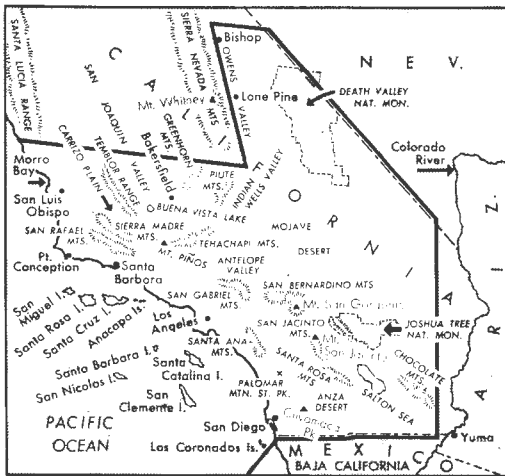


SOUTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION. — Southern California is an area of stable weather conditions, especially during the fall period. This season saw no



major storms, and it appears very unlikely that bird movements into this Region were greatly affected by the local weather picture. Our normal West Coast migrants appeared to arrive earlier than usual, and the bulk had passed through by early October. The first individuals of our regular winter visitors were noted a little earlier than usual; the bulk of these did not arrive any earlier, however, and, if anything, were a little later than usual. There was a pronounced influx of Red-breasted Nuthatches on the coast, along with a few Pine Siskins and Red Crossbills and a few other mountain species such as Brown Creeper and Evening Grosbeak. We had our now-expected variety of vagrants from the eastern United States, including one species new to the Region and a number of other extremely rare species.

Some phenomenon apparently disrupted birdlife in the Gulf of California during the late part of the summer and early fall, causing many birds to leave the Gulf and invade the open ocean waters north to this Region and northward and also causing some birds to push north overland into the Salton Sea. The Least Petrel, Blue-footed Booby, Brown Booby, Heermann's Gull and Elegant Tern are all common breeding species within the Gulf of California, and all were noted in exceptionally large numbers along the coast of this Region or were present on the Salton Sea where they do not normally occur. Least Petrels were found in numbers farther north than previously noted; the number of Blue-footed and Brown Boobies present on the Salton Sea was enough to exceed all that had been recorded previously in the entire western United States; Heermann's Gulls were more common than usual along the coast, with a few present on the Salton Sea; and Elegant Terns were exceptionally numerous along the coast. The fact that Brown Pelicans were more numerous than usual on the Salton Sea probably also was related to this phenomenon. It has been rumored that there is a die-off of marine life in the

Gulf of California following spells of hot weather. This year the Gulf of California experienced an exceptionally long and hot summer, and we could expect a heavier than normal die-off of marine life in the late summer if the rumor is true.

Albatrosses, Shearwaters, Petrels — The Black-footed Albatross was unreported even though a number of boat trips, arranged specifically to look for birds, were conducted off the coast. One or two Fulmars were visible from shore at Santa Barbara throughout November (NM), and about 50 were seen off San Diego on Nov. 22 (GMCC, et al.). These observations were a good indication of a southward flight this winter. Pink-footed Shearwaters were present off Morro Bay, 200 on Sept. 7; off Pismo Beach, San Luis Obispo Co., 150 on Sept. 6; off Santa Barbara, 200 on Sept. 7; and off San Diego, 75 on Aug. 16 and 15 on Nov. 22. A Pale-footed Shearwater, rare but regular, was seen off San Diego on Aug. 16 (GMCC, et al.). A single New Zealand Shearwater, rare this far south close to the coast, was seen off Imperial Beach, San Diego Co. on Nov. 22 (GMCC, et al.). Sooty Shearwaters were noted on all the boat trips, as is to be expected, with a high count of 3000 off San Diego on Aug. 16. A Manx Shearwater was seen off San Diego on Aug. 16 and about 700 were seen there on Nov. 22; the species also was visible from shore in the San Diego area from mid-October through November, with a high count of 500 from Point Loma on Nov. 13 (AC). This shearwater normally occurs off our coast during the late fall and early winter. A dead Fork-tailed Petrel was found on the beach near Morro Bay, San Luis Obispo Co. on Sept. 3 (EAC); the species is casual in the Region, but there are a number of records from this area. About 250 Leach's Petrels were seen during the Aug. 16 boat trip off San Diego; all were far offshore as is normal. Three Ashy Petrels were seen off San Diego on Nov. 22 (GMCC, et al.). About 25 Black Petrels were seen off Pismo Beach on Sept. 6 (EAC), over 1000 off Morro Bay on Sept. 7 (EAC), 2 off Santa Barbara on Sept. 7 (GSS), about 350 off San Diego on Aug. 16 and about 10 on Nov. 22 (GMCC, et al.). This is the usual petrel to be seen off southern California. About 35 Least Petrels were seen off San Diego on Aug. 16 (GMCC, et al.); 1 was collected (specimen to San Bernardino County Museum) off Pismo Beach on Sept. 6 (EAC & SC); and 2 were collected (specimens to San Bernardino County Museum) from a "raft" of over 500 about 25 miles off Morro Bay on Sept. 7 (EAC & SC). Prior to this year this species had not been recorded north of San Diego County and only small numbers had been found there. A Wilson's Petrel was seen off Morro Bay on Sept. 7 (EAC & SC); this is the third record for the Region.

Tropicbird, Pelicans, Boobies, Frigatebirds — A Red-billed Tropicbird was well seen off Morro Bay on Sept. 7 (EAC & SC); this is the northernmost record for California, although there is a single record for Washington (Grays Harbor, June 18, 1941). White Pelicans appeared in small numbers on the Salton Sea, and single individuals and small groups were present on some of the coastal lagoons as is normal. A flock of over 200 near Lakeview, Riverside Co. in late Novem-



Adult Blue-footed Booby photographed by Arnold Small on the Salton Sea at Salton City, Imperial Co., Calif. in early November 1969.

ber was the largest flock reported. Along the coast numbers of Brown Pelicans are declining, and very few young birds of the year are to be seen. Inland on the Salton Sea, young Brown Pelicans were continually present from the summer period until well into October, with a high count of 23 at the south end of the sea on Oct. 11 (GMcC & RL); this is an exceptionally large number for this locality. This fall brought the largest influx of boobies on record for the southwestern United States. A single Blue-footed Booby was first noted at the north end of the Salton Sea, Riverside Co. on Aug. 31 (GMcC & CL); six days later 5 Blue-footed Boobies and 1 Brown Booby were present there (Jon Dunn, *vide* GSS); by the middle of the month at least 30 Blue-footed Boobies and 8 Brown Boobies were present. Most of these were immatures, as is to be expected, although there were adults of both species present; they appeared to concentrate at the north end of the Salton Sea at first, then dispersed over most of the sea, being reported from almost every locality along the shore, with some

sites such as Salton City, Imperial Co. being favorite resting areas where one could normally find a few individuals. These boobies did not appear to fare too well at this inland location, and at least 3 Blue-footed Boobies were picked up near death and saved as specimens (one to San Diego Natural History Museum and two to San Bernardino County Museum). Numbers started to decline in late September, and only a single Blue-footed Booby could be found on Nov. 23. In addition to the birds on the Salton Sea, an immature Blue-footed Booby was picked up dead (specimen to San Diego Natural History Museum) near Escondido, San Diego Co. on Sept. 8 (JJ), and another was seen sitting on the cliffs at Point Loma on Sept. 3 (CP). Prior to this year there were records of about 30 Blue-footed Boobies and 9 Brown Boobies for the entire southwestern United States. Two Magnificent Frigatebirds were seen near Santa Barbara on Aug. 16 (WA & LT), and 1 was still present there on Aug. 23 (RW); this species is rare along the coast, especially this far north.



Four Blue-footed Boobies and an immature Brown Booby are visible in this photograph taken by Ron LeValley at Salton City, Calif., Sept. 28, 1969.

Hérons, Ibis, Spoonbills — The wintering populations of herons and egrets started to arrive in the coastal lagoons during August, and by mid-September their numbers had built up to what is expected for a normal winter. An immature *Little Blue Heron* was found near death (specimen to San Bernardino County Museum) at Imperial Beach on Oct. 4 (AS, JF, et al.), and 2 were found with Cattle Egrets near Westmoreland, Imperial Co. on Oct. 5 (EAC & SC); there are but three previous records for the Region. Cattle Egrets were continually present along the southern edge of the Salton Sea in the Imperial Valley, Imperial Co., with a high count of 275 on Nov. 11 (GMcC & RL); 3 were seen at Salton City on Oct. 18 (LS). Along the coast, up to 6 were present near Imperial Beach after Nov. 10 (GMcC, et al.); 1 was seen in San Diego on Nov. 15 (PD) and 1 at Del Mar, San Diego Co. on Nov. 2 (PD); up to 6 were present around Newport, Orange Co. during the latter part of November (EC); and 1 was found in Santa Barbara on Nov. 19 (KA). A most unusual record is that of 1 near Bishop, Inyo Co. on Nov. 16 (EAC & SC). In recent years the Cattle Egret has been found throughout most of the year in the Imperial Valley at the south end of the Salton Sea, with the largest numbers occurring there during the fall and winter; they also have been regular fall and winter visitors in small numbers to coastal areas north to Santa Barbara County; the record for Bishop is the first for that area of California. An immature Reddish Egret was present

at Point Mugu, Ventura Co. from Aug. 18 to at least mid-November (GSS, et al.); 1 was present at the mouth of the San Diego River from Nov. 1 until the end of the period (GMcC, et al.); 2 were seen at the south end of San Diego Bay on Oct. 11 and 12 (JF, JA & GMcC); 2 were present at the north end of the Salton Sea, Aug. 31–Sept. 28 (GMcC, CL, et al.) for the second record for the Salton Sea and inland in the Region. This is a large number of individuals to be reported for this Region. One or two Louisiana Herons were present at Imperial Beach after September (GMcC, et al.); 1 was present at the mouth of the San Diego River after Nov. 15 (GMcC); 1 was seen at San Elijo Lagoon, San Diego Co. on Oct. 5 (AS, et al.) and 1 in Oceanside, San Diego Co. on Nov. 4 (PDS); 1 was present at Bolsa Chica, Orange Co. from Oct. 19 to the end of the period (JA, BB & EC). The species is regular in limited numbers as far north as the coastal lagoons south of Los Angeles County. One or two of the secretive Least Bitterns were reported from the sound end of the Salton Sea, as is to be expected. The last Wood Ibis was seen at the south end of the Salton Sea on Sept. 28 (RL); none were reported from along the coast. A few White-faced Ibis were reported along the coast from Santa Barbara south to Imperial Beach, as is always the case during the fall. Two immature *Roseate Spoonbills* were seen with Wood Ibis at the south end of the Salton Sea on Sept. 1 (GMcC & CL); this is a casual wanderer to the Salton Sea.



A closer view of the same group of boobies at Salton City, Calif., Sept. 28, 1969. The immature Brown Booby is in the rear of the group. Photograph by Ron LeValley.

Waterfowl — The first Canada Geese arrived at the south end of the Salton Sea in early November (Robert Ellis, *vide* GSS), and about 1100 were present there at the end of the period. Two "Cackling" Canada Geese (*B. c. minima*) were seen at the mouth of the San Diego River on Nov. 8 (PD). The "Cackling" race is rare along the coast this far south in California. Black Brant arrived during the first week of November as is normal; 1 found at Salton City on Nov. 11 (GMcC & RL) was more likely a fall migrant using an inland route than an individual summering on the Salton Sea. This species is extremely rare inland as a fall migrant and winter visitor but is regular inland as a spring migrant, with a few lingering on the Salton Sea throughout the summer. White-fronted Geese passed through Salton Sea Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Imperial Co. during late September and early October as is usual, and a few individuals were noted along the coast in San Diego County where they are quite rare. Snow Geese started arriving on Salton Sea Refuge in early October, and by the end of the period 13,000 were present in the area; a number of stragglers also were found along the coast as is normal. Two male Blue-winged Teal were seen at Seal Beach, Orange Co. on Nov. 20 (JA), and 3 were found there on Nov. 29 (GSS). Earlier in the fall, when the birds are in eclipse plumage, they are indistinguishable from the numerous Cinnamon Teal. A male European Widgeon was seen at Little Lake, Inyo Co. on Nov. 7 (PDS), and single birds were seen on Morro Bay on Nov. 28 (EAC

& SC), at Sandyland Slough, Santa Barbara Co. between Nov. 2 and the end of the period (LC & NM), and on Newport Bay, Orange Co. on Nov. 22 (AS). It is normal for a few individuals to be reported among the flocks of Am. Widgeon present in this Region. A few Wood Ducks were found, including up to 3 at Furnace Creek Ranch, Death Vally Nat'l Monument during November and single birds in the Los Angeles area during October and November. This is a scarce species in the Region. A single Oldsquaw was seen flying south with scoters off Montana del Oro State Park, Santa Barbara Co. on Nov. 23 (RW, LC & NM); this duck is scarce but regular. A single Harlequin Duck, a very rare species in this Region, was seen near San Simeon, San Luis Obispo Co. in October (BP). The bulk of the wintering population of scoters arrived in early November as usual; this year White-winged Scoters were much more numerous than usual and in some areas outnumbered the usually more numerous Surf Scoters. An immature White-winged Scoter was present at Salton City, Nov. 1-23 (HDB, GMcC & RL); this scoter is extremely rare inland. Summering Surf Scoters were present at the north end of the Salton Sea through September, with a high count of 10 on Aug. 31 (GMcC); a flock of 3 at the north end of the Salton Sea on Oct. 26 (RM), a flock of 6 along the east shore of the Salton Sea on Nov. 8 (GSS), and a flock at the south end of the Salton Sea on the same day (GSS) were most likely fall migrants using an inland route. This is the scoter most often

encountered inland in California. A Com. Scoter in female plumage at Oceanside on Nov. 10 (*HDB*) was the only one reported. Four Hooded Mergansers, always a rare bird in this Region, were present on Lake Cachuma, Santa Barbara Co. at the end of the period (*KA*).

Hawks, Eagles — By late September White-tailed Kites were gathering to use communal roosts in the evening as is usual. A count of at least 10 Sharp-shinned Hawks at the end of Point Loma on Sept. 22 (*AC*) indicated a movement since the species is normally quite scarce there. A Harlan's Hawk was seen at Oasis, Mono Co. on Nov. 9 (*RG*), and 2 were found at nearby Deep Springs, Inyo Co. on Nov. 30 (*RS, et al.*); this bird, which I consider a phase of the Red-tailed Hawk, is rarely reported in the Region. A Red-shouldered Hawk was seen at Furnace Creek Ranch on Aug. 30 and Nov. 30 (*GMcC, et al.*); this is east of the species' known range, although there are indications that it is expanding its range eastward. An immature Broad-winged Hawk was seen on the Palos Verdes Peninsula, Los Angeles Co. on Oct. 22 (Shirley Wells, *vide GSS*), and another immature was found near Imperial Beach on Oct. 25 (*GMcC & RM*); this species is proving to be regular in limited numbers during the late fall and throughout the winter. The only Swainson's Hawk reported was a single bird found near Imperial Beach on Oct. 5 (*JA & RM*); this hawk has become extremely rare along the coast in recent years. Single Rough-legged Hawks were seen at Camp Pendleton, San Diego Co. on Oct. 12 (*HDB*) and at the south end of the Salton Sea on Nov. 9 (*JA*); Rough-legs are very rare this far south. Single Ferruginous Hawks were observed near Mitchell Caverns, San Bernardino Co. on Oct. 25 5 (*EAC*) and Nov. 15 (*LJ*), near Perris, Riverside Co. on Oct. 18 (*EAC*) and Nov. 30 (*RL & HDB*), near Imperial Beach, on Oct. 12 and 13 (*GMcC*), and near the south end of the Salton Sea on Nov. 9 (*JA*) and 23 (*RL & GMcC*). This is an encouraging number of sightings for a species that appeared to be on the decline. An immature Bald Eagle seen around Newport Bay after Oct. 31 (*GSS*) was the only one reported. At least 12 Ospreys were reported along the coast from San Luis Obispo County to San Diego County and inland to Covina and Duarte in the Los Angeles Basin; a few are regularly found each fall. Prairie Falcons still persist in the Region though their numbers appear to be on the decline. A Peregrine Falcon seen at Morro Bay on Nov. 27 (*EAC*) and 1 seen near Imperial Beach on Sept. 27 and Oct. 8 (*AS & RL*) were the only individuals reported. A total of 10 Pigeon Hawks seen in the Region between Oct. 18 and Nov. 23 was encouraging.

Cranes, Rails — Over 500 Sandhill Cranes were present at Soda Lake on the Carrizo Plain, San Luis Obispo Co. by the end of November (*EAC*); this is the only large wintering population in the Region. Single Clapper Rails were seen at Goleta, Santa Barbara Co. on Sept. 6 (*RW*) and at the south end of the Salton Sea on Sept. 1 (*GMcC & CL*); the species has become quite rare at both locations.

Shorebirds — An Am. Golden Plover was present in Santa Barbara, Sept. 11–Oct. 7 (*NM, et al.*); 8 were seen at Newport Bay on Nov. 15 (*AS*), 1 at Capistrano

Beach, Orange Co. on Sept. 20 (*GMcC & RL*), and 1 at Mission Bay, San Diego Co. on Sept. 18 (*RL*); 1 was present at the mouth of the San Diego River from Oct. 9 to the end of the period (*PD*); 7 were observed near Imperial Beach on Oct. 5 (*JA & RM*), with 1 seen there on Oct. 18 (*GMcC*) and 2 on Oct. 25 (*GMcC*). This is an average number of reports. Mountain Plovers were found in the Carrizo Plain, around the south end of the Salton Sea, and along the coast near Newport and Imperial Beach, all localities regularly reporting the species in the fall and winter. Ruddy Turnstones were numerous on San Diego Bay, with much smaller numbers being reported from elsewhere along the coast; 4 were seen inland, where they are quite rare, at the south end of the Salton Sea on Sept. 9 (*CL & AC*). Two Solitary Sandpipers were seen at Deep Springs on Aug. 31 (*GSS*), 1 in Hollywood, Los Angeles Co. on Sept. 15 (Jon Dunn, *vide GSS*), and up to 5 near Imperial Beach, Aug. 17–Oct. 1 (*GMcC, et al.*). Knots were present in large numbers on San Diego Bay and were reported in small numbers from many other points along the coast; this species is always much more numerous in the San Diego area than elsewhere along the coast. An immature *Sharp-tailed Sandpiper* was present at Goleta, Sept. 13–21 (*JA, RW and many others*); this is only the second well-documented record for the Region, but a number were found to the north of this Region this fall. Up to 12 Pectoral Sandpipers were present at Goleta, Sept. 14–Oct. 12 (*RW*), with 1 seen in Hollywood on Sept. 15 (Jon Dunn, *vide GSS*), 1 on Point Loma on Oct. 4 (*AC*), 1 at the mouth of the San Diego River on Nov. 1 (*GMcC*), 1–2 near Imperial Beach, Sept. 1–Oct. 12 (*JJ & RL*), and 1 at the south end of the Salton Sea on Nov. 14 (*LJ*). The species is regular along the coast but quite rare inland. A total of 12 Baird's Sandpipers reported between Aug. 15 and Sept. 30 was an average number for the Region. At the south end of the Salton Sea, 1 Stilt Sandpiper was seen on Sept. 1, 5 on Sept. 14, 21 on Nov. 11 and 27 on Nov. 14 (*GMcC, CL & LJ*); 2 were seen near Brawley, Imperial Co. on Oct. 11 (*GMcC & RL*). The species is regular in this area of California in limited numbers. Red Phalaropes, normally seen only from boats offshore, were numerous along the beaches and on the coastal lagoons and freshwater pools during November, with the largest numbers being noted at mid-month. Many individuals were picked up dead and were found to have starved to death. In addition to the coastal records, 5 were found at Salton City on Nov. 11, with 3 still there on Nov. 23 (*GMcC & RL*). This species is casual on the Salton Sea.

Jaegers, Gulls, Terns — Pomarine Jaegers were again found to be the common jaeger off the coast, with Parasitic Jaegers occurring mostly along the coastline. An immature Parasitic was seen inland at the north end of the Salton Sea on Sept. 9 (*GMcC & AC*), and another immature was seen there on Sept. 28 (*GMcC, RL & HDB*). The only Long-tailed Jaeger reported was an adult seen off Morro Bay on Sept. 7 (*EAC & SC*). Our regularly occurring wintering gulls arrived during September and October as is normal. An adult Glaucous-winged Gull was found at Salton City on Nov. 23 (*GMcC, RL & LJ*); the species is casual inland.

Western Gulls, all yellow-legged birds from the Gulf of California, were present at Salton City until the end of September, with the last 5 noted on Sept. 28. An immature Mew Gull seen at Salton City on Nov. 14 (*LJ*) constituted the third record for the Salton Sea. Laughing Gulls persisted in the area around the south end of the Salton Sea until mid-October, with the last 5 noted on Oct. 11; this is a regular post-breeding wanderer from the Gulf of California to the Salton Sea. It is casual along the coast, with 1 noted at Huntington Beach, Orange Co. on Nov. 26 (Russ Wilson, *vide GSS*) and 1 on Point Loma on Nov. 15 (*GMcC*). Two Franklin's Gulls were found at San Elijo Lagoon on Oct. 25 (*RM*) and 1 was still there on Oct. 29 (*GSS*); elsewhere, single birds were noted at Del Mar on Nov. 2 (*PD*), near Imperial Beach, Oct. 18-25 (*LS & GMcC*), at the north end of the Salton Sea on Sept. 13 and 14 (*RG & GMcC*) and Nov. 9 (Kim Garrett, *vide GSS*), at the south end of the Salton Sea on Oct. 5 (*EAC & SC*), and near Brawley on Oct. 26 (*GMcC & RL*). This gull is regular in limited numbers every fall. Heermann's Gulls continued to appear in the area of the Salton Sea, with 1 observed at the north end of the Salton Sea on Sept. 13 and 14 (*RG & GMcC*), up to 3 at Salton City, Oct. 11–Nov. 14 (*GMcC, JA, LJ & EAC*), and 1 near Brawley on Oct. 11 (*GMcC & RL*). This species only recently reached the Salton Sea. Sabine's Gulls were noted off the coast during August and September as usual; an immature was photographed at the lowest point in the Western Hemisphere, Bad Water, Death Valley Nat'l Monument, Oct. 18 (*JF*). This species is extremely rare inland. Arctic Terns were noted far off the coast during August and September, as usual, with a high count of over 400 off Morro Bay on Sept. 7 (*EAC & SC*); this species is a regular fall migrant off the coast but is rarely, if ever, found on the coast. Elegant Terns staged a spectacular post-breeding northward dispersal flight with more than the usual number of birds being reported from all coastal localities; a few were still present in the San Diego area at the end of the period, as is normal.

Alcids — Five Com. Murres were found off Morro Bay on Sept. 7 and about 200 were found there, Nov. 27-30 (*EAC & SC*); 1000 were seen off Pismo Beach on Sept. 6 (*EAC & SC*); several oiled birds were found along the Santa Barbara beaches during October and November (*NM*), with 1 oiled bird seen at Ventura on Sept. 12 (*JA*). Single birds were seen off La Jolla, San Diego Co. on Oct. 24 and Nov. 7, with 3 seen there on Nov. 9 (*PD*); 3 were found off San Diego on Nov. 22 (*GMcC*). These are good numbers for this Region. The only Pigeon Guillemot reported was 1 seen on Sept. 7 off Morro Bay (*EAC & SC*), an area where the species nests. A *Marbled Murrelet* was found alive on the beach at La Jolla on Aug. 16 (*JJ*) and died on the following day (specimen to San Diego Natural History Museum); this is the southernmost record for the species. A single *Xantus' Murrelet* seen off San Diego on Nov. 22 (*PD*) was the only one reported. Two Craveri's Murrelets were collected (specimens to San Bernardino County Museum) from a flock of 4 off Morro Bay on Sept. 7 (*EAC & SC*); there are very few

recent records of this species in the Region, although it may prove to be regular in limited numbers during the fall as the earlier collectors had indicated. Six Ancient Murrelets were found off Morro Bay on Nov. 30 (*EAC & SC*); this murrelet is regular at this latitude but rare south of there. Cassin's Auklets, the most abundant alcid in southern California waters, were found off Morro Bay, off Pismo Beach, and off San Diego. Single Rhinoceros Auklets were seen off Morro Bay on Sept. 7 and Nov. 30 and off Pismo Beach on Sept. 6 (*EAC & SC*); normally this alcid is more numerous and widespread.

Doves, Cuckoos, Owls — A Band-tailed Pigeon near Imperial Beach on Oct. 13 (*TT*) was unusual in this area. Single White-winged Doves were noted in the San Fernando Valley, Los Angeles Co. on Sept. 14 (David Beyers, *vide GSS*), at Camp Pendleton on Sept. 21 (*HDB*), on Point Loma on Sept. 18 (*GMcC*) and Nov. 19 (*AC*), and near Imperial Beach on Sept. 28 (*LS*), with up to 4 continually present there from late October to the end of the period (*GMcC, et al.*). The species is regular in limited numbers on the coast every fall. A Yellow-billed Cuckoo, very rare in this Region today, was seen in Oceanside on Aug. 23 (*HDB*). A *Saw-whet Owl* was found at the south end of the Salton Sea on Oct. 18 (*LS*); there is but one previous record for this area.

Woodpeckers, Flycatchers — Flickers exhibiting all the characters of the "Yellow-shafted Flicker" were reported from Arcadia on Nov. 18 and 19 (*JA*), from Oceanside on Nov. 23 (*HDB*), from Point Loma on Oct. 14 (*GMcC*), and from near Imperial Beach on Oct. 18 (*GMcC, et al.*); flickers showing all the characters of this eastern form are rare but regular during the fall and winter and individuals showing only some of the characters are commonplace. The only Lewis' Woodpecker reported was 1 present in Arcadia, Nov. 16-26 (*JA*); the species is rare in this area of the Region. Single Eastern Kingbirds were noted in Santa Barbara on Sept. 14 (*BP, et al.*), at the Sepulveda Recreation Area, Los Angeles Co. on Sept. 15 (Jon Dunn, *vide GSS*), at Laguna Beach, Orange Co., Sept. 19-21 (*GSS*), and at Furnace Creek Ranch on Aug. 30 and 31 (*GMcC & CL*). This flycatcher is regular in limited numbers every fall. Two Tropical Kingbirds were present at Goleta, Oct. 25–Nov. 10 (*RW & HJM*); up to 3 were seen on Point Loma, Oct. 4-6 (*AS, RL, TT & AC*), with 1 noted there, Oct. 11-14 (*TT*) being joined by a second on Oct. 14 (*GMcC*), and another banded there on Oct. 13 (*AC*); 3-4 were found near Imperial Beach, Sept. 27–Oct. 19 (*AS, GMcC, et al.*). This species has a regular northward dispersal flight of immatures every fall. One or two Gray Flycatchers were reported from along the coast as usual. Single Vermilion Flycatchers were found along the coast at Playa Del Rey, Los Angeles Co. on Sept. 25 (*LS*), at El Monte, Los Angeles Co. on Nov. 16 (*RM*), and near Imperial Beach on Oct. 5 (*GMcC*) and Oct. 25 (*TT*). The Vermilion is regular in small numbers every fall and winter.

Chickadees, Nuthatches, Creepers, Thrashers — Mountain Chickadees were reported from the lowlands in Pasadena, Los Angeles Co. where they occur regularly every fall and winter. Red-breasted Nut-

hatches staged a heavy flight to the coast but were fairly scarce in the lowlands away from coastal areas; birds started to appear along the coast in early September and were most numerous during October; many were still present at the end of the period and undoubtedly are going to winter. Alan Craig managed to catch and band a total of 72 individuals on Point Loma during the period. A Brown Creeper was seen on Point Loma on Nov. 9 and 15 (*RM & GMcC*); the species is scarce along the coast this far south. A Brown Thrasher was found in Hollywood on Sept. 1 (*Kim Garrett, fide GSS*); although this species is rare but regular during the fall and winter, this is an extremely early date for a fall vagrant. A Crissal Thrasher seen at Shoshone, Inyo Co. on Nov. 29 (*GMcC, RL & HDB*) was north of its normal range. A few Sage Thrashers were reported from along the coast, as is normal.

Kinglets, Waxwings, Shrikes — A Golden-crowned Kinglet seen at Scotty's Castle, Death Valley Nat'l Monument on Nov. 9 (*RG & GMcC*) and another seen near Encino, Los Angeles Co. on Oct. 26 (*Jon Dunn, fide GSS*) were the only individuals reported away from the mountains. Cedar Waxwings were still exceedingly scarce at the end of the period, and virtually no flocks were reported. A *Northern Shrike* was collected (specimen to San Bernardino County Museum) at Deep Springs on Nov. 15 (*EAC & SC*); this is the first record for the Region and the southernmost record for California.

Vireos and Warblers — The fall flight of vireos and warblers appeared to be quite light. The normal western species passed through the Region between mid-August and early October, with some stragglers of most species still being found at the end of the period. The largest numbers appeared to be present during the last week of September and the first few days of October. Again the fall period produced records of a number of eastern species not normally known to occur in the West but which are proving to be regular there in very limited numbers. A *Yellow-throated Vireo* was discovered in Riverside on Dec. 5 (*EAC & SC*) and appears to be wintering; this is the third record for the Region. Very few Solitary Vireos were found along the coast, as is normal; an individual of the *plumbeus* race well seen near Imperial Beach on Nov. 16 (*GMcC & CL*) constituted, however, the first record of this race along the coast. A Red-eyed Vireo, which is a casual stray to the Region, was banded on Point Loma on Oct. 23 (*AC*). A *Philadelphia Vireo* collected (specimen to San Diego Natural History Museum) on Point Loma on Nov. 9 (*AC*) constituted the second record for the Region. Single Black-and-white Warblers were seen near Goleta on Oct. 4 (*RW*), at Lake Cachuma on Nov. 28 (*KA*), at Irvine, Orange Co. on Sept. 21 (*RM*), and in San Diego on Sept. 28 (*TT*); at least 7 individuals were found on Point Loma, Sept. 17–Oct. 19 (*AC, TT, GMcC, et al.*) and at least 4 individuals were found near Imperial Beach, Sept. 15–21 (*GMcC, BB, et al.*). This is a regular stray to the coast of California. A male *Prothonotary Warbler* was found on Point Loma on Sept. 27 (*HDB,*

GMcC, et al.), establishing the sixth record for the Region. Single Tennessee Warblers were noted at Scotty's Castle on Oct. 5 (*HDB*), at Point Loma on Sept. 7 (*AC*), Sept. 18 (*GC*), and Oct. 25 (*AC*); near Imperial Beach on Sept. 15 (*GMcC*), Sept. 20 (*GSS*), Sept. 27 (*HDB*), Oct. 4 (*AS*) and Oct. 12 (*GMcC*); and near Otay, San Diego Co., Sept. 30–Oct. 5 (*RM, et al.*). This warbler is regular in limited numbers every fall. Single Virginia's Warblers were found at Furnace Creek Ranch on Aug. 30 (*David Gains*), near Goleta on Oct. 4 (*RW*), in the Sepulveda Recreation Area on Sept. 12 (*Jon Dunn, fide GSS*), near Azusa, Los Angeles Co. on Sept. 21 (*JA*), in Oceanside on Aug. 19 (*HDB*), on Point Loma on Sept. 19 (*AC*), and near Imperial Beach on Sept. 3 (*GMcC*), with 4 found there in the period Sept. 20–Oct. 4 (*GMcC, AS & RM*). This is more than the normal number of localities reporting the species but less than the normal numbers from the San Diego area. In the more eastern portions of the Region, a Lucy's Warbler was seen at Furnace Creek Ranch on Aug. 31 (*CL*), 1 was seen at Morongo Valley, San Bernardino Co. on Sept. 20 (*AS*), and 1 was seen near Borrego Springs, San Diego Co. on Oct. 12 (*HDB*). Along the coast, 1 was seen on Sept. 3 and 4 were seen on Sept. 3 and 4 near Imperial Beach (*GMcC*) where the species is a casual fall wanderer. A Parula Warbler found near Imperial Beach on Nov. 2 (*HDB*) was apparently wintering; the species is exceedingly rare as a fall wanderer to California. Four Magnolia Warblers were found on Point Loma, 1 on Sept. 19 (*AC*), 1 between Sept. 23 and 26 (*TT & RL*), 1 on Sept. 28 (*LS*), and 1 on Oct. 5 (*CL & GMcC*); this is a regular fall vagrant. A Black-throated Blue Warbler was seen in Morongo Valley on Sept. 20 (*AS*), and another was found there on Oct. 19 (*DS & KY*); 1 was seen on Point Fermin, Los Angeles Co., Sept. 13–16 (*BB*); single birds were banded on Point Loma on Oct. 6 and Nov. 1 (*AC*); another was present on Point Loma, Oct. 7–10 (*TT, GMcC, et al.*). It is amazing how many of this strictly eastern species reach the West Coast every fall. A Black-throated Green Warbler was seen on Point Loma on Sept. 18 (*GMcC*); another was seen near Imperial Beach on Nov. 9 and 10 (*RM, LS & GMcC*). This is a fairly scarce vagrant. A Blackburnian Warbler was banded on Point Loma on Sept. 25 (*AC*), another was banded there on Sept. 26 (*AC*), and a third bird was seen there on Sept. 28 (*CL & JJ*); this warbler is found in California every fall nowadays. An immature *Yellow-throated Warbler*, which appeared to be of the nominate race (*Dendroica dominica dominica*), was banded and photographed (slides on file at San Diego Natural History Museum) on Point Loma on Oct. 15 and remained in the area until at least Nov. 5 (*AC, et al.*); this constitutes the first record for the Region. There were four records of the Chestnut-sided Warbler, which is a somewhat regular stray to California, in the San Diego area between Sept. 18 and Nov. 9. Two Blackpoll Warblers were noted at Playa del Rey on Sept. 24 and 25 (*LS & RM*); at least 15 were found on Point Loma, Sept. 18–Oct. 12 (*AC, TT, GMcC, et al.*), with another banded there on Oct. 23 (*AC*); 1 was seen near Imperial Beach, Sept. 10–12 (*GMcC*), 1 on Sept. 24 (*GMcC*), 3 on Oct. 4 (*AS*), 1 on Oct. 5 (*JA*),

and 1 on Oct. 12 (JA); 1 was found near Otay on Sept. 13 (GMcC). This species is now found regularly in small numbers along the West Coast during the fall period, and it seems quite possible that it is in the process of establishing a West Coast fall migration route between Alaska and South America. A Bay-breasted Warbler, an irregular vagrant in California, was found on Point Loma on Oct. 5 (CL & GMcC). A Pine Warbler was seen with the Yellow-throated Vireo in Riverside on Dec. 6 (EAC & SC); this is the third record for California. A Prairie Warbler was found near Otay on Sept. 28 (BB), and another was banded on Point Loma on Nov. 4 (AC); this species is regular in very limited numbers every fall. A total of 5 Palm Warblers recorded in the San Diego area, Oct. 5–Nov. 16 was many fewer individuals than we have become accustomed to reporting for the fall period. The only Northern Waterthrush reported was 1 in Morongo Valley on Sept. 8 (David Beyers, *vide* GSS). A very late Yellow-breasted Chat was present in Oceanside, Nov. 2-7 (HDB). Two Canada Warblers were observed near Imperial Beach on Oct. 4 (AS, *et al.*), and another was seen there on Nov. 15 (GMcC, CL, RL, *et al.*); this is an irregular stray to California. Four Am. Redstarts were noted in Death Valley Nat'l Monument on Aug. 30 and 31 (GMcC, *et al.*); single birds were seen near Borrego Springs on Oct. 12 (HDB), at Finney Lake, Imperial Co. on Nov. 11 (GMcC), near Goleta on Oct. 4 (RW), in Los Angeles on Sept. 1 (LS), and in La Jolla on Sept. 21 (PD); about 25 (including 6 banded) were found on Point Loma, Sept. 17–Oct. 29 (AC, TT, GMcC, *et al.*); and about 6 were found in the Imperial Beach area during October (HDB, GMcC, AS, *et al.*). This species appears to pass through southern California on its normal path south to its wintering grounds in western Mexico.

Blackbirds, Orioles, Tanagers — Three Bobolinks were present at Capistrano Beach on Sept. 27 (RM & JA) and 9 were there on Oct. 5 (JA); 1-2 were noted almost daily on Point Loma, Sept. 24–Oct. 8 (AC & GMcC), this probably reflecting a number of different birds each present for a day or two; and up to 60 were noted near Imperial Beach, Sept. 26–Oct. 18 (GMcC, *et al.*). The species has proven to be a regular fall migrant along the West Coast, but this is a larger number than previously reported. A Baltimore Oriole was seen near Arcadia, Nov. 14-17 (Beulah Mills, *vide* JA), and another was seen on Point Loma on Oct. 4 and 5 (AS, GMcC, *et al.*); this species is rare but regular. A Rusty Blackbird was found at Deep Springs on Nov. 15 (EAC & SC), 1 was found at Saratoga Springs, Death Valley Nat'l Monument, Nov. 28 (GSS & LJ) and 2 were seen there on the following day (GMcC, RL & HDB); this species is proving to be regular along the Region's eastern border during the late fall. A Scarlet Tanager, banded by Alan Craig, was present on Point Loma, Nov. 7-17; this species is now being found every fall. An adult male Hepatic Tanager returned to Rancho Park, Los Angeles Co. on Oct. 31 (LS); all indications are that this is the same individual that has spent the past six winters at this location. Summer Tanagers were present at Morongo Valley until at least Sept. 20 when 10 were found there (AS),

and 2 were found in Whitewater Canyon, Riverside Co. on Sept. 13 (GSS); both are areas where the species is known to nest. Along the coast, single Summer Tanagers were found on Point Loma on Sept. 25 (AC), Sept. 30 (RM), and Nov. 13 (AC) and near Imperial Beach on Sept. 30 (RM); the species is a regular fall stray to the coast.

Finches — Single Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were seen on Point Loma on Oct. 4 (RL), Oct. 12 (GMcC & RL), and Nov. 16 (GMcC & CL); a few appear in the Region every fall. Single Indigo Buntings were found at Deep Springs on Aug. 30 (GMcC), near Lone Pine, Inyo Co. on Aug. 30 (MSanM), in Morongo Valley on Sept. 13 (GSS), on Point Loma on Oct. 12 (JA, GMcC & RL), and near Imperial Beach on Oct. 5 (RM & JA); this is a regular stray to California. The only Dickcissel of the fall was 1 found on Point Loma on Oct. 12 (GMcC & RL). An Evening Grosbeak was seen in the Providence Mountains of eastern San Bernardino County on Oct. 18 (EAC & SC), and another was banded on Point Loma on the same day (AC); both locations are outside of the species' normal range. Pine Siskins were noted in numbers along the coast in San Diego County, where they do not regularly occur, but were not commented upon from elsewhere within the Region. A small flock of Red Crossbills was noted in Los Angeles in late October (*vide* GSS), and a few were found on Point Loma between Oct. 29 and Nov. 3, including 3 individuals that were banded (AC & RM), this is a sporadic wanderer to coastal southern California.

Sparrows — The normal numbers of Green-tailed Towhees were reported from the coastal areas. A single Lark Bunting was seen about 20 miles east of Holtville, Imperial Co. on Oct. 26 (GMcC & RL), and 2 were seen near Imperial Beach on Oct. 31 (DDeS), this species has become extremely rare in California. A Black-throated Sparrow, casual along the coast, was seen on Point Loma on Sept. 23 (AC). The normal number of Slate-colored Juncos were reported among the flocks of Oregon Juncos present throughout the Region. A Gray-headed Junco was present on Point Loma, Oct. 7-15 (RL, TT, *et al.*), and another was found on Mount Palomar, San Diego Co. on Nov. 27 (GMcC & RL), this is the scarcest of the three species of juncos occurring in the Region. A Tree Sparrow was collected (specimen to San Bernardino County Museum) near Bishop on Nov. 1 (EAC & SC), 1 was seen at Furnace Creek Ranch on Nov. 29 (GMcC, HDB, RL, *et al.*), and 1 was seen at Saratoga Springs on Nov. 28 (GSS & LJ); the species is probably regular in limited numbers in the northeastern portion of the Region. The only Clay-colored Sparrow reported was 1 near Imperial Beach on Sept. 27 (GMcC, PD & CL), this sparrow is regular in limited numbers on fall migration. At Furnace Creek Ranch, 1 Harris' Sparrow was found on Nov. 9 (GMcC & RG) and 5 on Nov. 29 and 30 (GSS, *et al.*); 1 was present in Arcadia after Nov. 18 (JA & GSS). This is a rare species in California. A total of 10 White-throated Sparrows reported between Oct. 12 and Nov. 30 was an average number for the Region. Three Fox Sparrows banded on Point Loma on Sept. 22 (AC) were quite early for the Region. A Swamp Sparrow seen in Oceanside on Nov. 9 (HDB)

and another present near Imperial Beach between Nov. 1 and the end of the period (*GMcC*, *et al.*) were the only two reported.

Longspurs A single McCown's Longspur was seen near Imperial Beach on Oct. 19 (*GMcC*), and another was seen there on Nov. 2 (*GMcC & HDB*), there is but one previous record for the coastal area, but it is regular in the Imperial Valley. Five Lapland Longspurs were present at Oasis, Mono Co. on Nov. 9 (*RG*), and 1 was seen near China Lake, Inyo Co. on Nov. 30 (*GMcC*, *RL & HDB*), this is the most numerous and widespread species of longspur in California. Two Chestnut-collared Longspurs were found near Imperial Beach on Nov. 1 (*GMcC*), this species is regular in very limited numbers.

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