

MIDDLE PACIFIC COAST REGION

/Jon Winter and Stephan A. Laymon

The fall season was one of the hottest and driest on record, with daytime temperatures reaching into the high 90s as late as late October. The only rains were light ones in early September excepting for a good storm in late November. Waterbird migration was slow.

The main ornithological phenomena were



the lack of salt water species inland, and virtual invasions of Manx Shearwaters and Buff-breasted Sandpipers. The reduction of northern raptors is also noteworthy.

Landbird migrants were unusually scarce in September, picking up considerably in October, and were still noted moving south as late as the third week in November. The migrant

timetable seemed pushed forward about a month. Numbers of vagrants seemed low (see Wood Warblers) when compared to last fall, but quality was high. Two first state records were added to the California list with the occurrence of the Yellow Wagtail and White-winged Crossbill.

Tim Manolis has returned to graduate school and we thank him for his brief but thought-provoking stint as co-editor. Replacing Tim will be Stephan Laymon, a long-time resident of the Central Valley (hereafter,

C.V.), and a birder with talent and insight. His knowledge of interior California bird distribution should add a great deal to his reports in the future. A dagger (†) indicates that documentation is on file with the editors.

LOONS, TUBE-NOSES — One Arctic Loon at Tule Lake N.W.R., Oct. 21-23 (Peggy Stebbens, SAL, BED *et al.*) was the only one found inland. The normal few Red-necked Grebes were found on the coast. Two near Vallejo Oct. 6 (KVV) and a single at the Bay Bridge Toll Plaza Oct. 25 (JR) are of interest. Twenty-four Eared Grebes at a lake near Mather Pass,

Fresno Co., Sept. 21 (DAG) were at 11,600 ft, a possible high elevation record. Three W. Grebes at Saddlebag L., Mono Co., Oct. 23 (DDeS) at 10,200 ft were also at a high elevation.

A Laysan Albatross was recorded along with 50 Black-footed Albatrosses off Humboldt County Oct. 28 (SH, BBe *fide* DE), with 100 N.

Fulmars, and hundreds were seen at the Pt. Arena Lighthouse Nov. 25 (BDP) indicating a possible fulmar flight year. A Streaked Shearwater was again reported on Monterey Bay Oct. 14 (*fide* GMcC); however no details were received. The first regional August Short-tailed Shearwater was recorded on Monterey Bay Aug. 27 (RS *et al.*). This and another seen there Oct. 29 were the only ones reported.

S.A.

Manx Shearwaters were seen on Monterey Bay as early as Oct. 7 (LCB, PM, DRo) with numbers building to 200 by Oct. 16 (RS). An incredible 1300 were observed in one hour at Santa Cruz Nov. 2 (DP), all of which were heading N along the coast within 200 yds of shore, with many more farther out. Manx Shearwaters continued to make news through November with 20-25 at Bodega Head Nov. 11 (BDP, JP), one at Point Reyes Bird Observatory (hereafter, P.R.B.O.) Nov. 12 (JP), 20 at Laguna Pt., Mendocino Co., Nov. 16 (KVV) and two Salt Pt., Sonoma Co., Nov. 25 (BDP). The Mendocino County birds were a first county record and the farthest n. they have been recorded in California.

Two Fork-tailed Storm-Petrels were recorded, one on Monterey Bay Oct. 16 (RS *et al.*) and one on the Farallon Islands (hereafter, F.I.) Sept. 28 (P.R.B.O., RLeV) for possibly the first island record. One thousand-5000 Ashy Storm-Petrels were found in Monterey Bay Sept. 30 - Oct. 29 and 750-10,000 Black Storm-Petrels were found during the same period (GMcC, RS *et al.*). The 10,000 Blacks Sept. 30 (GMcC) was the largest estimate ever for the Region. Wilson's Storm-Petrels were again in the flock, with two to three Sept. 30 (JM, †DE, GMcC *et al.*) and one on later trips until Oct. 29 (RS *et al.*).

PELICANS THROUGH HERONS — White Pelicans were found in larger-than-normal numbers on San Francisco Bay (hereafter, S.F. Bay). Thirty-eight flying at 11,000 ft

near Saddlebag L., Aug. 26 (DDeS) were at a high elevation and one in Humboldt County Nov. 14 & 15 was the first there since 1973 (*fide* DE). Brown Pelicans lingered later in larger numbers than ever before with 1709 being recorded at Pajaro Dunes Nov. 4 and 749 there Nov. 27 (J&RW). They also are increasing on S.F. Bay (m. ob.).

The Little Blue Heron at Palo Alto was last seen Aug. 17 (WB). Cattle Egrets were found in the largest numbers ever. Of the 78 reported, half were from inland locations, which is not normally the case. Six Snowy Egrets were found at L. Talawa Sept. 10 (DE) and 38 were at the Arcata Marina, establishing a new high count for Humboldt County (*fide* DE). An Am. Bittern made the flight to F.I., Oct. 26 for only the second time (P.R.B.O.).

The first Marin County White-faced Ibis was at Rodeo Lagoon Sept. 9 (BL) and another was at Drakes Estero Oct. 12 (RS *et al.*). More expected were five at Topaz L., Aug. 18 (EH). 11 at Sacramento N.W.R., Nov. 4 (JH) and 51 on Santa Fe Grade Rd., Merced Co. (DE).

WATERFOWL — A flock of ten Whistling Swans was seen on F.I., Nov. 11 (P.R.B.O.). A flock of ten Swans which flew over L. Merced, San Francisco Co., the same day included a Trumpeter Swan (†JM). It was our earliest fall record and one of few in recent years.

The endangered Aleutian Canada Goose, *B. c. leucopareia*, reached the Butte Sink near Colusa by early November. They peaked there Nov. 11 with 1500, the highest count yet and had left for Merced N.W.R., by the end of the period (BED, Dan Yparraguirre).

A Snow Goose at King Salmon Oxidation Pond, Humboldt Co., Aug. 14 (Ken Irwin, *fide* DE) was very early. Snow Geese originating in Siberia are the first to reach California in the fall. Several thousand of these birds had arrived at Tule Lake N.W.R. prior to Oct. 18 (BED). The Canadian Snows, which make up 90% of the wintering flocks, began arriving in the Klamath Basin Nov. 11 (BED). They, along with the Ross' Geese had a disastrous nesting season and almost no immatures could be found (BED).

Thirty Blue-winged Teal reported from the Castroville Sewage Ponds Oct. 6 (DRo) was the largest group ever seen in the Region during the fall. The only inland Greater Scaup were four males on Indian Tom L., Siskiyou Co., Sept. 30 (*fide* MT). A ♂ Tufted Duck again returned to L. Merritt Nov. 15 (SFB) and remained until at least Nov. 25 (m. ob.). Four Oldsquaw were found, two on the coast, one at Vallejo Nov. 17 (KVV) and one at Crowley L., Nov. 29 (DAG). The only inland Scoters were two female Surf Scoters at Indian Creek Res., Alpine Co., Nov. 4 (EH).

An imm. Hooded Merganser at L. Talawa Sept. 10 (DE, K. Tyner) probably hatched locally, as occurred at L. Earl in 1974. The only inland Red-breasted Merganser report was of one on the American R., at Sacramento Sept. 19 - Nov. 30+, (Nick Miller *et al.*, *fide* BK).

RAPTORS THROUGH RAILS — Six hundred Turkey Vultures were seen Sept. 23-24 gliding S over the Salmon Mts. (MT). Several reports were received this fall concerning the scarcity of White-tailed Kites in the C. V. and Vallejo areas (BED, SAL, BK, FKB). This species should be watched closely to determine

if the apparent decline is real. An imm. Red-tailed Hawk was on F.I., Oct. 25 - Nov. 30 (P.R.B.O.) where its occurrence is very rare.

There was a population explosion of Red-shouldered Hawks in w. Marin County with at least 46 individuals reported instead of the normal few pairs (RS *et al.*). Only six Broad-winged Hawks were reported this fall, far fewer than in recent years. This was probably due more to a reduction in time spent on the s. Marin hawk lookouts than to an actual decrease. One was at the Carmel R. mouth Oct. 27 (SFB) and two were there Oct. 29-30 (EM, DRo). Another was at Shields Marsh, Marin Co., Oct. 31 (RS).

Rough-legged Hawk was down at least 90% from last year's high total and Ferruginous Hawk was at its lowest levels since 1974, 75% below last fall. An early Ferruginous was at Pt. Diablo Sept. 17 (PM). Reports of Prairie and Peregrine Falcons were below average this fall, while Merlins were found in numbers 25-50% higher than in recent years (m. ob.).

The re-establishment of Clapper Rails at Alameda South Shore was encouraging with six there Nov. 16 (*fide* ER). A Com. Gallinule at Clam Beach Oct. 28 (N. Euliss, *fide* DE) was one of the very few Humboldt County records. Two Am. Coots at Wood L., Fresno Co., Sept. 15 (DAG) were high at 10,800 ft.

SHOREBIRDS — A Snowy Plover was at Mendota State Waterfowl Management Area (hereafter, M.S.W.M.A.) Aug. 25 (DE). Four Mountain Plovers turned up on the coast where they are quite rare. One was on F.I., Sept. 22 (DRo), two at Pt. Reyes Oct. 11 (EM) and one at Crescent City Oct. 16 (G. Strachen, *fide* DE). A flock of 1000± Mountain Plovers feeding on crickets in a fallow field s.e. of Coalinga Nov. 12 (RH) was four times any recent count. Sixty Am. Golden Plovers were found along the coast and two were at inland locations. Two of the Siberian race *fulva* were recorded, one at Pt. Reyes Nov. 18 (RS) and one at Año Nuevo State Reserve Oct. 1 (E. Burch). A late Black-bellied Plover was at Lower Klamath N.W.R., Nov. 4 (MT).

A late flock of 24 Whimbrels was at Arcata Nov. 16 (BBE, *fide* DE). Two Willets were found in the C.V., one at Gray Lodge S.W.M.A., Aug. 7 (BED) and one at Princeton, Glenn Co., Aug. 23 (Bonnie Swarbrick, *fide* WA). The Region's third inland Wandering Tattler was found at Mono L., Aug. 26 (†DTP), the second at that location. Sanderlings were again found in the C.V., with one at Chico Oxidation Ponds Sept. 20 (SAL), one at Merced N.W.R., Oct. 13 & 31 (RJB) and an incredible 19 at the Corcoran Sewage Ponds, Kings Co., Sept. 24 - Oct. 28 (J. Royer). Well described Semipalmated Sandpipers were at Bodega Bay Sept. 5 (†BDP, JP, BBu) and Ferndale Bottoms, Humboldt Co., Sept. 9 (†DE). Pectoral Sandpipers had an above-average migration. A Pectoral at Lower Klamath N.W.R., Nov. (*fide* MT) was as late as they stay in our Region. Sharp-tailed Sandpipers were again found this fall with three at Dinuba Sewage Ponds Oct. 1 (†RGet), one at Carmel R., Oct. 14-28 (†RS, †JM *et al.*) and one at Ferndale Bottoms, Humboldt Co., Oct. 30 (†DE *et al.*). One of very few October Rock Sandpipers was at Pacific Grove Oct. 27 (BDP, JP). The only Stilt Sandpipers were two at Arcata Aug. 15 (RS) and the only Ruff was

a female at Limantour Aug. 30 - Sept. 5 (†JE, †JM *et al.*).

S.A.

The biggest event of the fall was the virtual invasion of **Buff-breasted Sandpipers** in the last week of August. Only two previous records existed for the Region, thus 18 individuals scattered along the coast Aug. 26 - Sept. 5 were more than surprising: one at Arcata Aug. 26 (RLeV, *fide* DE); one at Bodega Bay Aug. 27 (†JE, †DE, †JM, †BDP, JP); one at F.I., Aug. 29 - Sept. 5 (P.R.B.O.); 11 at Pierce Pt., Point Reyes Aug. 31 (Tupper Blake, Les Line, †JM, RS *et al.*); one at Año Nuevo State Reserve Sept. 1-4 (†Elliot Burch); one at Manchester Beach, Mendocino Co., Sept. 2 & 3 (†BBu, R. Marlowe); and one at Salinas R. mouth Sept. 3 (EM). These represent first records for Humboldt, Sonoma, San Mateo and Mendocino Cos.

JAEGERS THROUGH ALCIDS — Pomarine and Parasitic Jaegers were reported in much lower-than-average numbers, and the only Long-tailed Jaegers were two off the Humboldt County coast Sept. 11 (Bob Sizoo, *fide* DE). South Polar Skuas were also reported in lower numbers with only eight seen (m. ob.).

Four Ring-billed Gulls were at Saddlebag L., Oct. 15-23 at 10,400 ft elevation for what may be a record high altitude (DDeS). An ad. Mew Gull was at Lower Klamath N.W.R., Nov. 18 (†Ray Ekstrom, *fide* MT) providing the first Siskiyou County record. A very early juv. Mew Gull and a worn adult were at Arcata Aug. 15 (RS). Three Franklin's Gulls were recorded, one at Crescent City Sept. 10 (DE *et al.*), one at Tule Lake N.W.R., Oct. 22 (†SAL, SS *et al.*) and one at Foster City Nov. 2 (EM).

The first fall record and fifth for the Region for **Little Gull** was at Manila on Humboldt Bay Oct. 7 (DRu *et al.*, *fide* DE). An ad. Com. Tern at M.S.W.M.A., Aug. 25 (DE) was one of very few C.V. records, the most recent being at this same location in 1966. Only eight Arctic Terns were reported this fall, about 2% of last year's total, and half were from inside S.F. Bay where they are rare. One was at Coyote Pt., Sept. 3 (PM) and three were at Alameda South Shore Sept. 15 (*fide* ER).

Fifty Marbled Murrelets were seen off the Humboldt County coast Oct. 28 (SH, BBE, *fide* DE) one of the largest concentrations recorded away from Pigeon Pt. The only Craveri's Murrelet was at Moss Landing Oct. 7 (†Steve Singer, LCB, BDP *et al.*). Cassin's Auklets were not well represented, but 5-10,000 off the Humboldt Coast Oct. 28 (SH, BBE *et al.*, *fide* DE) was the largest concentration ever recorded in the Region.

PIGEONS THROUGH OWLS — A single Yellow-billed Cuckoo was again found this fall at L. Merced in San Francisco Sept. 30 (DHE *et al.*). This species is rare away from the C.V., and since this is the second fall occurrence at L. Merced (in addition to the fall Farallons and Pt. Reyes records) perhaps there are a few, regular migrant cuckoos along the coast each fall.

A calling Screech Owl heard at Lava Beds

Nat'l Mon., Oct. 21, was in a location where it has not been previously reported (SAL). At least 13 Pygmy Owls were reported for the period, all but two of which were at inland locations. Of the five Long-eared Owls reports received, two were coastal and three were inland including one seen at 10,200 ft on the Hall Natural Area, Mono Co., in the Sierra (DDeS). Eleven Short-eared Owls were reported for the period with a high count of six birds at W. Pittsburg, Contra Costa Co., Nov. 11 (*vide* DE).

GOATSUCKERS THROUGH FLY-CATCHERS — A Lesser Nighthawk seen at Fresno Nov. 11 represented the latest regional record for fall (RH). While Black Swift records were lacking for the period, Vaux's Swifts were found in substantial concentrations, the most notable of which were 1770± seen at the Marin Headlands Sept. 23 (DHE) and 500+ near Eureka Aug. 12 (SAL). A ♂ Black-chinned Hummingbird seen at L. Solano, Yolo Co., Oct. 25 was exceptionally late (*vide* BK). A ♂ Costa's Hummingbird remained in Golden Gate Pk., Sept. 17 - Oct. 7 (PM, LCB *et al.*) and was the first recorded there while another male seen and eventually banded at Dinuba, Tulare Co., Sept. 28, remained until the end of the period and appeared to be settling in for the winter (RGe). A leucistic Rufous Hummingbird with a little rufous still showing in the tail found at Mineral King, Tulare Co., Aug. 12 (RH) was most unusual.

Four hybrid "Yellow-shafted" Flickers in a single cypress tree at Bolinas Nov. 27 (DS) was an exceptional event, but not to be outdone by the presence of a pure "Yellow-shafted" Flicker at 10,000 ft, Oct. 13 on the Hall Natural Area, (DDeS). Some eight Pileated Woodpeckers were reported from the Salmon Mts., w. of Etna during September (*vide* MT). An Acorn Woodpecker on outer Pt. Reyes Oct. 1 and another on the F.I., Nov. 25 (JM, DT, P.R.B.O.) were in unusual locations. Lewis' Woodpeckers were reported from the C.V., along the coast, and in the Sierra where they were seen as high as 10,400 ft at the Hall Natural Area (DDeS) Sept. 18, and in the Great Basin.

Five Tropical Kingbirds, which is about 25 per cent of the number found last fall, found their way to the coast Oct. 1 - Nov. 29 from Arcata to Foster City.

Two Great Crested Flycatchers were reported for the period from the coast. One bird was well seen at Arcata Oct. 13 but no details were submitted (DRu, SH) and another was photographed on the F.I., Oct. 9 (†JE, †DT). Only one E. Phoebe was seen this fall, a single bird at outer Pt. Reyes Nov. 11 (RS, m.ob.). The pattern of occurrence for this species in the Region is erratic and therefore not easily understood. Migrant Say's Phoebe were reported by several observers to be down in number throughout the period. The Least Flycatcher, now a regular fall vagrant, was again recorded when two birds were banded on the F.I., Sept. 26 & Oct. 26 (P.R.B.O., DT). Seldom seen on the San Joaquin Valley floor, an Olive-sided Flycatcher was seen passing through Fresno Sept. 20 (KH).

SWALLOWS THROUGH BUSHTITS — Four reports of Tree Swallows Nov. 5-12, the most interesting of which was the observation of 40+ birds Nov. 9 at Vallejo (KVV), were of

interest because this species is rarely observed during this month. A very late Bank Swallow was seen at Elkhorn Slough Oct. 7 (DRo). There were four reports of migrant Purple Martins for the month of August, three along the coast and one inland. They are rarely observed later than August in the Region. Following last fall's invasion, another **Blue Jay** was seen on the n. spit of Humboldt Bay Oct. 7 (DRu, CH). Up to three Scrub Jays seen on the Hall Natural Area, Mono Co., Aug. 24 - Sept. 27 were found up to 10,200 ft (DDeS). A single Yellow-billed Magpie seen near Bolinas Oct. 21 (DT) may have been one of two birds reported from around Marin County during the fall well w. of their normal range. A Com. Crow seen at L. Tenaya, Yosemite was in an unusual place on Oct. 19 (RS *et al.*), as were three Piñon Jays seen near the summit of Mt. Conness, Mono Co., Sept. 8 (DDeS) at an elevation of 12,400 ft. Well below its normal range in the Sierra, a Mountain Chickadee was seen on the campus of Sacramento State Univ., Nov. 30 (*vide* BK).

NUTHATCHES THROUGH WAXWINGS

— Also well below its normal range was a Dipper seen just below Pine Flat Dam, Fresno Co., Nov. 10 (KH). The Courtland Bendire's Thrasher returned for its third winter Aug. 25 (A. Parker). A single Mockingbird accounted for several records in the Kilgore Hills, Siskiyou Co., Sept. 11 - Nov. 11 (*vide* MT) at the n. extreme of its California range. The period's only Brown Thrashers were found at Bodega Bay Nov. 8 (DS) and on the F.I., Oct. 26 (P.R.B.O., DT). A **Gray-cheeked Thrush**, one of the region's rarest *Turdids*, was seen at the Pt. Reyes Lighthouse Oct. 31 (RS *et al.*). An exceptionally rare bird on the F.I., a Mountain Bluebird Nov. 7, was only the second ever recorded there (P.R.B.O., DT). Golden-crowned Kinglets were reported by several observers as down considerably in numbers this fall. Perhaps the most exciting find of the period was a **Yellow Wagtail** found at Abbott's Lagoon, Pt. Reyes Sept. 17 that was initially found by call by †Pete Myers and his wife, and seen briefly, but was never re-located much to the disappointment of other birders. It is the first time this species has been seen in California.

For the first time since 1968 **Red-throated Pipits** were again found in the Region. The first was located at the Mendoza Ranch, Pt. Reyes Sept. 30 (RS) and was never seen after that date. While the second occurrence was just a few miles away on the Hall Ranch, Pt. Reyes where up to five birds may have been present Oct. 7-24 (RS, DDeS, m. ob). Cedar Waxwings were found at 10,400 ft on the Hall Natural Area, Mono Co., Aug. 29 (DDeS).

SHRIKES THROUGH VIREOS — The absence of N. Shrikes late in the period was surprising. The Region's first **Yellow-green Vireo** was seen and carefully identified Oct. 22-25 at L. Merced (†DHE, J. Hall, m. ob.). A most remarkable record! Only five Red-eyed Vireos were found this fall Sept. 1 - Oct. 6, all from the coast; fewer than normal in recent years. A single Philadelphia Vireo was seen on F.I., Sept. 21 (P.R.B.O., †RS, †DRo); quite a letdown after last fall's "invasion". A Warbling Vireo lingered until Nov. 19 in the Carmel R. (EM).

WOOD WARBLERS — Compared to recent years this fall's showing of e. Parulids was poor in numbers but fairly good in diversity. On the average the migration timetable seemed quite late with little or no activity in September, and then picking up considerably in October with migrants still passing through in the third week of November.

Table 1. shows a comparison of 14 selected vagrant *Parulids* for both the spring and fall of 1977 and 1978. For the fall data there was a decrease of 41% in the means for 1977-78 and for spring there was a 68% decrease in the means for 1977-78. In essence we saw only about one-third the number of vagrants in the spring of 1978 that were found in 1977. The fall data were not statistically significant, but nonetheless showed a decline in 1978.

As expected, all nine reported Black-and-white Warblers were found along the coast Sept. 8 - Nov. 19. The season's only Prothonotary Warbler was found dead at McKinleyville, Humboldt Co., Sept. 29 (*Humboldt St. Univ.) (SH). Very much a surprise was the occurrence of two Worm-eating Warblers; one on Pt. Reyes Oct. 6-8 (K. Yamane, m. ob.), and our first inland record was of a very well described bird at the Merced N.W.R. Headquarters Oct. 31 (†RJB). Only 27 Tennessee Warblers were found, all coastal Sept. 24 - Nov. 26, well below last fall's number. Single Virginia's Warblers were seen at Golden Gate Pk., Sept. 17 - Oct. 7 (possibly two birds) (EM, LCB, m. ob.), and at Putah Cr., Yolo Co., Sept. 24 (†B. Boekelheide), and two were at Mono L., Aug. 25-26 (DP). Only one Lucy's Warbler was reported, for the period and it was found in the Carmel R. mouth Nov. 11-16 (DP, m. ob.). Four N. Parulas showed up on the coast; two in Humboldt County, one on the F.I., and one in Santa Cruz Aug. 13 - Oct. 23. A very late Yellow Warbler lingered at L. Merced until Nov. 26 (DHE). Six Magnolia Warblers, two on the F.I., all reported from the coast Sept. 7 - Oct. 12 is below the average of about 9-10/fall. A Cape May at Five Brooks Pond Sept. 30 (RS) was well received; but another found on outer Pt. Reyes was not accompanied by substantiating details.

Black-throated Blue Warbler was one of the few species of vagrants that turned up in higher numbers this fall than last fall. Nine were seen along the coast Sept. 29 - Oct. 27 and only three were seen last fall. Two more Townsend's × Hermit Warbler hybrids were seen this fall in the Sierra at the Hall Natural Area Aug. 2 & 21 (DDeS). A Black-throated Green Warbler in the Carmel R. mouth Oct. 28-30 (RS, JRi, DRo) and one on the F.I., Oct. 27 (P.R.B.O., DT) were the only ones found. Very exciting was the discovery of the Region's second **Cerulean Warbler** Oct. 15-17 on Pt. Reyes (A. Folis, JW, SFB, JML, m. ob.). And to top it off another Cerulean was seen in the Carmel R. mouth Oct. 27-29 (†SFB, EM *et al.*). Blackburnian Warblers made a slightly better showing than last fall with a total of ten reported from Pt. Reyes to the Carmel R., Oct. 9-29. The Region's first inland record for the Yellow-throated Warbler, *D. d. albiflora*, was seen at Dog Is., Tehama Co., Sept. 2 (†SAL). Chestnut-sided Warblers were well below last year's numbers but occurred in about average numbers when compared to an eleven year mean. Twelve were seen all from the coast Sept. 8 - Oct. 22. Three Bay-breasted Warblers turned up coastally; one at Golden Gate

Table 1. Comparison of selected vagrant warblers for the spring and fall 1977-78 Middle Pacific Coast Region

	<i>Spring</i>		<i>Fall</i>	
	<i>1977</i>	<i>1978</i>	<i>1977</i>	<i>1978</i>
Black-and-white	10	9	24	9
Tennessee	10	5	41	27
N. Parula	8	2	3	4
Magnolia	12	2	6	6
Cape May	8	2	3	1
Blackburnian	2	0	8	10
Chestnut-sided	8	1	22	12
Bay-breasted	9	5	5	3
Blackpoll	9	1	61	34
Palm	1	2	112	78
Ovenbird	21	5	12	3
N. Waterthrush	1	0	8	1
Canada	1	0	6	5
Am. Redstart	24	6	46	17
	£124	£40	£357	£210
	\bar{X} = 8.85	\bar{X} = 2.86	\bar{X} = 25.5	\bar{X} = 15.0
	S.D. = 6.9	S.D. = 2.7	S.D. = 30.9	S.D. = 20.6
“T” value 1977-78 = 3.017		“T” value 1977-78 = 1.057		
Significant at the .01 confidence level.		Significant at the .20 confidence level.		

Pk., Oct. 26-28 (DHE), one on Pt. Reyes Sept. 30 (RS) and very late bird was banded at P.R.B.O.-Palomarin Nov. 26 (P.R.B.O., DS).

Blackpoll Warblers turned up well below par with only 34 found (8 on the F.I.) all coastal Aug. 22 - Nov. 7. Compared to last fall's near invasion, Prairie Warblers were found in more sane numbers this fall with only four discovered and as expected all on the coast Sept. 25 - Oct. 4. In recent years the Region has averaged about 40 Palm Warblers /fall. This fall observers reported 78; well above the mean but low compared to last fall. All occurred on the coast Sept. 20 - Nov. 21. Only three Ovenbirds found their way to the Region; singles at Pt. Reyes Oct. 2 & 6, and another on F.I., Oct. 5. The only N. Waterthrush of the season spent over a month around a pond in Bodega Bay Oct. 19 - Nov. 24 (J.M., D. Ellis). A good description of a **Connecticut Warbler** was received of a bird seen at Neary's Lagoon, Santa Cruz Oct. 22 (DP, RM), another was reported from the F.I., Oct. 5, but was without substantiating details. An imm. ♂ Hooded Warbler was found on Pt. Reyes Sept. 30 (RS, DP *et al.*) and another remained in Muir Woods Nov. 14 - Nov. 30+ (S. Hunington) to the delight of many observers. Five Canada Warblers managed to find observers. Two were from the F.I., Oct. 5 & 25, another in Pacific Grove Oct. 12 (V. Yadon), one in S.F., Oct. 6 (D. McClung), and a bird on Pt. St. George Sept. 10 (DE *et al.*) was the first Del Norte Count occurrence. Seventeen Am. Redstarts were seen Aug. 17 - Nov. 19, all coastal.

A host of W.F.O. observers in Monterey for a boat trip Sept. 30 were treated to a Bobolink at Pacific Grove. Another was seen at Bolinas Oct. 25-27 (RS *et al.*). A meadowlark drifted upslope at the Hall Natural Area to an elevation of 11,200 ft in Mono Co., Oct. 14 only to be killed by a falcon (DDEs)! Three Yellow-headed Blackbirds drifted toward the coast appearing on outer Pt. Reyes Sept. 15-26 (PM, J.Ri *et al.*). Five Orchard Orioles were found on the coast from Pt. Reyes to Pacific Grove Sept. 9 - Nov. 1. A peak wave of 40 "Bullock's"

Orioles was noted at the Red Bluff Diversion Dam Aug. 3 (SAL). Two "Baltimore" Orioles were reported: one at Bodega Bay Nov. 5 (DS *et al.*), and the other on Pt. Reyes Oct. 28 (LCB, BDP *et al.*). Rusty Blackbird records keep increasing along the coast. Two were seen on Pt. Reyes Nov. 4-7 (JML, J.Ri, m. ob.) and a single bird was seen inland at Mono L., Nov. 15 (DDEs). The Great-tailed Grackle found last summer at the Palace of Fine Arts in S.F., was re-discovered Sept. 20 (DHE). Five Summer Tanagers is more than one would normally expect for the period; singles were seen on Pt. Reyes Oct. 27-29 (RS), Santa Rosa Aug. 17 (RS), Nacasio, Marin Co., Sept. 16 (JE *et al.*), on F.I., Oct. 26 (P.R.B.O., DT) and one in Monterey Oct. 1 (JML).

FRINGILLIDS — Only two Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were found this fall; one at Pt. Reyes Sept. 24 (JM) and the other Oct. 5 on the F.I. (P.R.B.O., DT) as against 21 last fall. Four Blue Grosbeaks at Gray Lodge N.W.R., Sept. 13 were the only birds seen for the period (BED). An Indigo × Lazuli Bunting was seen on outer Pt. Reyes Sept. 25 (RS). Recent evidence suggests that hybridization between these two species is stabilizing (see Emlen, S.T., J. D. Rising and W. L. Thompson, 1975 *Wilson Bull.* 87:145-179). A ♀ Purple Finch drifted up to 10,400 ft, Sept. 12 in the Sierra at the Hall Natural Area (DDEs), well above its normal vertical range. In addition 60± Pine Grosbeaks were seen in the same location Sept. 25 (DDEs). A species that is perhaps overdue to be recorded in California was discovered at Mosquito L., Trinity Co., Sept. 1 where a mixed flock of 12 **White-winged Crossbills** was found (†P. Gordon, †G. Gordon) for our first state record for this species. A Lark Bunting on F.I., Sept. 13 was the only one of its kind reported (P.R.B.O., DT). The Sharp-tailed Sparrow found at Bolinas Lagoon last winter returned Nov. 4 (J. Parmer, KVV *et al.*). A Vesper Sparrow found near Etna Oct. 7-9 was the first found in the Scott Valley (*fide* MT). A good description of a Sage Sparrow seen at Gray Lodge N.W.R.,

Sept. 18 was submitted (BED). This sparrow is rare on the floor of the C.V. Eight records of Tree Sparrows were reported, six of which were from the F.I., with the others from Pt. Reyes and San Francisco. Eleven Clay-colored Sparrows, all coastal Sept. 19 - Oct. 29, was about half of the number seen last fall. The first Brewer's Sparrow since 1897 in San Mateo County was seen Sept. 30 at Piller Pt. (PM). A single Harris' Sparrow in the Shasta Valley Nov. 11-17 was the only report of this species received (*fide* MT).

Six Swamp Sparrows from the coast Oct. 28 - Nov. 11 and one inland was within expected numbers of this species for fall. At least 32 Lapland Longspurs, 20 of which were on Pt. Reyes, appeared along the coast from Arcata to Pt. Reyes Sept. 20 - Nov. 30+ and 12 Chestnut-collared Longspurs also occurred along the coast with at least ten on Pt. Reyes while eight were found inland at Mono L., Oct. 4 - Nov. 7 (DDEs) where they have not been previously recorded. The Region's first coastal McCown's Longspurs turned up on Pt. Reyes Oct. 16 - Nov. 7 (JM, m. ob.) where two birds were found. Three Snow Buntings found their way into the Region; two along the coast at MacKerricher S.P. (†BC, m. ob.) Nov. 14-24 and at Pt. Arena Nov. 16 (†KVV). Another, the first here since 1965, was seen at Tule L., Oct. 27 (†BED).

CORRIGENDA — AB 32:1050, the Least Bittern was at Knight's Landing, not at King's Landing; AB 31:1051, the 13 Least Terns at Pajaro R., were really Black Terns.

ADDENDUM — A Pectoral Sandpiper was at Pescadero Cr. mouth Apr. 23, 1978 (†PM) where they are quite rare in spring. A Palm Warbler found at Gray Lodge N.W.R., Mar. 23, 1978, was the first ever recorded inland for the Region and was accidentally omitted from the spring AB 32:report (BED).

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