

SOUTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION.—There were the normal storms that apparently hold up the heavy movements of spring migrants. These storms



extended through late March and into the first half of April. After mid-April there was a steady flow of migrants that continued through the first half of May with some still passing north in early June. Apparently no one was able to locate any large concentrations of migrants either along the coast or on the desert. All contributors reporting from along the coast stated that the spring flight was unspectacular with regard to migrant landbirds.

Alan Craig operated a mist net throughout the period on Point Loma, San Diego County. This is an excellent location for migrants, and his banding records give us some idea as to the times that some of the commoner migrants moved up the coast. Swainson's Thrushes were most numerous in mid-May. Orange-crowned Warblers peaked in late April. Nashville Warblers had a heavy flight between April 12 and early May, with only a few individuals caught during May. Yellow Warblers passed through in their largest numbers between May 11 and the end of the period. Black-throated Gray Warblers were on the move during April. Townsend's Warblers and Hermit Warblers, on the other hand, were commonest during mid-May. Wilson's Warblers appeared to be numerous throughout the period with no apparent peak. Western Tanagers were most conspicuous during mid-May.

Loons and Grebes—Good-sized flights of all three species of loons were noted in the Santa Barbara area between May 13 and 21, but elsewhere they were scarce. Eared Grebes were in very large numbers on the Salton Sea during early May.

Shearwaters and Petrels—Sooty and Pink-footed Shearwaters were numerous in the Santa Barbara Channel between May 5 and 24 (*S.B.A.S.*). A Slender-billed Shearwater, very rare during the spring, was identified off Santa Barbara on May 16 (*DH, JH, RB, et al.*). Two Ashy Petrels were seen in the Santa Barbara Channel on May 16, and

Black Petrels were fairly numerous there on May 16 and 24 (S.B.A.S.).

Pelicans through Herons—White Pelicans passed through the Salton Sea area during April and early May, but the large-sized flocks noted last year were not seen (BBP). One of the two Blue-footed Boobies on Puddingstone Reservoir, Los Angeles Co. has disappeared, but the other was still present at the end of the period. An adult *Little Blue Heron* was reported as being present in Goleta, Santa Barbara Co. between May 20 and 22 (S.B.A.S.), and was photographed by Waldo Abbott; there is only one substantiated record of this species in California, and recent sight records of adult Little Blue Herons have all turned out to be immature Reddish Egrets. Three wintering Louisiana Herons were still present at Imperial Beach, San Diego Co. on May 1 (DG).

Geese and Ducks—Over 500 Black Brant were present at the north end of the Salton Sea on April 24 (R & MW), and 70 were still present on May 1 (GMcC, DG & LS); 60 were seen on Ramer Lake, Imperial Co., on May 10 (RRP). A lone Black Brant at Morongo Valley, San Bernadino Co., on May 1 (GMcC, DG, LS & AC) gives us the first record for the Mojave Desert. By the end of March the waterfowl population on the Salton Sea Nat'l Wildlife Refuge was 12,000 ducks; this decreased to about 1000 birds, mostly Ruddy Ducks, by the end of the period (RRP). A small number of Blue-winged Teal were noted during April and early May as is normal. Small numbers of Red-breasted Mergansers were seen on the Salton Sea during May.

Rails—Two Virginia Rails appeared in a Claremont, Los Angeles Co. yard during May; one remained for eleven days at a four-foot diameter lily pond, feeding mainly on snails (EWK).

Shorebirds—An Am. Oystercatcher was seen on Anacapa Island on May 8 (JJ, DG & L.A.A.S.), and May 16 (S.B.A.S.); the sudden appearance of this species after a fifty-year absence is hard to explain. An Am. Golden Plover was present at Imperial Beach throughout April (GMcC, DC & AC). A Solitary Sandpiper, scarce during the spring, was at Goleta, Santa Barbara Co. on May 2 (EM). As many as 11 Wandering Tattlers were seen together in Laguna Beach, Orange Co., during mid-May (JJ). Small numbers of Knots were found on the Salton Sea during May. A Stilt Sandpiper was at the south end of the Salton Sea on April 18 (GMcC & AC), and ten were there on May 2 (GMcC, DG & LS)—a regular migrant in limited numbers at this location. A Stilt Sandpiper at Goleta on May 6 (EM) is the first spring coastal record for the Region. Sanderlings were found in small numbers on the Salton Sea during late April and May as is normal. The flight of Wilson's and Northern Phalaropes was about normal; the only reports of Red Phalaropes came from the open ocean during early May.

Gulls and Terns—A bird fitting the description of a Glaucous Gull was present in Santa Barbara from April 6 to at least June 2 (NM, S.B.A.S.); photographs taken by Dick Smith accompanied the description. Unfortunately the plumage of some

Glaucous-winged Gulls becomes badly worn in the spring, and when this happens the individual often looks pure white; the photograph shows that the Santa Barbara bird was in worn plumage. A second-year Laughing Gull was present in San Diego throughout May (GMcC, DG, LS, AC, DC)—a very rare species along the coast. The only record of a Franklin's Gull this spring was an adult at the north end of the Salton Sea on May 8 (GMcC). A late Black-legged Kittiwake was in Port Hueneme on May 8 (JJ, DG & L.A.A.S.). A Common Tern was at the north end of the Salton Sea on May 8 (GMcC). This is the first spring record for this area. An Arctic Tern was identified near Anacapa Island on May 8 (DG, JJ & L.A.A.S.); the species is undoubtedly regular, but not often reported.

Alcids—More than twice as many Pigeon Guillemots were seen near Santa Cruz Island on May 16 and 24 than on any previous May trip made by the Santa Barbara Audubon Society. Six Xantus' Murrelets were seen off Santa Barbara on May 16 (S.B.A.S.).

Swifts and Hummingbirds—The flight of Vaux's Swifts passed through the Region virtually unnoticed. Broad-tailed Hummingbirds were fairly common in the White Mountains, Inyo Co. in late May; this is the western limit of the species' breeding range. A male Calliope Hummingbird was seen near Calipatria, Imperial Co. on March 27 (GMcC & RRP)—the first record for that area. Small numbers of Calliope Hummingbirds passed through the San Diego area during April.

Flycatchers and Chickadees—The Scissor-tailed Flycatcher that was present near Imperial Beach, San Diego Co. remained into early April (GMcC & AC). A *Wied's Crested Flycatcher* (photographed and banded) was in Morongo Valley between April 24 and the end of the period (DG, AC, GMcC, DC). This is the farthest west that the species has been recorded, but it has been noted here during the past three years and may prove to be regular at this location. Six *Chestnut-backed Chickadees* were seen in San Luis Obispo on May 27 (AR)—the farthest south that the species has been found.

Warblers—A ~~Black and white~~ Warbler was in Santa Barbara on April 24 (EM); one was banded in Morongo Valley on May 8 (AC); one was banded on Point Loma on May 11 (AC), and another was banded there on May 25 (AC); and one was seen at Oasis, Mono Co. on May 30 (GMcC, LS & DG); this is a scarce migrant. Seven *Virginia's Warblers* were seen in the White Mountains, on May 30 (DG)—a known-breeding locality. An adult male *Parula Warbler* in full song was at Morongo Valley on May 1 and 2, and was banded and photographed (AC, GMcC, LS, et al.); another male was seen at Deep Springs, Inyo Co., on May 29 and 30 (GMcC, DG, LS, et al.); there are four other records for the Region. A female *Black-throated Blue Warbler*, the first spring record for California, was seen in Santa Barbara on April 17 (NM). A male *Chestnut-sided Warbler* in full song was photographed near Imperial Beach on June 5 and 6 (GMcC & AC). This also is the first

spring record for the Region. Two wintering Palm Warblers were present near Imperial Beach until mid-April (*GMcC & AC*). Two Northern Waterthrushes were seen in Morongo Valley on May 8, and one was banded the following day (*GMcC & AC*)—apparently they are regular in small numbers. An Am. Redstart was seen in Laguna Beach, Orange Co. on May 14 (*ET*); one was present in Claremont, Los Angeles County, during late May and early June (*EWK*); and 4 were seen at Deep Springs, Inyo Co., on May 29 (*GMcC, DG, LS, et al.*). A Painted Redstart, very rare during the spring, was at Morongo Valley between May 2 and 8 (*AC & GMcC*).

Orioles through Sparrows—An adult male Orchard Oriole was present at Dana Point, Orange Co. between April 11 and 22 (*EP, WH, GMcC & AC*). A wintering Baltimore Oriole remained in Montecito, Santa Barbara Co. until April 4 (*JK*). Summer Tanagers returned to Morongo Valley in late April, and in May as many as ten were present; the largest number yet recorded there. A Summer Tanager at Deep Springs, Inyo Co. on May 30 (*LS*) was far

north. A male Indigo Bunting at Morongo Valley on April 24 (*DG*) was the only one reported this spring. A Rose-breasted Grosbeak was seen at Deep Springs on May 29 (*DG, GMcC, LS and many others*). Red Crossbills were found in the mountain areas within the Region throughout the period. A late Slate-colored Junco was at Morongo Valley on April 10 (*DG*). A Harris' Sparrow remained at a feeder in Montecito until April 8 (*MM*), and another was seen close by on April 24 (*JK*).

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