



than normal, and most observers felt that migrants were less numerous than usual, probably because there were no adverse weather conditions to hinder their northward movement.

The earliest arrival dates for some of our key migrants were: Black-chinned Hummingbird, March 30 at Santa Barbara and Duarte, Los Angeles Co.; Vaux's Swift, April 20 at San Diego; W. Kingbird, March 9 at Santa Barbara, March 29 at Imperial Beach, San Diego Co.; Ash-throated Flycatcher, March 30 at Duarte, April 6 at San Diego, April 7 at Santa Barbara, April 8 at Los Angeles; *Empidonax* (sp.) flycatcher, March 9 at Santa Barbara, March 15 at Cambria, San Luis Obispo Co., March 20 at San Diego; W. Wood Pewee, April 13 at Morro Bay, April 20 at San Diego; Swainson's Thrush, April 21 at Cambria, April 27 at Duarte; Bell's Vireo, March 28 at San Diego, March 30 at Duarte; Warbling Vireo, March 10 at Santa Barbara; Nashville Warbler, March 29 at San Diego; Yellow Warbler, March 28 at San Diego, March 29 at Cambria; Black-throated Gray Warbler, March 22 at San Diego, March 30 at Los Angeles; Hermit Warbler, April 4 at Cambria, April 14 at San Diego; MacGillivray's Warbler, April 3 at San Diego, April 6 at Duarte, April 8 at Los Angeles; Yellow-breasted Chat, April 13 at Duarte, April 17 at San Diego; Wilson's Warbler, March 3 at Cambria, March 16 at San Diego; Hooded Oriole, March 1 at San Diego, March 5 at Santa Barbara; W. Tanager, April 7 at Los Angeles; Black-headed Grosbeak, March 30 at San Diego, March 31 at Los Angeles; Blue Grosbeak, April 20 at San Diego and Duarte; Lazuli Bunting, March 29 and April 8 at San Diego. The arrival dates for the Bell's Vireo, the Yellow Warbler, the Hermit Warbler at Cambria, the Hooded Oriole and the first Lazuli Bunting were all exceptionally early. In general our more common migrants reached their peak numbers a little earlier than normal, but data to support this are very sketchy.

Again this spring there were a number of interior records of "coastal migrants" such as Black Brant, Surf Scoter and shorebirds; most of these were at the

SOUTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION.—We did not experience the series of storms that usually push south along the coast during April. The weather was clear and warm, and summer appeared to arrive early. Summer visitors seemed to arrive a little earlier

Salton Sea and appear to be birds that were trapped in the Gulf of Mexico.

Shearwaters and Petrels—Pink-footed Shearwaters were "fairly common" off Santa Barbara on May 15 (NM), and about 2000 were seen on a boat trip off San Diego on April 27 (GMcC, PD, et al.). At least 2 *Pale-footed Shearwaters* (1 collected, specimen to San Bernardino County Museum) were seen off San Diego on April 27, an unusual time of the year for this scarce species. Sooty Shearwaters were seen in unusual numbers close to shore near Santa Barbara between April 24 and May 17 with a peak on May 16 (NM); large numbers were seen from Point Fermin, Los Angeles Co., April 17 (SW); some were seen from Newport Beach, Orange Co., May 12 (GSS, et al.); and about 1500 were seen off San Diego on April 27. A few Manx Shearwaters were seen from shore at La Jolla, San Diego Co. during April (PD). About 200 Leach's Petrels (dark-rumped) were seen off San Diego on April 27. Four Black Petrels were seen off Santa Barbara on May 15 (NM); a few petrels assumed to be this species were seen off Newport Beach on May 12 (GSS, et al.); and about 300 were seen off San Diego on April 27.

Herons, Ibis—A Cattle Egret remained near Imperial Beach, San Diego Co. until April 13 (GMcC); in the Imperial Valley, Imperial Co., 3 were seen near Westmorland on April 14 (GMcC) and 1 was seen near Calipatria on May 4 (EAC & SC). A Reddish Egret, always a good find, was seen at Point Mugu, Ventura Co. on April 22 (GSS, SW & GN). Three White-faced Ibis were seen at Sandyland, Santa Barbara Co. on May 18 (Richard Watkins, *vide* NM); the species is scarce in this area.

Geese and Ducks—Black Brant were again found inland: 7 were on Lake Elsinore, Riverside Co. on March 23 (GMcC); 34 were at the north end of the Salton Sea, Riverside Co. on March 24 (EAC); and 1-6 were continually present at the latter place until the end of the period. Blue-winged Teal were seen at Goleta, Santa Barbara Co. on May 4 (Margaret Miller, *vide* NM), at San Elijo Lagoon, San Diego Co. on April 26 (AF), and at the Salton Sea, Imperial Co. on April 14 (GMcC); this species is regular in small numbers. A hybrid Blue-winged X Cinnamon Teal was seen at the Salton Sea, Imperial Co. on May 18 (GMcC); this hybrid is regularly seen. The Oldsquaw that wintered near Cambria, San Luis Obispo Co. remained until April 24 (EAP). A very late Com. Scoter was seen at Ventura on May 25 (Robert & Connie Shannon, *vide* NM). A ♀ Surf Scoter was seen at the south end of the Salton Sea on March 24 (EAC) and 3 on Lake Henshaw, San Diego Co. on March 30 (GMcC); this scoter is casual inland but may prove to be regular during the spring. A fairly late Com. Merganser was at Newport, Orange Co. on April 13 (RM).

Hawks—A *Mississippi Kite* was discovered at Furnace Creek Ranch, Death Valley Nat'l Monument on June 2 (GMcC & EW) and was still present on June 5 (GSS, RM & DAG); the bird, which was the second record for California, appeared to be an immature just completing its molt into adult plumage. No *migrant* Swainson's Hawks were re-

ported, although active nests were found at Oasis, Mono Co. and at Cima, San Bernardino Co. and a pair was seen at San Rafael Nat'l Monument, May 26. Three Ospreys were on Lake Cahuilla, Santa Barbara Co. on April 10 and 1 was there on April 20 (Kim Aaneurud, *vide* NM); another was seen near Banning, Riverside Co. on April 28. This species is becoming scarcer in the Region.

Grouse, Rails—A Blue Grouse was heard on Mount Pinos, Ventura Co., the species' southernmost outpost, on May 31 (JA). Two Black Rails, a very secretive species, were attracted to recorded calls on Morro Bay during early April (EAP).

Shorebirds—An Am. Oystercatcher was seen with Black Oystercatchers on the Los Coronados Islands during April and May (JJ); this is a ♀ likely the same individual reported at that locality on December 30, 1967. Six Snowy Plovers at De Soto Springs, Inyo Co. on April 6 and 7 (SS) were probably migrants, but the species is known to breed in a number of inland lakes in the Region and may also there. Two wintering Am. Golden Plovers were still present in San Diego on April 8 (GMcC); an individual seen at Cabrillo Beach, Los Angeles Co. on April 17 (GSS & SW) was probably a spring migrant. Surf-birds were most numerous along the coast during late April and early May. Rudd Turnstones were most prominent along the coast during the same period. One was seen at the north end of the Salton Sea on May 12 (EAC & SC) and May 18 (GMcC & GC); they are rare away from the coast. Whimbrels were very common in the Imperial Valley during April and early May when flocks numbering in the thousands were seen. A Solitary Sandpiper, always very scarce during the spring, was noted in the San Fernando Valley, Los Angeles Co., May 4 (John Dunn, *vide* GSS); another was seen at Harbor Park, Los Angeles Co., May 30 (SW & GN). Wandering Tattlers reached peak numbers along the coast in mid-May; this is always a very late spring migrant. Again this spring Knots were found inland on the Salton Sea, with single birds noted at the south end of the sea on May 4 (GMcC) and May 12 (EAC & SC), 20 at the north end of the sea on May 12 (EAC & SC), and 10 there on May 18 (GMcC); this is the only inland locality in California where these birds appear regularly. The two Rock Sandpipers near Cambria, San Luis Obispo Co. remained through April, with 1 still present in mid-May (EAP); this is the latest the species has remained in California. A Pectoral Sandpiper seen at the south end of the Salton Sea, Imperial Co. on May 18 (GMcC) constituted one of the very few spring records for California. Two Baird's Sandpipers (1 collected, specimen to San Bernardino County Museum), were at the north end of the Salton Sea, Riverside Co. on April 28 (EAC & SC); this species is very scarce during the spring. At the south end of the Salton Sea, 15 Stilt Sandpipers were noted on April 6, 3 on April 14, and 20 on May 4 (GMcC, et al.); the species is regular in limited numbers at this locality. On May 11 a Semipalmated Sandpiper, the fourth record for California, was collected at the north end of the Salton Sea

(EAC & SC; specimen to San Bernardino County Museum). A few Sanderlings were noted inland on the Salton Sea as appears to be normal. Red Phalaropes were found only on the open ocean.

Jaegers, Gulls and Terns—Pomarine Jaegers were the only jaeger species seen from shore in the San Diego area during April; about 50 were seen during the boat trip off San Diego on April 27 (GMcC, PD, et al.) and 1 at Santa Barbara on May 13 (Brad Schram, *vide NM*). Parasitic Jaegers were seen from Santa Barbara in late April (Brad Schram & Margaret Miller, *vide NM*); 6 were seen from Newport Beach on May 12 (GSS & RM). Five Franklin's Gulls were seen near Westmorland, Imperial Co. on April 14 (GMcC); the species is scarce but regular in this area. Bonaparte's Gulls were moving north along the coast during April, and a nice flock of 3500 was observed in a field near Los Osos, San Luis Obispo Co. on April 16 (EAP). Two Black-legged Kittiwakes were reported at Santa Barbara on April 11 (Leslie Cook, *vide NM*) and 1 at Santa Monica, Los Angeles Co. on May 1 (GSS). A single Sabine's Gull was seen from shore at Marina del Rey, Los Angeles Co. on May 1 (GSS); only 5 were seen on the San Diego boat trip on April 27 (GMcC, PD, et al.). Common Terns, first noted on April 19, reached a peak along the coast during early May. A few Elegant Terns seen moving north along the coast off Los Angeles County in late May (GSS) were early for the species' northward dispersal.

Alcids—An oiled Com. Murre was found on the beach at Jalama Beach Park, Santa Barbara Co., May 15 (Charles & Alice Richardson, *vide NM*). Five Xantus' Murrelets were seen off Santa Barbara on May 15 (NM) and 6 off San Diego on April 27 (GMcC, PD, et al.). Four Cassin's Auklets, 10 Rhinoceros Auklets and 1 Tufted Puffin also were found off San Diego on April 27; the Tufted Puffin was collected (specimen to San Bernardino County Museum) and represents the southernmost record for the species.

Pigeons, Owls, Goatsuckers—A Band-tailed Pigeon was seen on the Palos Verdes Peninsula, Los Angeles Co. on May 15 (Richard Bradley, *vide SW*); 1 was banded on Point Loma, San Diego Co. on April 26 (AC) and another was seen there on June 8 (GMcC). Both localities are outside of the species' known range. Two White-winged Doves observed in the Santa Ana Mountains, Orange Co. on May 17 (SW) were west of their normal range. Spotted Owls were easily located and seen on Mount Palomar, San Diego Co., which may prove to be one of the better locations to see this species. The discovery by Lee Jones of *Whip-poor-wills* in the San Jacinto Mountains, Riverside Co. adds another species to the California state bird-list; 2 calling birds were heard first on May 2 and were still present at the end of the period; the distinctive call was recorded on tape, and a number of people heard the birds and thus were able to verify the record.

Swifts, Hummingbirds, Woodpeckers—A Black Swift seen around the waterfall in Santa Anita Can-

yon, Los Angeles Co. on May 25 (Kim Garrett, *vide RM*) and May 30 (RM) was an indication that the species may be nesting there. Vaux's Swifts appeared to be scarcer than normal this spring, probably because we had no cold weather to concentrate them close to the ground. Black-chinned Hummingbirds arrived during the first week of April, as is normal. Broad-tailed Hummingbirds were found in the White Mountains where they reach the western limit of their range; 1 was found on May 12 in the New York Mountains, San Bernardino Co. (GMcC, PD & GC) where the species has not been recorded previously. A few Calliope Hummingbirds were found along the coast as usual. A "Yellow-shafted" Flicker was reported to be present in Pasadena, Los Angeles Co., April 7-11 (RM & JA); it is scarce but regular. A "Gilded" Flicker seen near Cima, San Bernardino Co. on May 12 (GMcC & PD) was probably breeding in the Joshua Trees there. A ♀ Williamson's Sapsucker seen in the Cuyamaca Mountains, San Diego Co. on March 27 (MB) constituted only the second record for this area.

Flycatchers—Wied's Crested Flycatchers were first noted on May 11 at Morongo Valley, San Bernardino Co. (GMcC & PD), and by May 25 two pairs were nesting there (GSS & BB); this is the westernmost locality for the species. Banding on Point Loma, San Diego Co. indicates that the Western Flycatcher and the Hammond's Flycatcher are the common *Empidonax* species along the coast: 356 Western Flycatchers and 184 Hammond's Flycatchers were banded during the spring migration period compared to only 8 "Willow" Flycatchers [*i.e.*, the "fitz-bew" song-type of the Traill's Flycatcher, *E. traillii* of the A.O.U. Check-list, 5th ed., 1957. See Robert C. Stein, 1963. "Isolating Mechanisms between Populations of Traill's Flycatchers." *Proc. Amer. Phil. Soc.* 107:21-50 for proposal that the two song-types be separated as two species, *E. traillii* being retained for and limited to the "fee-bee-o" populations, with the common name of Traill's Flycatcher or, as a possible alternative, Alder Flycatcher, and *E. brewsteri* being applied and limited to the "fitz-bew" populations, with the common name of Willow Flycatcher" since it breeds over most of its range in areas with willows.—Ed.], 5 Dusky Flycatchers, and 1 Gray Flycatcher (AC & GC). A nice concentration of 20-30 "Willow" Flycatchers was present at Morongo Valley on May 25 (GSS). In addition to the single Gray Flycatcher at Point Loma, which was banded on May 25, 2 were observed near Santa Barbara on April 26 (GSS), 1 was on the Palos Verdes Peninsula, Los Angeles Co. on April 23 (SW & GSS), and 1 was at Capistrano Beach, Orange Co. on May 24 (AF). This species is scarce along the coast. Vermilion Flycatchers were reported only from Morongo Valley and the San Diego area.

Thrashers, Solitaire, Pipit—This spring produced a rash of *Brown Thrasher* reports: single birds seen in Tucker's Grove Park, Santa Barbara Co. on April 28 and May 2 (NM, et al.), in Carpinteria, Santa Barbara Co. during mid-April (NM), at Marina del Rey, Los Angeles Co. on April 26 (SW), in

Pasadena, Los Angeles Co. on April 22 (GMcC, GSS & RM), and along the eastern border of California at Oasis, Mono Co. on May 31 (DDeS). This is an amazing number of reports for such a scarce species. Bendire's Thrashers were found to be common in the area around Cima, San Bernardino Co., and it is hard to imagine an area anywhere else where they could be more abundant. A few Crissal Thrashers were present in the hills just east of Cima where they must reach the northwestern limit of their range. A Townsend's Solitaire was seen along the coast on the Palos Verdes Peninsula on April 17 (Richard Bradley, *vide* SW). A rather late Water Pipit was at the north end of the Salton Sea on May 12 (EAC).

Vireos, Warblers—Gray Vireos were reported only from the area east of Big Bear in the San Bernardino Mountains. Single Virginia's Warblers were seen on the Palos Verdes Peninsula on April 28 (SW, *et al.*) and at Capistrano Beach on April 25 (AF); this species is casual along the coast during the spring. Lucy's Warblers were found scattered around in the eastern portion of the Region, west of the species' normal range which extends westward to the Colorado River: 2 were seen at Morongo Valley on April 27 and May 4 (RM), 1 was seen in Shoshone, Inyo Co. on June 2 (GMcC & EW), and 4 pairs (including 1 pair with 4 young out of the nest) were at Furnace Creek Ranch, Death Valley Nat'l Monument in late May and early June (GMcC, *et al.*). A Parula Warbler was seen at Deep Springs, Inyo Co. on May 30 and 31 (EW, GMcC, EAC, DDeS, *et al.*), and another was seen at Oasis, Mono Co. on May 31 (JG); it is amazing how often this species has appeared in California during the spring. An adult ♂ Kentucky Warbler was trapped and banded on Point Loma on June 4 (JC); the first record for California, it was photographed (copies in the San Diego Natural History Museum) and was seen by all the local enthusiasts before being released. An adult ♀ Connecticut Warbler, the second record for the Region, was banded, photographed (copy in the San Diego Natural History Museum), and seen by others before being released on Point Loma on June 4 (GC). An Ovenbird was banded and photographed on Point Loma on June 12 (GC); this species is rare but regular. A Northern Waterthrush, a scarce but regular species in the Region, was seen in Averill Park, Los Angeles Co. on May 7 (GN & GSS); another was banded at Morongo Valley on May 10 and retrapped on May 12 (MSanM). An Am. Redstart was banded at Deep Springs on May 17 (Helen Strong) and 1-2 were present there on May 30 and 31 (GMcC, EW, EAC, DDeS, *et al.*); 1 was at Furnace Creek Ranch, Death Valley Nat'l Monument, June 1 (GMcC); 1 was at Cottonwood Springs, Riverside Co., May 18 and 19 (EAC & SC); 1 was at Duarte, Los Angeles Co., May 18 (MSanM); and 1 was banded on Point Loma, May 15 (GC). This species is regular in limited numbers.

Bobolinks, Orioles, Tanagers—An adult ♂ Bobolink was seen at Panamint Springs, Inyo Co. on May 31 (JG); an adult ♂ was seen at Furnace Creek

Ranch on May 31 (JG); and 3 ♂ and 2 ♀ were noted at Furnace Creek Ranch on June 1 and 2 (GMcC & EW). There were only three previous spring records for the Region. A few Yellow-headed Blackbirds were seen in the Morro Bay area during April and May (EAP) and 7 were seen at Goleta, Santa Barbara Co. on April 29 (Brad Schram, *vide* NM); the species is scarce along the coast this far north. A Scott's Oriole was banded on the coast at Point Loma on April 11 (AC). A ♂ Baltimore Oriole was present in Brush Canyon, Los Angeles Co. from May 22 until the end of the period (Kim Garrett, GSS); a ♂ was seen in San Diego on April 13 (MB & AM); a ♂ was present on Point Loma until April 24 when it was banded (GC); a ♀ was banded there on April 19 (AC); and a ♂ was seen inland at Oasis, Mono Co. on May 31 (JG). It is unusual for so many to be reported at this time of the year. An adult ♂ Hepatic Tanager was seen in Round Valley, San Bernardino Mountains, May 30 (BB); this is the same place where one was seen last year and it is possible that this is the same individual. Summer Tanagers were first seen in Morongo Valley on April 20 (BB); 2 pairs present in Whitewater Canyon, Riverside Co. during May were evidence of a westward extension of the species' breeding range. To the west of the breeding range, a wintering Summer Tanager remained on Point Loma until April 8 (AC), 1 was trapped there on May 28 (AC), and 1 was seen in Mission Gorge, San Diego, May 18 (MB & AM); to the north of the species' breeding range, 1 was seen at Oasis on May 31 (LS), 1 was at Deep Springs on May 31 (JG), and 1 was at Saratoga Springs, Death Valley Nat'l Monument on June 2 (GMcC & EW). This is a large number of vagrant records for the spring period.

Fringillids—A ♀ Rose-breasted Grosbeak was seen in Whitewater Canyon on May 11 (GSS); an adult ♂ seen at Deep Springs on May 30 and 31 (GMcC, EW, *et al.*) was accompanied by a ♀ on May 30 (GMcC, EW, DDeS, *et al.*) and by a young ♂ on May 31 (EAC & SC); a young ♂ was banded on Point Loma on June 6 (AC). This is a rare but regular spring vagrant. A ♂ Indigo Bunting was at Deep Springs on May 30 (GMcC & EW); and another was in Wyman Creek Canyon of the White Mountains on May 31 (EAC & SC); this species is scarce but regular. Five Pine Siskins were found on the desert near Cima, San Bernardino Co. on May 18 (GSS, RM & BB). The only Red Crossbills reported were 7 on Mount Pinos on May 31 (JA). Five Lark Buntings, now very scarce, were seen near Scissors Crossing in eastern San Diego County on April 28 (MB). Black-chinned Sparrows were numerous and widespread; 1 seen at 8300 feet altitude on Mount Frazier on May 30 (JA) was at a high elevation for this species. A Harris' Sparrow, a scarce species, was seen in Whitewater Canyon on April 27 (JA). A White-throated Sparrow was seen in Averill Park, Los Angeles Co. on April 23 and May 7 (GSS, SW & GN); another late individual was seen on the Palos Verdes Peninsula, Los Angeles Co. on April 28 (SW).

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