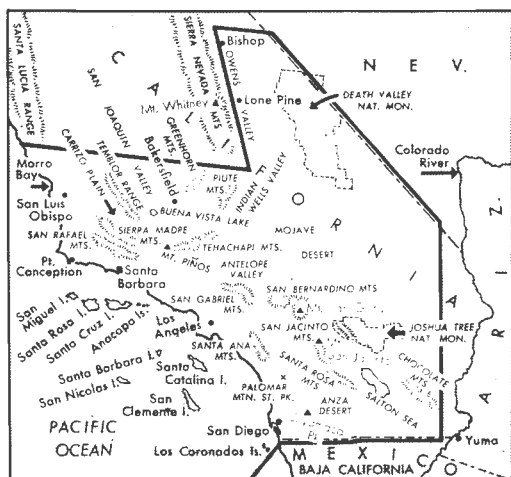


SOUTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION. — This winter was one of the wettest on record for the Region. Rain began in late December and continued



through mid-March. Rainfall totals set records everywhere; for example, 49 inches fell in San Luis Obispo and 29 inches in San Bernardino during the period, in both cases almost double the average rainfall for the entire year. Naturally this large quantity of rain caused a considerable amount of damage in areas where the countryside had been denuded by developers and brush fires. However, in the undeveloped areas it did untold good: the water table was raised, lakes and reservoirs were filled, and dry creekbeds became running streams. Plant growth in April indicated that there would be ample food and cover for birds, and we can expect a very successful nesting season.

Several species appeared in larger numbers than usual this winter. Black-legged Kittiwakes were present along the entire coast of the Region in exceptional numbers; Cedar Waxwings were almost twice as numerous as they were last year; and sparrows appeared to be more numerous also, with more than the average number of rarities among them. Bohemian Waxwings clearly staged a heavy flight that pushed birds far south of their normal winter range; this species was reported from most areas within the Region, and the number of reports this winter far exceeds the sum total of all reports for the last ten years.

The appearance of two species of waterfowl, Red-breasted Goose and Falcated Teal, caused a considerable amount of excitement among local birders. Two Red-breasted Geese were present at the south end of the Salton Sea, Dec. 28—Jan. 11, with 1 still present on Feb. 16. An adult male Falcated Teal was present on Newport Bay, Jan. 2—Feb. 21. Both species have been reported previously from California, but the reports could well have been of escaped birds, since both species are kept in captivity by waterfowl fanciers. The Red-breasted Goose is most unlikely to stray to western North America, and these birds are almost certainly escapes; the Falcated Teal has a

slightly better chance of reaching North America, but the chances of one escaping from captivity are probably higher. Both of these records are best treated as escapes until there is some evidence to the contrary.

A ruptured oil well in the ocean off Santa Barbara created a deadly slick for all wildlife in the area. At least 3000 oiled birds were picked up on the beaches at Santa Barbara and brought into treatment centers where the oil was removed and the birds cared for. Success with these birds was very limited, and only 10-15 percent survived. The total number of birds that succumbed because of this oil leak must have been immense, for oil was present on the beaches between Point Conception and Point Mugu and extended over a considerable area of the ocean, and the figure of 3000 birds is *only* for those birds known to have been picked up in the Santa Barbara area. The species picked up most commonly was the Western Grebe, but there were appreciable numbers of oiled Red-throated Loons and Surf Scoters, a few Com. Loons, Eared Grebes, Double-crested Cormorants and Com. Murres, and 1-2 each of a number of other waterbird species. This was truly a pathetic situation for which there was very little we could do once the damage had been done.

Loons, Grebes — A few Com. Loons were found on the larger inland bodies of water as well as along the coast. A *Yellow-billed Loon* was collected in Mexican waters near the Los Coronados Islands on Nov. 24 (JJ; specimen deposited in S.D.N.H.M.); this is the southernmost record ever, but about half a dozen were reported in California alone this winter. Red-throated Loons were more numerous than usual in the San Diego area during January and early February. A *Red-necked Grebe* was seen at Malibu, Los Angeles Co., March 9 (GSS, RM & LJ); the species is very rare this far south. Western Grebes were numerous along the coast as is usual but, as noted above, were hard hit by oil in the Santa Barbara area.

Shearwaters, Petrels — During an organized boat trip off San Diego to San Clemente Is. on Jan. 18, 6 Fulmars, 20 Sooty Shearwaters, 5 Manx Shearwaters, 10 Ashy Petrels and 5 Black Petrels were seen (PD & CL, et al.). A few Manx Shearwaters also were seen from shore in San Diego during December and January, and 5-6 were seen near the Los Coronados Islands on Dec. 14 (PD & CL).

Pelicans, Herons, Ibis — Numbers of White Pelicans seem to be dropping in this Region; this winter small flocks were reported only from Morro Bay, Lake Mathews, Lake Elsinor and the Salton Sea. Cattle Egrets continue to appear during the winter: the individual previously reported from Goleta, Santa Barbara Co. remained until Dec. 28 (JP); 1 was present near Montecito, Santa Barbara Co., Dec. 15-28 (JK); 3 were seen at Point Mugu, Ventura Co. during March (GSS, LC & RW); 7 were seen in the San Fernando Valley, Los Angeles Co. on Dec. 8 (Russ and Marion Wilson, *fide* GSS); 1 was noted near El Segundo, Los Angeles Co. on Jan. 8 (Taylor Gabbard, *fide* GSS); 1-2 were present near Imperial Beach, San Diego Co. until at least Feb. 15 (GMcC); and up to 46 were seen together at the south end of the Salton Sea, Imperial Co. during the period (JAt, AC, RM, et al.). An

immature Louisiana Heron was present at Seal Beach, Orange Co., Dec. 3–Feb. 8 (*JAt*, *GSS*, *et al.*) and 1–2 were present near Imperial Beach throughout the winter (*GMcC*, *et al.*); this species is regular in very small numbers along the coast south of Los Angeles. A few Least Bitterns were seen in the vicinity of the Salton Sea during the winter, and 2 were seen in National City, San Diego Co. on Jan. 12 (*GMcC*); they are scarce during the winter. White-faced Ibis were reported from Point Mugu, from Santa Margareta Inlet, San Diego Co. and from the south end of the Salton Sea; the species is regular in suitable habitat.

Waterfowl — In general waterfowl numbers were about normal, but they were more widely scattered owing to the extra amount of suitable habitat created by the heavy rains. In December, 5 Whistling Swans were present on Little Lake, Inyo Co. and 2 more were seen in Kern County (*RN*); 1 was seen on Lake Cachuma, Santa Barbara Co. in late March (*NM*); and 1 was present at Point Mugu, March 12–23 (*GSS*). This is a scarce species in the Region. Thousands of Canada Geese spent the winter in the Lakeview area of Riverside County, a recently discovered wintering locality for this species. An *Emperor Goose* was present near San Simeon, San Luis Obispo Co., Dec. 18–30 (Louis Squibb, *fide EAP*). Five appeared at Seal Beach on Dec. 15, when 2 of them were shot; 3 were still present at the end of the month, but by early January only 1 was left; it remained until March 8 (*JS*, *GSS*, *et al.*). Another was seen at Laguna Beach, Orange Co. on Dec. 15 (*JAJ*). Prior to this winter the southernmost record of this casual visitor to California was Morro Bay, San Luis Obispo Co. About 15,000 Snow Geese wintered at the south end of the Salton Sea, and at least 1 "Blue Goose" was with them throughout the period. The single Ross' Goose previously reported in Pasadena, Los Angeles Co. remained until March 22 (*JAt*); up to 30 were found with the Snow Geese at the south end of the Salton Sea, which is a good number for this area. Two Fulvous Tree Ducks were seen at the south end of the Salton Sea on Dec. 28 (*GMcC*) and another was seen at Finney Lake, Imperial Co. on Jan. 26 (*RM*); this species is very rare during the winter. A *Com. Teal* present on Newport Bay, Orange Co., Jan. 19–Feb. 8 (*GSS*, *RM*, *et al.*) constitutes the second record for the Region. A Blue-winged Teal was seen at Point Mugu on March 23 (*LC* & *RW*); 1 was observed near Malibu on Feb. 1 (Paul Hessler, *fide GSS*); 1–4 were noted on Newport Bay, Dec. 7–March 19 (*GSS*, *et al.*); and 1 was present at Imperial Beach, March 2–16 (*GMcC*). This teal is scarce but regular. The single European Widgeon that arrived at Goleta on Nov. 11 stayed until mid-January (*AL*); the individual first noted at San Diego on Nov. 12 remained until mid-February (*PD* & *CL*); up to 4 were present on Newport Bay, Dec. 31–Feb. 1 (*GSS*, *RM*, *et al.*); and 1 was seen at Carpinteria, Santa Barbara Co., Feb. 26–March 21 (*LC*). This is many more than are normally reported from this Region during a winter period. One or two Wood Ducks, which are scarce in Southern California, were found as far south as San Diego (*AMC* & *RWS*). Ring-necked Ducks were found in fair numbers on the small lakes in the foothills and mountains. Very few White-winged

Scoters were present along the coast this winter. A Surf Scoter was found inland on the Salton Sea, Riverside Co. on Feb. 15 (*EAC* & *SC*). Common Scoters were more numerous than usual: an oiled bird was picked up on the beach at Santa Barbara during February and another was seen there on March 24 (*NM* & *MM*); 1 was reported at Malibu on March 9 (*RM*); up to 10 were seen at Terminal Is., Los Angeles Co. during January, February and early March (*SW*, *RM* & *GSS*); 5 were seen at Santa Monica, Los Angeles Co. on March 8 (*RM*); 1 was observed off La Jolla, San Diego Co. on March 12 (*CL*); and up to 3 were noted at Imperial Beach between late December and early February (*GMcC* & *AMC*). There were a large number of reports of Hooded Mergansers: 1 at Furnace Creek Ranch, Death Valley Nat'l Monument on Dec. 7 and 8 (*AMC*, *PD* & *GC*), 1 near San Simeon in mid-December (*JAr*), 2 on Lake Cachuma on Dec. 1 (*KA*), 1 near Malibu on March 4 (Paul Hessler, *fide GSS*), 1 at Bolsa Chica, Orange Co. on Dec. 21 (*JAt*) and 2 present there for a couple of weeks in late January (*SW*), 2 in Mission George, San Diego Co. on March 4 (*RWS*), and 2 at Bonita, San Diego Co., Dec. 21–Jan. 11 (*AMC*). A few *Com. Mergansers* were found along the coast where normally they are quite scarce.

Hawks, Eagles — White-tailed Kites continue to increase in numbers along the coast, with some found in areas where they have not been reported previously; 1 was seen on the Carrizo Plains, San Luis Obispo Co. on Dec. 6 (Bob Fischer, *fide RM*) and 1 near Bishop, Inyo Co. on March 8 and 9 (*SC*). A Goshawk seen in Round Valley in the San Bernardino Mountains on Dec. 9 (*AS* & *LS*) was south of the species' normal range. Two adult Red-shouldered Hawks were seen near Big Pine, Inyo Co. on March 8 (*SC*); an adult was seen at Furnace Creek Ranch on Dec. 8 (*GMcC*, *AMC* & *PD*) and an immature was seen there on Feb. 22 (*AB*). Both localities are east of the species' normal range in California. An immature *Broad-winged Hawk* present in Otay, San Diego Co., Jan. 19–March 2 (*GMcC*, *et al.*) added to the evidence that this species may winter regularly in California. Ferruginous Hawks remained numerous all winter after the good fall flight, being observed throughout the winter on the Carrizo Plains, with a maximum of 8 noted there on Jan. 11 (*RM*), and near Newport during December and January, with a maximum of 4 noted on Jan. 12 (*RM* & *GSS*); 3 were seen near Yermo, San Bernardino Co. on Dec. 8 (*AMC* & *PD*), 1 near Niland, Imperial Co. on Dec. 29 (*GMcC*), 1 near Temecula, Riverside Co. on March 13 (*AF*), and 1 near Lakeview, Riverside Co. on March 16 (*EAC* & *SC*). Reports of Bald Eagles were encouraging, with up to 4 present at Lake Mathews, Riverside Co. throughout the winter (*SW*); 2 noted at Lake Cuyamaca, San Diego Co. in the latter part of the winter; and 1 seen on the Carrizo Plains on Dec. 7 (*RM* & *JAt*), 1 at the north end of the Salton Sea, Riverside Co. on Dec. 28 and 29 (*JAt*) and 1 near Niland on the same two days (*AMC* & *PD*), 1 at Newport, Orange Co. on Feb. 8 (*RB*), 1 at Lake Elsinor, Riverside Co. on March 21 (*SW*), and 1 at Lake Cachuma, Santa Barbara Co. in late March. Most of these birds were immatures. One or two Ospreys spent the winter at Lake Cachuma (*NM*); another was

seen at Sweetwater Reservoir, San Diego Co. on Jan. 19 (*RWS*). At least 3 Pigeon Hawks were noted in Santa Barbara during January (*NM*); single birds were present in Arcadia, Los Angeles Co. all winter (*JAt & GSS*) and at the south end of the Salton Sea during January and February (*EAC & GMcC*); 1 was seen in Pasadena on Jan. 14 (*GSS*) and 1 near Temecula on March 21 (*SW*). This is more than the usual number of reports for a winter period.

Cranes, Rail, Gallinule — Ninety Sandhill Cranes were seen on the Carrizo Plains on Dec. 1 (*MP*) and 160 were seen there on Jan. 11 (*RM*); this is the only locality within the Region where the species is regular. A Black Rail was seen at Morro Bay on Jan. 2 (*PD & XD*). A Com. Gallinule at Furnace Creek Ranch on Feb. 22 (*AB*) was somewhat out of its normal range.

Shorebirds — An Am. Oystercatcher seen on the Los Coronados Islands throughout the winter (*CL & JJ*) apparently has taken up residence with the Black Oystercatchers there. Along the coast up to 200 Mountain Plovers were present at Newport until late February, and about 15 frequented Imperial Beach until late January; inland, large numbers were present in the Imperial Valley. Up to 6 Am. Golden Plovers were present near Imperial Beach during December (*JS*); 1 spent the entire winter in San Diego (*GMcC & PD*); and 2 were seen at Newport on March 19 (*GSS*). This plover is regular in limited numbers in winter. A few Lesser Yellowlegs were found along the coast, as is usual. A Rock Sandpiper was present at the mouth of Pico Creek near Cambria, San Luis Obispo Co. throughout the winter (*MH*); one or two are now found in the Region every winter. Five Stilt Sandpipers were seen at the south end of the Salton Sea on Dec. 28 (*GMcC, AMC, PD & JS*) and on Jan. 26 (*JAt & RM*), and 2 were seen there on Feb. 15 (*NM*) and March 29 (*GMcC & GC*); the species is regular in this area in winter. The two Ruffs that appeared near Imperial Beach during November remained through the winter, with the male last noted on Feb. 21 and the female last noted on April 6 (*GMcC, et al.*); 1 was seen at Point Mugu on March 9 (*RM & GSS*) and 2 were seen there, March 12-23 (*GSS, LC & RW*). This species is now of annual occurrence in California. Two Sanderlings were found inland on the Salton Sea on Jan. 7 (*AC*). A Wilson's Phalarope was seen at Newport, Jan. 12-19 (*AS, JAt & GSS*); 2 were seen at the south end of the Salton Sea on Dec. 28 and 29 (*AMC & PD*) and what was probably one of these two birds was seen there on Jan. 11 and Feb. 2 (*GMcC, EAC, CL & GC*). The species is casual during the winter. A few Northern Phalaropes spent the winter near Imperial Beach, as is apparently normal; 1 was seen at the south end of the Salton Sea on March 1 (*GSS*).

Jaegers, Gulls, Terns — A Pomarine Jaeger was seen at Redondo Beach, Los Angeles Co. on March 8 (*RM*), and 3 were seen during the Jan. 18 boat trip to San Clemente Is. (*PD, et al.*). This is apparently the jaeger to be expected off California during the winter. An immature Glaucous Gull was seen at a dump near Otay, San Diego Co. on Jan. 5 (*GMcC*) and another individual was seen there between Feb. 15 and 23 (*GMcC, PD, et al.*); the species is very rare this far

south along the coast. Inland, an immature *Glaucous Gull* was seen at the south end of the Salton Sea on Feb. 15 (*EAC*) and March 1 (*GMcC & GSS*) and what was probably the same individual was found dead there on March 22 (*GMcC, EAC & SC*) and was preserved (specimen deposited in S.B.C.M.). This and another immature bird seen there on March 22 (*GMcC, EAC & SC*) and March 30 (*LJ*) constituted the first inland records for the Region. Although the Glaucous-winged Gull is very rare inland, an immature was seen at the south end of the Salton Sea on Dec. 28 (*AMC & PD*) and Jan. 11 (*GMcC, EAC & SC*). A Western Gull (pink-legged) in the third-year plumage was seen at the south end of the Salton Sea on March 29 (*GMcC & GC*); the pink-legged race is casual inland. Up to 50 individuals of the *thayeri* race of the Herring Gull were to be found in the San Diego area during the winter; 1 collected at the south end of the Salton Sea on March 22 (*GMcC, EAC & SC*; specimen to S.B.C.M.) constituted the first inland record for the Region. An adult Laughing Gull — casual along the coast — was seen at Imperial Beach on Feb. 16 (*PD, XD & JC*). As mentioned above, Black-legged Kittiwakes were quite numerous this winter, with several hundred seen around Santa Cruz Is. on March 19 and 20 (*FS*), 20 seen at Malibu on March 9 (*GSS*), up to 100 noted at Redondo Beach during February and March (*SW*), 70 present in Los Angeles Harbor on Feb. 26 (*GSS*), 100 seen off San Diego on Jan. 18 (*PD*), and 20 seen at the mouth of the San Diego River on March 16 (*GMcC*). Smaller numbers also were noted at other points along the coast throughout the winter. At least 3 immature Com. Terns spent the entire winter in the San Diego area (*GMcC*); this tern is normally very scarce during the winter. A few Royal Terns were present along the coast of San Diego County, as is usual. One or two Elegant Terns remained in the San Diego area until late December (*JJ*).

Alcids — About 10 Com. Murres were found oiled on the beach at Santa Barbara during February (*NM*), and 1 was seen at Cabrillo Beach, Los Angeles Co. on March 5 (*GSS & SW*); the species is scarce south of Point Conception. On the Jan. 18 boat trip, 6 Xantus' Murrelets, 4 Cassin's Auklets and 10 Rhinoceros Auklets were seen off San Diego (*PD*). On March 20, 10 Xantus' Murrelets were seen between Santa Cruz Is. and Anacapa Is. and about 500 Cassin's Auklets and at least 100 Rhinoceros Auklets were seen near Santa Cruz Is. (*FS*). Two Rhinoceros Auklets also were among the birds found oiled on the beach at Santa Barbara during February (*NM*).

Doves, Poor-will, Swifts, Hummingbirds — A White-winged Dove was seen in Santa Barbara on Dec. 28 (*NM*); another was present there during most of January and February (*RS & RW*); and 3 were seen near National City, San Diego Co. during December (*GC*). This species is scarce along the coast. The sighting of a Spotted Dove in Indio, Riverside Co. on Jan. 25 (*RM & JAt*) furnished the first record of this introduced species for this area. There were two reports of Poor-wills from the Los Angeles area in early February (*GSS*); the species is not often found during the winter although it is known to hibernate in

the Region. A flock of at least 100 Vaux's Swifts near Oceanside, San Diego Co., Jan. 30–March 17 (*AF, et al.*) was unprecedented; prior to this winter there were only one or two sightings of lone birds for the Region during the winter period. In addition to this flock, 2 were seen at the south end of the Salton Sea on Feb. 12 (*GSS*); 3 were seen in San Bernardino on Feb. 22 (Russel Scaff, *fide GSS*); and 1 was seen in Arcadia on March 5 (*Jat*). A few Costa's Hummingbirds remained through the winter, as is usual. Allen's Hummingbirds were found to be increasing on the Palos Verdes Peninsula, Los Angeles Co. where the species is now resident; 21 nests were found there during December, 17 of these in a 12-acre park. Migrant Rufous and Allen's Hummingbirds arrived during the second half of January.

Woodpeckers — A "Yellow-shafted" Flicker was seen near Santa Barbara on Dec. 28 (*BS*) and another was seen near San Simeon on Jan. 22 (*JAr*); individuals showing the characters of the eastern form of the flicker are found regularly in limited numbers in the Region. A flicker showing the characters of the "Gilded" Flicker was seen at the south end of the Salton Sea on March 1 (*GSS & GMcC*); the observation constitutes the first record of this form for the area. Several Lewis' Woodpeckers, an erratic bird in this Region, were present in the Santa Barbara area throughout the winter (*NM*); 3 were seen near Malibu on Feb. 1 and March 1 (Paul Hessler, *fide GSS*); 1 was seen at Lake Sherwood, Los Angeles Co. on March 29 (*RM*); and 1 was seen near Mecca, Riverside Co. on Dec. 29 (*Jat*). A female Williamson's Sapsucker was present in the coastal lowlands at Bonita, San Diego Co. from Dec. 16 to early March (*AMC, et al.*); this is a most unusual locality for the species.

Flycatchers, Swallows — A Tropical Kingbird seen at Bonita on Dec. 15 (*GMcC & AMC*) was probably a late fall wanderer. Cassin's Kingbirds were found north along the coast to Goleta and Morro Bay; the species is scarce this far north. A Gray Flycatcher was seen at Legg Lake, Los Angeles Co. on Feb. 12 and 14 (*Jat & GSS*); another was seen near Bonita on Feb. 14 and March 2 (*GC & GMcC*); and an individual present on Point Loma, San Diego Co. since the fall was seen regularly through March 11 (*TT*). This flycatcher has not been recorded often during the winter in recent years, although there are some earlier records. Two Vermilion Flycatchers spent the winter at Legg Lake, and a few wintered in the San Diego area. A Rough-winged Swallow was seen at the south end of the Salton Sea on Jan. 19 (*MP*) and Jan. 25 (*RM & Jat*); one or two birds of this species are seen every winter. A Bank Swallow seen near Imperial Beach on Dec. 21 and 22 (*JG & GMcC*) furnished one of the very few winter records for California. A Barn Swallow was noted at the south end of the Salton Sea on Jan. 4 (*GSS*); this species is rare in the winter.

Jays, Nuthatches, Thrashers — Single Steller's Jays seen in Montecito on Dec. 29 (*NP*) and on the Palos Verdes Peninsula on Dec. 20 and March 30 (*SW*) were away from the mountains where they normally occur. A Piñon Jay seen near Pine Mountain, Santa Barbara Co. on Dec. 7 (*NM*) and another seen in the Piru

Basin, Santa Barbara Co. on Dec. 21 (*BS*) were both far away from the species' normal range. Red-breasted Nuthatches remained extremely scarce away from their normal breeding range in the mountains. A Brown Thrasher, a somewhat regular stray to California, was present in Santa Barbara, Jan. 22–Feb. 23 (*NM*); another was present in Waterman Canyon in the San Bernardino Mountains from late December to at least March 31 (*EAC, SC, et al.*). A Bendire's Thrasher seen in Morongo Valley, San Bernardino Co. on Dec. 1 (*JAJ*) was probably the same individual as that observed there on Nov. 17; another was collected at Imperial Beach on Dec. 21 (*JS*; specimen to L.B.S.C.). This species is casual in the winter and accidental along the coast. Near Maricopa, Kern Co., the heavy rains destroyed at least 10 Le Conte's Thrasher nests during February and March (*JS*). Sage Thrashers were numerous around Maricopa during the period.

Thrushes, Waxwings — Varied Thrushes were found along the entire coast west of the mountains in small numbers, indicating a fair flight this winter. Six Townsend's Solitaires were found in the Santa Barbara area during the period (*NM*) and single birds were reported at Malibu on Dec. 28 (*SW*), at San Pedro, Los Angeles Co., March 5-9 (*SW*), in Hollywood, Los Angeles Co. on Feb. 21 (Kim Garrett, *fide GSS*), in Redlands, Riverside Co. on Feb. 21 (Russel Scaff, *fide GSS*), and in Laguna Beach, Orange Co. on March 9 (*JAJ*); the species normally is scarce west of the coastal mountains. As mentioned above, a flight of Bohemian Waxwings brought them well south of the normal winter range. The birds were well distributed throughout much of the Region, but numbers tended to be small; they were mostly found with flocks of Cedar Waxwings. Reports included 5 at Morro Bay, San Luis Obispo Co. on March 9 (*TS*), 5 at Buellton, Santa Barbara Co. on Feb. 23 (*GMcC, AMC & PDI*), 18 in Santa Barbara, March 2-28 (*RW*), up to 120 in Holcom Valley in the San Bernardino Mountains during December (*MSanM, EAC & SC*), 1 found dead in Beaumont, Riverside Co. on Feb. 14 (*EAC*; specimen to S.B.C.M.), 1-2 in Riverside, Jan. 9–March 14 (*EAC*), up to 4 in Arcadia, Dec. 30–Jan. 19 (*AS*), 1 in West Los Angeles on Jan. 13 (*AS*), 1 in Long Beach, Los Angeles Co. on March 25 (*JS*), and 1 in Capistrano, Orange Co. on Feb. 11 (*AF*).

Vireos, Warblers — A Solitary Vireo was present in San Pedro throughout the winter (*SW, et al.*); 1 was seen in Arcadia on Jan. 15 (*GSS*); 1 was seen in Spring Valley, San Diego Co. on Dec. 8 (*TT*); and 1 was seen in San Diego on Feb. 1 (*GMcC & EAC*). This is a very rare species during the winter. A Warbling Vireo was present in Arcadia, Dec. 22-28 (*Jat, RM & GSS*); the species has not been recorded previously in winter, but this individual may well have been a very late fall migrant. A Nashville Warbler was seen on the Palos Verdes Peninsula on Dec. 20 (*SW*); 1 was present in San Pedro during late December (*SW*); and 1 was seen near Mecca on Dec. 29 (*Jat*). One or two birds of this species are found every winter. A Parula Warbler was collected at the south end of the Salton Sea, Imperial Co. on March 22 (*EAC, SC & GMcC*; specimen to S.B.C.M.); this warbler is a casual visitor to California.

A Yellow Warbler, very rare during the winter period, was seen in Niland, Imperial Co. on Dec. 28 (*GMcC, AMC & PD*); 1 was present in National City, San Diego Co., Dec. 16–Feb. 16 (*AMC, et al.*); and 1 was seen at the south end of the Salton Sea on March 16 (*TT*). A Black-throated Gray Warbler was seen near Arcadia on Feb. 2 (Kim Garrett, *fide GSS*); the species is rare at this time of the year. A Palm Warbler was present at Terminal Is., Los Angeles Co., Jan. 29–Feb. 5 (*SW*), 1 was seen near Otay, San Diego Co. on Dec. 20 (*PO*), and 2 were found near Imperial Beach on Dec. 21 (*PD & XD*); this species is now reported in California every winter. A Northern Waterthrush was seen near Otay on Dec. 20 (*PO*); another was present in National City, Feb. 9–16 (*GMcC, et al.*). The species is casual during the winter. Single Wilson's Warblers, a rare but regular species during the winter, were seen in Santa Barbara on Dec. 26 (*NM*), in Tapia Park, Los Angeles Co. on Jan. 1 (Gilbert King, *fide GSS*), at Norco, Los Angeles Co. on Feb. 22 (*RM*), and in Arcadia all winter (*JAt, RM & GSS*). As appears to be normal, a few Am. Redstarts were found at the south end of the Salton Sea: 2 on Dec. 28 (*GMcC*), 3 on Feb. 9 (*EAC & SC*), 4 on Feb. 15 (*EAC & SC*), and 1 on March 1 (*GMcC*).

Orioles, Tanagers — The Orchard Oriole that arrived in San Diego on Nov. 10 was present through March 25 (Helen Morris). Several Hooded Orioles spent the winter in the Santa Barbara area; 1 was present in Alhambra, Los Angeles Co. from December to late February; and 1 was seen on the Palos Verdes Peninsula on Feb. 15. A Scott's Oriole, a very scarce species in the winter, was present in San Pedro, Dec. 19–Feb. 3 (*SW*). A Baltimore Oriole was present in Montecito, Santa Barbara Co. throughout the period (*JK*). Three Bullock's Orioles were present in the Santa Barbara area, 3–4 in the Los Angeles area, and 6 in the San Diego area throughout the winter. Up to 5 Western Tanagers were present in San Pedro all winter (*SW*); 1 was seen in Arcadia, Dec. 14–Jan. 12 (*JAt, RM, BE*); and 1–2 were noted in the San Diego area throughout the period. A Hepatic Tanager remained at Rancho Park, Los Angeles Co. until early February (*LS*), making this the fifth year that this bird has wintered at this locality. Summer Tanagers are regular in limited numbers; this winter up to 3 were present on Point Loma throughout the period (*AMC*) and 1 was present in National City, Dec. 21–March 2 (*GMcC*).

Finches, Sparrows, Longspurs — Flocks of Pine Siskins were present in the Santa Barbara area, but the species was very scarce elsewhere in the Region. Lawrence's Goldfinches were more common than normal in the Santa Barbara area, and up to 500 were present near Imperial Beach during the period. A few

Green-tailed Towhees were reported, as is normal. Gray-headed Juncos are scarce but regular in the Region; this year 2 were present in Santa Barbara, Dec. 28–Jan. 15 (*NM & LC*); 1 was seen in Pasadena all winter (*GSS*); and 1 remained on Point Loma until early December (*AMC*). A Tree Sparrow was present in Arcadia, Jan. 30–Feb. 2 (*JAt, et al.*); the species is accidental in this area of California. We had more than our normal share of Harris' Sparrows: 2 wintered at Furnace Creek Ranch (*GSS & AB*); 1 was present in Santa Barbara, Dec. 2–March 31 (*WA*); 1 was seen in Tapia Park on March 11 (Paul Hessler, *fide GSS*); 1 remained in Arcadia from Dec. 14 to the end of the period (*JAt, et al.*); 1 was seen in Morongo Valley, San Bernardino Co. on Dec. 1 (*LS & JAJ*); and 1 was noted at the south end of the Salton Sea on Jan. 11 (*GMcC & GC*). A Swamp Sparrow was present in Arcadia, Jan. 18–March 26 (*MP, RM & JAt*); 1 was observed near Imperial Beach until Dec. 21 (*GMcC*); 1 was seen at the south end of the Salton Sea on Feb. 15 (*EAC*); and 1 was seen there on March 1 (*GMcC*). This species is scarce but regular. One or two McCown's Longspurs were seen at the south end of the Salton Sea, Dec. 28–Feb. 15 (*GMcC & EAC*); the species is now regularly found in this area. Up to 20 Lapland Longspurs were present at the south end of the Salton Sea, Dec. 28–Feb. 15 (*GMcC & EAC*); this longspur is apparently regular in small numbers. A flock of 30 Chestnut-collared Longspurs was seen near Temecula on March 13 and 15 (*AF, GMcC, CL & GC*); this is close to the area where a similar flock was found last March, and the locality should be checked for this species in the future.

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