

SOUTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION

Guy McCaskie

Dry conditions prevailed as Southern California entered its fifth year of drought. No major movements of irruptive species were evident, although a few Red Crossbills and some Evening Grosbeaks reached the northern and eastern portions of the Region, respectively. Scrub Jays found scattered through the eastern deserts in September had probably originated in the local mountains; if they were moving out of areas too dry to support them, they could not have found the desert any more suitable. A scattering of Plain Titmice and White-breasted Nuthatches along the southern coast in August and September probably originated locally, and possibly resulted in part from the dry conditions prevailing in their normal mountain habitat. However, the small influx of Red-breasted Nuthatches and Golden-crowned Kinglets to that same area in October probably originated to the north of this Region.

An interesting variety of waterbirds was found, including a couple of shorebirds considered accidental in California and inland records of some gulls and terns normally restricted to the coast. Wood warblers appeared less numerous than expected, but included an exciting number of species that brought the total number of species reported to forty.

Abbreviations: B.V.R.A. (Buena Vista Recreation Area, s.w. corner of the San Joaquin Valley, Kern Co.); C.L.N.W.C. (China Lake Naval Weapons Center, extreme n.e. Kern Co.); F.C.R. (Furnace Creek Ranch in Death Valley, Inyo Co.); G.B. (Gooselake Basin, a wastewater complex w. of Wasco, Kern Co.); H.D.L. (Harper Dry Lake n.w. of Barstow); N.E.S.S. (north end of the Salton Sea); S.B.C.M. (San Bernardino County Museum); S.C.R.E. (Santa Clara River Estuary near Ventura); S.E.S.S. (south end of the Salton Sea); T.L.E.P. (Tulare Lake Evaporation Ponds, between Delano and Lost Hills, s. San Joaquin Valley). 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 Michael A. Patten, P.O. Box 8612, Riverside, CA 92515) for all rarities listed in this report, and records submitted without documentation are not published.

LOONS TO FRIGATEBIRDS

A Red-throated Loon on Tinnemaha Res. Oct. 30 (T & JH) was the first to be found in Inyo. A Pacific Loon on Tinnemaha Res. Oct. 13–Nov. 4 (GMcC) was only the 3rd for Inyo; one to two on L. Isabella, Kern, Nov. 11–24 (MTH) and one on L. Perris, Riverside, Nov. 25 (RMcK) were the only others reported from the interior. A Red-necked Grebe in San Simeon Oct. 30 (TME) and another in Goleta Nov. 9 (RPH) were the only two found.

At least four N. Fulmars were reported during August and early September, indicating a few spent the summer in s. California waters; 25 in the San Pedro Channel off Long Beach Nov. 17 (JKA), with similar reports elsewhere during November, indicated more than average numbers pushed south into our Region this fall. A *Stejneger's Petrel* at 32°36'N–122°47'W, about 153 nautical mi s.w. of San Miguel I., Nov. 14 (JLD) furnished the 2nd sight record within 200 mi of California; records from farther offshore (*Auk*

55: 255–256, 1938 and *AB* 44: 160, 1990) suggest this species can be expected over these waters at this time of the year, and in fact two were photographed off n. California just 3 days later. A Flesh-footed Shearwater, very rare in s. California waters, was well-seen 13 mi w.s.w. of Pt. Vicente, Los Angeles, Nov. 17 (JKA).

A Short-tailed Shearwater near San Miguel I. Nov. 17 (SEF) and another found dead on the beach at S.C.R.E. Nov. 11 (KA) indicated a few were offshore during November. Large numbers of Black-vented Shearwaters pushed north along the coast, as indicated by such counts as 75,000 off the Santa Maria R. mouth Sept. 21 (PEL) and up to 10,000 off Cayucos Oct. 7–29 (TME).

A Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel, very rare in s. California waters, was off San Simeon Sept. 6 (JMCD), and another photographed off San Diego Sept. 9 (JO'B) was exceptionally far south. Least Storm-Petrels were more numerous than in recent years as indicated by counts of 250 off San Diego Sept. 1 (GMcC) and 100 in the San Pedro Channel Sept. 15 (BED), and remained later than expected, as indicated by 41 over the Tanner Bank off San Clemente I. Nov. 10 (JLD) and another one 130 nautical mi w.s.w. of San Miguel I. Nov. 18 (JLD).

A Red-billed Tropicbird, rare in s. California waters, was 7 mi e.n.e.

of the northwest tip of Santa Catalina I. Sept. 15 (BED). A Red-tailed Tropicbird at 30°15'N 123°52'W, about 280 nautical mi s.w. of San Nicolas I., Nov. 8 (JLD) was close enough to California waters to be of interest. Boobies remained on the Salton Sea into September with a Blue-footed Booby at the mouth of Salt Creek Oct. 3 (RMcK) and a Brown Booby at N.E.S.S. Sept. 29 (CMcG) being the latest of each to be reported. An exhausted Blue-footed Booby captured in a Huntington Beach schoolyard Sept. 7 (DRW) was the first recorded in Orange. An imm. Brown Booby 6 mi n.e. of Pt. Vicente Sept. 15 (BED) was one of very few ever found along the coast. An imm. Brown Pelican at C.L.N.W.C. Aug. 23–25 (DVB) was far from the coast, and two on Big Bear I. in the San Bernardino Mts. Sept. 5–22 (CMcG) were at an unusually high elevation. An imm. Magnificent Frigatebird over Pt. Loma Sept. 8 (CGE) and two or three at the Salton Sea Aug. 26 (JO'B) were the latest reported this year.

HERONS TO RAPTORS

An imm. Little Blue Heron photographed near Oxnard Sept. 30–Oct. 7 (FH) and the adult remaining on Upper Newport Bay through Aug. 12 (RAE) were the only two reported away from

coastal *San Diego*. An ad. Tricolored Heron, now considered a casual to accidental straggler to California, was inland at S.E.S.S. Aug. 11 (RAE), and another adult was along the coast near Imperial Beach Aug. 4-9 (JO'B). At least four Reddish Egrets were present in *San Diego* with an adult returning for its 9th winter to s. *San Diego Bay* Sept. 2 (GMcC), an immature on s. *San Diego Bay* Sept. 2 (GMcC), another immature there Oct. 14 into December (REW), and one more in Del Mar, *San Diego*, Oct. 8-20 (GD). An ad. Yellow-crowned Night-Heron, an accidental straggler to s. California, was near Imperial Beach Sept. 30 through November (GMcC), and what is best considered the individual present around La Jolla and San Elijo Lagoon since October of 1981 was on Penasquitos Lagoon near La Jolla Nov. 24-Dec. 1 (LS).

A flock of six Greater White-fronted Geese on Owens L., *Inyo*, Sept. 2 (T & JH) established the earliest date for a fall migrant in s. California; 75 at F.C.R. Sept. 8 (MAP) made an astounding number for this locality, and were followed by 16 more far to the south at Desert Center, *Riverside*, the next day (MAP). A Cackling Canada Goose at F.C.R. Oct. 26 through November (PEL) was at an unusual locality for this race. Remarkable was the finding of three *Garganey* with an ad. male in Irvine Sept. 12-20 (REW), a female or immature photographed in the Fremont Valley near Cantil, *Kern*, Sept. 30 (MTH), and another female or imm. male at F.C.R. Oct. 12-Nov. 1 (JLD); this brought the number of records in s. California to six. At least 20 Eur. Wigeon were found after Oct. 8, including a female in the n.e. part of the Region in California City Oct. 18-Nov. 4 (JLD).

A Harlequin Duck, very rare in s. California, was at Pt. Mugu Nov. 17 into December (AS) and another was in Newport Beach Nov. 25-26 (M & ML). An Oldsquaw flying south past Pt. Loma Nov. 1 (REW) and another on San Diego Bay Nov. 20 (JLD) were the southernmost of the four reported. A Black Scoter off Avila Beach Nov. 19 (JLD), another near Pt. Sal, *Santa Barbara*, Nov. 4 (PEL), and two more seen flying south past Pt. Loma Nov. 26 (REW) were the only ones reported. A Surf Scoter near Cantil Oct. 18-19 (MTH)

was the only one found inland away from the Salton Sea. Two White-winged Scoters at S.E.S.S. Nov. 25 (JML) were inland where considered very rare. A Hooded Merganser at N.E.S.S. Aug. 25 (RMCK) had no doubt spent the summer locally.

An imm. Broad-winged Hawk near Santa Maria Sept. 30 (DSt), single birds near Oxnard Sept. 30 and Oct. 21 (FH), one over the Palos Verdes Peninsula Oct. 29 (MH), another in Long Beach Nov. 3 (MH), and a 6th moving south over Point Loma Sept. 30 (D & MH) were fewer than would have been expected 10 years ago. Very few Swainson's Hawks were reported, hence a flock of 14 flying south over Victorville, *San Bernardino*, Oct. 7 (SJM) was of interest. An ad. Zone-tailed Hawk in La Jolla Sept. 9 (REW) was along the coast where considered casual. A Harlan's Red-tailed Hawk in Goleta Nov. 15 (PEL) established the first record for this race in *Santa Barbara*. A Ferruginous Hawk near L. Isabella Aug. 31 (MTH) was quite early. A Merlin at F.C.R. Nov. 17 (MAP) and another on Mt. Pinos Nov. 12 (MTH) both appeared to be of the dark race *suckleyi*, breeding in British Columbia and considered casual in s. California.

CRANES, SHOREBIRDS

A Sandhill Crane over H.D.L. Oct. 25 (EAC) was at an unusual locality. Since Lesser Golden-Plovers are very rare inland, especially so for the Asiatic form *fulva*, an adult present at T.L.E.P. Aug. 31-Sept. 2 (MTH), and another photographed near Lancaster Aug. 11 (MT), were of extreme interest.

A Wandering Tattler at S.E.S.S. Sept. 15 (RMCK) was inland, where considered casual in fall. An imm. Upland Sandpiper near Oxnard Sept. 15-20 (RJM) was the 5th for fall in s. California, and the longest-staying ever in the state. An ad. Bar-tailed Godwit at Pt. Mugu Aug. 30 (BE) was the 3rd for s. California. A Ruddy Turnstone on Owens L. Aug. 26 (T & JH) and another at G.B. Sept. 8 (JCW) were exceptionally rare inland away from the Salton Sea, and one at N.E.S.S. Sept. 30 (MAP) was the only one reported on the Salton Sea. A juv. Red Knot at C.L.N.W.C. Sept. 4-9 (DVB) was the only one found inland away from the Salton Sea. Reports of

Sanderlings inland and away from the Salton Sea included single birds on Tinnemaha Res. Sept. 11 (T & JH) & 26 (JLD), four on Owens L. Sept. 26 (PEL), 19 different individuals in e. *Kern* between Aug. 14 and Sept. 27 (MTH, DVB), and six more at H.D.L. between Sept. 30 and Oct. 14 (EAC).

At least 30 juv. Semipalmated Sandpipers were found throughout the Region between Aug. 1 and Sept. 30, about an average number for this time of year. An ad. **White-rumped Sandpiper** in Irvine Sept. 9-13 (LRH, DRW) was only the 2nd to be found in s. California in fall. Baird's Sandpipers were slightly less numerous than usual, but included a late individual in Irvine Oct. 26-28 (DSi). Pectoral Sandpipers were decidedly rare this fall, but included a late individual



Juvenile Sharp-tailed Sandpiper at Montana de Oro State Park, California, November 11, 1990. Photograph/Brad Schram.

at Finney L. near S.E.S.S. Nov. 24 (IW). Two Sharp-tailed Sandpipers were found with a juvenile at Montana de Oro S.P. Nov. 11-27 (P & SG) and another at the Santa Ynez R. mouth Oct. 4-11 (KH). Reports of Stilt Sandpipers away from the Salton Sea included up to two at T.L.E.P. Aug. 31-Sept. 2 (MTH), a very late one at G.B. Nov. 10 (JCW), one near Santa Maria Sept. 30 (DSt), another at S.C.R.E. Sept. 7 (RJM), one in Anaheim Sept. 12 (DRW), another on San Elijo Lagoon, *San Diego*, Sept. 7 (DP), two there Sept. 30 (SM), and a late bird near Imperial Beach Nov. 4 (REW).

Four Buff-breasted Sandpipers were found with a juvenile inland at Edwards Sept. 16 (MTH), one photographed on Morro Bay Sept. 1 (EVJ), a remarkably late juvenile near Imperial Beach Oct. 21-25 (D & MH), and possibly the latest ever in North America at the same location Nov. 17-23 (REW). Reports of Ruffs included an adult remaining in Goleta through Sept. 8 (SEF), single juveniles at S.C.R.E. Sept. 15-24 (RJM), at Pt. Mugu Oct. 3-8 (RJM) and in Long Beach Sept. 8 (BED), and a re-



Buff-breasted Sandpiper at Morro Bay, California, September 1, 1990. Photograph/Brad Schram.

markably late individual for the n.e. portion of the Region at C.L.N.W.C. Nov. 22 (DVB). A juv. Short-billed Dowitcher near Cantil Oct. 21 (JLD) was at least a month later than the previous late date for a fall migrant in the n.e. portion of the Region. Two Red Phalaropes were found inland, one photographed at Edwards Aug. 4 (MTH) and the other seen on Owens L. Oct. 6 (T & JH).

JAEGERS TO ALCIDS

At least five Parasitic Jaegers were found Sept. 3-30 on the Salton Sea, where small numbers occur each fall, and one on Tinnemaha Res. Sept. 13-17 (JLD) established the 2nd record for *Inyo*. An ad. Long-tailed Jaeger photographed



Juvenile Long-tailed Jaeger over the Tulare Lake Evaporation Ponds, California, August 31, 1990. Photograph/Matt Heindel.

on Owens L. Aug. 18-19 (LRB) was the first for *Inyo*; a juvenile at T.L.E.P. Aug. 26-31 (JCW), joined by a 2nd Aug. 31-Sept. 2 (DVB), were the first for *Kern*, and another juvenile on the Salton Sea near Salton City Sept. 10 (JO'B) was only the 2nd for *Imperial*. Seven Franklin's Gulls scattered throughout the Region between Aug. 3 and Nov. 10 were fewer than expected. Totally unexpected was an ad. Heermann's Gull, the first ever found in *Inyo*, on Tin-

nemaha Res. Oct. 13 (SEF); this location is east of the Sierra Nevada Mts., hence far from this species' normal range along the coast. An ad. Mew Gull far inland at B.V.R.A. Nov. 24 into December (MTH) was only the 2nd found in Kern, but was possibly the same bird as present here last winter. More than the expected number of Sabine's Gulls were found inland with a rather late juvenile in Bishop, Inyo, Oct. 15 (T & JH), five different birds on Tinnemaha Res. between Sept. 13 & 29 (T & JH), a juvenile on Owens L. Sept. 21 (T & JH), four birds at C.L.N.W.C. between Aug. 24 and Sept. 28 (DVB, MTH), an adult near California City, Kern, Sept. 23 (BL), a juvenile at Edwards Sept. 29 (MTH), and another near Imperial, Imperial, Oct. 3-5 (RH).

Over 100 Com. Terns passed through Tinnemaha Res. between Aug. 24 and Sept. 29 (T & JH), showing this to be the time that this species moves south through the n.e. portion of this Region. An ad. Arctic Tern on Tinnemaha Res. Sept. 26 (JLD), a juvenile at C.L.N.W.C. Sept. 27-28 (MTH), and another juvenile near Cantil Sept. 30 (JLD) were the first to be found inland in fall away from the Salton Sea. Up to three Black Skimmers on Morro Bay Sept. 21-Oct. 28 (FS) were farther north than usual.

Seven Marbled Murrelets off San Simeon Aug. 9 (TME) were near the s. limit of this species' normal range. Ten Craver's Murrelets were found off Morro Bay Sept. 22 (TME), this species undoubtedly being regular in these waters at this time of year. An Ancient Murrelet near Anacapa I. Nov. 15 (JLD) was the only one reported.

DOVES TO WOODPECKERS

As usual a few White-winged Doves reached the coast, with the northernmost being singles in Montana de Oro S.P. Sept. 7 (KAH) and Oct. 9 (TT). Up to four Inca Doves at F.C.R. after Oct. 19 (JLD) were well north of this species' normal range. Three Com. Ground-Doves near Lompoc Nov. 28 (SEF) were unusually far north, and one at Galileo Hill Oct. 12 (MTH) was the first for Kern. Ruddy Ground-Doves again pushed north into this Region with a female near Imperial Beach Sept. 8 (GMcC) for our earliest fall record, and a male at Deep Springs, Inyo, Sept. 26 (PEL) for



Male Ruddy Ground-Dove near Cantil, California, September 30, 1990. At least nine individuals reached southern California during the 1990 fall season. Photograph/Matt Heindel.

our northernmost record; others included a male at F.C.R. Oct. 14-17 (KLG) followed by four there Nov. 17 into December (GMcC), and single males near Cantil Sept. 30 (MTH), in Desert Center, Riverside, Nov. 23 (CMcG), and on Pt. Loma Oct. 14 (REW).

A N. Saw-whet Owl at C.L.N.W.C. Nov. 28 (JS) was obviously a migrant. Five Chimney Swifts over Glendale, Los Angeles, Aug. 21 (KLG) were believed to have summered locally. Up to 10,000 Vaux's Swifts roosting on tall buildings in downtown Los Angeles Sept. 30-Oct. 4 (KLG) made a remarkable concentration, and one over Big Pine, Inyo, Nov. 2 (T & JH) was very late for this area. Reports of Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers included a juvenile in California City Nov. 1 (MTH) and another photographed near Oxnard Oct. 20 (DD). A ♂ Williamson's Sapsucker in California City Oct. 7 (DK), a female in Mojave Nov. 2-25 (JCW), another female in Morongo Valley Oct. 27 (MAP), single individuals on Figueroa Mt. near Santa Barbara on Oct. 17 (CP) and Nov. 15 (SEF), and one more photographed in Piru, Ventura, Oct. 20-30 (RJM) were all outside areas of normal occurrence.

FLYCATCHERS

A Greater Pewee in San Diego after Oct. 18 (B & IM) was apparently the same individual known to have spent the past 3 winters at this location. A W. Wood-Pewee on Pt. Loma Oct. 18 (REW) was the latest reported this fall. Five Least Flycatchers were reported, with singles inland in California City Sept. 30 (MTH) and near Cantil Oct. 4-6 (MTH), and along the coast in Oceano Sept. 21-22 (KZ), near Oceano Oct. 6 (JSR), and on Pt. Loma Oct. 7 (EP). The only E.

Phoebe reported was one in Santa Barbara after Oct. 30 (RWH) for its 3rd winter. Up to two Vermilion Flycatchers near Santa Maria after Oct. 21 (JSR, RPH), another at Pt. Mugu Sept. 23-29 (RJM), a female in Irvine Oct. 5 through November (DSi), and another female on Pt. Loma Oct. 12 (GMcC) were on the immediate coast where now considered rare; another at F.C.R. Oct. 12 (PEL) was near the n. limit of this species' range.

A Great Crested Flycatcher, an exceptionally rare straggler to California, was in Oceano Oct. 7-10 (KZ), another was in Santa Barbara Sept. 22 (JH), and a 3rd was photographed in Wilmington, Los Angeles, Oct. 31-Nov. 2 (MH). A Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher well photographed in Goleta Sept. 23-28 (RJ) was the 6th to be found in California. Fifteen Tropical Kingbirds along the coast between Sept. 23 and Nov. 24 were about average, but one at H.D.L. Sept. 27 (EAC, *S.B.C.M.) was inland where considered accidental. Nine E. Kingbirds were found along the coast between Aug. 1 and Sept. 29, but one in Big Pine Sept. 14 (JLD) and another at S.E.S.S. Sept. 21 (RH) were the only two found inland. Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, a casual straggler to California, was near Big Pine Sept. 29-Oct. 13 (T & JH).

WRENS TO VIREOS

Winter Wrens were found in above average numbers in the n.e. part of the Region, and single birds on Pt. Loma Oct. 14-16 & 24 (REW) were unusually far south. Small numbers of Golden-crowned Kinglets were found through most of the Region during October and November with one at Finney L. near S.E.S.S. Nov. 10 (MAP) being the southernmost in the e. part of the Region.

Single Townsend's Solitaires in San Marino Nov. 10 (DC), in La Jolla Oct. 9 (REW), and on Pt. Loma Nov. 18 (REW) were in the coastal lowlands where considered rare. A Gray-cheeked Thrush banded on Pt. Loma Sept. 10-11 (GJ) was the earliest of the four recorded to date in s. California. A Wood Thrush found in Long Beach Oct. 10 (MH) and another seen on Pt. Loma Oct. 21 (REW) furnished 7th and 8th records for s. California. A Gray Catbird, an unexpectedly rare straggler, was near Santa Maria Oct. 5 (SEF), another

was in Costa Mesa, Orange, Oct. 19 (BO'C), and a 3rd was inland near Independence, Inyo, Oct. 23 (T & JH). At least eight Brown Thrashers were found this fall between Sept. 23 and Nov. 9, two coastal and the rest inland. An ad. White Wagtail in Satcoy Nov. 8 into December (RJM) is believed to be the same bird that wintered in this area 1987-1988 and 1988-1989. As expected, a few Red-throated Pipits were found along the coast during October, with one near Santa Maria Oct. 6-7 (SEF), one in Goleta Oct. 1 (JLD), at least three on the Oxnard Plain near Ventura between Sept. 30 and Oct. 7 (LLS, PEL), at least two near Imperial Beach Oct. 13-24 (JO'B, REW) and one on Santa Catalina I. Oct. 26 (LJ). A Bohemian Waxwing, a sporadic straggler, was feeding on rotting apples at Oasis, Mono, Nov. 4 (RMCK). An imm. N. Shrike at Galileo Hill Nov. 3 (MTH) was somewhat early, followed by another at Edwards Nov. 11 (MTH).

A Bell's Vireo, rarely found away from nesting localities, was near Santa Maria Sept. 10 (PEL) and another was studied in Long Beach Oct. 10 (JKA). A Gray Vireo in the Chocolate Mts. Sept. 18 (RMCK), either a migrant or on its winter grounds, was the first ever found in Imperial and one of very few found away from known breeding localities. A Yellow-throated Vireo, a casual to accidental straggler to California, at Panamint Springs, Inyo, Oct. 13-14 (GMcC) was the first found away from the coast in fall. Single Philadelphia Vireos, a species found once or twice a year in s. California, were at H.D.L. on Sept. 30 and Oct. 11 (EAC, *S.B.C.M.), and a 3rd was on Pt. Loma Sept. 22-26 (LSa). Four Red-eyed Vireos were reported, an average number nowadays, with one inland at F.C.R. Sept. 8 (MAP) and single birds along the coast near Santa Maria Sept. 9 (JSR), and on Pt. Loma Sept. 30 (D & MH) and Oct. 14-16 (DP). Three Yellow-green Vireos, remarkably regular strays, were reported with one in Newport Beach Sept. 29 (LJ), another in Costa Mesa Oct. 18 (JP), and a somewhat elusive bird on Pt. Loma Oct. 7-17 (GMcC).

WOOD WARBLERS

Two Golden-winged Warblers were found, a male at L. Palmdale in n.e. Los Angeles Sept. 21 (JKA) and another male in Morongo Val-

ley Oct. 27 (MAP), this being one of the rarest of the wood warblers to reach California. Tennessee Warblers were scarcer than normal with only 27 reported between Aug. 25 and Nov. 9. Fifteen Virginia's Warblers along the coast between Aug. 27 and Oct. 11 were fewer than expected, and the only two found inland were single birds near Santa Ynez, *Santa Barbara*, Sept. 27–28 (CP) and near Lancaster Sept. 3 (KLG). Reports of Lucy's Warblers on the coast, where quite rare, included single birds at Refugio S.B., *Santa Barbara*, Sept. 13–17 (SEF), in Goleta Nov. 22–Dec. 2 (RPH), at S.C.R.E. Sept. 4 (RJM), and near Imperial Beach Sept. 30–Oct. 2 (REW). Single N. Parulas, always scarce in fall, were along the coast in Oceano Sept. 29–Oct. 10 (DF), near Santa Maria Sept. 22 (PEL) and Sept. 30–Oct. 5 (DSt), and in Wilmington Sept. 27–Oct. 7 (MH), and inland at H.D.L. Oct. 3 (EAC) and at Finney L. near S.E.S.S. Sept. 14 (AME).



Chestnut-sided Warbler near Oxnard, California, on October 13, 1990. Photograph/Don Desjardin.

Nine Chestnut-sided Warblers were reported along the coast between Sept. 23–Oct. 15, along with very late individuals in Santa Maria Nov. 29 (JSR) and Gardena, *Los Angeles*, Nov. 15–24 (MH), and single individuals found inland at Deep Springs Sept. 22 (MAP) and at Galileo Hill the same day (MTH), giving us an average number for this time of year. Seventeen Magnolia Warblers scattered through the Region Sept. 15–Oct. 21 were more than expected. A ♀ Cape May Warbler, a species that has become remarkably scarce in recent years, was in California City Oct. 13 (MTH) and another was on Pt. Loma Oct. 6 (GmC). The only Black-throated Blue Warblers found this fall were six at desert

oases between Sept. 23 and Oct. 26, and a male on Point Loma Nov. 3 (EP). Six Black-throated Green Warblers along the coast between Sept. 29 and Oct. 16 were about average. Single Blackburnian Warblers in Oceano Oct. 13 (BS), on Pt. Loma Oct. 2 & 21 (REW), and near Imperial Beach Oct. 19–22 (JW) were fewer than expected along the coast, but one at H.D.L. Oct. 11 (EAC, *S.B.C.M.) was among very few ever found inland in this Region. A Yellow-throated Warbler, casual to accidental in California, was photographed in Oceano Sept. 30–Oct. 2 (KZ). A Grace's Warbler present in Santa Barbara since Sept. 23 (HPR) was clearly attempting to winter locally.

A ♀ Pine Warbler, an exceptionally good find in California, was in Oceano Oct. 27 (BS) and a male was near Imperial Beach Oct. 17–19 (DP). Eleven Prairie Warblers along the coast between Aug. 26 and Oct. 20 were about average, but one near Cantil Sept. 29 (MTH) was among very few ever

and singles along the coast in Oceano Oct. 7 (JSR), Long Beach Sept. 22 (MH), and Huntington Beach Oct. 21–22 (BED). Black-poll Warblers were certainly less numerous than normal, with only 35± found between Sept. 17 and Oct. 17, but including three in the e. portion of *Kern* between Sept. 15 and Oct. 12 (MTH), one at H.D.L. Sept. 30 (EAC), and another at L. Palmdale Sept. 21 (JKA), where considered most unusual in fall.

Ten Prothonotary Warblers were reported, far more than expected, with three at F.C.R. between Oct. 10 & 14 (T & JH, JLD, KLG), one in California City Sept. 21–24 (JCW), and another at H.D.L. Oct. 3 (EAC, *S.B.C.M.) being inland, and singles in Oceano Sept. 29–Oct. 1 (DF) and Oct. 17–20 (FL), in Los Osos Oct. 23–31 (LT), and on Pt. Loma Sept. 29 (REW) & 30 (D & MH) along the coast. The only Worm-eating Warbler found was on Pt. Loma Oct. 21 (REW). Twelve Ovenbirds scattered throughout the Region between Sept. 23 and Nov. 4 was about average. A ♂ Kentucky Warbler, casual to accidental in California, was on Pt. Loma Sept. 14–17 (DA).

No fewer than five Connecticut Warblers were found with single birds inland at Stovepipe Wells in Death Valley Sept. 22 (MAP), at nearby Scotty's Castle Sept. 22–27 (MAP), and at Galileo Hill Sept. 19 (RFC), and along the coast on Pt. Loma Sept. 14–15 (GmC) and in Goleta Sept. 28–30 (DSt). Five Mourning Warblers appeared to be about normal with single birds at Oceano Oct. 3 (JSR), Gaviota Sept. 13 (PEL), Carpinteria Sept. 23 (PEL), Huntington Beach Oct. 8 (SM), and Pt. Loma Sept. 19 (REW). Single Hooded Warblers in Irvine Sept. 22 (JT), near San Juan Capistrano Nov. 3 (MD), and on Pt. Loma Oct. 2 (REW) were about average. More Canada Warblers than expected reached the coast with 10 reported Sept. 17–Oct. 19; one at F.C.R. Sept. 25–28 (KVR), another in California City Nov. 1 (MTH), and a 3rd banded near Victorville, *San Bernardino*, Sept. 30 (SJM) were inland where few indeed have been found.

TANAGERS TO FINCHES

A ♂ Hepatic Tanager, most unusual as a vagrant along the coast, was on Pt. Loma Sept. 29–Oct. 1

(REW) and a female was there Oct. 6 (GmC). A Summer Tanager at Oasis Nov. 4 (RMCK) and another at F.C.R. Nov. 17 (MAP) were both exceptionally late for the n.e. portion of the Region. A ♂ Scarlet Tanager, a difficult bird to come by in California, was on Pt. Loma Oct. 14–16 (REW), another was in Costa Mesa Nov. 12 (RAH), and *Kern's* first was photographed in Mojave Oct. 19 (MTH). A Blue Grosbeak in Mojave Nov. 18 (HB) was remarkable, since the previous late date for the n.e. portion of the Region had been in late September. A ♀ Painted Bunting, casual to accidental in California, was at F.C.R. Sept. 25 (GHR), and another was photographed near Cantil Oct. 6 (MTH). A Dickcissel in Big Pine Sept. 11 (T & JH), single individuals at F.C.R. Sept. 22 (MAP) and Nov. 2 (JLD), one in Baker Oct. 6 (MAP), and another at H.D.L. Sept. 30 (EAC) were inland, and single birds in Goleta Sept. 8 & 14 (PEL) and on Pt. Loma Sept. 25 (REW) were along the coast.

A Green-tailed Towhee in Cambria Nov. 1–6 (NW) was only the 6th ever found in *San Luis Obispo*. As usual a few Am. Tree Sparrows pushed south into the n.e. portion of the Region, with six found in *Inyo* Oct. 26–Nov. 17. Clay-colored Sparrows were much less numerous than a year ago with only 25 reported between Aug. 28 and Oct. 21. A Black-chinned Sparrow at Vail L., *Riverside*, Oct. 22 (SJM) was one of very few found in California at this time of year. Single Lark Buntings at F.C.R. Sept. 8 (MAP) and near Scotty's Castle at the n. end of Death Valley Oct. 27 (GmC) were the only two found this fall.

Large-billed Savannah Sparrows were again found along the coast of s. California with one at the Santa Ynez R. mouth Nov. 28–Dec. 1 (SEF) being the first in years for *Santa Barbara*, and up to four as far n. as Morro Bay Sept. 21–Oct. 5 (GPS). A *Le Conte's Sparrow* photographed at S.C.R.E. Sept. 23–24 (RJM) was one of very few to be found in California, and the first ever along the coast of s. California. A Sharp-tailed Sparrow at F.C.R. Sept. 22 (KR) was the first ever found inland in this Region in fall. Swamp Sparrows were a little more numerous than usual with 35± reported after Oct. 11. White-throated Sparrows were also numerous with 70± reported after Sept. 29, but Harris' Sparrows



Prairie Warbler in Big Sycamore Canyon, Ventura County, California, October 14, 1990. Photograph/David Koeppel.

found inland in this Region. Palm Warblers were scarce with only 27 reported after a somewhat early individual at S.C.R.E. Sept. 21 (RJM). Four Bay-breasted Warblers were found with one inland in California City Oct. 3 (CH),

were scarcer than normal with only seven found after Nov. 3.

Up to two McCown's Longspurs, rare stragglers to California, were in Irvine Oct. 19–Nov. 3 (DSi) and two more were near Imperial Beach Nov. 18–25



Lapland Longspur at California City, California, November 2, 1990.
Photograph/John Wilson.

(GMcC). As usual a few Lapland Longspurs pushed south into this Region with at least 17 found after Oct. 9. At least 55 Chestnut-colored Longspurs, the most numerous and widespread of the longspurs here, were found scattered through the Region with the earliest at F.C.R. Sept. 25 (JLD).

Bobolinks were relatively scarce, with only nine found in the e. por-

tion of the Region and 18 more along the coast between Sept. 13 and Oct. 25, along with a very late individual in Lompoc Nov. 10–18 (KH). The only Rusty Blackbirds found were one in Baker Nov. 11 (MAP), another near Cantil Nov. 15 (MTH), and four together at H.D.L. Oct. 25 (EAC). Orchard Orioles also appeared less numerous than normal with only four found along the coast between Sept. 15 and Oct. 28. A ♂ Baltimore Oriole at Finney L. near S.E.S.S. Sept. 9–11 (GMcC) was at an unusual locality and early for a vagrant.

A Rosy Finch near Scotty's Castle Oct. 26 (PEL) was at a most unusual locality. A few Red Crossbills pushed south into this Region during November, with 16 on Figueroa Mt. near Santa Barbara Nov. 9 (NS) and one in California City Nov. 6 (MTH) being the southernmost. Single Lawrence's Goldfinches at F.C.R. Oct. 10 (T & JH), Desert Center Sept. 23 (MAP), and Thousand Palms Sept. 30 (MAP) were in areas where few have been found. Small numbers of Evening Grosbeaks were scattered throughout the e. portion of the Region during Oc-

tober and November, with one at S.E.S.S. Oct. 17–18 (WRR) being the southernmost and only the 3rd ever in *Imperial*.

Contributors: (county coordinators in boldface) Doug Aguillard, Jonathan K. Alderfer, Keith Axelson, Louis R. Bevier, David V. Blue, Sherry Brubaker, **Eugene A. Cardiff** (*San Bernardino*), **Mark O. Chichester** (*Kern*), Rick F. Clements, Daniel Cooper, **Elizabeth Copper** (*San Diego*), Brian E. Daniels, Guy Deeks, Don Desjardin, Maxine Dougan, Jon L. Dunn, **Tom M. Edell** (*San Luis Obispo*), Claud G. Edwards, Alan M. Eisner, Barbara Elliot, Richard A. Erickson, Shawneen E. Finnegan, David Flint, **Kimball L. Garrett** (*Los Angeles*), Pascal & Susan Grimaud, Richard A. Hallowell, Robert A. Hansen, Robert W. Hansen, Joan Hardie, Don & Marjorie Hastings, Karen A. Havlena, Loren R. Hays, Fred Heath, Matt T. Heindel, Mitch Heindel, Tom & Jo Heindel, Roger Higson, Ron P. Hirst, Jim Hodgson, Ken Hollinga, Charles Hood, Richard Jeffers, Eric V. Johnson, Ginger Johnson, Lee Jones, David Koep-

pel, Jeri M. Langham, **Paul E. Lehman** (*Santa Barbara and Ventura*), Martin & Mildred Litke, Frank Little, Robert Lloyd, Barry Lyon, Betty & Ida Mazin, Bill McCoslund, John McDonald, Chet McGaugh, **Robert McKernan** (*Riverside*), Stephen J. Meyers, Steve Mlodinow, Randy J. Moore, John O'Brien, Bill O'Connell, Michael A. Patten, Dennis Parker, Cruz Phillips, Jim Pike, Ed Post, Kurt Radamaker, William R. Radke, Hugh P. Ranson, Gary H. Rosenberg, Kenneth V. Rosenberg, Jim S. Royer, Ron Ryno, Florence Sanchez, Larry L. Sansone, Luis Santaella, Brad Schram, David Sibley (DSi), Joyce Siebold, Arnold Small, Gregory P. Smith, Nancy States, David Stejskal (DSi), Monte Taylor, Jerry Tolman, Tom Tolman, Lisa Trayser, John Walters, Richard E. Webster, Nick Whelman, **Douglas R. Willick** (*Orange*), John C. Wilson, Irwin Woldman, Kevin Zimmer. An additional 60± observers who could not be individually acknowledged submitted reports this season.—**GUY McCASKIE**, **San Diego Natural History Museum, Balboa Park, P.O. Box 1390, San Diego, CA 92112.**

DUTCH BIRDING



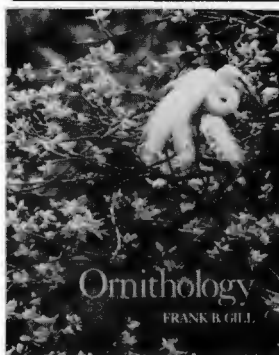
Quarterly journal
for every keen
birder!

- ☐ Excellent papers on identification, distribution, movements and behaviour of Palearctic birds.
- ☐ Latest news on rare birds in the Netherlands and Belgium.
- ☐ In English or with English summaries.
- ☐ Well produced with numerous high quality photographs.

For information write to:
Dutch Birding, Postbus 5611,
1007 AP Amsterdam,
Netherlands.

Subscribers to *Dutch Birding* can claim 25% off a *British Birds* subscription

NEW RESOURCES FOR BIRDERS!



ORNITHOLOGY, Frank B. Gill

"...Interesting information...easily readable style ...[for] anyone who wishes to learn about the technical side of ornithology...or for reference for virtually every topic in this science."

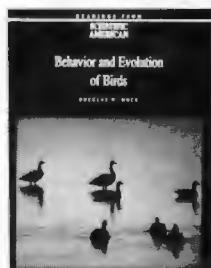
—**Naturalist Review**

"up-to-date...most attractively produced."—**Nature**

"If you take your birds seriously, you have to have this book."—**The Good Book Guide**

Ornithology offers both thorough knowledge of the form, function, and behavior of birds and superior understanding of the field's broader biological implications. Its clear, lively style makes it enjoyably accessible to readers from all backgrounds.

1990, cloth, 660 pages, 370 illustrations ISBN 0-7167-2065-5, \$49.95



BEHAVIOR AND EVOLUTION OF BIRDS Readings from *Scientific American* Edited by Douglas Mock

Twelve articles from *Scientific American Magazine* examine the fascinating interplay between behavior and evolution in the species Aves.

1991, paper, approx. 176 pages, 94 illustrations (est.)
ISBN 0-7167-2237-2, \$12.95

W. H. Freeman and Company
The book publishing arm of *Scientific American*