

## SOUTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION

Guy McCaskie

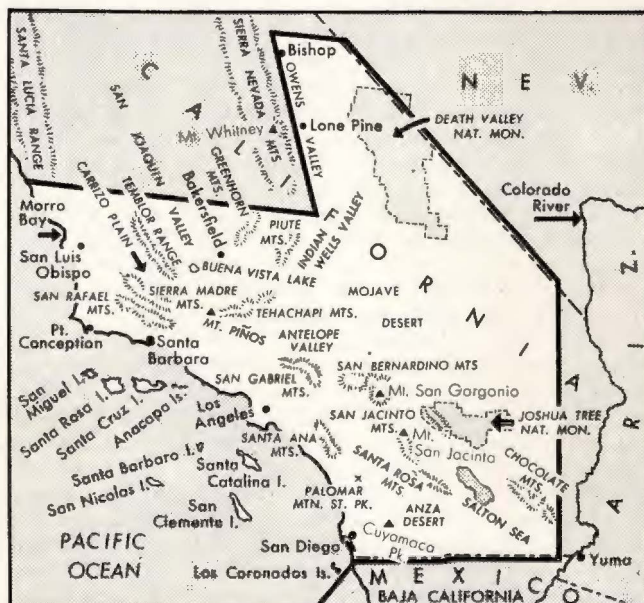
**I**t was a relatively mild winter except for a cold spell in December, and it was exceptionally dry after the first of the year. Fifteen species of flycatchers, 24 species of wood warblers, three species of tanagers, and four species of orioles indicates the variety of birds found wintering in southern California, but these were all overshadowed by a most cooperative Xantus' Hummingbird in Ventura.

**ABBREVIATIONS** — F.C.R. = Furnace Creek Ranch in Death Valley, Inyo Co.; N.E.S.S. = north end of the Salton Sea, Riverside Co.; S.C.R.E. = Santa Clara River Estuary near Ventura; S.E.S.S. = south end of the Salton Sea, Imperial County. As virtually all rarities found in s. California are seen by numerous observers, only the observer initially identifying the bird is included. Documentation is on file with the California Bird Records Committee (c/o Don Roberson, 282 Grove Acre, Pacific Grove, CA 93950) for all rarities listed in this report, and records submitted without documentation are not published.

**LOONS THROUGH HERONS** — A Pacific Loon, rare inland, was on L. Perris, Riverside Co., all winter (RMCK), and another was on L. Cachuma, Santa Barbara Co., Dec. 14–Feb. 2 (MAH). The largest concentration of Horned Grebes found inland this winter was of 75+ on L. Perris Nov. 29+ (RMCK) with much smaller numbers scattered throughout the Region. A count of 2,500,000–3,000,000 Eared Grebes was made on the Salton Sea Jan. 23 (RMCK), indicating the importance of this body of water to this species in winter. Fifty thousand W./Clark's Grebes on the Salton Sea Jan. 23 (RMCK) was more than formerly believed to winter on this lake. Thirty-two thousand Am. White Pelicans on the Salton Sea Jan. 23 (RMCK) supported the idea that this is a most important locality for wintering birds of this species. Again a small number of Brown Pelicans wintered on the Salton Sea with five to 10 present during January and February (RMCK). A ♀ Magnificent Frigatebird over W. Covina, Los Angeles Co., Feb. 11 (DKA) was not only unseasonable but also inland.

Eight Am. Bitterns in the Prado Basin, Riverside Co., Dec. 22 (LRH) was a large number for s. California. Two or three Little Blue Herons around s. San Diego Bay throughout the period (EC) were the only ones reported. The ad. Reddish Egret that appeared on s. San Diego Bay Sept. 25 was still present Mar. 12 (GMC). The ad. Yellow-crowned Night-Heron first found in the San Diego area during the fall of 1981 was present in La Jolla Jan. 16+ (BW).

**WATERFOWL** — Up to two Tundra Swans near Lakeview, Riverside Co., Nov. 17–Feb. 26 (AMC) were the southernmost



of the 20± reported away from the n.e. corner of the Region. Up to two Greater White-fronted Geese in San Luis Obispo Nov. 2–Dec. 19 (GPS) and two to four in Ventura throughout the period were along the coast, where very few now are found wintering, but 30 over Goleta Feb. 6 (EG) were undoubtedly spring migrants. Three Ross' Geese in San Luis Obispo Dec. 15–17 (GB); one around Lompoc, Santa Barbara Co., all winter (KaH); and eight near Oceanside Dec. 26–Jan. 3 (GMC) were along the coast, where considered rare, and two in Lancaster, Los Angeles Co., Dec. 20–Jan. 21 (JKA) were at an unusual locality. A "Cackling" Canada Goose, rare in s. California, was in Malibu Dec. 20+ (KLG), and another was near Norco, Riverside Co., Jan. 18 (DH). Twelve Blue-winged Teal near Bakersfield Dec. 19–20 (MH); 27 in Pico Rivera, Los Angeles Co., Jan. 2 (JSc); and a male at N.E.S.S. Feb. 14 (RPH) were all away from the immediate coast. Some 30 Eur. Wigeon scattered throughout the Region was an average number to be reported in winter.

The ♂ Tufted Duck found on Quail L., Los Angeles Co., Nov. 19 was still present Mar. 5 (KLG); the male found on L. Cachuma Nov. 30 remained through Dec. 6 (PEL), and a female was there Dec. 18–Feb. 17 (CM); and a male was in Hesperia, San Bernardino Co., Dec. 6–11 (EAC). The ♂ Harlequin Duck



Immature female Oldsquaw at Santa Barbara, Cal., Jan. 20, 1988. Photo/Jon L. Dunn.

found in Bolsa Chica Nov. 14 was still present at the end of the period (LRH) after having spent its 4th winter at this location. Twelve Oldsquaws found along the coast during the period was an average number for winter in s. California, but one at the mouth of Salt Creek on the Salton Sea Jan. 31 (TG) and another (same?) at nearby Desert Shores Feb. 21 (GMcC) were inland, where considered casual. Twenty-two Black Scoters found along the coast included up to 14 off Vandenberg A.F.B., Santa Barbara Co., Dec. 26–Mar. 6 (KHo). One at S.E.S.S. Dec. 9 (WH) was one of a very few ever to be found inland in California. Two Surf Scoters at N.E.S.S. Dec. 20–Jan. 12 (RMcK) and another at S.E.S.S. Dec. 12 (GMcC) were inland, where considered rare. Twenty-nine Hooded Mergansers in Hart Park near Bakersfield Dec. 20 (RS) was a large number for s. California, and one in Santee, San Diego Co., Dec. 3 (JC) was relatively far south.

**RAPTORS THROUGH SHOREBIRDS** — Four Black-shouldered Kites were found around the S.E.S.S. during the winter (MAP, GMcC, RPH), indicating this species is still attempting to expand its range. Up to 18 Bald Eagles on L. Cachuma during the winter (BA) was more than expected; an immature at Pt. Mugu, Ventura Co., all winter (JSR); an adult around Victorville, San Bernardino Co., Dec. 6–Feb. 7 (SMY); and an immature at Winterhaven, Imperial Co., Dec. 31 (RMcK) were all at unusual localities. A Red-shouldered Hawk at the Brock Ranch Research Center, Imperial Co., Jan. 1 (RMcK) was in the extreme s.e. corner of the State, where previously unrecorded. An ad. Zone-tailed Hawk over the Plano Trabuco, Orange Co., Jan. 30–Feb. 3 (MAP) was undoubtedly the same bird seen here during the past 2 winters. Fewer than expected numbers of Rough-legged Hawks were found this winter, but these did include a dark-phased individual spending its 3rd winter in Ventura (JSR) and another as far south as S.E.S.S. Jan. 17–23 (DRW). A black Merlin (*F. c. suckleyi*) in Oceanside Dec. 22 (GMcC) was the first ever found in San Diego County, and another was seen chasing phalaropes off Pt. Fermin, Los Angeles Co., Dec. 4 (LRH). A Peregrine Falcon was at S.E.S.S., where considered rare in winter, Feb. 14 (RPH).

A Sandhill Crane in San Simeon Feb. 2 (LT), another at Pismo Beach Dec. 22–Jan. 5 (SDa), and the bird in Saticoy Nov. 22–Dec. 8 (JSR) were all along the coast, where considered casual. Up to 10 Lesser Golden-Plovers near Santa Maria throughout the period (TEW), one to three at Seal Beach through February (DRW), and one near Imperial Beach Dec. 24 (BF) were all believed to be of the race *fulva*, the only form documented to occur in California in winter. Three Lesser Yellowlegs in the Prado Basin Dec. 22 (LRH) were of interest since few are found inland away from the Salton Sea in winter. A Solitary Sand-

pipper near Imperial Beach Feb. 28+ (FD) undoubtedly wintered locally and was only the 6th ever to be found in California at this time of the year. A Ruddy Turnstone at Salton City, Imperial Co., Feb. 7 (HEC) undoubtedly wintered in that area. A Rock Sandpiper around Avila, San Luis Obispo Co., Nov. 22–Feb. 6 (JB) was believed to be the same bird present here during the past 2 winters. A Ruff found on Morro Bay Nov. 19 remained through Dec. 17 (JMCD), and the bird on s. San Diego Bay was still present Mar. 12 (GMcC). More than 30 Com. Snipe together in the Prado Basin Dec. 8 (LRH) was a large concentration for s. California. A Wilson's Phalarope at Salton City Feb. 7 (HEC) and another at S.E.S.S. the same day (HEC) were undoubtedly wintering locally.

**JAEGERS THROUGH ALCIDS** — A Parasitic Jaeger was seen about 10 mi inland east of San Juan Capistrano Jan. 31 (DBO). A first-winter Laughing Gull, casual along the coast, was on Santa Barbara I. Feb. 28 (JKA). Five Franklin's Gulls were reported, with one in Malibu Jan. 7 (DG); single birds in Fountain Valley, Orange Co., Nov. 29–Dec. 5 (RRV) and Dec. 5–25 (BED); one at the mouth of the San Diego R. in San Diego Dec. 29–Jan. 20 (EL); and the 5th on s. San Diego Bay Dec. 3–6 (FD). Intriguing was an ad. Band-tailed Gull (*Larus belcheri*) in winter plumage seen on San Nicholas I. Nov. 9 & 20 and again Jan. 23 (TM); this South American species is at least partially migratory, having occurred casually north to Panama. Two Mew Gulls near Moreno, Riverside Co., Dec. 25–Jan. 2 (MAP) and another at S.E.S.S. Feb. 15 (RPH) were well inland, where very rare. An ad. **Lesser Black-backed Gull** at S.E.S.S. Jan. 7 (CC) could well have been one of the two that were present here last winter. An ad. Glaucous-winged Gull at S.E.S.S. Jan. 17 (MAP) was far inland. The only Glaucous Gull reported was a first-year bird at S.C.R.E. Feb. 15+ (JSR). The only Com. Terns reported were one on San Diego Bay Dec. 5 (REW) and another in Malibu Jan. 1 (KLG), both of which could have been late fall stragglers rather than wintering individuals. Two Black Skimmers at S.C.R.E. Feb. 7 (JSR) were the only ones found north of Orange County.

There appeared to be an influx of Marbled Murrelets to the coast of San Luis Obispo County, with 15–20 off Montana de Oro S.P. Dec. 20 (JLD), 11 off Oceano Dec. 21 (BSc), and two more off Arroyo Grande the same day (BSc). Two Xantus' Murrelets carefully studied between Santa Catalina I. and Santa Barbara I. Feb. 28 (JKA) were of the s. form *hypoleuca*, previously known only as a rare late summer and fall visitor to s. California waters. Two Ancient Murrelets off Montana de Oro S.P. Dec. 20 (BSc) were the only ones reported.

**DOVES THROUGH WOODPECKERS** — A White-winged Dove, very rare to casual along the coast in winter, was present in Ventura throughout the period. Up to four Com. Ground-Doves present in Goleta since Sept. 29 remained through at least Jan. 10 (HPR), and others were found elsewhere nearby on Jan. 2 (TEW) and Feb. 20 (RPH), supporting the theory that this species is expanding its range northward. The **Ruddy Ground-Dove** found at F.C.R. Oct. 17 was still present Jan. 4 (CC). A Spotted Owl in a narrow ribbon of riparian growth within an extensive area of coastal sage scrub in Riverside Jan. 26+ (CMcG) was unexpected. Short-eared Owls were slightly more numerous and widespread than in recent winters, with one or two occurring around S.E.S.S. Jan. 17–23 (MAP), but they were still much scarcer than 20 years ago. A Vaux's Swift at Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo Co., Dec. 26 (BSc); 200 over the El Monte area Jan. 2 (JSc); and two at Batiquitos Lagoon, San Diego Co., Dec. 21 (DRW) were all undoubtedly wintering locally.

A ♂ Broad-billed Hummingbird found in Ventura Nov. 22 was joined by a female Jan. 31, with both remaining to Mar. 4 (VJK), and the male found in Mission Viejo, Orange Co., Nov. 30 remained through Dec. 12 (DRW). On Jan. 30, a ♀ **Xantus' Hummingbird** (*Hylocharis xantusii*) appeared in the same Ventura yard frequented by the Broad-billed Hummingbirds and remained through Mar. 27 (KHa, VJK); the bird built a nest

and laid 2 eggs in February, deserted them after the eggs failed to hatch, and was on a 2nd nest in March. Thanks to Virgil J. Ketner and his understanding neighbors, literally hundreds of interested observers from throughout the continent were able to see and photograph the bird. This was the first fully documented record for the United States, although a male was seen by a single observer in e. San Diego Co., Dec. 27, 1986 (AB 41: 330, 1987). Previously, the species has been considered resident in s. Baja California with the northernmost record from about 29° north latitude. A ♀ *Archilochus* hummingbird, identified as a Black-chinned Hummingbird, in San Diego Feb. 10 (REW) and another on Pt. Loma Nov. 26–Feb. 20 (REW) were the only ones reported. Up to two Costa's Hummingbirds in Ventura throughout the winter (VJK, JSR) and one in Santa Barbara Dec. 24–Feb. 3 (JEL) were the northernmost along the coast this winter. A ♂ Allen's Hummingbird in Santa Barbara Dec. 21–Jan. 2 (REW) was evidently wintering locally, the first of the spring migrants being found near San Diego Jan. 16 (JO) and on Vandenberg A.F.B. Jan. 18 (KHo).

An imm. ♀ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker near Tustin, Orange Co., Jan. 6–18 (RRV) and an adult female at Desert Center, Riverside Co., Dec. 26 (JLD) were the only ones reported. Three Red-naped Sapsuckers in Ventura County throughout the winter and another in Los Osos Dec. 13–Feb. 20 (KaH) were the northwesternmost to be reported this winter. A ♀ Williamson's Sapsucker near Victorville Dec. 6 (CM) was away from the mountains. A Downy Woodpecker in Mojave, Kern Co., Jan. 30 (RS) had been present since the fall and was quite far out on the high desert. A Hairy Woodpecker at Harbor L. in Long Beach Jan. 2–Feb. 5 (KLG) and another at Upper Newport Bay Nov. 17–Feb. 23 (LRH) were unusually close to the coast. White-headed Woodpeckers remained in out-of-range lowland localities throughout the winter, after having moved into these areas during the fall, with several around Bakersfield at the s. end of the San Joaquin Valley Oct. 10+ (MOC); up to six in the Santa Barbara area to Feb. 25 (PEL); five in coastal Ventura County throughout most of the winter (JSR); one near L. Hughes, Los Angeles Co., to Dec. 27 (JKA); and one at Blue Jay in the Santa Ana Mts. of Orange County Nov. 14–Jan. 24 (BED).

**FLYCATCHERS THROUGH SWALLOWS** — An Olive-sided Flycatcher, accidental in winter, was in Santa Barbara Dec. 25–Feb. 4 (LB) for its 4th winter, and another was calling in Casitas, Ventura Co., Jan. 28 (RJM). A Greater Pewee, a casual straggler to California, was in San Diego Feb. 20–Mar. 30 (JO'B). A Least Flycatcher in Mission Viejo Nov. 30–Jan. 30 (DRW) was the 9th to be found in s. California in winter. A Hammond's Flycatcher in Goleta Dec. 25–Feb. 21 (JLD) was one of a very few ever reported in California in winter. A Gray Flycatcher near Riverside Jan. 10–Feb. 13 (GH) and four in Orange County throughout the winter were the only ones reported. Five W. Flycatchers were found along the coast with single birds in Goleta Jan. 2–5 (JSt), Irvine Nov. 7–Feb. 21 (DRW), Mission Viejo Dec. 6–Feb. 21 (JT), San Diego Jan. 4–Feb. 11 (B & IM) and at another location in San Diego Feb. 11 (B & IM), and a 6th was inland at the Brock Ranch Research Center Jan. 1 (RMCK). Eastern Phoebe were more numerous than normal with seven reported including single birds along the coast in Santa Barbara Jan. 31–Feb. 7 (BBa), Long Beach Jan. 1–16 (MAP), and Newport Beach Jan. 2–Mar. 3 (LJ); near San Diego Dec. 25–26 (SG); inland at F.C.R. Feb. 7 (RAE); near Riverside Jan. 7 (CMcG); and at S.E.S.S. Jan. 23–Mar. 19 (BBr).

A Vermilion Flycatcher near Weldon, Kern Co., Dec. 26 (RHe) was unusually far north, and three around Ventura throughout the period (JSR) and another in Irvine Dec. 5–Jan. 9 (BSh) were along the coast. The Dusky-capped Flycatcher found in Mission Viejo Nov. 21 was still present Feb. 21 (MMcD), another was at S.E.S.S. Dec. 22–30 (KR), and a 3rd was in San Diego Feb. 11–Apr. 7 (B & IM), increasing the number now recorded in s. California to 10. A Tropical Kingbird in Goleta Sept. 22–Mar. 16 (HPR) was believed to be the same bird present here the

previous winter, and another was in Santa Barbara Dec. 24–Feb. 21 (REW). A **Thick-billed Kingbird** near Tustin, Orange Co., Nov. 4–Mar. 5 (LRH) was the same bird that had spent the previous 5 winters at this locality. A N. Rough-winged Swallow was near Oxnard throughout the period (JSR), and another was in Irvine Nov. 22–Jan. 20 (DRW), suggesting they wintered locally. Records for the October–November period, however, are fewer than those for mid-winter, indicating even these two birds could be exceptionally early spring migrants.

**JAYS THROUGH SHRIKES** — Some Steller's Jays remained in the lowlands throughout the period as indicated by such reports as one in Whitewater Canyon, Riverside Co., all winter (DCH); another in Newton Canyon, Los Angeles Co., to Jan. 21 (JL); two in Glendale Jan. 15–30 (JJ); and one in Norwalk all winter (JSc). A Scrub Jay in Niland Dec. 22–Jan. 17 (JLD) was one of a very few ever found in the Imperial Valley. A flock of 150± Pinyon Jays in Apache Canyon, Ventura Co., throughout the period (RJM) and a flock of 10 around S.E.S.S. Dec. 31–Jan. 20 (TJW, RH) were undoubtedly tied to the fall movement of these birds. Good numbers of Mountain Chickadees remained in the coastal lowlands throughout the period after the fall invasion with one in Santa Maria Jan. 21 (JLD) being the most noteworthy. White-breasted Nuthatches were also present in the coastal lowlands throughout the winter with a calling bird in Ventura Dec. 27–31 (JLD) considered *tenuissima* or *nelsoni* from the interior and clearly not the expected *aculeata* from the coastal mountains. Pygmy Nuthatches remained in the lowlands into March with single birds in Corona del Mar, Orange Co., Jan. 3 (BED) and Irvine Jan. 16 (MAP), with one in Palmdale Mar. 19 (KLG) being the most noteworthy.

A calling Winter Wren at F.C.R. Feb. 7 (RAE) was felt to be of the e. form *hiemalis* and was undoubtedly the same bird found here in November. An Am. Dipper in the upper end of San Juan Canyon Jan. 27 (FR) may be the first ever found in Orange County. A Golden-crowned Kinglet at Lost Lake Resort, Riverside Co., Dec. 25 (MAP) and two at Laguna Dam, Imperial Co., Dec. 23 (CM) were along the Colorado R., where considered very rare. A Townsend's Solitaire in Banning, Riverside Co., Jan. 2 (MAP) was at an unusual locality. More than the average numbers of Varied Thrushes were present in the coastal foothills as indicated by 50+ in one canyon near Casitas, with a few being found along the coast as indicated by single birds



White Wagtail at Ventura, Cal., Feb. 2, 1988. Photo/Don Hoechlin.

in Huntington Beach Oct. 31-Jan. 23 (DRW), Newport Beach Feb. 21 (LRH), and San Diego Jan. 31 (LW). A Gray Catbird in Los Osos Feb. 14 (MC) was only the 4th ever found in s. California in winter. A Curve-billed Thrasher, a casual straggler to California, was at Imperial Dam Dec. 29-Jan. 1 (BBa). The ad. **White Wagtail** found near Oxnard Nov. 22 remained through Mar. 6 (JSR), losing its tail in January but growing a new one before departing. Up to two Sprague's Pipits, very rare in California, were near Lakeview Nov. 3-Jan. 10 (RMCK). A Bohemian Waxwing at F.C.R. Feb. 7 (RAE) was the only one found in this Region although small numbers were present just to the north of the Region. An imm. N. Shrike just north of the San Bernardino/Riverside County line near Twentynine Palms Feb. 21 (NMC) was unusually far south.

**VIREOS, WOOD WARBLERS** — Three of the 12 Solitary Vireos found along the coast were of the interior form *plumbeus* as was the one present inland near Bakersfield Oct. 10-Dec. 20 (MOC). Five Tennessee Warblers in the Santa Barbara area along with one in Ventura were the only ones reported this winter. Twenty-one Nashville Warblers along the coast appeared about average for a winter period. A N. Parula, casual in winter, was at Lost Lake Resort along the Colorado R. Dec. 12-23 (JLD), and another was in San Diego Feb. 24-Mar. 17 (REW). Yellow Warblers appeared to be scarcer than in recent winters with only 10 reported along the coast. A Chestnut-sided Warbler in Carlsbad Feb. 9-Mar. 12 (I & LG) was one of a very few ever found wintering in California. A ♂ Black-throated Blue Warbler in Santa Barbara Jan. 2-13 (MH), another in San Diego Dec. 3-6 (PJ), and a female inland at Lost Lake Resort Dec. 12-23 (JLD) could all have been exceptionally late stragglers from the fall. Twenty-five Black-throated Gray Warblers and five Hermit Warblers along the coast appeared average. A Blackburnian Warbler in Oceano Nov. 11-Dec. 10 (JLD) was clearly a late fall straggler.

The Grace's Warbler that had spent the previous 8 winters in Santa Barbara could not be found after Dec. 10 (JEL) and was considered to have died. The one that had been present in Ventura for the past 3 winters was still present Mar. 25 (PEL); another was in La Jolla Feb. 13-Apr. 3 (REW); and the bird seen on Pt. Loma Nov. 11 was seen on and off through February (REW). There have now been at least seven Grace's Warblers found wintering in coastal s. California, most returning during consecutive winters, although the species remains unrecorded elsewhere in the United States at this time of year, indicating these occurrences may be something other than accidental.

A ♂ Pine Warbler, casual in winter, was in Morro Bay S.P. Dec. 19-Mar. 8 (JSR). Palm Warblers were relatively numerous with 20 reported from along the coast including seven together in Goleta Jan. 3 (PEL). A Blackpoll Warbler in Santa Barbara Dec. 5-13 (BA) was by far the latest ever found in California. Fourteen Black-and-white Warblers along the coast were slightly more than normal, but three Am. Redstarts were fewer than expected. Three Worm-eating Warblers were present along the coast with one near Morro Bay Dec. 19-Jan. 31 (MTH), another in Huntington Beach through at least Feb. 3 (BED), and the 3rd on Pt. Loma to at least Feb. 27 (JW). Two N. Waterthrushes at S.C.R.E. during January (CM), two more near Imperial Beach Mar. 5+ (JO), and one at S.E.S.S. Jan. 23 (RH) were the only wintering birds found this year. A ♂ MacGillivray's Warbler in Huntington Beach Oct. 9-Mar. 5 (DRW) was undoubtedly the same bird that had spent the past 2 winters at this location, and another was in La Jolla Jan. 17-Feb. 28 (JO'B). Some 30 Wilson's Warblers along the coast were probably about average. Two Painted Redstarts were present with one in Santa Maria Nov. 18-Mar. 7 (MP) and the other in Coronado Nov. 25-Mar. 21 (EC).

**TANAGERS THROUGH LONGSPURS** — A ♂ Hepatic Tanager in Santa Barbara Dec. 29-Feb. 6 (AME) was the same bird present during the past 5 winters, and another was in



Blue Grosbeak at Norco, Cal., Jan. 12, 1988. Photo/Don Hoechlin.

Bonita, San Diego Co., Dec. 13-Jan. 16 (GMCC). Thirteen Summer Tanagers were found along the coast, which was slightly more than normal. More than 50 W. Tanagers were reported along the coast, and one was inland at Imperial Dam Dec. 31 (RMCK). The only Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were three in the Santa Barbara area, a male in Sherman Oaks Jan. 2-7 (GB), and two in the San Diego area. A Black-headed Grosbeak, rarer in winter than the preceding species, was on Vandenberg A.F.B. Jan. 3 (*fide* KH), and a male was in Goleta Feb. 25 (KB). A Blue Grosbeak photographed in Norco, Riverside Co., Jan. 10-28 (DH) was only the 7th ever found in s. California in winter. An Indigo Bunting, casual in winter, was seen in Goleta Feb. 10 (PEL), and another was photographed in Norco Jan. 10-28 (DH). A ♂ Painted Bunting in San Luis Obispo Jan. 22-25 (TT) was presumed to be an escapee.

A Green-tailed Towhee in Riverside Jan. 7-Feb. 27 (CMCG) and another near downtown Los Angeles all winter (JPD) were both slightly outside the area where expected at this time of the year. An Am. Tree Sparrow in Niland near S.E.S.S. Dec. 22-29 (JLD) was unusually far south. Four Clay-colored Sparrows were found with single birds along the coast in Los Osos Dec. 2-Jan. 5 (JMcD), Arroyo Grando Dec. 13-Jan. 15 (DS), and Goleta Jan. 2 (TEW) and inland near Imperial, Imperial Co., Jan. 23 (MAP). A Brewer's Sparrow near Oxnard all winter (JSR) was along the coast, where unexpected. A Vesper Sparrow, rare along the coast, was in Goleta Dec. 19-Jan. 16 (RPH), and another was in Irvine Dec. 2 (DRW). The Black-throated Sparrow found in Goleta Nov. 20 could not be found after Dec. 21 (RPH), and another in Quatal Canyon, Ventura Co., Jan. 23 (RJM) was out of range. A Lark Bunting on the Carrizo Plain Dec. 1 (GPS), three at Harper Dry Lake Feb. 14-21 (JKA), one to three near Lakeview Dec. 21-24 (JLD), and one at N.E.S.S. Dec. 11 (PEL) were the only ones reported.

A Large-billed Savannah Sparrow (*P. s. rostratus*), now exceptionally rare in California, remained on Morro Bay through Dec. 19 (JLD), and another was on s. San Diego Bay Dec. 19 (GMCC). A Sharp-tailed Sparrow on Mission Bay in San Diego was present through at least Jan. 18 (GMCC), and another was seen in Chula Vista Dec. 8 (SMo). Swamp Sparrows were far more numerous than usual with 45+ found along the coast along with five more inland. Sixteen White-throated Sparrows along the coast with one at F.C.R. Feb. 7 (RAE) represented probably close to an average number for winter, but single Harris' Sparrows in Los Osos Dec. 17-22 (JMcD), near Riverside

Jan. 9 (DLD), and in Coronado Jan. 3–Feb. 15 (RL) were low. A (Gray-headed) Dark-eyed Junco in Santa Barbara Jan. 31–Mar. 4 (BBa) and another in San Luis Obispo Feb. 24+ (EJ) were unusually far north for along the coast. Up to seven McCown's Longspurs near Lakeview during December and January (RMck) were in an area where small numbers evidently occur every year. The only Lapland Longspur to be reported was one near Lakeview Dec. 24 (MAP), and the only Chestnut-collared Longspurs reported were four at the same location on the same day (MAP).

**BLACKBIRDS, FINCHES** — A Yellow-headed Blackbird on Vandenberg A.F.B. Dec. 26 (KH0) was in an area where considered very rare in winter. The Rusty Blackbird found in Malibu Nov. 29 was still present Mar. 16 (KLG), and up to three in Desert Center Dec. 23–Jan. 2 (BED) were the first for Riverside County. A Great-tailed Grackle in Casitas, Ventura Co., all winter (RJM); another in Seal Beach Jan. 13–Feb. 28 (JB); and two in Chula Vista Nov. 29–Feb. 21 (JO) were along the coast. A Com. Grackle in Santa Barbara Dec. 29–Mar. 2 (MT) was only the 2nd ever found wintering in s. California. Wintering Orchard Orioles included one in Carpinteria Feb. 17–Mar. 10 (KB), one in Ventura Feb. 6 (PEL), three together in Irvine Dec. 26–Feb. 21 (DRW), a female in Coronado Dec. 6–Jan. 31 (GMcC), and an ad. male in Bonita Jan. 10–Feb. 7 (JO). Seven Hooded Orioles were found along the coast, with one in los Osos Dec. 1–Feb. 10 (DK), three in the Santa Barbara area, two more in Ventura, and one in La Jolla Feb. 14 (PEL), which were more than normally expected. Of the 65± N. Orioles found along the coast, only three—single birds in Goleta Dec. 19 (AB), Santa Barbara Dec. 20–Jan. 2 (JG), and Encino Jan. 3 (SDu)—were “Baltimore.” A Scott's Oriole in Borrego Springs, San Diego Co., Feb. 13 (PP) was in an area where small numbers probably winter regularly, but another in Santa Barbara Dec. 21–Jan. 2 (JEL) was along the coast, where decidedly rare.

Two Purple Finches at F.C.R. Feb. 7 (RAE) were at an unusual locality. Cassin's Finches remained on Cuesta Ridge, San Luis Obispo Co., through Jan. 7 (TME), when one was still present. Red Crossbills were scattered throughout much of the Region, with flocks of up to 18 in Morro Bay S.P. (TME), 27 in Goleta (PEL), 30 in Ventura (RJM), 30 in Long Beach (BED), four in Orange County (DRW), and 15 in La Jolla (REW) along the coast. Thirty-six near Bakersfield Dec. 5–Jan. 30 (MOC), 20 in California City Feb. 6 (RS), eight in Ridgecrest throughout

the period (DBI), and 14 in Banning Dec. 26–Jan. 2 (JLD) inland illustrate the numbers present in the various areas of the Region. Twenty-five Lawrence's Goldfinches at S.E.S.S. Dec. 12 (GMcC) were at an unusual locality, and an influx of up to 60 to Chula Vista Jan. 9–16 (JO) was unexpected. The only Evening Grosbeaks to be reported were two in Santa Barbara Feb. 4 (RC) and another in Claremont Feb. 16 (HEC).

**ADDENDUM** — A noteworthy sighting inadvertently omitted from the Fall Migration Period Report was that of a Canada Warbler inland near Silverwood L., San Bernardino Co., Sept. 6 (Steve Myers).

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