

MIDDLE PACIFIC COAST REGION

David G. Yee, Stephen F. Bailey,
and Bruce E. Deuel

Signs of the El Niño mounted. The trends noted in the winter season continued, and our Region received its first Dark-rumped Petrel and Great Frigatebird. As in the 1983 El Niño, storm-petrels appeared close to shore. Many seabirds at the Farallon Islands, Castle Rock, etc., skipped breeding or failed early.

Apparently as a response to the continuing drought, many species of dabbling ducks nested in unusual numbers at sewer ponds throughout the Central Valley and coastal areas.

However the most noted events of the season were among landbirds. Many observers felt most migrants moved through earlier and in smaller numbers than normal. The early migration was epitomized by the March 19 fallout on southeast Farallon Island that set early arrival island records for many species. As for the small numbers, it has been suggested that lush vegetation to the south, especially in the deserts, caused by healthy rains during late winter, dispersed migrants wider than normal. But where regular migrants were few, vagrants, especially among warblers, were many. What is notable besides the sheer numbers, with little exception, were their early arrival dates.

Abbreviations: C.B.R.C. (*California Bird Records Committee*); C.C.R.S. (*Coyote Creek Riparian banding Station, Santa Clara Co.*); C.V. (*Central Valley*); F.I. (*Southeast Farallon Island*); I.C.R. (*Inner Coast Range*); S.F. (*San Francisco*). All records from F.I. and Palomar should be credited to Point Reyes Bird Observatory. Place names in italics are counties.

LOONS THROUGH FRIGATEBIRDS

Although tens of thousands of Pacific Loons migrate along our coast on some spring days, enormous staging flocks are not common. Up to 3400 staged in Drakes Bay, *Marin*, May 10 (RS, m.ob.). Three Pacific Loons strayed inland, two at L. Almanor Mar. 14 (†LJ) and one at Fall River L., *Shasta*, Mar. 7 (BY, JW). A Horned Grebe lingered to May 31 at Hayward Shoreline (RJR). With the 6-year drought, Eared Grebe no longer breeds in Sierra Valley (LJ).

Another Laysan Albatross was found in a street, this time in S.F., Apr. 6 (B. Good). Three were far offshore S.F. May 2 (SBT, BHi). A Dark-rumped Petrel *Pterodroma*

phaeopygia that flew close past a boat 69.2 mi s.w. of Pt. Reyes May 3 (†SFB, †m.ob.) was the first for North America within the 200-mi limit. One had been seen 226 mi w.s.w. of San Miguel I., California, Aug. 2, 1991 (AB 45:1160). This year's bird was probably related to El Niño and was at least as likely to have been a "Galapagos Petrel" as a "Hawaiian Petrel." The same day only two Murphy's Petrels were seen w.s.w. of F.I. (SFB), in contrast to the 34 Murphy's and one "Cookilaria" petrel in the same area the day before (SBT, BHi).

Pink-footed Shearwaters remained numerous off *Monterey* (DLSh), and a remarkable spring count of six Flesh-footed Shearwaters was there Apr. 4 (DLSh, RN). A Flesh-footed was far s.w. of Pt. Reyes May 3 (SFB) and another was off *Monterey* May 30 (DLSh), but even rarer was the one seen from Pt. Pinos during high winds Apr. 21 (†DR). Four late Short-tailed Shearwaters were seen far s.w. of Pt. Reyes May 2 (SBT, BHi). Up to 200 El Niño Black-vented Shearwaters were at Pigeon Pt., Mar. 24 (JMR) and *Monterey* Bay Apr. 4 (SBT, DLSh), with lesser numbers until the last one was at S.F. May 9 (E. MacLochlainn).

Storm-petrels in *Monterey* Bay showed clear signs of El Niño, in being unseasonally numerous and inshore. Three Leach's were in *Monterey* Bay May 21 (RT) and singles were only 8 mi off the *Monterey* Pen. May 27 & 30 (DLSh). Two Fork-tailed and 75 Ashys May 30 were unseasonal so far south, and an Ashy was at Moss Landing Pier May 29 (REM *vide* DLSh). Topping these were our first May Black Storm-Petrels, three on May 27 and 20-25 on May 30, with one just over a mile offshore (DLSh).

Brown Pelicans were far above average at F.I. A subadult ♀ Great Frigatebird buzzed F.I. closely Mar. 14 (†PP, †LeE). This was North America's 2nd, following one at Perry, Oklahoma, Nov. 3, 1975.

RAPTORS

A pair of Bald Eagles built a nest at L. Berryessa (M. Kirven) but later deserted it (RLCL), reportedly as in previous years. Three N. Goshawks were reported with marginal details in the hills of *Alameda* and *Contra Costa* Mar. 27-Apr. 8. A Broad-winged Hawk passed San Bruno Mt., *San Mateo*, May 9, and a coastward Swainson's Hawk passed there Apr. 28 (both HBr). A "Harlan's" Red-tailed Hawk was s.e. of Hollister, *San Benito*, Mar. 9 (†GFi), and others were in *Modoc* (RR) and *Lassen* (RJR) in March.

SKUAS THROUGH ALCIDS

Two S. Polar Skuas off *Monterey* May 27 (DLSh) were rare in spring. Ten Franklin's

Gulls scattered throughout the Region included *Sacramento's* first, at Tyler I., May 10 (†TDM, AM). Although W. Gull is perhaps regular just downriver in *Sacramento* (TDM), a first-year bird at Bouldin I., Mar. 4 was only *San Joaquin's* 2nd (†DGY). Three more coastal Glaucous Gulls passed through in early March, but one at Freshwater Lagoon, *Humboldt*, May 15 (RLeV) was rather late. Sabine's Gulls were ashore at Pt. Reyes May 9 (WT) and S.F. May 15-22 (M. Bergstrom, ASH, m.ob.). Many Sabine's Gulls transited in late May, producing counts of 60 at Cordell Bank May 24 (THK) and 70 and 100 offshore *Monterey* May 27 & 30 (DLSh).

Away from major nesting colonies, 500 Caspian Terns at Mad River Estuary, *Humboldt*, Apr. 10 (LD) was a large migratory concentration. Both sightings of early Elegant Terns were Apr. 26: seven flying N at Pt. Cabrillo, *Mendocino* (DT), and four at Salinas R. mouth (BJW). A strong wind storm May 10 caused 510 Com. Terns (85% alternate adults) to shelter in Crescent City Harbor, *Del Norte*. Six with all-black caps showed the black bill and legs and the darker underparts typical of the Asian subspecies *longipennis* (†ADB). Three Arctic Terns were ashore at Bolinas Lagoon May 20 (PP). North of the Least Tern's normal range were singles at Abbott's Lagoon May 11 (ASH) and Bodega Harbor May 31 (DN). Black Terns in s.e. S.F. Bay Apr. 19-May 31 (PJM, m.ob.) included 21 at Hayward Shoreline May 2 (RJR). Two others were in Monterey Bay May 30 (DLSh, RFT). Except for one trio, sightings of migrant Black Skimmers were all of pairs and progressed up the coast, so there may have been only three birds. They visited Salinas R. mouth May 10-11 (JHb, RC), with the trio there May 17 (B. Monahan), then Moss Landing Harbor May 19 (S. Bailey), and finally Princeton Harbor May 29-30 (D. Powell, RSTh).

Xantus' Murrelets were often seen in *Monterey* waters, with a high of ten May 27 (DLSh, RT, m.ob.), and singles were beyond E.I. May 2 & 3 (SBT, SFB). Though rarely seen from shore, pairs were at Pigeon Pt., Apr. 26 (†RSTh) and Cypress Pt., *Monterey* May 23 (SHa). The decline of Tufted Puffins on Castle Rock, *Del Norte*, preceded the current El Niño, but certainly was compounded by it. Typical maxima from 7 years ago were 150, then they dropped to 60-70, but this



year there have only been two to four visible (all ADB).

BITTERNS THROUGH DUCKS

Rarely reported in the Region, a Least Bittern was at Gilsizer Slough Marsh, *Sutter*, May 5 (BED, PBS). If confirmed, a Great Blue Heron nesting attempt on the upper Owens R. May 28 (PJM) would be the first in e. *Mono*. Stragglers away from their normal spring range, single Cattle Egrets were at L. Dalwig, *Solano*, Apr. 24 (DTk) and Lower Klamath N.W.R., *Siskiyou*, May 24 (BY). Every May since 1985 White-faced Ibis have reached the coast and S.F. Bay, but the 1992 flight was very heavy, especially n. of S.F. Notable was a record of 50 near Oakley Apr. 27 (DES), thought to-be *Contra Costa's* 2nd.

Two ad. Tundra Swans on L. Earl, *Del Norte*, May 11 (ADB) were very late. Late migrant geese along the coast included a Greater White-fronted at L. Earl May 14 (ADB), a Snow at MacKerrick S.P. and a "Cackler" at Talmage, *Mendocino*, both May 2 (RJK *et al.*), and a Ross' at Halfmoon Bay Apr. 29 (G. Deghi). Brant were out of place at White Slough, *Solano*, Apr. 21 (ABtt, RLCL) and Hayward Shoreline, *Alameda*, May 4 (S. Traver) & 30 (RJR), while there were more than usual in *Monterey* (*fide* DR).

Single Wood Ducks, still only casual in *Modoc*, were at *Modoc* N.W.R., Apr. 5 (RLR) and Ash Creek W.M.A. May 11 (BED). It was a slow season for Eur. Green-winged Teal reports with single migrants at

Pt. Reyes Station Mar. 30 (RS, G. Bryan) and Arcata Marsh, *Humboldt*, Apr. 4 (RS *et al.*), and a wintering bird at Redwood Shores, *San Mateo*, until Apr. 6 (RSTh). Up to 16 Blue-winged Teal on Santa Fe Grade, *Merced*, Apr. 25 (DSg *et al.*) was a large number for one location, but they were widely reported throughout the Region. A Eur. Wigeon at L. Almanor, *Plumas*, Mar. 14 (†LJ, H. Durio) was the only bird reported away from the coast.

Many observers reported continuing declines in Redheads away from the permanent ponds of refuges. A ♂ Greater Scaup at Bridgeport Res. Apr. 26 (RJR) was only the 7th recorded in e. *Mono*. Bodega Harbor's stellar Steller's Eider was last seen May 2 (BDP). An imm. ♂ Oldsquaw at Tule Lake N.W.R., *Modoc*, May 21 (RE, JVM) was only the 3rd inland in Spring. Six Barrow's Goldeneyes were in Fall R. Valley, *Shasta*, Mar. 7 (BY, JW), with four at

Eagle L., *Lassen*, Mar. 8 (BMS), and one at Greenville, *Plumas*, Mar. 14 (LJ *et al.*). They are rarely reported from mountain districts. A ♀ Com. Merganser with three chicks was at Michigan Bar on the Cosumnes R. May 30 (D. Hamilton), establishing the 1st *Sacramento* breeding record. More Red-breasted Mergansers were inland than usual, including three in *Mono*, one in *Sacramento*, and four in *Siskiyou*. Observers frequently report albinistic waterfowl, but more unusual were two melanistic Ruddy Ducks at Hayward Shoreline in mid-May (RJR).

MOORHENS THROUGH PHALAROPES

Humboldt's 3rd Com. Moorhen was an adult at Arcata Marsh Apr. 15-May 31 (BBA *et al.*). Providing a rare *San Mateo* record was a Sandhill Crane flying over El Granada Mar. 16 (BS). A flock of 1600 Black-bellied Plovers along Rd. 155, *Yolo*, Mar. 29 (*fide* TDM) was a huge concentration for the C.V. A rare spring migrant in the northern C.V., a Snowy Plover was at the Lodi sewer ponds Apr. 16 (DGY), while 56 birds at Mono L., Apr. 25-26 (m.ob.) is a good number for anywhere in the Region. A Black Oystercatcher was well inside S.F. Bay at Pt. Pinole, *Contra Costa*, May 23 (S. Traver).

Sixteen Black-necked Stilts in the Pudding Creek Basin Apr. 24 (DT) provided only the 3rd *Mendocino* record. Only 4 reports totaling eight Lesser Yellowlegs seems low for recent years. Regular but scarce in spring, 10 Solitary Sandpipers were found

coastally from *Alameda* to *Del Norte* Apr. 19-26. One in *Wooden Valley* Apr. 24 (†F. Scarlett) was only *Napa's* 2nd at this season. Two *Whimbrels* were found at *Mono L.*, Apr. 25-26 (m.ob.) where they are considered rare transients. A *Longbilled Curlew* at the *Loyalton* sewer ponds Mar. 20 (MMC) surprisingly produced the first *Sierra* record (LJ).

Very rare in the Great Basin, a *Red Knot* was at *Lower Klamath N.W.R.*, Apr. 14 (†RE), 11 were at *Crowley L.*, *Mono*, Apr. 21 (†THd, JHd), and three were at *Mono L.*, Apr. 25 (ES, MMC, RJR). An ad. *Semipalmated Sandpiper* at *Hayward Shoreline* May 2 (RJR) and a bird at *Pomponio Beach, San Mateo*, May 29 (ph. RSTh) were the only ones reported. Single *Baird's Sandpipers* were at *Mad R. Beach, Humboldt*, Apr. 3 (*fide* BBA) and *Hayward Shoreline* Apr. 19 (RJR). Though now annual, they are still rare in spring. An alternate-plumaged *Short-billed Dowitcher* at the *Lodi* sewer ponds, *San Joaquin*, May 22-24 (DGY, RAK) was very late for the C.V.

Two pairs of *Wilson's Phalaropes* in s.e. *Sacramento* May 27 (TDM) were suspected nesters. *Red-necked Phalaropes*, normally uncommon before mid-April, arrived very early, with 38 at the *Hayward Shoreline* Mar. 29 (RJR). Small numbers of *Red Phalaropes* came ashore at many coastal locations throughout May, whereas only a single bird was reported doing so in 1991. "Thousands" in breeding plumage surrounded F.I. May 17-EOP, the first time this has occurred in spring in over 10 years (*fide* PP). Is this an El Niño effect?

OWLS TO HUMMINGBIRDS

A *Flammulated Owl* at *Schilling Ranch, Mariposa*, Mar. 23-30 (PLN) not only matched the Region's earliest arrival date, but was low at 1750 ft. The *Barred Owl* on *Big Hill Rd.* May 2-5 (RLv *et al.*) was at a new site for *Humboldt*. *Great Gray Owls* continued to be found near *Shaver L., Fresno*, as one was at *Markwood Meadows* Apr. 15 (*fide* RAK). Coastally rare *Lesser Nighthawks* included singles at F.I. and the *Cordell Bank* (THK) May 24. A *Chordeiles sp.* in *Robinson Cyn., Monterey*, May 25 (DLSh) was also probably this species. Most of our *Black Swifts* move through in mid-May, so one at *Devil's Slide, San Mateo*, Apr. 24 (JsC) was quite early. Three *White-throated Swifts* at *Tule Lake N.W.R.*, Apr. 28 (RE) were record early. This is *Siskiyou's* only colony that was established in 1985.

One of the stunners during this spellbinding Spring was the imm. *Violet-crowned Hummingbird* in *Renwood, Sonoma*, Mar 28-30 (M. Van Zandt, ph. †DN, ph. †m.ob.). *Tropical hummingbirds* have always been treated cautiously in the state since they are

occasionally kept in captivity. However, the bird was identified as *elliotti*, the expected migratory race from n.w. Mexico. If accepted by the C.B.R.C. it would establish the Region's first and the state's 3rd records. A ♀ *Black-chinned Hummingbird* in *Sierra Valley* May 21 (LJ, RL) was *Plumas's* 2nd. Single *Costa's Hummingbirds* at *Garin Regional Park, Alameda*, Apr. 22 (RJR), *Anderson, Shasta*, Apr. 25 (BAP, J. Burge), and *Pt. Reyes Station* May 2-31 (RS) were below the recent average for extralimitals. The *Costa's* wintering in *Fair Oaks* remained until Mar. 17 (GEw).

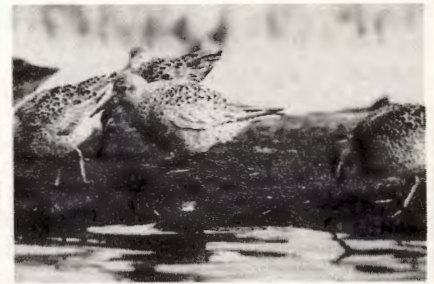
A *Calliope Hummingbird* in *Yreka* Mar. 31 (RE) was *Siskiyou's* earliest ever. Coastally, this hummer is sporadic in occurrence. Along the n. coast, observers in *Marin* and *Humboldt* see an annual passage. However, a male at *Oakmont* Apr. 15-17 joined by a female Apr. 17 (J. Ryan *et al.*) and a male near *Santa Rosa* Apr. 18 (I. Morrison) were records 5-7 for *Sonoma*. The *Broad-tailed Hummingbird* in *Sierra Valley* May 22 (LJ) was *Plumas's* 2nd or 3rd and one of few n. of *Mono*.

WOODPECKERS TO WRENS

A *Red-naped Sapsucker* in *Snelling, Merced*, Mar. 16 (†S. Tank) was possibly a county first. The *Red-breasted Sapsucker* along *Gazos Creek Rd., San Mateo*, May 12 (GFi, MPI) was a very tardy migrant. Other sapsucker news was the ♀ *Williamson's* on *Mines Rd., Alameda*, Apr. 15 (†B. Sanders) where they are casual. *Solano* has few nesting *Hairy Woodpecker* records, so a pair feeding young at *Monticello Dam* Apr. 24 (T. Jenkins, HCo) was noteworthy.

Though well short of last year's record total, 51 migrant *Hammond's Flycatchers* Mar. 25-May 3 were more than double the 2nd previous high. Noteworthy were the Mar. 25 bird on F.I. that matched the Region's earliest arrival, and one Apr. 26 in *El Granda, San Mateo*, where very rare (BS). As usual the majority of the birds were found on *Mt. Diablo* (27), but the bulk of the movement was in mid-April, 2 weeks earlier than normal. *Migrant Dusky and Gray flycatchers* were found in traditional numbers (10 and three, respectively), primarily in April. However, among *Duskys*, a territorial male found on *Mount St. Helena, Napa*, May 10 (A. Wight, BiG—a county first) was followed by four territorial males there May 25 (BDP—two each in *Napa* and *Solano*). Since territorial birds were first detected there in Spring, 1986, we may be witnessing a range expansion; they breed just to the n. in *Lake*.

Two separate *Say's Phoebes* near *Three Peaks* on the s. edge of *Ft. Hunter Liggett* May 23 (SFB) were well w. of known breeding locales in s. *Monterey*. The two wintering *Vermilion Flycatchers* at *Gray Lodge*



Red Knot (center — with dowitchers and others) at Crowley Lake, Mono County, California, on April 21, 1992. Photograph/Tom Heindel.

W.M.A. remained until Mar. 1 (D. Jensen). Only one pair of nesting *Gassin's Kingbird* near *King City* was found during atlassing work in s. and e. *Monterey* where they were formerly present in small numbers (*fide* DR). On their n. frontier in the I.C.R., the nesting pair returned to the *Hwy 580* golfcourse, *San Joaquin*, Apr. 26 (C. Lou) for their 4th straight year. And what of the pair 7 mi s. of *Benton, Mono*, May 26 (RSTh, MFe), the Region's first e. of the *Sierra*? Perhaps they were overdue since breeding occurs just s. of the Region in desert oases. Always rare before June, the *E. Ringbird* at *Pt. Reyes* May 13 (RS) was record-early. *Del Norte's* 4th scissor-tailed *Flycatcher* was near *Ft. Dick* May 12 (RSTr, ph.ADB, m.ob.); the previous three were also there in May. *Canyon Wrens* were on the comeback trail in *Contra Costa* as singles at *Black Diamond* Mar. 11 (SAG *et al.*) and *La Trampas* Apr 26 (J. Robinson) established that county's 3rd and 4th records since 1983, following a 40-year hiatus.

VIREOS AND WOOD WARBLERS

Yellow-throated Vireo made it 3 springs in a row as two birds were in *Marin*: *Five Brooks* May 9 (†RS) and *Pt. Reyes* May 16 (RS, †LLu, †S, Cox, m.ob.). The *Philadelphia Vireo* at *Pt. Reyes* May 31 (†RS) was only the Region's 3rd in spring. Among seven *May Red-eyed Vireos*, singles at F.I. May 5-6 and S.F. May 15 (ASH) were record-early. Of the other five, three were in the *Pt. Reyes/F.I.* area May 24-25 while two were inland: a female banded at *Modoc N.W.R.* May 23 (ECKB, RLR—*Modoc's* first) and *Lassen's* 2nd at *Honey L.* May 31 (†TDM).

A *Blue-winged Warbler* was finally recorded on F.I. May 24-25 (†PP), only the Region's 3rd or 4th. *Tennessee Warbler* showed very well with five on F.I. May 4-25 and five divided between S.F. and *Pt. Reyes* May 13-29. The pair of nesting *Orange-crowned Warblers* on *Glass Mt.* May 31 (PJM) may be the first confirmed nesting record for *Mono*. A *Lucy's Warbler* near the mouth of *Pilarcitos Cr., San Mateo*, Mar. 4-6 (†DJK, SAG) fit a pattern of late winter sightings. Both *Chestnut-sided* and *Magno-*

lia warblers had an excellent May with totals of ten May 16-June 2 and seven May 16-31, respectively. All were coastal save Chestnut-sideds at Smithneck Cr., *Sierra*, May 23-25 (E. Meyers, †LJ—county first) and Glass Mt. May 29 (PJM), and *Contra Costa's* first Magnolia at Walnut Cr., May 27 (B. Wisecarver). Faithful and hardy were labels assigned to the ♂ Hermit Warbler that returned to a yard near Crescent City, *Del Norte*, Apr. 28 (ADB) for its 8th consecutive spring, singing from the same perches but never yet securing a mate.

S.A.

One of this Region's (and state's - see S. Pacific Coast Region) most fascinating ornithological events had to be the invasion of "southern" warblers this spring. Northern Parula, Hooded Warbler and Kentucky Warbler in particular were found in amazing numbers. When you compare their respective totals of 42, 16, and seven against their recent 10-year spring averages of four, three, and less-than-one, you begin to ask, "What happened?" And these totals do not include additional birds found in June-July! Adding to the mystery were early arrival dates for Hooded (two in late April) and Kentucky (F.I. May 2), territorial behavior of many birds, and the interior locations of some: *Santa Clara's* first N. Parula at C.C.R.S. May 17 (PJM); first county records of Kentucky at Tahoe Donner Ski Area, *Nevada*, May 24-June (L. Edson *et al.*) and Petaluma, *Sonoma*, May 15-16 (W. Nelson, ph.†DN) with another on Glass Mt., *Mono*, May 31 (†PJM). Presently explanations are few, but more will be said in the summer season.

Two Black-throated Green Warblers on F.I. May 18 & 24 were expected, but five Yellow-throated Warblers may have been related to the above-mentioned "southern" warbler invasion: one at Lopez Pt., *Monterey*, May 24 (†SFB), *Sacramento's* first in Orangethale May 25 (†DJo, BMo), and three at Pt. Reyes May 30-June 2 (ph.RS, †JM, †SBT, m.ob.). A Prairie Warbler at Dennis-ton Cr., *San Mateo*, Apr. 12-May 22 (C. Miller, †J. Spitzer, RSTh) was puzzling. The dates and length of stay would suggest it wintered locally and lingered late, but considering how most migrants/vagrants were 2-3 weeks early, it is very possible it, too, arrived early and perhaps attempted to summer. One Palm Warbler at Pt. Reyes Station May 7 (RS) and two Blackpoll Warblers on F.I. May 13 & 31+ were average, but eight Black-

and-white Warblers Apr. 10-May 31 and 11 Am. Redstarts Apr. 28-May 31 along the c. coast were exceptional pre-June numbers.

The Prothonotary Warbler at Orick, *Humboldt*, May 1 (†GSL) was only the Region's 2nd in spring. The first was extraordinary because of its C.V. location, but the June 20th date was typical vagrant timing. In a normal year this spring's bird would be even more unusual because of the very early date. But this year is anything but normal. Worm-eating Warblers at F.I. May 7 (†PRBO—our earliest ever, of course) and Pt. Reyes May 31-June 2 (†JM *et al.*) were our first in spring since 1987. With seven May Ovenbirds along the c. coast being unprecedented, how does one explain only one N. Waterthrush (that certainly overwintered) at Manila, *Humboldt*, Apr. 4 (BBA)? Two Canada Warblers on F.I. May 24 & 31 appeared to be only the Region's 2nd and 3rd for that month. A nesting pair of Yellow-breasted Chats established *Plumas'* first breeding record along Wolf Cr. May 14 (C. Clifton, †LJ *et al.*).

TANAGERS TO ORIOLES

Summer Tanagers and Rose-breasted Grosbeaks also caught May fever: five and 18, respectively. All were along the c. Coast except for single Summer Tanagers in Pleasanton, *Contra Costa*, May 24 (S. Rovell) and near Benton, *Mono*, May 26 (RSTh, MFe), and single Rose-breasted Grosbeaks in *Mono*, *Plumas*, and *San Joaquin*. Blue Grosbeak was finally confirmed nesting in *Shasta* with at least four pairs at the Redding sewer ponds May 12 (BY). Their first arrival at this locale was Apr. 27 (R.Modeen). Indigo Bunting showed its preference for May this spring with the appearance of 14, including two territorial males in the *Sierra Nevada*: both near Big Cr., *Fresno*, May 13-20 and May 20-27 (DN).

A Green-tailed Towhee in Lee Vining Cyn., Apr. 13 (D. Parker) was record-early for the Mono Basin, one on F.I. May 13 was the island's first in spring since 1977, while one at Ripon, *San Joaquin*, May 3 (DGY, MFe) was a C.V. vagrant. Sparrows in general showed poorly this season, e.g., the only extralimital Brewer's Sparrow was on F.I. May 19. A very rare spring Lark Bunting was at L. Almanor, *Plumas*, May 26 (HG). The state's northernmost record of Great-tailed Grackle was established at Whiskeytown L., *Shasta*, May 16 (W. Spohn, ph.BY *et al.*). However, there are at least three records for Oregon. An Orchard Oriole in Bolinas, *Marin*, Mar. 20-25 (SNGH, KH) probably wintered locally, interesting considering it was a very poor winter for orioles.

Corrigendum: The statement in AB 45:492

that there had been only two previous accepted records of Mississippi Kite, both in autumn, overlooked the bird photographed at Mono L. May 31, 1981.

Cited Contributors (sub-regional editors in boldface): Ray Acker (RAk), Brooks B. Allen, Stephen F. Bailey, Alan D. Barron, Anthony Battiste (ABt), E. Clark Bloom (EckB), William G. Bousman, Josiah Clark (JsC), Harold Connor, Bruce E. Deuel, Linda Doeflinger, Ray Ekstrom, Lee Elias, Gil Ewing (GEw), Marc Fenner (MFe), George Finger (GF), Ron H. Gerstenberg, Steve A. Glover, Helen Green, Bill Grummer (BiG), Keith Hansen, Syd Harrison (SHa), Jo Heindel (JHd), Tom Heindel (THd), Bob Hirt (BH), Alan S. Hopkins, Steven N. G. Howel, Lin Jensen, David Johnson (DJo), Dan J. Keller, Robert J. Keiffer, Theodore H. Koundakjian, Karen Laslo, Robin L. C. Leon, Gary S. Lester, Ronald LeValley (RLv), Leslie Lieurance (LLu), Annette Manolis, Timothy D. Manolis, Robert E. Maurer, Mac McCormick, Peter J. Metropulos, Barbara Mohr (BMo), Joseph Morlan, Dan Nelson, Paul L. Noble, Rod Norden, Benjamin D. Parmeter, Barbara A. Peck, Marjorie Plant (MPI), Peter Pyle, Harold M. Reeve, Jean M. Richmond, Robert J. Richmond, Don Roberson, Ruth A. Rudesill, Ronnie L. Ryno, Peter B. Sands, Barry Sauppe, Donald E. Schmoldt, Debra L. Shearwater (DLSh), Daniel Singer (DSg), Rich Stallcup, Bradley M. Stovall, Emily Strauss, David Takeuchi, Richard Ternullo, Scott B. Terrill, Ronald S. Thorn (RSTh), Robert F. Tintle, Dorothy Tobkin, Walter Tordoff, Richard S. Tryon (RSTr), Kent Van Vuren, Brian J. Weed, Jerry R. White, Jon Winter, David G. Yee, Bob Yutzy. Many more contributors were not specifically cited; all are appreciated.—STEPHEN F. BAILEY (loons through frigatebirds, raptors, skua through alcids), Museum of Nat. History, 165 Forest Ave. Pacific Grove, CA 93950; BRUCE E. DEUEL (bitterns through ducks, moorhens through phalaropes), 18730 Live Oak Rd., Red Bluff, CA 96080; DAVID G. YEE (owls through orioles), 2930 Driftwood Pl. #39, Stockton, CA 95219.