

MIDDLE PACIFIC COAST REGION

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The season started and ended as did the previous 6—very dry. The drought has had pronounced effects on breeding birds and bird distribution throughout the Region, but whether it contributed to a lackluster migration is speculative. Except for the Coyote Cr. Riparian Banding Station, which had some all-time banding highs, all areas, including the coast, Central Valley, and Great Basin, had very low numbers of waterbird and passerine migrants. Winter irruptives were in small-to-average supply, except for Pine Siskins.

Effects of El Niño continued, as many pelagics were seen again from shore, and warm-water rarities abounded. El Niño may also have been responsible for a relatively fogless coastline, which allowed the Marin Headlands to experience its greatest number of migrant raptors ever.

The vagrant season was shy in terms of total numbers of passerines, but sparkled in terms of quality, especially among shorebirds. There was also a definite surge of rarities from the tropical Southwest. Was it related to the forces that displaced Southeast rarities to this Region this past Spring and Summer? Of course, we can always blame it on El Niño!

Abbreviations: C.B.R.C. (*California Bird Records Committee*); C.C.R.S. (*Coyote Cr. Riparian Banding Station, Santa Clara*); C.S.U.H. (*California State University, Hayward*); C.V. (*Central Valley*); E.O.P. (*end of period*); F.I. (*Southeast Farallon I.*); H.R.S. (*Hayward Regional Shoreline, Alameda*); S.F. (*San Francisco*); ph. (*photo on file with Regional Editors*). All records from F.I. and Palomarin should be credited to Pt. Reyes Bird Observatory. Place names in *italics* are counties.

LOONS TO CORMORANTS

A Yellow-billed Loon at Crescent City, *Del Norte*, Nov. 2 was mostly in alternate plumage (ph. ADB). Grebes nested very late at O'Neill Forebay; on Nov. 14 about 10 ad. Westerns and 40 Clark's tended at least one and 5 broods of *downy young*, respectively (DS, PJM).

Cook's Petrels were found on all 4 boat trips far offshore, with 30 total 57–125 mi off Pt. Sur to Pt. Reyes Aug. 8–Nov. 14 (JLD, SFB, DR, THK). Another Cook's Petrel was only 8 mi s.w. of Cordell Bank Nov. 1 (RS, DLSh). This species is regular over warm waters deeper than 1800 fathoms, at least from April to November (AB 45:1067–1068).

The Region's 6th Streaked Shearwater was

5 mi off Pajaro R. mouth, *Monterey* and *Santa Cruz*, Sept. 7 (RS, †ph. SFB, DLSh), and almost in the same location Sept. 19 (DLSh). Presumably the same bird was seen at Monterey Harbor Sept. 28–29 (*fide* DR, CHK, THK, GFI). The Region's 2nd photographed **Wedge-tailed Shearwater** was 7 mi off Pajaro R. mouth, *Monterey* and *Santa Cruz*, Oct. 24 (JMcK, DLSh, ph. RLB). Black-vented Shearwaters were early and abundant n. to *Sonoma*. The first three were off *San Mateo* Aug. 12 (RSTh), and thousands were in Monterey Bay through the period.

Typically, a Wilson's Storm-Petrel was in Monterey Bay Aug. 22–Oct. 17 (DLSh, MiF, SBT). Three Wilson's were scattered 82–90 mi s.w. of Pt. Reyes Nov. 14 (SFB). As El Niño faded, Fork-tailed, Ashy, and Black storm-petrels continued to be seen from shore from *Monterey* to *Sonoma* until Oct. 7, especially during August. Exceptional were six storm-petrels seen inside S.F. Bay at H.R.S. Leach's dates were Aug. 1–2 (probable †RJR, JSL) and Nov. 14 (†RJR); Ashys were Aug. 1–2 (RJR, JSL), Aug. 16–26 (DES, m.ob.), and Nov. 14–22 (SAG, RJR); a Black was seen there Aug. 1–2 (†RJR). Up to 20 Least Storm-Petrels were in Monterey Bay Aug. 15–Oct. 10 (DSg, DLSh, JLD).

An imm. Red-tailed Tropicbird 129 mi s.w. of Pt. Sur, Aug. 8 (K. Kaufman, †JLD, PP) was only the 2nd for *Monterey* and the 3rd for the Region, but this species is probably regular more than 100 mi offshore. The Brown Booby remained at F.I. to Nov. 13 (PP, MLE). Another Brown Booby flew over Mountain View Forebay, *Santa Clara*, Aug. 29 (†MJM). An unidentified dark booby was picked out in Monterey Bay Aug. 18–21 (T. Jones, *fide* DLSh).

An Am. White Pelican around Arcata, *Humboldt*, Sept. 28–Nov. 21 (GLF, CJR), and six at L. Talawa, *Del Norte*, Oct. 13–30 (C. Humpy, ADB), were very rare on the n. coast. Very few juv. Brown Pelicans were present, indicating very poor reproduction (GeM, m.ob.), perhaps a function of El Niño. Conversely, Double-crested Cormorants seemed to reproduce well inside S.F. Bay, as 95% of 543 birds counted from *Contra Costa* to *Marin* Oct. 16 were birds of the year (GeM). A Brandt's Cormorant at Sunnyvale Aug. 15 (PJM) was the 3rd for *Santa Clara*.

BITTERNS TO DUCKS

Always notable, especially coastally, a Least Bittern was noted at Verdi Rd. pond, *San Mateo*, Sept. 15 (BS). Little Blue Herons continued to frequent south S.F. Bay, with 2 adults at Alviso Slough Aug. 8–9 (AV, PJM) and an immature at Charleston Slough Aug. 30 (MJM, MiF). Among the many outstand-



ing finds was an imm. Tricolored Heron on Santa Rosa Cr., *Sonoma*, Nov. 7–19 (D. Hofmann, †BDP, †GFI, †JM), providing only the 2nd Regional record, and more than 20 years after the first. Late word was received that White-faced Ibises fledged >1000 young from the Lower Klamath N.W.R. colony (*fide* D. Mauser), but the Colusa N.W.R. colony no longer exists (*fide* GMe), illustrating the ephemeral nature of nesting by the species in the Region.

A Tundra Swan at the H.R.S., Sept. 27 (RJR) was extremely early. What was presumably the same Whooper Swan seen last year reappeared at Lower Klamath N.W.R., Nov. 29 (*fide* RE), but apparently left shortly thereafter. Noteworthy geese included a Snow X Ross' Goose on s. Humboldt Bay Oct. 14 (MHM) and Sierra's first recorded Ross' Goose in Sierra Valley Oct. 18 (LJ, KL), surely reflecting a previous lack of observers.

A ♂ Garganey visited Mt. View Forebay, *Santa Clara*, Aug. 22–Sept. 22 (†PJM, ph. A. Walther, m.ob.); there are less than 10 Regional records. Blue-winged Teals were numerous on the c. coast, especially in *Monterey*, with 21 observed at the Moonglow Dairy Sept. 28 (SFB). Of several early Eur. Wigeon, the first was at Charleston Slough Sept. 19 (WGB). A ♀ Tufted Duck returned to L. Merced, S.F., Oct. 23 (A. Ridley), for what was probably its 5th winter, joined by a female Nov. 26 (PJM).

A ♂ King Eider on Humboldt Bay after Nov. 11 (FJB, †GSL) was believed to be a returnee from the previous year. An ad. ♀ Oldsquaw at Modoc N.W.R., Oct. 17 (*fide* RLR) was the first in n.e. California away from the Klamath Basin. Five inland Surf

Scoters were more than normal. Much rarer inland was a ♂ White-winged Scoter at O'Neill Forebay Nov. 14 (DS, PJM). Notable Barrow's Goldeneyes included a male at O'Neill Forebay Nov. 14 (PJM, DS), a female at Frenchman L., *Plumas*, Nov. 28 (DS *et al.*), and a pair n. of their normal winter coastal range near the Smith R. mouth, *Del Norte*, Nov. 27 (TDM, AM). A Hooded Merganser in Shasta Valley, *Siskiyou*, Aug. 6 (RE), and a Red-breasted Merganser in Sunnyvale, *Santa Clara*, Aug. 15 (PJM) were either extremely early or had oversummered.

RAILS TO SHOREBIRDS

A Yellow Rail, the Region's 3rd in 3 years, was found at Inverness Park, *Marin*, Nov. 22 (RS *et al.*). Sandhill Cranes appeared coastally, where they are casual, at Pt. Reyes Oct. 18 (FGB *et al.*); Bolinas Oct. 18 (*fide* KH); near Sebastopol, *Sonoma*, Nov. 19 (R. Evans *et al.*); and in Hayward Nov. 22 (RJR). It was the "season of the plovers" in



Wedge-tailed Shearwater (in heavy molt) seven miles west of the Pajaro River mouth, California, on October 24, 1992. Third photographed record for North America. Photograph/Ronald L. Branson.

the Region. A Lesser Golden-Plover (*dominica*) at Crowley L., Oct. 21 (DS) was one of very few e. of the Sierra. The Region's 4th (the State's 5th) Mongolian Plover delighted many at Moss Landing, *Monterey*, Sept. 16–20 (CKf, KK, †ph. m.ob.), where it accompanied a Wilson's Plover, the northernmost on the Pacific Coast and the Region's first, which was present Sept. 15–E.O.P. (B. Ramer, †DEG, †ph. m.ob.). A juv. Mountain Plover straggled to Crowley L. Oct. 21 (DS), and four reached Moss Landing Oct. 23–27 (REM, RFT, SFB). Up to three juv. Eur. Dotterels frequented L. Talawa, *Del Norte*, Sept. 8–12 (ADB, †ph. m.ob.), and another juvenile was on Pt. Reyes Oct. 17–Nov. 21 (†BDP *et al.*). There were only 3 previous State records.

What would be the Region's 4th Upland Sandpiper, if accepted by the C.B.R.C., was identified from feathers found in a Trinity Peregrine Falcon nest in June (J. Schmitt)! No

fewer than four juv. Bar-tailed Godwits were found: one at Abbott's Lagoon Aug. 22–Sept. 24 (RS, †ph. m.ob.); one at L. Talawa Sept. 14 (JCS *et al.*); one at Point St. George, *Del Norte*, Oct. 2–8 (ADB *et al.*, ph. GSL); and one at Bodega Harbor Oct. 26–Nov. 1 (T. Jenkins, †GFI, ph. DN). A juv. Little Stint, only the Region's 3rd, was in Eureka Sept. 16–22 (JCS, D. Fix, R. Hewitt, ph. RLeV, †m.ob.). Sharp-tailed Sandpipers were scarce compared with reports from recent fall seasons, with a juvenile at Half Moon Bay, *San Mateo*, Oct. 2–4 (RSTh *et al.*) and 2 juveniles at Bodega Harbor Oct. 24–27 (D. Hofmann, †WEH *et al.*). A Curlew Sandpiper was described from Princeton Harbor, *San Mateo*, Aug. 8 (†ALE, GFI). Eight Stilt Sandpipers widely scattered through the Region Aug. 8–Oct. 24 constituted a moderate showing. Only four Buff-breasted Sandpipers were noted: at C.C.R.S. Aug. 30 (PJM); Mattole R. mouth, *Humboldt*, Sept. 1 (J. Puffer); Salinas River St. Beach, *Monterey*, Sept. 23–24 (†DEG *et al.*); and at Pt. Reyes Oct. 11–24 (BDP *et al.*). Twelve coastal Ruffs were found Aug. 5–Oct. 11; inland arrivals are always later, as shown by two near Lemoore, *Kings*, Nov. 18 (DS *et al.*), which then remained to the EOP at this possibly regular wintering spot.

RAPTORS

The Golden Gate Raptor Observatory suffered only 30 days of fog, *versus* a 5-year average of 51 days. Thus, new high numbers were recorded for total raptors (20,398), including 4528 Turkey Vultures, 4656 Sharp-shinned Hawks, 6234 Red-tailed Hawks, 634 Am. Kestrels and 71 Peregrine Falcons. The 162 N. Harriers were only 34% of average, and 48 Broad-winged Hawks were only 36% of average.

An imm. Osprey at Crowley L., *Mono*, Oct. 21 was the latest for the e. Sierra (DS). An ad. N. Goshawk eating Rock Doves at Salinas Nov. 30–Dec. 1 (JSO, †RFT) fed us with the first acceptable record for *Monterey*. The rarest of the Swainson's Hawks on the coast was one at Carmel R. mouth, *Monterey*, Sept. 25 (BJW). An ad. Ferruginous Hawk at Tuolumne Meadows, Yosemite N.P., Sept. 12–14 (B. Dolman, R. MacDonald, *fide* DLSu) was observed at a very high elevation at about 9000 feet. Populations of >16 Red-tailed Hawks and >10 Golden Eagles at Altamont Hills, *Alameda*, seem stable despite the >400 Red-taileds and "several" eagles killed annually by windmills (ALE). Immigration must replace the lost birds.

JAEGERS TO ALCIDS

Counts of 55 Pomarine Jaegers in the Cordell Bank area Nov. 1 (RS, DLSH) and 23 Parasitic Jaegers just off Seaside, *Monterey*, Oct. 10 (SFB, DLSH) were high but in exemplary locations. An ad. Long-tailed Jaeger chased Least Terns at H.R.S., Sept. 4 (†RJR), and another flew into S.F. Bay at S.F., Oct. 4 (JMD). Four Franklin's Gulls were very few. Simultaneous with a reported movement of Mew Gulls in Oregon, an extremely early



Wilson's Plover at Moss Landing, California, November 21, 1992. A first for the Region and the northernmost ever recorded on the Pacific Coast, this bird had been present since September 15. Photograph/Ed Greaves.

juv. Mew Gull Aug. 17 was at San Gregorio Cr. mouth, *San Mateo*, Aug. 17 (ph. RSTh). Juvenile and first-summer Mew Gulls were at Abbott's Lagoon, *Marin*, Aug. 23 (ASH). Very rare in our Great Basin district was an ad. Mew Gull at Tule L., *Modoc*, Nov. 28 (†K. Spencer). Continuing the nesting expansion of California Gull, at least 2 pairs produced chicks at Alameda Naval Air Station (LDC, LRF), where the birds prospected in 1991 (SFB). The maximum of 250 Sabine's Gulls off *Monterey* Aug. 30 (DLSH) was the 4th highest ever.

High counts of Elegant Terns included a *Santa Cruz* record 2300 at Pajaro R. mouth Aug. 18 (RMrr). Fifty-two at Shoreline L., Nov. 6 (MMR) was an unprecedented and late number for *Santa Clara*; normally only small numbers linger into November. At Alameda Naval Air Station, 138 Least Tern nests produced an "awesome" 215–221 fledglings (LDC). Tempering our joy at this banner production, only one of the Region's other 4 nests fledged a chick (at W. Pittsburg - LDC), as Red Foxes took both nests at Oakland Airport (LRF). Up to two Least Terns strayed to near Skaggs I., *Solano*, Aug. 8–13 (MFRi); the species is very rare n. of *Contra Costa*. A near-record 12 Black Terns scattered along the coast. A juv. Black Skimmer rested at Moss Landing, *Monterey*, Sept. 18–19 (K. Parker, T. Easterla, m.ob.).

Two Xantus' Murrelets of the s. nominate race were noted 84 mi s.w. of Pt. Reyes Oct. 17 (SFB), and three more were sighted near Cordell Bank Nov. 1 (DLSH, RS). Two Ancient Murrelets were well inside S.F. Bay. One bird's head was found under power poles at Alviso Nov. 8 (PJM, ES); this first for *Santa Clara* may have been a raptor kill. Another at H.R.S., Nov. 10–15 (N. Bain, †RJR) was found dead on the latter date (*C.S.U.H.).

DOVES TO WOODPECKERS

Five White-winged Doves along the c. coast

Sept. 7–Oct. 29 met the recent average. The only report of a potentially nesting Yellow-billed Cuckoo in the Sacramento Valley this year was one at Knight's Landing, *Sutter*, Aug. 22 (ECB, TCo).

Not only was a Lesser Nighthawk at the University of California Santa Cruz arboretum Aug. 26–Sept. 11 (†DEG *et al.*), one of few positive records for *Santa Cruz*, but its lengthy stay has little precedent for a migrant. Six Black Swifts were over Capitola, *Santa Cruz*, Sept. 27 (DSL), and two were over Burlingame, *San Mateo*, Sept. 17 (RSTh). Though they breed along the c. coast, fall migrants s. of *Marin* are extremely scarce. A well-studied Chimney Swift over Stockton Sug. 24 (†DGY) constituted the Region's 2nd interior record. Pending acceptance by the C.B.R.C., a ♂ Broad-billed Hummingbird in Fair Oaks, *Sacramento*, Sept. 5 (†GEW) would be the Region's 4th and the state's earliest for fall. Black-chinned Hummingbirds are casual coastally; the 2nd for *Santa Cruz* visited the same feeders in Carbonera Aug. 11–12 (BSch) visited by the first one 10 years ago. Twenty-two banded at C.C.R.S., Aug. 2–Sept. 11, was an all-time high. *Marin*'s 2nd Williamson's Sapsucker at Tomales S.P., Oct. 11–E.O.P. (S. Clark, ASH, JsC, m.ob.) was quickly followed by a 3rd at Bolinas Nov. 17 (KH).



Juvenile Bar-tailed Godwit (foreground—with Marbled Godwits) at Bodega Harbor, California, October 26, 1992. First record for Sonoma County. Photograph/Dan W. Nelson.

FLYCATCHERS

Empidonax flycatchers moved very well through the Region this fall, especially coastally. This was affirmed by the record-breaking banding totals at C.C.R.S. of their 2 most regular occurring species: 51 Willows Aug. 9–Oct. 9 and 703 "Westerns" July 3–Oct. 21 (121 on Aug. 26!). The Region's 5th Yellow-bellied Flycatcher was, not surprisingly, at F.I., Aug. 25 (†PP, †KH, †D. Christian). Seven Least Flycatchers on F.I., Aug. 28–Oct. 17, with seven along the c. coast Aug. 30–Oct. 3, and another at the Mad R. mouth, *Humboldt*, Sept. 14 (JCS), were impressive numbers. Six Hammond's Flycatchers Sept. 21–Nov. 24 (two from the C.V.) and four coastal Dusky Flycatchers Aug. 27–Oct. 3 was considered above average. Most impressive were four coastal Gray Flycatchers: Pt. Reyes Oct. 3 (RS), Wilder Ranch S.P., *Santa Cruz*, Oct. 6 (†DEG), H.R.S. Oct. 23 (†RJR), and



Juvenile Little Stint at Eureka, California, September 17, 1992. Third Regional record. Photograph/Ron LeValley.

L. Earl, *Del Norte*, Oct. 30–Nov. 2 (ADB *et al.*). Nearly all coastal records are for spring. Typically, E. Phoebe are found in mid-winter, so four was considered high: Bodega Bay Oct. 27–28, (DE, JM), Pt. Reyes Oct. 30 (RS), F.I. Nov 13, and Carmel R. mouth Nov. 13 (CHO).

Tropical tyrannids took center stage this season among passerines. For the 2nd consecutive year, *Vermilion Flycatchers* pushed high into the state as *Monterey's* 2nd at Del Rey Oaks Oct. 13–18 (C. & D. DeWeese, ph. DR, m.ob.) was eclipsed by the Region's first on the n. Coast at Samoa, *Humboldt*, Oct. 16 (R. Adams, †ph. GSL *et al.*) and what may possibly have been the same bird at L. Talawa, *Del Norte*, Oct. 25 (J. Mays, M. Johnson). Dusky-capped Flycatchers inundated the state this fall. Singles were big at Big Sur R. mouth, *Monterey*, Nov. 20–E.O.P. (SA, †DSL, †JM *et al.*), and El Granada, *San Mateo*, Nov. 30–Dec. 2 (†BS). The latter two were possible returnees from previous years. Twenty-eight Tropical Kingbirds spanning the coast Sept. 19–Oct. 26 was higher than average, but our only vagrant E. Kingbird was at Mono L., Aug. 27–29 (JE, DS, ES). And we dare not forget those radical long-tailed. Two casual-in-fall Scissor-tailed Flycatchers were seen at Pt. Arena (*Mendocino's* first) Aug. 28–Sept. 7 (L. Riley, ph. RJK) and at the Big Sur R. mouth Oct. 15–20 (CHO, J. Davis, †SFB, †DR), while the W. Coast's first Fork-tailed Flycatcher landed at Bridgehaven, *Sonoma*, Sept. 4–8 (ChW, J. Kelly, †ph. m.ob.).

NUTHATCHES TO VIREOS

Many observers along the coast and C.V. characterized the Red-breasted Nuthatch movement as strong during September–October, but lackluster thereafter. The state's 5th N. Wheatear visited F.I., Sept. 26 (S. Anderson, †PP *et al.*), where two of the previous four had been sighted. Another at Nicasio Res., *Marin*, Sept. 27–29 (†ph. JE, †DS, RS) was identified as distinct from the F.I. bird, with a possible N. Wheatear at the Las Gallinas sewer ponds, *Marin*, Oct. 12 (†T. Behr *et al.*) undetermined as to its relationship to the previous two. The Region's first fall Gray-cheeked Thrush is 4 years was at Pt. Reyes Oct. 13–15 (RS, †JM, m.ob.). A Swainson's Thrush on F.I., Nov. 29–30, was the latest there by 5 days.

The summering Brown Thrasher at Daly City remained until Sept. 1 (R. Franz). Fall birds have been few in recent years; this fall one was at F.I., Oct. 17–23. After last fall's invasion, the only Red-throated Pipit observed was at Pt. Reyes Oct. 10–11 (RS). Phainopeplas are vagrants to the coast. One near Scott's Valley Sept. 14 (B. Monahan) was only *Santa Cruz's* 3rd or 4th, while *Humboldt's* 2nd or 3rd was e. of Garberville Nov. 1–8 (†ph. GSL, WER, LPL). Four N. Shrikes were at traditional wintering sites Oct. 17 onward, but one at Prosser Cr. Reservoir, *Nevada*, Nov. 29 (DS) was from a new locale.

The Region's 2nd and 3rd fall White-eyed Vireos were at Mono L., Aug. 13–14 (†ES), and at F.I., Oct. 28 (†PP). In addition to three "Blue-headed" Solitary Vireos along the c. coast Sept. 10–Oct. 5, one at Muir Beach, *Marin*, Nov. 16 (RS, C. Miller) was the Region's latest. Two *plumbeus* Solitary Vireos in *Sacramento* Oct. 1–23 & Oct. 12 (TDM, GEW) were supplemented by F.I.'s overdue first seen Sept. 15. A Yellow-throated Vireo at Stinson Beach, *Marin*, Oct. 11–18 (DSi, †JM, †BDR, †GFi, m.ob.) was only the Region's 4th recorded in fall. Our lone Philadelphia Vireo was at the Big Sur R. mouth Oct. 3 (†CHO). Red-eyed Vireos had a strong showing (seven) and early (five in August!) along the coast. Traditionally, Yellow-green Vireos appear later, exemplified by one on F.I., Sept. 29 (L. Gilbert, †PP) and another at the Carmel R. mouth Oct. 14–21 (REM, †RC, †BHG).

WOOD WARBLERS

It was a banner season for warbler diversity, as the warbler list topped out at 39 species. However, most vagrant warbler species tallied average to below-average totals. As usual, most were coastal, unless otherwise noted.

Warblers in below-average numbers included 17 Tennessees (for the 3rd consecutive year) Aug. 31–Nov. 11, 18 Magnolias Aug. 28–Oct. 13, seven Black-throated Blues Oct. 6–27, seven Blackburnians Sept. 18–Oct. 25, and 87 Palms Sept. 26–Nov. 27. Warblers in average numbers included nine Prairies Sept. 1–Oct. 11, 76 Blackpolls Aug. 30–Oct. 29, 25 Black-and-whites Aug. 23–Nov. 30, 57 Am. Redstarts Aug. 11–Nov. 16, 17 N. Waterthrushes Aug. 24–Oct. 20, and two Canadas Sept. 11–15. Above-average numbers of warblers included 24 Chestnut-sided Sept. 2–Oct. 19, 10 Ovenbirds Aug. 25–Oct. 14, and six Hoodeds Sept. 7–Oct. 3.

Except for Tennessees, *Vermivora* warblers exploded onto the Regional scene. A Blue-winged Warbler at Pt. Reyes Sept. 19 (JsC, †BDR, †S. Cox, m.ob.) was the Region's 4th or 5th, and a Golden-winged Warbler was in Stinson Beach, Oct. 10–12 (KH, †JM, †GFi, m.ob.). Both were *Marin's* first. Seven Virginia's Warblers along the c. coast Aug. 30–Oct. 13, including *Santa Clara's* first at C.C.R.S., Sept. 6, provided a record total away from *Mono*. Single Lucy's Warblers at Moss Beach, *San Mateo*, Aug. 30–Oct. 27 (RSTh, m.ob.), F.I., Oct. 25–28, and S.F.,

Nov. 5–6 (B. Deutch, ASH), was an impressive total. Totals of an incredible 19 coastal N. Parulas seen Aug. 28–Oct. 6 were augmented by reports of 2 fledglings at Elk Head, *Humboldt*, Aug. 1–3 (GSL, JH *et al.*), providing first county records for these inland locales: Knight's Landing, *Sutter*, Aug. 22 (†ECB, TCo) and Bees L. *Yolo*, Sept. 19 (L. Edson). These numbers were possibly related to the species' strong spring showing, as the recent fall average is 3.

A Chestnut-sided Warbler at C.C.R.S., Nov. 28–Dec. 6 (MJM *et al.*) was *Santa Clara's* first—and very late. Cape May Warblers were sighted at Pt. Reyes Sept. 27–29 (DS, EDG *et al.*) and Oct. 3 (BIL, RS *et al.*). A late Black-throated Blue was at Lee Vining, *Mono*, Nov. 25–29 (†DS, S. Miller, R. Knapp). Our lone Black-throated Green at Moss Landing Sept. 29–30 (SGI) met the recent average, while a casually occurring Yellow-throated was at Westhaven, *Humboldt*, Oct. 8 (†ph. GSL, LPL). Fairhaven's summering Prairie Warbler remained until Aug. 29 (DFx). An inland Palm Warbler was seen at Cosumnes R. Preserve, *Sacramento*, Nov. 16 (AEn). Two Bay-breasted Warblers at Pt. Reyes Sept. 18 (RS) and F.I., Sept. 29, met the recent average. *Yolo's* first Blackpoll Warbler was at Bees L., Sept. 20 (L. Edson), while another inland bird was in Gonzales, *Monterey*, Oct. 9 (RC).



Fork-tailed Flycatcher near Jenner, Sonoma County, California, on September 4, 1992. This was the first definite California record for a tropical stray that has reached many other parts of North America. Photograph/Nancy T. Konzett.

An inland Am Redstart was seen at Spenceville Wildlife Area, *Yuba*, Sept. 5 (B. Williams, J. Thompson). Golden Gate Park, S.F., held our only Prothonotary Warbler Oct. 10–12 (†M. Healy, †JM *et al.*). The summer's Worm-eating Warbler, at C.C.R.S., remained until Sept. 6 (PJM). Single Connecticut Warblers were found at F.I., Sept. 18–19 and Oct. 18 (†PP), and at Bodega Bay (*Sonoma's* first) Oct. 3–4 (RAR, †ph. m.ob.). Mourning Warblers graced F.I., Aug. 30–31 (†PP), and Pt. Reyes Sept. 20 (GMcC, m.ob.). The C.V.'s first Hooded Warbler was in *Sacramento* Sept. 5 (†GEW). Rounding out this impressive warbler list was a dazzling Red-faced Warbler on F.I., Aug. 25 (†ph. PP, KH). This species has never been found in California n. of the San Gabriel Mt.s.; all warbler species known from the state have now been recorded in the Region.

TANAGERS TO FINCHES

A fall record nine Summer Tanagers were recorded Aug. 16–Sept. 18. All were coastal, save one in Sacramento Sept. 5 (†GEW). Nineteen coast-hugging Rose-breasted Grosbeaks Aug. 13–Nov. 24 gave us our best fall in 15 years. The possible hybrid Rose-breasted X Black-headed Grosbeak that summered in Del Rey Oaks, *Monterey* (mentioned last season), was confirmed as a first-year Rose-breasted



Red-faced Warbler on Southeast Farallon Island, CA., August 25, 1992. Photograph/Peter Pyle.

and remained until Sept. 3 (DR). Painted Buntings at Bonny Doon, *Santa Cruz*, Sept. 15 (†K. Kellman) and at F.I., Oct. 6 (†PP), spiced the season's s.w. flavor. An above-average three Dickcissels were found: L. Earl, *Del Norte*, Sept. 18 (ADB), F.I., Oct. 1, and San Rafael, *Marin*, Oct. 31–Nov. 1 (L. Stewart). Coastally, six Am Tree Sparrows Oct. 27–Nov. 20, 46 Clay-colored Sparrows Aug. 23–Oct. 31 (a lone straggler was seen on F.I., Nov. 24–26), and 13 Brewer's Sparrows Aug. 28–Nov. 15 constituted a strong *Spizella* showing. The C.V.'s first Clay-colored Sparrow was in Stockton Oct. 8 (†DGY). Fourteen coastal Lark Buntings Aug. 23–Sept. 26, with a late bird at Bodega Bay Nov. 1–3 (RAR *et al.*), was above average. F.I. scored yet another Le Conte's Sparrow Sept. 18–19 (†PP). White-throated Sparrows are the least reported *Zonotrichia* in the Great Basin region, so birds at Tule L., *Siskiyou*, Nov. 21 (K. Spencer) and Sierra Valley (*Plumas*'s first) Sept. 29 (†LJ) were noteworthy. Single Snow Buntings were seen at L. Talawa Nov. 2 (ph. ADB) and at F.I., Nov. 18 (†L. Gilbert), and up to two were at Bear R. Ridge Nov. 22–25 (MM, †AME).

A modest 15 coastal Bobolinks were picked up Aug. 1–Oct. 27, including *Contra Costa*'s first in Martinez Aug. 1 (†EHa), and two at Mono L. County Park Sept. 9 (PJM). A Rusty Blackbird at the Scott Cr. mouth, *Santa Cruz*, Nov. 24–Dec. 2 (GJS, DSLu) and three Orchard Orioles was a poor showing for these species. Finches wandered widely. A wayward Cassin's Finch was observed at Pt. Reyes Aug. 23 (RS). Two Lawrence's Goldfinches at Bridgeport, *Mono*, Oct. 19 (DS) were very rare e. of the Sierra, while six on F.I., Sept. 16–Oct. 29, were the first "numbers" there since 1974 (PP). Finally, Pine Siskins were in the "hundreds everywhere."

Corrigenda: In AB 45:146, the following text was omitted at the beginning of the page: *Low water in Crowley Res. Mono.*, stimulated four grebe species to nest....

In AB 45:147, a Sabine's Gull was at Tule L., not Rule L. Addendum: Received late was a description of an ad. Royal Tern at Crescent City, *Del Norte*, Sept. 22, 1990 (†ADB).

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