

Alan S. Hopkins, Steve N.G. Howell, Lisa Hug, **John E. Hunter**, Ken Irwin, **Robert J. Keiffer**, Clay Kempf, **Robin L.C. Leong**, Tom W. Leskiw, Nick Lethaby, Cindy Lieurance (CLu), Leslie Lieurance (LLu), Jim Lomax, John S. Luther, Michael J. Mammoser, **Timothy D. Manolis**, Robert E. Maurer, Sean McAllister, Guy McCaskie, Mac McCormick, Todd McGrath, **Bert McKee**, **Peter J. Metropulos**, Joseph Morlan, Dan P. Murphy, Dan Nelson, Kristie N. Nelson, Benjamin D. Parmeter, Michael Perrone, **Jude Claire Power**, Peter Pyle, C. John Ralph, Jean M. Richmond, Robert J. Richmond, **Don Roberson**, Michael M. Rogers, Stephen C. Rottenborn, **Ruth A. Rudesill**, Andrew Rush, Tom Ryan, Barry Sauppe, Greg A. Schmidt, Debra L. Shearwater, Dave Shuford, Rich Stallcup, **Emilie Strauss**, **David L. Suddjian**, Richard Ternullo, Scott B. Terrill, Robert F. Tintle, Ronald S. Thorn, John Trochet, Chuck E. Vaughn, Kent Van Vuren, Bruce Webb, **Jerry R. White**, Adam Winer, **Bob & Carol Yutzy**

Many more observers were not specifically cited, but all are appreciated.

Scott B. Terrill and **Stephen C. Rottenborn** (Loons to Frigatebirds, Larids to Alcids), H. T. Harvey & Associates, P.O. Box 1180, Alviso, CA 95002 (rottenbo@pacbell.net); **Daniel S. Singer** (Herons to Shorebirds), c/o Arroyo & Coates, 500 Washington St., Ste. 700, San Francisco, CA 94111 (dsg@isp.net); **Don Roberson** (Doves to Finches), 282 Grove Acre Ave., Pacific Grove, CA 93950 (creagrus@montereybay.com)



Place names that are frequently mentioned, but very long, may be abbreviated in a form such as "C.B.B.T." or "W.P.B.O." Such local abbreviations will be explained in a key at the beginning of the particular regional report in which they are used. Standard abbreviations that are used throughout *North American Birds* are keyed on page 24.

southern pacific coast region



GUY MCCASKIE

The season was relatively storm-free, which enables normal migrants to pass through this Region without problems. Large numbers of Black-vented Shearwaters were close to shore in the early part of the season. Some mountain and berry-eating passerines were evidently on the move but not in massive numbers. Accidental stragglers included California's first **American Woodcock**.

Abbreviations: C.L. (*China Lake Naval Air Weapons Station, extreme n.e. Kern Co.*); F.C.R. (*Furnace Creek Ranch, Death Valley National Monument, Inyo Co.*); N.E.S.S. (*n. end of the Salton Sea, Riverside Co.*); S.C.R.E. (*Santa Clara River Estuary near Ventura, Ventura Co.*); S.E.S.S. (*s. end of the Salton Sea, Imperial Co.*); S.F.K.R.P. (*South Fork Kern River Preserve near Weldon, Kern Co.*). Since virtually all rarities in s. California are seen by many observers, only the observer(s) initially finding and identifying the bird are included. Documentation for species on the California Bird Records Committee (C.B.R.C.) review list is forwarded to the C.B.R.C. Secretary and archived at the Western Foundation for Vertebrate Zoology in Camarillo.

LOONS THROUGH HERONS

A Red-throated Loon on Tinemaha Res. near Big Pine, *Inyo*, Nov. 30 (T & JH) was far inland, and another on L. Perris Nov. 21 (MAP) was only the 4th to be found in *Riverside*.

Black-vented Shearwaters were more numerous than usual close to shore, with

such numbers as 10,000 visible from Pt. Vicente on the Palos Verdes Peninsula, *Los Angeles*, Aug. 15 (DMH, KLa), 20,000 from the pier in Newport Beach, *Orange*, Sep. 1 (MSanM), and 5500 from shore in La Jolla, *San Diego*, Oct. 5 (SWal). Ashy and Least storm-petrels were also visible from shore, along with the more expected Black Storm-Petrels, in *San Diego* and *Orange* during Aug. and Sep., with high counts from the Newport Beach pier of 5 Ashy Sep. 25–26 (JEP) and 20 Least Sep. 1 (MSanM). A Wilson's Storm-Petrel from the Newport Beach pier Aug. 31 (JEP) was the first to be seen from shore in S. California, and one of a very few reported in this Region. A Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel seen from the Newport Beach pier Aug. 11 (JEP) was unusually far south and exceptional at this time.

A Red-billed Tropicbird near San Nicolas I. Aug. 22 (KLG) was the highlight of the Los Angeles Audubon Society's pelagic birding trip. A Red-tailed Tropic-bird identified from a low flying aircraft about 100 mi. s.w. of San Nicholas I. Aug. 14 (CRo) was in an area where small numbers probably occur regularly. A Neotropic Cormorant reported from Imperial Dam, *Imperial*, Sep. 26 (DT) was on the California side of the Colorado R. Imm. Magnificent Frigatebirds along the coast over Coronado, *San Diego*, Aug. 4 (*fide* DWA), San Pedro, *Los Angeles*, Aug. 6 (DMH) and Huntington Beach, *Orange*, Aug. 11 (ToH), and slightly inland over Cypress, *Orange*, Aug. 10 (KP) were associated with the major influx of these birds in Jun. and Jul. An immature at S.E.S.S. Sep. 12 (N & MF) was probably associated with tropical disturbances in the Gulf of California.

The imm. Tricolored Heron found in Imperial Beach, *San Diego*, Jul. 25 was still present at the end of the period (*fide* DWA), but one at Bolsa Chica, *Orange*, Oct. 13 through the end of the period (DSm) was the only other one reported. An ad. Reddish Egret in Imperial Beach Aug. 2 through the end of the period (GMcC) was joined by an immature Oct. 4 (BM), one was at Seal Beach, *Orange*, Aug. 8–Sep. 15 (JF) and another at Bolsa Chica Sep. 7–28 (SWar)—an average number for this time of year.

DUCKS THROUGH PHALAROPES

A female Tufted Duck near Saticoy, *Ventura*, Nov. 29 through the end of the period (ST) was probably the same individual that has wintered at this location in recent years. Single Surf Scoters on Klondike L. near Big Pine Oct. 11 (T & JH) and another near Bishop, *Inyo*, Nov. 3–17 (JMF) were the only two migrant scoters reported from the interior.

A Harris's Hawk in the w. Antelope Valley, *Los Angeles*, Oct. 1 (JB) and Nov. 21 (NH) was believed to be the same individual reported in this area off and on since 1996. An imm. Broad-winged Hawk on the coast near Imperial Beach Oct. 18 (PU), one inland at the S.F.K.R.P. Sep. 9 (TG) and another at Desert Center, *Riverside*, Sep. 19 (MAP) were the only three reported. A Zone-tailed Hawk reported near Onyx Summit in the San Bernardino Mts. Aug. 30 (RL) was in an area where nesting should be considered; one in Goleta, *Santa Barbara*, Oct. 21 through the end of the period (JH) was the same bird present in this area during each of the past five winters, and another near Escondido, *San Diego*, Nov. 19 through the end of the period (*fide* DWA) was also in an area where one has been seen during the past 4 winters.

A Sandhill Crane at the Santa Maria R. mouth, *San Luis Obispo/Santa Barbara*, Aug. 15–16 (JMC) was presumed to be the same bird seen here in Jul. and Aug. 1997.

Single migrant Am. Golden-Plovers were near San Simeon, *San Luis Obispo*, Sep. 25 (WAB), in Goleta Oct. 14–Nov. 19 (DAK), at S.C.R.E. Sep. 6 (DDJ) and Sep. 29 (DDJ), near Port Hueneme Oct. 16–Nov. 7 (DDJ), and near Imperial Beach Oct. 9–18 (EC, GMcC). A juv. Pacific Golden-Plover on San Nicholas I. Sep. 27 (MAP) was a migrant, but up to six near Port Hueneme, *Ventura*, Aug. 27 through the end of the period (DDJ), and another in Huntington Beach Nov. 14 (PC) were at known wintering localities. A Mountain Plover at C.L. Nov. 14–18 (SSt) and another at the Santa Maria R. mouth Oct. 20–25 (BH) were at unusual localities. The ad. Am. Oystercatcher found on San Nicholas I. Jun. 28 was still present Sep. 28 (RAH, WW), a different adult was there Oct. 19 (RAH), up to two juveniles were on the same island Sep. 7–28 (RAH, MAP), and another was on the mainland in Long Beach Harbor Oct. 16 (SWar). A Wandering Tattler at S.E.S.S. Sep. 5 (GMcC) was inland where unexpected. Two juv. Ruddy Turnstones at E.A.F.B. Aug. 29–30 (MTH) and a juv. Red Knot photographed at Twentynine Palms, *San*

Bernardino, Sep. 12 (EAC) were the only ones reported inland away from the Salton Sea. Semipalmated Sandpipers were less numerous than in recent years, with only 12 juveniles reported along the coast between Aug. 1 and Sep. 20, and only three inland during the same period. A Baird's Sandpiper on San Nicolas I. Oct. 8–18 (WW) and another on Morro Bay, *San Luis Obispo*, Oct. 12 (JSR) were somewhat late. A juv. Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, decidedly rare in S. California, was well photographed at S.C.R.E. Sep. 3–11 (DDJ). Up to two juv. Stilt Sandpipers at S.C.R.E. Sep. 4–7 (ST, DDJ), one at Point Mugu, *Ventura*, Sep. 10 (TEW), another in Long Beach, *Los Angeles*, Sep. 13 (DMH), and two in Oceanside Aug. 21–23 (PAG) were along the coast where rare, and two juveniles near Cantel, *Kern*, Sep. 25–27 (DVB), along with single birds on Mystic L. near Lakeview, *Riverside*, Aug. 24–26 (JG) and Oct. 31 (MAP), were inland and away from the Salton Sea. A Buff-breasted Sandpiper near Port Hueneme Aug. 31–Sep. 14 (RAH) was the only one found this fall. A juv. Ruff at the Santa Maria R. mouth Sep. 17 (WAB) and another in Irvine, *Orange*, Oct. 23–Nov. 24 (JSB) was less than expected. Totally unexpected was an **American Woodcock** photographed at Iron Mt. Pumping Station, *San Bernardino*, Nov. 3–9 (MAP, GMcC, DSC), as there are only two or three previous documented records west of the Continental Divide. A Red Phalarope on Klondike L. Oct. 8 (T & JH), another on Owens L. near Cartago, *Inyo*, Oct. 10 (T & JH), one in California City, *Kern*, Sep. 24–26 (MTH) and a 4th photographed at S.E.S.S. Oct. 4 (KZK) were the only ones found inland this fall.

JAEGERS THROUGH WOODPECKERS

The only jaegers reported from the interior were single Parasitics at N.E.S.S. Sep. 5 (GMcC), near Lancaster, *Los Angeles*, Sep. 10 (MSanM), on L. Perris, *Riverside*, Nov. 10 (MAP) and on nearby Mystic L. Nov. 10 (MAP), and an unidentified jaeger at N.E.S.S. Sep. 16 (CMcG). Franklin's Gulls appeared to be scarcer than normal, with only four along the coast between Oct. 12 and Nov 16 (KLG, SWar, KSG, TEW), one on L. Elsinor, *Riverside*, Nov. 21–30 (MAP), three around S.E.S.S. Sep. 5 (PAG, GMcC), and one near El Centro, *Imperial*, Oct. 25 (MAP). An ad. Little Gull was with Bonaparte's Gulls on Mystic L. near Lakeview Nov. 15–Dec. 3 (MAP). An ad. Mew Gull on L. Elsinor Nov. 30 (MAP) was at an inland

locality where previously unrecorded An ad. Lesser Black-backed Gull at Dana Point, *Orange*, Nov. 4 through the end of the period (KLP) was undoubtedly the same bird that has spent the past 4 winters at this location, and was joined by a 2nd adult Nov. 30 through the end of the period (DP). Young Sabine's Gulls were found throughout the interior, with 26 reported from 15 locations in *Inyo*, *Kern*, *San Bernardino*, *Riverside*, *Imperial*, eastern *Los Angeles* and interior *Orange*, between Sep. 3 and Nov. 27, including four together near Cantel Sep. 26 (GMcC) and three together near Lancaster Sep. 16 (MSanM), along with late individuals in Baker, *San Bernardino*, Nov. 5 (JEP) and at S.E.S.S. Nov. 7–27 (KZK). A first-winter Black-legged Kittiwake on Mystic L. near Lakeview Nov. 8 (KLG) and another on L. Elsinor Nov. 28 (JSL) were inland where considered casual to accidental. An Arctic Tern, rare inland, was on Tinemaha Res. near Big Pine Oct. 9 (T & JH). An unusually late Least Tern was at Oso Flaco L., *San Luis Obispo*, Sep. 17 (WAB). Up to four Black Skimmers on Mystic L. near Lakeview Oct. 25–Nov. 29 (MAP) were inland and away from the Salton Sea.

The presence of 15–20 White-winged Doves on San Nicolas I. between Aug. 29 and Oct. 28 (RAH, WW) suggests how many actually wander west to the coast at this time of the year; one in Bishop Aug. 26 (J & DP) was unusually far north. The only Ruddy Ground-Doves reported this year were a female at F.C.R. Oct. 7 (T & JH) and a male in Independence, *Inyo*, Nov. 2 (RHu); numbers of this species occurring in California have declined since the initial "invasion" 10 years ago. A Groove-billed Ani at Desert Center Oct. 4 (MAP) was the 10th to be found in California, and another was reported at Zzyzx, *San Bernardino*, Oct. 23 (KLe). A Flammulated Owl at Galileo Hill in e. *Kern*, Oct. 17 (LSa) is one of a very few migrants of this species found away from known breeding localities in California. The latest of the summering Chimney Swifts near Glendale, *Los Angeles*, was one on Sep. 6 (KLG), and a vagrant was at Stovepipe Wells in Death Valley National Park Sep. 25 (SBT, GHR). A female Broad-billed Hummingbird in Goleta Nov. 28 through the end of the period (RAH) was the only one reported. A Broad-tailed Hummingbird, most unusual along the coast, was at the South Coast Botanical Gardens on the Palos Verdes Peninsula Oct. 17–30 (KLa), and a male in Santa Barbara Nov. 17 through the end of the period (JEL)

was believed to be the same bird present at this location last winter. A Lewis's Woodpecker on San Nicolas I. Oct. 18 (WW) and another on Santa Cruz I. Nov. 13 (SSh) had obviously flown over much open water. A Gila Woodpecker at Corn Springs near Desert Center Nov. 18 (SC) is one of a very few found away from the lower Colorado R. Valley and around the Salton Sea. A Williamson's Sapsucker at Galileo Hill Oct. 1-2 (DP) was only the 4th to be found in the desert of e. Kern.

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH VIREOS

An exceptionally late W. Wood-Pewee was in Costa Mesa, *Orange*, Oct. 26-27 (KLP). A **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** carefully identified in California City Sep. 7 (MTH) was the 5th to be found in Kern. Photographs of a calling *Empidonax* at Galileo Hill Oct. 7-11 (MTH), along with geographic ranges of the various forms of "Traill's Flycatcher," favor it being an **Alder Flycatcher** over a Willow from the e. portion of its range. The only Least Flycatchers reported were single birds on San Nicolas I. Oct. 10 (RAH), in Oceano, *San Luis Obispo*, Oct. 3 (KVV) and at Upper Newport Bay, *Orange*, Nov. 21 through the end of the period (JEP). An E. Phoebe, a rare but regular straggler to California, was at Scotty's Castle in Death Valley National Park Oct. 7-10 (T & JH), another was at Galileo Hill Oct. 16 (TEW), and a 3rd was there Nov. 4 (MTH). A Vermilion Flycatcher at the Kern N.W.R. Nov. 15 (ASh) is one of a very few to be found in the Central Valley. A Great Crested Flycatcher, a casual straggler to California, was on the coast in Manhattan Beach, *Los Angeles*, Oct. 18 (KLa), and another was photographed inland at Twentynine Palms Sep. 12 (EAC). As usual, small numbers of Tropical Kingbirds moved northward along the coast, with 12 found between *Orange* and *San Luis Obispo* between Sep. 20 and the end of the period. A Thick-billed Kingbird in Pomona, *Los Angeles*, Oct. 14 through the end of the period (CB) was the same bird present at this location each of the past 6 winters. Single E. Kingbirds on San Nicolas I Sep. 8 (RAH) and 12 (RAH), one on Santa Cruz I. Sep. 18 (*fide* BH), six along the coast of *Los Angeles*, *Ventura*, *Santa Barbara*, and *San Luis Obispo* between Aug. 29 and Sep. 21, and one inland in California City Sep. 18 (MTH) was an average number. A Scissor-tailed Flycatcher near Menifee, *Riverside*, Aug. 6 (DH), another in Long Beach, *Los Angeles*, Nov. 22 (TEW), and a 3rd in Irvine Nov. 15 (HB) were the only three reported.

A Blue-headed Vireo was banded on San Nicolas I. Oct. 20 (RAH), and single birds were reported in Los Osos, *San Luis Obispo*, Sep. 15-22 (KMH), Arroyo Grande, *San Luis Obispo*, Oct. 14 (BKS) and in Irvine Oct. 3 (JEP); this species is believed to be a casual straggler to California, but its true status is yet to be determined. Two Philadelphia Vireos were found, with one near Glendale, *Los Angeles*, Sep. 26-Oct. 11 (KLG) and the another in Huntington Beach Oct. 12-20 (JEP). Exceptionally early (summering?) Red-eyed Vireos in Peters Canyon Regional Park, *Orange*, Aug. 7 (DRW) and near Buellton, *Santa Barbara*, Aug. 13 (MAH) were followed by single birds along the coast near Lompoc, *Santa Barbara*, Oct. 16 (BH), near Port Hueneme Sep. 12-13 (ASm), in Huntington Beach Sep. 3-11 (JEP) and on Pt. Loma in San Diego Oct. 1 (TRC), and inland at F.C.R. Oct. 13 (T & JH) and California City Sep. 6 (MTH), with an exceptionally late individual at Morro Bay, *San Luis Obispo*, Nov. 1 (TME). A Remarkable seven Yellow-green Vireos were found, with one at Oso Flaco L. Sep. 28 (BKS), single birds near Port Hueneme Sep. 10-16 (TEW), Sep. 27-28 (ST), Sep. 29 (MSanM) and Oct. 3-4 (TEW), one on Pt. Loma Oct. 17 (TRC), and the 7th inland at Galileo Hill Oct. 6 (MTH).

JAYS THROUGH WAXWINGS

A Pinyon Jay at Galileo Hill Oct. 15 (MTH) was one of a very few recorded from the desert. Two Purple Martins on San Nicolas I. Sep. 5 (RAH) were the first ever to be found on this island. A larger-than-average incursion of Mountain Chickadees into the foothills and coastal lowlands of *Los Angeles* began in late Aug. (KLG), small numbers were found at numerous locations in the lowlands of *Orange* after early Sep. (DRW), and single birds were along the coast in *Santa Barbara* in Goleta on Oct. 16 (FE) and Nov. 29 (CRu). A mini-invasion of Oak Titmouse carrying a few eastward into the desert regions of *Kern* in Oct. and Nov. may have been associated with the chickadee movement. A Verdin on the coast at Crystal Cove S.P. near Corona Del Mar Aug. 9-23 (JM) was the first to be found in *Orange*.

Red-breasted Nuthatches were somewhat common along the coast of *San Luis Obispo* after mid-Sep. (TME), at least 25 being reported from the coastal plain of *Santa Barbara* after early Sep. (JEL). They were widespread in small numbers over much of *Los Angeles* after mid-Sep. (KLG) and were found at numerous locations in

the lowlands of *Orange* and *San Diego* after early Sep. (DRW, DWA), with as many as 25 passed through San Nicolas I. between Sep. 14 and the end of the period (WW). A Brown Creeper on San Nicolas I. Oct. 17-18 (RAH) along with a couple in the coastal lowlands of *Orange* in Oct. and Nov. (KSG, SGM) were probably associated with the movement of nuthatches. A Pygmy Nuthatch at Galileo Hill Dept. 6-10 (MTH) had moved across a lot of desert scrub unsuitable for nuthatches.

Winter Wrens were a little more numerous than usual at desert oases in *Inyo*, *Kern*, and *San Bernardino* during Oct. and pushed into coastal *Los Angeles* and *Orange* in Oct. and Nov. (KLG, DRW), with single birds getting south Mt. Palomar Nov. 22 (JZ) and Julian Oct. 14 (MBS) in *San Diego*, and another offshore to San Nicolas I. Oct. 5 (SGH). A **Sedge Wren** at Iron Mt. Pumping Station Nov. 2 (EAC) was only the 6th to be reported in California. Small numbers of Golden-crowned Kinglets were present in the Santa Barbara area between early Oct. and the end of the period (JEL) and two or three were found on the Oxnard Plain in *Ventura* during Oct. (ST, TEW), small flocks were throughout the coastal plain of *Los Angeles* after Oct. 21 (KLG), above average numbers in the lowlands of *Orange* after late Oct. (DRW), and a few were present along the coast of *San Diego* at the same time (DWA), indicating a small-scale invasion of the coastal lowlands. One on San Nicolas I. Oct. 11 (RAH) was the only one recorded on that offshore island.

A **Gray-checked Thrush** at Galileo Hill Oct. 9 (MTH) is only the 5th to be found in this Region but the 2nd at this locality. A **Wood Thrush** in California City Oct. 11-13 (TEW) was the first to be found in *Kern* and only the 3rd inland in California. A high count of 9 Varied Thrushes on San Nicolas I. on Oct. 17 (WW), along with at least seven in the coastal lowlands of *Santa Barbara* between Oct. 21 and the end of the period (JEL), six in *Los Angeles* (KLG) and the lowlands of *Orange* and *San Diego* (DRW, DWA) in Oct., indicated a minor flight into the Region.

Far more than the expected one or two Gray Catbirds were found, with single birds offshore on San Nicolas I. Oct. 11-18 (RAH) and Nov. 8 (RDB), along the coast at the S.C.R.E. Sep. 19 (N & MF) and on Pt. Loma Oct. 27-28 (JWo), and in the interior near Cantel, *Kern*, Oct. 23 (MTH), Galileo Hill Oct. 14 (KSG), Horsethief Springs in e. *San Bernardino* Oct. 7 (BD), Iron Mt. Pumping Station Oct. 24 (MAP) and Chiri-

aco Summit, *Riverside*, Oct. 8–11 (DSC), and two together in California City Oct. 18–Nov. 18, with one still present at the end of the period (DSt, MTH). The only Brown Thrashers were one at Scotty's Castle Oct. 4–10 (MO'B), another at Chilao in the San Gabriel Mts., *Los Angeles*, Nov. 5 (JaS), one on Pt. Loma Oct. 21 (J & DS), and single birds on San Nicolas I. Oct. 8 (SGH), Oct. 18–Nov. 3 (WW), and Nov. 23 (SGH). A Bendire's Thrasher photographed in Blair Valley in e. *San Diego* Nov. 7 (MBS) was unexpected. A flock of five Bohemian Waxwings at Iron Mt. Pumping Station Nov. 1–3 (MAP) were unusually far south; the species reaches S. California only sporadically.

WARBLERS

A Blue-winged Warbler near Bishop Sep. 6 (J & DP) is one of a very few to be found in California. Fourteen Tennessee Warblers along the coast between Sep. 8 and Oct. 16, along with one inland at Galileo Hill Sep. 27–30 (GMcC), was a bit fewer than expected. Thirteen Virginia's Warblers along the coast between Sep. 6 and Oct. 6 was far fewer than would have been found 20 years ago, and one at F.C.R. Oct. 7 (T & JH) was late for the interior. Five Lucy's Warblers reported along the coast between Aug. 18 and Oct. 27 was about average. Only three N. Parulas were found along the coast between Sep. 12 and Nov. 29 (RM, TEW, BML), but six were inland, including a late straggler near S.E.S.S. Nov. 29 (HK). Seventeen Chestnut-sided Warblers between Sep. 5 and Nov. 21, 11 Magnolia Warblers Sep. 6–Nov. 4, and at least 19 Black-throated Blue Warblers Sep. 11–Nov. 21 at various locations scattered throughout the Region were average numbers for this time of year. Six Black-throated Green Warblers along the coast after Oct. 1 along with one photographed inland at Morongo Valley Oct. 24 (BGP) included one in Oceanside, *San Diego*, Nov. 16+ (PAG) and another in National City, *San Diego*, Nov. 5+ (DWA) that remained to winter. Only four Blackburnian Warblers were found along the coast between Sep. 20 and Oct. 3, but one was inland at Morongo Valley Oct. 7 (WW). A male yellow-lored Yellow-throated Warbler on San Nicolas I. Sep. 7–14 (RAH) is one of a very few to be found in the West. A Pine Warbler was in Fountain Valley, *Orange*, Nov. 17–18 (JEP), and another remained in Long Beach Nov. 25 through the end of the period (JEP). Eleven Prairie Warblers Sep. 5–Nov. 21 made a good count, and included one inland at

Morongo Valley Sep. 20–23 (MAP). Twenty-five Palm Warblers along the coast after Sep. 12 was less than expected, but single birds at F.C.R. Oct. 6 (T & JH), at Desert Center Oct. 10 (MAP), and near L. Perris Nov. 15–21 (DSC) was an average number for the interior. Three Bay-breasted Warblers, a species that has become a very scarce straggler to California in recent years, were reported, with one in Montana de Oro S.P. Sep. 22 (LE), another at nearby Oso Flaco L. Sep. 28 (BKS), and the 3rd in Wilmington, *Los Angeles*, Nov. 8 (KSG). Sixty-five Blackpoll Warblers along the coast Sep. 5–Oct. 29, and four more inland in *Kern* and *San Bernardino* then was a little more than average, as was more than 30 Black-and-white Warblers and 70 Am. Redstarts scattered throughout the Region. Ten Prothonotary Warblers along the coast between Aug. 25 and Oct. 3, along with single birds inland near Olancho, *Inyo*, Sep. 19–24 (J & DP) and Oct. 10 (RB), and at Galileo Hill Oct. 11 (GMcC) was a little more than expected. A Worm-eating Warbler in Irvine after Oct. 18 (JEP) wintered locally. Only five Ovenbirds were reported between Sep. 23 and Nov. 1. As usual, most of the 40+ N. Waterthrushes reported passed through the Region in Sep., but one at Iron Mt. Pumping Station Nov. 2 (EAC) was exceptionally late for such a location. A Mourning Warbler banded on San Nicolas I. Sep. 12–13 (RAH) was the only one reported. Four Canada Warblers were found, with single birds in Oceano,

San Luis Obispo, Sep. 20 (BKS), at nearby Los Osos Oct. 25–28 (JSR), in Irvine Nov. 8–9 (LR), and inland at Iron Mt. Pumping Station Nov. 2 (EAC). A Painted Redstart found in Brawley, *Imperial*, Nov. 29 (PAG) remained to winter.

TANAGERS THROUGH FINCHES

A female Hepatic Tanager in Sylmar, *Los Angeles*, Nov. 15–17 (MSanM) was probably the same bird that spent at least 4 winters at this location since the winter of 1993–1994. At least 15 Summer Tanagers, most believed to be vagrants from the east, along the coast during the period, and five more at desert oases in the e. part of the Region Sep. 7–Nov. 8 was about average. Three Scarlet Tanagers were reported, with single birds inland at Galileo Hill Oct. 1 (DP), and along the coast in Chatsworth, *Los Angeles*, Oct. 27 (JWS) and Huntington Beach Oct. 31–Nov. 1 (LO).

At least 30 Clay-colored Sparrows along the coast between Sep. 12 and the end of the period, along with at least seven more in the e. part of the Region between Sep. 26 and Nov. 29, was a few more than expected. A **Field Sparrow** photographed in Inyokern Nov. 1–4 (SSt) was the first to be found in *Kern*. At least a dozen Lark Buntings were found scattered throughout the Region between Aug. 30 and Nov. 3 for an average number. A migrant Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow was at a vagrant trap in Morrow Bay Oct. 21–22 (WAB), and two were at a traditional wintering location in the marsh-



This Field Sparrow remained in Inyokern November 1-4 and is the first to be found in well-worked Kern County. Photograph/Larry Sansone

es of Morro Bay Nov. 3 (TME). An early Swamp Sparrow at F.C.R. Sep. 21 (JLD) was followed by at least 25 more scattered throughout the Region by the end of the period. Forty-five White-throated Sparrows found throughout the Region after Oct. 3 appeared to be about normal, but no more than six Harris's Sparrows during the same time was below average. Two McCown's Longspurs, rare in California, were in Independence Oct. 24–28 (A & LK), another was near Port Hueneme Oct. 22–25 (DDJ), and two more were in Irvine Oct. 24–Nov. 7 (JEP). The only Lapland Longspurs reported were up to 4 near Port Hueneme Oct. 21–Nov. 21 (BL), up to 6 in Irvine Oct. 24–Nov. 7 (JSB), and one near Imperial Beach Oct. 23 (EC). A **Smith's Longspur** on San Nicolas I. Oct. 18 (WW) was the 6th to be found in California. Twelve Chestnut-collared Longspurs at 6 scattered locations was fewer than expected.

About 25 Rose-breasted Grosbeaks scattered throughout the Region was an average number, but ten Indigo Buntings, including a late staying bird at F.C.R. Nov. 5–22 (T & JH), was far less than expected. A Lazuli Bunting in Yucca Valley, *San Bernardino*, Nov. 29 (KLG) was unusually late. Single green Painted Buntings seen inland at Iron Mt. Pumping Station Sep. 4 (EAC), near Cantel Sep. 6–7 (MTH), at F.C.R. Sep. 21 (JLD), in Ridgecrest, *Kern*, Sep. 24–27 (LSu), and along the coast in Huntington Beach Oct. 6 (SGM), were believed to be genuine vagrants, but ad. males in Borrego Springs, *San Diego*, Aug. 1–2 (F & LJ) and Newport Beach Sep. 6–14 (DRW) were considered escapees. Eight Dickcissels along the coast between Sep. 12 and Nov. 25 and six more inland between Sep. 12 and Nov. 1 was an expected number.

At least 50 Bobolinks along the coast, including up to 15 in Goleta between Sep. 10 and Oct. 17 (JEL), and about 20 inland, including up to 8 in Independence between Sep. 16 and 19 (A & LK), was close to the numbers we have been getting in recent years. Four Rusty Blackbirds were reported, with one at C.L. Oct. 30–Nov. 11 (MTH) joined by a 2nd bird Nov. 9–11 (RHa), and single birds on Santa Cruz I. Nov. 7 (*fide* GT) and San Nicolas I. Nov. 21 (SGH). Single Com. Grackles, still considered a casual straggler to California, were in Bishop Sep. 13 (J & DP), at F.C.R. Oct. 2 (JLD), and at nearby Panamint Springs Oct. 17 (TEW). Bronzed Cowbirds remained in Brawley to at least Sep. 5 (GMCC) and an exceptionally late individual was at F.C.R. Sep. 25 (SBT). Five Orchard Orioles

were reported, with single birds inland at F.C.R. Oct. 6 (T & JH) and at Galileo Hill on Sep. 14 (MTH) and Oct. 1 (MTH), and along the coast in Los Osos Sep. 19 (JSR) and near the Santa Ynez R. mouth, *Santa Barbara*, Oct. 1 (BH). Nearly 20 Baltimore Orioles were reported after Aug. 16, with some remaining at flowering eucalyptus into the winter season. Three Scott's Orioles on San Nicolas I. between Aug. 15 and Oct. 17 (RAH) had moved well to the west of this species normal range.

A flock of six Gray-crowned Rosy-Finches at Galileo Hill Nov. 12 (MTH) were far to the south and at a most unusual location. The only Evening Grosbeaks to be reported this fall were single birds at Scotty's Castle Oct. 25 (DK) and at nearby F.C.R. Nov. 1 (TEW) and a flock of 6 in Montana de Oro S.P. Oct. 13 (TH).

ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS

A Tropical Kingbird photographed near the Santa Ynez R. mouth in *Santa Barbara* Jul. 10 (BH) is the first to be found in S. California in summer.

In *Field Notes* 52: 125, 1998, the Wedge-rumped Storm-Petrel should be credited to Ron Saldino, and the Magnificent Frigatebirds on Aug. 6 should be credited to Rich Stallcup. The Wilson's Plover in Coronado (*FN* 52: 390) should be listed for Apr. 27–May 1 only.

Cited observers (county coordinators/ major contributors in boldface): Douglas W. Aguiard, Rose Beach, Davis V. Blue, Harold Bond, William A. Bouton, Jeffery S. Boyd, Chris Brady, Jean Brant, Ryan D. Burnett, Pat Cabe, **Eugene A. Cardiff** (*San Bernardino*), Jaime M. Chavez, Therese R. Clawson, Steve Condon, Daniel S. Cooper, **Elizabeth Copper** (*San Diego*), Brian E. Daniels, Bill Deppe, **Don Desjardin** (*Ventura*), Jon L. Dunn, **Tom M. Edell** (*San Luis Obispo*), Leo Edson, Fred Emerson, Richard A. Erickson, John M. Finkbeiner, John Fitch, Nick and Mary Freeman (N & MF), Terri Gallion, **Kimball L. Garrett** (*Los Angeles*), Karen S. Gilbert, Peter A. Ginsburg, John Green, Rick Hollowell (RHa), K. Melody Hamilton, Robert A. Hamilton, Ned Harris, Sandra G. Harvill, D. Mitch Heindel, **Matthew T. Heindel** (*Kern*), **Tom & Jo Heindel** (*Inyo*), Tom Hibner (ToH), Terri Hill (TeH), Brad Hines, Mark A. Holmgren, Debbi House, Robert Hudson (RHu), Fred and Louise Jee (F & LJ), Howard King, Andrew and Leah Kirk (A & LK), David A. Kisner, David Koepfel, Kenneth Z. Kurland, Bart Lane,

Kevin Larson (KLa), Brian M. Leatherman, **Joan E. Lentz** (*Santa Barbara*), Kurt Leuschner (KLe), Roger Linfield, John S. Luther, Chet McGaugh, Ron Melin, Barbara Moore, Joseph Morlan, Steve G. Morris, Matthew O'Brien, Leo Ohtsuki, Jim and Debby Parker (J & DP), **Michael A. Patten** (*San Bernardino and Riverside*), Dharm Pellegrini, Kaaren L. Perry, James E. Pike, Kim Piljoglas, Brian G. Prescott, Les Redpath, Craig Roberts (CRo), Gary H. Rosenberg, James S. Royer, Carolyn Rutherford (CRu), Michael San Miguel (MSM), Jim and Donna Sams (J & DS), Larry Sansone (LSa), N. John Schmitt, Brad K. Schram, Steve Shafer (SSh), Alison Sheehey (ASh), Arnold Small (ASm), Douglas Smith (DSm), Jane Stavert (JaS), Susan Steele (SSt), Dan Stoebel (DSt), Mary Beth Stowe, Jeffrey W. Streb, Lee Sutton (LSu), David Taylor, Scott B. Terrill, Guy Tingos, Chris Tosdevin, Steve Tucker, Philip Unitt, Kent Van Vuren, Stanley Walens (SWal), Walter Wehtje, Stuart Warter (SWar), Joel Weintraub (JWe), **Douglas R. Willick** (*Orange*), John C. Wilson, Joseph Worley (JWo), Thomas E. Wurster and Jim Zimmer. An additional 65+ observers who could not be individually acknowledged submitted reports this season.

Guy McCaskie, San Diego Natural History Museum, Balboa Park, P. O. Box 1390, San Diego, CA 92112



Place names that are frequently mentioned, but very long, may be abbreviated in a form such as "C.B.B.T." or "W.P.B.O." Such local abbreviations will be explained in a key at the beginning of the particular regional report in which they are used. Standard abbreviations that are used throughout *North American Birds* are keyed on page 24.