Humboldt Bay in early April; 5000 estimated on Apr. 7 was felt to be only a fraction of the total present (DE, TS). At Gray Lodge Wildlife Area 200 Show Geese Apr. 2-9 and 110 White-fronted Geese Apr. 24 were late (BED). On Apr. 17, 50 Snows were seen flying to the southwest high overhead at C.S.P. (MK). Fulvous Tree Ducks arrived at Woodland Apr. 19, nearly a month early (RS, DAG) and were seen by many through the period; up to 3 were present. At Arcata 120 Green-winged Teal including one Eurasian race and an intermediate Apr. 21 declined to 30 on May 5 and none were present May 8 (DE, TS). About 20 Blue-winged Teal were reported from the coast and C.V. which is normal and a pair with 8 young was seen May 21 at Palo Alto for the first local breeding record (BY). A ♂ Blue-winged x Cinnamon Teal was described from Chico where it was present Mar. 15-Apr. 17 (PM). Wood Ducks were reported in good numbers from all sections. There were many reports of nesting and the best numbers were 20 pairs along the American R. between Sacramento and Nimbus Dam (Rios, *fide*

BK) and at least 5 pairs near Elkhorn, Yolo Co. (RS *et al.*). Most diving ducks departed on schedule. Greater Scaup, rare inland, were reported from Chico with a pair Apr. 22 (PM) and from Borax L., Lake Co., Apr. 11 with one (DW, TL). An Oldsquaw at Monterey lingered until Apr. 27 (DR, JM, WMP) and one was at Princeton Harbor through the end of the period (JM, PM, NS). A few scoters of all three species remained at coastal localities through May which is usual. Four hundred Ruddy Ducks at Woodland Apr. 25 (RS, DW) was reduced to 30 by May 4 (RS). Red-breasted Mergansers were inland at Sacramento with one female (Wilburn, *fide* BK) and Avocado L., Fresno Co., with a male and two females Apr. 13 (R&KH, JS). They are uncommon but regular inland in the spring.

CONDORS THROUGH EAGLES—Three reports involving four **California Condors** were received. An adult was seen by ranchers 2 mi. s. of Mt. Madonna, Monterey Co., Apr. 14 (*fide* BGE) and another adult was seen along Lower Arroyo Seco Creek, Santa Cruz Co. May 22 (Crutcher, * *fide* BGE). Two were seen from a jet airplane over Hollister Apr. 16! They were less than 1000 feet below the ascending jet and were apparently undisturbed. Calculations indicate they may have been flying as much as 15,000 feet above sea level (LF). Condors regularly visit the southern part of the region. Goshawks were reported from the Warner Mts, Modoc Co., May 21 (JGu) and from C.S.P. May 6 (MK). Normal numbers of Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawks were reported. Although only 23 Red-shouldered Hawks were reported in contrast to last spring's 40 we do not feel this represents a true decrease. As expected after an invasion the magnitude of the one last winter, Rough-legged Hawks were seen well into the spring with ten reports for May. A record late report was obtained with a sighting at Hydenville, Humboldt Co., May 26 (DE, TS). An imm. Bald Eagle at Sacramento June 2 (Wilburn, *fide* BK) was unusual. Nine Ospreys with three active nests Apr. 11 at Duncan Mills, Sonoma Co., (WMP *et al.*) and six at the Albion and Navarro R., Mendocino Co., Apr. 28 (OJK) comprised the bulk of the 27 reports, which is par. The only unusual falcons were a ♀ Merlin Apr. 5 and a Prairie May 7, both near Fresno (R&KH, JS).

CHICKENS—A hen Turkey at Blue L., Sonoma Co., May 24 (JGu) and a pair 4 mi. s. of Ukiah, Mendocino Co., May 3 were the only ones reported. They are known to have been introduced at Hopland close to the latter locality 2 years ago (OJK). A drumming ♂ Ruffed Grouse at Tish Tang campground north of Willow Creek, Humboldt Co. (Forsell, *fide* DE) was the only one reported. Blue Grouse were booming in good numbers in e. Humboldt Co. (DE, TS) which is normal.

SHOREBIRDS—A peak of 60 Semipalmated Plovers at Jacoby Creek, Arcata May 2 (DE, TS) and 37 at Woodland Apr. 22 (RS, DW) were more than are usually reported in spring. Four were at Fresno May 1 (R&KH, JS). Two Mountain Plovers in spring plumage were 5 mi. n. of Fresno Apr. 28 (BS), a very late date. An Am. Golden Plover was on the F.Is. Apr. 29 (P.R.B.O.) and two were at Arcata as late as May 16 (DE, TS). Black-bellied Plovers and Whimbrels are

much more common in the C.V. in the spring than at any other time. The following plover concentrations are by no means outrageous: 500 at Elkhorn Apr. 24 (RSet. *al.*), 500 at Franklin, Sacramento Co., Apr. 22 (*fide* BK) and 500 at Stevinson, Merced Co. (DDeS, JF) Apr. 28. Likewise 600 Whimbrels in the Woodland area Apr. 24-May 2 (RS, DW), 200 at the Pleasanton Sewage Ponds Apr. 27 (SFB) and 200 near Stevinson, Merced Co., Apr. 28 (DDeS, JF) are normal. The first Whimbrel arrived at Arcata Apr. 14, ten days later 240 were present and fifty were still there at the end of the period as usual (DE, TS). Solitary Sandpipers usually very rare in the region, particularly in the spring, were widely reported from Apr. 28-May 5. The following reports are all of interest: one on the American R., at Sacramento Apr. 28 (*fide* BK), one at Rockville Park, Solano Co., Apr. 29 (FKB), two at the n. end of Honey L., in late Apr. (GP), two at Gray Lodge May 1 (BED), one on Bolinas Mesa, Marin Co., May 2 (RS, GP), one at Crespi Pond May 5 (RS, GM) and up to four at Woodland Apr. 21-May 5. A Rock Sandpiper at the Pajaro R. mouth on May 11 was still in winter plumage (J&RW). A Pectoral Sandpiper, rare in the spring, was reported from Arcata Apr. 4 (Schmoltd, *fide* DE). Two Short-billed Dowitchers were with 200 Long-billeds at Woodland Apr. 29 (RS, DW). This is probably a normal ratio inland spring and fall. A Marbled Godwit, uncommon inland, was at Woodland Apr. 25 (RS, DW). The first onshore flight of Red Phalaropes since 1971 occurred in May reaching a peak of several thousand with 25,000 Northern Phalaropes in Carmel Bay May 10 (AB). Estimates of phalaropes flying by Pt. Pinos based on birds per minute censuses were phenomenal: 1,250,000 on May 14, 760,000 on May 15, and 630,000 on May 16. Onshore estimates indicate Reds outnumbered Northern 15:1 on these dates (RR). In early May they were present at nearly all coastal localities south of Mendocino; only 12 were seen this season at Humboldt Co. (DE, TS). Strong northwest winds were undoubtedly responsible for blowing them towards shore and many casualties were reported (AB). Unrelated to this flight was a single winter-plumaged bird at Woodland Apr. 26, the first spring inland report for the region (LCB *et al.*). The maximum of Wilson's Phalaropes at Woodland was 35 Apr. 28 (RS *et al.*) and 5 at Humboldt Bay May 30 (DE, TS *et al.*).

JAEGERS THROUGH TERNS—Five Pomarine Jaegers were seen in Monterey Bay Apr. 8 (AB) but none were seen in May (C.F.O., O.A.S.). Possibly the first spring regional record of **Long-tailed Jaeger** was an adult 5 mi. off Trinidad, Humboldt Co., June 7 (D. Wilhelm, GF*). There were also several Parasitic Jaegers off Humboldt Co. this period. A second-year Glaucous Gull was at F.Is. Mar. 31 (P.R.B.O.) and a first-year bird was at Table Bluff, Humboldt Co., Apr. 7 (DE, TS *et al.*). A late Herring Gull was at Sacramento May 15 (*fide* BK). Single Franklin's Gulls, always rare, were reported at 3 localities: Arcata Apr. 24 (DE, TS *et al.*), Gray Lodge Wildlife Area May 16&20 (BED*) and the Pajaro R. mouth May 29 (J&RW*). An ad. **Laughing Gull** at the Pajaro R. mouth May 28 is the fourth regional record (J&RW*). An imm. Bonaparte's Gull at Gray Lodge May 20 (BED) was unusual. Black-legged Kittiwakes were in their normal small numbers except

at Princeton harbor where 11 on May 19 (BS) increased to 40 on May 28 with 25 roosting on the roof of the fish market (PM). Only 9 Sabine's Gulls were reported: an immature from Trinidad Apr. 19 (DE, TS), an adult 2 mi. n.w. of Pt. Pinos May 5 (CAS, RS), one off the Pt., May 14 (RR), and five near the F. Is. May 13 (TC). Eighty Common Terns at Humboldt Bay May 5 and 20 at Crescent City May 7 (DE, TS) should prove to be normal numbers with careful scrutiny of spring terns. Six Arctic Terns were seen off Monterey May 5 (O.A.S., RS) and nine were seen there May 18 (C.F.O., AB); they are uncommon offshore in the spring. Least Terns were seen in six Monterey and San Francisco Bay localities (many obs.) but their survival probability looks grim. The only breeding colony located, with a mere 20 pairs, is on a soon-to-be-developed fill on Bay Farm I., Alameda Co. Thirty Black Terns were seen at Williams, Colusa Co., May 3. A peak population of 22 was found Apr. 25 (before the rice paddies were flooded) at Woodland, and ten were along the Sante Fe Grade near Los Banos May 5 (DDeS, * JF). Generally rare on the coast, four were reported from San Francisco Bay (PM, BY, BD), two from the Pajaro R. mouth May 10 (J&RW) and one from Eureka May 5 (DE, TS *et al.*) for the second spring Humboldt Co. record.

ALCIDS—At Trinidad 6000 Com. Murres were estimated on offshore rocks (DE, TS) and 3000 were in a rich feeding area off Pacific Grove Apr. 19 (AB). At the same spot 132 Pigeon Guillemots, were present Apr. 12 where only 10-20 are normal (AB). Thirty Marbled Murrelets in Humboldt Bay off King Salmon is more than usual (DE, TS). Two Xantus' (Craveri's type) Murrelets were seen within 1 mi. w. of the F. Is. on the late date of Apr. 21 (S. Sears, RG*). There is one previous spring record for the Gulf of the Farallons and the possibility of breeding should not be overlooked. Two Tufted Puffins were observed on and about Goat Rock, Sonoma Co. May 25 (EWT) and another was seen from Pt. Pinos May 14 (RR) during the big blow.

DOVES THROUGH NIGHTJARS—A small population of Spotted Doves has been present in Fresno since 1973. Up to six were observed this spring (R&KH, JS). Roadrunners were reported from a normal 3 localities in the foothills around the C.V., including birds observed regularly through May in Del Puerto Canyon, Stanislaus Co. (SFB, MLR, JF). If Screech Owls are decreasing in the outer coast ranges, they seem to be in good numbers in the interior. Twelve were heard, one to 2 per stop, along Mines Rd., (AE) and four were heard in Caswell State Park May 4 (DDeS, JF). Great Gray Owls were found at both Crane Flats and Perego Meadows in Yosemite N.P. this spring, and were seen at a nest in the latter locality May 11-12 for the fourth consecutive year. Long-eared Owl distribution continues to defy concise definition particularly in the spring. Three reports this period were from widely divergent localities: Pinnacles Nat'l Mon. Apr. 4 (JM), Swanton Rd., Santa Cruz Co., May 10 (*fide* RAM) and the Sacramento area May 10 (*fide* BK). Small numbers of Short-eared Owls regularly spend spring and summer in Central California. This spring had the normal number of reports; one was seen near Davis, Yolo Co., Apr. 21 (DW) and pairs were at the Palo Alto Baylands

(TC, BY) and the Salinas R. mouth during May. Suspensions of nesting at the latter locality were confirmed when a nest was found May 27 (Yadon, Branson, *fide* AB). Rarely reported from the C.V. floor, a Poor-will was heard at Elkhorn, Yolo Co., April 19 (DAG). They were regularly found at Tilden Park, Contra Costa Co., in April and May (many obs.).

SWIFTS THROUGH HUMMINGBIRDS—Black Swifts were reported from a number of regular mountain localities. Three were found near Briceland, Humboldt Co., May 18 (TS, DE *et al.*) and two were at the South Fork of the Kings R. May 26 (R&KH, JS). The only coastal report was for a lone migrant over Arcata May 18 (*fide* TS, DE). Eighteen reports of Vaux's Swifts were mainly for singles and flocks less than 20. Nine interior reports had a median date of Apr. 25 and eight reports from the S.F. Bay area and outer coast had a median date of May 3; this includes an exceptionally early individual Apr. 4 in Arcata (DE, TS). Some of the coastal reports were probably from breeding grounds including 15 at Portola S. P., San Mateo Co., May 16 (DDeS, JF) and a pair was once again found at Crane Flats May 23 (VR). Black-chinned Hummingbirds were common in the upper Carmel Valley Apr. 28 (DR, JM, RG, JL). A ♂ Costa's Hummingbird was found at the regular locality in Del Puerto Canyon by many during May (AE, VR, SJB *et al.*). At the same spot a female, probably of this species, was observed feeding young May 25 (MLR). Males were also found at Pinnacles May 12 (MLR) and Folsom L., Placer Co. Apr. 4 (B&RL*). Rufous Hummingbirds are late migrants through the region during the spring relative to other hummingbirds. This spring migrants passed through the Sacramento area Mar. 4-Apr. 18. Good numbers were present in coastal areas Apr. 27 and May 4 (DDeS, JF). Two males were seen on Mines Rd., May 5 (JM) and one in Arcata Apr. 28 (DE, TS). Unidentified *Selasphorus* hummingbirds, one of each sex, were at Horse Mt., Humboldt Co., May 31 (DE, TS). Rufous Hummingbirds have been found breeding locally in the mountains of that county, but the total north Coast Range breeding status has yet to be worked out. An ad. male and other *Selasphorus*, presumably of this species, regularly frequented feeders near S. Yolla Bolly Mt., consistently from May-August 1973 (Keeler-Wolf, RG). Calliope Hummingbirds were reported from 6 localities west of the Sierras with up to six males in Tilden Park in late April (JR, VH *et al.*).

WOODPECKERS—Pure "Yellow-shafted" Flickers were found at 4 localities in April. Pileated Woodpeckers were reported from 8 sites in Sonoma and Mendocino Cos. Thirteen Lewis' Woodpeckers between Bridgeville and Kneeland were holdovers from last winter's invasion of Humboldt Co. Some were found on the C.V. floor at 2 localities this spring, near Fresno May 2 (R&KH, JS) and Helevista Park, Yolo Co., where more than 20 were found Apr. 19 (DAG, RS). An ad. ♂ Red-naped Sapsucker was near San Antone Jct., Apr. 16 (SJB). The first report in several years of Nuttall's Woodpeckers on the S.F. peninsula were from Jasper Ridge May 18 (DDeS, JF) and Steven's Creek Park (TC) May 11.

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH SWALLOWS

—Western Kingbirds were seen west of their normal breeding range several places this spring: one at the Palo Alto baylands Apr. 28 (RG, DR, JL, JM), two at Coyote Hills Apr. 18 (B&CY), one at the Arcata Bottoms May 4-6 and 30 (TS, DE) one at McKinleyville May 15 (*file* DE, TS), and one near Boonesville, Mendocino Co., Apr. 28 (OJK). A high elevation record was one for 5500 feet, 18 mi. n.e. of Placerville (B&RL). Seven Hammond's Flycatchers were banded on the F.Is. (P.R.B.O.) and six migrant Hammond's-Dusky types were seen on the mainland this spring. Only two Willow Flycatchers were reported from the C.V. and one from the F. Is.; an exceptionally early one was found in the Santa Cruz Mts. Apr. 14 (BGE). Three Gray Flycatchers were reported from the C.V. this spring which is normal for this rare but regular migrant west of the Sierra crest. Early W. Wood Pewees were found Mar. 15 six mi. s. of Pt. Arena (OJK) and Mar. 23 in Sacramento (*file* BK). A colony of less than 50 Bank Swallows was found on Trafton Rd., south of Watsonville, Monterey Co., May 4 (RAM). Other colonies were reported from the Sacramento R. near Chico with 25 pairs (PM), the American R. near Sacramento (*file* BK) with 50 pairs and Ano Nuevo Pt., San Mateo Co., with 10 individuals (DDeS, JF). The colony bank at the Pajaro R. mouth was partially collapsed during last winter's storms, but some returned to breed (J&RW). A ♂ Purple Martin on the F.Is. May 28 was the second record for the islands (P.R.B.O., RS) and three were seen in Fresno Apr. 27, where they are very rare (R&KH, JS).

TITS THROUGH WRENS—A Black-capped Chickadee reported from Eureka Apr. 26-29 was south of its normal range (*file* DE, TS). A Chestnut-backed Chickadee at 5,000 feet at China Camp, Monterey Co., was at the elevational extreme of the species range (JM). Coulter Pines on nearby Chew's Ridge is an unusual locality for Pygmy Nuthatches seen there April and May (JM, SB, VR, JL.). The coastal race is generally restricted to the fog belt. A Brown Creeper was still along the American R. near Sacramento May 6 (*file* BK) and a pair returned to a riparian thicket at Searsville L., San Mateo Co., where they were observed May 18 (DDeS, JF). A creeper was observed carrying food in Digger Pine - Blue Oak woodlands along Mines Rd.; this locality is considerably east of its normal Bay Area range (JM, SB). Two to three Winter Wrens, scarce in the Sierras, were singing in the Mariposa Grove, Yosemite N.P. May 11 (SJB). The first Humboldt Co. nest of Rock Wren was found May 18 east of Garberville where breeding evidence was first obtained last year (DE, TS).

MIMIDS THROUGH VIREOS—A northern extension of the California Thrasher range was obtained when a pair was found at Petrolia, Humboldt Co., (*file* DE, TS). Out-of-range, lowland observations were made for Townsend's Solitaire this spring. Individuals were found in March at Bayside, Humboldt Co., (*file* DE, TS), Apr. 2-9 at Humboldt State University (TS, DE), Apr. 16 at Patrick's Pt., Humboldt Co., (*file* DE, TS) and Oat Hill Mine Rd., Napa Co., Mar. 9 (EWT). A ♂ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher was at the unusual locality of

Pt. Pinole, Contra Costa Co. (J&SL) and one straggled out to the F.Is. Apr. 17-19 (P.R.B.O.). There were, as usual, a few lingering Water Pipits through April, but the observation of 250 breeding-plumaged pipits at Chadbourne Rd., Solono Co., Apr. 20 was exceptional (LCB). Phainopeplas were reported in normal numbers from Mines Rd., where last year they were exceptionally abundant (VR, B&CY, TC). Loggerhead Shrikes were not found at regular localities in Palo Alto (DDeS, JF) and were reported reduced in numbers in the Pt. Reyes area (NS). In an attempt to survey the Starling population and its effect on native hole-nesters Van Remsen conducted surveys along Mines and Del Puerto Canyon Rds., from 1971-1974. The census were taken at twenty points each year selected randomly from good habitat during the first week of May; at least 15 points were the same all 3 years. The results, summarized on Table 1, indicate that an increase in the Starling population did not cause a universal decline in native species. Among the larger hole nesters increases were realized by Nuttall's Woodpecker and Western Bluebird and decreases by Acorn, Downy and Hairy Woodpeckers. A Red-eyed Vireo was captured June 9 on the F.Is. during the early June vagrant wave (P.R.B.O., RS).

Table 1—Census of hole-nesting species along Mines Rd., Alameda Co., Cal. (VR). Discussed in text under Starling.

	1971	1973	1974
Common Flicker	7	4	6
Acorn Woodpecker	26	9	13
Lewis' Woodpecker	1	2	2
Hairy Woodpecker	2	0	0
Downy Woodpecker	1	3	0
Nuttall's Woodpecker	4	4	13
Ash-throated Flycatcher	16	16	16
Violet-green Swallow	26	21	28
Purple Martin	0	3	1
Plain Titmouse	28	8	18
White-breasted Nuthatch	2	4	8
House Wren	18	6	10
Bewick's Wren	28	25	39
Western Bluebird	22	15	41
Starling	15	13	73

WOOD WARBLERS—Nashville Warbler is the mountain-type warbler with the most restricted distribution in the coast ranges; it breeds no further south than Mendocino and Lake Cos. Reports indicate that it largely avoids the Bay Area and outer Central Californian coast during migration. Out of 33 reports, 17 were from the C.V., ten from the interior coast ranges, five from the coast north of Mendocino Co., and only one was from the Bay Area. Records indicate that it is a uniformly early migrant, for a mountain warbler, with median migration dates for all areas between Apr. 19 and 25. Nearly as restricted, the Hermit Warbler also seems to stick to the interior.

Out of 14 specific reports, five were from the C.V. with an unspecified number from the Sacramento area, six were from the inner coast ranges, two from possible breeding areas in the north coast range, and only one

from the outer coast. Hermits proved to be quite a bit later with median dates for all areas falling in the first week of May. Black-throated Gray Warblers were mainly reported from the coast range of Central California, 12 out of 15 reports, which is reasonable since this is an abundant breeder to this area. MacGillivray's Warblers were mostly reported from interior locations with 10 from the C.V., four from the inner coast ranges, three from the Berkeley hills where they breed locally, and one from the far north coast. While this includes some territorial birds median dates for all areas fall in mid-May.

Yellow Warblers were early this spring with several early April reports and one exceptionally early sighting in Niles Canyon Mar. 4 (BK). They were already abundant at Searsville L. by Apr. 13 (DDeS, JF). A HermitXTownsend's Warbler was photographed on the F.Is. Apr. 17 (P.R.B.O.*). Despite a very windy spring on the F.Is. a major wave of vagrant warblers May 28-June 9 produced an impressive list (P.R.B.O., RS): four Tennessees, one Magnolia, two Cape Mays, two Chestnut-sides, two **Bay-breasteds**, one Blackpoll, one Ovenbird, two Am. Redstarts and the fourth regional record of **Kentucky Warbler**. Undoubtedly the same wave brought a singing ♂ **Hooded Warbler**, the eleventh regional record, to Inverness Ridge May 30 (LK). Elsewhere on the mainland, a Black-and-white Warbler was near Pt. Reyes Station April 14 (Clifton*, Pitcher*). Singing ♂ Tennessee Warblers were found at the Presidio, S.F., May 24 (LCB*, MLR*) and Honey Lake Wildlife Areas headquarters June 2 (TM). A ♂ N. Parula, well described from Orangevale, Sacramento Co., (HW*) is the second C.V. record.

ICTERIDS THROUGH TANAGERS—A ♀ Bobolink was on the F.Is. June 8-9 (P.R.B.O., RS). A ♀ Yellow-headed Blackbird, rare on the coast, was at the Arcata Bottoms Apr. 23 (*fide* TS, DE). Cowbirds increased dramatically along Mines Rd., (VR) and elsewhere were reported very common. Western Tanagers nesting in Coast Live Oak were out of typical habitat at Steven's Creek Park May 11 (TC). Observers from Livermore (AE) and Fresno (R&KH, JS) commented on the total absence of female tanagers among migrant tanagers in their area.

FINCHES—A ♀ Rose-breasted Grosbeak found near Loon L., El Dorado Co., May 18 (B&RL*) coincided with an influx of this eastern vagrant into the desert of Southern California. A ♂ Indigo Bunting was at Mt. Diablo May 3 (BS) and one was on the F.Is. June 1-2 (P.R.B.O., RS). Sixteen Lazuli Buntings along Mines Rd., was a reduction from last year's count of 27 and 47 for 1971 (VR). Evening Grosbeaks were found sporadically out of the mountains: one was on the F.Is. May 27 (P.R.B.O.), 19 were in coastal Humboldt Co., in April with a few lingering through May, small flocks lingered in Chico through the second week of May (PM) and hundreds were seen along the American R., near Sacramento Apr. 26 (BK). Ten Cassin's Finches were at Chew's Ridge May 17 (SB) where they appear to be regular. Lawrence's Goldfinches were reported widely this spring with a notable two pairs at the Pajaro R. mouth all spring (J&RW). Red Crossbills were reported in small numbers from a variety of coastal localities:

Lincoln Park and the Presidio in S.F. (LCB, MLR) including a singing male and possible juveniles, one to two in Pacific Grove (AB), 16 in Arcata (TS, DE), two in Santa Cruz Mts. (BGE) and a pair on Inverness Ridge (LK). Two Green-tailed Towhees, rare away from the mts., were reported, one from south of Monterey May 27 (*fide* DDeS) and the other from 5 mi. w. of Ukiah at 2100 feet May 25 (OJK*). A northern record for the Brown Towhee was obtained at Blue L., Humboldt Co., May 2 (Harris, *fide* DE, TS). A Vesper Sparrow, vagrant to the coast, was banded on the F.Is. Apr. 13 (P.R.B.O.). Several reports were received for Black-throated Sparrows west of the Sierran crest: one was on the F.Is. Apr. 17 and another was east of Hume L., Fresno Co., 6170 feet elevation May 26 (R&KH, JS). But most interesting was the sighting of four males on Cohasset Rd., 8 mi. n. of Chico in hard chaparral May 12 and June 6 (TM, AC). Four singing ♂ Black-chinned Sparrows, very rare that far north, were at the same spot and surprisingly no Sage Sparrows could be found in apparently perfect habitat. A ♂ Brewer's Sparrow was found singing in Chico Apr. 21 (PM) and two males were found singing in the Fresno area May 22&28 (R&KH, JS). Another of this species was banded on the F.Is. May 28 (P.R.B.O.) and another rare *Spizella*, Clay-colored Sparrow, was there May 4-5 (P.R.B.O., DAG). Ten White-throated Sparrows reported this period is normal. A Fox Sparrow from one of the region's mountain races was observed in Del Puerto Canyon Apr. 27 (DDeS). Individuals of these races are rarely observed locally during migration and winter.

CORRIGENDA—In *AB* Vol. 27, p. 919 Rose-breasted Grosbeak in Pacific Grove was June 6-7 not July 6-7. Additional credit should go to Margot Nelson who found it.

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