

## SOUTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION /Guy McCaskie

A hurricane in September was the major meteorological event of the year; the rest of the season remained clear and dry with no major cold fronts from the north.

West Coast migrant landbirds appeared scarcer than normal throughout the period. We had an early push of vagrant species of eastern landbirds during September, but little appeared to be moving in October. No species new for the Region were discovered.

**HURRICANE KATHLEEN** — California is not normally associated with hurricanes, but hurricanes were recorded in September 1918, 1932 and 1939. During the night of September 9, 1976, Hurricane *Kathleen* struck the Pacific coast of Baja California, and traveled due N close to the 115th meridian. By noon Sept. 10, the storm was centered close to the Salton Sea, bringing high winds and heavy rainfall. On Sept. 12 Ted Parker saw "hundreds" of **Least Storm-Petrels** during two brief stops at the Salton Sea, and alerted interested observers. A count of 112 was made at the extreme s. end of the Salton Sea (S.E.S.S.) Sept. 15 (GMcC, JD, KG), and 110 were visible from Desert Beach at the n. end of the Salton Sea (N.E.S.S.) on the same day (MZ).



The total number present was probably 500-1000. The majority disappeared within two weeks, and may have actually found their way back to the Gulf of California, since no dead birds were found (DVT). A few individuals persisted on the Salton Sea into October, as evidenced by the presence of one off Salton City on Oct. 10 (JD, PU), seven at the mouth of Salt Creek (MZ) and another near the mouth of the New River both on Oct. 21 (DVT).

A **Leach's Storm-Petrel**, of the race *chapmani* from the San Benito Is., off the Pacific coast of Baja California, at S.E.S.S. on Sept. 15 (GMcC, PL, KG, JD) was the only other storm-petrel found. A **Red-billed Tropicbird** caught by a dog in Morongo Valley on Sept. 11 (EAC — \*S.B.C.M.) was the first found inland in California. Six **Magnificent Frigatebirds** (4 males, 1 female, 1 immature) over the open desert 5 mi. west of Blythe on the same date (RL) had also been displaced by the storm, as was an immature at S.E.S.S. Sept. 19 (EAC, SC).

**LOONS, GREBES** — Five Com. Loons were found around the S.E.S.S. Oct. 23 - Nov. 20 (DVT, R & EC), one was at Desert Center, Riverside Co., Nov. 10 (JD) and another was found dead at Baldwin L., in the San Bernardino Mts. Nov. 28 (JRG). A **Horned Grebe** at Furnace Creek Ranch in Death Valley (hereafter F.C.R.) Sept. 4-5 (DR, IM) and another on Tinnemaha Res., in the Owens Valley Sept. 9 (TH) were exceptionally early; one was at Scotty's Castle in Death Valley (hereafter S.C.) Nov. 24 (GSS).

**FULMARS, SHEARWATERS, STORM-PETRELS** — A N. Fulmar off Ventura Aug. 11 (LJ) had probably summered locally, but eight around the n. Channel Is. during November (JA, KG, LJ) and another off La Jolla, San Diego Co. Nov. 12 (JD) were arrivals from the north. Up to five New Zealand Shearwaters were seen around Anacapa and Santa Barbara Is. Aug. 18 - Oct. 3 (VR, KG, LJ) but were overshadowed by more than 2000 s. of San Miguel I. Sept. 26-28 (RLP).

The only **Ashy Storm-Petrels** reported were off Ventura Sept. 17, six there on Sept. 20 and five off the Palos Verdes Pen. Sept. 22 (JA). A small white-rumped storm-petrel seen off Anacapa I. Aug. 18 (IM, VR) might have been a Galapagos Storm-Petrel; there is only one verified record for the United States (Auk 87:588-589, 1970) but it has been found off Baja California. Three **Least Storm-Petrels** off the Palos Verdes Pen. Sept. 22 (JA) and one near Anacapa I. Oct. 3 (LJ) were the only birds reported n. of San Diego.

**TROPICBIRDS, PELICANS, FRIGATEBIRDS** — Red-billed Tropicbirds were seen off San Diego on four occasions Sept. 11-19, with a high of three on Sept. 12 (GMcC *et al.*), and one was off Santa Barbara I., Oct. 3 & 17 (LJ, BB). White Pelicans reached a peak of 4000 at S.E.S.S. Oct. 21 (DVT); a flock of 500 flying S along the desolate Panamint Valley Oct. 3 (KG) was a surprise, but indicates that numbers move south across c. California towards the Salton Sea. The number of Brown Pelicans at S.E.S.S. remained around 40 through August, then started to drop, with 23 still present Oct. 5 (DVT), and one remaining as late as Nov. 13 (DVT). A few **Magnificent Frigatebirds** were still along the coast in August as indicated by two immatures over Leucadia, San Diego Co. Aug. 20 (AF) and another over Santa Barbara Aug. 23 (RW); an immature at S.E.S.S. Aug. 18 (DVT) was the only other sighting unrelated to Kathleen.

**HERONS, SPOONBILLS** — Adult Little Blue Herons remained around the mouth of the New River at S.E.S.S. through August (DVT); an immature at Leucadia, San Diego Co., Aug. 27 (AF) was the only one found along the coast. Cattle Egrets continue to increase as fall visitors to coastal California with some large groups reported, such as 31 near San Simeon, San Luis Obispo Co., Nov. 26 (EAC, SC), 33 in Whittier, Los Angeles Co. Nov. 16 (DWF), 32 at Elsinore, Riverside Co., Sept. 6 (AF), 30 near Imperial Beach, San Diego Co., Nov. 7 (PU) and 21 on San Clemente I. Oct. 13 (LJ), with smaller numbers elsewhere. An imm. Louisiana Heron at Imperial Beach after Nov. 17 (JD) was the only one reported. Two **Least Bitterns** were at F.C.R. Aug. 17 (RS) and another was there Sept. 4 (DR); records from desert oases may help to establish migration periods for such secretive species. The imm. Roseate Spoonbill remained around S.E.S.S. through Sept. 19 (EAC, SC).

**SWANS, GEESE, DUCKS** — Two Brant at S.E.S.S. Oct. 21 (DVT) had probably summered locally. Snow Geese built up to 16,300 on Nov. 18 at S.E.S.S. with three "Blue" Geese present with them. As usual, a few Blue-winged Teal were present along the coast in November with up to eight around Goleta, Santa Barbara Co. (PL), and five near Huntington Beach, Orange Co. (JA, D & LD). Four Eur. Wigeon were reported with single males at F.C.R. Nov. 24 (GSS, JAJ), near L. Arrowhead Nov. 25 (KG), at McGrath S.P., Ventura Co., Nov. 25-26 (PL, GH) and at S.E.S.S. Nov. 5 (PFS); an interesting variety of localities. A number of Wood Ducks were reported with the southernmost being one in Santee, San Diego Co., Nov. 23 (WTE) and another at S.E.S.S. Oct. 30 (DVT). The ♂ Tufted Duck that spent the past four winters on L. Sherwood, Ventura Co., returned by Nov. 19 (JAJ). Totally unexpected was a ♀ Barrow's Goldeneye at F.C.R. Nov. 26-28 (GMcC, RS — p. S.D.N.H.M.); there are only three other records for S. California.

The Oldsquaw summering on San Diego Bay was present Oct. 10 (JD); another was near Huntington Beach Nov. 26 (R & MW). A ♂ Harlequin Duck was near Cambria, San Luis Obispo Co., after Nov. 20 (FRT); a female near Malibu, Nov. 25-28 (BB) was a little far south. A White-winged Scoter was F.C.R. Nov. 24-27 (GSS, JD) and another was near Imperial Dam Nov. 14 to the end of the period (SS). Three Surf Scoters at S.E.S.S. Oct. 29 - Nov. 5 (PFS, DVT) were fall migrants as were the single birds at Oasis, Mono Co., Oct. 19 (MH), at Little L., Owens Valley Oct. 23 (RN), and on Holiday L. in the Antelope Valley Nov. 20 (KG). Only five Hooded Mergansers were reported, but one of these was at F.C.R. Nov. 28 (FM) where rare.

**KITES, HAWKS, FALCONS** — A White-tailed Kite was at N.E.S.S. Aug. 11 (JD) & Oct. 29 (LJ), and two were in the Antelope Valley Nov. 20 (KG). A Goshawk in Big Pine, Inyo Co.

Oct. 2 (TH) was the only one reported. A remarkable number of Red-shouldered Hawks was found Aug. 13 - Nov. 20 in high desert areas with one at Oasis (DR, PL, TH), one at S.C. (RS, VR), up to three at F.C.R. (VR, JA, DE), one at L. Tami near Barstow (VR), one at Little L. (SC), one at Baker Dam in Joshua Tree N.M. (NS), and two in the Antelope Valley (KG); all were e. of the species' normal range. An imm. Broad-winged Hawk moving down Pt. Loma Oct. 20 (WTE) and another in Fillmore, Ventura Co., Nov. 25 (DS) were the only two noted. A Swainson's Hawk over Goleta Sept. 2 (RW) was of interest. A few Rough-legged Hawks were reported during November with two at S.E.S.S. Oct. 30 - Nov. 30 (DVT) and one near Otay, San Diego Co., Nov. 14 (D & LD) being the southernmost. Bald Eagles had returned to favored wintering localities such as L. Matthews, Riverside Co. by mid-November (8 present Nov. 28); an imm. flying past Pt. Loma in San Diego Oct. 23 (DHO) and another at S.E.S.S. Oct. 22 - Nov. 18 (DVT, PFS) were both at interesting localities. Six Peregrine Falcons were reported during the period with one over F.C.R. Aug. 18 (RS). Thirteen Merlins were seen between Sept. 22 and the end of the period.

**CRANES, SHOREBIRDS** — Two Sandhill Cranes were in Encino Oct. 14-22 (SW, JBr). The Anacapa I. Am. Oystercatcher was seen Aug. 18 (VR), Sept. 4 (GH) & Nov. 13 (FH). A Black Oystercatcher at Goleta Sept. 2 (RW) was only the fourth there in ten years. A Semipalmated Plover was near Blythe, Riverside Co., where few records exist. A Snowy Plover in Baker, San Bernardino Co., Aug. 28-29 (PU, JD) was the only one inland away from the Salton Sea. A Mountain Plover near Olancho Oct. 31 (TCS, WTE) appears to be the first reported from the Owens Valley. American Golden Plovers were exceptionally scarce this fall, with only four individuals reported Sept. 5 - Oct. 28 (JD, PL, LJ, D&LD), however, one was seen inland at S.E.S.S. Oct. 23 (PFS) and two more near Brawley Oct. 31 (PFS, EMM); a bird was at Goleta Sept. 2 through November (BS, RW).

A Ruddy Turnstone at Salton City Aug. 6-14 (PU, R&EC) and another at S.E.S.S. Sept. 15 (JD) were the only two seen away from the coast. As usual a few Red Knots appeared on the Salton Sea with a high count of 12 made on Sept. 15 (JD) and a very late individual at S.E.S.S. Nov. 20 (R&EC). More than 40 Baird's Sandpipers were reported passing through the Region Aug. 14 - Oct. 3. Pectoral Sandpipers were present Sept. 6 - Oct. 30 with 23 in Blythe Sept. 27 (JD, PU) being the largest flock. A Sharp-tailed Sandpiper was carefully identified on Catalina I. Oct. 5 (LJ); the fourth for S. California. Stilt Sandpipers reached a peak of 125 at S.E.S.S. Aug. 14 (PU, R&EC); three at N.E.S.S. Sept. 15 (JD) were the only ones away from S.E.S.S.

**JAEGERS, GULLS, TERNS, SKIMMERS** — Six or seven Parasitic Jaegers were seen around N.E.S.S. Sept. 10-19 (JD, KG, EAC) and a late individual was there Nov. 28 (MH). Five Long-tailed Jaegers were seen off San Diego Sept. 11 (GMcC), another was found there Sept. 18 (JD), at least two were seen off Ventura Sept. 12 (LJ, KG). Eight South Polar Skuas were seen on the waters s. of San Miguel I. Sept. 28-29 (RLP). A Laughing Gull at Huntington Beach Oct. 18 (R&MW) was most interesting; the species is a casual straggler to the coast; one at S.E.S.S. Oct. 21 (PFS) was the latest seen. Franklin's Gulls were scarcer than usual with only six found along the coast Sept. 27 - Nov. 22 and three on the Salton Sea Aug. 6 - Sept. 19. A Bonaparte's Gull was near Olancho Oct. 31 (TCS, WTE); this species is rare in the Owens Valley. A Heermann's Gull was seen at S.E.S.S. Oct. 5 (DVT). Sabine's Gulls were scarce off the coast in September and October with four off San Diego on Oct. 18 being the highest day count reported. An imm. Sabine's Gull was found at Oasis Sept. 20-21 (SF & KLB).

A count of 715 Com. Terns at M.E.S.S. Sept. 16 (MZ) indicates how numerous this species can be on the Salton Sea; elsewhere, one near Blythe Sept. 4 (JD) and three on Big Bear L., Oct. 2 (EAC, SC) were of interest because of their localities. A Least Tern at S.E.S.S. Sept. 13 (DD) may have been associated with *Kathleen*; this species is a casual straggler there; the date is very late. Black Skimmers remained on the Salton Sea to the end of the period; up to six were around San Diego Bay throughout the period.

**ALCIDS** — Two Com. Murres off Ventura Aug. 11 (LJ) and another off the Palos Verdes Pen., Sept. 22 (JA) had probably summered. A Pigeon Guillemot at Ventura Aug. 18 (VR) was unexpected, but two found about 50 mi. off San Diego Sept. 1 (RLP) established the southernmost record for California. Most interesting was the appearance of the nominate form of Xantus's Murrelet (*E. h. hypoleuca*) off the coast with one near Anacapa I. Aug. 18 (VR) and 17 seen off San Diego Sept. 11-18 (GMcC *et al.*); this form breeds on Guadalupe I. and is rare in S. California waters. Craveri's Murrelets were more common than normal with one near Anacapa I. Aug. 18 (VR) and a minimum of 45 off San Diego Sept. 11-18 (JD *et al.*).

**DOVES THROUGH HUMMINGBIRDS** — A Band-tailed Pigeon at Deep Springs Sept. 9 (CH, RS) and another on Clark Mt. Aug. 28 were east of, and one on Santa Cruz I. Sept. 19 was west of their normal range. Eight White-winged Doves were reported between Goleta and San Diego Aug. 23 - Oct. 23; one at Stove Pipe Wells Sept. 9 (RS) was north of its normal range. An Inca Dove at F.C.R. Oct. 29 - Nov. 28 (R&EC, FH, LB) established the northernmost record in the state. Yellow-billed Cuckoos were seen along the Colorado R., where they nest, until early September (GSS, JD); one on Catalina I. Oct. 5 (LJ) was unexpected.

Some interesting sightings of Long-eared Owls were reported including two at S.C. on Oct. 23 (JD), two at nearby Mesquite Springs Oct. 5-15 (VR), one at S.E.S.S. Nov. 20 (WTE) and one on Pt. Loma in San Diego Oct. 10 (GMcC). A Com. Night-hawk near Imperial Beach Sept. 25 (VR, EAC) appears to be the first recorded on the coast of S. California and one of the very few ever seen away from known nesting localities. Three Black Swifts over Whittier Sept. 4-8 (DWF) were the only ones reported.

#### S.A.

Of extreme interest was the occurrence of a Chimney Swift nesting in Ventura. The Chimney Swifts first appeared on June 13 (*Am. Birds* 30:892, 1976) and remained in the area through the summer, constantly using a chimney at 1955 Sunridge Drive. On Aug. 2 a check of the chimney revealed a nest with three or four young. By Aug. 16 the young were near the top of the chimney and one was seen to take flight. Four swifts were using the chimney on Sept. 21, and three were still there on Oct. 1 (JBo). There is no previous record of successful nesting for California.

The Violet-crowned Hummingbird that frequented a feeder near Santa Paula was last seen Sept. 19 (GSS).

**WOODPECKERS** — An Acorn Woodpecker at Algodones Dunes in e. Imperial Co., Oct. 20 (PM) was far outside its normal range. A Lewis' Woodpecker on Catalina I. Oct. 5 (LJ) was the only one reported. An imm. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker at Panamint Springs Nov. 28 (SF & KLB) was the form S. v.

*varius*, a rare straggler to California. A bird collected in San Luis Obispo Nov. 7 (EVJ) proved to be *S. v. nuchalis*, a casual visitor there, and one at F.C.R. Oct. 16 (JD) was almost certainly *S. v. ruber*, an accidental wanderer from northward. A ♀ Williamson's Sapsucker in Riverside Sept. 21 (VR) was at a lowland locality.

**FLYCATCHERS, SWALLOWS** — As usual a few Tropical Kingbirds appeared coastally with ten reported Sept. 22 - Oct. 24; one seen near Niland, Oct. 23 (PFS, EMM) was of special interest. A W. Wood Pewee at Panamint Springs Oct. 30-31 (DE) was exceptionally late. A male Vermilion Flycatcher at Oasis Aug. 19 - Oct. 2 (JM, TH) established the northernmost record for California; two males were in the Antelope Valley Nov. 20 (KG). Purple Martin, a declining species in California, normally go unreported as fall migrants. Two were at Oasis Sept. 4 (IM) and one was over Big Pine Sept. 25 (TH). On the coast two were at Santa Barbara Sept. 2 (RW), four were near Ventura Sept. 6 (PL) and about 12 were noted around San Diego Sept. 10-25 (LCB, JD).

**JAYS THROUGH WRENS** — Two Piñon Jays on Catalina I. Sept. 13 with one present Sept. 28 (LJ) came as a surprise because the species is an accidental stray to the coast. The presence of two Com. Bushtits on Anacapa I. Aug. 11 (KG) indicates the species is not quite as sedentary as the literature would suggest. A White-breasted Nuthatch near Westmorland, Imperial Co. Aug. 6 (JD, PU) was the second recorded in the s.e. desert. A few Brown Creepers were found at desert oases of Inyo County during October (three at F.C.R. Oct. 29-30) indicating a movement through that area. An exceptionally early Winter Wren was on Santa Cruz I. Sept. 20 (JA) and another was on Santa Barbara I. Oct. 17 (LJ).

**THRASHERS, THRUSHES, KINGLETS, PIPITS** — A Gray Catbird, a rare fall straggler to S. California, was on Pt. Loma Sept. 24-25 (KVV) and another was there Oct. 17-18 (RS). This fall produced five reports of Brown Thrashers; this is more than is normal. A Bendire's Thrasher in San Pedro July 30 - Aug. 2 (IPL, JD) and another at Malibu Sept. 1 (TC) were the only two found along the coast. Varied Thrushes were exceptionally scarce. Golden-crowned Kinglets invaded the Region in unprecedented numbers and were responsible for some interesting records such as up to six at F.C.R. (JD), one at S.E.S.S. (R & EC), 13 on Santa Cruz I. (*vide* GH), at least 18 on Anacapa, Santa Barbara and Catalina Is. (LJ), one on Pt. Loma (JD) with at least 15 found around San Diego in October and November (PU). A Sprague's Pipit in Carson, Los Angeles Co. Oct. 21-24 (GSS) was the eighth to have been found in California.

**VIREOS, WOOD WARBLERS** — A Gray Vireo was on Anacapa I. Sept. 14 (LJ) and another on San Clemente I. Sept. 23 (LJ) were accidental. An imm. Yellow-green Vireo near Imperial Beach, San Diego Co., Oct. 25 (JK) was the seventh in California. Three Red-eyed Vireos were found in Inyo County Sept. 5-6; one at Mesquite Springs (JM) another at F.C.R. (DR, IM) and the third at Deep Springs (JD, PL). A Philadelphia Vireo was collected in Kelso Oct. 10 (EAC, SC, \*S.B.C.M.), one was on Pt. Loma Oct. 15-17 (GSS, RS), another was near Imperial Beach Sept. 19 (GMcC), and a fourth was on Santa Barbara I. Oct. 17 (BB, LJ).

Only 11 Black-and-white Warblers were reported Sept. 9 - Nov. 27. A ♂ Golden-winged Warbler at S.C. Oct. 15-16 (JD, RS) was only the sixth reported in S. California in the fall. Virginia's Warblers were less numerous than usual coastally

with only 15 found; one was in Big Pine Aug. 19 (SC), two were at F.C.R. Aug. 29 (PU) and another there Sept. 5 (IM). N. Parulas are normally quite rare in fall; this year six individuals were reported, from Deep Springs, Mesquite Springs, F.C.R., and three from Imperial Beach (PU). Seven Magnolia Warblers were reported. The only two Cape May Warblers reported were both exceptionally early with one at S.C. Aug. 29 - Sept. 5 (VR, JM) and the other at Kelso Sept. 8 (JD, LB). Six ♂ Black-throated Blue Warblers were found Oct. 16 - Nov. 5. Southern California always has a few Black-throated Green Warblers each fall and this year six were reported Sept. 9 - Oct. 22. Five Blackburnian Warblers were reported, from Aug. 30 - Nov. 6, from Mesquite Springs (BB), Morongo Valley (DM), Tapia Park (SW), Pt. Loma (H&PB), Imperial Beach (BB). Unexpected were two Yellow-throated Warblers with one in Goleta Sept. 16-19 (PL, BS) and the other near Imperial Beach Oct. 3 (BB); both appeared to be of the w. race *albiflora*. Only five Chestnut-sided Warblers were reported, from Deep Springs (SF & KLB), Pt. Mugu S.P. (*vide* GSS), Imperial Beach (JD, PU). Four Bay-breasted Warblers were found: S.C. (RS, DR), Lancaster, Kern Co., (KG), Imperial Beach Sept. 19-24 (VR, JD) and later (GMcC). Nearly 30 Blackpoll Warblers were found along the coast and three more inland. The rarest warbler in S. California this fall was a drab ♀ **Pine Warbler**, found by Joseph R. Jehl Jr., on Pt. Loma Oct. 13-16 (BS — p. S.D.N.H.M.); there are three other records for the Region.

A Prairie Warbler was at Morro Bay Sept. 14 (Dan Guthrie, *vide* GSS) and another was near Imperial Beach Sept. 9-11 (LCB, PL); one, found by Donna Dittman at S.C. Nov. 11-28 (GA, D & LD — p. S.D.N.H.M.) was only the second from an inland locality. Ten Palm Warblers were found along the coast and on the offshore islands between Sept. 23 and the end of the period; another was at F.C.R. Oct. 24 (TH). Only three Ovenbirds were reported. About 20 N. Waterthrushes were found in the e. part of the Region Aug. 18 - Oct. 31 and with nine more coastally Sept. 10 - Nov. 7. Eight Canada Warblers were unexpected; inland one was in Morongo Valley Sept. 28 (DM), coastally single birds were in Goleta (PL), Pt. Mugu S.P. (H & PB), Long Beach (JA), Oceanside (PU), Pt. Loma (D & LD), Santa Rosa I. Sept. 14 and on San Clemente I. (PJ). Nearly 70 Am. Redstarts were reported from the Region with more than 30 of these being seen along the e. border during the first half of September. A Painted Redstart was present in Solana Beach, San Diego Co. Sept. 15-16 (BRW) and another was in nearby Coronado from Nov. 21 on (R & EC).

**BLACKBIRDS, TANAGERS** — Bobolinks were found along the coast, Sept. 2 - Nov. 13, with up to 35 in Goleta (PL, BS), two at Malibu (JD), seven in Long Beach (MH, J&DM), five in Whittier (DWF), one at Newport (DHo), 25 near Imperial Beach (PU) and eight on the Channel Is. (LJ). Inland, where Bobolinks are much rarer, one was at S.C. Sept. 4 (DR) and five individuals were at F.C.R. Aug. 29 - Oct. 3 (VR, KG). The only Orchard Orioles reported were two at F.C.R. Sept. 20 (SF & KLB), one at Malibu Oct. 2 (VR) and another on Pt. Loma Sept. 11-12 (RS, JM). A "Baltimore" Oriole in San Luis Obispo Oct. 31 (FRT) was the only one found. A flock of 25 Tricolored Blackbirds were at L. Tami near Barstow Oct. 4 (VR) east of the species' normal range. A Rusty Blackbird was at Oasis Nov. 27 (LCB, JSL), one was at Deep Springs Nov. 10 (GA), another was in the Saline Valley Nov. 27 (KAA, TH), four were seen at F.C.R. Oct. 29 - Nov. 27 (R & EC, RS) and another was in Kelso Oct. 30 (PU, JD). A ♂ Scarlet Tanager, a casual straggler to California, was banded in San Luis Obispo Nov. 27 (FRT). A Hepatic Tanager was still on Clark Mt., Aug. 28 (VR); a probable nesting locality. The only vagrant Summer Tanagers were one at Goleta Sept. 16 (BS) and another near San Diego Sept. 15-21 (RPS).

**FINCHES, SPARROWS** — Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were more numerous than usual with nine found in the e. part of the Region Oct. 2 - Nov. 28, and 11 along the coast Sept. 6 - Oct. 25. Over 20 Indigo Buntings were seen Aug. 7 - Oct. 17. A real surprise was an imm. ♂ Painted Bunting at S.C. Nov. 27-28 (LCB — p. S.D.N.H.M.); there are less than 12 California records. Dickcissels were found in small numbers. Two Red Crossbills at F.C.R. Sept. 7-8 (JD, PL) and one or two more there Nov. 20-30 (TH, DHe) were at an unusual locality.

A Lark Bunting at F.C.R. Aug. 28-29 (VR), another on San Clemente I. Sept. 8-9 (LJ) and two on Santa Barbara I. Oct. 3 (LJ) were the only ones reported. A Grasshopper Sparrow was at Deep Springs Nov. 10 (GA). A **Le Conte's Sparrow** well seen at Little L., Inyo Co. Oct. 23-24 (RN) establishes the second record for S. California. Three Sharp-tailed Sparrows were back on Newport Bay, Oct. 23 (GSS). Five Black-throated Sparrows on Santa Barbara I., Sept. 12 (LJ) was a remarkable number there. The only Gray-headed Juncos to be found were one at Oasis Nov. 25-28 (RS, LCB), one at N.E.S.S. Nov. 1-3 (MZ) and a third at Brock Ranch near Holtville Nov. 10 (JD). As usual a few Tree Sparrows were found in the n.e. part of the Region, unexpected was one in Whittier Nov. 11 (D & LD) and another in San Diego Nov. 13 (JD). As usual a few Harris' Sparrows were found in the n.e. part of the Region with 13 reported from Inyo County. About 25 White-throated Sparrows were found, about average. Eight Swamp Sparrows, a rare but regular wanderer to California, were found.

**LONGSPURS** — Two or three McCown's Longspurs were around Imperial Beach Oct. 31 - Nov. 12 (JD, PU). Only seven Lapland Longspurs were reported. Chestnut-collared Long-

spurs were found in about average numbers between Sept. 27 and the end of the period.

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