



summer or not at all. Among "invasion" species only the Varied Thrush appeared in large numbers, and this happens in perhaps half our winters; but this was balanced by the fact that only one species (Short-eared Owl) seemed present in notably reduced numbers, although others (White-tailed Kite, ducks) seemed reduced in some areas owing to different distribution. However, the occurrence of some species long thought accidental in the Region was placed on a more regular basis by increased sightings this winter.

Loons, Grebes—Arctic and Red-throated Loons seemed to have wintered in greater numbers than usual, particularly in the Tomales Bay area where combined numbers of over 7000 were estimated on the Jan. 1 Christmas count. Red-necked Grebes were also recorded there in greater than usual numbers, very likely because of increased coverage. The only one reported away from this locality was at Moss Landing, Jan. 21 (DDeS).

Fulmars, Shearwaters, Petrels—R. L. Branson reported that Fulmars were common off the Monterey Peninsula in December, decreasing in January, with only a few left by February; they were never as common as in some recent years. A Slender-billed Shearwater was watched for over one-quarter mile of flight from Point Lobos, Dec. 30, by three observers, at least one of whom was familiar with the species (DP, TC Jr. & JW); another was found dead at Point Reyes in January (WTV). Only 3 Fork-tailed Petrels and 43 Leach's were banded this winter by Fred Zeilemaker and Stan Harris on the offshore rock near Trinidad, Humboldt Co. (last year 10 Fork-tailed and 274 Leach's were banded). Anywhere else on California's northern coast petrels are rarely recorded in winter; however, one Leach's and about 20 Ashy were observed from Point Lobos, Dec. 30 (DP, TC Jr. & JW).

Pelicans, Herons, Ibises—A single White Pelican at the Los Banos Waterfowl Management Area, Feb. 5 (T & ZCK) was perhaps wintering. Brown Peli-

MIDDLE PACIFIC COAST REGION.—The winter season in this Region could not precisely be described as uneventful, but the noteworthy events were occurrences of single birds rather than invasions, and mostly of birds wintering normally far to the south and occurring in the Region only in

cans (19) on Humboldt Bay, Dec. 30 (*F & MZ, EAP*) lingered farther north along the coast than is normal. Green Herons were reported as far north as Del Norte County "as usual" by the Rails, March 22 (*DDeS*); at Sacramento Nat'l Wildlife Refuge throughout January and into February (*SRW*); and at Inverness, Point Reyes Penin., Dec. 16 (*GM*). A Least Bittern was flushed from the brackish marshes at Rodeo Lagoon, Marin Co., Jan. 15 (*TCk*). This is one of the few recent records for the species along the coast, particularly in winter. About 100 White-faced Ibis were either winterers or very early arrivals (usual arrival in late February) at Los Banos W.M.A., Jan. 23 (*DDeS*). About 5 individual records at the Sacramento Refuge in December and January also were reported (*SRW*).

Swans and Geese—The peak population of Whistling Swans on the Merced Nat'l Wildlife Refuge was 206, Jan. 26 (*DNW*). Only 22 wintered at Eureka where over twice that many have been regular in the past several years (*MK*). Two turned up at the mouth of the Carmel River (Monterey County) on Dec. 30 (George Lamont, *file RLB*); they are considered a rare visitor there. An unidentified swan was reported at Abbotts Lagoon, Point Reyes Penin., Dec. 16 (*WTV*), where a Trumpeter wintered in 1961-2 and 1962-3; it did not remain, the area being heavily hunted this winter. At the Merced Refuge goose numbers reached their peak during the week of Dec. 5-11, when 89,535 were counted: 24,500 Canada Geese, 32,500 White-fronted Geese, 17,500 Snow Geese and 15,000 Ross' Geese. This high peak population lasted for about two weeks and then leveled off at about 12,000 through January and February. White-fronted Geese were much more abundant this year than during previous years (*DNW*). The first definite record of the Tule White-fronted Goose (*A. a. gambeli*) for the San Joaquin Valley was obtained at Los Banos W.M.A. (*ROW*). Decreased numbers of Snow Geese in the Sacramento Valley were believed at least partially a result of poor nesting success this year (*SRW*). A Ross' Goose, rare along the coast, was at Big Sur, Monterey Co., January-March (*RLB*). An Emperor Goose spent part of December at the Colusa Nat'l Wildlife Refuge—the first in about four years in the Sacramento Refuge system (*SRW*).

Ducks—Waterfowl numbers in the Sacramento Valley were extremely low compared to 1964. A decline was noted in virtually all species of ducks, although it showed most drastically in Pintail and Am. Widgeon. This general decline was apparently the result of an unusual distribution of birds, however, rather than of a real decline in any population (*SRW*); see the Fall Migration report. At Merced Refuge ducks climbed slowly to a peak of 186,300 during the week of Dec. 19-25, then slowly declined through January and February (*DNW*). Fulvous Tree Ducks appeared more commonly than usual in the Sacramento Valley this winter: hunters shot 3 on the Delevan Nat'l Wildlife Refuge and Sacramento Refuge and 4 more were seen on an aerial census of the Butte Sink (*SRW*). Nine Blue-winged Teal, about the usual number, were reported in the

Region during the season. The rare but regular European Widgeon was also reported from several localities besides Sacramento Refuge, where they are to be expected: Humboldt Bay (a male and a presumed female), Jan. 20 (*EAP*); Limantour Estero, Point Reyes Penin. (a possible hybrid with American Widgeon) in early February (*JG, TC Jr., WTV, GM, DDeS, et al.*). Wood Ducks numbered up to 22 at Dry Lagoon, Humboldt Co., Jan. 15 (*EAP*). Barrow's Goldeneyes were at Lake Merritt, Oakland, again this winter: 4 females seen on Dec. 31 (Marvin Davis and *TCk*), 1 male and 2 females, Jan. 3 (*T & Zck*), 1 female remaining, Feb. 12 (*DDeS*). Two more were reported from the Klamath River on Dec. 19 (*GMcC, EAP, et al.*). Oldsquaws were reported along the coast as usual, although 12 at Point Lobos, Dec. 30 (*DP*) were a large number at one locality. Most unusual was one taken by a hunter in mid-December at the Mendota Waterfowl Management Area, Fresno Co. (*ROW*). As there is only one other known inland record in California (Beck, *Condor* 46:129 [1944]), this record will be published in the *Condor*; however, the species was also reported at Lewiston, Trinity Co., Dec. 18-27 (*BJK*), where several reportedly have been shot in recent years; the large reservoirs of Trinity County are a far more likely place for it than the Central Valley. Harlequin Ducks were reported in the usual small numbers along the coast. Among many scattered reports of Com. Mergansers the 122 counted on Calaveras Reservoir, Santa Clara Co., on a Christmas count were most impressive.

Hawks, Eagles, Falcons—White-tailed Kites were reported numerous (15) at the Sacramento Refuge on Jan. 8 (*SRW*); 21 near Gilroy, Santa Clara Co., Dec. 25 (*JRDG & RGw*); 13+ at the Palo Alto Yacht Harbor, Dec. 7 (*TCk*); and 12+ on Grizzly Island, Solano Co., Jan. 22 (*HLC*). In other cases, however, they were reported greatly reduced in numbers—2 in December, compared to 20+ a year ago, at Alvarado, Alameda Co. (*HLC*) and only 2 or 3 where 12+ were normally seen at Cotati, Sonoma Co. (*BDP*). These changes were perhaps caused by local fluctuations in mouse populations (*HLC*). Dr. Howard Cogswell reports *Accipiter* hawks decidedly scarce compared to ten years ago. A good description of an immature *Harlan's Hawk* was submitted for a bird found on Jan. 9 near the Gray Lodge Waterfowl Management Area, Butte Co. (Janet Turner, *EH*). The bird was studied carefully on four occasions (the last on Feb. 20) and photographed. Although this species is considered casual in California, it seems to be becoming rare but regular in winter, as there are now ten good records for the state (and three for the locality of this record). Reports of 15 Rough-legged and 5 Ferruginous Hawks seem to indicate a fair flight year for these two wintering species.

Encouraging was a report of 6 immature Bald Eagles on the Calaveras Reservoir, Santa Clara Co., Feb. 20 (*DDeS*); 6 other individuals were reported. An Osprey wintered at the northern locality of Big and Stone Lagoons, Humboldt Co. (*EAP, JRDG & RGw*). A Prairie Falcon was seen in southern Monterey County on Jan. 29, where it is considered a rare

sight though probably resident (*RLB & VLY*). Another was sighted near Chico on Dec. 19 (*EH*). Reports of 14 Peregrine Falcons were encouraging, although one of these was seen to have jesses on its legs. Pigeon Hawks were seen near San Jose (3) (*DDMcL*) and on the Tomales Bay Christmas count (2) on Jan. 1.

Grouse, Cranes, Rails, Gallinules, Coot—A Ruffed Grouse, locally resident but rarely seen, was found at Prairie Creek State Park, Nov. 25 (*JRDG & RGw*). Sandhill Cranes apparently wintered in good numbers in the Sacramento Valley, with migrating flocks of between 75 and 200 birds each going over Sacramento on Feb. 27 (*ERP*). Twenty-one Clapper Rails and 28 "small" rails (mostly identified as *Soras*) were counted during the highest tide of the season at Bay Farm Island, Alameda Co. on Feb. 5 (*ER & EHe*). At the Merced Refuge, 130 Com. Gallinules were counted on Feb. 2 and a peak population of 12,500 Am. Coot was recorded on Dec. 2 (*DNW*).

Shorebirds—A train flushed up 30-50 Mountain Plovers at Franklin, Sacramento Co., Jan. 20 (Muriel Kaminsky, *vide BK*) and 5 others were seen near the Merced Refuge on Dec. 11 (*JRDG*). There were reports of at least 6 Lesser Yellowlegs in the Region this winter. Many reports of Knots along the coast indicate continuing increase of this species as a winterer (*HLC*). The first record of Rock Sandpipers for the Monterey Peninsula was a bird found at Point Pinos, Pacific Grove, on Dec. 4 by Mr. and Mrs. Nelson, photographed and seen by many observers during the month. Three Red Phalaropes, rare in the winter, were found off Point Lobos on Dec. 25 (*RLB*).

Jaegers, Gulls, Alcids—This winter 3 Parasitic Jaegers flew back and forth between San Francisco Bay and Calero Dam with gulls, compared to only one in the previous three winters (*DDMcL*). A Pomarine Jaeger and a Skua were found on the Tomales Bay Christmas count, Jan. 1. The Pomarine Jaeger was seen from shore near Dillon Beach (*RS*) and the Skua from a boat about 4 miles off Point Reyes Beach (*TCk*). Although Skuas are regular in fall, this is the first-known winter record for the Region. Two carefully identified Glaucous Gulls were reported: an immature at Point Pinos, Pacific Grove on Jan. 28 and Feb. 25 (*WR*) and an adult at the Palo Alto Yacht Harbor on San Francisco Bay, March 2 (*DDeS & TCk, DG*). Black-legged Kittiwakes apparently wintered in fair numbers along the coast, as 72 were counted from a boat off Point Reyes Beach on Jan. 1 (*DDeS, TCk, et al.*). The Xantus' Murrelet is rarely seen near shore, especially in this northern region—two birds were seen off Point Lobos, Dec. 30 (*DP & TC Jr.*). Over 200 Rhinoceros Auklets flocked off Cannery Row in Monterey for several days in March (*RLB*).

Doves, Owls—A White-winged Dove was at a feeder in El Cerrito, Contra Costa Co., Jan. 28-Feb. 8 (*ALC*), for the third or fourth record from the Region; however, escape from captivity cannot be ruled out. Another was on the Watsonville (Santa Cruz Co.) Christmas count. Several observers com-

mented on the unusually low numbers of Short-eared Owls this winter, both along the coast and in the Central Valley; numbers seen at Lower Klamath Nat'l Wildlife Refuge (see Great Basin Region) suggest they may merely have remained farther north with more open conditions than usual. A report of four road kills of Saw-whet Owls on 100 feet of Highway 101 near McKinleyville, Humboldt Co., Dec. 10-Feb. 15 (*DAG*), possibly correlates with the 'invasion' in the East, but no other observers report numbers increased over normal.

Poor-wills—Poor-wills were heard on the Monterey Christmas count and seen on the Tomales Bay (6, *DAG & Stanley Ford*) and Contra Costa County (1, at a distance of 8 feet in car headlights) counts; a belated report of a bird seen regularly on a driveway in the Carmel River Valley, Monterey Co., in Dec. 1964-Jan. 1965 (*vide RLB*) indicates that a few birds may be in a non-hibernating state more than occasionally, even without unusually warm weather (the morning of the Contra Costa County count, for instance, had a low of 30°).

Hummingbirds—An Anna's Hummingbird in lowlands near the mouth of the Smith River, Dec. 23 and Jan. 1, appears to be the first definite sighting from Del Norte County (Mr. & Mrs. Bob Garrett, *vide Rails*). With other reports to the southward (*RG, EAP*) it appears that this species now occupies at least garden areas along the Northwest Coast, where it was not known by Grinnell and Miller. This species and the Allen's are among the earliest breeding species of the Region: female gathering nesting material, Sacramento, Jan. 2 (*BK*); half-grown young, Carmel, Feb. 27 (*RLB*). Arrival dates for Allen's Hummingbird along the coast proceed as might be expected (Carmel, Feb. 6, *RLB*; Santa Rosa, Feb. 16, *BDP*; Fort Smith, Del Norte Co., Feb. 27 [*Rails*]) but Rufous Hummingbirds arrived on the same date (Feb. 28) at Woodside, San Mateo Co. (*ZCk*) and Fort Smith (*Rails*). With the normal arrival of Calliope Hummingbird earlier at Yreka (this year March 24) (*MSC*) than at Tilden Park, Berkeley, it appears possible that the two last species migrate through the Central Valley (Rufous Hummingbird reported at Courtland, Sacramento Co., Feb. 16, 24 [*vide BK*]), then striking over toward the coast, while Allen's moves northward along the coast, where it alone of the three nests; nest with two eggs at Carmel, Feb. 24 (*RLB*).

Woodpeckers—Pileated Woodpeckers (male and female) were observed, unusually, in lowland second growth woods (alder with some redwood and myrtle) in Del Norte County in January (*Rails*); it is also regular near Fort Bragg (*RC*). In California the species has been considered to be confined to non-redwood coniferous forests above 500 feet elevation. A Red-naped (*nuchalis*) Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, rarely recorded this far south, was at south San Jose, Jan. 20 (*DDMcL*).

Flycatchers, Swallows, Corvids—An Ash-throated Flycatcher was seen during February at Colusa Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Colusa Co. (*SRW*). It is to be reiterated (cf. *AFN* 18:383, 19:74) that late fall and winter "Ash-throated" Flycatchers in our Region

should if possible be collected or at least examined very closely because of the possibility of occurrence of the very similar Nutting's Flycatcher (mouth lining orange in Nutting's, flesh-pink in Ash-throated; cf. Lanyon, *Condor* 63:421 [1961]), which ranges north into Sonora, Mexico, and might well move northward in fall like the Tropical Kingbird (it has once been recorded in Arizona). A far north wintering Violet-green Swallow was near Eureka, Dec. 30 (Ruth Crane); the species winters normally at selected spots (notably Santa Rosa) near San Francisco Bay. Gray Jays, seen regularly but only at intervals at Patricks Point State Park and Prairie Creek State Park (*vide EAP*), are now reported to have the same status in the vicinity of Mendocino, Mendocino Co. (*vide JG, JA*). Steller's Jays "invaded" the low foothills (below 1000') in Nevada County in February (*MP, Jr.*). No irruption of Clark's Nutcrackers occurred; the only report was of 2 on Dec. 7 at Mt. Hermon in the Santa Cruz Mts. (A. Boylan, *vide FH, DBH*) where breeding has been strongly suspected but not proven.

Chickadees, Creepers—The Black-capped Chickadee, resident at Requa, Del Norte Co. (*EAP, JRDG*) but not found recently in Humboldt Co., apparently occurs at least sporadically at Lewiston, Trinity Co. (Feb. 24, 1965, and on this year's Christmas count [*BJK*]) which is southeast of the recorded range of the species in California. The observer has not found either Chestnut-backed or Mountain Chickadees at this location. The "first significant numbers in years" of Brown Creepers, 1-12 daily in a 5-acre area, "sometimes in small flocks," were noted at Springville, Tulare Co. (*MEM*), but no other observers report increased numbers.

Thrushes—Most observers reported Robins present in about average numbers, without large flocks, except for "large numbers" in the Santa Cruz Mts. (*FH*) and "very large numbers" in the Arcata bottoms, Humboldt Co. (*DAG*), following the recent pattern of non-coincidence of Robin and Varied Thrush invasions; of course, a "good Robin winter" means many in gardens, etc., and probably little food in the coastal forest, while with abundant forest food the Robins are there, but less conspicuous than the resultant numbers of Varied Thrushes. Several observers reported sudden appearance of numbers of Robins in February, presumably as non-garden sources of food were used up. All observers considered it a very good winter for Varied Thrushes, with the most outspoken reports from the extreme ends of the Region: at Fort Smith the Rails had 1300-1500 in lowland pastures on Jan. 3, "most numerous ever on our Christmas count day," and at Springville, Tulare Co., Mrs. Mires had the "first significant numbers in 15 years" (8-20 daily on 5 acres of suitable habitat). Most Christmas counts exceeded their all-time highs. Observers in the Central Valley from Chico (*EH*) to Stockton (*BM*) found Hermit Thrushes "scarce," but at Springville, as along the coast, there were "more in numbers than noted in past few years" (*MEM*). No less than 10 Swainson's Thrushes were reported: 1 at Rodeo Lagoon, Marin Co., Dec. 5 (*V & RDaC*), 1 at Yreka, Dec. 29-Jan.

4 (*MSC*), and 3, 2, 2, and 1 respectively from the Santa Cruz, Tomales Bay, Sacramento and Monterey Christmas counts. There is no winter specimen from any part of the state (let alone Yreka!) and good details were received for only the Rodeo bird; the plethora of reports suggests unusual wintering, but the species must be considered hypothetical as a winterer until a specimen is taken. But what is winter? See *APN* 16:71 (1962) concerning a bird at Yreka, eating Virginia creeper berries as was this year's bird, as late as Nov. 29, 1961.

Waxwings, Shrikes—Three reports of Bohemian Waxwings, very rare and sporadic in the Region, were received: Jan. 23, 14 in Montalvo Gardens, Saratoga, Santa Clara Co. (*DDMcL*); Jan. 29, 8 with 60 Cedars in DDMcL's back yard (the most regular place of occurrence in the Region); Feb. 13, 3 on the Dos Puertos Canyon road west of Patterson, southwest Stanislaus Co. (*R & WGW*). The Cedar Waxwing picture was for once similar in all areas: flocks of no more than 25 until February, then much larger flocks appeared (of 200-300 in the Santa Cruz area [*DBH*]), rapidly diminishing again in March. The ecological reasons for such congregations, probably a shift of food supply, would be of interest. An immature *Northern Shrike* was at the Bay Bridge toll plaza, Dec. 9, *et sec.* (*BH, RS*); an adult was reported from Mt. Diablo, Dec. 25 (Sam Tanner, *vide LF*, Harry Adamson). There is only one previous record from the Bay area (Castro Valley, collected Feb. 6, 1960).

Warblers—Unusual wintering warblers were as follows: Black-and-white, 2 (Inverness, Jan. 1 [*Argantes, et al.*] and March 19 [*WTV*]; Santa Rosa, 1 female, collected March 5 [*GLB*]); Nashville, 4 (El Cerrito, Contra Costa Co., Dec. 11 [*ALC*]; Inverness, Dec. 30-Jan. 2 [*GM, RS, DDeS, et al.*]; Eel R. near Loleta, Humboldt Co., immature, Dec. 30 [*EAP & Clarence Crane*]; Carmel, Jan. 16, Feb. 3, 23 [*DDeS, RLB, T & Zck*]; Black-throated Gray, 1 male at Lafayette, Contra Costa Co., Dec. 30-Jan. 3 (*LF*), and two reported on Chico Christmas count; Palm, 6 (Carmel R. mouth, at least 2 wintered [*RLB*], 3 on Feb. 13 [*DDeS*]; Pacific Grove, 2 on Jan. 31 [*JRDG*], Tomales Point, 1 on Jan. 1 [*TC, Jr.*]); MacGillivray's, 1 at Pacific Grove, Dec. 30 to at least March 2 (*WR, et al.*; this bird showed no white around the eye when first seen, but was beginning to show some at last report); Wilson's, 1 at Colusa State Park, Colusa Co., Nov. 26 (*BM*); Am. Redstart, adult male at Carmel River, Dec. 13-27 (*RLB, VLY*). None of these is unprecedented, and the Palm Warbler is perhaps more to be classed with the Orange-crowned and Hermit Warblers as a rare but regular winterer than as casual; however, the total number is impressive. Dave De Sante noted that Myrtle Warblers, much less common than Audubon's in December (ratio 1/25), replaced them in late January (Dumbarton Bridge, Jan. 24, 40 Myrtle/2 Audubon's; Carmel R., Feb. 13, 35/3). Myrtles normally occur mainly along the coast, but rarely in these proportions to Audubon's. Townsend's Warblers were regarded as more common than usual in Marin County (*GM, DDeS*) but less common on

the Monterey Peninsula (WR, RLB).

Orioles—A wide selection of wintering orioles is now expected in Greenwood Park, Pacific Grove, but this year's group was the best yet: 1 Orchard (female; separated from Hooded by shorter, straighter bill), 2 and perhaps 3 Hooded, 2 and probably 3 Baltimore, 1-2 Bullock's (WR, RLB, VLY, DDeS, JRDG). However, these were only part of the winter's selection, which also included: Orchard Oriole, 1 female found moribund near Big Sur, late Nov.—early Dec., now in collection of Pacific Grove Museum of Nat'l History (RLB, VLY), 1 adult male in Carmel, Feb. 7 *et seq.* (RLB; photographed); Hooded Oriole, female (not Orchard, carefully described) Dec. 25 *et seq.*, adult male Feb. 15 *et seq.*, Chico (EH) (this is north of the expanding breeding range of the species); Scott's Oriole, immature male at Jacks Peak, Monterey Penin., Feb. 19 *et seq.* (Jim Blee, RLB, VLY; photographed; second or third record from this Region); Baltimore Oriole, female found dead in Pacific Grove, Dec. 3, now in Pacific Grove Museum (VLY); Bullock's Oriole, 2 in Fort Bragg (RC, JG, D. Ratcliff & J. Bishop), one reported as this species in Santa Rosa (*vide* JG). Bullock's Orioles do not normally breed at Fort Bragg. In at least the case of the Hooded Orioles, it may be speculated that the fall wandering and wintering is a mechanism for the range expansion which has been going on in California since 1930.

Tanagers—Four Western Tanagers were reported, three from Monterey County: Dec. to Jan. 8, female at Greenwood Park, Pacific Grove (RLB, WR, T & ZCk); Watsonville, Jan. 20 (RLB); Carmel Highlands, most of winter (Laidlaw Williams); and most notably, an adult male flying between redwood canyons at about 1200' in the Santa Lucia Mts., 9-10 miles south of Big Sur, Dec. 18 (Lynn Stafford). An adult male *Hepatic Tanager* at the headquarters of Hunter-Liggett Military Reservation, southern Monterey Co., Jan. 30 (RLB & VLY) is the first record for the Region, but only 55 miles northwest of the locality of a specimen in San Luis Obispo County (*Condor* 66:308 [1964]). A male Summer Tanager, molting into red plumage, was in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, Jan. 11 (VDAc).

Grosbeaks, Finches—No invasion of Evening Grosbeaks occurred, although there were a few reports from Santa Cruz (*vide* DBH) and San Mateo County (William Anderson), and one only from Chico (March 17, Janet Turner, *vide* EH). Purple Finches were perhaps more sporadic than usual (two localities reported "scarce," one twice normal), with an unusual record east of the Sierra, 5 with Cassin's Finches at Susanville, March 19 (DDeS); probably a first record for Lassen County, though the species has been recorded in Modoc County to the northward. Henry E. Childs, Sr. notes movements of transient House Finches into his San Leandro banding area on Jan. 21-22, Jan. 29-31, Feb. 11-13 and March 2-4, and movements out Feb. 2-3, Feb. 13-14, March 3-5; the Jan. 20-22 movement coincided with substantial movements of Robins, Cedar Waxwings and White-crowned Sparrows. Some of the banded House Finches were recovered two weeks later, others only

after a few days or not at all. Winter movements of flocking birds may not be entirely random, even in the equable weather conditions of the San Francisco Bay area. No reports of wandering Red Crossbills were received.

Juncos, Sparrows, Longspurs—Including Christmas counts, some 13 Slate-colored Juncos were reported, considerably more than usual. A Gray-headed Junco, probably immature, was at the feeder of Mrs. Grace Miller in Inverness, Dec. 13-Jan. 8 (GM, TC, Jr., RS, DDeS, *et al.*); 2 others, plus 3 Slate-colored, were at the RCA Station, Point Reyes Penin., Jan. 29 (DDeS & TCk). All records of this casual wanderer in the Region have been in Marin County! Chipping Sparrows wintered at Sebastopol (Jan. 29, 1 [BDP]) and Beale AFB, Yuba Co. (to Jan. 23, 10, MP, Jr.), both unusually far north. A Harris' Sparrow at Pacific Grove, Dec. 2-10 (VLY, *et al.*) was believed to have been eaten by a cat; others were on the Monterey (O. Hurlbert) and Sacramento (DAG & S. Ford) Christmas counts, a bit above the usual one per winter. Several observers (DDeS, DDMcL, MP, Jr.) considered White-crowned Sparrows less common than usual. White-throated Sparrows were more common than usual; the *piece de resistance* was a report of 26, with White-crowned and Golden-crowned Sparrows, carefully identified by Richard Sandkuhle and Jack Tonkin on the Tomales Bay Christmas count. The observers are thoroughly familiar with the common *Zonotrichia* of this area and gave an excellent description including the yellow in front of the eye. The record is obviously extremely unusual, but if unusual reports are rejected out of hand important insights may be missed. Apart from this a total of 26 other White-throated Sparrows were reported. Fox Sparrows were considered commoner than usual along the coast (RC, DBH) and in the Central Valley (BM); subspecific records of interest included one *townsendi* and two *fuliginosa* wintering at South San Jose for the first time (normally transients only) (DDMcL) and a rusty eastern bird (*iliaca* or *zaboria*?) at Camp Tomales, northwest Marin Co., Jan. 8 (ROP). Lincoln's Sparrows were quite common (10 in 50 feet of roadside) with a very rusty race of Song Sparrow in a weedy field about 5 miles west of Williams, Colusa Co., Dec. 6 (TCJr, ROP & Peter Willmann), suggesting that the species is probably much commoner than suspected in California in winter; possibly in sporadic concentrations; the White-throated Sparrow might be in the same category. Five or 6 reports of Swamp Sparrows (Monterey-Carmel area, RLB, WR, BH (4); Camp Tomales, Paul Opler, *et al.*; near Prairie Creek State Park, EAP) indicate that this species is a rare but regular winterer in California, in numbers comparable to the recent fall migration records. Nine Lapland Longspurs were at Mendocino, Jan. 29 (JG) and 12 unidentified longspurs were on the Centerville (Humboldt Co.) Christmas count, Dec. 30 (EAP), increasing the knowledge about longspurs in this Region.

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