

# NOTEWORTHY BIRD OBSERVATIONS FROM BAJA CALIFORNIA, MEXICO

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Despite Baja California's proximity to heavily birded southern California, its avifauna remains surprisingly poorly known. The paucity of data regarding birds in Baja California was highlighted by Wilbur (1987). In particular it is apparent that few ornithologists have studied Baja California in summer, i.e., the period between a species' spring and autumn migration periods. For example, the occurrence in June 1991 of summering Common (*Gavia immer*) and Pacific (*G. pacifica*) loons, Great Egrets (*Casmerodius albus*), Greater Yellowlegs (*Tringa melanoleuca*), Long-billed Curlews (*Numenius americanus*), Short-billed Dowitchers (*Limnodromus griseus*), and California Gulls (*Larus californicus*), all seen at Bahía San Quintín, would barely be worth noting had they been in southern California, yet there appear to be no previous published summer records for these species in Baja California! [Linas et al. (1989) and Escofet et al. (1988) did not specifically distinguish oversummering individuals, and the former's definition of "summer" more accurately reflects autumn for shorebirds.]

While much of the increased knowledge in recent years can be attributed to improved accessibility, real changes in bird distribution are occurring in conjunction with man's impact on the environment. For example, intensive cultivation of the Llano de Magdalena around Ciudad Constitución and Ciudad Insurgentes, dating from the 1960s (Automobile Club of Southern California 1990), has created habitat for White-tailed Kites and Western Meadowlarks, while the reservoir at Ejido Héroes de La Independencia has allowed Tricolored and Yellow-headed blackbirds to nest side by side.

This paper is based mostly on our field work in Baja California from 1 to 20 June 1991, when we twice drove the entire length of the peninsula. Our primary objective was to determine summer and breeding distributions of birds, particularly in the three main sierras (Sierra de La Laguna, Sierra San Pedro Mártir, and Sierra Juárez). We also include a few records from our trips to Baja California in December 1982, December 1983, January and February 1988, and October 1991, and some observations contributed by other observers. Figures 1 and 2 locate places mentioned in the species accounts.

In total we detail new information concerning 52 species in Baja California, including three species new to the peninsula and four probable breeding species unreported from Baja California (and Mexico as a whole) in summer.

## SPECIES ACCOUNTS

Least Grebe *Tachybaptus dominicus*. At Mulegé, on 5 June 1991, we saw a pair and a single adult, and on 13 June 1991 a pair, an adult with two full-grown juveniles, and an adult with two half-grown juveniles. We estimated a maximum population of

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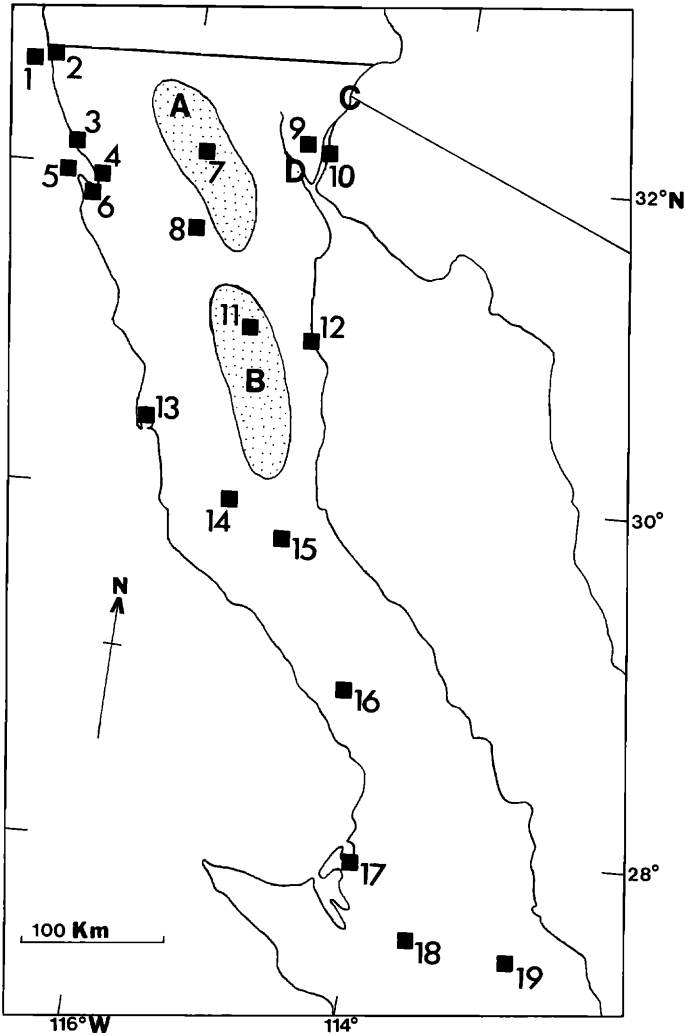


Figure 1. Northern Baja California, showing locations mentioned in the species accounts. Stippled areas represent sierras. A, Sierra Juárez; B, Sierra San Pedro Mártir; C, Río Colorado; D, Río Hardy. 1, Islas Los Coronados; 2, Tijuana; 3, La Misión; 4, Ensenada; 5, Islas de Todos Santos; 6, Estero de Punta Banda; 7, Laguna Hanson; 8, Ejido Héroes de la Independencia; 9, Durango; 10, Coahuila; 11, National Observatory (from the observatory, Vallecitos meadow is approximately 4 km to the south-southeast, La Grulla meadow approximately 17 km to the south); 12, San Felipe; 13, Bahía de San Quintín (La Pinta Pond is just south of the bay, see Palacios and Alfaro 1991); 14, San Fernando; 15, Cataviña; 16, Bahía de Los Angeles junction; 17, Guerrero Negro; 18, Ejido Vizcaino; 19, San Ignacio.

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about five pairs along the river at Mulegé, an area from which there are no historic records. Least Grebes were found at Mulegé in 1987 (T. E. Wurster pers. comm.) and 1988 (D. Wimpfheimer pers. comm.), and it seems that they have been overlooked there (cf. Belding's Yellowthroat) rather than being recent arrivals. The last published records of this species in the peninsula are from 1930 (Grinnell 1928, Wilbur 1987).

Clark's Grebe *Aechmophorus clarkii*. As Wilbur (1987) pointed out, virtually nothing appears to be known, or at least published, regarding the status of Clark's vs. Western Grebe (*A. occidentalis*) in Baja California. We here put on record our observations of Clark's Grebe (and numbers of Westerns simultaneously present): Bahía San Quintín, 14 June 1991, one Clark's, three Western; Guerrero Negro, 1 December 1982, one Clark's, 12 Western; 9 December 1983, 12 Clark's, 20 Western; San Ignacio, 9 December 1983, two Clark's, one Western; Bahía

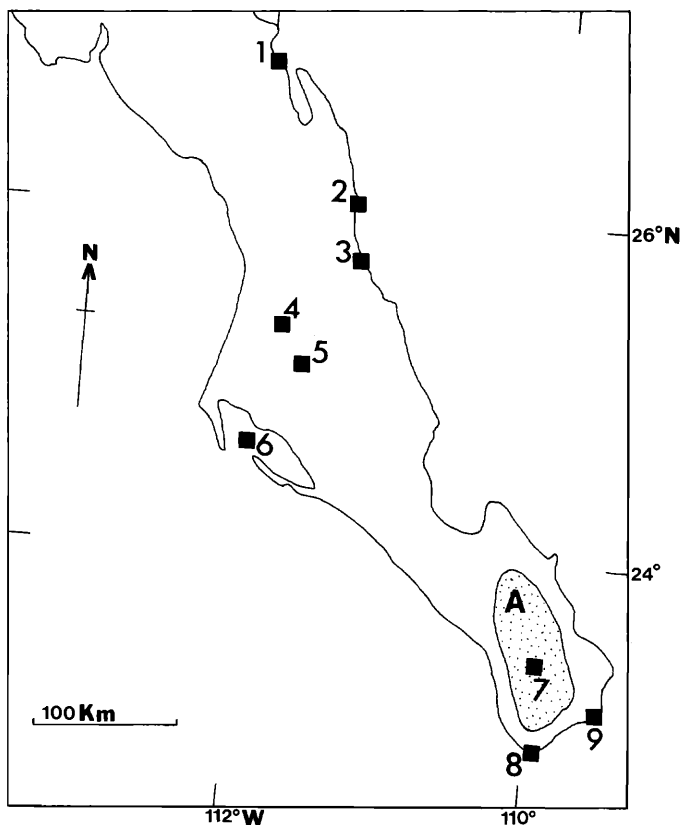


Figure 2. Southern Baja California, showing locations mentioned in the species accounts. A (stippled), Sierra de La Laguna. 1, Mulegé; 2, Loreto; 3, Tripui resort; 4, Ciudad Insurgentes; 5, Ciudad Constitución; 6, Bahía Magdalena; 7, La Laguna; 8, Cabo San Lucas; 9, San José del Cabo.

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Magdalena, 31 January to 1 February 1988, 12 Clark's, 43 Western; San José del Cabo, 4 February 1988, one Clark's, two Western; 26 February 1988, one Clark's, one Western.

Wedge-rumped Storm-Petrel *Oceanodroma tethys*. In the company of J. and K. Horton we saw two Wedge-rumped Storm-Petrels, in loose association with numerous Least Storm-Petrels (*O. microsoma*), at 25°50'N, 110°00'W, about 40 km southeast of Loreto, on 12 June 1991. While Wilbur (1987) reported only one previous record from the Gulf of California, J. and K. Horton (pers. comm.) have, since 1989, regularly seen up to ten Wedge-rumped Storm-Petrels off Loreto between May and July. We have seen thousands of Wedge-rumped Storm-Petrels in the tropical Pacific Ocean and are very familiar with the species. The Loreto birds' small size (similar to the Least Storm-Petrel's), blackish plumage with a bold, very long white patch on the upper tail coverts, and flight manner enabled us to identify them readily.

American White Pelican *Pelecanus erythrorhynchus*. We saw five immatures along the Río Hardy on 20 June 1991, which suggests that some birds oversummer in the Río Colorado delta. Reported only as a "winter visitor in small numbers" to Baja California by Wilbur (1987), although Howell and Pyle (1990) saw 450 at Laguna Salada on 15 May 1989.

Magnificent Frigatebird *Fregata magnificens*. We saw one soaring west over Ciudad Constitución at 1920 on 11 June 1991, and 34 heading north at kilometer post 45 between Ciudad Insurgentes and Loreto, elevation 300 m, at 0820 on 12 June 1991. Although Wilbur (1987) reported only one previous inland record from Baja California, Magnificent Frigatebirds commonly cross the peninsula via the Santo Domingo Valley (R. Rodriguez-Estrella and E. Palacios pers. comm.).

Least Bittern *Ixobrychus exilis*. Single males at San Ignacio, 5 June 1991, and near Durango, in the Río Colorado delta, 20 June 1991, suggest the species is an overlooked breeding resident in the peninsula.

White-faced Ibis *Plegadis chihi*. One immature at San José del Cabo, 11 June 1991, is the first of this species reported from Baja California in summer (cf. Wilbur 1987).

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna autumnalis*. Our sighting of a wary full-winged adult at San José del Cabo, 11 June 1991, represents the first record of this unmistakable neotropical duck for Baja California. Presumably the bird was a wanderer from the Mexican mainland where the species is common.

Brant *Branta bernicla*. One at Estero de Punta Banda, 2 June 1991, and 18 at Bahía San Quintín, 15 June 1991 appear to constitute the first summer records from Baja California (cf. Wilbur 1987). A few Brant typically oversummer in southern California (Garrett and Dunn 1981).

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*. On 19 June 1991 we saw a female with nine small ducklings on the reservoir at kilometer post 96 on Highway 3, 8 km south of Ejido Héroes de la Independencia. There were also 11 other Mallards (including four pairs) at the reservoir. Other breeding records for the peninsula were in 1925 (Huey 1928) and May 1989, near La Misión (Howell and Pyle 1990).

Northern Pintail *Anas acuta*. In 1991 we saw 50 at Guerrero Negro on 4 June and three at the reservoir 8 km south of Ejido Héroes de la Independencia on 19 June. There is only one previous summer record from Baja California, in June 1926 (Grinnell 1928); Wilbur (1987) mistakenly indicated that Grinnell (1928) cited a July record.

Blue-winged Teal *Anas discors*. A male at the reservoir 8 km south of Ejido Héroes de la Independencia, 19 June 1991, is the first reported for summer in Baja California (cf. Wilbur 1987).

Cinnamon Teal *Anas cyanoptera*. We saw a female with nine ducklings, plus two courting pairs and three single males, at the reservoir 8 km south of Ejido Héroes de

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la Independencia on 19 June 1991, and a pair with one small duckling on the Río Hardy on 20 June 1991. Howell and Pyle (1990) reported other recent summer observations in northern Baja California.

Gadwall *Anas strepera*. A pair at Ejido Héroes de la Independencia and three males at the reservoir 8 km south of Ejido Héroes de la Independencia, all on 19 June 1991, are the first reported for summer in Baja California (cf. Wilbur 1987).

Redhead *Aythya americana*. A pair at Ejido Héroes de la Independencia and another pair and single male at the reservoir 8 km south of Ejido Héroes de la Independencia, all on 19 June 1991, are the first reported in summer in Baja California (cf. Wilbur 1987).

White-tailed Kite *Elanus leucurus*. We observed five birds (including one adult and two juveniles) 11 km south of Ciudad Insurgentes on 12 June 1991. In addition, two adults were seen near Ciudad Insurgentes in November 1989 (R. Rodríguez-Estrella pers. comm.). Although the species' range has increased greatly in North America in recent years, Wilbur (1987) reported that no range expansion had been noted in Baja California. These observations represent a range extension of 400 km south from the nearest known point of occurrence on the peninsula. We follow Amadon and Bull (1988) and Sibley and Monroe (1990) in not considering *leucurus* conspecific with the quite different *caeruleus* of the Old World.

Laughing Gull *Larus atricilla*. On 20 June 1991, at San Felipe, we observed 24 alternate-plumaged adults heading south offshore. These birds were probably dispersing from the recently discovered colony in the Río Colorado delta (Palacios and Mellink 1992). Other than these records, the species is known only as a winter visitor in Baja California, with one record as early as September (Wilbur 1987).

Franklin's Gull *Larus pipixcan*. One adult at Guerrero Negro, 1–2 December 1982, appears to be only the sixth recorded in Baja California (cf. Wilbur 1987); four of the records fall between late November and mid December.

Heermann's Gull *Larus heermanni*. An adult on the reservoir at Ejido Héroes de la Independencia, elevation 1000 m, on 19 June 1991, is the first of this species reported for the interior of Baja California (cf. Wilbur 1987), being 105 km from the Gulf of California and 65 km from the Pacific Ocean.

Gull-billed Tern *Sterna nilotica*. This species appears to be a common post-breeding visitor to the Río Colorado delta and northeast coast. We saw two groups, totaling 37 alternate-plumaged adults (most apparently paired), at San Felipe, and 23 alternate-plumaged adults at the Río Hardy, all on 20 June 1991. Wilbur (1987) reported only a few records and considered the species' status "uncertain."

Forster's Tern *Sterna forsteri*. Palacios and Alfaro (1991) reported the recent discovery of the first known breeding colonies of this species in Baja California. The La Pinta Pond colony was still active in 1991, with 30–35 birds (including 13 sitting on nests, a pair feeding two chicks, and three first-summer birds) on 14 June. A second-summer bird at the reservoir 8 km south of Ejido Héroes de la Independencia, 19 June 1991, a first-summer bird at San Felipe, 20 June 1991, and nine first-summer birds at the Río Hardy, 20 June 1991, appear to constitute the only other summer records for Baja California (cf. Wilbur 1987).

Black Skimmer *Rynchops niger*. On 20 June 1991 we saw one at San Felipe and an alternate-plumaged adult at the Río Hardy. It is likely that Black Skimmers are regular post-breeding visitors to these areas as are Laughing Gulls and Gull-billed Terns. Wilbur (1987) mentioned only records from the northwest coast in winter, but Palacios and Alfaro (in press) reported skimmers in Baja California throughout the year, at several locations along the Pacific coast south to Laguna Ojo de Liebre, and also in the Bay of La Paz.

Band-tailed Pigeon *Columba fasciata*. One flew over Vallejos, in the Sierra San Pedro Mártir, on 16 June 1991. This represents the first summer record from

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northern Baja California, all other records there being from September to April (Grinnell 1928, Wilbur 1987).

Spotted Dove *Streptopelia chinensis*. Although the A.O.U. (1983) included extreme northwestern Baja California in this species' range, the source for its inclusion is unclear (B. L. Monroe pers. comm.), and the species was not mentioned by Wilbur (1987). Spotted Doves may be resident in Tijuana, having been established in San Diego since the 1950s (Unitt 1984), although in San Diego they are restricted mostly to an area 10–12 km north of the international border (P. Unitt pers. comm.). The only specific Mexican records we are aware of are of up to three birds at the Hospital del Carmen, Tijuana, from August to October 1990 (G. McCaskie pers. comm.) and one we saw on the southern edge of Tijuana, 1 June 1991.

Ruddy Ground-Dove *Columbina talpacoti*. An adult male at San José del Cabo, 11 June 1991, is the first recorded for Baja California. The bird associated loosely with Common Ground-Doves (*C. passerina*) and is a species with which we are very familiar from mainland Mexico. The Ruddy Ground-Dove has been reported increasingly in the southwestern U.S. in recent years, although mostly from autumn into winter (Dunn and Garrett 1990); thus its occurrence in Baja California is not unexpected.

Groove-billed Ani *Crotophaga sulcirostris*. On 10 November 1985, J. and K. Horton observed and photographed a Groove-billed Ani at the Tripui resort, about 30 km south of Loreto (Figure 3). This isolated record presumably represents a vagrant from mainland Mexico and is the first of the species in Baja California this century; Groove-billed Anis formerly nested in the Cape District (Grinnell 1928).



Figure 3. Groove-billed Ani at the Tripui resort, 10 November 1985.

Photo by Jim and Karen Horton

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Whip-poor-will *Caprimulgus vociferus*. We clearly heard seven or eight Whip-poor-wills at La Laguna, the night of 8 June 1991, indicating the species to be a fairly common summer resident there. The birds gave the relatively slow, burry song typical of birds in the southwestern U.S. and Mexico. Banks (1967) also heard Whip-poor-wills at La Laguna in May 1965 (not 1963 as cited by Wilbur 1987).

Broad-billed Hummingbird *Cynanthus latirostris*. J. and K. Horton observed and photographed an adult male at their feeder at El Tripui resort for four consecutive winters (mid-October to mid-January) from 1985/86 to 1988/89. The only prior report from Baja California is of several at Cabo San Lucas in the late autumn of 1968 (Wilbur 1987).

Anna's Hummingbird *Calypte anna*. J. and K. Horton observed a male at their feeder at El Tripui resort, 12 October 1985. This location is about 400 km south of the southernmost from which the species had been reported previously, although Howell and P. Pyle saw up to four Anna's Hummingbirds at Guerrero Negro on 11 and 12 October 1991. These are the first records of this species for Baja California Sur (cf. Wilbur 1987).

Dusky Flycatcher *Empidonax oberholseri*. We saw one or two birds, including a singing individual, in an aspen grove at 2700 m elevation in the Sierra San Pedro Mártir, 17 June 1991. The species was also found at this site (about 2 km southeast of the National Observatory) on 30 June 1984, when R. E. Webster (pers. comm.) noted at least two pairs, and on 3 and 4 July 1987 (T. E. Wurster pers. comm.). Although there are no breeding records for this species in Mexico, these observations suggest nesting in the Sierra San Pedro Mártir.

Tropical Kingbird *Tyrannus melancholicus*. We saw one at the Nopolo tourist development just south of Loreto, 13 June 1991. While the species is a regular autumn through winter visitor in the Cape District (Howell and Pyle 1988, Wilbur 1987, pers. obs.) there appear to be no previous spring or summer records from the peninsula.

Thick-billed Kingbird *Tyrannus crassirostris*. One at San José del Cabo, 26 February 1988, makes only the fourth record for Baja California, the others, also in the Cape District, being in January 1984 (R. Stallcup pers. comm.) and December 1986 and January 1987 (Collins and Atwood 1990).

Hermit Thrush *Catharus guttatus*. On 17 June 1991 we heard, saw, and tape-recorded two or three territorial singing Hermit Thrushes in the same aspen grove where we noted the Dusky Flycatchers (see above). R. E. Webster (pers. comm.) found five Hermit Thrushes in the same area, 30 June 1984, and T. E. Wurster (pers. comm.) noted three in the same place on 5 July 1985. This species is not known to breed in Mexico but these observations suggest that it does so in the Sierra San Pedro Mártir.

American Robin *Turdus migratorius*. Near Laguna Hanson, in the Sierra Juárez, we saw a pair (the female sitting on a nest) and heard three or four other birds singing, 18–19 June 1991. This confirms the American Robin as a breeding species in northern Baja California, following the reports of Howell and Pyle (1990), who discovered three or four Robins (one singing) and an old Robin nest at the same site in May 1989. Nesting by Robins in the Sierra Juárez may be fairly recent, as the species has colonized the mountains of San Diego County in the past 50 years (Unitt 1984).

American Pipit *Anthus rubescens*. The early morning of 16 June 1991 an American Pipit made repeated song flights at Vallecitos meadow, at 2450 m elevation in the Sierra San Pedro Mártir. This record and that of three at La Grulla meadow, 3–5 August 1977 (Wilbur 1987), suggest the possibility of a small breeding population in the boulder-strewn meadows of the Sierra San Pedro Mártir. There is one record of probable breeding for southern California (Garrett and Dunn 1981).

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European Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*. On 14 June 1991 we noted adults feeding nestlings at Guerrero Negro; the species was also breeding at Cataviña (adults with newly fledged juveniles). We also saw one adult at the Bahía de los Angeles junction on Highway 1 and two at Rancho Caracol, between Ejido Vizcaino and San Ignacio (about latitude 27°30'N). This southward expansion has been mirrored on the Mexican mainland opposite, where we saw single Starlings 10 km north of Los Mochis and at the Río Sinaloa crossing just north of Culiacan, both on 24 June 1991. The previous farthest south confirmed breeding in Baja California was at San Fernando (30°N), with winter records south to Guerrero Negro (Wilbur 1987).

Solitary Vireo *Vireo solitarius*. We noted eight birds, most singing but including at least one agitated adult carrying food, at about 2700 m elevation in the Sierra San Pedro Mártir, 16 June 1991. T. E. Wurster (pers. comm.) found a nest with young in the same area, 3 July 1987. Wilbur (1987) mentioned May records of Solitary Vireos from this sierra but stated that they "almost certainly do not nest there," although Grinnell (1928) considered the species "fairly common in summer" in the Sierra San Pedro Mártir. Our observations support Grinnell's evaluation.

Warbling Vireo *Vireo gilvus*. On 16 and 17 June 1991 Warbling Vireos were fairly common and presumed breeding (singing, paired, and carrying food) in the Sierra San Pedro Mártir, from at least 1800 to 2700 m elevation. We find it hard to explain the lack of previous summer records from the sierra (cf. Grinnell 1928, Wilbur 1987). We also saw a migrant at Guerrero Negro on 5 June 1991.

Red-eyed Vireo *Vireo olivaceus*. We observed one at Guerrero Negro, at times side by side with the preceding species, on 5 June 1991. Red-eyed Vireos are regular spring vagrants to California and that this is the first record of the species in Baja California can be readily attributed to lack of observers.

Tennessee Warbler *Vermivora peregrina*. One at Cabo San Lucas, 6 February 1988, represents only the sixth record for Baja California, the second in winter (cf. Keith and Stejskal 1987, Wilbur 1987).

Orange-crowned Warbler *Vermivora celata*. We saw one and heard another singing in wooded arroyos of the foothills between La Misión and Ensenada, along Highway 1, on 1 June 1991. The only other summer records from Baja California are from Islas Los Coronados, Islas de Todos Santos, and the "western Sierra San Pedro Mártir" (Wilbur 1987).

Nashville Warbler *Vermivora ruficapilla*. One at Cabo San Lucas, 4 February 1988, is the first recorded in winter from Baja California as well as the first reported south of 26°N (cf. Wilbur 1987).

Belding's Yellowthroat *Geothlypis beldingi*. Belding's Yellowthroats were common along the river at Mulegé; we estimated a population of at least ten pairs there, with several adults carrying food, on 5 and 13 June 1991. This population appears to have been overlooked, as there are no historic reports from Mulegé (Grinnell 1928, Wilbur 1987), although D. Wimpfheimer (pers. comm.) noted the species there in 1988.

Before hearing its song, we thought that *G. beldingi* might simply be a large allopatric form of the Common Yellowthroat (*G. trichas*), as considered by some authors (cf. A.O.U. 1983). The song, however, which apparently has not been described or previously recorded, is notably different from the Common Yellowthroat's. It is strikingly more powerful and richer; the sequence differs from Common's typical *wi wick-uh-te* in that the last part of the main phrase comes first, i.e., *wi te-wick-uh*.

Summer Tanager *Piranga rubra*. Howell's sighting of a female at Cabo San Lucas, 15 December 1983, supports the possibility of a small wintering population in the Cape District. Wilbur (1987) called this species "presumably only a rare migrant" away from the Río Colorado, but at the same time cited a February record from San José del Cabo.



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Western Tanager *Piranga ludoviciana*. Wilbur (1987) indicated that "a few may winter in the southern Cape District." Grinnell (1928), however, reported several winter records from the Cape District. We, like other observers (R. Rodriguez-Estrella and P. Unitt pers. comm.), have found Western Tanagers to be fairly common in the Cape District in winter; Wilbur's statement was obviously an error.

Green-tailed Towhee *Pipilo chlorurus*. On 16 June 1991, at 2700 m elevation in the Sierra San Pedro Mártir, we observed an agitated pair of Green-tailed Towhees behaving as if they had a nest. We also saw and tape-recorded two different singing birds. These are the first reported summer records of this species from Baja California and suggest that Green-tailed Towhees breed there; this is not particularly surprising since they breed commonly at suitable elevations in the mountains of southern California (Garrett and Dunn 1981).

Chipping Sparrow *Spizella passerina*. Around Laguna Hanson, 18–19 June 1991, we found Chipping Sparrows to be fairly common. We saw four juveniles (apparently from three broods) being attended by adults and three singing adults. Neither Grinnell (1928) nor Wilbur (1987) reported any summer records from the Sierra Juárez, although Howell and Pyle (1990) found the species common and singing there in May 1989. We spent most of 19 June searching, without success, for Brewer's Sparrows (*S. breweri*), suspected to breed at Laguna Hanson by Wilbur (1987).

Song Sparrow *Melospiza melodia*. At Cataviña we noted four or five pairs, with adults feeding recently fledged juveniles, on 2, 3, and 14 June 1991, indicating the persistence of the population discovered at this oasis in 1989 (Howell and Pyle 1990). These birds had blackish-streaked underparts like *M. m. cooperi* to the north rather than the reddish-streaked underparts of *M. m. riularis* to the south.

Tricolored Blackbird *Agelaius tricolor*. It was a surprise to find a colony of 30 to 50 pairs (adults carrying food into a dense tule marsh) at Ejido Héroes de la Independencia on 19 June 1991, away from previously reported sites. The marsh also held 10 to 20 pairs of Red-winged Blackbirds (*A. phoeniceus*). There are few recent records of Tricolored Blackbirds from Baja California, particularly in summer, and the last reported breeding in the peninsula appears to have been in 1885 (Grinnell 1928, Wilbur 1987).

Western Meadowlark *Sturnella neglecta*. One seen 2 km south of Ciudad Insurgentes on 12 June 1991 was 700 km south of any other mainland breeding season record (cf. Wilbur 1987, pers. obs.). We did not search the area intensively, but it seems likely that Western Meadowlarks will colonize (or have colonized?) this relatively new agricultural region.

Yellow-headed Blackbird *Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*. On 19 June 1991 we saw three pairs, at least two of which were attending begging juveniles, at Ejido Héroes de la Independencia, a new nesting location for this species. In the Río Colorado delta we saw 12–15 pairs feeding fledglings, and apparently also nestlings, in an irrigation ditch 3 km west of Durango. Howell and Pyle (1990) had found territorial Yellow-headed Blackbirds at both places in May 1989. We also saw three or four other males in the Río Colorado delta between Durango and Coahuila, 19 June 1991.

Brewer's Blackbird *Euphagus cyanocephalus*. A male at Cataviña on 2, 3, and 14 June 1991 constitutes the southernmost breeding season report for the peninsula (cf. Wilbur 1987).

Brown-headed Cowbird *Molothrus ater*. In June 1991 we noted several Brown-headed Cowbirds between Palo Verde (21 km north of Mulegé) and San José del Cabo: Palo Verde, one female on 13 June; Mulegé, one male on 5 June, two or three heard on 13 June; Tripui resort, one male and one female on 12 June (present there since the early 1980s, J. and K. Horton pers. comm.); kilometer post 37, between Ciudad Insurgentes and Loreto, one male and one female on 12 June; between

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Ciudad Constitución and Ciudad Insurgentes, one male on 12 June; Ciudad Constitución, one male and two females on 12 June; San José del Cabo, one male on 11 June. The farthest south this species had been reported previously in Baja California in summer was San Fernando (Wilbur 1987).

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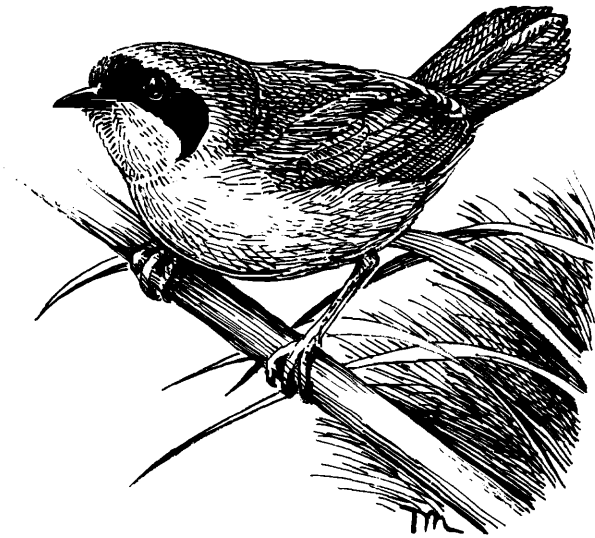
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Belding's Yellowthroat

*Sketch by Tim Manolis*