

SOUTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION

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None of the storms that regularly form in the Gulf of Alaska and move southward along the Pacific Coast reached southern California with significant strength, leaving the Region with below-average rainfall going into the winter season. Pelagic birds appeared scarce off the coast, particularly off the southern portion of the Region. Nothing exceptional was to be found among the waterfowl, but shorebirds passed through the Region in better than average numbers, and with an interesting variety of rarities among them. Numbers of our regularly occurring West Coast migrants appeared to be significantly lower than normal with wintering species like Yellow-rumped Warblers scarcer than normal. There was little indication of a movement of mountain species into the lowlands as occurred a year ago, and American Robins and Cedar Waxwings failed to arrive in force from the north. However, we were treated to an exciting variety of rarities that included vagrants from Asia and western Mexico along with those from the eastern United States.

ABBREVIATIONS — F.C.R. = Furnace Creek Ranch in Death Valley, Inyo; H.D.L. = Harper Dry Lake, northeast of Barstow, San Bernardino; N.E.S.S. = north end of the Salton Sea, Riverside; S.B.C.M. = San Bernardino County Museum, Bloomington; S.C.R.E. = Santa Clara River Estuary near Ventura; S.E.S.S. = south end of the Salton Sea, Imperial. Place names in *italics* are counties. 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 TO FRIGATEBIRDS — Two Pacific Loons, rarely found inland, were on Quail L., Los Angeles, Oct. 27 (MH). Up to three Com. Loons at F.C.R. Oct. 22–29 (MAP) were at an unusual locality. A **Least Grebe** near Niland, Imperial, Nov. 19 to the end of the period (JM) gave us the first documented occurrence of this species in California since 1946, when the finding of six adults and three young along the Colorado R. immediately below Imperial Dam in October added the species to the State list. Two Horned Grebes, rare inland, at China L., Kern, Oct. 19 (DVB) were followed by two



Least Grebe near Niland, California, November 22, 1988. Second state record. Photograph/Gerald Maisel.

more on Tinnemaha Res., Inyo, Nov. 19 (GMCc); 10 at L. Silverwood, San Bernardino, Nov. 9 (CMcG); and another at N.E.S.S. Nov. 25 (DS).

Cook's Petrels were again found off the coast with 55 between Aug. 11 & 18 (RRV) and 13 on Oct. 13 & 14 (BL), all well beyond 100 mi from shore. A Flesh-footed Shearwater, rare in s. California waters, was seen off Morro Bay Sept. 24 (BS), and another was near San Nicolas I., Oct. 18 (RRV). Thirty Buller's Shearwaters off Morro Bay Sept. 24 (TME), four there Oct. 22 (BED), and 60 off Oceano Oct. 25 (RRV) were all in an area where this species undoubtedly occurs regularly in fall. Six Short-tailed Shearwaters, somewhat sporadic in s. California waters, were in the San Pedro Channel off Long Beach Nov. 20 (KLG), and another was near Santa Cruz I. Nov. 27 (BA). A Wilson's Storm-Petrel, casual in s. California waters, was seen a few miles south of Pt. Conception, Santa Barbara, Aug. 20 (RRV); another was found about 30 mi west of San Diego Aug. 28 (GMCc); and what may well have been the same individual was in the same area Sept. 10 (WR).

The only Red-billed Tropicbirds reported were all well offshore with four about 100 mi off the coast and west of the Channel Is. between Aug. 14 & 19 (RRV) and another in the same general area Oct. 21 (RRV). An ad. **Brown Booby** attracted to a Los Angeles Audubon Society pelagic boat trip 2-3 mi southeast of Santa Barbara I. Oct. 15 (JKA) could have been the same bird seen in this area Oct. 29, 1983 (Am. Birds 38:246, 1984) and Mar. 25, 1984 (Am. Birds 38:958, 1984) since the only other recorded occurrence of this species in s. California waters is of one remaining around San Miguel I. for 7 years in the 1960s. An imm. Magnificent Frigatebird over San Diego Sept. 6 (JRJ) was the latest reported this year.

HERONS THROUGH RAPTORS — An imm. Little Blue Heron at Pt. Mugu, Ventura, Aug. 21 (RJM) and another on L. Elsinore, Riverside, Aug. 29 (RMcK) were the only ones found away from coastal San Diego. An imm. Tricolored Heron on s. San Diego Bay Nov. 28 through the end of the period (EC) was the first to be found locally in 2 years, this species being now much rarer in s. California than it was 20 years ago. An ad. Reddish Egret on s. San Diego Bay Sept. 11 through the end of the period (GMCc) was the same bird with a slightly deformed upper mandible that has spent the past 6 winters on San Diego Bay; an immature first seen at the nearby Tijuana R. mouth Aug. 3 (PP) and another immature first seen at the San Diego R. mouth Nov. 20 (BF) both appeared to be wintering locally. Twenty-two White-faced Ibises near Santa Maria Oct. 7-8 (PEL) constituted a large number for this area, and three in El Monte Nov. 12 (JS) were at an unexpected locality.

Seventy Fulvous Whistling-Ducks were still present at S.E.S.S. Aug. 21 (GMCc), but all had departed shortly thereafter; two photographed at Edwards, Kern, Aug. 20 (MH) gave us the 7th record for interior s. California away from the Salton Sea. As normal a few Tundra Swans reached the n. portion of the Region in November with up to 40 on Tinnemaha Res. after Nov. 11 (JLD); one in Tecopa, Inyo, Nov. 20 (RMcK); and four on Morro Bay Nov. 18 (LT). Since Greater White-fronted Geese are now quite scarce along the coast, five over Morro Bay Oct. 24 (PG), one at the Ventura R. mouth near Ventura after Sept. 29 (RJM), nine near Oxnard Oct. 23 (JSR), 10 flying past Malibu (RSt), and six at Seal Beach Nov. 18-19 (LRH) were all of interest. A Ross' Goose, also scarce along the coast, was at the Santa Ynez R. mouth, Santa Barbara, after Nov. 26 (MAP).

Six Wood Ducks at Stovepipe Wells in Death Valley Nov. 27 (PEL) were certainly at an unusual locality. A ♂ Eur. Green-winged Teal in Goleta after Nov. 24 (AB) was undoubtedly the same bird that has spent the past 7 winters at this locality. At least 12 Eur. Wigeon had been found in the Region by the

end of the period, including a somewhat early female photographed at F.C.R. Oct. 13 (JLD) and a male at China L., Kern/San Bernardino, Oct. 9-15 (RAH). The only Oldsquaws reported were one at Cayucos Nov. 15 (TME), two at the Santa Ynez R. mouth after Nov. 29 (AA), one in Santa Barbara after Nov. 27 (BA), and a 5th at Pt. Mugu Nov. 20 (JSR). Twenty Black Scoters off the s. portion of Vandenberg A.F.B. after Nov. 28 (KH) represented a large number for s. California. A ♀ Surf Scoter at N.E.S.S. Nov. 20-26 (MAP) and a White-winged Scoter at Edwards Nov. 26 (MH) were the only scoters found inland. A ♂ Hooded Merganser near Niland Nov. 20 (REW) and a ♀-plumaged bird near El Centro the same day (GMCc) were relatively far south.

The only Broad-winged Hawk reported was an adult in Cambria, San Luis Obispo, Oct. 16 (KAH). A migrant flock of 50-60 Swainson's Hawks near Claremont, Los Angeles/San Bernardino, Oct. 22 (JTB) and a similar sized flock at Warner Springs, San Diego, Oct. 29 (DMaCK) were some of the largest such flocks noted in recent years; one over L. Cachuma, Santa Barbara, Oct. 29 (JS) and another near Imperial Beach Oct. 26 (MAP) were along the coast, where now considered casual. An ad. Zone-tailed Hawk, a casual straggler to the coast of s. California, was present near Laguna Beach Oct. 22-30 (BB).

A "Harlan's" Red-tailed Hawk, a race recorded in s. California about a half-dozen times, was carefully studied at F.C.R. Oct. 28-29 (AB); another was just to the north of Big Pine, Inyo, Nov. 11 (JLD); and a 3rd was with a melanistic Red-tailed Hawk at Oasis Dec. 3 (MAP). Ferruginous Hawks appeared to be more numerous and widespread than normal with an adult near Big Pine Aug. 14 (TH) being the earliest ever for the Region. Rough-legged Hawks reached the n. portions of the Region in November —with five in the Deep Springs/Oasis area Nov. 2 (REW), three along the n. coast of San Luis Obispo Nov. 18 (GPS), and one near Santa Maria Nov. 5 (AB)—but went unreported farther south.

CRANES, SHOREBIRDS — A Sandhill Crane at F.C.R. Oct. 22 (MAP) was at a most unusual location. Ten Lesser Golden-Plovers of the North American form *dominica* were found between Sept. 10 and Oct. 24, including one inland at H.D.L. Oct. 9 (EAC, *S.B.C.M.), and 43 birds of the Asiatic form *fulva* were found after July 31, including a somewhat early adult near Santa Maria July 31-Aug. 19 (KAH) and another inland at H.D.L. Oct. 17 (EAC, *S.B.C.M.); the North American birds are scarce fall migrants primarily along the coast, whereas the Asiatic birds are fall migrants and winter visitors, almost exclusively along the coast. Two juv. Mountain Plovers in Lancaster Sept. 2 (JLD) were unusually early, and one on the open beach just north of Morro Bay Oct. 3 (NM) was at an unusual locality. An Am. Oystercatcher on San Nicolas I. Sept. 18-Nov. 10 (TM) had probably been present since at least Sept. 12, 1987, since undocumented reports from various points around the island have persisted since that time, and individuals on other of the Channel Is. have remained for extended periods of time (e.g., one on Anacapa I. May 1964-Oct. 1980). A Black Oystercatcher in Seal Beach Aug. 13 (JBo) was one of a very few ever to be found in Orange.

One hundred Solitary Sandpipers were found at various locations within the Region up to Oct. 8 indicating a good movement of these birds through the Region. A Wandering Tattler at S.E.S.S. Aug. 6 (KR) was only the 6th to be found inland in fall. A **Little Curlew** found near Santa Maria Sept. 23 (MJL) was seen again briefly Sept. 24 but not thereafter despite much searching; this was the 2nd ever found in North America (Lehman and Dunn, Am. Birds 39:247-250, 1985) and was within 10 mi of the fields frequented for 4 weeks by the 1984 bird. A juv. **Hudsonian Godwit** on San Nicolas I. Sept. 5-16 (TM) was photographed and was only the 4th ever to be found in s. California. Two juv. Ruddy Turnstones in Lancaster (JLD) and four Red Knots near San Jacinto (RMcK) Sept. 2 and another Red Knot in California City, Kern, Sept.

22 (MH) were the only individuals of these 2 species found inland away from the Salton Sea. About 20 Sanderlings found at various locations in Inyo, e. Kern, and San Bernardino Sept. 4–17 were all juveniles, indicating this is the time the young of this species move through our Region. Twenty-five juv. Semipalmated Sandpipers between Aug. 3 and Sept. 5 were fewer than reported last year; these included four together on Tinnemaha Res. Aug. 14 (JLD); one on Owens L., Inyo, Aug. 14 (JLD); one at H.D.L. Sept. 4 (EAC, *S.B.C.M.); one near Chino, San Bernardino, Aug. 23 (MAP); and another at S.E.S.S. Aug. 21 (GMCC)—all inland. A **Little Stint** in basic plumage at H.D.L. Nov. 21 (EAC, *S.B.C.M.) was totally unexpected considering the location and time of year, and added another individual to the remarkable list of Asiatic shorebirds found in California this fall, this being the 4th ever to be found in the state.

The count of at least 270 Baird's Sandpipers Aug. 1–Sept. 28 was about average; one at N.E.S.S. Nov. 20 (REW) was exceptionally late. Early Pectoral Sandpipers in Lancaster Aug. 13 (MMT) and at Edwards Aug. 14 (MH) were followed by 415 ± during September and October, including 75 along the coast near Santa Maria Sept. 24 (PEL), 35 inland at H.D.L. Oct. 5 (EAC), a late individual at S.E.S.S. Nov. 20 (REW), and another still present in Irvine Dec. 1 (DRW). A Stilt Sandpiper near Delano, Kern, Aug. 21 (RSA); one in Baker Sept. 4 (EAC); two more at H.D.L. Sept. 4 (EAC); and one in Long Beach Aug. 11 (BED) were the only ones found away from the Salton Sea, where up to 75 were seen during the period. A Buff-breasted Sandpiper, a casual straggler to s. California, was photographed at Edwards Sept. 5 (JLD), another was on San Nicolas I. Sept. 5–11 (TM), and a 3rd was on Morro Bay Sept. 10 (RZ). A ♂ Ruff on s. San Diego Bay after Aug. 7 (BP) was the same bird initially found here in October 1982 and has spent the past 6 winters on the bay; another ad. male was near Delano Aug. 21 (JLD), a juvenile was in Malibu Aug. 22–Sept. 3 (KLG), one was at Edwards Sept. 10 (MH), another was in Pico Rivera, Los Angeles, Nov. 20–23 (JS), and a male and female together in El Centro after Nov. 20 (GMCC) appeared to be wintering locally. A molting juv. Red Phalarope photographed at Galileo Hill in extreme e. Kern Sept. 2 (JLD) was at a most unexpected locality.

JAEGERS TO ALCIDS — Fifty-five Pomarine Jaegers in the San Pedro Channel off Long Beach Nov. 20 (KLG) represented a relatively large number. A Parasitic Jaeger at N.E.S.S. Sept. 13 (JLD) was the only one reported inland, but coverage of this area was less than in recent years, when small numbers have been found. An ad. Long-tailed Jaeger along the Santa Ana R. in Anaheim Aug. 14 (DRW) was about 18 mi upriver from the coast. Five S. Polar Skuas were reported with two off Morro Bay Sept. 24 (BS), one about 100 mi west of Santa Rosa I. Oct. 21 (RRV), one near San Nicolas I. Aug. 16 (RRV), and another just to the north of that island Oct. 18 (RRV).

An ad. Laughing Gull, casual along the coast, was in Anaheim Aug. 16–Sept. 3 (DRW). Franklin's Gulls were a little more numerous than normal with 17 reported, including an early juvenile at N.E.S.S. Aug. 6 (MAP) followed by another in Malibu Aug. 9 (KLG), two together on Tinnemaha Res. Aug. 14 (PEL), and a somewhat late immature at N.E.S.S. Nov. 20–26 (MAP). An ad. Little Gull, casual in California, at N.E.S.S. Sept. 13 (JLD) appeared to be moving south through the area with a migrant flock of 25 Bonaparte's Gulls. A Heermann's Gull on Bouquet Canyon Res. near Saugus, Los Angeles, Oct. 29 (CY) was some 40 mi inland from the coast. A Mew Gull at N.E.S.S. Nov. 19 (EAC) was the only one found far inland. A Herring Gull, a rare but probably regular migrant through the n.e. portion of the Region, was at China L. Nov. 18 (RAH). Two first-winter Thayer's Gulls at S.E.S.S. Nov. 11 (MAP) and an adult there Nov. 21–25 (JLD) were inland. A first-winter W. Gull carefully studied at S.E.S.S. Nov. 11 (MAP) was one of a very few ever found away from the immediate coast. Single first-winter Glaucous-winged Gulls



Juvenile Arctic Tern on shore at Cayucos, California, September 17, 1988. Photograph/Tom Bronstad.

on L. Perris, Riverside, Nov. 25 (MAP); at N.E.S.S. Nov. 25–26 (DRW); and at S.E.S.S. Nov. 11–26 (GMCC) were also well inland. A somewhat early Glaucous Gull was seen off San Diego Nov. 22 (DP). A first-year Black-legged Kittiwake in Lancaster Nov. 22 (JLD) was the first to be found inland away from the Salton Sea and the Colorado R. An unexpected nine Sabine's Gulls were found inland with an adult on Tinnemaha Res. Aug. 12–14 (TH), single juveniles at China L. Sept. 11 (RAH) and Oct. 2 (RAH), an adult in Lancaster Sept. 2 (MH), a juvenile on L. Palmdale, Los Angeles, Oct. 8 (JKA), an adult at H.D.L. Oct. 9 (EAC), a juvenile at N.E.S.S. Oct. 2 (RPH), another on L. Morena, San Diego, Oct. 2 (BMCC), and a juvenile seen flying west along the Tijuana R. near Imperial Beach the same day (RRV).

Three Com. Terns on Klondike L., Inyo, Sept. 13 (JLD); three more on Tinnemaha Res. Aug. 13–14 (MH); and single individuals in California City Sept. 25 (JWi), at H.D.L. Sept. 22 (CMCG), and on nearby Silverlakes the same day (AM) were all in the high desert area of the e. portion of the Region, where this species has been considered rare. An Arctic Tern was photographed onshore at Cayucos Sept. 17 (TB), another was on the beach in Goleta Sept. 28 (AB), and one staying around a fishing barge 1½ mi off Redondo Beach Oct. 2–9 (AH) was exceptionally close to shore. Two Black Skimmers at the Santa Ynez R. mouth Aug. 15 (H & OC) were the northernmost reported.

A Marbled Murrelet in Santa Barbara Aug. 23–Sept. 9 (FS) was south of its normal range. Three Craveri's Murrelets off San Diego Aug. 28 (GMCC) were the only ones reported. A Tufted Puffin, very rare in s. California waters, was 10 mi off Pismo Beach Oct. 25 (RRV).

DOVES TO WOODPECKERS — A Band-tailed Pigeon in California City Sept. 18 (JWi) was at an unusual location. The presence of a Spotted Dove at F.C.R. Oct. 21 (REW) indicated this introduced bird will move long distances on occasion. A White-winged Dove in Cayucos Aug. 19 (MM) was the northernmost of 20+ found along the coast. The presence of a Rufous Turtle-Dove (*Streptopelia orientalis*) of one of the eastern races with a gray tip to the tail at F.C.R. Oct. 29 (JLD) was of interest considering the number of Asiatic birds found in California this fall, and the distance this location is from a potential source for escapees; however, the previously reported bird of this species on St. Paul I. in the Pribilofs (Am Birds 38:1053, 1984) was considered an escaped caged bird. Two Inca Doves at F.C.R. Oct. 21–Nov. 3 (REW) were as far northwest as the species has ever been found. **Ruddy Ground-Doves** put in another appearance this fall. A



Female Ruddy Ground-Dove at Furnace Creek Ranch, Death Valley, California, November 12, 1988. Photograph/Jon L. Dunn.

male was found by 2 visiting birders from Massachusetts in the Tijuana R. Valley near Imperial Beach Oct. 12–20 (GMcC); a female was at the same location Oct. 22–24 (EP); a male was at F.C.R. Oct. 21–Nov. 3 (REW); and up to three females were there Nov. 3 through the end of the period with three photographed Nov. 12 (SFB, JLD) and two still present Dec. 3 (GMcC). These support the theory that this species is expanding its range with individuals pushing northward in the fall as did the Inca Dove some 100 years ago, though it is not clear that the northward movement of Inca Dove took place in fall. A **Groove-billed Ani** photographed at Galileo Hill Oct. 14–15 (JWi) was a straggler from w. Mexico and only the 4th ever found in California.

Observers along the coast reported more than the average number of Short-eared Owls during October and November, including single birds more than 100 mi off the coast Oct. 21 & 24 (RRV), suggesting some sort of a movement by this species. A Lesser Nighthawk at Desert Center, Riverside, Nov. 26 (JLD) was unusually late. Three Chimney Swifts over Long Beach Sept. 3 (JKA) had probably summered in the area. A Vaux's Swift over Malibu Aug. 28 (KLG) was a very early fall migrant. An ad. **Red-headed Woodpecker** photographed in Goleta Sept. 14 and present through the end of the period (KB) was the 2nd found in the Region and the 3rd ever in California. The first was reported at S.E.S.S. July 17–Aug. 22, 1971 (Calif. Birds 3:23–24, 1972), and the other at the extreme opposite corner of the state on Pt. St. George June 9, 1986 (Am. Birds 40:1252, 1986). An Acorn Woodpecker in Ridgecrest, Kern, Sept. 16 (DM) had flown a considerable distance across the desert. An ad. ♀ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, a species proving regular in limited numbers as more observers become familiar with its diagnostic marks, was at Scotty's Castle at the n. end of Death Valley Oct. 13 (GR). A Red-naped Sapsucker on Santa Cruz I. Oct. 30 (MAH) was at an unexpected locality. A ♀ Williamson's Sapsucker at Butterbredt Springs north of California City Sept. 30 (MH) was in the high desert, where unusual. A Hairy Woodpecker near Imperial Beach Aug. 27 (BED) was at an unusual locality. A White-headed Woodpecker in California City Sept. 16 (JWi) was the only one found away from the mountains this fall.

FLYCATCHERS, SWALLOWS—A calling W. Wood-pewee carefully identified near Imperial Beach Oct. 20–21 (EC) and another on Pt. Loma, San Diego, Oct. 22–24 (GMcC) were both very late. A Least Flycatcher in Goleta Oct. 13 (PEL) and another on Pt. Loma Sept. 11–14 (JLD) were the only ones identified this fall. A W. Flycatcher at F.C.R. Oct. 29 (DRW) was late for the n. interior. Six E. Phoebes were found with one at Morro Bay Nov. 5 (EB), one in Goleta Oct.

17–21 (PEL), a wintering bird in Santa Barbara after Nov. 8 (TEW), another at S.C.R.E. Oct. 30 (JSR), a 5th in Newport Beach Nov. 17 (LRH), and the 6th inland near Riverside Nov. 21 (MAP). The only Vermilion Flycatchers found along the coast were single birds in Goleta Oct. 25–29 (JBi), at Pt. Mugu Oct. 20 (RJM), in Irvine Oct. 15 through the end of the period (AK), and near Imperial Beach Oct. 9 (REW). A Great Crested Flycatcher at H.D.L. Sept. 14 (EAC, *S.B.C.M.) was the earliest by 2 weeks for this Region and the first inland. A Brown-crested Flycatcher at Deep Springs, Inyo, Oct. 19 (REW) was far to the north of its limited range in California. At least 22 Tropical Kingbirds were found along the coast after Sept. 25, indicating more than the average number moved northward from breeding areas in w. Mexico.

A **Thick-billed Kingbird** near Tustin after Nov. 29 (DRW) was returning to spend its 7th winter at that location. An E. Kingbird at Stovepipe Wells in Death Valley Sept. 3 (JLD) was the only one found in the e. part of the Region, but six were found along the coast with single individuals on San Nicolas I. Aug. 20 (TM) and Sept. 5 (TM), in Goleta Sept. 12 (PEL), Santa Barbara Sept. 5 (BH), S.C.R.E. Sept. 3–5 (RPH), and at San Elijo Lagoon, San Diego, Sept. 12 (RP). A Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, a casual straggler to California, was photographed near San Luis Obispo Aug. 17–26 (VH).

Single Purple Martins at Galileo Hill Sept. 10 (RSa) & 25 (JWi) were in the n.e. portion of the Region, where rare, and two near Santa Maria Sept. 25 (BS) were late.

TITMICE TO VIREOS—As many as six Plain Titmice present in the California City/Mojave area after Sept. 30 (MOC) were the first ever found in this portion of the high desert, a considerable distance from the species' normal range. A Golden-crowned Kinglet at Finney L. near S.E.S.S. Nov. 20–26 (BED) was in an area where this species is considered rare during "flight years" so was totally unexpected considering how few were found elsewhere in the Region. Since W. Bluebirds are quite rare and very local in the n.e. portion of the Region, the presence of five at Oasis Nov. 2 (REW) was of interest. A Swainson's Thrush, unexplainably rare in the e. portion of the Region in fall, was at Galileo Hill Sept. 4 (JLD) and showed characteristics of the Great Basin race *almae*. A Varied Thrush on Pt. Loma Oct. 18 (B & IM) was quite far south, especially so for a fall during which very few were found anywhere in the Region.

Three Gray Catbirds, casual stragglers to California, were found: one was in the n.e. portion of the Region at F.C.R. Oct. 21–22 (REW); another was in the mountains at Paso Picacho Campground, San Diego, Oct. 29 (DA); and the 3rd was on the coast on Pt. Loma Oct. 1–26 (DH). The only Brown Thrasher reported was one in Huntington Beach Oct. 23 (HL), and the only Bendire's Thrasher found along the coast was one in Gaviota, Santa Barbara, Sept. 16 (PK). An ad. **White Wagtail** near Oxnard Oct. 16 through the end of the period (RJM) was obviously the same bird present there last winter, frequenting the same quarry used a year ago. As is now expected, a few Red-throated Pipits were present along the coast with two around Santa Maria Oct. 16 (PEL), at least four in Goleta Oct. 2–27 (SEF, HPR), one near Oxnard Oct. 11–15 (JSR), two near Imperial Beach Oct. 3 (JO'B), and one about 100 mi west of Santa Barbara I. Oct. 21 (RRV). Ten Bohemian Waxwings, sporadic wanderers to s. California, were at Scotty's Castle in Death Valley Nov. 19 (RMCK). Northern Shrikes may have pushed farther south than normal since four were found in the n.e. portion of the Region with an adult in Big Pine Nov. 11 (JLD) and immatures at Deep Springs Oct. 30–Nov. 2 (CMcG) and at F.C.R. Oct. 29 (BED) and photographed at Galileo Hill after Nov. 6 (JWi).

A **White-eyed Vireo** on Pt. Loma Oct. 16–25 (JO'B) was only the 2nd ever found in California in fall. A Bell's Vireo in Goleta Oct. 22–23 (HPR) had been banded as a fledgling along the Sweetwater R. near San Diego in 1987, and one on Pt.

Loma Oct. 10 (REW) was felt to be of the nominate race *bellii* from the e. United States. A Gray Vireo on San Nicolas I. Sept. 5 (TM) is one of a very few ever found along the coast. A Yellow-throated Vireo, casual to accidental in California, was near Oxnard Sept. 24 (JSR). Two Philadelphia Vireos were found with one inland at Galileo Hill Oct. 19 (REW) and the other along the coast in Huntington Beach Oct. 5 (JBo). Two Red-eyed Vireos at Zzyzx, San Bernardino, Sept. 15 (GPS) were in the n.e. part of the Region, where small numbers probably occur every September, but single birds in Carpinteria Sept. 1-5 (RH), in Huntington Beach Oct. 5 (BED), and on Pt. Loma Oct. 2 (REW) were along the coast where considered very rare. A remarkable six Yellow-green Vireos were found. Along the coast, single birds were in Goleta Sept. 24 (HPR), Irvine Oct. 1 (DRW), La Jolla Oct. 21-23 (JO'B), Pt. Loma Oct. 12 (REW), and near Imperial Beach Sept. 25-26 (DMM); the 6th, at H.D.L. Oct. 2 (EAC, *S.B.C.M.), gave us our first truly inland record.

WOOD WARBLERS — Even though numbers of the regularly occurring W. Coast migrants were low, all the regular vagrants were reported along with a number of truly eastern species to give us a total of 41 species found in the Region during the period.

A ♂ Blue-winged Warbler, exceptionally rare in California, was at Finney L. near S.E.S.S. Sept. 13 (JLD), and another male was in Long Beach Sept. 17-18 (SD). A ♂ Golden-winged Warbler, another very rare straggler to California, was in Irvine Sept. 30-Oct. 1 (RH) with a 2nd male there Oct. 25-30 (DRW). Eighteen Tennessee Warblers along the coast after Sept. 11 represented an about-average number, but one at F.C.R. Oct. 23 (DR) and another in Banning, Riverside, Oct. 11 (RMCK) were the only ones found inland. Only nine Virginia's Warblers were reported from along the coast with single birds in Montaña de Oro S.P. Sept. 8 (AB) and Sept. 18-20 (KAH) the northernmost, far fewer than would have been expected 20 years ago. Single Lucy's Warblers at Gaviota, Santa Barbara, Aug. 15 (H & OC), in Goleta Oct. 12 (PEL), and near Imperial Beach Oct. 8-9 (JO'B) were along the coast, where considered very rare, and one at F.C.R. Sept. 3 (MAP) was late for an inland locality. Four N. Parulas along the coast Sept. 18-Oct. 26 along with three inland Sept. 3-Oct. 20 were about average. The Chestnut-sided Warbler that summered in Irvine remained through Aug. 22 (DRW), seven were found along the coast Sept. 19-Oct. 24, and one was inland at Butterbreth Springs Sept. 9-10 (MH). A count of fourteen Magnolia Warblers Sept. 13-Oct. 17 was about average. Black-throated Blue Warblers were more numerous than expected with 20 found Sept. 18-Nov. 25, but with 12 of these on Pt. Loma Oct. 1-Nov. 5. All eight of the Black-throated Green Warblers reported Sept. 15-Nov. 19 were along the coast. A count of thirteen Blackburnian Warblers along the coast Sept. 16-Nov. 20 was about average. The only Grace's Warbler was one in Ventura after Nov. 6 (JSR) returning for its 5th winter. Three Pine Warblers, rare vagrants in California, were found around San Diego: a female was near Imperial Beach Oct. 22-23 (REW), a male was on Pt. Loma Oct. 24-25 (PU), and another male was in Presidio Park Nov. 6-7 (GMCK).

A Prairie Warbler was on San Nicolas I. Sept. 18 (TM); others were along the coast in Cambria Oct. 15 (KAH), at Montaña de Oro S.P. Sept. 20 (TME), and near Imperial Beach Sept. 25 (DP); and a 5th was photographed at Imperial Beach Oct. 6-9 (LW) to give us an average number. About 50 Palm Warblers were found after Sept. 22, including a yellow individual apparently of the eastern race *hypochrysea* on Vandenberg A.F.B. Nov. 21 (KH), and single birds at Deep Springs Oct. 19 (REW), Death Valley Jct. Oct. 8 (BED), China L. Oct. 1 (RAH), at Galileo Hill Sept. 23 (MH), and at Thousand Palms Oasis, Riverside, Oct. 19 (RMCK) were inland. The only Bay-breasted Warbler was one photographed at the Ventura R. mouth Oct. 1 (JSR). Twenty-seven Blackpoll Warblers Sept. 8-Oct. 26 were fewer than expected but included single birds

at F.C.R. Sept. 17 (BED), California City Sept. 9 (JWi), and H.D.L. Sept. 17 (EAC) that were inland. An imm. ♂ Cerulean Warbler in Irvine Oct. 1-3 (BED) was only the 9th ever found in s. California. Twenty-eight Black-and-white Warblers after Aug. 20 and 50 Am. Redstarts after Aug. 19 were both fewer than expected.

Three Prothonotary Warblers were found with one on San Nicolas I. Aug. 18-30 (TM) and others along the coast in Morro Bay Sept. 4 (GPS) and in Oceano Nov. 12 (MTH). A Worm-eating Warbler, another very rare straggler to California, was inland at Oasis Nov. 2-11 (REW), and another was on the coast in Coronado, San Diego, Sept. 22 (EC). Ovenbirds were relatively numerous with 13 found Sept. 17-Oct. 13 and an unusually late individual in Oceano Dec. 2 (KZ). Only 19 N. Waterthrushes were reported with most between Aug. 27 and Sept. 19. A ♀ Kentucky Warbler on Pt. Loma Oct. 12 (JWo) was about the 12th found in s. California in fall. A very cooperative Connecticut Warbler, a casual fall vagrant, was in Montaña de Oro S.P. Sept. 23-25 (GPS). A Mourning Warbler, always a challenge to identify in California, was in Goleta Sept. 15-16 (PEL), and another remained in Huntington Beach Sept. 5-20 (LRH). Four Hooded Warblers, rarer in fall than in spring, were a male at F.C.R. Sept. 3 (BED), a female in California City Oct. 8-14 (JWi), another female in Irvine Oct. 23-30 (MH), and a singing male on Pt. Loma Sept. 11 (JLD). Seven Canada Warblers were reported from along the coast Sept. 8-Oct. 18, slightly more than expected. A Painted Redstart in Santa Maria after Oct. 22 (KH) was undoubtedly the same bird that spent last winter at that location, and another was on Pt. Loma Oct. 2-5 (JO).

TANAGERS TO ORIOLES — A ♂ Hepatic Tanager on Pt. Loma Sept. 10-18 (JO) and a ♀-plumaged bird at F.C.R. Oct. 23 (DR) were fall vagrants, but a male in Santa Barbara after Nov. 5 (KB) was apparently the same bird that had spent the past 6 winters there. Twenty Summer Tanagers along the coast Aug. 24-Nov. 17 appeared to be about average. Three Scarlet Tanagers, a species that for some unknown reason occurs much more frequently in extreme s. California than anywhere else in the state, were found on Pt. Loma with single birds there Oct. 16 (REW), Oct. 23-30 (DB), and Oct. 29 (REW). Twenty-three Rose-breasted Grosbeaks Aug. 8-Nov. 12 were about average, but 19 Indigo Buntings Aug. 17-Nov. 5 were fewer than expected. A female-plumaged Painted Bunting in Cambria Sept. 18-20 (GPS), another photographed in Montaña de Oro S.P. Sept. 29 (GH), and a 3rd in Goleta Nov. 4-5 (PEL) were all assumed to be genuine vagrants, but the presence of an ad. male in Huntington Beach Nov. 11-12 (BED), with orange rather than red on the underparts that matched the coloration of known caged birds, clearly shows that some found in California are escapees. The only Dickcissel found this fall was one at Galileo Hill Sept. 5-10 (JWi, ph.)

A Rufous-crowned Sparrow banded at Dripping Springs in the Granite Mts. of e. San Bernardino Nov. 12 (BC) was of the interior race *scottii* about whose range we still know very little. About 30 Clay-colored Sparrows were reported, including an unusually early individual in Goleta Aug. 20-Sept. 2 (PEL) and a late bird inland at Galileo Hill Nov. 26 (MH). Since Black-throated Sparrows are very rare stragglers to the coast, single birds in Goleta Sept. 16-18 (CMcG) and on Pt. Loma Oct. 1-3 (REW) were of interest. Six Lark Buntings were found at widely scattered localities in the interior Aug. 30-Sept. 10, but the only ones found along the coast were single birds in Goleta Sept. 12 (PEL), Oct. 6-12 (PEL), and Oct. 22-23 (HPR), and another near Oxnard Sept. 17-18 (RJM). Totally unexpected was an influx of Large-billed Savannah Sparrows *A. s. rostratus* to the coast, particularly around San Diego Bay, as indicated by a count of 14 around the mouth of the



Le Conte's Sparrow at China Lake, California, December 3, 1988. Photograph/Rick Hallowell.

Sweetwater R. Sept. 3 (PU) and single birds identified on Upper Newport Bay, Orange, Nov. 9 (KLG) and Nov. 24 (BED), one at Seal Beach Nov. 22 (LRH), and two at S.C.R.E. Sept. 23 (RJM), for the first such influx in more than 30 years.

A **Le Conte's Sparrow** photographed at China L. Nov. 27 (RAH) was only the 6th ever found in s. California; it appeared to be attempting to winter. Unprecedented was the occurrence of single Sharp-tailed Sparrows in Goleta Oct. 4-6 & 17 (PEL), in Santa Barbara Oct. 2-4 (AB), and at S.C.R.E. Sept. 29-30 (RJM); these were the first ever found along the coast away from tidal marshes, and they established the earliest dates for occurrences in fall; three together in the tidal marshes of Morro Bay Nov. 12 (TME) fit the pattern of previous occurrences. Swamp Sparrows were relatively numerous with 25 found at scattered localities throughout the Region after Oct. 16. Twenty White-throated Sparrows were fewer than normal, and no Harris' Sparrows were reported. A McCown's Longspur at F.C.R. Oct. 20-22 (REW) was the first for that locality, and another near Cantil Nov. 25-30 (MH) was the first for Kern. Single Lapland Longspurs near Santa Maria Oct. 16 (PEL) and in Goleta Oct. 20 (PEL), two near Oxnard Oct. 13 (RJM), and one or two near Mission Viejo Nov. 13-20 (RRV) were along the coast, and single birds at F.C.R. Oct. 20-22 (REW) and near Needles Nov. 25 (PEL) were inland. A total of 45 Chestnut-collared Longspurs were reported, including up to 25 near Cantil after Nov. 25 (MH) and one on Pt. Loma Oct. 22-23 (JM).

Some 60 Bobolinks were found along the coast Sept. 7-Oct. 16, but single birds at F.C.R. Sept. 3 (BED) and Oct. 8 (BED) and four in the Galileo Hill/California City area Sept. 5-15 (JWi, MOC, JLD) were inland. As usual a few Rusty Blackbirds reached our area with one at Stovepipe Wells in Death Valley Oct. 21-Nov. 12 (REW), another at nearby Panamint Springs Nov. 27 (PEL), one photographed near Blythe Nov. 24-26 (PEL), and three on San Nicolas I. Nov. 9 (TM). Great-tailed Grackles continued to attract attention by their presence along the coast with one in Oceano; three together at L. Casitas, Ventura; another in Ventura throughout the period; and up to 20 near Imperial Beach during November. Only

four Orchard Orioles were reported with a one-year-old male inland at Stovepipe Wells Aug. 13 (JLD) and single birds along the coast, in Goleta Nov. 1 (PEL), Irvine Nov. 27 (LRH), and near Imperial Beach Sept. 25 (RRV). Seven N. (Baltimore) Orioles were found, including a female inland at Finney L. near S.E.S.S. Sept. 13 (JO).

CORRIGENDUM — The hummingbirds reported in Redlands and near Hesperia in the Spring Migration Report (*Am. Birds* 42:432, 1988) were Broad-tailed Hummingbirds, not Broad-billed Hummingbirds as published.

ADDENDA — A report of a breeding-plumaged Horned Grebe at Rancho de Nada near Cantil, Kern, May 20 (JLD) and an ad. W. Gull at Edwards, Kern, Apr. 17 (MH) were inadvertently omitted from the Spring Migration Report; a report of the presence of up to six Pinyon Jays at S.E.S.S. Apr. 14-July 13 (Bill Henry) was only recently received; these were undoubtedly birds remaining from the winter.

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