

NOTE

FIRST RECORD OF HOODED WARBLER FOR THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHANNEL ISLANDS

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The Hooded Warbler (*Wilsonia citrina*) is a rare visitor to the southern California mainland (38 records reported, mostly from the interior), primarily in spring (Garrett and Dunn 1981). To my knowledge, it has never been recorded on any of the Southern California Channel Islands despite several recent surveys of the islands' avifauna (Hunt and Hunt 1974, Jones and Diamond 1976, Diamond and Jones 1980, Hunt et al. 1980) and my own incidental observations while conducting pinniped research at San Miguel and San Nicolas islands since 1978.

On 22 May 1983 I observed a male Hooded Warbler and a male Wilson's Warbler (*W. pusilla*) foraging at the western tip of San Nicolas Island (33°15'N, 119°33'W). They foraged within 100 m of my field quarters, just below the main Western Gull (*Larus occidentalis*) rookery, from about 1700 through at least sunset (1900). The two birds foraged within 5 m of each other during this period except occasionally when one or the other flew to a new location; the birds generally reunited within 10 to 15 minutes. At 2030, the Hooded Warbler flew into the field quarters, apparently attracted by the lights. I captured and photographed the bird (Figure 1) before releasing it at 2100. Neither bird was seen again. Wilson's Warblers are common spring visitors



Figure 1. Hooded Warbler, San Nicolas Island, California, 22 May 1983.

Photo by Brent S. Stewart

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to San Nicolas Island (Townsend 1968, G. McCaskie pers. comm., H.L. Jones pers. comm.). Although Hooded Warblers are rare visitors to the South Farallon Islands in northern California (DeSante and Ainley 1980), the observation reported here is apparently the first record of this species on the Southern California Channel Islands.

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BIRD ART

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