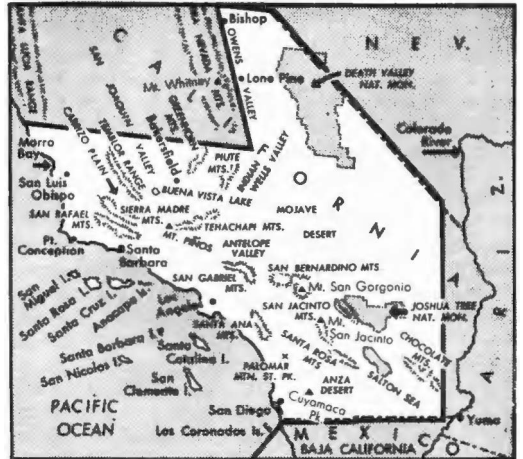


SOUTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION / Guy McCaskie

The winter season was rather uneventful, with no major influxes of more northerly species into the Region, or mountain species into the lowlands. Red-breasted Nuthatches were unreported, and many other regular wintering species for the Region were in smaller-than-normal numbers.

A fair number and variety of species, normally considered summer visitors, were present including more than the normal number of flycatchers and warblers. Unexpected finds included a Trumpeter Swan and Ruff in Los Angeles, a Magnolia Warbler on the Colorado R., two Black-throated Blue Warblers on the coast, and a Sharp-tailed Sparrow inland.



LOONS, GREBES — Common Loons are rarely found inland during the winter in s. California, hence one on L. Hodges, San Diego Co., Jan. 5 (AF) is of interest. A Red-necked Grebe, rare anywhere in s. California, was in Santa Barbara Jan. 5 (BB) and another was at nearby Goleta Jan. 13 (PL). The only Horned Grebes found away from the coast was one on L. Perris, Riverside Co. Feb. 2 (EAC, SC), and another on L. Cachuma, Santa Barbara Co. Feb. 14 (AH).

FULMARS, SHEARWATERS, STORM-PETRELS — A Fulmar near Catalina I. Dec. 22 (SS) and another off Huntington Beach, Orange Co. Feb. 1 (*vide* GSS) were the only two reported, indicating that the species was scarce in s. California waters this winter. A flock of over 1000 Manx Shearwaters off La Jolla, San Diego Co. Dec. 19 contained a partial albino individual with a white head (JD). An Ashy Storm-Petrel near Santa Barbara I. Dec. 20 (JA) is interesting, since winter records are virtually non-existent.

HERONS, IBISES — The ad. Little Blue Heron found at Bolsa Chica, Orange Co. Nov. 17 was still present Mar. 27 (DRo), and another adult was seen off and on at the south end of the Salton Sea (hereafter S.E.S.S.) Dec. 7 - Feb. 8 (KEM, DVT); there are only three previous records for the Salton Sea. Over 60 Cattle Egrets were reported from along the coast between Santa Barbara and the Mexican border including four on San Clemente I. Mar. 28 (LT); twelve near Blythe on the Colorado R. Dec. 10 (JHS) were the only ones found elsewhere away from the Salton Sea. A Louisiana Heron found at Bolsa Chica in late November was still present Feb. 18 (J & SL) and appears to be the only one in s. California this winter. As usual a few Least Bitterns were present around the Salton Sea all winter, but one near San Diego Dec. 30 (DRa) was the only one reported from along the coast. One or two White-faced Ibis around Oceanside, San Diego Co. throughout the period (AF) appear to be the only ones wintering along the coast; this species used to be more common, occurring regularly in Orange and San Diego counties.

SWANS, GEESE, DUCKS — Three Whistling Swans on Morro Bay Feb. 22 (RBH), one in nearby San Luis Obispo Jan. 26 - Feb. 4 (FRT), and another near Santa Barbara Dec. 21 (S.B.A.S.) were the only ones reported away from the Owens Valley, where they occur regularly each winter. An ad. **Trumpeter Swan** on Legg L. in San Gabriel Jan. 1 - Feb. 17 (GSS *et al.*), and what was probably the same bird was present in nearby Covina, Los Angeles Co. Mar. 13-15 (EAC, SC); four together in Ventura Co. late last fall (*Am. Birds*, 29:120, 1975) represented the second modern day sighting in s. California. A Canada Goose on Santa Barbara I. Jan. 18 (LJ) was an unusual locality. An ad. Brant was associating with Black Brant on San Diego Bay Feb. 15 - Mar. 2 (GMCC, JD *et al.*); one or two are found almost every year in coastal s. California and must be considered regular in limited numbers. Snow Geese were scarcer than usual at S.E.S.S. reaching a maximum of only 9000 of which but 1 per cent was imm. birds; interesting was the presence of seven birds marked in Wrangel I. last summer. Up to 30 Ross' Geese at S.E.S.S. during the winter was normal, but one near Big Pine in the Owens Valley Jan. 11 (TH) and another near Oceanside Jan. 12 (JD) were both at unusual localities for the species.

A flock of 15 Fulvous Tree Ducks at S.E.S.S. Feb 10 (JHS) was unexpected since the species is rare anywhere in California during the winter. A ♂ Eurasian Green-winged Teal was well seen in San Luis Obispo Feb. 2 (FRT) and another was at Legg L. in San Gabriel Mar. 23 - Apr. 2 (DWF *et al.*); only a few records exist

for this form in s. California. As usual a few Blue-winged Teal were present along the coast throughout the period with up to five males at Goleta, Santa Barbara Co. all winter; numbers increased in February, and more than 30 males were reported in the Region during March. An unmistakable ♂ Blue-winged x Cinnamon Teal was found in San Diego Feb. 22 (GMCC, JD); this hybrid is found somewhat frequently so cannot be considered rare. A ♂ **Garganey** in Long Beach Mar. 19 (GSS *et al.*) is undoubtedly the same individual seen here a year ago and also on Mar. 15, 1972 (*Am. Birds* 28:851). This may be the most migratory of all the northern hemisphere ducks, moving well into the tropics of Asia and Africa each winter, even straggling to Australia on at least one occasion. In recent years it has been found in the west Aleutians (*Aud. Field Notes* 24:634, *Am. Birds* 25:785, 28:838 and 935) so natural wandering south along the west coast of North America is plausible. The only Eur. Wigeon reported was a male near Oceanside Jan. 12-16 (JD, PU) and another male near Chino, Riverside Co. Feb. 28 (DWF). A handful of Wood Ducks was found scattered throughout the Region with one in Puma Valley, San Diego Co. Feb. 19 (AF) being the farthest south. The ♂ **Tufted Duck** on L. Sherwood, Ventura Co. was last seen Jan. 12 (FH). An imm. ♂ Barrow's Goldeneye on San Diego Bay Feb. 15-20 (GMCC, JD *et al.*) is only the third ever found in the Region. An Oldsquaw near Cambria, San Luis Obispo Co. Dec. 20 - Jan. 30 (EVJ), one at Ventura Jan. 31 - Mar. 4 (S.B.A.S.), another nearby at the mouth of the Santa Clara R. Jan. 5 (GSS) and two on San Diego Bay Jan. 1 - Feb. 18 (JD, PU) gave us an average number for s. California. Two ♂ Harlequin Ducks were near San Simeon, San Luis Obispo Co. Jan. 2 (S.B.A.S.) where they are undoubtedly regular in winter, and the male that has been at Playa del Rey, Los Angeles, Co. since 1972 was still there Mar. 31 (JAJ).

White-winged Scoters were exceptionally scarce this winter, and a ♂ Black Scoter off Goleta Mar. 2 (PL) was the only individual of that species reported; a poor year for all scoters in s. California. Hooded Mergansers were more numerous and widespread than normal with two in Goleta Feb. 5 - Mar. 19 (PL, S.B.A.S.), one at Malibu Jan. 8 - Feb. 28 (GSS), three on L. Casitas Dec. 26 (SF), up to six near Glendora Nov. 1 - Feb. 7 (DG *et al.*), one in Riverside Feb. 15 - Mar. 15 (RGW, EAC), and two in nearby Redlands all winter (EAC, SC); more interesting was one near Rasor, San Bernardino Co. Dec. 2 (JS), another on the Colorado R. near Earp Dec. 29 (JD, KG) and one more near Niland at S.E.S.S. Jan 25 (EAC, SC).

KITES, HAWKS, OSPREY, FALCONS — A White-tailed Kite near Thermal, Riverside Co. Dec. 27 (EAC, SC), two at the north end of the Salton Sea Jan. 25 (JD) and another at Brawley, Imperial Co. Jan. 25 (JD) were all east of their normal range, and numbers continue to increase within the species' normal range. Most unusual was an ad. Goshawk in Pt. Mugu S.P., Ventura Co. Dec. 7 - Jan. 3 (SW, GSS *et al.*). A "Harlan's Hawk" was well seen near Santa Maria, Santa Barbara Co. Jan. 12 (PL, FH); this dark form of Red-tailed Hawk has been reported on only four previous occasions in this Region. About 25 Rough-legged

Hawks were reported with most in the Owens Valley, however some did reach extreme s. California with one near Escondido, San Diego Co. Feb. 6 (AF), two at L. Henshaw, San Diego Co. Dec. 13 (JD) and one or two at S.E.S.S. Dec. 15 - Apr. 2 (DVT *et al.*). Ferruginous Hawks continue to hold their own with over 30 individuals found during the period. An ad. Bald Eagle was near Big Pine in the Owens Valley Jan. 3 (TH) and an imm. was at nearby Bishop Feb. 2 (TH); farther south two or three (2 ad. 1 imm.) were on the Colorado R. near Needles Dec. 29 - Jan. 15 (JD, JHS), and three imm. were above Imperial Dam Jan. 15 (JHS); elsewhere one to four (2 ad., 2 imm.) were on L. Cachuma, Santa Barbara Co. Dec. 27 - Jan. 22 (S.B.A.S.), an adult was at nearby Refugio Pass Jan. 5 (S.B.A.S.), an imm. was over Newport Bay Jan. 12 (JD), five imm. were at L. Mathews, Riverside Co. Mar. 23 (EAC, SC), and up to nine (2 ad. 7 imm.) were at L. Henshaw Dec. 23 - Mar. 16 (BS, JD); these birds all probably come from the Pacific Northwest since none are known to nest in the Region. A few Ospreys were present along the entire coast as well as one at the Salton Sea and two around Imperial Dam on the Colorado R. all winter. The only Peregrine Falcon reported was an adult on Santa Rosa I. Mar. 1-3 (LJ). Only eight Merlins were found, indicating a drastic decline in numbers in recent years.

CRANES, RAILS — A flock of 82 Sandhill Cranes was near Brawley in the Imperial Valley Dec. 4 (DVT), the only locality away from the Carrizo Plain that regularly holds cranes in s. California; one near Big Pine in the Owens Valley Jan. 12-24 (TH), and another at L. Casitas, Ventura Co. Dec. 26-27 (SF) were unusual. A Black Rail was flushed from a marsh at S.E.S.S. Feb. 9 (DVT) giving us another record for that area.

OYSTERCATCHERS, PLOVERS, SANDPIPERS — Up to four Black Oystercatchers present at Playa del Rey Jan. 6 - Mar. 8 (HF, JL *et al.*) were some distance from an area of regular occurrence. Two Snowy Plovers at Owens L. Jan. 3 (TH) were unexpected, since winter records are unknown from interior localities other than at the Salton Sea. Mountain Plovers winter regularly along the west side of the San Joaquin Valley, throughout the Imperial Valley and in suitable habitat in the coastal lowlands south of Los Angeles; this winter 25 were seen near Santa Maria Jan. 19 (PL) and about 10 near Pt. Mugu Dec. 24 - Mar. 5 (JD, HF). The only Am. Golden Plovers reported were four at Playa del Rey Feb. 12 - Mar. 13 (HF *et al.*) and three on Upper Newport Bay Jan. 28 (GSS). As usual a few Lesser Yellowlegs were present on the coast and at the Salton Sea. Some 35 Stilt Sandpipers were around S.E.S.S. all winter (GMcC *et al.*). This species regularly winters in w. Mexico and the Salton Sea appears to be the northern limit of normal occurrence. A Ruff found at Playa del Rey Jan. 6 (HF) was picked up dead Jan. 15 (*L.A.C.M.). Two Wilson's Phalaropes were present at Imperial Beach, San Diego Co. during much of December (GMcC), one was there Mar. 8 (GMcC) and four were seen at S.E.S.S. Feb. 16-17 (J & SL); this species is rare anywhere in California during the winter. As usual a flock of about 50 N. Phalarope spent the period at Imperial Beach (GMcC) the only locality in California where phalaropes regularly winter. A Red

Phalarope at Goleta Dec. 12 (PL) was likely a fall migrant.

JAEGERS, GULLS, TERNS, SKIMMERS — The presence of six Pomarine Jaegers off Long Beach Dec. 20 (JA), four off Oxnard Jan. 18 (DG, LJ), and at least twelve others at various points off the coast during the period documents the species' presence in s. California waters during the winter. About ten Parasitic Jaegers were reported from coastal localities between Santa Barbara and San Diego during the period; this species is invariably found close to shore whereas the Pomarine Jaeger dominates the offshore waters.

The only Glaucous Gulls in the Region were a first year bird at Goleta, Santa Barbara Co. Dec. 9 (PL), another at Playa del Rey Jan. 10 (LJ, KG) and a third on Newport Bay, Orange Co. Mar. 15 (EAC, SC). An imm. Glaucous-winged Gull was at S.E.S.S. Dec. 14 (EAC, SC) and another was seen on the e. shore of the Salton Sea Jan. 25 (JD); this species is rare inland. Single imm. Thayer's Gulls were seen inland on the Salton Sea Dec. 14 (EAC, SC) and Jan. 25 (JD); this species is probably regular in limited numbers on the Salton Sea and should be looked for on other large inland bodies of water attractive to gulls. Black-legged Kittiwakes were fairly common in s. California waters this winter as indicated by counts of 50 off Oxnard Jan. 18 (DG) and 15 off San Diego Mar. 15 (GMcC); small numbers were also present along the shore with reports of up to 10 individuals together being seen at ten different localities.

Common Terns are not normally present in California during the winter so a flock of 10-15 on San Diego Bay throughout the period (JD *et al.*) was of extreme interest. A Black Tern was at Goleta Dec. 17 (LRB) and another was present on San Diego Bay Dec. 6 - Jan. 18 (JD, PU *et al.*); there are very few winter records of this species for California. For the second winter in a row **Black Skimmers** spent the winter on San Diego Bay with two present Dec. 14 to Mar. 27 (JD *et al.*).

MURRES, AUKLETS — The only Com. Murres reported was one off Oxnard, Ventura Co. Jan. 3 (JA) and six there Jan. 18 (DG); exceptionally few for s. California. Five Pigeon Guillemots at Santa Rosa I. Mar. 2 (LJ) were the first noted returning to known breeding localities; this species completely moves away from the Channel Is. in winter, and is very rarely seen anywhere in s. California waters at that time of the year. Cassin's Auklets were scarcer than usual, and 100 Rhinoceros Auklets between Oxnard and Santa Barbara I. Jan. 18 (DG, LJ) was the only concentration of that species reported.

DOVES, OWLS, SWIFTS — Two White-winged Doves near Santa Barbara Feb. 18 (GH) one at Pt. Mugu S.P. Dec. 26 (ERA) and another near Imperial Beach Feb. 28 (JD) were all at coastal localities outside the species' normal range at any time of the year; one or two at Agua Caliente Springs in e. San Diego Co. throughout the winter (GMcC) and two at nearby Yaqui Wells Mar. 2 (GSS) support the theory that a few individuals regularly winter in s.e. California. At least six Short-eared Owls were on tiny Santa Barbara I. in January (LJ) but were exceptionally scarce elsewhere in the Region. A flock of 10-15 Vaux's Swifts was near Oceanside Jan. 10-12 (AF *et al.*) and eleven were seen

over Huntington Beach, Orange Co. Feb. 21 (*fide* GSS) adding to the growing list of winter records of this species in s.w. California.

WOODPECKERS — Five "Yellow-shafted Flickers" were reported with two on the coast (L. Sherwood Jan. 3 and Newport Bay Mar. 15) and three in the interior (Furnace Creek Ranch Mar. 25, Niland Dec. 21 - Jan. 25 and Brock Ranch Feb. 16); its current treatment as a race of the Com. Flicker appears to have deemphasized interest in reporting sightings. Lewis' Woodpeckers were exceptionally scarce throughout the Region with a single bird at Tapia Park, Los Angeles Co. Jan. 23 (GSS), another near Capistrano, Orange Co. most of the winter (AF) and two near Santa Ysabel, San Diego Co. Dec. 15 - Jan. 22 (AF) being the only ones reported. An imm. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker near Earp, San Bernardino Co. Dec. 29 (JD, KG) showed all the characters of the eastern form *S. v. varius*; this race appears to be but a casual straggler to California.

FLYCATCHERS, SWALLOWS — A Cassin's Kingbird at S.E.S.S. Feb. 28 (EAC, SC) was unexpected since only a handful of records exist for that area of California, however, this is the time of the year when an influx of birds is evident on the coast. An Ash-throated Flycatcher in Santa Barbara Nov. 25 - Jan. 30 (NM, SBAS) was exceptional, for no valid winter records exist for coastal California, though a few fall migrants have lingered into early December. An E. Phoebe, a somewhat regular straggler to California, remained in Arcadia Dec. 11 - Mar. 2 (GSS, BB *et al.*). There were four reports of Hammond's/Dusky Flycatchers with one near Needles Dec. 30 (JD, KG), one at Pt. Mugu S.P. Feb. 23 - Mar. 17 (GSS *et al.*), one in San Diego all winter (JD *et al.*), and another in nearby National City Dec. 7 (GMCC); few records for either species exist for the winter period and it is not known which of the two is the more likely. Three Gray Flycatchers were seen with one at Pt. Mugu Jan. 4 (FH), another in Los Angeles Feb. 12 (JAJ) and the third at Yaqui Wells Mar. 3 (*fide* GSS); a few of these flycatchers occur in s. California every winter. Five sightings of W. Flycatchers is more than usual with single birds at Santa Monica Jan. 19 (H & PB), near San Diego Dec. 27 (DRA), in San Diego Dec. 3 - Jan. 9 (JD), in National City Dec. 7-14 (GMCC) and at Brock Ranch Dec. 27 (JD). The Coues' Flycatcher at the Pacific Palisades on Nov. 15 was present to the end of December (*fide* LJ). As expected two or three Vermilion Flycatchers were present around San Diego throughout the period, but one at Legg L. in San Gabriel Feb. 22 (DWF) was the only other reported on the coast.

Two Bank Swallows, rarely reported in winter, were seen at S.E.S.S. Dec. 28 (TH). Rough-winged Swallows now appear to winter regularly in s.e. California for 20 were seen near Needles Dec. 29 (JD, KG), three more were near Earp on the same day (JD, KG), and a few were seen throughout the period at S.E.S.S. (GMCC); on the coast one was seen near San Diego Jan. 29 and two more were there Feb. 2 (DRA).

CROWS THROUGH WAXWINGS — Up to 37 Com. Crows were present around S.E.S.S. throughout the period (DVT); this species has only recently started

to use this area as a wintering locality, formerly occurring only as a casual wanderer. A Verdin at San Elijo Lagoon, San Diego Co. Jan. 9 - Feb. 17 (ABA *et al.*) was most unusual since it is known to occur at but one locality on the coast of California (on the Mexican border near Imperial Beach), and is unrecorded elsewhere. Six Bushtits near Parker Dam Feb. 25 (JHS) represent the third record for the Colorado R. valley. A few Brown Creepers were evidently along the coast as indicated by the presence of one in Santa Barbara Jan. 13 (S.B.A.S.), two or three on Santa Cruz I. Jan. 3 - Mar. 26 (JA), and two near San Diego Sept. 26 - Feb. 7 (DRA). At least ten Winter Wrens were noted in densely vegetated canyons of the San Gabriel and San Bernardino Mts. where they are probably regular winter visitors; one at Pt. Mugu S.P., Jan. 4 (FH) was unexpected. A Sage Thrasher on Santa Barbara I. Jan. 19 (LJ) was at an unusual locality. Varied Thrushes were exceptionally scarce throughout the Region, thus one at Brock Ranch Feb. 16 (S & SL) was totally unexpected since it is virtually unknown in s.e. California. Two Golden-crowned Kinglets near Needles Dec. 30 (JD, KG) represent one of the very few records for the Colorado R. Valley, and up to seven near San Diego Nov. 23 - Mar. 23 (DRA) were far south. Totally unexpected was a Bohemian Waxwing in San Diego Dec. 3-4 (JD), and another near San Luis Obispo Mar. 21 (FRT).



Winter Wren, Santa Paula Canyon, Dec. 14, 1974.
Photo / Keith Axelson.

VIREOS, WARBLERS — As usual a few Solitary Vireos lingered into December with single individuals in San Pedro Dec. 11 (J & DM), Arcadia Dec. 11 - Jan. 1 (GSS), Riverside Dec. 22 (EAC, SC), San Diego Dec. 7-14 (GMCC), and near Needles Dec. 30 (JD); the last two were clearly *V.s. plumbeus*, scarce in s.e. California and casual along the coast. A Solitary Vireo, *V.s. cassinii*, present in San Diego Dec. 1 - Mar. 31 (JD *et al.*) is the only one that can be treated as a wintering bird. Most unusual was a Warbling Vireo in Arcadia Jan. 4 (H & PB).

A ♂ Black-and-white Warbler near San Diego Sept. 26 - Mar. 19 (DRA *et al.*) clearly wintered successfully. Whether a Tennessee Warbler near San Diego Dec. 29 - Jan. 5 (JWD *et al.*), and another in San Diego Jan. 1-16

(JD, PU), were attempting to winter locally or were just very late fall stragglers is anyone's guess. Three or four Nashville Warblers were found along the coast during December and another was in San Diego Jan. 25 (PU); this species is fairly rare in California during winter. Unexpected was a Virginia's Warbler in Riverside all winter (EAC, SC) for very few valid winter records exist for California. Three Yellow Warblers near Imperial Dam on the Colorado R. Dec. 28 (JD) were the only ones reported. Exceptional was a ♂ **Magnolia Warbler** in Earp on the Colorado R. Mar. 26-27 (DE, TS); the bird is believed to have wintered locally and there is no previous winter record for California. Also unprecedented was a ♂ **Black-throated Blue Warbler** near Morro Bay Dec. 16-20 (EVJ) and another male near San Diego Dec. 25 - Jan. 5 (DRa *et al.*), however both may have been exceptionally late fall migrants. The only Black-throated Gray Warblers reported were one in Riverside Dec. 22 (EAC, SC) and another on Santa Cruz I. Feb. 1 (LJ). Hermit Warblers are always scarce in s. California during the winter so one in San Diego Dec. 6-16 (JD) and another near San Diego Jan. 1-2 (JD, DRa) are of interest. Five Palm Warblers were reported with one at Morro Bay Jan. 16-20 (FRT), one on San Clemente I. Mar. 26 (LJ), one near Pt. Mugu Feb. 28 (GSS, JAJ), another in San Pedro Dec. 4 (JDM) and the fifth inland at Morongo Valley Mar. 30 (FH); one or two are now found in California every winter. A N. Waterthrush was near Pt. Mugu Feb. 28 (GSS, JAJ) and another was at San Elijo Lagoon Dec. 18 (SS) supporting the idea that a few regularly winter in s. California. A MacGillivray's Warbler, very rare in winter, was in San Diego Dec. 6-14 (JD). The only Wilson's Warbler reported was one in Redlands Jan. 18 - Mar. 27 (EAC, SC). At least eight Am. Redstarts were found around S.E.S.S. during the period, and single birds were seen along the lower Colorado R. near Imperial Dam Dec. 28 (JD) & Jan. 9 (SS); this species regularly winters in these areas. An Am. Redstart in Lompoc, Santa Barbara Co. Jan. 12 (S.B.A.S.) and another in Redlands, San Bernardino Co. Feb. 7 (EAC, SC) were more unusual.

ORIOLES, BLACKBIRDS, TANAGERS — The only Hooded Orioles reported were two at a feeder in San Diego all winter (PU) and one in Goleta Jan. 8 (S.B.A.S.); this species is always much rarer than the N. Oriole in winter. A ♂ Scott's Oriole near Redlands Dec. 21 (EAC, SC) was unexpected since there are few winter records for this species. At least 15 N. Orioles were found wintering along the coast between Santa Barbara and San Diego including three "Baltimore" Orioles in San Diego. A "Bullock's" Oriole in Shandon, San Luis Obispo Co. Feb. 8 (RBH, KFH) was at an unusual locality. Totally unexpected was a Rusty Blackbird at Goleta Dec. 20 - Mar. 4 (PL, BS), two at Malibu Jan. 8 - Feb. 8 (GSS, BB) and another at Morongo Valley, San Bernardino Co. Mar. 28 (BDP); there are only two previous winter records for s. California. A Great-tailed Grackle remained around S.E.S.S. most of the winter (DVT) and another was at nearby Ramer L. Feb. 28 (EAC, SC); this species is now established as a permanent resident along the lower Colorado R. Valley, but continues to be rare in the Imperial Valley.

At least ten W. Tanagers were found wintering around Los Angeles and San Diego, which is normal. A Hepatic Tanager found near Parker Dam on the Colorado R. Mar. 27 (DE, TS) was still present Apr. 12 (JD), indicating it had wintered locally, and another was seen further south near Imperial Dam Dec. 28 (JD, KG); a few probably now winter regularly in s. California. A Summer Tanager in San Diego Dec. 14 - Feb. 18 (JD, ABA) was the only one reported.

FINCHES, SPARROWS — Up to four Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were present in Long Beach Dec. 4-7 (J & DM, FH) and single males were in San Luis Obispo Jan. 27 - Feb. 4 (FRT) and in San Diego Jan. 3 (JD, PU); this species is rare in California at any time of the year. A ♂ Black-headed Grosbeak, rarer than the previous species in winter, was present in San Diego Dec. 4 - Jan. 9 (JD). A minor influx of Purple Finches was evident along the coast in late February and March, however, one near Bard on the Colorado R. Dec. 28 (JD) was in an area for which few records exist. A Cassin's Finch at Brock Ranch Feb. 17 (PU) was unexpected. As is probably normal, flocks of 200-300 Gray-crowned Rosy Finches were present in Westguard Pass of the White Mts. all winter (TH), and 125 were found at 6000 ft. near Bishop Mar. 26 (PL). Some Pine Siskins were present along with the Purple Finches on the coast in the latter part of the winter.

The **Sharp-tailed Sparrow** found on Newport Bay Nov. 29 was still present Jan. 28 (GSS); one well seen near Imperial Dam Mar. 29 (FH) represents the first inland record for California. At least ten Vesper Sparrows were noted on the Channel Is. during the winter (LJ), which appears unusual. "Slate-colored" Juncos appeared more numerous than usual among flocks of Dark-eyed Juncos with up to ten individuals in one flock of juncos in San Diego. Ten Gray-headed Juncos were reported with one as far north as Furnace Creek Ranch in Death Valley Mar. 26-27 (DG), and single birds west to Santa Catalina I. Dec. 29 (LJ) and San Clemente I. Mar. 27 (LJ). Most unusual was a Clay-colored Sparrow on Pt. Loma in San Diego Dec. 15-16 (JD, GMcC); only two winter records are known for the Region. Two or three Black-chinned Sparrows, very rare in winter, were at Pt. Mugu S.P. Dec. 26 - Jan. 11 (ERA, FH). The only Harris' Sparrows reported this winter were one on Pt. Loma Dec. 14 - Mar. 1 (JD, ABA) and another at Oasis, Mono Co. Mar. 8 (DRo). Nine White-throated Sparrows were found with seven being along the coast and the other two in the s.e. corner of the Region; probably a normal number for s. California. Swamp Sparrows were more numerous and widespread than normal with single birds present at Furnace Creek Ranch Mar. 25 (PL), Redlands Feb. 1 (EAC, SC), Goleta Jan. 23 - Feb. 8 (PL), near Malibu Jan. 23 (EM), in Long Beach Dec. 8 - Apr. 2 (HB, J & DM) at Upper Newport Bay Jan. 25 (JAJ) and near San Diego Dec. 14 (GMcC), and two together near Imperial Beach Dec. 14 - Feb. 15 (JD). A Song Sparrow on Santa Catalina I. Jan. 1 (LJ) was at an interesting locality.

CORRIGENDA — In AB:29, the wording "Many Shearwaters . . ." on page 120 should be changed to "Manx Shearwaters . . ." and the dates for Blackbur-

nian Warblers on page 123 should be changed from “. . . Sept. 5 and Oct. 28. . .” to “. . . Sept. 5 and Nov. 2. . .”

CONTRIBUTORS — Ernest R. Abeles, Alan B. Altman, Jon Atwood, Keith Axelson, Larry & Karen Ballard (L & KB) Bruce Broadbooks, Hank and Priscilla Brodtkin (H&PB), Eugene A. Cardiff, Steven Cardiff, Herbert and Olga Clark (H&OC), John W. DeWitt, Jon Dunn, Dick Erickson, Hal Ferris, Steve Forsell, David W. Foster, Alice Fries, David P. Garber, Kimball Garrett, Daniel Guthrie, Andrew Hazi, Keith F. Hansen, Robert B. Hansen, Fred Heath, Tom Heindel, Erick V. Johnson, Jerry A. Johnson, Lee Jones, Paul Lehman, Steven and Susan Liston (S&SL), John and Susanne Luther (J&SL), Ed Masthay, Karen E. Michel, Jess and Donna Morton (J&DM), Benjamin D. Parmeter, Don Ramsey (DRa), Van Remsen, Don Roberson (DRo), Brad Schram, Tom Schulenberg, L.A. Shelton, J.H. Snowden, Jim Stevens, G. Shumway Suffel, Steve Summers, Fern R. Tainter, Don V. Tiller, Philip Unitt, Robert G. Wilson, Sandy Wohlgemuth, Jerrie Human, Nelson Metcalf and Joan Vincent reporting for Santa Barbara Audubon Society (SBAS). Los Angeles County Museum (LACM). *specimen. — Guy McCaskie, San Diego Natural History Museum, Balboa Park, San Diego, California.