

Middle Pacific Coast



Steven A. Glover

(Doves to Wrentit)

6526 Conestoga Lane
Dublin, California 94568
(sgloverccc@aol.com)

Luke W. Cole

(Thrashers to Finches)

561 Hill Street
San Francisco, California 94114
(luke@igc.org)

Scott B. Terrill

(Loons to Frigatebirds, Larids to Alcids)

H.T. Harvey & Associates
3150 Almaden Expressway, Suite 145
San Jose, California 95118
(sterrill@harveyecology.com)

Michael M. Rogers

(Hérons to Shorebirds)

499 Novato Avenue
Sunnyvale, California 94086
(m.m.rogers@comcast.net)

In terms of total numbers, this was but an average year for vagrants. However, a total of 14 species earning boldface type was nothing short of astonishing. Amongst these were a possible North American first (Parkinson's Petrel), Common Black-Hawk, the Region's first Dusky Warbler in seven years, and a very rare mainland record of Cassin's Sparrow. Though Red-breasted Nuthatches showed early signs of an invasion, Pine Siskins were the only irruptive that managed to maintain unusually high numbers throughout the period.

Abbreviations: C.B.R.C. (California B.R.C.); C.V. (Central Valley); C.R.P. (Cosumnes R. Preserve, Sacramento); Fl. (Southeast Farallon I., San Francisco); S.F. (San Francisco); U.C. (University of California). Reports of exceptional vagrants submitted without documentation are not published. Documentation for C.B.R.C. review species will be forwarded to Guy McCaskie, Secretary, P.O. Box 275, Imperial Beach, California 91933. Birds banded on Fl. should be credited to Point Reyes B.O. (P.R.B.O.) and those banded at Big Sur R. mouth to the Big Sur Ornithology Lab (B.S.O.L.) of the Ventana Wilderness Society.

LOONS THROUGH PELICANS

Nineteen inland Pacific Loons was a relatively high number for a species closely as-

sociated with the coast in the Region. An ad. Yellow-billed Loon in breeding plumage flew by Bodega Head, Sonoma 19 Sep (LLu, CLu), and a juv. was at Eagle L., Lassen 8 Oct (Kenneth P. Able, Lew Oring). The total of 5 Laysan Albatrosses reported was about average. A Dark-rumped Petrel nw. of Cordell Bank in Sonoma 17 Sep (SNGH, ShJ) was the 4th found in that general area. A bird showing characteristics of Parkinson's Petrel was ne. of Cordell Bank in Sonoma 11 Oct (ShJ, LWC, PP, ASH, ph. DWN). This record is currently under review by the C.B.R.C. and, if accepted, would represent the first North American record of this species. Based on distribution, this is the most likely *Procellaria* petrel to occur off w. North America. A Streaked Shearwater ne. of Cordell Bank 17 Sep was yet another Sonoma rarity (SNGH, ShJ, ph. Robert Zaremba). This species remains quite rare in the Region, but it has been recorded each of the past four falls, an unprecedented run. Even rarer, a Greater Shearwater was less than 13 km off Bodega Head, Sonoma 29 Aug (ph. RS et al.). The only Manx Shearwater reported was in Monterey 22 Aug (ph. DR, †WGB et al.). Black-vented Shearwaters were very scarce, with only 3-4 reported, all from Monterey Bay. Storm-petrel flocks were concentrated off Santa Cruz, with numbers ranging from an estimated 2600 on 29 Aug to 12,000 on 1 Oct (ShJ, DR et al.). The vast majority of these flocks were comprised of Ashy Storm-Petrels, but they also contained Wilson's (up to 5), Black (15-3250), and Least (12-1420). The latter number of Least Storm-Petrels, a record for the Region if not the state, was recorded on 1 Oct (ShJ). Wilson's Storm-Petrels were also encountered regularly near Cordell Bank, Marin, where up to 5 were seen on various trips (ShJ, RS et al.). A booby, thought to be a Brown, was in Monterey Bay, Monterey 25 Oct (†Bridget Watts, James T. Harvey). An imm. Brown Pelican at Stone Lakes N.W.R. 19 Jul-14 Oct (CCo, m.ob.) was the first for Sacramento and about the 16th C.V. record.

HERONS THROUGH DUCKS

An American Bittern 29 km offshore over Monterey Bay, Santa Cruz 15 Oct was in a strange location for this normally secretive species (ShJ). A Least Bittern 8-12 Sep at Clear Lake S.P. furnished only the 6th for Lake (JRW). Reports of at least 2 birds from C.R.P. 5 Sep-13 Nov (JTr et al.) were the only others noted. Five coastal reports of Cattle Egret included single birds at Arcata Marsh, Humboldt 13 & 17 Nov (JTz et al.), at Hay-

ward R.S., *Alameda* 21 Nov (RJR), and at Harkins Slough (*Santa Cruz's* first since 2001; Stan Wulkowicz, ph. RgW, DLSu, m.ob.). Up to 2 were at Moonglow Dairy, *Monterey* 18–24 Oct, with one remaining to 6 Nov (RF, LLu, CLu et al.), and a notable 15+ were in Sebastopol, *Sonoma* 10 Oct (Laurence Taylor). An ad. California Condor soaring with Turkey Vultures over Long Ridge, *San Mateo* 13 Aug (Georgia Stigall) had reddish wing tags, indicating that it was one of those released at Pinnacles N.M., *San Benito*.

Coastal reports of Greater White-fronted, Snow, and Cackling Geese were more numerous than usual this fall. Forty-four reports of the recently split Cackling Goose 11 Sep+ typically involved fewer than 10 birds, but 500 *leucopareia* were seen over the Mad R. estuary, *Humboldt* 20 Oct (JTz et al.). Two ad. Trumpeter Swans at Lower Klamath N.W.R., *Siskiyou* 28 Nov (†DVP, †MtB, Daryl Coldren) were accompanied by an ad. yellow-billed swan that was likely at least partly a Whooper Swan (vt. DVP, MtB, Daryl Coldren). A wave of Tundra Swans, involving groups of up to 49 birds, hit eight central coast counties 20–25 Nov; a single bird at the South Wilbur Flood Unit 21 Nov (LLu, CLu) was the first reported from Kings in many years. *Mono's* first Bewick's Swan was at Crowley L. 7 Nov–4 Dec (†TW, JLD). Single male Common (Eurasian Green-winged) Teal were found at Redwood Shores, *San Mateo* 20 Nov+ (RSTh) and Mountain View, *Santa Clara* 29 Nov+ (Brooke Miller, Bob Juhl). A male Tufted Duck returned to Scotts Valley, *Santa Cruz* for a 4th winter 4–29 Nov (Phil Brown, ph. Larry Selman, DLSu, m.ob.); an apparent female was a one-day wonder at the Salinas R. mouth, *Monterey* 7 Nov (†MtB, ph. DVP). Three Greater Scaup at Stampede Res. constituted the first record of this species for *Sierra* (JLx). The 5th King Eider for *Humboldt*, a female, was bagged by a local hunter 26 Nov (ph., fide DFX). Two female-plumaged Harlequin Ducks in Yosemite Valley, *Mariposa* 23 Sep (DLSu) may have been related to the recent breeding efforts at that location. A female Surf Scoter at Black Butte Res. 16 Nov (†JLx) was the first ever for *Tehama*; different imms. at Redding's Kutras L. 7–24 Nov (TEa, fide BED, m.ob.) and at Turtle Bay East R.P. 23–30 Nov (Ray Bruun, BED, B&CY) were at most the 5th and 6th for *Shasta*. Another at Lakeport was the 7th for *Lake* (JRW, m.ob.). Long-tailed Ducks included 3 in *Humboldt* 19 Oct–29 Nov, 3 in-

side S.F. Bay 11 Oct–30 Nov, and surprising inland birds at the Hollister S.T.P. (*San Benito's* first; KPa, ph. KVV, m.ob.) and the O'Neill Forebay, *Merced* (JM, Robbie Fischer). An ad. male Barrow's Goldeneye near Merced Falls 8–14 Nov (JSL, JCS, DVP) was only the 2nd for *Mariposa*.

RAPTORS THROUGH RAILS

A White-tailed Kite at Sierraville 20–24 Nov (SAG et al.) was a first for *Sierra*; a juv. in Yosemite Valley, *Mariposa* 20 Sep (DLSu) was likewise out of place. The Common Black-Hawk reported from Stockton, *San Joaquin* last winter returned to L. Lincoln but was seen by only a lucky few observers 1 Oct & 17 Nov (Vi Strain et al.). Red-shouldered Hawks continued to be reported from new



This male Tufted Duck returned in "eclipse" plumage for a fourth winter to Scotts Valley, Santa Cruz County, California 4–29 (here 5) November 2004. At the end of the month, it rapidly molted its tuft and body plumage. Photograph by Larry Selman.

locations, or with greater regularity in areas at the edges of their range. Fourteen Broad-winged Hawks were reported from six counties 21 Sep–17 Oct. Four coastal Swainson's Hawks 5 Sep–10 Oct included 3 from S.F. The *Sonoma* ad. Crested Caracara reported last season apparently moved northward to Westport, *Mendocino* 20–24 Aug (Roger Hoesterey, ph. m.ob.) and then to Arcata, *Humboldt* 4–6 Sep (ph. RLeV, m.ob.), providing first records for both counties. An undocumented report e. of Ferndale, *Humboldt* 28 Nov suggests that it may have remained n. longer than these records indicate. The northward coastal movement of this individual is reminiscent of the bird two years ago, which moved from *Monterey* to *Santa Cruz*, and apparently also *San Mateo*, 11 Aug–6 Nov 2002. The C.B.R.C. has recently accepted the 2002 bird and other 2002 individuals from s. California as naturally occurring. Two Merlins 24 Aug in *Madera* (JND) were notably early, but one at the Hollister S.T.P., *San Benito* starting 6 Aug (ph. SAG, Jim White) was truly exceptional and apparently

unprecedented. Single Soras near Copperopolis, *Calaveras* 8 Nov and along Rock R. Road, *Tuolumne* the same day (both JSL) were apparently both first county records.

SHOREBIRDS

Six American Golden-Plovers were reported 28 Aug–29 Oct, but we received documentation for only 2 single juvs., one 28 Aug–3 Sep at Arcata Marsh, *Humboldt* (JTz, RbF), the other at Bodega Bay, *Sonoma* 6 Sep (ph. AWgh, Don Reinburg, RLeb). Photographs of 2 others at Abbotts Lagoon, *Marin* 6–16 Sep & 15 Sep have been submitted to the C.B.R.C. (ph. SNGH, fide Guy McCaskie). A single Mountain Plover at Crowley L. 5 Nov (JLD, KNN) was only about the 4th for *Mono*. A Lesser Yellowlegs at Boca Res. 1 Sep (JLx) was the first for *Nevada*. Eighteen Solitary Sandpipers from 12 counties 8 Aug–27 Sep was a better-than-average total. Single juv. Hudsonian Godwits at Abbotts Lagoon 8 Aug (ph. Dean DiTommasco, DDeS, RS) and 2–9 Sep (ph. SNGH, RS, m.ob.) were *Marin's* 3rd and 4th. A juv. *baueri* Bar-tailed Godwit at the Eel R. delta, *Humboldt* 5–14 Oct (ph. SMCa, RbF et al.) was thought to be the same as one seen 25 Sep at nearby Arcata Marsh (Justin Alvarez). Black Turnstones are rare in s. S.F. Bay, so up to 4 birds in Alviso, *Santa Clara* 11–21 Aug were surprising (John B. Hutz, ph. WGB, m.ob.).

A Red Knot inland at San Felipe L. 6 Sep was *San Benito's* 2nd (MPx, RJA). Inland Sanderlings made headlines, with one at the Redding S.T.P. 7 Sep (*Shasta's* 2nd or 3rd record; B&CY), one at the Napa-Sonoma Marshes W.A. 25 Sep (*Napa's* 2nd; KVV), 2 juvs. at L. Hennessey 27–19 Sep (*Napa's* 3rd; MBe, RLCL, UzW, Jaye Cook, JLx), and a juv. at L. Mendocino 30 Sep–1 Oct (possibly the first inland record for *Mendocino*; GEC); also of note were up to 3 birds in Kings 1 Sep & 6 Oct (JSy, LWC, SAG, JCS, JLx). Semipalmated Sandpipers were well reported, with about 40 birds in 15 counties 1 Aug–12 Sep; the latest bird, reported from Trinity L. 20 Sep, would be *Trinity's* 5th but lacked details. Reports of a molting ad. Red-necked Stint at the Salmon Cr. Mouth, *Sonoma* 8–10 Aug (DDeS, JMR, †Jim White) and an ad. Little Stint at the Albany mudflats, *Alameda* 10–14 Aug (†CHK, THK, †BFI, †JSL †RAR) await C.B.R.C. review; both would be first county records. Baird's Sandpipers were reported in above-average numbers, with almost 200 birds noted through 6 Oct, including an impressive 76 tallied on a *Mono* L. census 21

Aug (KNN et al.); the only report after 18 Sep was of 9+ birds near Kettleman City, Kings 6 Oct (LWC, SAG, JCS, Jlx). The only Sharp-tailed Sandpiper reported was at Hudemann Slough, *Sonoma* 7 Nov (DAsh, BDP). The southernmost Rock Sandpiper was *Santa Cruz's* returning ad. along West Cliff Drive in Santa Cruz 1 Nov+ (SGe, ph. JPo, ph. m.ob.). An alternate-plumaged Dunlin at Lower Klamath N.W.R., *Siskiyou* 10 Aug (DS) was hard to explain, as were up to 4 alternate-plumaged birds in Alviso, *Santa Clara* 1–11 Aug (John B. Hutz, MMR). Eight Stilt Sandpipers 3 Aug–22 Oct were slightly fewer than normal, whereas 8 Buff-breasted Sandpipers, all during a narrow window 4–20 Sep, were more than expected; all but 3 of the latter were at Pt. Reyes, *Marin*. Up to 17 Ruffs, an above-average total, were found through 15 Nov. Two late Wilson's Phalaropes were found n. of Stratford, Kings 31 Oct (LLu). A group of 7 Red-necked Phalaropes at Indian Creek Res. 8 Sep was thought to constitute only the 4th Alpine record of the species (EP).

LARIDS THROUGH ALCIDS

Single inland Long-tailed Jaegers were at Crowley L., *Mono* 27 Aug (JmP, DbP et al.) and 18 Sep (PJM), and 2 were there 28 Aug (KNN). Elsewhere inland, one was at Lagoon Valley L., *Solano* 5–10 Sep (RMu, CCo, ph. CLo et al.). *Mono's* 2nd Little Gull was at Crowley L. 27 Aug (JLD, ph. JmP & DbP et al.). As usual, small numbers of Mew Gulls were reported from *Sacramento*, an inland location where this species is regular. Elsewhere, inland Mew Gulls were reported in *Shasta*, at Turtle Bay East R.P. 28 Oct (Ray Bruun), at Kutras L. 22–23 Nov (BED), and at the Chester S.T.P., *Plumas* 13 Nov (†Joelle Buffa, Clyde Morris). A bird showing characteristics of Kumlien's Iceland Gull was at the Nimbus Fish Hatchery, *Sacramento* 22 Nov (†JLD, ph. Martin Meyers). Two Lesser Black-backed Gulls were in Alviso, *Santa Clara* 31 Oct (†MtB, †DVP, ph. †MMR), and one bird was relocated 7 Nov (RWR et al.). Seven of 10 inland Sabine's Gulls were in *Mono*, making it a record year for that county (*vide* KNN).

Remarkable were an estimated 8000 Elegant Terns at Brooks I., *Contra Costa* 21 Jul (Keith W. Larson). Typically, 20–100 birds occur here, and this represents a record number of Elegant Terns inside S.F. Bay. Approximately 25 Common Terns were reported away from coastal localities. Much rarer inland, Arctic Terns were at Crowley L., *Mono* 14 Aug (†JLD, KNN, Kimball Garrett, †JmP & DbP), *Shasta Valley W. A.*, *Siskiyou* 13 Sep (†RE), and Tule Lake N.W.R., *Siskiyou* 14–16 Nov (RE, ph. Kevin Spencer et al.). Postbreeding Least Terns wandered northward to Pt. Reyes, *Marin* 1 Aug (RS) and Doran Park, *Sonoma* 22 Aug (Eric Lichtwardt).

Black Skimmers continued their Regional expansion, with 2 at the Elk R. estuary, *Humboldt* 17–23 Aug (a county first; MWa et al.) furnishing the northernmost record in the Region. Three made it n. to Abbotts Lagoon, *Marin* 1 Aug (RS et al.), where 2 were still present 6 Sept (DDeS); another was at Tomales Bay, *Marin* 16 Aug (RS), one was at Doran Park, *Sonoma* 8 Aug (DDeS), and 2 ads. were observed off and on in *Solano* 8 Aug–12 Sep, until joined by a juv. 12 Sep (Jim White, RLCL et al.). Another juv. at Slaughterhouse Pt. 9 Sep–4 Dec (MBe, JCS), a first for *Napa*, was also seen in *Solano*.

Very rare, but regular in fall, a Thick-billed Murre was off Pt. Pinos, *Monterey* 15 Oct (ShJ). The carcass of an apparent Long-billed Murrelet washed up on New Brighton S.B., *Santa Cruz* 4 Oct (*vide* Hannah Nevins). Southern murrelets were relatively scarce this season and were missed on most pelagic trips; high counts were 9 Xantus's and 3 Craveri's 22 Aug in *Monterey* (DR et al.). On the other hand, Tufted Puffins were unusually numerous in both *Monterey* and *Santa Cruz*, with one or 2 birds reported on at least eight boat trips 5 Sep–15 Oct.

DOVES THROUGH FLYCATCHERS

Sixteen White-winged Doves included 4 each from *Monterey* and *Santa Cruz* and 3 from *San Mateo*; the lone inland bird was at Chalfant Valley, *Mono* 2–7 Sep (Andy Zdon). A Greater Roadrunner near Soda L. 25 Sep was the first for *Santa Cruz* since the 1950s (DLSu); one at the Alviso Marina, *Santa Clara* 7 Sep–30 Nov+ (Janet Hanson, m. ob.) was at an odd location surrounded by salt ponds and urban development. First county records were furnished by an injured Flammulated Owl picked up at Benicia, *Solano* 23 Oct (*vide* Bingham Gibbs) and a Northern Pygmy-Owl 1 Oct at Mitchell Ravine, sw. *San Joaquin* (WRH et al.). Wayward Spotted Owls reached the coast at outer Pt. Reyes, *Marin* 30 Sep–5 Oct and Bodega Bay, *Sonoma* 10 Oct (both RS).

The lone Chimney Swift report involved 2 at Fl. 28 Sep (P.R.B.O.). A flock of 2500 Vaux's Swifts at Stafford L. near Novato 30 Sep was "by far" the most ever seen together in *Marin* (RS). A Broad-billed Hummingbird at Novato 25 Sep (and possibly earlier) was *Marin's* first and the Region's 8th (Margaret Luff, ph. Don Freundt). Black-chinned Hummingbirds, normally casual coastally, were detected in significant numbers in *Santa Cruz* for the 3rd consecutive fall. As many as 10 non-ad. male birds were found 27 Aug–18 Sep (m.ob.). The only other coastal report was one at Mt. Davidson, S.F. 10–22 Sep (PSar). Four Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers 10 Oct–21 Nov were coastal; Red-naped near Oakhurst 1 Nov (Helen Button) and Bass L. 8 Nov (BBR, Lynn Hemink, Penny

Stewart) provided rare *Madera* records.

Curiously, all seven reports of migrant Olive-sided Flycatchers were from *Sacramento*. Yellow-bellied Flycatchers at Pt. Pinos, *Monterey* 21 Sep (ph. †DR, vt. †DVP, ph. BMth et al.) and outer Pt. Reyes, *Marin* 2–3 Oct (SBT, †DVP m.ob.) will provide the first Regional records since 1997 if accepted by the C.B.R.C. Other rare coastal *Empidonax* included 3 Least 16 Sep–9 Oct, 2 Hammond's 25 Sep–3 Oct, and 4 Dusky 12 Sep–3 Oct. A Least at Lagoon Valley 3 Sep was a first for *Solano* (†JSL). A Dusky at Antonelli Pond, *Santa Cruz* through at least 30 Nov may have been attempting to winter, a rare event in the Region (†SGe, DLSu et al.). A Gray Flycatcher at Yosemite Valley, *Mariposa* 20 Sep was a notable Sierra foothill find, particularly for fall (DLSu). A Black Phoebe at Glenshire, *Nevada* 16 Oct may have been the first ever found in the Truckee Basin (Martin Myers). Single Eastern Phoebes were at Pescadero Marsh, *San Mateo* 9–21 Nov (ADeM et al.), Lighthouse Field S.B., *Santa Cruz* 9 Nov (SGe), and C.R.P. 13 Nov+ (Michael Larken, JTr, m.ob.).

Vermilion Flycatchers rarely reach the coast, so an imm. male at Moonglow Dairy, *Monterey* 10 Oct+ was a nice find (Michael Getty, ph. DR, m.ob.). Another imm. male joined it 29 Oct+ (C. Hartzell, m.ob.). *Sacramento's* first Vermilion was at C.R.P. 11 Oct (JTr). Returning C.V. birds were at Lodi, *San Joaquin* 20 Nov+ (Margaret Williams, m.ob.) and Los Banos W.A., *Merced* 29 Nov (Lara Sparks). A briefly seen Great Crested Flycatcher at Big Sur R. mouth, *Monterey* 10 Oct awaits C.B.R.C. review (†MtB, †RyT), as does a bird at C.R.P. 14 Aug that was heard for 10 minutes but never seen (JTr et al.). The latter may have been the previously reported bird seen 5 Jul, a record that was not accepted by the C.B.R.C. Rare flycatchers on Fl. included first island records of Dusky-capped Flycatcher 24 Oct (P.R.B.O.) and Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher 1 Oct (the Region's 7th; ph. KNN, †JTz). Thirty-four Tropical Kingbirds, all coastal, were detected 10 Sep–28 Nov. Vagrant Eastern Kingbirds were at *Mono* L., *Mono* 21–22 Aug (RS et al.), Harkins Slough, *Santa Cruz* 3–5 Sep (2 on 4 Sep; Stan Wulkowicz et al.), and Big Sur R. mouth, *Monterey* 24 Sep (BMth) and 2 Oct (TAm).

VIREOS THROUGH WAXWINGS

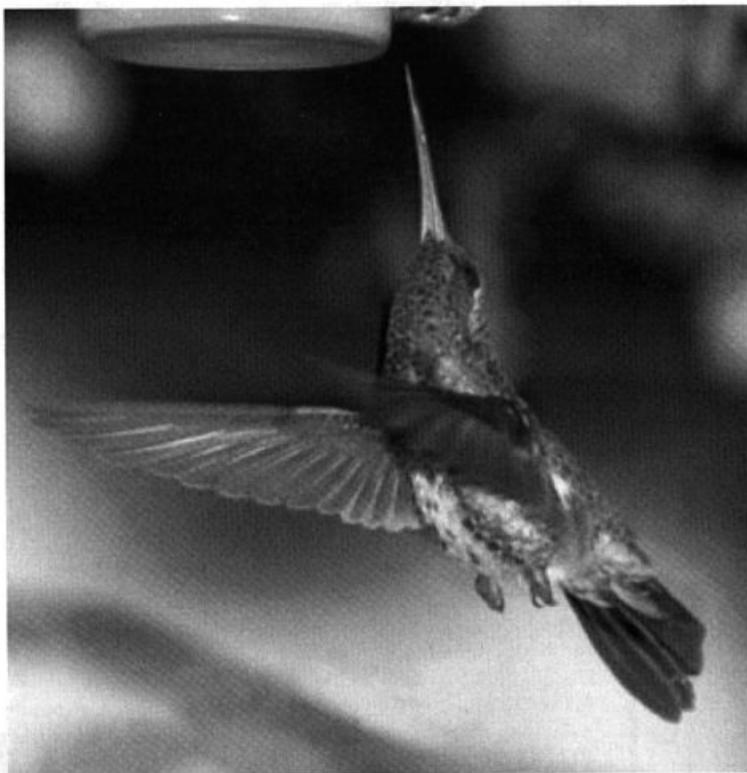
Seven Blue-headed Vireos, all coastal, were reported 30 Sep–18 Oct. Though this is a C.B.R.C. review species, we received descriptions for just 3 of them. Nine Red-eyed Vireos included an ad. banded at Big Sur R. mouth, *Monterey* 2 Aug (MtB, B.S.O.L.; remained through 6 Sep), one at Potter Valley 28 Aug (*Mendocino's* 2nd; GEC), and one at American R. Parkway, *Sacramento* 28 Sep

(WEH). Five Steller's Jays on *Humboldt's* coastal plain 14 Sep–9 Nov may have been related to a lowland incursion in Oregon and Washington this fall (*vide* DFX). A Western Scrub-Jay at King Salmon 1–14 Sep was similarly unexpected for coastal *Humboldt* (MWA). Presumably also part of a larger invasion to the n., the Region's first Blue Jay since 1997–1998 was at Weed, *Siskiyou* 8 Oct (ph. Glenn Fine). Noteworthy Pinyon Jays included 2 at Lake Forest, n. Lake Tahoe, *Placer* 22 Sep (WRI) and one near McCumber L. 30 Sep–6 Oct (*Shasta's* 3rd; Don Goodykoontz, Red & Nancy Modeen, B&CY). Distant magpies, each presumably Yellow-billed, were at Bodega Bay, *Sonoma* 26–30 Sep (MtB, DVP, AWgh, BDP) and Mt. Davidson, S.F. 2 Nov (PSar). Once considered accidental on the coast, it seems now that hardly a season passes without at least one mention of these wanderers in these pages.

The Region's first Dusky Warbler since the "invasion" of 1997 was banded at Big Sur R. mouth 2 Oct, providing a first for *Monterey* (ph. B.S.O.L., Jessica Griffiths). A Veery on outer Pt. Reyes, *Marin* 1 Oct would be just the 8th for the Region if accepted by the C.B.R.C. (†JM, Ellen Bluestein, David Herlocker, ph. Jim Holmes). Single Gray-cheeked Thrushes were reported from the Pt. Reyes Lighthouse, *Marin* 21 & 28 Oct (RS et al.). A Hermit Thrush in a yard at Elkhorn, *Monterey* 17 Aug was a month earlier than typical migrants (RF). The Gray Catbird at Pescadero, *San Mateo* first found 21 Jul continued through 15 Sep (GrH et al.). A Sage Thrasher at Rancho Seco Park, *Sacramento* 9–13 Oct was out of place (HG, CCo, Liz West). A Brown Thrasher was at Pt. Reyes, *Marin* 23 Oct (EDG). A California Thrasher at Dean Place 29–30 Oct was the first known record for the Sutter Buttes, *Sutter* (CCo, JTr). An Eastern Yellow Wagtail at Abbotts Lagoon, *Marin* 7–8 Sep (Stuart James, KKr, KH) furnished only the 10th record for the Region; remarkably, it was the 3rd record for Abbotts Lagoon, which hosted California's first 17 Sep 1978. Just 2 Red-throated Pipits were reported: one flying over Pt. Pinos, *Monterey* 22 Sep (the first recorded on the Monterey Peninsula; SBT, †DR) and one at Pt. Reyes, *Marin* 14 Oct (RS). The only Bohemian Waxwing noted was one at Paradise, *Mono* 20–21 Nov (DH, DbP).

WARBLERS

It was an average season for migrant warblers. Coastal counties had 21 Tennessees, 27 Chestnut-sideds, 17 Magnolias, 4 Black-throated Blues, 5 Blackburnians, 9 Prairies, 108 Palms (40 in *Santa Cruz* and 23 in *Humboldt*), 3 Hoodeds, and 4 Canadas. Inland migrants included Kings's first Tennessee Warbler 24 Sep along the Kings R. near Hwy. 41 (†ADeM); single Chestnut-sideds on 30 Aug at Snag L., *Lassen* (DCR), 28 Sep–2 Oct along the American R. Parkway, *Sacramento* (JML, CCo, TEa, DJo, m.ob.), and 29 Sep at Mill Cr. Delta, *Mono* (CMc); *Alameda's* first Prairie Warbler 7 Sep at Hayward R.S. (RJR);



This Broad-billed Hummingbird photographed 25 September 2004 was the first ever found in Marin County, California and was just the eighth ever found in the Middle Pacific Coast Region. Photograph by Don Freundt.

a Palm Warbler at Vail Road, *San Joaquin* 30 Oct (TEa); a pair of American Redstarts 22 Aug at South Lake Tahoe, *El Dorado* (Mona Brauer); and 3 Black-and-white Warblers (2 in *Sacramento*, one in *Merced*). Five Northern Parulas included *Solano's* first along Putah Cr. 21 Aug (RLCL, EP, CIH, †MBe). Blackpoll numbers were down, with 25 reported along the coast; the one reported from *Humboldt* compares with the average of 11.9/year over the past seven years (*vide* DFX, JCP). Inland, one was along the American R. Parkway, *Sacramento* 27–28 Sep (JML, CCo, TEa, DJo, m.ob.), and another was at Putah Cr., *Solano* and *Yolo* 1–2 Oct (Richard Hall, JCS, m.ob.).

The Southwest sent us 2 Lucy's Warblers (both in *Santa Cruz*) and 8 Virginia's Warblers, all coastal except 2: *Placer's* first, in the

Sierra s. of Tinker's Knob 6 Aug (ECB) and one 13 Nov at Turlock L. Campground, *Stanislaus* (†JHG, m.ob.). A Prothonotary Warbler graced the South S.F. baylands, *San Mateo* 26 Sep–8 Oct (RSTh, m.ob.). A Worm-eating Warbler was at Pt. Reyes, *Marin* 2 Oct (RyT, †SBT, LTer). An Ovenbird was banded 20 Sep at Lanphere Dunes, *Humboldt* (*vide* C. John Ralph); another was at Pt. Reyes, *Marin* 28 Sep (KKr, Ryan Burnett, Michael Rogner, Kirsten Lindquist). Fifteen Northern Waterthrushes were eclipsed by the *Louisiana Waterthrush* 9–18 Aug in Los Gatos, *Santa Clara* (Janna Pauser, Joan Brauch, SBT, LTer, †MtB, †MWE, †MMR, †WGB, ph. TEa, m.ob.). An unidentified waterthrush at Lagoon Valley L. 10 Sep (ph. TEa, Fritz Steurer) would be *Solano's* first, whatever the species. Our Region's unusual *Oporornis* showed up in a narrow window: a *Kentucky Warbler* at U.C. Davis, *Yolo* 30 Sep (Amanda Currier, Peter Armstrong); Mourning Warblers on Fl. 2 Oct (KNN, †JTz) and at Pt. Reyes, *Marin* 3 Oct (Michelle Brodie, †SBT, BDP, AWgh); and a Connecticut Warbler on Fl. 4 Oct (RDIG, Rebecca Green, †JTz).

TANAGERS THROUGH SPARROWS

Seven Summer Tanagers included singles at Parker Cr., *Mono* 15–24 Sep (SaH) and Columbia, *Tuolumne* 25 Sep (Michael Kelly). The sparrow of the season was the Cassin's Sparrow at Stinson Beach, *Marin* 16–17 Sep (Dan Cooper, ph. RS, ph. EWP, †MWE, m.ob.), only the 3rd mainland record for

the Region (there are 12 records from Fl.). Chipping Sparrow numbers were up; 5 in *Santa Cruz* was the best showing in years, and it was the first time in many years that reports of this species outnumbered those of Clay-colored (*vide* DLSu). In a low year for the species, a Clay-colored Sparrow 9–10 Sep at Lagoon Valley Park, *Solano* (JCS, Ed Harper, George Waldie) was the only one inland of 27 reported. Eleven Brewer's Sparrows included the 3rd and 4th records for *Santa Cruz*. Five Black-throated Sparrows included singles 13 Aug at Big Sur R. mouth, *Monterey* (b.; B.S.O.L.), 3–16 Sep at Prather, *Fresno* (JND), 26–29 Sep at Orick, *Humboldt* (RbE, KGR, KI), and 2 at Pt. Reyes, *Marin* 7 Sep (RS). A wandering Sage Sparrow was at the Pt. Reyes Lighthouse, *Marin* 5 Sep; a Lark Bunting was at the same location the

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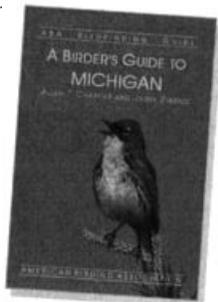


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MIDDLE PACIFIC COAST

same day (both LLu, CLu). Additional Lark Buntings were at Crowley L., *Mono* 20 Aug (KNN) and Bayfront Park, *San Mateo* 4 Oct–16 Nov (Rich Ferrick, m.ob.). A Grasshopper Sparrow 17 Sep at the mouth of Tulocay Cr. may be the first recorded in fall migration in *Napa* (MBe, *fide* RLCL). Twenty-seven Swamp Sparrows included one 12 Oct at Shasta Valley W.A., *Siskiyou* (RE).

An unprecedented 14 Harris's Sparrows were reported, including 3 from *Humboldt*, 2 from *Modoc*, *Shasta*, and *San Mateo*, and singles in *Colusa*, *Marin*, *Monterey*, *Napa*, and *Sonoma*. The only McCown's Longspur was at Hayward R.S., *Alameda* 2 Nov, the first there since 1987 (RJR). It was a strong season for Lapland and Chestnut-collared Longspurs, which were reported widely in the Region, including S.F.'s 2nd City record for Lapland 10 Oct at Crissy Field (ph. HuC, MWE, Dan Murphy, DvA). The Lapland flock in the Eel R. delta 23 Oct–4 Nov reached over 300 birds, twice the largest number previously recorded in *Humboldt* (DFx, JCP). Away from the coast, single Chestnut-collareds were at Crowley L., *Mono* 17 Oct (JLD) and Staten I. 30 Oct (*San Joaquin's* first; TEa). Single Snow Buntings were in *Humboldt* s. of the Mad R. mouth 27 Oct (Mike Kelly) and at Shelter Cove 6 Nov (RBS). Nine Rose-breasted Grosbeaks was a below-average total. The only Blue Grosbeaks reported were singles 8 Sep at Carmel R. mouth, *Monterey* (MtB, DR, ph. Bill Hill) and 18 Sep in Golden Gate Park, S.F. (ASH). Five Indigo Buntings were along the coast; one 15 Sep at O'Neill Forebay afforded a rare *Merced* record (SBT). Five Dickcissels along the coast from *Humboldt* to *Santa Cruz* included S.F.'s first City record 18–21 Sep at Ft. Mason (HuC, MWE, ph. DWN, m.ob.).

BLACKBIRDS THROUGH FINCHES

No Bobolinks were reported from *Humboldt*, where more than 5 per year are normally found (*fide* DFx, JCP). Three were along the coast, and one at Lake Forest, n. Lake Tahoe 21–22 Sep (WRi, Richard Carlson) provided just the 2nd *Placer* record. A Common Grackle reported from a Hwy. 80 rest area, *Solano* 10 Oct (ph. †Dan Brown) awaits C.B.R.C. review; it would furnish a first county record. Orchard Orioles were at Arcata Marsh, *Humboldt* 26 Oct–18 Nov (RbF, JTz, Jherime Kellerman, M. Colwell) and Lake Merced, S.F. 5–7 Nov (ASH).

A wayward Cassin's Finch was at Hayward R.S., *Alameda* 31 Oct (RJR). Hundreds of Red Crossbills were throughout the coastal region, with particularly heavy concentrations in *Humboldt*. A female Common Redpoll at Tule Lake N.W.R., *Siskiyou* 26 Nov (†DS, Jennifer Roth) was in the only part of the Region that has hosted impressive concentrations of this species in years past. Pine

Siskins staged a significant invasion of coastal and low-lying areas, and Evening Grosbeaks ranged widely, though in small numbers, along the coast.

Corrigendum: The Magnificent Hummingbird at Eureka, *Humboldt* 8 Apr–17 May should have been attributed to Lina Carro (N.A.B. 58: 429).

Cited observers (county coordinators in boldface): R. J. Adams, Tim Amaral, David Armstrong (DvA), Dick Ashford, Edward C. Beedy, Murray Berner, William G. Bousman (*Santa Clara*), Matthew Brady, Beverly Brock, Adam Brown (EI.), George E. Chaniot, Luke W. Cole (*Kings*), Chris Conard (*Sacramento* and *Yolo*), Hugh Cotter, Jeff N. Davis (*Madera*), Al DeMartini, David DeSante, Bruce E. Deuel (n. C.V. counties), Ryan DiGaudio, Jon L. Dunn, Todd Easterla, Mark W. Eaton (*San Francisco*), Ray Ekstrom (*Siskiyou*), Brian Fitch, David Fix (*Humboldt*), Rick Fournier (RF), Rob Fowler (RbF), James H. Gain (*Stanislaus*), Steve Gerow, Steve A. Glover (*Contra Costa*), Edward D. Greaves, Helen Green, Keith Hansen, W. Edward Harper, Garth Harwood, Cliff Hawley, Sacha Heath (SaH), Waldo R. Holt, Alan S. Hopkins, Debbie House, Steven N.G. Howell, John E. Hunter (*Trinity*), Ken Irwin, David Johnson, Robert J. Keiffer (*Mendocino*), Christine H. Koundakjian, Theodore H. Koundakjian, Kim Kreitinger, Jeri M. Langham, Rick Lebaudour, Robin L. C. Leong (*Napa* and *Solano*), Ron LeValley, Cindy Lieurance, Leslie Lieurance, Jim Lomax, Calvin Lou, John S. Luther, Sean McAllister, J. Mac McCormick (*Plumas* and *Sierra*), Chris McCreedy, Blake Matheson, Peter J. Metropoulos (*San Mateo*), Joseph Morlan, Roger Muskat, David W. Nelson, Kristie N. Nelson (*Mono*), Ed Pandolfino (EP; *Placer*), Jim Parker, Debby Parker, Kathy Parker, Benjamin D. Parmeter, Mark Paxton, Jeff Poklen, Jude C. Power (*Humboldt*), Eric W. Preston, Peter Pyle, Robert W. Reiling, David C. Rice, Will Richardson, Jean M. Richmond, Robert J. Richmond (*Alameda*), Don Roberson (*Monterey*), Michael M. Rogers, Kerry G. Ross, Ruth A. Rudesill (*Sonoma*), Paul Saraceni, Jeff Seay, Shearwater Journeys (ShJ), David Shuford, Rich Stallcup, John C. Sterling (*Alpine*, *Calaveras*, and *Modoc*), David L. Suddjian (*Santa Cruz*), Robert B. Sutherland, Ryan Terrill, Linda Terrill (LTer), Scott B. Terrill, Ronald S. Thorn, Jim Tietz, John Trochet, Steve Umland (*Tuolumne*), Kent Van Vuren (*Merced* and *San Benito*), David Vander Pluym (*Mariposa*), Matt Wachs, Jerry R. White (*Lake*), Alan Wight, Brian Williams (*Nevada*), Uzelle Williams, Roger Wolfe, Tom Wurster, Bob & Carol Yutzy (*Shasta*). Many more observers are not specifically cited; all are appreciated. ☺