

# SOUTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION

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The warm waters associated with El Niño adversely affected nesting success of such birds as Brandt's Cormorants and Western Gulls on the Channel Islands (Gerry McChesney), and are believed to have adversely affected seabirds breeding in western Mexico, dispersing them northward into southern California waters earlier than normal. Shearwaters and storm-petrels were concentrated in colder waters along the immediate coast, delighting sea-watchers from Orange County northward. The unprecedented spring influx of Northern Parulas, Kentucky, and Hooded warblers resulted in some remaining through the summer, including the first records for nesting Northern

Parula in southern California and Hooded Warbler in the state.

**Abbreviations:** C.L.N.W.A.S. (*China Lake Naval Air Weapons Station, extreme n.e. Kern Co.*); F.C.R. (*Furnace Creek Ranch, Death Valley N.M., Inyo*); H.D.L. (*Harper Dry Lake, n.w. of Barstow, San Bernardino County*); N.E.S.S. (*north end of the Salton Sea, Riverside County*); S.B.C.M. (*San Bernardino County Museum*); S.B.M.N.H. (*Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History*); S.E.S.S. (*south end of the Salton Sea, Imperial County*); S.F.K.R.P. (*South Fork Kern River Preserve near Weldon, Kern County*). As virtually all rarities in s. California are seen by

many observers, only the observer initially finding and 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. Records submitted without documentation are not published.

## GREBES TO STORM-PETRELS

The breeding status of the two *Aechmophorus* grebes in s. California is still poorly known; hence any information is important. This summer 60+ pairs of W. Grebes successfully nested on L. Cachuma, *Santa Barbara*, along with 80+ pairs of Clark's Grebes and 2 mixed pairs (PEL); a downy young W. Grebe picked up at L. Casitas July 25 (KL, \* S.B.M.N.H.) establishes the first record for nesting in *Ventura*; at least 3 pairs of W. Grebes raised young on L. Palmdale for what appears to be the first nesting record in *Los Angeles*, and four young Clark's Grebes were seen on the nearby Piute Ponds July 25–Aug. 16 (KLG); both species successfully nested on L. Isabella, *Kern*, with Westerns easily outnumbering Clark's (MTH), and the presence of four downy Clark's on Klondike L. near Big Pine, *Inyo*, July 4 (T & JH) documenting nesting at that locality.

A worn N. Fulmar near Santa Cruz I., July 9 (MAH) and another near the w. end of Santa Rosa I., July 25 (MH) were undoubtedly summering in these waters. About 300 Cook's Petrels were seen at about 200 mi off the coast and beyond during a CAL COFI scientific survey cruise July 2–16 (PP). A Stejneger's Petrel was at 31° 06'N 121° 04'W (153 naut. mi s.w. of San Nicolas I.) July 3 (PP), another was at 32° 13'N 123° 33'W (189 naut. mi w.s.w. of San Miguel I.) July 10

(PP), and a 3rd was just outside the Region at 32° 01'N 123° 56'W (212 naut. mi w.s.w. of San Miguel I.) the same day (PP).

Buller's Shearwater 32 naut. mi s. of San Clemente I., July 3 (PP) is one of a very few to be found in s. California waters in July, and was also s. of the areas of most frequent occurrence. Small numbers of Black-vented Shearwaters were present in s. California waters throughout the summer, with numbers increasing in July as indicated by 500 off La Jolla, *San Diego*, July 7–9 (PAG), 30,000 off Newport Beach, *Orange*, July 31 (MTH), up to 500 a day from Pt. Mugu, *Ventura*, throughout June (3000 present June 28–DD), 75 in the Santa Barbara Channel July 9 (SEF), and hundreds off the Santa Maria R. mouth, *Santa Barbara/San Luis Obispo*, July 26 (JSR), suggesting many failed to nest this year. One off San Diego July 2 (PP) had the white of the underparts extending up on the flanks, and into the rump, much as on a Townsend's Shearwater, indicating that this mark alone cannot be relied on to identify Townsend's Shearwaters.

The sighting of up to 10 Ashy Storm-Petrels a day from the pier in Newport Beach, *Orange*, after June 20 (BED) was unexpected since this species is considered rare off extreme s. California. Least Storm-Petrels arrived in s. California waters earlier than normal, with the earliest being one off the Palos Verdes Pen., *Los Angeles*, June 14 (MH), and with high counts including 80 from the pier in Newport Beach July 21 (MTH) and 200 in the Santa Barbara Channel July 12 (PP).

## TROPICBIRDS TO STORKS

A Red-billed Tropicbird 84 naut. mi s.w. of San Clemente I., July 3 (PP), another 128 naut. mi w. of San Miguel I., July 13 (PP), a 3rd 5 mi s. of Catalina I., July 16 (*vide* PP), and a 4th 5 mi off the s.e. end of San Miguel I., July 25 (MH), were in waters where small numbers probably occur each year; one seen along the coast of the Palos Verdes Pen. on 3 days between July 5 & 19 (MH, LC, LT) is the first Red-billed Tropicbird to be reported seen from shore in s. California.

An ad. Masked Booby that flew S past Pt. Mugu June 20 (DD, BH) and a first-year bird seen from the pier in Newport Beach June 30 (BED, DRW) are the 2nd and 3rd to be seen in s. California, and, including the adult present in *Monterey* this summer, constitute the 4th and 5th to be recorded in the state. An ad. Brown Booby, a casual straggler to California waters, was seen plunge-diving off the e. side of Santa Barbara I., June 2 (DW).

Brown Pelican numbers built up to over 600 on the Salton Sea in June (GMcC) and were more numerous than usual along the coast, but in-





cluding very few young of the year.

An unusually early imm. Magnificent Frigatebird at the Santa Ynez R. mouth, *Santa Barbara*, June 10 (LF), was followed by single immatures along the coast over Imperial Beach, *San Diego*, July 1 (PJ), near Ventura, *Ventura*, July 8 (*fide* DD), near the Santa Maria R. mouth July 9 (JMC), and over Newport Beach July 9 (JB); two immatures were also seen inland at S.E.S.S. June 24–25 (WRR) and another there Aug. 6 (DP).

An Am. Bittern at S.E.S.S. June 13 (MAP) is one of a very few to be found here in summer. An impressive heronry at Finney L. near S.E.S.S. consisted of 12 pairs of Great Blue Herons, 140 pairs of Great Egrets, 150 pairs of Snowy Egrets, 25,000+ pairs of Cattle Egrets, 1300 pairs of Black-crowned Night-Herons, and 370 pairs of White-faced Ibises, all successfully fledging young by early July and the Cattle Egrets sitting on 2nd clutches at the end of the period (WRR). The presence of a Great Egret on a nest at L. Cachuma July 29 (PEL) established the first record for breeding in *Santa Barbara*.

Away from s. San Diego Bay, where a small population of Little Blue Herons is resident, a "calico" bird was at Hansen Dam in Sunland, *Los Angeles*, July 4–15 (DA), an adult was present in the Prado Basin near Corona, *Riverside*, throughout June and July (JEP), and up to two adults were at S.E.S.S., June 6–July 18 (MAP, GMcC). An ad. Tricolored Heron, casual to accidental way from coastal *San Diego*, was at S.E.S.S., July 4–11 (HK). The first-summer Reddish Egret present around s. San Diego Bay after Apr. 17 was still present June 19 (GMcC), and is one of a very few to linger this late into the summer in California. The ad. Yellow-crowned Night-Heron that attempted nesting with a Black-crowned Night-Heron in La Jolla in April was still present July 25 (RR). Wood Storks arrived at S.E.S.S. later than normal, with 23 on July 23 (WRR) being the high count this year—a far cry from the hundreds found here as recently as 12 years ago.

#### DUCKS TO RAILS

An ad. Black-bellied Whistling-Duck was at S.E.S.S., July 6 (WRR), and what was probably the same bird was at the mouth of the Whitewater R. at N.E.S.S. July 10 (NH) providing the 11th record of this species in California. A Brant photographed on Klondike L. near Big Pine, *Inyo*, June 5–6 (T & JH) would appear to be a lost spring migrant; 130 were counted on the Salton Sea, where small numbers attempt to summer each year, during an aerial survey on July 2 (WRR). Seven Ring-necked Ducks, rare in summer, on Diaz L. near Lone Pine, *Inyo*, June 9 (T & JH), and another on Klondike L. near Big Pine June 13 (T & JH) may have been late stragglers, but up to 12 on L. Cachuma during July (PEL) clearly summered. The ♀ Harlequin Duck present at Pt. Mugu since November 1990 was last seen in April, the male at the same place was still present Aug. 2

(BL)r and the male in Cayucos, *San Luis Obispo*, after May 24 was still present July 5 (TME). Summering Oldsquaws included two remaining in Long Beach, *Los Angeles*, through June (MH), two more at Pt. Mugu through July 3 with one still present Aug. 2 (BL), and the male found on Morro Bay Apr. 25 remaining through the period (TME). The Black Scoter found on Morro Bay May 17 was still present June 18 (TME), and an ad. male was at Bolsa Chica, *Orange*, June 12–18 (JC).

A first-summer Mississippi Kite well-studied over Norwalk July 1 (NJS) is the 2nd to be recorded in *Los Angeles*. Up to three Bald Eagles were present on L. Cachuma throughout the period, and nesting was suspected (MAH). An ad. N. Goshawk, a very rare breeding bird in the mountains of s. California, was seen over Metcalf Meadow near Big Bear L. in the San Bernardino Mts. June 16 (*fide* GH). A pair of Red-shouldered Hawks nesting in Lone Pine in June (T & JH) is the first confirmation of breeding in *Inyo*. A pair of Swainson's Hawks that fledged three young e. of Lancaster, *Los Angeles*, at the end of July (KLG) may have been the only pair nesting in the Region this summer. A pair of Zone-tailed Hawks on Hot Springs Mt., *San Diego*, June 20–21 (PU) was undoubtedly the same pair seen here May 16, and probably bred at this known nesting locality.

The presence of a juv. Sora in Goleta June 13–30 (RGJ) strongly suggested local nesting, and if so, is the first in *Santa Barbara* in modern times.

#### SHOREBIRDS TO PUFFINS

A Black Oystercatcher seen flying past the Newport Beach pier July 8 (LRH) is one of a very few ever to be found in *Orange*. An ad. Solitary Sandpiper at Hansen Dam in Sunland July 10 (DA) and another on Tinnemaha Res. near Big Pine July 18 (T & JH) were the earliest to be reported this fall. A Ruddy Turnstone at H.D.L., July 26 (EAC, \* S.B.C.M.), another at S.E.S.S. July 18 (GMcC), and two at N.E.S.S., July 25 (MAP) were the only ones found away from the immediate coast. Twelve Red Knots at S.E.S.S., July 25 (KFC) were the only ones found inland. An ad. Little Stint well photographed in Irvine, *Orange*, July 25–28 (DRW) is the 4th to be found in s. California, and the 6th for the state.

The earliest Baird's Sandpiper this fall was an adult near Lancaster July 19 (KLG). An ad. Pectoral Sandpiper at C.L.N.A.W.S. July 29 (DVB) was the only one reported by period's end. A Dunlin in alternate-plumage near Santa Maria July 31–Aug. 3 (JMC) was unusually early. A basic-plumage Stilt Sandpiper at S.E.S.S., June 13 (GMcC, MAP) was believed to be summering locally; previous records include spring migrants to as late as May 21, and fall migrants returning as early as June 29. An adult in Irvine July 25 (DRW) was the only one reported away from the Salton Sea.

A ♀ Ruff was photographed along the

coast at Pt. Mugu July 18–Aug. 5 (NBB), and a male was at C.L.N.A.W.S., July 20 through the end of the period (RH). More than the expected number of Red Phalaropes were found along the coast in June and July, and one was inland on L. Cachuma July 14 (MAH).

Three S. Polar Skuas between 15–30 mi w. of San Clemente I. July 7 (PP) were well off shore where expected, but single birds 2 mi off Huntington Beach, *Orange*, July 5 (SM), on the coast at Pt. Mugu June 7 (DD), and one mi off Santa Barbara July 25 (MH) were unusually close to land.

A first-summer Franklin's Gull at N.E.S.S., June 13 (MAP) was probably a late spring straggler, but two there July 18 (GMcC) were exceptionally early returning juveniles. A Laughing Gull, rare along the coast, was at Pelican Pt., *Orange*, July 3 (BED, MTH). A first-summer Little Gull at N.E.S.S., July 4 (GMcC, MAP) is best considered the same bird seen here May 10. An ad. Herring Gull on Tinnemaha Res. near Big Pine June 12 (T & JH) was most unusual, this species being very rare in this part of California at any time of the year, and anywhere in the state in summer. Yellow-footed Gulls dispersed N to the Salton Sea earlier than normal, with more than 150 present May 31 (GMcC), but with no juveniles noted, as is normal in July, strongly suggesting nesting failures in the Gulf of California. Four first-summer Sabine's Gulls off Newport Beach July 7 (MTH) and another off nearby Pelican Pt., July 19 (BED) were believed to be summering locally, but an adult at Pt. Mugu July 23 (DD) was probably an early S migrant.

In the w. U.S. Gull-billed Terns are confined to s. California and warrant monitoring. One nesting attempt at S.E.S.S. this year largely failed when a large flock of Brown Pelicans landed on the breeding island and broke a majority of the eggs; by summer's end only 3 pairs fledged young at the 2 S.E.S.S. colonies, and an additional 25–30 pairs had fledged young at N.E.S.S. (KCM), and along the coast, where a recent colonizer, 30 pairs fledged young on s. San Diego Bay (EC).

The first breeding record for Caspian Terns on the Salton Sea in more than 30 years was obtained when 30 nests were found on Muller I. at S.E.S.S., June 25 (KM). An Arctic Tern at Goleta Pt., June 15 (PEL) was on the immediate coast where its presence is most unusual, and was late for a spring migrant. Two Least Terns, very rare to casual stragglers to the Salton Sea, were at S.E.S.S., June 6 (MAP), another was there July 4 (MAP), two more were at N.E.S.S., June 11 (MAP), and a 6th was there July 4–11 (MAP).

Pigeon Guillemots appeared s. of their normal range on the coast, with one at Leo Carrillo State Beach, *Los Angeles*, June 29 (SM), another flying past Pt. Vicente on the Palos Verdes Pen., July 18 (B. Schlinger, *fide* MH), single birds off Newport Beach on July 7 (MTH) & 9 (LRH), and two in La Jolla June 12–14 (TC).

A Xantus' Murrelet that landed on the



CAL COFI cruise ship during the night of July 3–4 (PP) far off San Diego, and three more seen off San Miguel I., July 11 (PP) were of the s. form *hypoleuca* that regularly moves N into s. California waters after nesting. Two Craveri's Murrelets, regular post-breeding visitors to s. California waters, were off Pelican Pt., July 19 (MTH), another was off Newport Beach July 21 (MTH), one was at Pt. Mugu July 21 (DD), another was at Goleta Pt., July 25 (PEL), and two more were about 15 mi s.w. of Santa Rosa I. the same day (GMcC).

The presence of two alternate-plumage Rhinoceros Auklets at the sea-cliffs in Avila Beach, *San Luis Obispo*, July 31 (TME) strongly suggests nesting at that locality. Since Tufted Puffins are rarely encountered in s. California, the presence of one in alternate-plumage on Prince Islet off San Miguel I., May 5 (Lynne Stenzel, *vide* DJL) is of interest.

#### DOVES TO VIREOS

A White-winged Dove in San Simeon, *San Luis Obispo*, July 3 (RS) was well to the n.w. of the species' normal range. Two Inca Doves were still present at F.C.R., July 21 (GH), and another was near Tecopa July 1–13 (JT), these localities being n. of the species' normal California range. At least one Ruddy Ground-Dove was still present at F.C.R., July 21 (GH) providing the first record for summer in the state.

Away from the Colorado R. valley Yellow-billed Cuckoos were found at 8 localities, with at least three around Big Pine June 7–July 15 (T & JH), one at China Ranch near Tecopa, *Inyo*, July 13 (JT), 60± at S.F.K.R.P. throughout the summer (SL—23 nests found, 50 birds banded), up to two along the Mojave R. near Victorville, *San Bernardino*, June 16–Aug. 29 (SJM), one on the Santa Clara R., e. of Piru, *Yentura*, July 19 (MAH), one in Guajome Regional Pk. near Oceanside, *San Diego*, June 11–12 (FRT), up to three at the e. end of L. Hodges, *San Diego*, July 14–22 (JS, DWA), and a late migrant at Oasis, *Mono*, June 25 (RST).

A Short-eared Owl flushed from a nest with 8 eggs on Santa Barbara I., Apr. 15 (Trudy Ingram, *vide* DLJ) establishes breeding at that locality, and one seen doing breeding display flights at H.D.L., May 18 (EAC) suggests nesting at that locality; numbers of this species in s. California have declined drastically in recent years.

A Com. Nighthawk well-studied on Santa Barbara I., June 21 (DLJ) is the first to be found on the Channel Is., and another calling over Bakersfield June 13 (SF) provides the first record of this species in the s. San Joaquin Valley. Seven Black Swifts at Ragged Pt., *San Luis Obispo*, July 3 (GPS) were at a locality where nesting has been suspected for a number of years, but not yet confirmed. As usual, a small number of Chimney Swifts spent the summer in and around downtown Los Angeles (KLG, DA, MH). A *Chaetura* at N.E.S.S., June 11 (MAP) was suspected to be a Chimney Swift, the more likely species in s.



Ruff (center—with dowitchers) at Pt. Mugu, California, on July 18, 1992. Photograph/Don Desjardin.

California at this time of the year. A pair of Belted Kingfishers nesting along the Mojave R. near Victorville in May–June (MAP) provides the first breeding record in this area of California.

A ♂ Vermilion Flycatcher near Chino, *San Bernardino*, July 16 (KFC) was away from areas of regular occurrence; a pair nesting in Ridgecrest this summer (RH) and another pair nesting in Santa Barbara Canyon near the Cuyama Valley in May/June (S & BS, \* S.B.M.N.H.) establish the first breeding records for Kern and Santa Barbara respectively. Up to four Brown-crested Flycatchers near Tecopa during June and July (JT) were at the extreme n. limit of this species' range in California, and another pair near Victorville all summer (SJM) was at the w. extreme of this species' range. An E. Kingbird at the N.E.S.S., June 18 (PEN) and another in Independence, *Inyo*, July 2 (AK) were summer stragglers.

A Cactus Wren at Schulman Grove in the White Mts., *Inyo*, July 17 (T & JH) was a little n. of the species' range, and at an unusually high elevation (10,000 feet) Two pairs of W. Bluebirds at nest holes around Upper Covington Flat in Joshua Tree N.M., *San Bernardino*, May 13–20 (BP) were in an area where breeding is previously unknown. Additional records of White-eyed Vireos, all singing males, were provided by one along the upper stretch of Arrastre Cr, e. of Baldwin L. in the San Bernardino Mts., June 23–24 (GH), one near San Juan Capistrano, *Orange*, June 26–28 (BED), another near Tecopa July 9–11 (JT), and a 4th along the Santa Margareta R. at Camp Pendleton, *San Diego*, July 12–19 (PAG), to bring this year's total for s. California to nine. Two races of Bell's Vireos breed in s. California, with *pusillus* along the coast and *arizonae* along the Colorado River; a singing male on S.F.K.R.P., May 19–29 (JS) and pairs near Victorville during May–June (SJM) are assumed to be *pusillus*, and two singing males near Palo Verde, *Imperial*, May 30 (MAP)

were in the known range of *arizonae*. However, one can only speculate as to which race two singing males at F.C.R., May 17–July 3 (T & JH) and another singing male near Tecopa July 1–2 (JT) were—this stimulating investigation by Michael A. Patten. The Yellow-throated Vireo found in Descanso Gardens in La Canada Flintridge, *Los Angeles*, June 9 was still present July 9 (GB), and another was near Mono Cr Campground, *Santa Barbara*, June 26–July 1 (HPR). A Red-eyed Vireo in Goleta June 17–22 (NS) and another at Hansen Dam in Sunland July 2 (DA) are two of a very few found in s. California in mid-summer.

#### WOOD WARBLERS

At least 2 pairs of Lucy's Warblers near Borego Springs, *San Diego*, in April and May (DWA), two in Morongo Valley, *San Bernardino*, July 19 (MAP), and, one near Victorville June 2 (MAP) were at the w. extreme of this species' breeding range. A few N. Parulas, probably birds reaching s. California during the spring influx, were noted well into the summer, with single singing males near Nipomo, *San Luis Obispo*, June 21 (BKS), near Santa Ynez, *Santa Barbara*, June 8–28 (MAH), in Santa Barbara June 23 (HPR), at Chilao in the San Gabriel Mts., *Los Angeles*, June 15 (DS), in La Canada Flintridge June 11 (KLG), and near Carlsbad, *San Diego*, July 2 (DRW); A pair on Agua Dulce Cr in the Laguna Mts. of *San Diego* June 11–July 4 (TC) and another pair that fledged young from a nest at Mountain Home Village in the San Bernardino Mts. in June (JDG) were also noted. Single Black-and-white Warblers, unexpected in mid-summer, were in La Canada Flintridge July 8 (GB), Santa Barbara July 5–13 (HPR), and at San Marcos Pass above Santa Barbara July 31–Aug. 3 (JH). A young ♂ Am. Redstart in Huntington Beach June 3–20, with two present on June 20 (BED), and another on Pt. Loma in San Diego June 23 (REW) were probably very late spring vagrants. A Worm-eating



Warbler in Montana de Oro S.P., *San Luis Obispo*, June 28 (BKS) was probably a lost spring straggler. A Magnolia Warbler in Torrance, *Los Angeles*, June 24 (MB) was probably a very late spring vagrant.

A N. Waterthrush in Goleta June 17 (SEF) is one of a very few to be found in California at this time. Kentucky Warblers remained through the summer along the Santa Ynez R. watershed in *Santa Barbara*, with the number at Juncal Campground increasing from two to as many as four June 10–July 27 (JH), at least two at P-Bar June 15–Aug. 3 (JMG), and another male was near Mono Cr Campground June 22 (JMG), bringing the total found in this area since May 24 to at least 11 (possibly 13), with seven of these caught and banded. The presence of a pair of MacGillivray's Warblers with a juvenile at San Marcos Pass June 4–19 (MAH) established the first breeding record for *Santa Barbara*.

Hooded Warblers also remained through the summer after the unprecedented influx this spring: a singing male found in Montana de Oro S.P., June 1 was still present Aug. 4 (TME), and was joined by another male June 28 (TME) and a female July 27 (JSR); a singing male was found in Santa Barbara May 16 present through at least July 22 (SEF); a male found at Juncal Campground on the upper stretch of the Santa Ynez R., June 16 was still present July 27 (RWH); at least 2 pairs remained on S.F.K.R.P. all summer (JS) with 3 attempts at nesting, and at least one pair remaining in Descanso Gardens in La Canada Flintridge successfully fledging young from a nest Aug. 9 (GB, KLG). In addition a male was present on the Santa Rosa Plateau Ecological Reserve near Murrieta, *Riverside*, June 27–July 10 (WJM), accompanied by a female on July 1 (MAP); a male was near Victorville June 17 (RAE); a male was at Hansen Dam in Sunland July 2 (DA), and another male was in La Jolla June 24–25 (CGE).

#### TANAGERS TO FINCHES

Four Hepatic Tanagers on Clark Mt. in e. *San Bernardino* May 23–24 (RJR) were at a known breeding locality. Four pairs of Summer Tanagers near Victorville through the summer (SJM) and a male near Tecopa July 1 (JT) were on the fringe of this species' breeding range in California; single males in Independence June 15 (T & JH) and Big Pine June 16 (T & JH) were n. of this species' range; a male at L. Arrowhead in the San Bernardino Mts., May 31 (CAL) was at an unusually high elevation, and single birds in Goleta June 13 (RGJ), La Canada Flintridge July 30 (GB), Sunland July 6 (DA), and near Carlsbad July 22–24 (DRW) were w. of this species' range. A pair of W. Tanagers seen carrying nesting material in Cerro Alto Campground June 6–8 (K & JH) gives us the best evidence of breeding in *San Luis Obispo* to date. The presence of a pair of N. Cardinals with a recently fledged young at the *San Bernardino/Riverside* line on the Colorado R. May 31 (AME) shows this species is still

holding on as a breeding bird in this area. Reports of Rose-breasted Grosbeaks include single birds near Santa Ynez July 4 (JH), near Victorville June 11 (SJM), in Malibu, *Los Angeles*, June 12 (BE), La Jolla June 27 (JM), and near Del Mar, *San Diego*, June 25 (BZ). At least 12 ♂ Indigo Buntings, a species expanding its range into s. California, were found scattered throughout the Region, with some of these remaining on territories for extended periods of time, which now appears normal; in addition a ♂ Indigo Bunting paired with a Lazuli Bunting in Cajon Pass, *San Bernardino*, and successfully fledged two young, and a ♂ Indigo × Lazuli Bunting hybrid paired with a Lazuli Bunting at the same locality and attending a nest June 2–24 (KFC) that appeared destroyed by predators.

A Clay-colored Sparrow at Deep Springs, *Inyo*, July 25 (T & JH) was exceptionally early for a fall migrant if it didn't summer locally. A Brewer's Sparrow nest with 4 eggs near Winchester, *Riverside*, May 13 (RMCK) was far from the nearest known breeding locality. A Black-throated Sparrow in Costa Mesa, *Orange*, July 18 (RAH) was on the immediate coast where its presence is very rare. A Large-billed Savannah Sparrow at Bolsa Chica June 14 (RAE) was very early, but no more of these post-breeding visitors from Baja California were reported by season's end. A pair of Dark-eyed (Oregon) Juncos fledged young in Huntington Beach in June (DRW), this being the first successful nesting in coastal *Orange*, and the only locality away from La Jolla where this species has nested on the immediate coast s. of *Ventura*.

Most interesting was the presence of six ♂ Bobolinks displaying to two females in a fallow pasture in Independence June 2–14 (AK): unfortunately this apparent attempt at nesting was aborted when 200 cattle were released into the pasture. A ♂ Bronzed Cowbird near Tecopa July 1–13, with a female accompanying it July 1 (JT), establishes the 2nd record for *Inyo*, the first being a male photographed in Tecopa on May 10, 1985 (JT); this species appears to be expanding its range in s. California, with four to five in Brawley, *Imperial*, May 10 through the summer (GMCC), and five together near N.E.S.S., July 4 (GMCC) being w. of the Colorado R. valley.

Up to 20 Red Crossbills seen feeding recently fledged young around Bluff L. in the San Bernardino Mts. during June and July (GH) showed this species to have nested locally.

#### EXOTICS

The hybrid offspring of a Blue-and-yellow Macaw (*Ara ararauna*) mated with a Red-and-green Macaw (*Ara chloroptera*) that nested on Pt. Loma in San Diego this summer (REW) boggles the mind, and illustrates what may occur where numbers of a variety of *Pittacids* are flying free. The presence of two Red-whiskered Bulbuls at Charlton Flat at 5000 feet in the San Gabriel Mts. in June (KLG) indicates that not all escapees remain around population centers, and the presence

of two displaying Golden Weavers (*Ploceus subaureus*) building nests along the Los Angeles R. throughout the summer (KLG) shows escapees will breed if the opportunity arises.

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