

# MIDDLE PACIFIC COAST REGION

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Rare and unseasonally high numbers of seabirds persisted as a warm water trend along the West Coast continued. One of the major themes of the Fall was the surge of tropical species well into the northern portions of Cal-ifornia, especially among landbirds. The Region also experienced major fallouts of eastern vagrants, primarily among vireos and warblers. It was a very poor fall for montane invasionary species such as thrushes, Red-breasted Nuthatch, and finches. Golden-crowned Kinglet was the exception, as they appeared everywhere en masse.

Abbreviations: B.S.O.L. (Big Sur Ornithology Lab., Monterey); C.C.R.S. (Coyote Cr. Riparian banding Station, Santa Clara); C.V. (Cen-

tral Valley); Cyn. (Canyon); F.I. (Southeast Farallon Island); H.S. (Hayward Shoreline, Alameda); P.R.B.O. (Pt. Reyes Bird Observatory); 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.

## **SHEARWATERS TO FRIGATEBIRDS**

A Streaked Shearwater was picked up in a supermarket parking lot in Red Bluff, *Tehama* Aug. 5 (†BY, ph.SWH). Maybe this vagrant strayed into S.F. Bay and up the Sacramento R., then mistook the lot for water, perhaps at night. The bird flew from its release site, Humboldt Bay Aug. 13 (DFx). All other North America records are from Monterey Bay. The high count for Flesh-footed Shearwaters was 17 at Cordell Bank Nov. 6 (RS, DLSh, LLu).

The Manx/Townsend's/Newell's shearwater problem has been the most controversial in the history of the C.B.R.C., and no species has been accepted to date. But this fall Manx Shearwaters were definitively photographed

on at least 3 dates, and sight records reported on at least 6 others! Plumage differences proved that several birds were involved. All but one report came from Monterey Bay boats. Disgracefully, only 5 of the 9 claims were properly documented, despite the involvement of hundreds of birders! After photos of a "Townsend's" Aug. 29 proved to be Manx (DLSh, ph. RN, ph. JMD), JMD discovered that a "Black-vented" photographed July 25 was also Manx. Photos helped reidentify a "Newell's" at F.I., Aug. 31 (†PP, †SNGH) as Manx. Manx were also described Sept. 22 (†JLD, †B. Behrstock, †D.J. Angell) and Oct. 25 (†DGY). Besides the 4 undocumented claims, DLSh, RT et al. have seen occasional "non-Black-vented" black-and-white shearwaters for years, but definitive characters have not been seen or appreciated. Adding the 2 recent Washington State records and prior California reports of Manx and Townsend's, it seems likely that Manx Shearwater is frequent along the Pacific coast.

Black-vented Shearwaters became abundant in October; in only 20 minutes 720 flew

N past Pigeon Pt., San Mateo Oct. 23 (PJM). Farther n., 40 p/h passed Laguna Pt., Mendocino Oct. 31 (DT) and three were one-to-two mi off Cape Mendocino, Humboldt Nov. 21 (GLF). There are very few records so far north.

Four Wilson's Storm-Petrels were at Cordell Bank Aug. 21 (RS), and one was in the Monterey Bay storm-petrel flock Sept. 4-Oct. 3 (DLSh, m.ob.). Two hundred Forktailed Storm-Petrels at Cordell Bank Aug. 21 (†DGY, RS) was a large concentration. An Ashy Storm-Petrel flying toward S.F. Bay at C.C.R.S., Nov. 10 (†MMR, †SCR) was the first for Santa Clara. Any storm-petrel is rare inside S.F. Bay, but most are this species. Up to four Least Storm-Petrels inhabited Monterey Bay Aug. 7-Oct. 16 (DLSh, SBT, RAE).

An ad. 9 Brown Booby returned to its favorite rock of 1992 at F.I., Aug. 16–Oct. 18 (†PP). The last Magnificent Frigatebird of 1993 was a female flying down the coast at New Brighton State Beach, Santa Cruz Sept. 22 (DLSu).

#### **BITTERNS TO DUCKS**

Token Least Bitterns for the season were at Colusa N.W.R., Aug. 26 (†JRa, M. Wolder) and the Salinas R. mouth Aug. 29 (JBo, TEa). Four ad. Little Blue Herons at Alviso, Santa Clara Aug. 29 (RJe) were a new high count at the only site in the Region where they are regular. An immature appeared at S.F. Bay N.W.R., Alameda Aug. 15 (EHa). Monterey's 2nd Little Blue, an immature, was at the Salinas R. mouth Oct. 24–27 (G. Meyer, †DR, †RC, REM, BHG). Another wandering immature was at Bodega Harbor, Sonoma Nov. 14 (W. Nelson, RAR et al.).

Of some 400 Cattle Egrets reported, 300+were in the C.V. in late August. White-faced Ibis made a strong showing again in *Monterey*, with 20–22 at Elkhorn Slough and the nearby Salinas R. mouth Sept. 26–27 (BHG, JMHu, D. Osterbrook). The highest C.V. count was of 135 near Woodland, *Yolo* Aug. 22 (WEH). Thirty at Bridgeport Res., Aug. 22 (PJM) tied the *Mono* high count.

A noteable appearance of Tundra Swans in the S.F. Bay area in mid-November coincided with sustained NE winds (m.ob.). Two ad. Trumpeter Swans Oct. 27 at Tule L., Siskiyou (†Rek, JiD, K. Spencer) furnished a rare Regional sighting of unbanded birds. However, two collared and dyed Trumpeters Nov. 30 at Modoc N.W.R. (RLR) clearly were involved in a management project. A bluemorph Ross' Goose was reported from Sacramento N.W.R., Nov. 6 (DES). Two Brant far inland at Mono L. County P., Aug. 21 (PJM) were very rare there, and two at Tule Lake N.W.R., Oct. 31 were notable for the Klamath Basin (REk).

The sole report of a "Eur." Green-winged





This Streaked Shearwater was found alive in a parking lot at Red Bluff, California, on August 5, 1993, and later released on Humboldt Bay.
Seventh North American record. Photograph/
S. W. Harris.

Teal was at Redwood Shore, San Mateo Nov. 25 (RSTh). Moonglow Dairy, Monterey continued to be a magnet for migrant Bluewinged Teal, with 36 there Sept. 27 (SFB). A count of 1600+ Gadwall Aug. 25 at the Sunnyvale sewer ponds, Santa Clara included 16 flightless broods (SCR). This duck continues its increase as a West Coast breeder. The earliest of about 35 non-C.V. Eur. Wigeons was detected Sept. 23 at Mt. View Forebay, Santa Clara (JM et al.).

A Tufted Duck found at the Alviso salt ponds Oct. 30–Nov. 21 (†SCR, †MJM, MMR, m.ob.) was the 2nd for Santa Clara. Singles were at Rodeo Lagoon, Marin Nov. 3–20 (S. Platt, JMR, JM, DSh), and Redwood Shores, San Mateo Nov. 14 (RSTh). Two broods of Lesser Scaup were found Aug. 25 at the Sunnyvale sewer ponds (SCR). Five Surf Scoters were inland. The earliest of 13 Oldsquaws, all coastal, was at Pt. Reyes Sept. 26 (ShH). A ? Hooded Merganser on the Merced R. in Yosemite N.P., Nov. 14 (LWh, †RHw, SMcA, D. von Bargen) was the first sighting in the

park since 1940. Inland Redbreasted Mergansers were a female at Oroville, *Butte* Nov. 14 (TDM, AM, BWb) and two female birds at L. Shastina, *Siskiyou* Nov. 18 (REk).

#### **RAPTORS**

An imm. Black Vulture in the Arcata Bottoms, Humboldt Sept. 19+ (M. Schultz, D. Poole, †DFx, †m.ob.) provided the first welldocumented record for California. The Golden Gate Raptor Observatory recorded its best year for weather and raptor numbers (CLF). Seasonal records included 22,737 total raptors, an average of 43 raptors p/h, 5456 Turkey Vultures, 5762 Sharp-shinned Hawks, 6502 Red-tailed Hawks, 90 Merlins, and 1301+ raptors banded. The 89 Broad-winged Hawks were 77% of the 1987+ average. Immatures at M.B.O.S.P., Sept. 26 & Oct. 3 (†SCR) were the 2nd and 3rd for Santa Clara; each was also seen in San Mateo. An ad. "Krider's" Redtailed Hawk was carefully described at Joseph Grant County P., Santa Clara Nov. 20 (†SCR). Both

reported "Harlan's" Red-tailed Hawks were described: Patterson Pass, *Alameda* Nov. 27–30 (†RJR) and at Gridley Rd., *Colusa* Nov. 28 (†MJM).

Two *richardsonii* Merlins were reported: a female at Pt. Reyes Sept. 19 (RS) and an ad. male at Alviso Oct. 17 (†SCR). An imm. Gyrfalcon without jesses near Midway, *Alameda* Nov. 27 & 30 (†RJR, R. Cimino) was the southernmost ever in California.

## **RAILS TO SHOREBIRDS**

Three Black Rails at Doran Marsh, Sonoma Sept. 22 (JGE) were about at their n. limit on the West Coast. All but two of 77+ Pacific Golden-Plover reported were coastal. The largest flock was 40–50 birds in October in the Eel R. delta, Humboldt (†SMcA et al.). Only 36 Am. Golden-Plovers were distinguished, also with two inland, and with no large concentrations noted. A Mt. Plover in Sierra Valley Nov. 27 (†MMC, E. Sorenson) was thought to the first Plumas record.

An ad. Black-necked Stilt accompanied by two large young Aug. 18 at Moonglow Dairy (DEG) proved that at least one brood eluded foxes. Peak counts of 108+ Lesser Yellowlegs in Santa Clara Aug. 22 (SCR) and 55 at Bridgeport Res., Mono Aug. 31 (PJM) were high numbers. Twelve coastal Solitary Sandpipers were balanced by 12 inland, highlighted by five at 2 sites in Mono Aug. 22 (PJM). Two Wandering Tattlers in Santa Clara Aug. 29-Sept. 7 (RJe, PJM, SCR) were rare so far into S.F. Bay, as was the county's 2nd Black Turnstone at Alviso July 31-Sept. 19 (PJM et al.). Both "oddwits" were detected. The Region's 9th Hudsonian Godwit was at Horseshoe Pond, Pt. Reyes Aug. 8-9 (†RS,



Black Vulture (with Common Raven) over Arcata, Humboldt County, California, on September 21, 1993. This bird remained through the fall, and furnished the first fully documented record for California. Photograph/Ron LeValley.

†PP). A Bar-tailed Godwit at Drake's Estero, Marin, Aug. 12 (†P. Delastre) was followed by one at Crescent City Aug. 28 (ADB, †GSL, P. Spruance); what was suspected to be the latter bird was then found at the Mad R. estuary, Humboldt Sept. 5–6 (JBo, TEa, †DFx et al.). A Surfbird at H.R.S., Aug. 18 (RJR) was well into S.F. Bay, where it is scarce in fall.

It was a good fall for Pectoral Sandpipers, with 3 groups of 60+ birds noted. Four Sharptailed Sandpipers Sept. 25—Oct. 16 fell below the recent average. The 15 Stilt Sandpipers Sept. 4—Oct. 15 appeared at only 5 locations. One at MacKerricher S.P., Sept. 9 was the first record for *Mendocino* (DT, AGM). Eight Buffbreasted Sandpipers occurred coastally Aug. 14—Sept. 29. Nineteen Ruffs at 13 sites, spanning the entire season, set a Regional record. Arrival of prospective wintering birds (four) was noted near Lemoor, *Kings* Nov. 29 (JSe).

#### **LARIDS TO ALCIDS**

High counts were 90 Pomarine and 26 Longtailed jaegers offshore Monterey Aug. 28 (DLSh). A juv. Long-tailed Jaeger at the Tulare L. basin, *Kern/Kings* Sept. 6 (†J. Wilson) was rare inland.

An ad. Laughing Gull resided at Seacliff State Beach, Santa Cruz Sept. 4-21 and Oct. 24-25 (K. Monahan, †DLSu, ph. S. Rovell). A first basic Little Gull at North Grasslands, Merced Nov. 20 (†RJR, LRF) was noteworthy since multiples no longer frequent the Stockton sewage ponds. An ad. Common Blackheaded Gull at Alviso Nov. 15 (†SCR) was Santa Clara's first. Well described was a possible first basic Herring × Glaucous gull at Arcata, Humboldt Nov. 15 (†DFx). Hundreds of Sabine's Gulls were offshore Monterey in August (DLSh, SCR) and 500 were estimated at F.I., Aug. 31. Three were inland Sept. 13-Nov. 20. A very late adult was at Santa Cruz Dec. 1 (†DLSu).

Coinciding with Sabine's Gull, Arctic Tern peaks were 2500 off Monterey Aug. 28 (DLSh) and a Regional record 7500 at F.I., Aug. 31. An adult was far inland at Crowley L., Mono Sept. 19 (JLD). Two ad. Black Skimmers at the Salinas R. mouth Sept. 4 (AD, JM) fulfilled Monterey Bay's fall quota.

A Thick-billed Murre stopped at the usual location, off Cannery Row, Monterey, Sept. 19–28 (DLSh, ph. † JMa, †m.ob.). Others were 2 mi off Cypress Pt., *Monterey* Sept. 22 (†ph. JLD) and 3–4 mi off Pt. Bonita, *Marin* 

Oct. 24 (†SBT). Eggshell fragments discovered in old-growth redwoods confirmed that Marbled Murrelets still nest in *Mendocino* (J. Dudley, *fide* RHw). Four of six Xantus' Murrelets at Cordell Bank Oct. 9 were *S. h. hypoleucus* (RS, SBT). An alternate-plumaged Ancient Murrelet was very early Aug. 7 at Pebble Beach, *San Mateo* (N. Lethaby). An Ancient strayed inland to San Pablo Res., *Contra Costa* Nov. 13–22 (RSa, JM, m.ob.).

## DOVES TO WOODPECKERS

A record 11 coastal White-winged Doves Sept. 4-Nov. 7 more than doubled the recent fall averages. One at Pt. St. George Sept. 4 (GSL) was Del Norte's first and the state's northernmost. Rarely observed over 6000 ft on the w. slope of the Sierra Nevada, a N. Saw-whet Owl was at 7100 ft in Peregoy Meadows, Yosemite N.P., Oct. 17 (DLSu). A road-kill fledgling Lesser Nighthawk in Peachtree Valley, Monterey Sept. 13 (DLSh) was the offspring of very late nesters. An unprecedented 14,545 Vaux's Swifts were recorded over the Marin Headlands this Fall (fide CLF). A stunning 9000 were recorded Nov. 12 alone; amazing not only for its magnitude, but also for the very late date. An imm. & Broad-billed Hummingbird took its southern origins all the way up to Fairhaven, Humboldt Oct. 9-14 (S. Haux, †RHw, †LWh, †MHM et al.). The Black-chinned Hummingbird at F.I., Oct. 27-28 was only the island's 3rd, and very late.

Acorn Woodpeckers wandered widely along the c. coast as Pt. Reyes had up to seven Sept. 15-Nov. 13 (m.ob.), Golden Gate P. had up to 10 Sept. 9+ (m.ob.), and H.S. had its first Sept. 23 (RJR). Yellow-bellieds continued to be the sapsucker of choice, as four coastally (one Oct. 23, three in November) were supplemented by two county firsts inland: Likely, Modoc Sept. 23 (JCS, †GjH) for a first from the Great Basin District, and Davis, Yolo Nov. 15+ (†MP, JMHu et al.). Single Red-naped Sapsuckers were at Bear Valley Marsh, Marin Oct. 27 (JGE) and Big Sur R. mouth Nov. 7 (B.S.O.L.). Humboldt's 4th Williamson's Sapsucker on Blake Mt., Sept. 17 (GSc, JEHu) was from the interior part of the county where they may prove to be regular.

## **FLYCATCHERS TO WRENS**

Many observers commented on the paucity of migrant Willow Flycatchers. This state



Immature male Broad-billed Hummingbird at Fairhaven, Humboldt County, California, in October 1993. This bird furnished the northernmost record on the Pacific Coast. Photograph/ Ron LeValley.

Endangered species needs to be closely monitored. Five coastal Least Flycatchers Sept. 9–24 and one migrant Hammond's Flycatcher at Pescadero, San Mateo Oct. 17 (RSTh) were well below recent averages. Coastally, eight Dusky Flycatcher Aug. 26–Oct. 6 and two Gray Flycatchers Sept. 4 & 28 were healthy totals, and included Santa Cruz' first Dusky at Natural Bridge S.P., Oct. 4–6 (†DLSu, †RMrr). A lone E. Phoege was at the Marin Headlands Nov. 13 (fide JM).

No Vermilion and only two Dusky-capped flycatchers came as a surprise, considering other tropical visitors. The latter two were at Trinidad, *Humboldt* Nov. 9–II (GSc, †DFx, †RHw, †GSL, †LPL et al.) and Gazos Cr., San Mateo Nov. 20–21 (MFe, †RSTh, AME). One of the great tropical delights of the season was first Regional records of Sulpher-bellied Flycatcher: Pt. Reyes Sept. 25 (Cwo, †JW, †DSg,



Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher at Pine Gulch Creek, California, October 10, 1993. Second record for northern California. Photograph/Stephanie Battiste.

m.ob.) and Pine Gulch Cr., Marin Oct. 6–10 (†KH, ph. m.ob.). A near-record 33 Tropical Kingbirds graced the coast Sept. 17–Nov. 6. For the 3rd consecutive fall, the Region had a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher: Nicascio, Marin Sept. 25–Oct. 24 (†JM, ph. †m.ob.). Prior to 1991, there were only 4 fall records.

Blooming late, a pair of Pygmy Nuthatches was feeding young on Mt. Hermon, *Santa Cruz* Oct. 25 (RMrr). A Canyon Wren at Año Nuevo Pt., Aug. 12–Sept. 12 was *San Mateo's* first, and one at Bobelaine Sanctuary, *Sutter* Oct. 13–Nov. 6 (JCP, RBr, PDe) was one of the few for the C.V. floor.

### **BLUEBIRDS TO VIREOS**

Eight W. Bluebirds above 10,000 ft at Tioga Tarns, *Tuolumne*, Nov. 5 (DLSu) were unseasonally high and late. Brown Thrashers were in Bolinas Nov. 8–11 (J., KH, m.ob.) and F.I., Nov. 10–11. They have been very rare recently. *Monterey's* first **Bendire's** Thrasher was at the Salinas sewage ponds Sept. 3–5 (†JMa, †DR, RC, m.ob.); there are less than 10 Regional records.

The Region's 8th Yellow Wagtail briefly visited H.S., Oct. 6 (†RJR), the state's first non-September sighting. Though well short of 1991 numbers, 12 Red-throated Pipits were impressive: eight at Pt. Reyes Sept. 26—Oct. 23 (JW, †SBT, †SCR, m.ob), three on F.I., Sept. 30—Oct. 13, and one at Purisima Cr. mouth, San Mateo Oct. 24 (RSTh). Once again, an Am. Pipit showing characteristics of the Asian race japonicus was well observed: Bodega Bay Nov. 13—14 (†BBu, KB, RAR et al.).



Scissor-tailed Flycatcher at Nicasio, California, October 10, 1993. Photograph/Stephanie Battiste.

The only N. Shrikes reported were from the Davis sewage ponds Oct. 17-22 (JAM et al.), F.I., Oct. 18-21 (2nd island record), and Pt. Reyes Oct. 23 (JM, m.ob.). Vireos were quite the rage this season! For only the 2nd fall ever, Bell's Vireo was found: singles at F.I., Sept. 15 & 18-19 (first & 2nd island records) and Cosumnes R. Preserve, Sacramento Nov. 7 (†GML, †JML), first for the C.V. since 1977. All were strongly suspected to be the w. forms. Solitary Vireo raised all sorts of supercilia. Sixteen "Blue-headed" types reported Sept. 15-Oct. 31 was more than 3 times the previous high in 1991! Three at F.I., Oct. 6-10 (ph. PP) and one in the interior w. of Lodi, San Joaquin Sept. 18 (†DGY, WRH) were well documented, but of 12 along the c. coast, only two in Monterey were described (†Dr, †CHo). Care in distinguishing solitarius/alticola from bright fall cassinii is encouraged, and documentation should be provided. Three plumbeous Solitary Vireos were also along the c. coast Sept. 15-Oct. 25. A record-breaking eight Philadelphia Vireos were seen: three in Monterey at the Big Sur R. mouth Sept. 17-18 (†NLe, †JDa et al.) & Oct. 9 (†CHo) and the Carmel R. mouth Oct. 7-14 (†DEG, †RC, †DR), one at Fairhaven Sept. 16-17 (†MHM, †TWL et al.), one at Pescadero Sept. 30-Oct. 17 (†RSTh, †JM, m.ob.), two at F.I., Oct. 6 & Nov. 9 (†PP), and one at Pine Gulch Cr., Oct. 7-16 (KH, †m.ob.). Eleven coastal Red-eyed Vireos Aug. 21-Oct. 17 established a fall record, as did five Yellow-green Vireos: Loleta Bottoms, Humboldt Oct. 14-15, (†SMcA, †RHw et al.), Pine Gulch Cr., Oct. 16-22 (JSC, †JM, m.ob.), Bolinas Lagoon Oct. 17 (J. Booker, †TEa), F.I., Oct. 26 (TPP), and Pt. Reyes Oct. 28 (JMHu, †RS).

## **WOOD-WARBLERS**

As in 1991, the Region had another amazing fall warbler season that rivaled and even surpassed the great years of the 1970s. While there were some true rarities, it was the magnitude of our more regular vagrants that was mind-boggling. Most were coastal unless noted.

Warblers in record or near-record numbers included: 53 Tennessees Sept. 1—Oct. 20, with one late Nov. 24; six Virginia's Sept. 2—30; 37 Chestnut-sideds Sept. 5—Nov. 4; 31 Magnolias Sept. 8—Nov. 11, 18 Prairies Sept. 1—Oct. 27; 54 Black-and-whites Aug. 28—Nov. 25; 83 Am. Redstarts July30—Oct. 24, with two late birds in November; and seven Prothonotories Sept. 11—Nov. 11. Those in average to above-average totals included: five N. Parulas Aug. 15—Oct.

24; 12 Black-throated Blues Oct. 2–Nov. 9, with one late Nov. 20–Dec. 1; 14 Blackburnians Sept. 10–Nov. 7; four Bay-breasteds Sept. 30–Oct. 16; 15 N. Waterthrushes Aug. 12–Oct. 21; and three Canadas in September, with one in November. The only regular-occuring vagrants with low turnouts were 66 Blackpolls Sept. 3–Oct. 29, three Ovenbirds Sept. 19–Oct. 17, and two Hoodeds Aug. 22–Sept. 18.

Our 3rd and 4th Blue-winged Warblers in less than a year were at the Big Sur R. mouth Sept. 14 (B.S.O.L., †DR, †RC et al.) and Carmel R. mouth Sept. 27–28 (†RS, †DR, †SFB, m.ob.). A record four Lucy's Warblers provided southern flavor: singles at Big Sur R. mouth Aug. 26 (CHo, JDv), Carmel R. mouth Sept. 5 (DR, RC), Pescadero Sept. 19 (RSTh), and Ferndale Nov. 22–27 (GSL, †Dfx, m.ob.). Single Cape May Warblers were at Pescadero Sept. 23 (†C. Miller, J. Spitler), Pt. Reyes Oct. 6–8 (RS, m.ob.), and F.I., Oct. 26. The Region's first Pine Warbler in 7 years was at the Big Sur R. mouth Oct. 24, a Monterey first (REM, †DR, RC et al.).

#### S.A.

The landbird of the season had to be Palm Warbler, with its quake-shaking total of 882 (conservatively!!)! This nearly triples the previous all-time high. Flocks up to 20 were regular. A total of 300 on F.I. alone was staggering. It was by far the most common "migrant" there, with Yellow-rumped Warbler a distant 2nd at 208 arrivals (PP). As expected, all but three were coastal, which probably helps justify their status as "vagrant." One at Laguna Cr. Beach, Santa Cruz Oct. 1 (†RMrt) was judged of the race hypochrysea.

A surprising Prothonotary Warbler at Sacramento N.W.R., *Glenn*, Nov. 2–11 (S. Adair, m.ob.) was the Sacramento Valley's first. All three *Oporonis* warblers graced the Region, with the most records on F.I.: one Kentucky Sept. 13 (†PP), single Connecticuts Sept. 15 & Oct. 4–6 (†PP), and single Mournings Oct. 1, 4–5 & 6–7 (†PP). Exceptions were *Monterey's* first Connecticuts at the Carmel R. mouth Sept. 27 (JCS) †GjH, †RFT *et al.*) and the Big Sur R. mouth Oct. 2 (B.S.O.L.), and Mourning at Rodeo Lagoon, *Marin* Oct. 2–3 (†JM *et al.*).

### **TANAGERS TO FINCHES**

An above-average six coastal Summer Tanagers Aug. 8—Nov. 22 were overshadowed by a Scarlet Tanager at Pt. Reyes Oct. 23 (†JM, ph. EDG, m.ob.). The recent fall trend of high numbers of Rose-breasted Grosbeaks continued as 16 were found coastally Sept. 14—Nov. 13. The Blue Grosbeak at L. Alamanor, *Plumas* Aug. 12 (HG) was one of few Mt. records, and another near Scotts Valley, *Santa Cruz* Nov. 15–18 (ph. B&K Monahan, †DLSu) was very late.

Very rare Dickcissels were at Arcata Sept. 25 (SWH) and the Ferndale Bottoms Oct. 10–12 (BBA, †DFx et al.). The only Am. Tree

Sparrow was at Pt. Reyes Oct. 5–6 (†JMR et al.). A record 80 Clay-colored Sparrows Aug. 18—Nov. 26 were observed, including one inland at Sierra Valley Aug. 18—20 (†LJ, KL), Plumas' first. Sparrows from the southwest invaded, as F.I.'s 2nd Black-chinned Sparrow Sept. 13 was followed by one at Pt. Reyes Oct. 9 (ALE, GFB), and Monterey's 2nd Black-throated Sparrow at the Big Sur R. mouth Sept. 6 (JDv, CHo) was supplemented by four at F.I., Sept. 5—Oct. 15 and one at Pt. Reyes Sept. 22—28 (RS, m.ob.). Swamp Sparrows were as common as White-throated Sparrow, as at least 130 primarily coastal birds were observed Sept. 21+.

MacKerricher's S.P. Great-tailed Grackle remained through the period (DT, ph. RJK, ph. P. Bauer *et al.*). Coastally, a modest five Orchard Orioles Sept. 5–Oct. 22, and a single N. "Baltimore" Oriole Oct. 31 at the Salinas sewage ponds Sept. 25 (BHG) were bolstered by the Region's 3rd and 4th fall Scott's Oriole at F.I. Oct. 27–30 & Nov. 10 (ph. PP). Fourhundred Lawrence's Goldfinches along Brickmore Cny., *San Belito* Oct. 11 had little Regional precedent; 94 were still present Nov.

24 (both DLSh).

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Scarlet Tanager at Point Reyes, California, October 23, 1993. Photograph/Ed Greaves.

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