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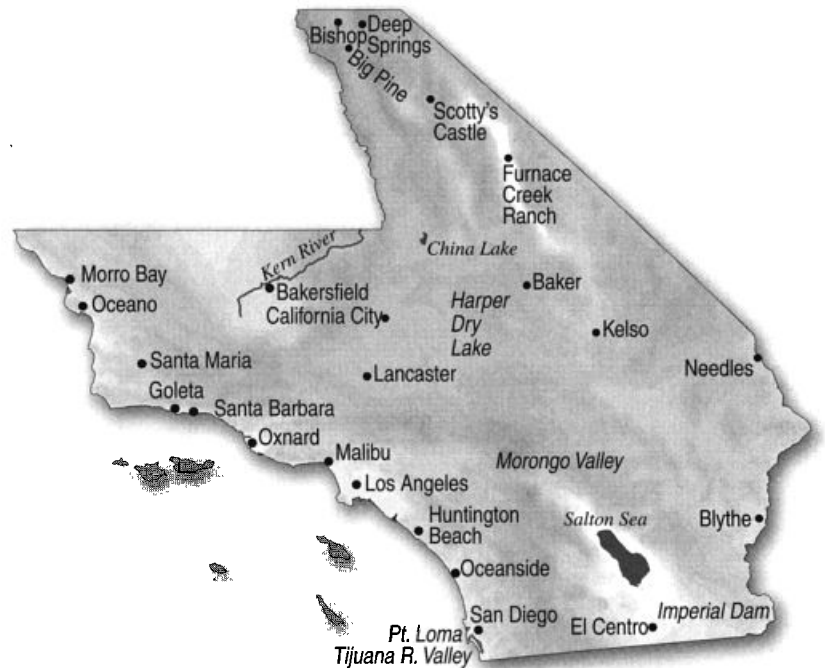
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# Southern Pacific Coast

The magnitude of migration of "normal" western migrants was considered poor by most observers, and there was virtually no movement of irruptive species such as Red-breasted Nuthatches, Golden-crowned Kinglets, crossbills, or siskins. Highlights included a major movement of Red-throated Pipits, along with four individuals of the *japonicus* form of the American Pipit. Rarities included a Bulwer's Petrel and California's first Magnificent Hummingbird. Daily coverage of San Clemente Island yielded a host of rarities, including the southernmost Snow Bunting to be recorded along the West coast.

Only time and long-term study will reveal the impacts of late October's fires that burned an unprecedented amount of acreage of chaparral and forest; the montane areas of *San Diego* were especially hard hit. Although most scrub and woodland habitats in the Region are fire-adapted, the impacts of such abnormally intense conflagrations that follow decades of fire-suppression are likely to be severe and long-lasting. Happily, San Diego County had just completed a six-year breeding and winter bird atlas, underscoring the value of such endeavors as baseline information with which to compare changes over time; see <<http://www.sdnhm.org/research/birdatlas/>>.

**Abbreviations:** C.L. (China Lake Naval Air Weapons Station, extreme ne. *Kern*); E.A.F.B. (Edwards Air Force Base, se. *Kern*); F.C.R. (Furnace Creek Ranch, Death Valley National Park, *Inyo*); G.H.P. (Galileo Hill Park in extreme e. *Kern*); N.E.S.S. (n. end of the Salton Sea, *Riverside*); S.C.R.E. (Santa Clara R. Estuary near Ventura, *Ventura*);



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S.E.S.S. (s. end of the Salton Sea, *Imperial*); S.F.K.R.P. (South Fork Kern River Preserve near Weldon, *Kern*); V.A.F.B. (Vandenberg Air Force Base in nw. *Santa Barbara*); V.C.G.P. (Ventura County Game Preserve near Pt. Mugu Naval Air Station, *Ventura*). Because virtually all rarities in s. California are seen by many observers, only the observer(s) initially finding and identifying the bird are credited herein. Documentation for species on the California Bird Records Committee (CBRC) review list is forwarded to the CBRC Secretary and archived at the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology in Camarillo.

### LOONS THROUGH WATERFOWL

Single Red-throated Loons, rare inland, were near *Imperial*, *Imperial* 19–21 & 25–28 Nov (TMcG). Reports of Pacific Loons inland included 5 in the Owens Valley, *Inyo* between 30 Oct and 25 Nov (T&JH) and singles on L. Perris, *Riverside* 1 Nov (TAB), at N.E.S.S. 15 Nov+ (TAB), and Weist L., *Imperial* 26 Oct (GMcC). A Red-necked Grebe at Bolsa Chica, *Orange* 15 Oct–2 Nov (CB) was early and far s., and single birds on Tinemaha Res., *Inyo* 16–19 Nov (JLD) and Quail L. near Gorman, *Los Angeles* 29 Nov (JFe) were inland, where considered casual.

Unprecedented numbers of starving Northern Fulmars arrived in coastal s. California waters in mid-Oct, with many found dead or dying on beaches s. to the Mexican boarder. A **Bulwer's Petrel** was reported 50 km s. of San Clemente I. 4 Sep (TMcG). Single Flesh-footed Shearwaters, rare in s. California waters, were near San Miguel I. 4 Oct (DMH) and San Clemente I. 15 Sep (MS) and 19 Oct (BLS). Single Manx Shearwaters were near Santa Cruz I. (JFe) and off *Ventura*, both 25 Oct (TMcG, MJSanM). A Wilson's Storm-Petrel, decidedly rarer off s. California than off cen., was off San Nicolas I. 6 Sep (DMH). A Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel se. of San Clemente I. 6 Sep (KLG) and one at La Jolla, *San Diego* 31 Oct (SW) were at the s. extreme of this species' pelagic range.

Red-billed Tropicbirds were present s. and w. of San Clemente I., with a high count of 10 there 6 Sep (KLG) and the latest from West Cove Pt. on San Clemente I. 5 Oct (BLS). Others near Santa Barbara I. 20 Sep (NAL) and sw. of Anacapa I. 25 Oct (MJSanM) were farther north. A Red-tailed Tropicbird far to the sw. of San Clemente I. 6 Sep (TMcG) was probably within the species' normal range but is still one of fewer than 20 Regional reports, all since 1979.

An ad. Masked Booby remained on San Clemente I. 10 Aug+ (ph. BLS), while single Brown Boobies were at Anacapa I. 25 Oct (TMcG, MJSanM) and San Clemente I. 1–3 Nov (ph. BLS). A dark-morph Red-footed Booby, the 15th in California waters, landed on a research vessel near Anacapa I. 17 Oct (CR) and remained with the vessel for three days. An **Anhinga** near Seeley, *Imperial* 8 Nov+ (JCS, GMcC) appeared to be a differ-



This Brown Booby on Anacapa Island, California 25 October 2003 was one of two reported in the Southern Pacific Coast region this season. Photograph by Phil Koken.

ent bird than the one at Finney L. last spring and was only the 5th to be found in California. An ad. male Magnificent Frigatebird near *Imperial* Dam, *Imperial* 27–28 Sep (JC, HD) was probably associated with Hurricane *Marty*, which had moved up the Gulf of California a few days earlier.

The Little Blue Heron found at Bolsa Chica 23 Jul remained through 17 Aug (DRW). The Tricolored Heron found at S.E.S.S. 9 Jul remained through 17 Aug (HBK). A Reddish Egret at Whale Rock Res. near Cayucos 5 Sep–27 Oct (AFS) was the first to be found in *San Luis Obispo*; others along the coast included 2–3 in *Ventura* (WW) and single birds at Dana Pt., *Orange* 28 Sep–5 Oct (GM), San Elijo Lagoon, *San Diego* 16 Aug (WMcC), and s. San Diego Bay 17 Aug (MY). Additional birds were inland at N.E.S.S. 19 Oct (HBK) and at S.E.S.S. 9 Aug–14 Sep (KZK, JLD) and 8 Nov+ (D&PC). The Glossy Ibis at V.C.G.P. was last seen 31 Aug (DD).

A Tundra Swan at C.L. 27 Oct (SSt) was very early, and at least 10 at S.E.S.S. 26–29 Nov (TMcG, AK) were unusually far south. A Common (Eurasian Green-winged) Teal

in *Goleta*, *Santa Barbara* 24 Nov (WTF) was believed to be the same bird present there last winter. A Harlequin Duck was near Cayucos 11–26 Nov (DK), and a male on Mission Bay in San Diego remained through the period. Single, inland Surf Scoters were found near Big Pine, *Inyo* 16 Oct (T&JH) and 30 Oct (T&JH), at N.E.S.S. 16 Nov (TAB), and at S.E.S.S. 22 Oct (HD). A Long-tailed Duck, very rare inland, was in Barstow, *San Bernardino* 27–30 Nov (WTF). Two Barrow's Goldeneyes at Death Valley Junction, *Inyo* 16 Nov (T & JH) were at an unexpected locality. A Hooded Merganser near Seeley 8 Nov (GMcC) established the earliest date for a fall migrant/wintering bird at the Salton Sink.

### HAWKS THROUGH TERNS

A Northern Goshawk at Deep Springs, *Inyo* 18 Oct (T&JH) was in an area where rare but probably regular. The only Broad-winged Hawks reported were single birds near Arroyo Grande, *San Luis Obispo* 7 Oct (BKS), the Palos Verdes Peninsula, *Los Angeles* 5 Oct (KGL), Hansen Dam, *Los Angeles* 1 Nov (KLG), Pt. Loma, *San Diego* 31 Oct (PAG), and inland near Weldon, *Kern* 30 Sep (TG). A Swainson's Hawk at El Centro, *Imperial* 7 Oct–7 Nov (KZK) was the latest this fall. A migrant Zone-tailed Hawk was near *Imperial* Beach, *San Diego* 19 Sep (JB); single birds in

*Goleta* 22 Oct+ (NAL), Escondido, *San Diego* 14 Oct+ (JRob), and Brawley, *Imperial* 3 Oct+ (GMcC) were the same individuals seen at these locations last winter.

Two Sandhill Cranes at Desert Center, *Riverside* 24 Sep (CMcG) were at an unusual locality. Single American Golden-Plovers were found along the coast near Oxnard, *Ventura* 12 Sep (DP), near *Imperial* Beach 30 Sep–7 Oct (GMcC) and 23–24 Oct (MS), and inland, where much rarer, at E.A.F.B. 4–8 Nov (TMcG) and S.E.S.S. 16 Oct (GMcC). Single Pacific Golden-Plovers in *Goleta* 25 Sep (MC), near Oxnard 21 Aug (TMcG) and 12 Sep (DP), at Playa del Rey, *Los Angeles* 25 Oct (DSC), and San Elijo Lagoon 23–24 Aug (GR) appeared to be migrants, but up to 2 at Bolsa Chica 6 Sep+ (BED) and one at *Imperial* Beach 7 Sep+ (GMcC) were believed to be wintering locally. Up to 6 Mountain Plovers near Arroyo Grande 17 Oct–8 Nov (BKS) and one near Oxnard 5 Oct (DD) were the only ones found along the coast.

A Wandering Tattler inland near Calipatria, *Imperial* 25 Nov+ (MJI) appeared to be wintering locally. Single Ruddy Turn-

stones at C.L. 27 Aug (SSt), near Lancaster, Los Angeles 9–11 Aug (JFe), and at Blythe, Riverside 18 Sep (RH) were inland and away from the Salton Sea. Black Turnstones, rare inland, especially so in fall, were at S.E.S.S. 10–16 Aug (VL) and 19–21 Sep (KZK). The only Red Knots found inland away from the Salton Sea were single birds at Owens L., Inyo 20–21 Sep (MJP) and at C.L. 23 Aug (TEW) and 16–17 Sep (SSt), with up to 3 near Lancaster 8–9 Aug (TMcG). Semipalmated Sandpipers were far less numerous than usual, with only 5 inland and 8 more along the coast between 2 Aug and 12 Sep. Two Silt Sandpipers at Tinemaha Res., Inyo 21 Aug (JLD), one at C.L. 5 Sep (SSt), up to 3 near Lancaster 30 Aug–11 Sep (MSanM, JFe, KLG), and single birds at S.C.R.E. 30–31 Aug (BL), V.C.G.P. 4 Sep (DP), Paramount, Los Angeles 4–7 Sep (RB), Long Beach, Los Angeles 7 Sep (KGL), and Costa Mesa, Orange 3 Nov (JEP) were away from S.E.S.S. The only Buff-breasted Sandpipers were one near Oxnard 1–4 Oct (MSanM) and another on San Clemente I. 13–29 Sep (ph. BLS). Reports of Ruffs included one in Long Beach 20–27 Sep (KGL) and one inland near Calipatria 25 Nov+ (MJI). Six Red Phalaropes in e. Kern between 20 Sep and 16 Nov (KeL, TMcG, SSt, TEW) and single birds near Lancaster 27 Sep (MSanM) and 4 Nov (TMcG) and at Desert Center

N.E.S.S. 15 Nov+ (KSN), Salton City, Imperial 21–27 Sep (GMcC), and S.E.S.S. 12 Sep (KZK), and ad. Long-taileds at E.A.F.B. 16 Sep (TMcG) and Salton City 20 Sep (BM). Laughing Gulls on the coast, where rare, were at Goleta 17 Sep (BW), Malibu, Los Angeles 27 Sep (KLG), and Ocean Beach, San Diego 20 Sep (CMcG). At least 10 Franklin's Gulls around S.E.S.S. 15 Sep–1 Nov (JLD, GMcC) was an expected number for this time of the year. Single Heermann's Gulls at C.L. 14 Oct and 30 Oct (SSt) and L. Perris 19 Nov (CMcG) were inland and away from the Salton Sea. A second-year Mew Gull inland at S.E.S.S. 6 Oct (TMcG, MSanM) was either an exceptionally early fall migrant or, more likely, summered locally. Reports of Sabine's Gulls inland included 9 at various places in Inyo between 24 Aug and 2 Nov (JLD, T & JH, BS, SSt), up to 5 at C.L. 16–29 Sep (BS), up to 4 near Lancaster 8–16 Sep (JFe, TMcG, MSanM), and single birds at E.A.F.B. 4 Oct (MSanM), Blythe 27 Sep (RH), and S.E.S.S. 20 Sep (BM). Least Terns continued around S.E.S.S. into Aug, with 2 ads. and a juv.

## PIGEONS THROUGH FLYCATCHERS

Band-tailed Pigeons were more widespread than usual, with individuals at unexpected localities such as Avalon on Santa Catalina I. 7 Oct (BED), near Cantil, Kern 30 Sep (TMcG), G.H.P. 25–29 Oct (T&JH), Niland, Imperial 20 Nov (GMcC), and at nearby



**A large invasion of Red-throated Pipits occurred along the Pacific Coast during fall 2003. This bird on San Clemente Island 25 October was one of at least 17 noted there this season, part of the largest invasion of this species into southern California since 1991. This flight shot nicely illustrates the species' short and square-tipped wing shape and short-tailed flight profile. Photograph by Brian L. Sullivan.**

Calipatria 26–28 Nov (TMcG, MB). Ruddy Ground-Doves remained near Calipatria, with at least 10 present at the end of the period (GMcC); in addition, up to 3 were at F.C.R. 14 Oct–11 Nov (T&JH) and a male was at Desert Center 1–30 Nov (DG). An ad. and a fledgling Yellow-billed Cuckoo remained at S.F.K.R.P. through the very late date of 28 Sep (AT). A well-photographed Magnificent Hummingbird in Pacific Beach, San Diego 11 Oct–29 Nov (NS) provided the first documented record for California.

Greater-than-average numbers of Lewis's Woodpeckers were found throughout the Region, as indicated by 30 at F.C.R. 26 Nov (CC), 12–20 at G.H.P. 13 Sep–12 Oct (TEW), and individuals reaching such unexpected places as Santa Maria, Santa Barbara 16 Oct (JMC), San Clemente I. 18–19 Oct (BLS), Desert Center 24 Sep–26 Oct (CMcG), and Holtville, Imperial 19 Oct (AK). A movement of Acorn Woodpeckers was probably precipitated by widespread acorn-crop failure, with individuals reported from many locations along the s. coast, 8–10 found in e. Kern 6 Sep–29 Oct (TEW), and individuals far from areas of normal occurrence in the Cuyama Valley in e. Santa Barbara 11 Nov (GT), F.C.R. 20 Oct (CMcF), Desert Center 26 Oct (JFG), near Niland 6 Oct (MSanM), and in Brawley 25 Oct (BM). A Gila Woodpecker at Borrego Springs 22 Sep+ (PJ) was the first to be found in San Diego. Single Williamson's Sapsuckers in Bishop, Inyo 15 Nov (J&DP), F.C.R. 26 Nov (CC), and at G.H.P. 21–28 Sep (TEW)



**On 25 October 2003, Heather Carlisle found this first-fall female Black-throated Green Warbler foraging on nightshade berries at Wilson Cove, San Clemente Island, a site that hosted hundreds of migrants in its native plantings this season. This bird represents a first record for San Clemente Island. Photograph by Brian L. Sullivan.**

1–4 Nov (DG) were inland, where rare.

As expected, a handful of jaegers was found inland, including a Pomarine Jaeger with a broken wing near Palm Springs, Riverside 24 Oct (KuL), single Parasitics at

together 23 Aug (GMcC) being the latest; one at Zzyzx, San Bernardino 3 Sep (LN) and another at C.L. 20 Sep (TEW) were inland and away from the Salton Sea, the latter remarkably late.



This male McCown's Longspur present 22 through (here) 23 November 2003 on San Clemente Island, California was one of two found there this fall. San Clemente's two previous records come the past two fall seasons. Photograph by Brian L. Sullivan.

were in areas where considered casual.

A Yellow-bellied Flycatcher studied well at Pt. Loma 28 Sep–1 Oct (GMcC, MS) was the first for *San Diego*. Five Least Flycatchers were found in coastal counties 17 Sep–19 Oct, with additional birds in the interior at Ridgecrest, *Kern* 5–7 Sep (JS) and n. of Bishop, *Inyo* 10 Nov (J&DP). A Pacific-slope Flycatcher n. of Bishop 21 Oct–7 Dec (J&DP) was extremely late for the n. interior. Returning wintering Eastern Phoebes

coast 21 Sep–24 Nov; far fewer were found inland, as is typical, with one near Niland 15–16 Sep (JLD, GMcC) and another near Seeley 8 Nov (GMcC) being the only ones reported. Eastern Kingbirds were in Goleta 15 (JRS) & 21 Sep (DMC), near Lancaster 30 Aug (MSanM), at Pt. Loma 4 Sep (TMcG), and at Desert Center 7 Sep (CMcG). A Scissor-tailed Flycatcher was in Buena Park, *Orange* 29 Nov–1 Dec (JRoE, ph. BED).



Remarkable was the Southern Pacific Coast region's third-ever Snow Bunting, which appeared 15 November 2003 on San Clemente Island (here 22 November) and remained through the winter, the southernmost record of the species on the Pacific Coast. Photograph by Brian L. Sullivan.

were in Encino, *Los Angeles* 23 Oct+ (BED) and near Calipatria 25 Nov+ (MJ1). An Ash-throated Flycatcher in Bakersfield 2–5 Nov (MMcQ) was the latest ever for *Kern*. Up to 21 Tropical Kingbirds were found along the

#### VIREOS THROUGH PIPITS

A White-eyed Vireo at G.H.P. 30 Sep (AH) was one of the few to be found in fall in the Region. Birds in the "Solitary" Vireo complex are scarce fall migrants in the Region,

with Cassin's only slightly outnumbering Plumbeous; some 19 of the latter were reported, with the earliest being one in Carpinteria, *Santa Barbara* 16 Sep (PG). Additionally, a Blue-headed Vireo was well studied on Pt. Loma 4 Oct (JZ, GMcC). A Bell's Vireo, likely *pusillus*, was on the Palos Verdes Peninsula 25 Oct+ (JFe, MJB). A Warbling Vireo in Los Angeles 21 Nov (RBa) was quite late. Two Philadelphia Vireos were found, with one in Goleta 28 Sep (DMC) and another at G.H.P. 26–28 Oct (LA). The 9 Red-eyed Vireos (all but 2 coastal) during the fall just barely eclipsed the Yellow-green Vireo total; the latter species was found at Goleta 26–28 Oct (MAH), Long Beach 13–14 Oct (KSG), Palos Verdes Peninsula 13 Oct (GCH), Westminster, *Orange* 9–10 Oct (DRW), Huntington Beach 10 Oct (JEP), Pt. Loma 20 (GMcC) & 21 Sep (MB), and inland at G. H. P. 28–30 Oct (AH).

Some movement of Pinyon Jays in the Region was suggested by the appearance of a few birds on the *Kern* desert 5–27 Sep (JCW), a large flock on the Blue Ridge in the San Gabriel Mts., *Los Angeles* 27 Sep (RBe), and one in coastal *San Luis Obispo* near Arroyo Grande 2 Oct (BKS). Up to 10 American Crows were in Avalon, *Santa Catalina I.* 6–12 Oct (BED, JIE); this species is generally absent from the Channel Islands. A Bank Swallow at Tinemaha Res. 18 Sep (JLD) was very late for the n. interior.

A Mountain Chickadee at 4205 m (14,018 feet) on the summit of Mt. Tyndall, *Inyo* in Aug (RG) was a Regional elevation record for the species (as well as an impressive elevation for a birder!). A Verdin in Redlands, *San Bernardino* 27–29 Nov (MP, AEK) was coastward of the species' normal range. A Pygmy Nuthatch in Manhattan Beach, *Los Angeles* 31 Aug (KGL) was exceptional, considering the near absence of other montane species in the lowlands. An other Winter Wren was at Huntington Beach 19 Sep–15 Nov (SM); one near Calipatria 15 Nov (GMcC, PAG) was in an area where casual. The late Oct fires burned most of the remaining California Gnatcatcher habitat around Moorpark, *Ventura*, at the nw. edge of the species' range (WW). At least 23 Western Bluebirds near Calipatria 25–29 Nov (MJ1 et al.) were unusual for the Salton Sink. A Swainson's Thrush in Independence 1 Nov (RAH) was the latest to be found in *Inyo*. A Wood Thrush at Desert Center 19 Oct (CMcG) was the 12th for the Region. A Varied Thrush in Cambria 19 Sep (BAB) was one of the earliest to be found in the Region. A Rufous-backed Robin at Cactus City, e. of Indio, *Riverside* 23 Nov (CMcG) was only the 13th to be found in California. Single Gray Catbirds were at Deep Springs 19 Oct (BS, SSt) and G. H. P. 27–29 Oct (JFi). The only Brown

Thrasher reported was near Santa Margarita, *San Luis Obispo* 14 Nov (RBo). A Bendire's Thrasher at Aliso Viejo, *Orange* 16–24 Aug (GM) was along the coast, where casual.

An impressive variety of motacillids was recorded in the Region this fall. The first Black-backed Wagtail for *Los Angeles* (and the Region's 4th) was along the Los Angeles R. on the Paramount/Compton border 10 Sep–3 Oct (RBa); another bird of the "White/Black-backed" complex was seen at S.C.R.E. 1 Sep (MT, DP), but documentation has not yet been received. This was a banner year in the Region for Red-throated Pipits, with birds in all coastal counties between 27 Sep and 25 Nov; the amazing 41+ coastal birds included a minimum of 17 on San Clemente I. 2 Oct–14 Nov (ph. BLS). On the deserts, up to 2 were in Palmdale, *Los Angeles* 30 Sep–4 Oct (TMcG, MSanM), and one was at G.H.P. 26–27 Sep (SSt). At least 4 American Pipits showing the characters of the Asian subspecies *japonicus* were found, with one near Imperial Beach 11–13 Oct (GMcC), one at Pt. Hueneme, *Ventura* 13–16 Oct (with 2 on the last date; DP, TMcG, DD), and one in Pacific Beach 23–20 Nov (GMcC, ph. BLS). A Sprague's Pipit was at F.C.R. 19 Oct (CMcF, PC), and up to 5 near Calipatria 29 Nov+ were wintering (HBK).

## WARBLERS

Seventeen Tennessee Warblers were found along the coast in the period 6 Sep–8 Nov, with additional birds in the interior at Barstow 7 Sep (HBK) and G.H.P. 27 Sep (AH). Virginia's Warblers were found, as expected, in small numbers, mainly along the coast, in late Aug and Sep; one at Playa del Rey, *Los Angeles* 11 Oct (JFe, JIE) was rather late. Seventeen Lucy's Warblers along the coast 2 Aug–6 Nov were more than normal, with others at Bishop 7–9 Aug (J&DP) and near Cantil, *Kern* 3 Sep (TMcG). Only 5 Northern Parulas were found, with the earliest 24 Aug at S.C.R.E. (LSa, SSo) and the latest at G.H.P. 26 Oct–4 Nov (JCW). Seventeen Chestnut-sided Warblers were found 20 Sep–30 Nov, with all but 2 along the coast. Similarly, 16 of the 21 Magnolia Warblers found 8 Sep–9 Nov were coastal. A Cape May Warbler, a species quite rare in recent years in the Region, was at Pt. Loma 1–14 Nov (MTH). Only 5 Black-throated Blue Warblers (all males) were found, 6–30 Oct. An apparent Yellow-rumped x Townsend's Warbler was in Westminster, *Orange* 11 Oct (M&LC). The only Black-throated Green Warblers were on Pt. Loma 20 Sep (SES), in Goleta 2 Oct (MAH), and on San Clemente I. 27–30 Oct (HAC, ph. BLS). The 12 Blackburnian Warblers found 16 Sep–8 Nov were all coastal, with half on San Clemente I. A Grace's Warbler was on

Figueroa Mt., *Santa Barbara* 5 Oct (MAH), and a returning wintering female on Pt. Loma 11 Sep (MS) was joined by at least one imm. on 14 Sep (MS). A Pine Warbler at Oceano, *San Luis Obispo* 22 Oct (JMC) was the only one reported. Seven Prairie Warblers, all coastal, were found between 11 Sep and 11 Oct. Of 43 Palm Warblers found along the coast 4 Oct+, 24 were in *Santa Barbara*; this species is far scarcer on the deserts, with birds at G.H.P. 25 Oct (KeL) and in *Imperial* 18 Nov (KZK) being the only ones reported there. Thirty-five Black-poll Warblers were along the coast 11 Sep–1 Nov, along with an exceptionally late bird in Oceanside, *San Diego* 2 Dec (PAG); 5 more were on the deserts 27 Sep–13 Oct. Bay-breasted Warblers were found only in Ridgecrest 3 Oct (SSt) and on Santa Catalina I. 7 Oct (BED).

Twenty-nine coastal Black-and-white Warblers 2 Sep+ were augmented by 6 on the deserts 24 Aug–8 Nov. There were 31 American Redstarts reported on the coastal slope 6 Sep+, along with at least 12 migrants on the deserts 12 Sep–29 Oct and up to 6 at S.E.S.S. (where the species winters) 11 Sep+. Prothonotary Warblers were found at San Geronimo Cr. Mouth, *San Luis Obispo* 23 Nov–2 Dec (MN, JD), Santa Maria, *Santa Barbara* 4–10 Oct (DMC), Goleta 22 Oct (WTF, NAL), Huntington Beach 28 Sep (JG), Lemon Grove, *San Diego* 25 Sep–5 Oct, G.H.P. 27 Sep (TEW), and Deep Springs 28 Oct (T&JH). A Worm-eating Warbler at G.H.P. 12–28 Oct (DSC) was the first to be found in fall in *Kern*. The 26 Northern Waterthrushes were equally divided between the coast 30 Aug–19 Oct and the deserts 30 Aug–7 Nov. A Kentucky Warbler, casual in the Region, was on San Nicolas I. 11 Oct (SH). Imm. male Mourning Warblers were on Pt. Loma 19 Sep (SES) and San Clemente I. 13 Oct (BLS). A long-staying Hooded Warbler entertained visitors to G.H.P. 3 Sep–28 Oct (TMcG). Canada Warblers were in Newport Beach 27 Sep (PCo), on Santa Catalina I. 6 Oct (BED), on Pt. Loma 11–13 Oct (PAG), and near Anaheim 15–18 Oct (JEP). A Yellow-breasted Chat at Stovepipe Wells 13 Oct (T&JH) established the latest fall record for *Inyo*.

## TANAGERS THROUGH FINCHES

An above-average 5 Scarlet Tanagers included birds at Newport Beach 3 Oct (DRW), Wilmington 24 Oct (KGL), Arroyo Grande 30–31 Oct (JMC), Pt. Loma 2–15 Nov (GMcC), and Westchester, *Los Angeles* 29 Nov (DSC). An injured female Western Tanager near Brawley 29 Nov (LSc) provided the latest fall record for the Salton Sink. American Tree Sparrows at F.C.R. 1 Nov (AH, VH) and Deep Springs 3 Nov (T&JH) were in an area where regular, but

one at Playa del Rey 8–9 Nov (RBa) was one of the few ever found on the s. coast. Some 24 Clay-colored Sparrows were reported beginning 7 Sep. A Brewer's Sparrow in Big Pine 1 Nov (T&JH) was exceptionally late for *Inyo*. Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrows were found during high tides at Morro Bay 24 Oct (with 3 there on 24 Nov; KAH) and Seal Beach, *Orange* 26 Oct (2; JFi). Five Lark Buntings were found along the coast 10 Sep–12 Oct, with another in Bishop 15–16 Sep (J&DP). The earliest Swamp Sparrow was in Goleta 11 Oct (WTF). An *oriantha* White-crowned Sparrow near Calipatria 15 Sep (JLD) established the earliest fall record for the Salton Sink, while one at G.H.P. 29 Oct (JCW) was the latest to be found in fall in *Kern*. Small numbers of Lapland Longspurs were found after 4 Oct, with an impressive 19 on San Clemente I. 11 Oct–27 Nov (ph. BLS). Chestnut-collared Longspurs were more numerous than usual this fall, with high counts of 30+ w. of Lancaster 9–16 Nov (KLG) and 100+ near Calipatria 26 Nov+ (TMcG et al.). McCown's Longspurs were found at Pt. Hueneme 3–13 Oct (with 2 on 4 Oct; MJI, DD) and on San Clemente I. 11 Oct and 22–23 Nov (ph. BLS). A Snow Bunting on San Clemente I. 15–27 Nov and sporadically through the winter (ph. BLS) was only the 3rd for the Region and the southernmost ever for the Pacific Coast of North America.

Eight Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were along on the coast 16 Sep–29 Nov, with another 4 on the deserts 20 Sep–27 Nov. Only 7 Indigo Buntings were reported along the coast 7 Aug–11 Oct, with additional birds in Big Pine 25 Aug (T&JH) and Baker, *San Bernardino* 18 Oct (KuL). Female or imm. Painted Buntings thought to be natural vagrants were on San Clemente I. 22 Aug (HAC) and at Huntington Beach 29 Aug–6 Sep (with a 2nd bird present on the last date; BED, JEP), Manhattan Beach 27 Sep (JFe), Big Pine 18 Aug (T&JH), and Deep Springs 7 Sep (CH, RBC); another female near Imperial Beach 22 Nov (GMcC) was with exotic White-collared Seedeaters and Nutmeg Mannikins and thought to be an escapee. Dickcissels were in Shell Beach, *San Luis Obispo* 20 Nov–3 Dec (SMi), in Goleta 28–29 Sep (NAL) and 5 Oct (RC), and on Santa Catalina I. 7 Oct (BED); up to 5 were on San Clemente I. 29 Sep–14 Oct (BLS). The 48+ Bobolinks found 6 Sep–19 Oct included up to 18 in *Santa Barbara* (DMC) and 21+ on San Clemente I. (ph. BLS); an earlier bird was in Carpinteria 19 Aug (PG).

An ad. male Common Grackle, a species now annual in the Region, was in Independence 13 Nov (RAH). A juv. Bronzed Cowbird on San Clemente I. 31 Aug (BLS, RK) was the first to be found on the Channel Islands. Orchard Orioles were in San

Simeon, *San Luis Obispo* 19 Sep (BAB), on San Clemente I. 30 Sep (BLS, RK), on the Palos Verdes Peninsula 1-2 Nov (KGL), and in San Pedro 28 Nov (KGL). Seven Baltimore Orioles were found along the coast 30 Aug+, and an ad. male was at G.H.P. 17 Sep (JLD). A Lawrence's Goldfinch in Independence 16 Nov (A&LK) was the 2nd latest ever found in *Inyo*, and an American Goldfinch in Big Pine 8 Oct was the first fall arrival for *Inyo*.

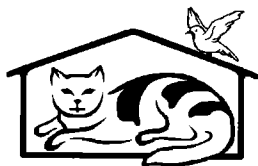
### EXOTICS

A rufous-morph Eastern Screech-Owl found on or just prior to 14 Oct at a train station in Industry, *Los Angeles* (*vide* GAS) and subsequently brought to a rehabilitation facility was certainly artificially transported to California: the nearest record comes from e. New Mexico. Yet another escaped Great Tit was reported, this time in Long Beach 15 Sep (KSG).

Cited observers (county coordinators in boldface): Liga Auzins, Joe Barth, Richard Barth (RBa), Rosie Beach (RBe), Robert Beckler (RBe), Thomas A. Benson, Mark

Billings, Claudia Bird, Ray Boche (RBo), Bill A. Bouton, Martin J. Byhower, Dick and Pat Cabe (D&PC), Heather A. Carlisle, Jamie M. Chavez, Paul Clarke, Jeff Coker, Mike Collins, David M. Compton (*Santa Barbara*), Chris Conard, Mark and Lori Conrad (M&LC), Peyton Cook (PCo), Daniel S. Cooper, Rebecca Coulter, Brian E. Daniels, Don Desjardin, Henry Detwiler, Joe Donaldson, Jon L. Dunn, Tom M. Edell (*San Luis Obispo*), Josh I. Engel, Michael Evens (*San Diego*), Jon Feenstra (JFe), John Fitch (JFi), Wes T. Fritz, Peter Gaede, Jim Gallagher, Terri Gallion, Kimball L. Garrett (*Los Angeles*), Karen S. Gilbert, Peter A. Ginsburg, Dave Goodward, Ros Gorham, John F. Green (*Riverside*), Sandra Harvill, Karen A. Havlena, Gjon C. Hazard, D. Mitchell Heindel, Tom & Jo Heindel (*Inyo*), Roger Higson, Mark A. Holmgren, Chris Howard, Andrew Howe, Vernon Howe, Robert A. Hudson, Marshall J. Iliff, Paul Jorgensen, Robb Kaler, Al Kalin, Dave Keeling, Howard B. King, Andrew and Leah Kirk (A&LK), Alexander E. Koonce (*San Bernardino*), Kenneth Z. Kurland, Bart Lane, Kevin G. Larson, Vic Leipzig, Nick A.

Lethaby, Kurt Leuschner (KuL), Kelli Levinson (KeL), Jon Luther, Guy McCaskie (*Imperial*), William McCausland, Cathy McFadden, Chet McGaugh, Todd McGrath, Gary Meredith, Bob Miller, Steve Miller (SMi), Steve Mlodinow (SMI), Margaret Nash, Kent S. Nelson, Larry Norris, Jim and Debby Parker (J & DP), Dave Pereskta, Michael Perrone, James E. Pike, Mike J. Prather, Jim Roberts (JRob), Jim Roe (JRoe), Geoffrey Rogers, Chris Romsos, Matt Sadowski, Michael J. San Miguel, Mike San Miguel, Larry Sansone (LSa), Larry Schmahl (LSc), Alan F. Schmierer, Brad K. Schram, Ginny Anne Short, Norman Shrout, Susan E. Smith, Steve Sosensky (SSo), Bob Steele, Susan Steele (SSe), John C. Sterling, John R. Storrer, Brian L. Sullivan, Adolph Tetskoua, Mike Tiffany, Guy Tingos, Brad Waggoner, Stanley Walens, Walter Wehtje (*Ventura*), Douglas R. Willick (*Orange*), John C. Wilson (*Kern*), Thomas E. Wurster, Mike Yo, Jim Zimmer. An additional 35± observers who could not be individually acknowledged submitted reports this season; all have our thanks. ☺



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