

SOUTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION

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The fall of 1989 was the driest on record and southern California entered December with the lowest annual rainfall ever recorded, leaving the entire Region badly in need of water. Reports from a research vessel operating off southern California in November gave us more information on pelagic birds occurring far offshore. Waterbirds appeared to be in lower numbers than normal, but this was probably owing in part to the exceptionally dry condition of the Region. Woodpeckers were clearly on the move, with numbers of Lewis' Woodpeckers and Acorn Woodpeckers widely scattered. Most other migrant landbirds appeared to be in about average numbers, although Hermit Thrushes were more numerous than usual, and there appeared to be above-average numbers of American Robins, Varied Thrushes, and Purple Finches. However, there was little evidence of any movements of species from the local mountains.

ABBREVIATIONS — C.L.N.W.C. = China Lake Naval Weapons Center in extreme n.e. Kern; E.A.F.B. = Edwards Air Force Base in s.e. Kern; F.C.R. = Furnace Creek Ranch in Death Valley, Inyo; L.A.C.N.H.M. = Los Angeles County Natural History Museum; N.E.S.S. = north end of the Salton Sea, Riverside; S.B.C.M. = San Bernardino County Museum; S.C.R.E. = Santa Clara River Estuary near Ventura; S.D.N.H.M. = San Diego Natural History Museum; S.E.S.S. = south end of the Salton Sea, Imperial; U.C.S.B. = University of California in Santa Barbara. 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 — A juv. Pacific Loon at F.C.R. Oct. 17–18 (JLD) was one of very few to be found in this area of California, and the first ever from this well-worked desert oasis.

Single Laysan Albatrosses were seen at 57 and 82 nautical mi w.s.w. of San Nicolas I. Nov. 13 (PPy) and a third was seen 116 nautical mi s.w. of San Nicolas I. Nov. 15 (PPy), all over waters where this species undoubtedly occurs regularly in small numbers; another was found recently dead on the beach in Goleta, Santa Barbara, Oct. 21 (DT, *U.C.S.B.). A Mottled Petrel at 30°25'N–124°00'W Nov. 9 (PPy) was more than 200 mi off the coast, but one at 32°44'N–122°33'W Nov. 15 (PPy) was 123 nautical mi s.w. of San Miguel I., and another at 33°57'N–121°39'W Nov. 17 (PPy) was only 61 nautical mi w. of San Miguel I. Also of extreme interest, although beyond the 200-mi limit, was a Stejneger's Petrel at 30°15'N–123°52'W Nov. 9 (PPy) and four more at 31°33'N–123°55'W Nov. 14 (PPy), these being the only *Cookilaria* identified during the 2-week cruise, and at the same time of year that one was reported over the Davidson Seamount in 1979 (AB 34:200).

A Flesh-footed Shearwater, rare in s. California waters, was off Morro Bay Sept. 23 (BS) and three more were in that same area Oct. 15 (JSR). A large dark shearwater 15 nautical mi s. of Pt. Dume, Los Angeles, Nov. 12 (PPy) and an identical-looking bird 33 nautical mi w. of Pt. Sal, Santa Barbara, Nov. 19 (PPy) were both felt to be Wedge-tailed Shearwaters. Buller's Shearwaters were relatively scarce over s. California waters this fall, but included one about 30 nautical mi off San

Diego Sept. 9 (JO'B) and another 60 nautical mi s.w. of San Clemente I. Nov. 7 (PPy). The presence of 10 Short-tailed Shearwaters off Santa Barbara Nov. 12 (BA), along with smaller numbers elsewhere, indicated some were present in s. California waters this fall. As happens periodically, large numbers of Black-vented Shearwaters moved north along the coast in November, as indicated by 1000 off Newport, Orange, Nov. 11 (RRV), 3000 off Vandenberg Air Force Base, Santa Barbara, Nov. 10 (KH), and 15,000 off Avila Beach, San Luis Obispo, Nov. 13 (JSR).

The only Red-billed Tropicbirds reported were one 64 nautical mi w.s.w. of San Nicolas I. Nov. 13 (PPy) and two more 82 nautical mi w.s.w. of San Miguel I. Nov. 17 (PPy). A Red-tailed Tropicbird at 29°51'N–123°35'W Nov. 9 (PPy) was more than 200 mi from land, and over waters where small numbers probably occur regularly. A Magnificent Frigatebird over Pacific Palisades, Los Angeles, Aug. 4 (JBr), another at Seal Beach, Orange, Aug. 16 (JBo), and a 3rd at S.E.S.S. Aug. 9 (TP) were the latest of the few reaching California this past summer.

HERONS TO RAPTORS — The only Little Blue Herons found outside the San Diego area were the aberrant bird found in Playa del Rey, Los Angeles, July 22 that remained through Sept. 23 (KLG), an adult in Goleta Aug. 3 (SEF), and an immature at Ramer L. in the Imperial Valley Sept. 15 (RMCK). The Reddish Egret that spent the summer in San Diego was last seen Sept. 9 (JO'B), an immature was near Imperial Beach Aug. 6–8 (EC), and the adult that has spent the past 7 winters on s. San Diego Bay had returned for another winter Sept. 13 (B & IM).

The only Tundra Swans to reach this Region were seven on Tinnemaha Res., Inyo, Nov. 5 (CMcG) and two more at C.L.N.W.C. Nov. 17 (DVB). A flock of 11 Greater White-fronted Geese flying south over Oasis, Mono, Sept. 15 (JLD) established one of the earliest dates for fall migrants in s. California. The presence of a flock of 200 Brant 103 nautical mi w.s.w. of San Nicolas I. Nov. 13 (PPy) and 35 more 225 nautical mi s.w. of San Miguel I. Nov. 14 (PPy) added support to our suspicions that this species migrates far offshore in fall. A "Cackling" Canada Goose at F.C.R. Nov. 19–23 (REW) was at an unusual locality for a race considered rare in s. California, as were six in California City, Kern, Oct. 28 (MTH) and three more at C.L.N.W.C. Nov. 10 (DVB). A ♂ Garganey in "eclipse" plumage



Garganey in eclipse plumage near Santa Maria, California, October 15, 1989. One of very few ever recorded in fall in North America. Photograph/Paul Lehman.

was skillfully picked out of a flock of Blue-winged and Cinnamon teal near the mouth of the Santa Maria R., Santa Barbara/San Luis Obispo, Oct. 15 (SEF) and remained to be seen and photographed by numerous observers through Nov. 4. There are 6 previous reports of this species in California, including 2 from s. California. One at the north end of Humboldt Bay Jan. 30 to Feb. 10, 1987 (AB 41:323) was the only other one reported in the state that was not an alternate-plumaged male. Fourteen Eur. Wigeon were reported by the end of the period with one at Pt. Mugu, Ventura, Oct. 10 (SEF) being the earliest this fall. A ♀ Oldsquaw at S.E.S.S. Nov. 25 (GMcC) was inland, and single birds at Cayucos, San Luis Obispo, after Nov. 6 (TME), at Avila Beach Nov. 26 (JSR), and on San Diego Bay after Nov. 11 (EMcG) were the only ones

found along the coast. Inland Surf Scoters included one at F.C.R. Oct. 18 (JLD), up to three at C.L.N.W.C. Oct. 26–29 (BC), seven at N.E.S.S. Oct. 7 (CMcG), and five more scattered about the Salton Sea Nov. 25 (DRW). An ad. ♂ White-winged Scoter at Stovepipe Wells in Death Valley Oct. 17 (NBB) was at a most unusual locality, and two at S.E.S.S. Nov. 25 (DRW) were the only others to be reported from the interior. A ♂ Hooded Merganser at S.E.S.S. Nov. 22 (EAC) was in an area where very few have been found.

A Black-shouldered Kite at S.E.S.S. Sept. 3 (AME) was outside the species' normal range in California. An imm. Bald Eagle flying south over Malibu Creek S.P., Los Angeles, Nov. 20 (BE) was at an unusual locality, and another immature was on Santa Rosa I. Nov. 24 (TMul). A Swainson's Hawk over Goleta Aug. 20 (JLD) was along the coast where now considered casual. A "Harlan's" Red-tailed Hawk, rare in California, was seen along the Colorado R. south of Blythe Nov. 24 (GMcC). A Ferruginous Hawk at Oasis, Mono, Sept. 3 (BED) was a little early, but 10 were found in that same area Sept. 15 (JLD). Rough-legged Hawks appeared to be scarcer than normal with only five reported, all in the n. portion of the Region. Merlins appeared earlier than normal with five reported before mid-September, including one at Morro Bay Sept. 5 (TME).

CRANES, SHOREBIRDS — A flock of 18 Sandhill Cranes in flight 30 mi w. of Palo Verde, Imperial, Sept. 26 (RMCK) was a little early and at an unusual locality. Reports of Lesser Golden-Plovers included 16 dominica along the coast between Aug. 30 and Nov. 1, along with two inland at E.A.F.B. Oct. 21 (MTH) and another in San Jacinto, Riverside, Oct. 4 (CMcG); 56 fulva along the coast and on the offshore islands after July 31; and two unidentified to race along the coast during September. A Mountain Plover on the beach north of Morro Bay Oct. 22 (PPE) was frequenting unusual habitat for this species. A count of 37 Black Oystercatchers on the Los Angeles/Long Beach breakwaters Oct. 20 (SWar) was an amazing concentration. Solitary Sandpipers appeared more numerous than normal with 76 found between Aug. 6 and Oct. 10, along with relatively late individuals in Anaheim Oct. 17 (JP) and near Oxnard Oct. 21 (RJM). A Wandering Tattler, most unusual inland in fall, was at Salton City Aug. 20 (CMcG). A juv. Upland Sandpiper photographed in Ventura Aug. 28 (FH) was only the 4th ever to be found in fall in s. California, the previous three having occurred in early September.

Reports of Ruddy Turnstones inland included two adults at C.L.N.W.C. Aug. 2 (DVB) and a juvenile near Lancaster, Los Angeles, Aug. 29–Sept. 4 (MGU). A Red Knot at E.A.F.B. Aug. 19 (JLD) and two more there Sept. 9–16 (MTH), and an additional two on L. Isabella, Kern, Sept. 1 (MTH), were inland. As appears to be normal, small numbers of Sanderlings passed through the interior during August and September as indicated by at least 20 found in Kern and inland Los Angeles between Aug. 19 and Sept. 27 (MTH, JLD). Semipalmated Sandpipers were less numerous than in recent years, but included 24 juveniles scattered around the Region between Aug. 5 and Sept. 4, and a winter-plumaged bird at S.E.S.S. on the unusually late date of Oct. 13 (CDB).

About 225 Baird's Sandpipers between Aug. 4 and Oct. 22, and 70 Pectoral Sandpipers between Aug. 28 and Oct. 19, were fewer than expected, but a Baird's Sandpiper at the Santa Maria R. mouth Nov. 8 (GPS) was unusually late. A juv. Curlew Sandpiper near Pt. Mugu, Ventura, Sept. 26–Oct. 9 (BD) provided our 6th record in fall. Stilt Sandpipers appeared along the coast in larger than expected numbers with a juvenile near Santa Maria Aug. 31–Sept. 3 (PEL), two juveniles in Long Beach Sept. 13 (BED), single juveniles in Irvine, Orange, Sept. 5 (KR) & 20 (DRW), three juveniles on Batiquitos Lagoon, San Diego, Oct. 14 (RRV), and up to five more juveniles at San Elijo Lagoon, San Diego, Aug. 26–Sept. 10 (GMcC). The only Buff-breasted Sandpiper found this year was a juvenile on E.A.F.B. Sept. 16 (BED). More than the expected

number of Ruffs were found this fall with single juveniles along the coast in Goleta Aug. 22–Sept. 1 (PEL) and Sept. 23–Oct. 7 (HPR), at S.C.R.E. Oct. 19–28 (RJM), in Irvine Sept. 21–30 (CE), and on Batiquitos Lagoon Sept. 17–Oct. 1 (RRV), and an adult on s. San Diego Bay after July 19 returning for its 8th winter. Inland were an adult near Wasco, Kern, July 28–Sept. 3 (JCW), a juvenile near Lancaster Aug. 29–Sept. 4 (MGU), and another juvenile at S.E.S.S. Nov. 6 (RMCK).

JAEGERS TO ALCIDS — A juv. jaeger at C.L.N.W.C. Sept. 2 (MTH) was identified as a Pomarine Jaeger. However, a review of documented records south of this species' breeding range indicates juveniles do not move south until late in the fall, with all specimens of Pomarine Jaegers taken south of the Canadian border in August and September apparently being one year or older, and the earliest juveniles being found in late October, clearly indicating great care must be taken when identifying juv. Pomarine Jaegers before November. The only Parasitic Jaegers reported from the interior were a juvenile at C.L.N.W.C. Sept. 19–22 (DVB) and single birds at N.E.S.S. Sept. 9 (RMCK) & 23 (GMC). An ad. Long-tailed Jaeger 105 nautical mi w.s.w. of San Nicolas I. Nov. 13 (PPY), an immature 74 nautical mi s.w. of San Miguel I. Nov. 15 (PPY), and another adult 161 nautical mi w.s.w. of San Miguel I. Nov. 18 (PPY) were all very late. In addition, a dead juv. Long-tailed Jaeger was found inland near Lancaster Sept. 13 (JLD, *L.A.C.M.N.H.). Four S. Polar Skuas were reported with one off San Diego Sept. 10 (JLD), another off Morro Bay Oct. 15 (JMcD) and two more 35 nautical mi w. of San Nicolas I. Nov. 11 (PPY).

The Laughing Gull found on Upper Newport Bay, Orange, July 29 was present through Aug. 21 (SG). Juvenile Franklin's Gulls on Tinnemaha Res. Aug. 5 (MAP), at E.A.F.B. Sept. 4 (JLD), and at Harper Dry Lake Aug. 13 (GH, *S.B.C.M.) were inland, and an immature in San Luis Obispo Nov. 7–15 (GPS) and another at Malibu Oct. 21 (HS) were along the coast. An adult or 2nd-winter Little Gull, a casual straggler to California, was at S.C.R.E. Nov. 23–26 (RJM). An ad. **Common Black-headed Gull** at S.C.R.E. Nov. 9 (RJM) was only the 6th to be found in this Region. An ad. Western Gull photographed at S.E.S.S. Aug. 12–17 (GMC) was one of very few to be found this far inland. A Glaucous Gull photographed on Vandenberg Air Force Base Nov. 26 (AA) was early for s. California, and one of very few adults ever found in this Region. More than the expected numbers of Sabine's Gulls were found inland with juveniles at C.L.N.W.C. Sept. 14–21 (BC) & 30 (DVB), E.A.F.B. Sept. 23 & 30 (JCW), California City Sept. 30–Oct. 2

(MOC), Baker, San Bernardino, Sept. 30 (EAC *S.B.C.M.), Harper Dry Lake Oct. 9 (EAC), L. Silverwood, San Bernardino, Sept. 23 (MAP), and up to two together near Lancaster Sept. 30–Oct. 4 (NH); 300+ off Morro Bay Sept. 23 (TME) were significantly more than are normally encountered offshore.

An ad. Arctic Tern, casual to accidental inland, was near Lancaster Sept. 13 (JLD). Two Black Skimmers on Morro Bay Sept. 22–23 (RAA) were unusually far north. A Xantus' Murrelet of the nominate race *hypoleucus*, along with two of the more northern race *scrippsi*, were identified off San Diego Sept. 10 (JO'B). A Tufted Puffin, rare in s. California waters, was seen off Morro Bay Sept. 23 (DR) and another was seen there Nov. 19 (JSR).

DOVES TO WOODPECKERS — A flock of 100 to 200 Band-tailed Pigeons near Malibu after Oct. 28 (KLG) and 150 in Orange Nov. 25 (JBo), along with a scattering of individuals elsewhere along the s. coast where none is normally found, indicated an influx of these birds into the coastal lowlands. As expected a few White-winged Doves strayed west to the coast with 23 reported between Aug. 17 and Nov. 18, including one as far north as Pt. Buchon, San Luis Obispo, Aug. 24 (MEC). A Com. Ground-Dove at F.C.R. Oct. 17–18 (LB) was north of its normal range in California. Again **Ruddy Ground-Doves** moved north into the Region with up to two males and a female at F.C.R. Oct. 14 through November (DG, MAP, REW), two males together in Bard, Imperial, Nov. 25–Dec. 2 (BED), and a male and female together in the Tijuana R. Valley near Imperial Beach Oct. 15–31 (KR, MS). An imm. **Black-billed Cuckoo** in Huntington Beach Oct. 4–6 (JP) was only the 2nd to be found in s. California. A Yellow-billed Cuckoo, casual to accidental along the coast of California today, hit a window in Santa Barbara Aug. 1 (HM); another that hit a window in Morro Bay Nov. 7 (NB, *Cal Poly) was remarkably late. A ♀ Calliope Hummingbird in Hollywood Aug. 27–30 (REW) was one of very few ever identified along the coast in fall.

Lewis' Woodpeckers were more numerous and widespread than normal, with large numbers clearly moving into the Region in September, as indicated by counts such as 20 at Deep Springs, Inyo, Sept. 30 and 30 at F.C.R. the same day (REW), and reaching such unusual localities as Bard Nov. 24 (PEL) and the open ocean 7 mi off Pt. Fermin, Los Angeles, Oct. 7 (KLG). Acorn Woodpeckers were also widely scattered at unusual localities throughout the Region, with at least 20 reported from the desert and an equal number from along the s. coast, being found at such out of range localities as Westgard Pass in the White Mts., Inyo, Sept. 3–9 (BED), Ridgecrest, Kern, Sept. 30 (DVB), and San Nicolas I. Sept. 15–Oct. 8 (TMur). Reports of Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers included single immatures in Oceano Oct. 27 (TME), Lompoc, Santa Barbara, Nov. 4 (BHi), and near Ventura Nov. 5–Dec. 3 (DD). A Williamson's Sapsucker in Yucca Valley, San Bernardino, Sept. 16 (CMcG) was at an unusual locality, and another in La Jolla Nov. 22 (JM) was on the immediate coast. A Ladder-backed Woodpecker at Oasis Nov. 4 (REW) was a little outside the species' normal range. Possibly the most unexpected bird of the season was the **Pileated Woodpecker** in Malibu Aug. 12–13 (PB, KLG), the first ever found in this Region away from the extreme s. end of the Sierra Nevada Mts. in Kern; it had to cross a large area of unsuitable habitat from wherever it came.

FLYCATCHERS TO SWALLOWS — A W. Wood-Pewee at Emigrant Ranger Station in Death Valley Oct. 22 (GMC) was somewhat late. A calling **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** present at Galileo Hill, Kern, Sept. 27–Oct. 1 (JLD) was well studied and photographed by numerous observers, and gave us the best-documented record of this species in the Region; another was seen by a single observer in Montaña de Oro S.P. Sept. 27 (KJZ). One on Southeast Farallon Island Sept. 16, 1976 (W. Birds 16:153–160) and another collected there Sept. 27, 1983 (AB 38:243) are the only accepted occurrences for the state



Juvenile Sabine's Gull at Edwards Air Force Base, California, September 30, 1989. Photograph/Matt T. Heindel.

although at least three others have been reported. Three Least Flycatchers were found this fall with one at Oasis Oct. 21 (REW), the 2nd at Panamint Springs in the Panamint Valley, Inyo, Oct. 3 (JLD), and the 3rd on Pt. Loma in San Diego Oct. 8 (MAP). Five E. Phoebes were found, with one inland at Oasis Oct. 21 (REW) and the rest along the coast with one in Goleta Oct. 18 (PEL), another in Santa Barbara Nov. 1 (RWH), one near Imperial Beach Oct. 21–26 (JO), and the 4th on Pt. Loma Oct. 23 (AME). A Vermilion Flycatcher at Oasis Sept. 30 (REW) was unusually far north, and another in Malibu Nov. 4 (A & JC) was at an unexpected locality. A Great Crested Flycatcher at Galileo Hill Sept. 23–27 (JCW, MTH) was only the 2nd ever found away from the coast in California.

Tropical Kingbirds appeared to be scarcer than normal with only eight reported between Sept. 15 and the end of the period. The **Thick-billed Kingbird** that spent the past 7 winters near Tustin, Orange, was again present from Nov. 24 into December (LRH). Reports of E. Kingbirds included two at F.C.R. Aug. 5 (GMCC) with one still present Aug. 12 (MAP), one at Deep Springs, Inyo, Sept. 3 (GMCC), an exceptionally late individual in Baker Oct. 14 (EAC, *S.B.C.M.), and another in Whitewater Canyon, Riverside, Sept. 14 (DAH) in the e. portion of the Region; along the coast were four individuals around Santa Barbara between Sept. 2 & 16 (PEL, SEF), and single birds at Pt. Mugu Sept. 28 (RJM) and on San Nicolas I. Sept. 2 (TMur). The only Scissor-tailed Flycatcher this fall was one seen in Laguna Beach Aug. 7 (LAS). An ad. ♂ Purple Martin over Riverside Nov. 11 (C-TL) was the latest ever to be seen in s. California, the previous latest reported sighting being that of three over F.C.R. Oct. 29, 1977.

JAYS TO VIREOS — A Steller's Jay in the New York Mts. of e. San Bernardino Oct. 1 (EAC, *S.B.C.M.) proved to be of the race *maculophya*, normally occurring to the east of California, for which there is only one previous specimen; one in the Granite Mts. of e. San Bernardino Nov. 4–5 (BSO) and another near Blythe for 2 weeks in early November (Sue Clark, fide PEL) were probably also of this race. At least 10 Scrub Jays were reported from various desert localities along

the e. border of the Region during October and November, indicating a minor movement of these birds. Twelve Clark's Nutcrackers on Figueroa Mt., Santa Barbara, Oct. 29 (TEW) were the only ones reported away from areas of normal occurrence.

The presence of at least 10 White-breasted Nuthatches on Pt. Loma during September, along with three or four in coastal Orange at the same time, documented a movement of these birds into coastal areas where not normally found. A Canyon Wren in Niland, Imperial, Nov. 25 (DRW) was far from the closest known area of normal occurrence.

A **Gray-cheeked Thrush** at Galileo Hill Sept. 14–18 (Jim Brown, fide JLD) was only the 3rd ever found in this Region, and the first for the interior of California. A **Rufous-backed**



Rufous-backed Robin at Desert Center, California, November 25, 1989. Fifth state record. Photograph/Shawneen Finnegan.



Gray-cheeked Thrush at Galileo Hill, California, September 16, 1989. One of very few ever for California, and the first for the interior of the state. Photograph/Matt T. Heindel.

Robin at Desert Center, Riverside, Nov. 24–26 (GMcC) gave us the 5th record for this species in California, 2 of the previous records involving birds present for single days in November, and the other 2 involving birds remaining through the winter. Small numbers of Varied Thrushes were found scattered throughout the n.e. portion of the Region in October and November, getting as far south as Whitewater Canyon Oct. 3 (DVH), the San Jacinto Mts., Riverside, Nov. 18 (CMcG), and Borrego Springs, San Diego, Nov. 28 (AM), and additional birds were along the coast, with three individuals as far south as Pt. Loma between Oct. 23 & 30 (CGE).

Four Brown Thrashers were reported with one remaining at Scotty's Castle in Death Valley Sept. 30–Nov. 4 (REW), one at Stovepipe Wells Oct. 3 (JLD), another at Panamint Springs Oct. 22 (JLD), and the 4th along the coast in Goleta Oct. 18–23 (BHen). The only N. Shrike reported was one at C.L.N.W.C. Nov. 9 into December (RAH).

A Solitary Vireo in Oceano Oct. 1 (GMcC), another near Oxnard Oct. 7–9 (AB), a 3rd in Huntington Beach Sept. 20–Oct. 4 (LRH), one more in Irvine Sept. 18 (DRW), and a 5th at Panamint Springs Oct. 3 (JLD) were all brightly colored birds apparently from eastern North America. A Philadelphia Vireo, a casual fall straggler to California, was photographed near Oxnard Oct. 3–10 (MH), another was in Huntington Beach Oct. 15–16 (DRW), and a 3rd was on Pt. Loma Oct. 14 (CGE). Nine Red-eyed Vireos were reported. Single birds at F.C.R. Sept. 30–Oct. 1 (MAP), Panamint Springs Oct. 1 (REW), and California City Sept. 29 (BED) were inland, and one at Gaviota, Santa Barbara, Sept. 2 (MH), another near Oxnard Oct. 3–4 (MH), and single birds on Pt. Loma Sept. 19 (SS) and Oct. 1 (JO'B), 9 (DP), & 21 (TLW) were along the coast. A Yellow-green Vireo banded and photographed in Morro Bay Oct. 14 (GPS) was the first to be found in San Luis Obispo.

WOOD WARBLERS — A ♂ Blue-winged Warbler, one of the rarest of the e. species of wood warblers to reach California, was seen briefly in Morongo Valley, San Bernardino, Oct. 1 (MAP). Tennessee Warblers appeared to be in about average numbers with 42 reported between Sept. 19 and Nov. 23. Seven Virginia's Warblers along the coast between Aug. 28 and Sept. 24 were fewer than expected, but six scattered around Inyo and e. Kern between Aug. 4 and Sept. 17, along with one more at Corn Springs, Riverside, Oct. 1 (VH), were about average, and one seen in San Diego Nov. 12 (REW) may have been attempting to winter locally. Ten Lucy's Warblers, rare stragglers to the coast, were found between Montaña de Oro S.P. and the Mexican border between Aug. 27 and Nov. 4. The only N. Parulas reported were one in Montaña de Oro S.P. Sept. 30 (TME) and another on Pt. Loma Oct. 21–24 (CGE). Seven Chestnut-sided Warblers along the coast between Sept. 9 and Nov. 21 were fewer than average. Eleven Magnolia Warblers scattered throughout the Region between Sept. 13 and Oct. 15 was about average. Black-throated Blue Warblers were remarkably scarce with only eight reported between Sept. 30 and Oct. 24, but including a male at Thousand Palms Oasis, Riverside, Oct. 9 (RMcK). The only Black-throated Green Warblers found this fall were a male in Kelso Oct. 1 (EAC, *S.B.C.M.), one near Borrego Springs Nov. 15 (D & MH), and another near Imperial Beach Oct. 6–8 (GMcC).

A Blackburnian Warbler at Deep Springs Oct. 21 (REW) was one of very few ever found inland in California, and an additional eight along the coast between Sept. 27 and Nov. 12 were about average. A Grace's Warbler, a casual straggler to the coast of s. California, was on Pt. Loma Sept. 23–24 (CGE), and another was there Sept. 27–29 (DP). Seven Prairie Warblers along the coast between Sept. 30 and Oct. 26 made an average number. A Palm Warbler of the e. race *hypochrysea* was found on Santa Catalina I. Nov. 21 (PU, *S.D.N.H.M.), and another 157 nautical mi w.s.w. of San Miguel I. Nov. 18 (PPy) that remained on the boat until it was about 30 mi off the Santa Maria R. mouth was certainly lost; 40 individuals of the expected nominate race along the coast between Sept. 29 and

the end of the period was a little low, but five in Inyo and Kern during October, along with one more near Borrego Springs Nov. 12 (MGr), were more than expected for the interior.

A Bay-breasted Warbler was found inland at Galileo Hill Sept. 28 (GMcC) and three more were in coastal San Luis Obispo Sept. 30–Oct. 1 (BS, JMcD). Blackpoll Warblers were a little scarcer than normal along the coast with only 40 reported between Sept. 11 and Oct. 22, but single birds were found inland in California City, Kern, Sept. 29 (BED) and Oct. 15 (JCW), and two more were at Deep Springs Oct. 2 (JLD). A ♀ **Cerulean Warbler** in Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo, Oct. 1 (BS) was the 10th to be found in s. California. Thirty Black-and-white Warblers and 70 Am. Redstarts during the period were near expected numbers. Five Prothonotary Warblers were more than expected, with single birds in Mojave, Kern, Sept. 12–16 (BHu), Oceano Sept. 30–Oct. 4 (BS), Carpinteria Sept. 15–27 (KB), and Westminster, Orange, Sept. 27–29 (DRW), and the 5th hitting a window in La Jolla Sept. 1 (PU, *S.D.N.H.M.).

The only Ovenbirds were individuals at Galileo Hill Oct. 1 (MOC), in Westminster Oct. 8 (SM), and on Pt. Loma on Sept. 30 (BP) and Oct. 13 (CGE). Thirty-five N. Waterthrushes between Aug. 26 and Nov. 23, with most in early September, were a little fewer than expected. Three Mourning Warblers were about average with single birds at Montaña de Oro S.P. Sept. 20 (JMcD) & 23–27 (MH), and another at Gaviota, Santa Barbara, Sept. 13 (SEF). The only Hooded Warblers were a female at Corn Springs Oct. 1 (VH) and another on Pt. Loma Oct. 15 (RRV). Only two Canada Warblers were found this fall with one in Santa Barbara Sept. 27 (FS) and the other at Hurkey Creek Campground in the San Jacinto Mts. Oct. 4 (CMcG). The only Painted Redstarts found this fall were an elusive individual in Huntington Beach Oct. 6 (MTH) and a most cooperative bird on Pt. Loma Oct. 6–8 (CGE). A Yellow-breasted Chat in Goleta Nov. 17 (KB) was exceptionally late.

TANAGERS TO FINCHES — A ♂ Hepatic Tanager was present for a short time on Pt. Loma Oct. 22 (D & MH), and another in Santa Barbara Nov. 10 (DH) was apparently returning for its 8th winter. Summer Tanagers were scarcer than normal along the coast with only 11 reported between Sept. 10 and the end of the period. A Scarlet Tanager, a casual straggler to California, was at Deep Springs Sept. 30 (REW) and another was in Huntington Beach Nov. 10 (DRW). We had an expected number of Rose-breasted Grosbeaks scattered throughout the Region, with 36 reported between Aug. 30 and the end of the period. A Blue Grosbeak in Goleta Nov. 19 (GSL) was very late. Fifteen Indigo Buntings reported between Aug. 5 and Oct. 7 were far fewer than expected. Three Painted Buntings were found with an imm. male at a feeder in Los Osos Nov. 18–25 (M & PC), another in Goleta Sept. 18 (AB), and the 3rd in Carpinteria Sept. 15–17 (SEF). Four Dickcissels were reported: one at Galileo Hill Sept. 28–30 (GMcC), one at F.C.R. Oct. 3 (JLD), another in Goleta Sept. 16 (HPR), and the 4th on Pt. Loma Oct. 8 (KR).

American Tree Sparrows were more numerous and widespread than normal with one at Deep Springs Nov. 4 (REW), another at Stovepipe Wells Nov. 5 (REW), single birds at F.C.R. Nov. 4–5 (MAP), Nov. 12 (H & PB), and Nov. 19 (REW), one at Galileo Hill Oct. 21–Nov. 4 with two there Oct. 28 (MTH), one at C.L.N.W.C. Nov. 2 (DVB), another in Baker Nov. 23–25 (GMcC), and a 10th in Desert Center Nov. 23 (SEF). Clay-colored Sparrows were far more numerous than normal with 65 reported between Sept. 1 and the end of the period, including 22 inland in Inyo and e. Kern. A **Field Sparrow** having all the characters of the pale western race in Orange Nov. 25 through the end of the period (BB, JBo) was seen and photographed by many observers. The only accepted record for the state is of one on Southeast Farallon Island between June 17 and July 9, 1969 (Calif. Birds 2:72). Since Black-chinned Sparrows are rarely found away from breeding lo-

calities, reports of one on the coast in Goleta Sept. 17 (HPR) and another near Imperial Beach Aug. 26 (GMcC) were of interest. Single Black-throated Sparrows, rare along the coast, were in Goleta Sept. 1-2 (HPR), near Pt. Mugu Oct. 8-10 (RJM), in Altadena, Los Angeles, Sept. 1-2 (JF), in Long Beach Aug. 28 (BED), and at San Elijo Lagoon Sept. 15 (RP). The only Lark Bunting reported was one in Goleta Sept. 22 (FS).

Large-billed Savannah Sparrows (*A. s. rostratus*) again appeared in numbers along the coast with more than 50 around San Diego after Sept. 4 (CGE), eight at Seal Beach Sept. 12 (LRH), two at Pt. Mugu Sept. 2-16 (RJM), three at S.C.R.E. after Aug. 6 (RJM), and up to four on Morro Bay after Nov. 4 (GPS); in addition, more than 100 were found around S.E.S.S. Nov. 22 (RMcK), indicating far more than the expected numbers had also moved into this area of s. California. Single Grasshopper Sparrows at Deep Springs Oct. 21 (REW), F.C.R. Oct. 17-18 (JLD) & 21-22 (MAP), C.L.N.W.C. Oct. 7 (DVB), Galileo Hill Oct. 28-29 (MTH), Upper Newport Bay Nov. 25-26 (LRH), and Pt. Loma Oct. 22 (MAP) were all away from areas of normal occurrence. A **Le Conte's Sparrow** at F.C.R. Oct. 17 (LB) was joined by a juvenal-plumaged bird the following day (JLD) to give us the 7th and 8th records for the Region, and another was at C.L.N.W.C. Nov. 5 (DVB). Five Sharp-tailed Sparrows were found: one in San Simeon Oct. 20 (GPS), another in Goleta Oct. 3-4 (RWH), one at S.C.R.E. Oct. 22-28 (BHeff), a 4th on Upper Newport Bay Nov. 11-12 (EB), and a wintering bird on San Diego Bay after Oct. 16 (SWal).

A Swamp Sparrow 145 nautical mi s.s.w. of San Nicolas I. Nov. 8 (PPy) was far from land, and an additional 54 were found scattered throughout the Region after an early individual was seen at Deep Springs Sept. 30 (REW). Thirty-five White-throated Sparrows scattered throughout the Region after Oct. 3 were about average numbers, as were 12 Harris' Sparrows in the n.e. portion of the Region after Oct. 28; one Harris' Sparrow in Goleta Oct. 30-Nov. 3 (TMul) was the only one found along the coast. A few Lapland Longspurs were scattered throughout the Region as indicated by about 10 in Inyo and e. Kern, along with single individuals at Baker Nov. 23-25 (GMcC) and Harper Dry Lake Nov. 22 (SC) in the interior, and one at the Santa Maria R. mouth Oct. 19 (PEL), another at S.C.R.E. Nov. 27 (RJM), up to seven near Pt. Mugu after Nov. 27 (RJM), and up to three on the Plano Trabuco, Orange, after Nov. 8 (RRV). A Chestnut-collared Longspur at F.C.R. Aug. 5 (MAP) was exceptionally early, but two at

Galileo Hill Oct. 22 (SEF) and two more at Santa Maria R. mouth Oct. 31 (DSS) were at the expected time of year, and up to 35 on the Plano Trabuco after Nov. 5 (RRV) made a large flock.

Reports of Bobolinks from along the coast included one at Oso Flaco L., San Luis Obispo, Sept. 17 (BS), at least 37 in Goleta between Sept. 11 and Oct. 15 (PEL), up to 25 at Pt. Mugu Sept. 16-Oct. 1 (RJM), and one in La Jolla Sept. 18 (JO'B); up to four at Deep Springs between Sept. 30 and Nov. 1 (REW), one at F.C.R. Oct. 3 (JLD), another there Oct. 14-22 (DG), up to three at C.L.N.W.C. Sept. 22-Oct. 7 (MTH), single birds at Galileo Hill Sept. 28 (JLD) and Oct. 8 (MTH), and one in Baker Sept. 30 (EAC) were inland. The only Rusty Blackbird found this fall was at S.C.R.E. Nov. 25 into December (BHeff). A Com. Grackle at Indian Ranch in the Panamint Valley, Inyo, Nov. 12 (H & PB) was one of very few to be found in s. California, and only the 2nd during the fall migration period, although there are 2 records of birds wintering. The only Orchard Orioles reported were one in Goleta Oct. 14 (PEL), one in La Jolla Sept. 13 (JO'B), another on Pt. Loma Oct. 5 (REW), and two wintering males in Irvine after Nov. 19 (MTH). A Scott's Oriole near Santa Barbara after Oct. 1 (SB) was the only one reported from along the coast.

A flock of over 100 Rosy Finches in the Inyo Mts. east of Big Pine Nov. 26 (H & PB) was in an area where such numbers regularly occur in late fall and winter. A few Purple Finches were found at unexpected localities in desert portions of the Region including a male at Indian Ranch in the Panamint Valley Nov. 12 (H & PB) and two at Desert Center Nov. 5-25 (MAP), and average numbers were in the coastal lowlands by the end of the period. A Cassin's Finch on the immediate coast on Pt. Loma Sept. 16-24 (DP) and another there Oct. 6 (REW) were unexpected. A Lawrence's Goldfinch at Deep Springs Oct. 21 (REW) was in an area where very few have been found. The only Evening Grosbeaks reported were a few in the extreme n.e. portion of the Region after Oct. 17, with one in Ridgecrest Oct. 26 (DM) being the southernmost.

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Chestnut-collared Longspur at Galileo-Hill, California, October 22, 1989. Photograph/Shawneen Finnegan.