

Sep (JMCM). A Common Grackle, still only casual in the Region, was at San Luis Obispo 27 Nov+ (JSR). Six Orchard Orioles were found 10 Sep–14 Nov, all on the coastal slope; one on San Clemente I. 18 Aug (JMCM) was early, and at a time when juv. Hooded Orioles pose significant identification problems. A Baltimore Oriole was at Deep Springs 18 Sep (TEW), and 4 more were in coastal Santa Barbara and San Diego after 21 Oct. Pine Siskins were very scarce in the lowlands this fall, in contrast to the major flight a year ago; the only report from Orange, for example, was one at Mission Viejo 7 Oct (BED).

Cited observers (county coordinators in boldface): Larry W. Allen, Eitan Altman, Lisa Andreano, John Ayres, Richard Barth, Dan Bauman (DBa), David Bell (DBe), Thomas A. Benson, Mark J. Billings, Steve Bjork, Dick Boyd (DBo), Jamie M. Chavez, Mary Claypool, Hal Cohen, Peyton T. Cook, Travis Cooper, David M. Compton (Santa Barbara), Ron



This basic-plumaged Bobolink (5 September 2005) was one of at least 20 to reach San Clemente Island this fall. Numbers of Bobolink reaching California have declined greatly since the 1970s, but the species is still reported regularly in September and October. Photograph by Jimmy McMorran.

Cyger, Brian E. Daniels, Jeff N. Davis, Chris Dellith, Don DesJardin, Jennice and Karl Dobroszczyk, Tracy Drake, Jon L. Dunn, Todd Easterla, Tom M. Edell (San Luis Obispo), Torrey J. Edell, Meryl Faulkner, Jon Feenstra, Nova Fraser, Marj Freda (MFr), Wes T. Fritz, Peter A. Gaede (PAGa), Kimball L. Garrett (Los Angeles), Steve Gaulin (SGa), Peter A. Ginsburg (PAGi), Dave Goodward, Gary B. Grantham, Stan Gray (SGr), James M. Greaves, John F. Green (Riverside), Robert A. Hamilton, Gjon C. Hazard, Matthew T. Heindel, Tom & Jo Heindel (Inyo), Roger Higson, Gerco Hoogeweg, Chris and Rosie Howard, Andrew Howe, Steve N. G. Howell, Dave Hubbard, Terry Hune-field, Marshall J. Iloff, Karen F. Ingram, Oscar Johnson, Paul

Jorgensen, Susan A. Kaveggia, Howard B. King, Alexander E. Koonce (San Bernardino), Howard B. King, Karl Krause, Kenneth Z. Kurland, Ken and Brenda Kyle (K & BK), Kevin G. Larson, Dave M. Lawrence, Andrew Lee, Vic Leipzig, Nick A. Lethaby, Cecilia M. Leumas,

Kelli Levinson, Cheryl Lish, John Luther, Jennifer Lyle, Suellen Lynn, Guy McCaskie (Imperial), Chet McGaugh, Todd McGrath, Robert McKernan, Jimmy McMorran (San Clemente Island) Anthony Mercieca, Bill Moffat, Vic Murayama, Stephen J. Myers, Kristie N. Nelson, Christina L. Nowacki, Dennis Parker (DPa) Jim and Debby Parker (J & DP), Robert T. Paten, David Pereksta (DPe), James E. Pike, Lucien Plauzoles, Tim Plunkett, David Povey (DPo), Hugh P. Ranson, Gage Ricard, Jim S Royer, Matt Sadowski, Mike San Miguel, Michael J. San Miguel, Brad K. Schram, Steve C. Shubert, Mike Skram (MSk), Susan E. Smith, Maggie L. Smith, Trent R. Stanley, Thomas Staudt, Bob Steele (BoS), Susan Steele, Becky Stewart (BeS), Kirk Stitt, Ryan Terrill, Scott B. Terrill, Walter Wehtje (Ventura), Douglas R. Willick (Orange), Mary Williams, John C. Wilson (Kern), Vicki and Gerry Wolfe, Lloyd Wright, Thomas E. Wurster. An additional 50+ observers who could not be individually acknowledged submitted reports this season; all have our thanks. ☺

Guy McCaskie, 954 Grove Avenue, Imperial Beach, California 91932, (guyMcC@pacbell.net); Kimball L. Garrett, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, 900 Exposition Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90007, (kgarrett@nhm.org)

Baja California Peninsula



Richard A. Erickson
Robert A. Hamilton
Roberto Carmona
Gorgonio Ruiz-Campos

Coverage was lighter than in recent years, at least in Baja California. As a result, there was only one Regional first (a hurricane-driven Juan Fernandez Petrel), plus two state firsts, Mourning Warbler in the north and Townsend's Solitaire in the south. Other highlights included Fulvous Whistling-Duck, lingering Cory's Shearwater (see summer report), Manx Shearwater, Mississippi Kites, Ruff, a wayward Belding's Yellowthroat, and a suggestion of first nesting of Great-tailed Grackles in Baja California Sur.

At the start of our sixth year of reporting from Mexico's far west, we thank Eduardo Palacios for five years of service and wish him well in his work on behalf of the Region's birdlife. We welcome Gorgonio Ruiz-Campos of Ensenada as his replacement and look forward to his contributions.

WATERFOWL THROUGH RAPTORS

The now-regular Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (one at Lagunas de Chametla 4 Oct, SGM, CW, RS) was overshadowed this season by a Fulvous Whistling-Duck at Estero San José del Cabo 1 Oct (ph. SGM, CW, RS) and perhaps the same bird at Lagunas de Chametla 1–2 Dec (LS, ph. RC, VA). Although undoubtedly regular formerly in the Colorado Desert, there are only four known reports from Baja California, none more recent than 1958 (S. R. Wilbur, 1987, *Birds of Baja California*, University of California Press), and just two Baja California Sur specimens from Todos Santos in 1928 (*Monographs in Field Ornithology* 3: 119). Mallards are generally uncommon in ne. Baja California but are common in the northwest s. to El Rosario, e.g., 80 were there 20 Oct (MS, LN), and 400 were at Tijuana's Parque de la Amistad 2 Aug (MJB). None have been reported s of there since 2000 (N.A.B. 55: 106). In contrast, Blue-winged Teal become more common to the s., but 225 at Estero San José del

SA Hurricanes are regular phenomena in the s. portion of our Region, and in the years to come we expect an increasingly sophisticated response to the attendant birding opportunities.

Hurricane *Otis* reached southernmost Regional waters 1 Oct and was expected to cross the peninsula in the following days. Efforts to meet the hurricane near its predicted mid-peninsula landfall failed when the storm drifted westward and dissipated in the Pacific. But lucky observers on the East Cape managed to connect with what was presumably a storm-driven **Juan Fernandez Petrel** (*Pterodroma externa*) flying southward past La Ribera 4 Oct (†SGM, †RS, †CW). This cen. Pacific wanderer had been recorded off s. Mexico but never before in our waters (*Monographs in Field Ornithology* 3: 189). Shortly thereafter, at nearby Buena Vista, the same observers saw what may have been another *Pterodroma* petrel, but it was too distant to identify. Also possibly related to the hurricane were the Common and Least Terns, at La Paz 4–5 Oct, mentioned below.

Cabo 1 Oct (SGM, CW, RS) appears to be a record Regional count.

There are few inland records of loons except at Cerro Prieto geothermal ponds, so a Common Loon at Presa Rodriguez 11 Nov (MJB et al.) was noteworthy. Cook's Petrels are apparently regular in the Region's deep Pacific waters, but we receive few reports. This season, they were closer to shore, with one ca. 138 km s. of San Diego 2 Sep (†HBK) and 13 seen on a trip from San Diego to 48 km s. of Ensenada 8 Sep (ELK, JM). The tubenose highlight in Baja California was a **Manx Shearwater** ca. 138 km s. of San Diego 2 Sep (†HBK); another sight record from Feb 2003 is the only previous Mexican report (*Western Birds* 35: 211–214). Maximum counts of certain other waterbirds included 486 Pink-footed Shearwaters off Ensenada 12 Sep (MJI); 350 Sooty Shearwaters ca. 160 km s. of San Diego 2 Sep (HBK); 325 Black-vented Shearwaters, 1750 Least Storm-Petrels, 6200 Blue-footed Boobies, and 200 Brown Boobies in the Gulf of California off Bahía de Los Angeles 27 Sep (MJI, BLS, JMM); and 330 American White Pelicans at Mexicali 22 Sep (MJI).

Waders at unexpected places included imm. Little Blue Herons at San Ignacio 28 Sep (MJI, BLS, JMM) and El Rosario 9 Oct (RAE, RAH, SNGH); 4 Cattle Egrets at sea ca. 200 km nw. of Cabo San Lucas 31 Oct (RK); 2 imm. White Ibis at San Ignacio 28 Sep (BLS, JMM); and mid-peninsula White-faced Ibis at Cataviña 8

Oct (RAE, RAH, SNGH), Estero San Rafael 31 Aug (2; RC, JAC), Guerrero Negro/saltworks (up to 20, 3–20 Oct; AG-A et al.), and Ejido Lagunero 28 Sep (MJI, BLS, JMM). We receive few reports of White-tailed Kites in the Cape District; individuals were at Miraflores 2 Oct and Rancho Guamuchilar 3 Oct (†CW, ph. †SGM, RS). More impressive were up to 8 Mississippi Kites at Miraflores 1–9 Oct (†SGM, vt. CW, RS). One photographed at Todos San-

SA The largest saltworks in the world are located s. of Guerrero Negro on the e. fringes of Laguna Ojo de Liebre (the Scammon's Lagoon famous for its calving Gray Whales). The vast array of evaporation ponds serves as habitat for great numbers of waterbirds. Monthly surveys of the ponds are now being conducted by a team lead by Roberto Carmona. Some of this year's survey results include 300 American White Pelicans and 800 Double-crested Cormorants 4 Oct (AG-A, RAE); 2907 Red Knots 20 Oct (RC, VA); 30,000 Red-necked Phalaropes 28 Jul (AC, NA), with 12,000 still present 4 Oct (AG-A, RAE); and 1216 Black Terns 27 Aug (NA, AG-A), with 650 still present 4 Oct (RAE, AG-A). We look forward to future revelations.

tos 10 Jan 1988 established the only other Regional record (*Monographs in Field Ornithology* 3: 121). Cataviña/Santa Inés provided refuge for rare migrant raptors: 2 Red-shouldered Hawks 8 Oct (SNGH, RAE, RAH) and Broad-winged Hawks 27 Sep (3 ads.; BLS, JMM, MJI), 5 Oct (ad.; SNGH), and 8 Oct (imm.; SNGH). Two Swainson's Hawks at Ejido Lagunero 28 Sep (MJI, BLS, JMM) and Zone-tailed Hawks at Arroyo Santo Dominguito 5 Oct (SNGH, RAH) and Caduaño 1 Oct (SGM, CW, RS) were the only ones reported. Exceptionally early was a Merlin at Mexicali 29 Aug (MJB, MS).

SHOREBIRDS THROUGH FLYCATCHERS

Rare plovers were represented by a juv. Pacific Golden-Plover at Estero Punta Banda 8 Oct and 25 Mountains at Mesa San Jacinto 9 Oct (SG, LLN). Counts of 65 and 62 American Oystercatchers at Laguna Guerrero Negro 4 Oct (RAE) and Chametla 5 Oct (SGM, CW, RS), respectively, were higher than any others we have received. In contrast to last year, when Baja California outscored Baja California Sur (8:1), 12 Solitary Sandpipers were in the Cape District 30 Sep–7 Oct (SGM, CW, RS) and one was in Baja California, at Estero Punta Banda 5 Sep (MJI). A juv. Ruddy Turn-

stone at Cerro Prieto geothermal ponds 22 Sep (ph. MJI) established the first fall record at that interior site. Rare *Calidris* were generally poorly represented, with a juv. Semipalmated at Lagunas de Chametla 5 Oct (†SGM, †CW, RS); Baird's at the Colonia Zaragosa sewage ponds (8 juvs. 29 Aug, one 22 Sep; MJI et al.), Estero Punta Banda (juv. 5 Sep; PAG), and Predio El Refugio, s. of Todos Santos (ad. and juv. 6 Oct; SGM, CW, RS); and juv. Pectorals on the Maneadero Plain (24–26 Sep; ph. MJB et al.) and Guerrero Negro (up to 3, 3–11 Oct; RAE et al.). The exception was Pectoral Sandpipers in the Cape District, where 27 were found 30 Sep–7 Oct (ph. SGM, CW, RS). An ad. Dunlin at Estero Punta Banda 3 Sep (MJI, PAG, RAH) was recorded early for the Region. The shorebird highlight was a juv. male **Ruff** at Guerrero Negro 3 Oct–11 Nov (†RAE, AG-A et al.), the state's 2nd and Region's 4th (or 5th, *Monographs in Field Ornithology* 3: 124). Sixty Wilson's

Phalaropes at El Centenario Tank 6 Aug (RC, AG-A) apparently represents a high count for the Cape District.

Among the birds seen on an especially productive trip 27 Sep to Canal de Ballenas, off Bahía de Los Angeles, were a South Polar Skua and a juv. Long-tailed Jaeger (MJI, ph. BLS, JMM). Additional Long-tailed Jaegers were off Ensenada 12 Sep (MJI) and w. of Is. Los Coronados 5 Oct (PPy). An ad. Yellow-footed Gull at the Guerrero Negro saltworks 4 Oct (RAE, AG-A) may have been one of 2 there in May. Western Gulls on the Gulf of California were at Lagunas de Chametla 6 Aug (VA, AG-A) and Bahía de Los Angeles 27 Sep (MJI, ph. BLS, JMM). Iliff generated all the Sabine's Gull highlights: only one of 205 off Ensenada 12 Sep was imm., but both birds in the ne. 22 Sep were imms., at Mexicali (ph., †) and Cerro Prieto geothermal ponds (ph.). A Gull-billed Tern was misplaced at Estero Punta Banda 8 Oct (SG, LLN). An estimated 10,000+ Elegant Terns passed Rosarito 9–10 Sep (RM). Thirteen Common Terns were at Cerro Prieto geothermal ponds 22 Sep (ph. MJI); at Estero Punta Banda, 750 were seen 3 Sep (MJI, PAG, RAH) and 200 on 8 Oct (SG, LLN); and in Baja California Sur, one was at Guerrero Negro 28 Sep (MJI, BLS, JMM) and 3 at La Paz 4 Oct (SGM, CW, RS). Two imm. Arctic Terns w. of



This Fulvous Whistling-Duck was at Estero San José del Cabo, Baja California Sur on 1 October 2005—the first to be found in the Region in nearly 50 years. Photograph by Steven G. Mlodinow.



This juvenile Long-tailed Jaeger posed on calm seas off Bahía de Los Angeles, Baja California 27 September 2005. Photograph by Brian L. Sullivan.

Is. Los Coronados 5 Oct (PPy) were the only ones reported. Late Least Terns were at the Guerrero Negro saltworks 4 Oct (3; RAE, AG-A) and La Paz 5 Oct (24; SGM, CW, RS). Atypically high numbers of Black Terns were reported, with as many as 100 in the Mexicali/Cerro Prieto geothermal ponds area 29 Aug–22 Sep (MJI et al.), 2 off Rosarito 10 Sep (RM), 2 at Estero Punta Banda 3 Sep (RAH, PAG, MJI), 180 off Bahía de Los Angeles 27 Sep (MJI, BLS, JMM), and 35 at El Centenario 29 Sep (NA, VA); also see S.A.

Ruddy Ground-Doves n. of the Cape District were at Guerrero Negro (female 3 Oct; ph. RAE), Bahía Asunción (male and female 6 Oct; RAE, RAH, SNGH), and Bahía de Los Angeles (male 30 Oct–7 Dec; MF, GF). Only 2 Vaux's Swifts were reported, at Cataviña 27 & 29 Sep (MJI, BLS, JMM). Last winter's male Ruby-throated Hummingbird may have returned to San José del Cabo, as an ad. was at the same location 30 Sep (†SGM). Southerly Black-chinned Hummingbirds were at Cataviña 27 Sep (ph. BLS, JMM, MJI), San José del Cabo 30 Sep (SGM, CW, RS), and Guerrero Negro 5 Oct (RAE). We receive few Willow Flycatcher reports from Baja California Sur, so



Baja California Sur's fourth Yellow-throated Warbler was found at Miraflores 1 October 2005. Photograph by Charlie Wright.

birds at Guerrero Negro and San Ignacio 28 Sep (BLS, MJI, JMM) were noteworthy. More unusual migrant flycatchers were a Least Flycatcher at Santa Teresita 28 Sep (MJI, ph. BLS, JMM), Hammond's Flycatcher at El Rosario 9

Oct (RAE), Dusky Flycatcher at El Rosario 29 Sep (BLS, MJI, JMM), and Eastern Phoebe at Bahía de Los Angeles 4 Nov (MF, GF). Six Tropical Kingbirds were found in Baja California Sur 6 Aug–7 Oct and 5 or 6 in Baja California 26 Sep–19 Oct. In Baja California Sur, 6 Western Kingbirds were in the Cape District 1–7 Oct (SGM, CW, RS), one was at Ejido Lagunero 28 Sep (MJI, BLS, JMM), and 2 were at Bahía Asunción 6 Oct (SNGH).

VIREOS THROUGH BLACKBIRDS

Bell's Vireos at Rancho San Miguel 6 Oct (SNGH, RAE, RAH) and at Bahía Tortugas 7 Oct (RAE, RAH) probably were still moving through the Vizcaíno Peninsula rather than wintering. Single Red-eyed Vireos were at El Rosario 9 Oct (SNGH, RAH, RAE) and 25 Oct (†MS, LN), and a Yellow-green was at Santa Teresita 7 Oct (RAH, RAE, SNGH). Baja California Sur's first Townsend's Solitaire was near Gavilán 7 Oct (SNGH, ph. RAE, ph. RAH), and other lowland birds were at El Rosario 29 Sep (MJI), Santa Inés 10 Oct (SG, LLN), and Rancho El Descanso 21 Oct (ph. MS, LN). Single Red-throated Pipits were found just s. of the state line at Guerrero Negro 5 Oct (RAE) and just n. of it at Villa Jesus María 11 Oct (SG).

The pageant of warblers was even richer than usual this season. Among them was the 5th Cape May for Baja California Sur, an imm. female at Bahía Asunción 6 Oct (RAE, ph. RAH, SNGH); the 4th Yellow-throated for Baja California Sur (all *D. d. albilora*) at Miraflores 1 Oct (ph. CW, †SGM, RS); the 5th Bay-breasted for Baja California and the peninsula, an imm. female at El Rosario 5 Oct (ph. †RAH, RAE, SNGH); the 3rd Townsend's Warbler × Hermit Warbler hybrid for Baja California and the peninsula at El Rosario 9 Oct (SNGH, RAE); 3 Prothonotary Warblers in Baja California, including the first for the ne., at the Mexicali Zoo 22 Sep (†MJJ); 2 Mourning Warblers, including the first acceptable one for Baja California, an imm. at El Sauzal 24 Sep (†RAE, ph. MJB), and the 3rd for Baja California Sur at Bahía Asunción 6 Oct (SNGH, RAH, RAE); a vagrant imm. male Belding's Yellowthroat—the first of its kind to be found far away from any marshy habitat—at Bahía Tortugas 6–7 Oct (ph. †RAH, RAE, SNGH); the 7th Canada Warbler for Baja California at Cataviña 5–8 Oct (SNGH, ph. RAH, RAE); and the 4th and 5th Painted Redstarts

for Baja California at the lower Río Santo Tomás 24 Sep (ph. MJB, RAE) and La Bufadora 27 Oct (LN, †MS). Among the more regular vagrant warblers, the following made particularly good showings (numbers given for Baja California, then Baja California Sur) Tennessee (7, 6), Lucy's (6, 3), Blackburnian (2, 2), Blackpoll (7, 4), and Ovenbird (2, 3) In line with analysts' expectations were Northern Parula (1, 1) and Black-throated Green (1, 1); disappointing were Virginia's (0, 1), Chestnut-sided (1, 1), Magnolia (1, 0) Black-throated Blue (1, 0), Northern Waterthrush (few migrants), and there was nary a Palm nor a Prairie.

A female Hepatic Tanager at Real del Mar 23 Oct (†MJB, RAE) was the 3rd fall vagrant to be found in Baja California. Only 3 Summer Tanagers were found, all in Baja California Sur. An ad. White-crowned Sparrow on the Maneadero



Townsend's Solitaires were unusually numerous in the lowlands of the Baja California Peninsula this fall, including Baja California Sur's first, near Gavilán on 7 October 2005 (here). Photograph by Robert A. Hamilton.

Plain 4 Sep (MJB) and a Lapland Longspur at Cantamar 26 Sep (†MJI, BLS, JMM) were early, there were no other longspur reports. Misión de San Borja lies nestled in a picturesque agricultural valley in s. central Baja California where on 8 Oct the following birds of interest were found (RAE, RAH, SNGH): 11 Black-chinned Sparrows, a Grasshopper Sparrow, and at least one Northern Cardinal. Observations of cardinals here and at Estero San Rafael beginning in Feb 2005 (RC et al.) established a new n. limit for the Cape District population. Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were unusually plentiful this season, with 4 in Baja California Sur and 6 in Baja California, plus 2 female apparent Rose-breasted Grosbeak × Black-headed Grosbeak hybrids, at Santa Inés/Cataviña 5 Oct (SNGH, RAH) and the mouth of the Río Santo Tomás 10 Oct (SNGH, RAE, RAH). The first nine days of Oct brought records of 6 Indigo Buntings from the peninsula, evenly split between the states, and the season's only Dickcissel, at



This blackbird at Santa Inés, Baja California (here 5 October 2005) associated with Brown-headed Cowbirds and a female Brewer's Blackbird. Although its overall size was not strikingly larger than expected of a male Brewer's Blackbird, its flattened head and hefty bill suggest a possible Brewer's Blackbird × Great-tailed Grackle hybrid.

Photograph by Robert A. Hamilton.

Bahía Tortugas 6 Oct (RAH, RAE, SNGH).

Since 20 Nov 1968, when David DeSante collected one at Cabo San Lucas, no Bobolinks had been found in Baja California Sur s. of the Vizcaino Desert until 1–3 Oct, when up to 3 were at Estero San José del Cabo (SGM, CW, RS). Bobolinks were also found at one site in n. Baja California Sur and three sites in Baja California, including a healthy count of 20 at El Rosario 9 Oct (RAE, RAH, SNGH). A male blackbird that associated with a female Brewer's Blackbird at Santa Inés/Cataviña 5–8 Oct possessed a flattened

head and grackle-like bill, features suggesting a possible Brewer's Blackbird × Great-tailed Grackle hybrid (SNGH, ph. RAH). The first Great-tailed Grackles in Baja California Sur were found at Guerrero Negro in 1995, and while nesting has not yet been confirmed in the state, a late Jul count of 400 that included begging juvs. (AG-A) suggests that colonization of this s. outpost is probably now complete. A female Bronzed Cowbird at Chametla 7 Oct (SGM, CW, RS) may have been the same bird seen in this area 25 Jan.

Single Orchard Orioles were at Todos Santos 6 Oct (SGM, CW, RS) and Bahía Asunción 6 Oct (RAH), and 2 females were at Bahía Tortugas 7 Oct (RAE). The only Baja California Sur Bullock's Oriole was at Bahía Tortugas 7 Oct, whereas Baltimore Orioles were at Punta Banda 10 Oct, Bahía Asunción 6 Oct, and Rancho Santa Mónica 7 Oct (all RAH, RAE, SNGH).

NON-NATIVE SPECIES

High counts of Eurasian Collared-Doves included (from north to south): 100 on the Maneadero Plain 11 Nov (RAE), 40 at El Rosario 21 Oct (MS, LN), 38 at Guerrero Negro 13 Nov (AG-A), 15 at Bahía Tortugas 7 Oct (RAE, RAH, SNGH), and 20 at Bahía Asunción 6 Oct (RAE, RAH, SNGH).

Contributors: Nallely Arce, Víctor Ayala, Mark J. Billings, Georgina Brabata, Barbara L. Carlson, Michael D. Carmody, Roberto Carmona, Harry R. Carter, José Alfredo Castillo, Andrea Cuéllar, Richard A. Erickson, George Flicker, Mary Flicker, Peter A. Gaede, Steve Ganley, Salvador González-Guzmán, Antonio Gutierrez-Aguilar, Robert A. Hamilton, Steve N. G. Howell, Marshall J. Iliff, Eric L. Kershner, Howard B. King, Rudolf Koes, Pablo Lobera, John Martin, Michelle A. Matson, Jimmy M. McMorran, Robert McMorran, Steven G. Mlodinow, Thomas J. Myers, Christian Neumann, Larry L. Norris, Lea Norton, Drew Pallette, Pam Pallette, Peter Pyle, Gorgonio Ruiz-Campos, Matt Sadowski, Luis Sauma, Ryan Shaw, Brian L. Sullivan, Charlie Wright. 🐦

Richard A. Erickson, LSA Associates, 20 Executive Park, Suite 200, Irvine, California 92614, (richard.erickson@lsa-assoc.com); **Robert A. Hamilton**, 34 Rivo Alto Canal, Long Beach, California 90803, (robb@rahilton.com); **Roberto Carmona**, Departamento de Biología Marina, Universidad Autónoma de Baja California Sur, Apartado Postal 19-B, La Paz, Baja California Sur, Mexico, (beauty@uabcs.mx); **Gorgonio Ruiz-Campos**, Facultad de Ciencias, Universidad Autónoma de Baja California, Apartado Postal 1653, Ensenada, Baja California, 22800, Mexico, U.S. mailing address: PMB 064, P.O. Box 189003, Coronado, CA 92178-9003, (gruiz@uabcs.mx)

Mexico

Héctor Gómez de Silva

NORTHERN MEXICO



recorded 11, 18, & 25 Sep and 23 & 30 Oct (WB, AVJ, RLL, EC, FVP). A pair of Montezuma Quail with at least 3 chicks was at

WATERFOWL THROUGH OWLS

Wood Ducks were seen by the dozens in Cañón de Fernández S.P., Río Nazas, Dgo., reaffirming that this local population continues to reproduce well. Groups of 10–35 were

Cuarenta Casas, Chih. 2 Aug (EB, MDC, ph. JC). An ad. Least Grebe was seen in Cañón de Fernández S.P. 10 Oct, a new species for the area (WB, RLL, FVP).

A juv. Little Blue Heron and a Tricolored

Heron, scarce inland, accompanied a Great Blue Heron and a Great Egret at a pond 72 km e. of Monterrey, N.L. 14 Aug (MDC). Four Hook-billed Kites were seen just s. of El Ciruelo, Nay. along the Río Grande de Santiago 4 Nov (JM, AM). A Great Black-Hawk was near Arroyo de Mentidero/Cuchujaqui, Son. 4 Nov (RW). Gray Hawks seem to be established at Cañón de Fernández S.P., as suggested by ads. seen there 18 Sep and 9 Oct and a juv. 25 Sep (WB, AVJ, RLL, FVP). A kettle of ca. 150 Swainson's Hawks was at a roadside pullout near Cerro el Elefante, Sin. 28 Oct (MSM et al.). Some 1300 Swainson's were noted migrating through the mts. s. of El Ciruelo 3 Nov (JM, AM). A Golden Eagle, scarce this far s., was seen along a trail at km 207.5 of the Durango Hwy. in Sep (MR, SC). A Bat Falcon was seen just n. of Punta Mita, Nay. in Sep (MR, SC). Slightly outside of mapped ranges were a Collared Forest-Falcon 3 Nov and a Prairie Falcon (mobbed by a pair of Peregrine Falcons) 4 Nov near El Ciruelo (JM, AM).

A remarkable concentration of 385 Ameri-