Middle Pacific Coast Region

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Field Notes did not receive a complete report of the winter season by our deadline.

Loons to Storm-Petrels

Three Pacific Loons in Clifton Court Forebay, Conta Costa De. 5 (RJR) was a high count in the San Joaquin Delta. The only well-documented Yellow-billed Loon was off Pacific Grove, Monterey Dec. 7–28 (RT, †SFB, DLSh). Inland lakes attracted three Red-necked Grebes: Clifton Court Forebay Dec. 5 (returning for the 5th year? RJR), San Andreas L., San Mateo Dec. 18 (FrT), and Loch Lomon, Santa Cruz Dec. 18 (G. Meyer, RRa, BRa).

A Layson Albatross that took an ill-advised inland tour in a winter storm was first seen circling S of Sonoma, *Sonoma* Feb. 19 (†H. Karr). The next day it was seen at the Napa R., *Napa* and *Solano* (†M.J. Berner); it later hit a power line at Martinez, *Contra Costa*,

and was rescued for rehab (fide M. Brezner). Four Laysans were seen offshore the Region.

A high winter count of 28 Pink-footed Shearwaters was seen off Monterey Jan. 22 (DLSh). Flesh-footed Shearwaters there Jan. 15, 18, & 22 (DSg, DLSh) may have been the same bird. A dark-morph Wedgetailed Shearwater 2 mi s.w. of Table Rock, Santa Cruz Dec. 18 (†DLSh, †SA) provided the fifth record for California. A very late Buller's Shearwater was 2 mi w. of Pt. Joe, Monterey Jan. 25 (RT). Many Black-vented Shearwaters lingered in Monterey Bay, such as the 283 off Santa Cruz Dec. 18 (DLSh, SA) and 100 off Monterey Jan 22 (DLSh), but few stayed through February.

At H.R.S., Alameda a Leach's Storm-Petrel and an Ashy Storm-Petrel were seen Jan 9, with the latter present the next day (RJR), and two probably Ashies reported Feb. 5 (Cin-Ty Lee). Very rare in S.F. Bay even in the fall, these storm-petrels were unprecedented there in winter.

Raptors

The Black Vulture remained at Arcata, *Humboldt* though Feb. 9 (†DFx). An ad. Broad-winged Hawk n. of Santa Cruz Dec. 20–22 (BSch, †DLSu) was the only one this season. A communal roost of Ferruginous Hawks s.e. of King City, *Monterey* Dec. 23+ built to an astounding count of 86 birds Feb. 5 (DLSh, JMD) A roost of this scale is unprecedented for this species.

With the continuing recovery of the

Peregrine Falcon, the first modern record for San Benito was overdue. It was an adult at Panoche Valley Jan. 3 (DLSu, ELb). The imm. Gyrfalcon near Midway, Alameda apparently stayed to Dec. 14 (R. Lindeman, †GFi). Another Gyrfalcon resided near Ft. Dick, Del Norte Oct. 31–Feb. 20 (†RAE, †SEF, m.ob.).

Larids

A jaeger off Palo Alto Jan 23 (†SCR) was unseasonalinside S.F. Bay whatever the species. An ad. Common Black-headed Gull at Sunnyvale, Santa Clara Jan. 23–Feb. 9 (JMa, †JM, SCR) was believed to be the same bird that was at Alviso Nov. 15 (SCR). Adult



and 3rd-basic W. Gulls at Clear L. (JRW) doubled the number of *Lake* records. Every coastal county contributed to the large total of >30–38 imm. Glaucous Gulls reported, but there were only two inland. An imm. Black-legged Kittiwake at L. Shastina Dec. 17–18 (†RE) was the second for *Siskiyou* and the Great Basin district.

A rare Thick-billed Murre was off Monterey Jan. 21–22 (ph. RLB).

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