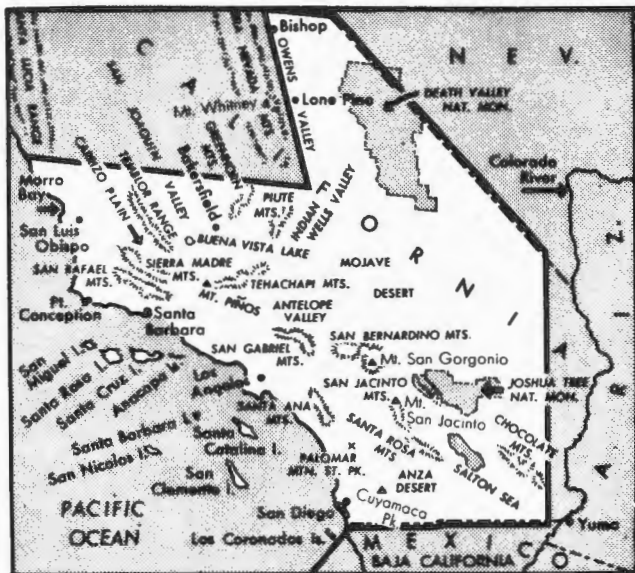


SOUTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION

/Guy McCaskie

Southern California was intensively birded throughout the fall with observers afield daily around Goleta/Santa Barbara, Oxnard/Point Mugu and San Diego/Imperial Beach, while Bureau of Land Management (hereafter, B.L.M.), personnel regularly covered the desert oases of Inyo and San Bernardino counties, and survey crews worked along the Colorado River.



The passage of shorebirds was one of the best in memory, with large numbers of some of our less common species, and the inclusion of such rarities as Semipalmated, Sharp-tailed and Buff-breasted sandpipers. Landbirds on the other hand, were quite scarce, with such species as American Robin, Hermit Thrush, Cedar Waxwing and Pine Siskin being conspicuous by their absence, while montane species, such as Mountain Chickadees and Red-breasted Nuthatches, failed to appear in the lowlands. Many of our regular vagrants such as Tropical Kingbird, Blackpoll Warbler and Clay-colored Sparrow were decidedly scarce. However, the fall did produce a number of species considered accidental in California including Grove-billed Ani, Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher and Veery, along with a White Wagtail and a few Red-throated Pipters from the Old World.

LOONS — A flock of 75 Com. Loons on L. Palmdale in the Antelope Valley Nov. 11 (KG) represents an exceptional number for an inland locality, and suggests that larger numbers of these birds than previously suspected move across the interior of s. California in the fall; one at Furnace Creek Ranch in Death Valley (hereafter, F.C.R.) Nov. 11-12 (DLD) was at an unusual locality. Two Arctic Loons, rare inland, were on L. Palmdale Oct. 29+ (KG, JD). A Red-throated Loon on L. Henshaw in the mountains of San Diego County Nov. 12 (DP) was exceptionally far inland, the species normally occurring only along the coast and in small numbers on lakes in the coastal lowlands.

FULMARS, SHEARWATERS, STORM PETRELS — A few N. Fulmars were found along the coast during November indicating small numbers are reaching s. California this fall. Two Short-tailed Shearwaters, a species whose status is poorly understood, were seen off Morro Bay Nov. 19 (KG). Least Storm-Petrels were relatively common during September — i.e., 500 off San Diego Sept. 9 (GMcC) and 100 off Santa Barbara Sept. 16 (PL), with some remaining into October — i.e., 35 off Oxnard Oct. 22 (REW) and three off San Diego Oct. 30 (DP), the last sighting establishing the latest date of occurrence in California.

TROPICBIRDS, PELICANS, FRIGATEBIRDS — Single Red-billed Tropicbirds were seen near Santa Barbara I., Sept. 9 (JA, BD), near Santa Catalina I., Sept. 10 (KG) and near San Clemente I., Sept. 16 (BB), with two at the last locality Sept. 17 (DP); this species wanders N into s. California waters in limited numbers every September. Brown Pelicans remained on the Salton Sea through October with one at Salton City Nov. 4 (SC) being the latest; away from the Salton Sea one was at the

Iron Mountain Pumping Station, San Bernardino Co., Aug. 10 (SE) and three were on L. Perris, Riverside Co., Oct. 15 (DR), both being unusual localities for this species. A Magnificent Frigatebird over San Diego Bay Aug. 10 (PU) was the only one seen along the coast; however, three were seen moving N from the Salton Sea Aug. 19 (LD), two more were at the Salton Sea Aug. 20 (EAC, SC) and five were together over Morongo Valley Sept. 1 (R & B Berchtold, *vide* SC).

HERONS, SPOONBILLS — An ad. Little Blue Heron at the south end of the Salton Sea (hereafter, S.E.S.S.) Aug. 5-19 (EC, LD) was the only one seen around the Salton Sea this summer, and an immature on Batiquitos Lagoon, San Diego Co., Sept. 18 (AF) was the only one found on the coast. Cattle Egrets were found throughout the Region this fall and it is now probably the most common "white heron" along the coast as well as around the Salton Sea. The Reddish Egret found in Imperial Beach during the summer remained until at least Sept. 8 (LCB). A Louisiana Heron seen flying over Santa Barbara Aug. 31 (LB) was far north and unseasonable; one in San Diego Sept. 23 (WE) was normal for the arrival of a wintering bird. The Roseate Spoonbill was still present at the north end of the Salton Sea (hereafter, N.E.S.S.) Aug. 19 (LD) but not reported thereafter.

SWANS, GEESE, DUCKS — A few Whistling Swans reached the southern parts of the Region with single individuals at F.C.R., Nov. 18 (JD), Elizabeth L., in the Antelope Valley

Nov. 26+ (SS) and San Diego Nov. 16 (SO) being the southernmost. A Ross' Goose in San Luis Obispo Nov. 15+ (FT) and two on San Jacinto L., Nov. 24 (EAC) were in areas from which few records exist. Two Fulvous Whistling Ducks on the Kern N.W.R., Nov. 10 (RW) were unexpected since none has been reported from this area in recent years. A Black Duck was well seen at S.E.S.S., Nov. 11 (GMcC). As usual a few Eur. Wigeon reached this Region in November as indicated by one in Santa Barbara Nov. 11+ (LRB), one at McGrath S.P., Nov. 12-14 (JD), another on Newport Bay Oct. 29 (JMcD) and a fourth in San Diego Nov. 30+ (MT). A Wood Duck along the Colorado R., near Palo Verde Sept. 22-23 (BW) was at an unusual locality. A Tufted Duck at McGrath S.P., Nov. 9-11 (RW) is only the third to be found in s. California. The only Oldsquaw reported was one on San Diego Bay Nov. 14 (AB). A Surf Scoter at Salton City on the Salton Sea Aug. 5 (PU) had undoubtedly summered locally; however one on L. Palmdale in the Antelope Valley Nov. 8 (JB), three there Nov. 11 (KG), one more on nearby Holiday L., the same day (KG) and two on L. Isabella Nov. 23 (LS) were all migrants stopping at inland lakes. Hooded Mergansers appeared slightly more numerous than usual with one as far s. as Niland Nov. 13 (GSS).

HAWKS — An imm. Goshawk at Westgard Pass in the White Mts., Sept. 2 (DDeS) was exceptionally early and the only one reported. Four Broad-winged Hawks were found with one near Oxnard Sept. 30 (RW), one on Pt. Loma in San Diego Oct. 1 (PU) and two more there Oct. 18 (FD); this species is now recorded in small numbers every fall and is clearly of regular occurrence. Only four migrant Swainson's Hawks were reported, all during October, with one near Lancaster Oct. 22 (KG) being the latest. Rough-legged Hawks were scarce, hence, one at F.C.R., Oct. 27 (JD) came as a surprise. An imm. Ferruginous Hawk at Kelso Aug. 27 (EAC, SC) was exceptionally early for anywhere in California. An Osprey at F.C.R., Nov. 11 (DLD) was at an unusual locality.

CRANES — Some 4000± Sandhill Cranes on the Carrizo Plain during November (FRT) and 74 near Brawley Nov. 25 (GG) were at known wintering localities, but six flying near Oxnard Nov. 17 (RW) were unexpected.

SHOREBIRDS — A Black Oystercatcher, rare on the coast s. of Morro Bay, was at the Santa Maria R. mouth Oct. 27 (PL), up to three were at Pt. Mugu Sept. 21 - Oct. 1 (JD, REW), four were at Playa del Rey Aug. 9+ (KD) and three remained on Pt. Loma Oct. 26+ (RT). A Snowy Plover at East Cronese L., near Baker Nov. 19 (EC) and another on L. Henshaw Nov. 5 (PU) would appear exceptionally late for these inland localities, although the species is present on the Salton Sea throughout the year. American Golden Plovers were present along the coast after Aug. 13 with at least 65 individuals reported, including 29 near Santa Maria during November (PL) and 15 on San Miguel I., Oct. 11 (PWC); one near Blythe Sept. 22 (BW) was the only one found at a truly inland locality. Some 65 Solitary Sandpipers were found during August and September with the latest being one in

Baker Oct. 7 (SC) and another near Imperial Beach Oct. 9 (EC). A Ruddy Turnstone at S.E.S.S., Aug. 12 (EC) was at a locality where small numbers are found every year, but one on San Jacinto L., Aug. 27-29 (DMM) was one of the very few found inland away from the Salton Sea. Two Com. Snipe at McGrath S.P., Ventura Co., Aug. 8 (REW) were exceptionally early for anywhere along the coast of s. California. Four Red Knots at S.E.S.S., Aug. 12 (EC) were the only ones reported from an inland locality. A Sanderling near Lancaster Aug. 16 (KD) was unexpected since very few are found inland away from the Salton Sea. Unexpected was the appearance of six **Semipalmated Sandpipers** with up to three at McGrath S.P., Sept. 9-15 (REW), one near Imperial Beach Sept. 10 (GMCC, ph., S.D.N.H.M.), one at Baker Aug. 28 (SC, *S.B.C.M.) and another there Sept. 8 (SC); only two fall records exist for s. California prior to this year.

S.A.

An imm. **Rufous-necked Sandpiper** was at McGrath S.P., Sept. 1-6 (REW, ph. S.D.N.H.M.); it very closely resembled an imm. Semipalmated Sandpiper in size, shape and coloration, but was believed to lack the partial webbing between the toes, clearly had rufous edgings to some of the back feathers and bold rufous edgings to the tertials; there are two previous records of this Asiatic sandpiper in California.



Immature Rufous-necked Sandpiper. Ventura County, Calif. September 4, 1978. Photo/L. Sansone.

A relatively good flight of Baird's Sandpipers passed through the Region with about 150 individuals reported during August and September; three in Daggett Oct. 14 (EAC), one in Goleta Oct. 16 (LRB) and another at McGrath S.P., Oct. 20 (REW) were the latest. A **Sharp-tailed Sandpiper**, a casual straggler to California, was at the Santa Maria R. mouth Oct. 1 (LB) followed by two more there Oct. 15-17 (PL, KG), a fourth was near Santa Maria Oct. 22-27 (BS, KVV) and a fifth was at McGrath S.P., Oct. 21-29 (REW, JD). Some 480 Pectoral Sandpipers, with most occurring in September and October, indicated a heavy flight throughout the Region; the earliest were two near Imperial Beach Aug. 23 (BC) and the

latest were one in Baker Nov. 5 (SC), one at Buena Vista L., Kern Co., Nov. 10 (REW) and another at Goleta Nov. 15 (PL). Stilt Sandpipers are rare anywhere in California away from the Salton Sea, hence, one in Baker Aug. 28 (SC, *S.B.C.M.), up to three near Port Hueneme Oct. 1-18 (RW), one near Norco, Riverside Co., Sept. 16 (DE), two on Upper Newport Bay Sept. 17 (TS), one on L. Hodges, San Diego Co., Sept. 2-7 (EC), two at Batiquitos Lagoon Aug. 1-2 (PU) and two near Imperial Beach Sept. 3 (BC) are all significant. Unprecedented was the appearance of six **Buff-breasted Sandpipers** with one on San Jacinto L., Aug. 27 - Sept. 1 (DMM, SC), two at Pt. Mugu Sept. 3 (REW), two on L. Hodges Sept. 2-3 (GMCC, ph., S.D.N.H.M.) and another near Imperial Beach Sept. 10-18 (WE, ph., S.D.N.H.M.); there are only six previous records for the Region. It was also an amazing fall for Ruffs with one at Buena Vista L., Nov. 10 (RW), one at Orcutt, Santa Barbara Co., Sept. 24 (JAJ), and single individuals at McGrath S.P., Sept. 17-24 (RW) and Oct. 7-8 (LS, ph., S.D.N.H.M.). Three Red Phalaropes were unusual far inland with one at Baker Aug. 27 (EAC, *S.B.C.M.), another there Sept. 24 (SC) and the third near Lancaster Nov. 11 (KG).

JAEGERS, LARIDS — A Long-tailed Jaeger off San Pedro Sept. 10 (JD), and single individuals off San Diego Sept. 9 (GMCC) and Sept. 17 (DP) were the only ones

reported; this is the rarest of the three jaegers along our coast. A S. Polar Skua was seen at the Santa Maria R. mouth Oct. 19 (JD); this species is scarce in s. California waters in fall and rarely visible from shore anywhere in California. Single ad. Glaucous-winged Gulls at McGrath S.P., Sept. 3 (DE) and 15 (RW) came as a surprise since wintering birds do not normally reach s. California before early October. Yellow-legged W. Gulls built up to peak numbers on the Salton Sea in August with 75 present Aug. 12 (GMCC). An imm. Herring Gull at McGrath S.P., Sept. 24 (RW) was a little early. The earliest Mew Gull was one near Ventura Oct. 21 (RW). Three Franklin's Gulls found along the coast of

Santa Barbara Co., Oct. 27 - Nov. 24, one at McGrath S.P., Nov. 11-12 (LRB), another at Huntington Beach Oct. 30 (R&M Wilson, *fide* SS), two at L. Henshaw Oct. 31 (RH) and one at S.E.S.S., Aug. 12 (EC) were the only ones reported this fall. An imm. Heermann's Gull at N.E.S.S., Aug. 19 (LD) may have been the same bird seen there July 23.

A Com. Tern near Lancaster Aug. 16 (KG) gives us another record of the species at an inland locality away from the Salton Sea and Colorado R. An imm. Arctic Tern at the Santa Maria R. mouth Oct. 19-28 (KG) was not only quite late but was on the beach; documented records of this species onshore in California are few indeed. Two Least Terns were seen side Sept. 15 (AF) were the last to be seen this year. As usual a few Black Terns were seen along the coast during August and September with one near Oceanside Oct. 15 (PU). A Black Skimmer on San Jacinto L., Aug. 28 - Sept. 4 (PL, SC) was at an unusual locality; this species is now a common summer visitor to the Salton Sea and a permanent resident on San Diego Bay.

MURRELETS THROUGH WOOD-PECKERS — As usual a few Craveri's Murrelets reached s. California waters in the late summer with four off Santa Barbara Sept. 16 (JD) being the northernmost; one visible from shore at Venice Aug. 29 (DE) was with two Xantus' Murrelets! As expected a few White-winged Doves moved W to the coast with 18 reported between Goleta and Imperial Beach Aug. 27 - Oct. 10. A Ground Dove in Altadena Oct. 2 (GSS) was unexpected. A pair of Yellow-billed Cuckoos was building a nest near Blythe on the late date of Aug. 13 (PL). A **Groove-billed Ani** near Anaheim Sept. 13-17 (DW, BD) was only the second ever found in California.

A Black-chinned Hummingbird near Imperial Beach Oct. 9 (PU, EC) was late; this species is normally absent mid-September to mid-March. Three Broad-billed Hummingbirds were unexpected with one in Santa Barbara Sept. 20 (L. Goena, *fide* PL), another at Pt. Mugu S.P., Sept. 16-17 (LJ) and the third at a feeder in W. Los Angeles Nov. 1+ (SS); this species is a casual straggler with all records in fall and winter. Five Acorn Woodpeckers were reported from the e. part of the Region with single birds at Oasis Oct. 28 (KVV), Westgard Pass Sept. 3 (PL), Surprise Canyon in the Panamint Mts., Aug. 2 (SE), Horse Thief Springs in the Kingston Mts., Oct. 11 (SE) and at Cottonwood Springs in the Granite Mts., Oct. 13 (SE); five together on Santa Barbara I., Sept. 19 (PC) and another on Pt. Loma Nov. 15 (CE) were also out of range and habitat. Lewis' Woodpeckers were more numerous and widespread than usual during September with a flock of 104 flying over W. Los Angeles Sept. 22 (KG) being the largest group reported. Four Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers, believed to be of the e. type *S. v. varius*, were reported with an immature at Deep Springs Oct. 21 (LD), a male at F.C.R., Oct. 21 (DDeS), a female in Kelso Oct. 27 - Nov. 7 (JD) and a male at Refugio S.P., Santa Barbara Co., Oct. 20+ (PL); we are just learning how to recognize this form, hence its status in California is little understood. A Williamson's Sapsucker in the Laguna Mts., San Diego Co., Nov. 5 (RS) was in an area from which few records exist.



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To the ornithologist, interest in the Hawaiian Islands centers around an endemic avifauna whose dominant family, the Hawaiian Honeycreepers provide a textbook example of adaptive radiation, a cornerstone of Darwinian evolution. Unhappily, no fewer than twenty-three of these endemics have been extirpated in the last 100 years and of the remaining forty plus, twenty-nine are classified as endangered. Visiting the wild areas of eastern Maui, the volcanoes of Hawaii, and the coasts, refuges and Kokee area of Kauai, we may see as many as seventeen of these birds including seven of the celebrated honeycreepers. In addition, the islands support large numbers of seabirds and, especially on Oahu and Kauai, we should see Laysan Albatross, Red-footed Booby, Red-tailed Tropicbird and White Tern. All this will be carried out in the midst of great natural beauty, striking volcanic geology and a superb climate. For the very hardy, we have scheduled a one week extension, Jan. 25-31, into a relatively inaccessible area of Maui to search for very local endemics, notable Crested Honeycreeper, Po'o-uli and Maui Parrotbill.

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FLYCATCHERS, SWALLOWS — Four E. Kingbirds were reported with one near Tecopa Sept. 4 (JD) and another at Vallecito in e. San Diego Co., Oct. 17 (WH) being inland, while one in Goleta Aug. 18 (BS) is one of the very few ever found inland in California. A Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, a rare straggler, was near Imperial Beach Oct. 27 (JMcD). Most exciting was a **Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher** in Goleta Oct. 6-9 (LB, ph. S.D.N.H.M.) for there is only one previous record for California. A Great Crested Flycatcher, a casual fall straggler to the coast, was on Pt. Loma Oct. 6 (EC, PU). Eastern Phoebe appeared more numerous than usual with seven along the coast between Goleta and San Diego Oct. 22+, along with one near Tecopa Oct. 31 (JT), another in Baker Oct. 29 (LD) and a third at Kelso Nov. 12 (EAC, SC) in the interior. A Willow Flycatcher at the Santa Maria R. mouth Oct. 27 (PL) was exceptionally late. A Least Flycatcher, a species now found in California annually, was at Pt. Mugu S.P., Sept. 19-25 (RW), another was at Fillmore Nov. 5+ (RW) and a third was at Brock Ranch, Imperial Co., Nov. 26+ (JD). A wood pewee at Pt. Fermin Oct. 17-23 (JJ, GS) was late, and believed to be a W. Wood Pewee; however, observers are urged to remember that the Region's only E. Wood Pewee occurred late in the fall — Pt. Mugu S.P., Oct. 18-19, 1974 (JD). A Vermilion Flycatcher in Goleta Oct. 16-21 (PL) was quite far n. for the coast. Purple Martins continued to be scarce with only ten seen along the coast; one at F.C.R., Sept. 4 (JD) was at an interesting locality and another over L. Henshaw Oct. 21 (RH) was late.

JAYS THROUGH WRENS — A Steller's Jay on Pt. Loma Oct. 4 (WH) was beyond the

species' normal range. Three Scrub Jays were reported from the desert area along the e. border of the Region with one at F.C.R., Oct. 27 (JD), another at Salt Cr., near Baker Nov. 3 (SE) and the third near Blythe Sept. 3 (JDB). Six Piñon Jays near Parker Dam Nov. 23 (BM) were far from their normal range. A family group of 5-10 Chestnut-backed Chickadees at Vandenberg Air Force Base Sept. 14 (DE) was at the s. extreme of the species' range. A Pygmy Nuthatch in Goleta Aug. 28 (BS) was beyond the species' normal range and the first to be recorded at that coastal locality. A Dipper feeding along a small stream in Surprise Canyon Oct. 26 - Nov. 8 (SE) was the first to be found in the Panamint Mts.; one farther s. in the dry Providence Mts., Oct. 29 (SC, *S.B.C.M.) was attracted to some water in the open-pit Vulcan Mine, far from any suitable habitat, and is of course the first for this area of California. About a dozen Winter Wrens were found in Inyo County in late September supporting the theory that this species regularly migrates across this desert region of California. A Cactus Wren near Deep Springs Oct. 3 (ASE) established the northernmost record for California.

THRASHERS THROUGH VIREOS — The only Brown Thrashers reported this fall were one at Old Woman Springs near Lucerne Valley Nov. 9 (SE) and another at Iron Mt. Pumping Station Nov. 16 (SE). A Bendire's Thrasher in the Lanfair Valley Oct. 8 (SC) was exceptionally late; the previous late date Aug. 22. A Bendire's Thrasher was at McGrath S.P., Aug. 14 (RW), another was at Pt. Mugu S.P., Nov. 9-12 (TC) and a third was near Imperial Beach Nov. 12 (EC). A **Wood Thrush**, only the fourth to be found in California, was near Imperial Beach Oct. 25-26 (LS). The Region's second **Veery** was well studied at Kelso Nov. 5 (SC). A **White Wagtail**, apparently *M. a. ocularis*, remained in Goleta Oct. 9-11 (LB, ph., S.D.N.H.M.) and is the third to be found in California. Red-throated Pipits were again found, with one on San Nicolas I., Sept. 28 (DE), one on San Miguel I., Oct. 12 (PWC), one near

Santa Maria Oct. 17 (RW), one in Goleta Oct. 12 (LB) followed by two more Oct. 26-27 (PL), and seven at various locations around Oxnard Oct. 4-24 (RW, JD), suggesting the species is of annual occurrence along the coast of California. A Sprague's Pipit, now being reported each fall, was at McGrath S.P., Oct. 27 (RW).

A Bell's Vireo near Imperial Beach Sept. 7 (DE) showed some green on the upper parts and yellow on the flanks, suggesting it was of the e. race *V. b. belli*; another on Pt. Loma Oct. 7-8 (KG) was somewhat late. A Yellow-green Vireo, a casual straggler, was on Pt. Loma Sept. 13 (DLD). A Red-eyed Vireo at Stovepipe Wells in Death Valley Sept. 3 (JD) and another at Deep Springs Sept. 15 (JAJ) were in the e. part of the Region where it is proving to be regular during early September; one in Carpinteria Sept. 15 (BS), another near Imperial Beach Sept. 13 (JL) and a third on Pt. Loma Oct. 14-15 (DD) were on the coast, where casual. A Philadelphia Vireo at Pt. Mugu S.P., Oct. 14 (REW) and another on Pt. Loma Oct. 22 (GT) were the only two reported.

WOOD WARBLERS — Black-and-white Warblers appeared to be in fewer than average numbers with but 18 reported Aug. 31+. Unexpected were a Prothonotary Warbler in Kelso Aug. 27-28 (SC) and another on Pt. Loma Oct. 6 (EC); this species is a casual straggler anywhere in the West. Twenty Tennessee Warblers Sept. 22+, were far fewer than we have become accustomed to. Virginia's Warblers continue to decline as a straggler to the coast with only 11 reported during September. A Lucy's Warbler, a rare straggler to the coast, was in Goleta Sept. 7 (LB), another was at McGrath S.P., Sept. 18 - Oct. 12 (REW, KVV) and a third was near Imperial Beach Sept. 18 (BC); one at Scotty's Castle in Death Valley Nov. 4 (BB, GSS) was quite far n. and exceptionally late. Four N. Parulas were found with one in Kelso Oct. 29 (SC, BD), one near Blythe Oct. 11 (BW), a third near the Carrizo Marsh in w. Imperial Co., Nov. 16 (SC) and a fourth at Pt. Mugu S.P., Sept. 27 (RW). Only three Magnolia

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Warblers were reported from along the coast with one in Carpinteria Oct. 10 (BS), one in Long Beach Oct. 23 (JA) and the other on Pt. Loma Oct. 7-14 (KG); a fourth was inland at Riverside Nov. 17-29 (SC).

A Cape May Warbler, now recorded annually, was at Morro Bay Oct. 1 (LS), another was at Gaviota Oct. 15-19 (LB, PL), two were on Pt. Loma Oct. 24-25 (PU, GMcC) and another was at the unlikely locality of Spicer City in the s. San Joaquin Valley Nov. 10 (REW). As usual a few Black-throated Blue Warblers appeared, with ten found along the coast Oct. 3 - Dec. 6, and four more seen inland during October. A Black-throated Green Warbler at Scotty's Castle in Death Valley Nov. 11 (DLD) and another at Darwin Falls near Panamint Springs Oct. 25 (SE) were the only ones found inland, but one was on the coast at Montana de Oro S.P., Nov. 2 (KVV), and single individuals were near Imperial Beach Oct. 2-5 (GMcC) & 24-27 (EC). A **Cerulean Warbler**, only the fourth to be reported in s. California, was on Pt. Loma Oct. 22 (GT, RP). Single Blackburnian Warblers near Oxnard Oct. 8-9 (RW) & 24 (REW), one on Pt. Loma Oct. 7-14 (DD), single individuals near Imperial Beach Oct. 8-10 (LD) & Oct. 22 (BD), and a sixth bird in Kelso Nov. 12 (EAC, SC) give us an average number for this time of the year. A Yellow-throated Warbler at Deep Springs Oct. 28 - Nov. 4 (CH, DRu, BB) is only the sixth found during the fall. Six Chestnut-sided Warblers were found along the coast Oct. 7-29 along with one at Glamis Oct. 8 (BW), one near Blythe Oct. 11 (BMW) and another at Darwin Falls Oct. 25 (SE). A Bay-breasted Warbler at Gaviota Oct. 17 (PL) and another at Pt. Mugu S.P., Oct. 7 (REW) were the only ones found along the coast, but three appeared inland with one at Deep Springs Oct. 28 (DRu, CH), one near Lancaster Oct. 22 (KG) and the other in Kelso Nov. 12 (EAC, SC).

Eleven Blackpoll Warblers Sept. 20 - Oct. 17 were remarkably few. A Prairie Warbler at McGrath S.P., Oct. 11 (RW) was the only one reported. Palm Warblers were relatively numerous with 35 reported Oct. 1-+; one in

the Lanfair Valley Oct. 8 (SC) and another at Glamis the same day (BMW) were the only two away from the coast. An Ovenbird in Kelso Aug. 30 (SC) was somewhat early being followed by five along the coast Sept. 13 - Nov. 18. Thirteen N. Waterthrushes appear to be fewer than normal, but having half these in the n.e. portion of the Region during early September fits the established pattern; one in Kelso Nov. 12 (SC) was late for that area. A Connecticut Warbler, a casual straggler, was well seen in San Diego Sept. 14 (RR). A Hooded Warbler, another rare straggler, was near Oxnard Oct. 7 (RW), and a second was in Kelso Oct. 26-29 (SC, BD). Four Canada Warblers were reported with one in Goleta Oct. 20-21 (PL, LB), one near Oxnard Oct. 9-11 (RW), one on Pt. Fermin Oct. 16 (SS) and the other near Imperial Beach Oct. 13-28 (EC). Some 60 Am. Redstarts Sept. 3-+ were about average for the period. Three Painted Redstarts, a remarkably rare wanderer to California, were seen with one on Pt. Loma Aug. 29 (DF), one at Morongo Valley Sept. 9 (J. Menke, *vide* SS) and the third at the Iron Mt. Pumping Station Sept. 15 (SE).

BLACKBIRDS, ORIOLES, TANAGERS — Bobolinks were less numerous than usual with no more than 100 found along the coast, and one at F.C.R., Oct. 22 (PU) being the only one inland; however, one in Carson, Los Angeles Co., Nov. 11-17 (JB) established the latest record for California. As usual, a few Orchard Orioles appeared along the coast with one in Gaviota Nov. 4 (PL), one in Santa Barbara Oct. 31 - Nov. 21 (*vide* PL), another at McGrath S.P., Oct. 31 (RW), one on Pt. Loma Sept. 16 (GMcC) and one more near Imperial Beach Sept. 18-19 (EC). A Scott's Oriole at Bonanza Springs in e. San Bernardino Co., Nov. 1 (SE) and three in Borrego Palm Canyon in e. San Diego Co., Nov. 11 (A&JM) were exceptionally late. Seven "Baltimore" Orioles were seen along the coast Sept. 12 - Oct. 29 along with one inland at the Iron Mt. Pumping Station Sept. 15 (SE); this distinctive form regularly wanders W to California. At least ten Rusty Blackbirds were found in the Death

Valley/Kelso area during November as would now appear normal, and three more reached the coast with one at Refugio S.P., Nov. 1 (PL), one at McGrath S.P., Oct. 26 (KVV) and the other in Fillmore Nov. 25-26 (RW, LS). Interesting was a Great-tailed Grackle on Pt. Fermin Sept. 1-15 (DE, KG) and another near Pt. Conception Sept. 12 - Nov. 1 (BS, DD) since only one previous record exists for the coast.

A Scarlet Tanager, always a rare straggler to California, was near Oxnard Oct. 7 (REW). Seven Summer Tanagers in the San Diego area Sept. 8 - Nov. 15 were the only ones reported from along the coast; one in Cottonwood Canyon of Death Valley Nat'l Mon., Oct. 22 (DDeS) and another at Old Woman Springs near Lucerne Valley Nov. 19 (SE) were the only two found at desert oases. A Hepatic Tanager at the Iron Mt. Pumping Station Sept. 15 (SE) was a straggler at one of the migrant traps in the desert.

FINCHES, SPARROWS, LONGSPURS — Only 15 Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were reported with 11 on the coast and the remaining four at desert oases of Inyo and San Bernardino Cos. Fifteen Indigo Buntings Aug. 31 - Nov. 23 are fewer than usual. A ♀ Painted Bunting, a casual straggler to California, was seen near Blythe Nov. 13 (RD). Single Dickcissels were seen along the coast in Goleta Sept. 22 (KVV), Oct. 6 (LB) & 7 (PL), and near Imperial Beach Oct. 3-7 (PU), and another was inland at Stovepipe Wells in Death Valley Oct. 21 (PU); small numbers are found each fall. A Lawrence's Goldfinch at Deep Springs Aug. 29 (DG) was the first to be reported from that area. A Lark Bunting on Santa Barbara I., Sept. 19 (PC), another in Goleta Sept. 23 (PL) and a third at L. Henshaw Nov. 18 (PU) were the only ones found this fall. A Grasshopper Sparrow in the Lanfair Valley Oct. 26 (SC) was at an unusual locality. As usual, a few Gray-headed Juncos occurred in the s. parts of the Region as indicated by reports of 15± from San Bernardino, Riverside, Imperial and San Diego Cos., Oct. 12-+. Ten Tree Sparrows were found in the n.e. part of the Region Oct. 27 - Nov. 12 including seven together at F.C.R., Nov. 5-12 (SS, DD), which is the

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largest group reported in s. California; in addition one was near the coast at Fillmore Nov. 18-24 (RW). Clay-colored Sparrows were decidedly scarce with single birds in Goleta Oct. 2 & 17 (PL), one near Oxnard Sept. 8 (RW), another in Fillmore Nov. 26 (REW), an apparent wintering bird in Arcadia Oct. 8+ (SS) and a sixth on Pt. Loma Oct. 7 (BC). Six Harris' Sparrows Oct. 28 -Nov. 18 was far below average, while 20 White-throated Sparrows Oct. 21 - Nov. 30 was about normal. Ten Swamp Sparrows along the coast Oct. 15+, with three in Death Valley Oct. 22-28 was slightly below average.

Two McCown's Longspurs, the rarest of the three species of longspur to reach California, were in Carson Nov. 2-16 (SS, JD). A Lapland Longspur in the Cuyama Valley Nov. 19 (PL), one in Goleta Nov. 20 (LB), another near Oxnard Nov. 4 (RW), one in Carson Nov. 4-18 (SS, BB) and one more near Imperial Beach

Nov. 1 (PU) were the only five found. Chestnut-collared Longspurs were exceedingly scarce with one in the Cuyama Valley Nov. 19 (RW), one at L. Isabella Nov. 23 (LS), single birds near Oxnard Oct. 1-6 (JD) & 25 (RW), three in the Antelope Valley Oct. 22 (JD) and one near Imperial Beach Oct. 26 (RW) being the only ones reported.

ADDENDA — The following significant records were all received too late for inclusion in the Nesting Season report. An ad. Little Blue Heron was at the mouth of the Santa Ynez R., May 7 (KLH). A Clapper Rail at East Cronese L., near Baker May 17 (PH) was far out in the Mojave Desert. A breeding-plumaged Tufted Puffin at Prince Islet off San Miguel I., July 28 (RP) suggests that nesting birds may eventually return to this long-deserted site. A ♂ Broad-tailed Hummingbird on Mt. Palomar July 11-12 (RH) was w. of the species' range and the first to be recorded in these mountains. An Acorn Woodpecker at Harper L., near Barstow June 15 (RLeV) was well out in the Mojave Desert and away from normal habitat. A ♀ Hooded Warbler at Willow Cr., in the Saline Valley Apr. 8 (BSt) was exceptionally early for an e. vagrant.

CORRIGENDA — The record of a Veery at Oasis May 29 (AB 31:1048, 1977) should be deleted. Delete also a Brown Booby near Salton City Aug. 23 (AB 32:256, 1978). The photo of the Varied Bunting (AB 32:264, 1978) should be credited to Paul Lehman. The Townsend's Warbler in Glendale July 25 (AB 32:1210, 1978) should be deleted.

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