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THE 30TH REPORT OF THE CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE: 2004 RECORDS

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ABSTRACT: The California Bird Records Committee reached decisions on 220 records involving 87 species and one species pair reported in 2004, endorsing 161 of them. New to California were the Common Eider (*Somateria mollissima*) and Stonechat (*Saxicola torquatus*). Adjusted for these additions and the species-level merger of the White and Black-backed Wagtails within *Motacilla alba*, California's bird list stands at 629 species, ten of which are nonnative. A potential first state record of the Hawaiian Goose (*Branta sandvicensis*) was not accepted on grounds of questionable natural occurrence, and potential first state records of Parkinson's Petrel (*Procellaria parkinsoni*) and Flame-colored Tanager (*Piranga bidentata*) were not accepted on grounds of identification. Other significant records reported here include the state's second accepted records of the Oriental Turtle-Dove (*Streptopelia orientalis*) and Magnificent Hummingbird (*Eugenes fulgens*), third of the Common Black-Hawk (*Buteogallus anthracinus*) and Red-legged Kittiwake (*Rissa brevirostris*), fifth of the Greater Shearwater (*Puffinus gravis*), fifth and sixth of the Crested Caracara (*Caracara cheriway*), a returning fifth Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*), and the sixth Ruby-throated Hummingbird (*Archilochus colubris*). This report also includes an appendix reporting the results of the committee's review of historical records accepted for statistical purposes, previously unpublished committee decisions, and resolution of contentious records from earlier periods.

This 30th report of the California Bird Records Committee (hereafter the CBRC or the committee) details the evaluation of 220 records involving 269 individuals of 87 species and one species pair. Although most records pertain to birds found in 2004, the period covered by this report spans the 109 years from 1896 through 2004. The committee accepted 161 records involving 185 individuals of 66 species and one species pair, for an acceptance rate of 73.2%. Fifty-five records of 80 individuals of 41 species and one species pair were not accepted because of insufficient documentation or because descriptions were inconsistent with known identification criteria. Four additional records of three species were not accepted because of ques-

tions concerning the birds' natural occurrence. Counties best represented by accepted records were San Diego (17 records), Monterey (14), Marin (12), San Francisco (11 records, 10 of them from Southeast Farallon I.), Santa Barbara (11), Los Angeles (9), Imperial (8), Inyo (8), Humboldt (7), and Sonoma (7). Records were also accepted from 20 other counties.

Species recorded in especially high numbers in 2004 included the Yellow-throated Vireo (*Vireo flavifrons*) with eight accepted records, Blue-headed Vireo (*Vireo solitarius*) with seven accepted records, Yellow-throated Warbler (*Dendroica dominica*) with six accepted records, Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*) and Snow Bunting (*Plectrophenax nivalis*) with five accepted records each, and American Oystercatcher (*Haematopus palliatus*), Broad-billed Hummingbird (*Cynanthus latirostris*) and White-eyed Vireo (*Vireo griseus*) with four accepted records each.

As a result of the lumping of the White and Black-backed Wagtails (now both *Motacilla alba*) (A.O.U. 2005), the addition of the Common Eider and Stonechat described in this report, and the addition in 2005 of Slaty-backed Gull (*Larus schistisagus*) (to be addressed by the committee's 2005 report), California's list stands at 629 species, ten of which are non-native and two of which have been extirpated within historical times. The committee currently is considering potential first state records of Solander's Petrel (*Pterodroma solandri*), Parkinson's Petrel (*Procellaria parkinsoni*), Ringed Storm-Petrel (*Oceanodroma hornbyi*), and Green Violet-ear (*Colibri thalassinus*).

The acceptance rate of 73.2% is below the weighted average of 79.6% of all the committee's decisions but generally consistent with acceptance rates from the mid-1990s on. (The "weighted average" is the actual ratio of records accepted to records submitted, as opposed to the "unweighted average," the average of the reported acceptance rates of each report regardless of number of species treated per report.) The committee's weighted average acceptance rate has dropped continuously over the past ten reports, with the exception of our 27th (Garrett and Wilson 2003) and 29th (San Miguel and McGrath 2005) reports. The current weighted average is the lowest in the committee's history though only slightly lower than the 79.7% weighted average acceptance rate through the 28th report (Cole and McCaskie 2004). Rottenborn and Morlan (2000) and Cole and McCaskie (2004) discussed trends in acceptance rates though the CBRC's history. The total of 220 records reviewed is slightly above the committee's average of 214.4 records per report over its first 29 reports and brings the average number of records reviewed per report over the committee's 30 reports to 214.6.

The list of species reviewed by the CBRC is posted at the Western Field Ornithologists' web site (<http://www.wfo-cbrc.org>). This site also includes the entire California state list, the committee's bylaws, a reporting form for the direct e-mail submission of records to the CBRC, the addresses of current committee members, a photo gallery of recent submissions, including pictures of several birds published in this report, and other information about the CBRC, WFO, and its journal, *Western Birds*.

All documentation reviewed by the CBRC, including copies of descriptions, photographs, videotapes, audio recordings, and committee comments, is archived at the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology, 439 Calle San Pablo, Camarillo, California 93012, and is available for public review.

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The CBRC solicits and encourages observers to submit documentation for all species on the review list, as well as species unrecorded in California. Documentation should be sent to Guy McCaskie, CBRC Secretary, P. O. Box 275, Imperial Beach, CA 91933-0275 (e-mail: guymcc@pacbell.net).

Since its establishment in 1970 the committee has tried to identify and evaluate pre-1970 records of species on the review list. In 2004 the committee voted on >100 such records for which no documentation was extant and statistically accepted a number of them from two categories: those based on publication in ornithological journals, with specimens not now available (lost in the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fire, for example), and records of a species in years before, between, or after accepted records of that same individual. The committee's review of the records reported in the appendix, Evaluation of Historical and Unreviewed Records, differed from its normal review in that none of the records was accompanied by documentation; their evaluation instead represents the committee's policies toward categories of records. The appendix also includes some previously unpublished decisions on statistically accepted records, as well as decisions resolving several contentious records from earlier periods.

NEWS AND FORMAT

Committee News. The committee's voting membership after the January 2006 annual meeting consisted of Dave Compton, Jon L. Dunn, Kimball L. Garrett, Matthew T. Heindel (chair), Marshall J. Iliff, Alvaro Jaramillo, Joseph Morlan, Daniel S. Singer (vice chair), and Scott B. Terrill. Guy McCaskie continued in his role as nonvoting secretary. Recent committee members who also voted on many of the records in this report include Luke W. Cole, Todd McGrath, Kristie N. Nelson, Peter Pyle, Michael M. Rogers, Mike San Miguel, and John C. Sterling.

Format and Abbreviations. As in other recent CBRC reports, records are generally listed chronologically by first date of occurrence and/or geographically, from north to south. Included with each record is the location, county abbreviation (see below), and date span. The date span usually follows that published in *North American Birds* (formerly *American Birds* and *Field Notes*), but if the CBRC accepts a date span that differs from a published source, the differing dates are italicized. Initials of the observer(s) responsible for finding and/or identifying the bird(s)—if known and if they supplied supportive documentation—are followed by a semicolon, then the initials, in alphabetized order by surname, of additional observers submitting supportive documentation, then the CBRC record number consisting of the year of submission and a chronological number assigned by the secretary. All records are sight records unless otherwise indicated: initials followed by a dagger (†) indicate the observer supplied a supportive photograph, (‡) indicates videotape, and (#) indicates a specimen record, followed by the acronym (see below) of the institution housing the specimen and that institution's specimen catalog number. An asterisk (*) prior to a species' name indicates that the species is no longer on the CBRC's review list.

During 2003, in preparation for the publication of *Rare Birds of California*, the committee changed the way it reports records and individuals,

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a change in the committee's tradition bringing its reporting into conformity with its bylaws. In this report, the first number in parentheses after the species' name is the number of *individual birds* accepted by the CBRC through this report, not the number of accepted *records*; the number of individual birds may be higher than the number of records as historically the committee has treated groups of individuals appearing together with a single record number (e.g., a flock of Common Redpolls, *Carduelis flammea*). The second number is the number of new individuals accepted in this report (because this number excludes records thought to pertain to returning individuals treated in previous reports, it may be zero). Two asterisks (**) after the species' total indicate that the number of accepted records refers to a restricted review period only or includes records accepted for statistical purposes only; see Roberson (1986) for more information.

When individual birds return to a location after a lengthy or seasonal absence, each occurrence is reviewed under a separate record number, and committee members indicate whether or not they believe the bird is the same as one accepted previously. Such decisions follow the opinion of the majority of members, and, if a bird is considered a returning individual, the total number of individuals remains unchanged.

Although the CBRC does not formally review the age, sex, or subspecies of each bird, information on these subjects is often provided during the review process (and in some cases a strong majority or consensus is achieved). We report much of this information; the diagnosis of age, sex or subspecies is the authors' opinion based on the evidence in the files and committee members' comments. Our terminology for age follows the calendar-based terminology devised by the U.S.G.S. Bird Banding Laboratory and detailed by Pyle (1997). We prefer a calendar-based system because other age-coding systems, including those based on Humphrey and Parkes' (1959) plumage terminology, become imprecise during periods of transition or molt, in North America most frequently in the summer and early fall. In the accounts we use the terms "juvenile" (restricted to a bird in *complete* juvenal plumage), "first-fall," "first-spring," and "first-year" to designate birds less than a year old, "second-fall," etc., for birds between one and two years old, "third-fall," etc., for birds between two and three years old, and "adult" for birds in definitive plumage that may be at least one, two, three, or four years old depending on the species. To avoid ambiguity we use the terms "one-year-old," "two-year-old," etc., in lieu of "first-summer," "second-summer," etc., for birds observed in June through August. We also sometimes use age/plumage terms based on Humphrey and Parkes' (1959) terminology (e.g., "first alternate plumage") when both the age and the plumage state are known and are important information regarding the record.

The CBRC uses standard abbreviations for California counties; those used in this report are ALA, Alameda; CC, Contra Costa; DN, Del Norte; ED, El Dorado; HUM, Humboldt; IMP, Imperial; INY, Inyo; KER, Kern; LAS, Lassen; LA, Los Angeles; MRN, Marin; MEN, Mendocino; MNO, Mono; MTY, Monterey; ORA, Orange; PLA, Placer; PLU, Plumas; RIV, Riverside; SAC, Sacramento; SBE, San Bernardino; SD, San Diego; SF, San Francisco; SJ, San Joaquin; SLO, San Luis Obispo; SM, San Mateo; SBA, Santa Barbara; SCL, Santa Clara; SCZ, Santa Cruz; SHA, Shasta;

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SIS, Siskiyou; SON, Sonoma; SUT, Sutter; TUL, Tulare; TUO, Tuolumne; VEN, Ventura. A list of county abbreviations for all 58 California counties is available on the WFO-CBRC web site and in Langham (1991). Other abbreviations used: Cr., creek; I., island; L., lake; Mt., mountain; n. miles, nautical miles; N.W.R., national wildlife refuge; Pt., point; R., river; W.A., wildlife area; W.M.A., wildlife management area.

Museum collections housing specimens cited in this report, allowing access to committee members for research, or otherwise cited, are the California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco (CAS); Conner Museum, Washington State University, Pullman (CM-WSU); Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley (MVZ); Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, Los Angeles (LACM); Harvard University's Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, Massachusetts (MCZ); Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History (PGMNH); San Bernardino County Museum, Redlands (SBCM); and the National Museum of Natural History at the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. (USNM).

RECORDS ACCEPTED

TRUMPETER SWAN *Cygnus buccinator* (61, 2). Two adults were at the Lower Klamath N.W.R., SIS, 28 Nov 2004 (MB; DVP; 2004-203).

KING EIDER *Somateria spectabilis* (37, 1). An immature female was shot by a hunter in south Humboldt Bay, HUM, 26 Nov 2004 (JrT#; JfT†; 2004-212). The specimen was kept for a personal collection.

COMMON EIDER *Somateria mollissima* (1, 1). An adult male was near shore off Crescent City, DN, 5–18 Jul 2004 (CEV†; MJB, MWE†, RFo, PAG, CL, LML, RLeV†, MJM, CAM, GMcC, JMof, MMR, KeR†, MSanM†, DSS†; 2004-101), establishing the first record for California. The bird was of the Alaskan subspecies *v-nigrum* because of its bright orange bill and black “V” on the chin (Goudie et al. 2000). Its occurrence in July was wholly unexpected, so its identification as the “expected” Alaskan subspecies lends credence to the idea that the bird was a naturally occurring vagrant. With only three previous records of the Common Eider for coastal British Columbia, including one from mid-May, and none from Oregon or Washington, this record was extraordinary. Interestingly, Washington's first accepted Common Eider, a molting adult male *v-nigrum*, was at Port Angeles 3–13 Aug 2004 (Wahl et al. 2005); Mlodinow et al. (2004) speculated that it might be the same individual as the California bird. By contrast, most records elsewhere in the West (88%) are from large inland lakes in late fall or early winter in the Canadian prairie provinces and Great Plains states (Mlodinow 1999). McCaskie and Vaughn (2004) provided further details of the California occurrence.

YELLOW-BILLED LOON *Gavia adamsii* (74, 3). A specimen in Harvard University's Museum of Comparative Zoology, a first-winter bird collected in Monterey, MTY, 24 Dec 1896 (JTr†; #MCZ 246938; 2005-043), provides the earliest record for California. A first-fall bird at Eagle L., LAS, 8 Oct 2004 (KPA†; 2004-158) was a first for the county and the state's earliest in fall by two days. One was at Elkhorn Slough, MTY, 15 Apr–17 May 2004 (GH†; MB, DR†; 2004-059). See also Records Not Accepted, identification not established.

MOTTLED PETREL *Pterodroma inexpectata* (55, 1). A male was picked up sick at an auto mall in Seaside, MTY, 24 Nov 1996 (ABa; SB, DHa, DR; #PGMNH 2279A; 2005-050). The bird died in captivity the following day and was prepared and stored as a specimen at the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History.

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GALAPAGOS/HAWAIIAN PETREL *Pterodroma phaeopygia/sandwichensis* (14, 1). One was seen 15 miles sw. of Bodega Head, SON, 17 Sep 2004 (SNGH; JLD, DVP; 2004-154). The Galapagos and Hawaiian Petrels were formerly considered conspecific as the Dark-rumped Petrel (*P. phaeopygia*) but have recently been reclassified as two species on the basis of differences in vocalizations, morphology, and genetics (Browne et al. 1997, Banks et al. 2002). Accurate field identification of these species has not yet been demonstrated or tested. Preliminary discussions of potential field marks based on morphological and other differences have been published, however (Tomkins and Milne 1991, Simons and Hodges 1998, Roberson 2001). See also Records Not Accepted, identification not established.

STREAKED SHEARWATER *Calonectris leucomelas* (12, 1). One was photographed 15 miles sw. of Bodega Head, SON, 17 Sep 2004 (SNGH; JLD, DVP, RZ†; 2004-148; Figure 1). See also Records Not Accepted, identification not established.

GREATER SHEARWATER *Puffinus gravis* (5, 1). One was photographed 7.7 miles wsw. of Bodega Head, SON, 29 Aug 2004 (RS†, LH; RLeB†, CL‡, MM†, DMcK†, EPr†, RR; 2004-129; Figure 2). See also Records Not Accepted, identification not established.

MANX SHEARWATER *Puffinus puffinus* (82, 5). One was seen from shore off Southeast Farallon I., SF, 14 Sep 1997 (GP; 2004-189). One was 16 miles offshore of Oceanside, SD, 28 Apr 2004 (TMcG; 2004-097). One was seen from shore at Pt. Piedras Blancas, SLO, 27 May 2001 (RAR; 2002-007). Another was 22 miles w. of Yankee Pt., MTY, 22 Aug 2004 (DR†; JPo†, EPr†, DSS; 2004-126). One seen from shore off Pt. Sur, MTY, 19 Dec 2004 (DR; 2004-217) was outside of the seasonal range of most central and northern California records but was not unprecedented. See also Records Not Accepted, identification not established.

MASKED BOOBY *Sula dactylatra* (12, 0). An adult at China Pt. on San Clemente I., LA, 13 Jul–15 Aug 2004 (BLS†; 2004-165) was considered a returning individual that had been at the same location 17 Jan–29 Mar 2003 (2003-065) and 10 Aug–8 Oct 2003 (2003-128) (San Miguel and McGrath 2005).

BROWN BOOBY *Sula leucogaster* (81, 1). One in its second fall was 9 miles ene. of Southeast Farallon I., SF, 1 Nov 2004 (PP†; 2004-183). See also Records Not Accepted, identification not established.

ANHINGA *Anhinga anhinga* (5, 0). An adult male at Finney/Ramer lakes, IMP, 19 Mar–6 May 2004 (HDD†; GMcC, MMR†; 2004-045) was considered to be the same bird present there 5 Apr–12 Jun 2003 (2003-035; San Miguel and McGrath 2005).

TRICOLORED HERON *Egretta tricolor* (43**, 1). One was at Upper Newport Bay and Seal Beach, ORA, 21 Dec 2003–19 Mar 2004 (JFI, TA†; 2003-200). See also Records Not Accepted, identification not established.

GLOSSY IBIS *Plegadis falcinellus* (6, 1). One at Sutter N.W.R., SUT, 29 May 2004 (MP†; 2004-093; Figure 3) was the first recorded in the Central Valley and only the second for northern California, with the first being in Santa Clara and Alameda counties in 2001 (Garrett and Wilson 2003). The Sutter bird was photographed at the edge of a colony of thousands of White-faced Ibises, raising concern over potential hybridization. See also Records Not Accepted, identification not established.

ROSEATE SPOONBILL *Platalea ajaja* (17**, 2). One observed near San Bernardino, SBE, 20 Jun 1903 (RBH; 2004-301) provided the earliest documented record for California (Stephens 1904). A second-winter bird first discovered at Fig Lagoon, IMP, moved to the Highline Canal east of Brawley, then to the south end of

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the Salton Sea 5 Jan–13 Apr 2004 (RFo†; REM, JEG†, KZK†, BM†, CAM, GMcC, DN, MMR; 2004-010). This spoonbill is the first recorded in California since one was at Fig Lagoon 27–30 Dec 1994 (Howell and Pyle 1997).

COMMON BLACK-HAWK *Buteogallus anthracinus* (3, 1). One at L. Lincoln in suburban Stockton, SJ, 24 Feb–12 Mar 2004 (VS†; 2004-113) provided the first record for northern California and the first winter record for the state. This bird returned and was seen well and photographed by many from 1 Oct 2004 to 21 Mar 2005 (VS; LWC†, HC†, SC†, TE†, SG†, MJM, JM†, DR, MMR†, DY; 2005-014; cover of *Western Birds* 36(4); Figure 4). A record from Sonoma County in spring/summer 2005 is currently under review by the committee. The previous records for California were from the Coachella Valley 13 Apr 1985 (Roberson 1986) and 28 Mar–2 May 1997 (Rottenborn and Morlan 2000), closer to the species' normal range.

HARRIS'S HAWK *Parabuteo unicinctus* (46**, 3). Up to five resident, with nesting in 2000, 2001 and 2002, in McCain Valley north of Boulevard, SD, 1 Jun 2000–23 Feb 2003 (PU; PG, GMc, TM†, MMR†; 2000-098), and up to two resident around Borrego Springs, SD, 11 Jan 2000–11 Feb 2002 (PJ; RAH; 2000-068) are considered to be some of those present from 1 June 1994 and 15 April 1994, respectively (1996-080B and 1996-080A; Erickson and Hamilton 2001), with the history of these birds detailed more fully by Unitt (2004). One at Spring Valley, SD, 24 Apr 2001 (MAP; 2001-108) and another at Fig Lagoon, IMP, 27 Mar 2004 (BLS†; 2004-056) were probably vagrants from Baja California. A hatch-year male was collected at San Diego, SD, 6 Nov 1896 (JTr†; #MCZ 150018; 2005-044); this record was not listed by Grinnell and Miller (1944) or Unitt (2004) and is the first for San Diego County. See also Records Not Accepted, natural occurrence questionable.

*ZONE-TAILED HAWK *Buteo albonotatus* (68, 1). A specimen at Harvard University's Museum of Comparative Zoology was collected at San Diego, SD, 26 Nov 1906 (JTr†; #MCZ 316491; 2005-045) and established the second earliest record for California. The committee reviews reports of the Zone-tailed Hawk through 1998 only.

CRESTED CARACARA *Caracara cheriway* (6, 2). One was at Cottonwood Marsh on the west shore of Owens Lake, INY, 9 May 2004 (REM Jr; 2004-074). A two-year-old bird on a private ranch 10.5 miles west of Petaluma, SON, 16 Jul–1 Aug 2004 (RR; LML, AW†; 2004-118) was considered to be the same individual found at Manchester S. P., MEN, 20–24 Aug 2004 (AAM; GC, RFt†, RJK†, KPc; 2004-124) and at the Jacoby Creek mouth near Arcata, HUM, 4–6 Sep 2004 (RLeV†; KeR†; 2004-133). The committee, after considerable deliberation, concluded in 2004 that the recent spate of Crested Caracara records more likely involved birds of natural occurrence (San Miguel and McGrath 2005). See also Records Not Accepted, identification not established.

AMERICAN GOLDEN-PLOVER *Pluvialis dominica* (4**, 4). In 2004, the committee added this species to the CBRC review list on the basis of a general perception that it may be rarer in California than reports indicate (Cole and McCaskie 2004). Therefore the committee solicits documentation of reports after 1 Jan 2004 to evaluate the species' status in the state and to determine whether a more permanent placement on the review list is warranted.

Four well-photographed juveniles were reported. Two were at Abbott's Lagoon, MRN, the first 6–16 Sep 2004 (SNGH†; RHa†, KCK, MJM; 2004-135), the second, overlapping with the stay of the first, 15 Sep 2004 (SNGH†; 2004-138). The others were at Bodega Harbor, SON, 6 Sep 2004 (AW†; 2004-210) and La Jolla, SD, 2–21 Oct 2004 (LAC†; 2004-211).

AMERICAN OYSTERCATCHER *Haematopus palliatus* (29, 5). One was at Royal Palms State Beach, LA, 14 Mar 2003 (RB†; 2003-033); another was at La Jolla,

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SD, 16 Mar 2004 (SES; 2004-050); a third was at the Nature Conservancy landing on Santa Cruz I., SBA, 3 Apr–5 Jul 2004 (SW†; JMu†; 2004-058); a fourth was on Anacapa I., VEN, 6 Jun 2004 (JFe†; 2004-116); a fifth flew past Newport Beach, ORA, 17 Aug 2004 (MJJ; 2004-128). These were all at locations with suitable habitat and within the species' established range of vagrancy in California. Jehl (1985) set forth an index for identifying hybrid American × Black (*H. bachmani*) oystercatchers, quite useful as many apparent American Oystercatchers in California show intermediate characteristics. See also Records Not Accepted, identification not established.

HUDSONIAN GODWIT *Limosa haemastica* (23, 2). A juvenile was at Abbott's Lagoon, MRN, 8 Aug 2004 (DDiT†; 2004-123; Figure 5), and a juvenile with different plumage was at the same location 2–8 Sep 2004 (SNGH†; LML; 2004-155).

BAR-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa lapponica* (29, 1). One in its first fall was at Cock Robin I. in the Eel R. estuary, HUM, 5–15 Oct 2004 (SMcA†; 2004-159; Figure 6). See also Records Not Accepted, identification not established.

CURLEW SANDPIPER *Calidris ferruginea* (34, 2). One in its first fall was at Bolinas Lagoon, MRN, 15–20 Sep 1999 (MO'B; SNGH; KCK, CP; 1999-154A). This record was originally not accepted (1999-154; Rogers and Jaramillo 2002) but was recirculated after additional observers submitted documentation, leading to ultimate acceptance. One molting from first-winter into first-summer plumage was at Red Hill at the south end of the Salton Sea, IMP, 9 Apr 2004 (JLD, GMcC; KZK†; 2004-053).

*BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER *Tryngites subruficollis* (128**, 1). One was on Santa Barbara I., SBA, 27 Aug 1985 (PWC; 2005-046). The committee reviews Buff-breasted Sandpiper records through 1991 only.

LITTLE GULL *Larus minutus* (89, 3). An adult at L. Perris, RIV, 18 Feb–5 Mar 2004 (HBK; MJJ, GMcC; 2004-035) was considered to be the same bird returning 12 Nov 2004–24 Feb 2005 (CMcG†; GHg, HBK; 2004-193); this bird first wintered at L. Perris 28 Jan–15 Mar 2001 (2001-034; Garrett and Wilson 2003). One in its first winter was at Fairmont Park, RIV, 24 Dec 2004 (CTL†; 2004-221). A one-year-old bird at Pescadero Cr., SM, 8 Jun–6 Jul 2004 (MH; MWE†, RfI, JM†, SBT; 2004-088) provided a third county record. One in its first fall at Crowley L., MNO, 27 Aug 2004 (JLD; DHo†; 2004-125) provided a second county record.

BLACK-HEADED GULL *Larus ridibundus* (23, 1). An adult in Alviso, SCL, 6 Apr 2004 (BR; MMR; 2004-055) was the second for its county.

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL *Larus fuscus* (25, 2). An adult was at Alviso, SCL, 31 Oct 2004 (DVP, MB; MMR†; 2004-194), and another adult with duller legs was at the same location 31 Oct–7 Nov 2004 (DVP, MB; MMR†; 2004-195). See also Records Not Accepted, identification not established.

RED-LEGGED KITTIWAKE *Rissa brevirostris* (3, 1). One at the Klamath R. mouth, DN, 9 Mar 2003 (RfO; BMcD; 2003-027) took four rounds to be accepted. The bird was in a flock of 20 to 30 Black-legged Kittiwakes (*R. tridactyla*) roosting on shore during a storm but could not be relocated on subsequent days after the roosting kittiwake flock had dispersed. This Red-legged Kittiwake was only California's third, following one in Anaheim, ORA, 28 Feb 1996 (McCaskie and San Miguel 1999) and another in Ross, MRN, 13 Feb 2001 (Garrett and Wilson 2003) that were both found emaciated on shore close to the coast and died soon after their discovery. All three California records fit the timing of peak vagrancy to Oregon (7 records 30 Dec–25 Mar, all of birds dead or dying on the beach, and one offshore 7 Aug 1983; Marshall et al. 2003) and Washington (4 records 1 Dec–21 Mar; 2 records 28 Jun–19 Aug; Wahl et al. 2005). One additional record from the western U.S. is exceptional: one found at Corn Cr., Nevada, 3 Jul 1977 (Roberson 1980).



Figure 1. This Streaked Shearwater (*Calonectris leucomelas*) was 15 miles off Bodega Head, Sonoma County, 17 September 2004.

Photo by Robert Zaremba



Figure 2. Only the fifth recorded in California waters, this Greater Shearwater (*Puffinus gravis*) was just 8 miles from Bodega Head, Sonoma County, on 29 August 2004.

Photo by Eric W. Preston



Figure 3. This first Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*) recorded in the San Joaquin Valley was photographed 29 May 2004 at Sutter N.W.R., Sutter County.

Photo by Michael Peters

THICK-BILLED MURRE *Uria lomvia* (45, 1). One off Pt. St. George, DN, 14 Sep 2002 (BMcK; TE†; 2002-184) furnished a first county record. This record was controversial, with some disagreement among observers over the bird's identity. Photographs and a written description, however, supported the identification as a Thick-billed Murre, although the record took four rounds to gain acceptance.

LONG-BILLED MURRELET *Brachyramphus perdx* (17, 3). One was seen from



Figure 4. This Common Black-Hawk (*Buteogallus anthracinus*), northern California's first and just the third for California, returned for a second winter to Lake Lincoln, Stockton, San Joaquin County, photographed here 30 January 2005.

Photo by Todd Easterla



Figure 5. This juvenile Hudsonian Godwit (*Limosa haemastica*) was at Abbott's Lagoon, Marin County, 8 August 2004.

Photo by Dean DiTommaso

shore off MacKerricher S. P., MEN, 20–27 Oct 2003 (DT; GC, AM, CEV, JW; 2004-004). Two were seen during nearshore surveys for the Marbled Murrelet (*B. marmoratus*) off Salmon Cr. Beach, SON, 7 Jul 2004 (RST†; 2004-102). This summer record raised speculation that the species might breed in North America.

ORIENTAL TURTLE-DOVE *Streptopelia orientalis* (2, 1). One at Furnace Cr.



Figure 6. This juvenile Bar-tailed Godwit (*Limosa lapponica*) was with a Marbled Godwit (*L. fedoa*) at the mouth of the Eel River, Humboldt County, 6 October 2004.

Photo by Sean McAllister



Figure 7. Although the pale basal half of the mandible seen in this bird suggests the Streaked Flycatcher (*Myiodynastes maculatus*), bill coloration is not a definitive field mark. The broad, blackish malar, dark chin, and other plumage features confirm this bird's identification instead as a Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher (*M. luteiventris*), photographed 1 October 2004 at Southeast Farallon I., San Francisco County.

Photo by Adam Brown



Figure 8. This Sedge Wren (*Cistothorus platensis*) was observed 13 October 2004 at the Goleta sewage ponds in Goleta, Santa Barbara County. The pale, streaked cap and indistinct supercilium help distinguish this bird from the Marsh Wren (*C. palustris*).

Photo by Wes Fritz



Figure 9. This Veery (*Catharus fuscescens*) was mist-netted and banded 19 June 2004 on lower Rush Creek, Mono County. Note the grayish-white flanks, pale spotting limited to the upper breast, brownish lores and lack of an eyering.

Photo by Kelly Grady

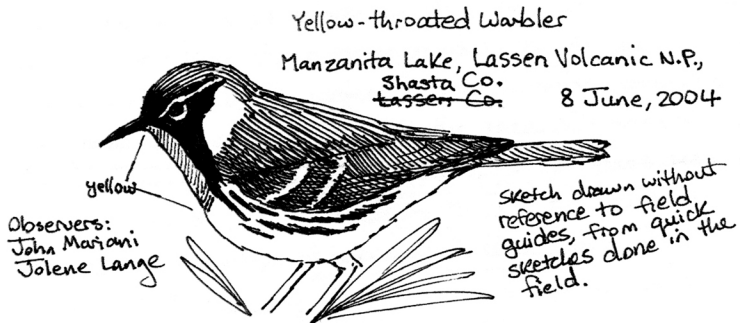


Figure 10. This Yellow-throated Warbler (*Dendroica dominica*) was observed 8 June 2004 at Manzanita Lake in Lassen Volcanic National Park, Shasta County.

Sketch by John Mariani



Figure 11. This male Grace's Warbler (*Dendroica graciae*) was photographed 13 June 2004 at the Chimney Creek Recreation Area campground, Tulare County.

Photo by Larry Sansone



Figure 12. This male Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*) was enjoyed by observers 11 June 2004 at San Bruno Mountain State and County Park, San Mateo County. Note the fresher, blacker adult wing coverts contrasting with the older, worn and grayish remiges, indicating this bird was one year old.

Photo by Zane Terry

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Ranch in Death Valley National Park, INY, 29 Oct 1988 (JLD; 1988-246A) was the first reported for California and was accepted following acceptance of the record from Bolinas, MRN, 9–31 Dec 2002 (San Miguel and McGrath 2005). The 1988 record had been reviewed by the committee previously but not accepted because three members considered the documentation insufficient for a first state record and four others thought that the bird may not have been wild (1988-246; Heindel and Garrett 1995). The record was resubmitted in light of the acceptance of the Bolinas bird and the view of committee members that wild vagrant Oriental Turtle-Doves could reach California. It was accepted in the first round of voting, although one committee member thought that there was enough doubt about natural occurrence to vote to not accept and another member thought that the documentation was insufficient to rule out the European Turtle-Dove (*S. turtur*) beyond a reasonable doubt. Because one of the two votes not to accept the record was based upon questionable natural occurrence, the vote of eight to two was sufficient for the record to be accepted.

BROAD-BILLED HUMMINGBIRD *Cyanthus latirostris* (64, 3). An adult male in Sonoma, SON, 26 May–9 Jun 2004 (KPa†; 20004-105) was considered to be a returning bird, previously present 14–27 Nov 2003 (2003-162; San Miguel and McGrath 2005). The appearance of this bird during May and June marks California's first record of the Broad-billed Hummingbird during these two months. The only previous accepted spring record was of one at Short Canyon, KER, 18 Apr 1982 (Morlan 1985). Another adult male in Novato, MRN, 24–26 Sep 2004 (DF†; 2004-164) was the first recorded in this intensely birded northern county. One in Arroyo Grande, SLO, 2–12 Nov 2004 (TME; WAB†; 2004-214) was only the second recorded in its county. A first-fall male coming to a feeder in Dana Pt., ORA, 20–22 Oct 2004 (MD†; 2004-187) was in southern California where the species' occurrence is more expected.

MAGNIFICENT HUMMINGBIRD *Eugenes fulgens* (2, 1). A female was in Eureka, HUM, 8 Apr–17 May and 21 Jun 2004 (ABO†, CAM, DQ, KeR†, RST†; 2004-054). California's only previous record was during the previous fall, 11 Oct–29 Nov on the far southern coast in Pacific Beach, San Diego, SD (San Miguel and McGrath 2005). This species is well known to wander north in the Rocky Mountain and intermountain regions and occasionally to the Southeast and upper Midwest (Howell 2002); it had been expected to occur in southern California. One in a coniferous forest several miles inland on the north coast, however, was unexpected.

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD *Archilochus colubris* (6, 1). One was captured and photographed on Southeast Farallon I., SF, 12 Sep 1986 (SNGH†; 1987-005A). It had previously been not accepted (Roberson 1993) but was resubmitted and passed on the third round of voting. This record was controversial because of the poor quality of photographs and the lack of a specimen, but recent advances in identification (e.g., Pyle 1997 and Howell 2002) allowed the committee to review the extant evidence and endorse the identification.

YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER *Empidonax flaviventris* (18, 3). A well-documented vocalizing bird at the headquarters of the Wister Unit of the Imperial W.A. near Niland, IMP, 3–5 Sep. 2004 (MSanM Jr.; KZK†, CAM, GMcC, MSanM, SBT, DVP†; 2004-130) tied the earliest date for California and provided a first for Imperial County. Another in Pacific Grove, MTY, 21 Sep 2004 (DR†; MB, DVP†; 2004-146) gave calls typical of a migrant and established the first record for Monterey County. After circulating four rounds, a record of one at California City, KER, 5 Oct 2002 (TE, AH, VH, AEK; 2002-170) became the first nonphotographed silent Yellow-bellied Flycatcher to be accepted by the committee, on a 9–1 vote. The dissenting member was strongly opposed to accepting the record because of the difficulty of identifying silent vagrants of *Empidonax* and unease with relying on written documentation

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only. The descriptions were consistent, however, and all observers were careful in eliminating the Western Flycatcher (*E. difficilis*/*E. occidentalis*), of which one was present for comparison.

SULPHUR-BELLIED FLYCATCHER *Myiodynastes luteiventris* (15, 1). One in its first fall at Southeast Farallon I., SF, 1 Oct 2004 was the first for that locale (KNN†; ABr†, JTz; 2004-178; Figure 7). All California records of this species have been from the immediate coast, and, except for a single spring record, fall between 13 Sep and 20 Oct.

WHITE-EYED VIREO *Vireo griseus* (52, 5). One was at Vandenberg Air Force Base, SBA, 8–12 Jun 2000 (JGa; 2005-006). Others were at Tassajara Regional Park, ALA, 20–23 May 2004 (LWC, JMo, DQ; 2004-070), the Big Sur R. mouth, MTY, 3–13 Jun 2004 (RFo; SBT, DVP; 2004-106), and Big Basin Redwood State Park, SCZ, 15 Jun 2004 (DLS; 2004-121). Another was banded near Bradley, MTY, 22 Jun 2004 (JGr, EM†; 2004-104). Consistent with the majority of California's records, all were spring migrants, and except for the bird at Bradley, which was mist-netted, all were singing males.

YELLOW-THROATED VIREO *Vireo flavifrons* (103, 8). Seven of the eight 2004 records involved singing males. Single individuals were at Fort Piute, SBE, 16 May 2004 (AH, AEK; 2004-066), Butterbredt Spring, KER, 29–31 May 2004 (RFi, CAM, GMcC, JMo, SBT; 2004-076), Harbor City, LA, 31 May 2004 (KGL; 2004-087), Vandenberg Village, SBA, 4–5 Jul 2004 (DC, WF†; 2004-122), and Mono Lake County Park, MNO, 8 Jun 2004 (DHo; 2004-110). Two were at the Big Sur R. mouth, MTY: one 20–24 May 2004 (DR†, DVP; 2004-075), the other 3–13 Jun 2004 (RFo; SBT; 2004-085). The only nonsinging Yellow-throated Vireo for 2004 was at Palm City, SD, 21–22 Jun 2004 (GLR; MJB, GMcC; 2004-095).

BLUE-HEADED VIREO *Vireo solitarius* (41, 8). A record from Southeast Farallon I., SF, 5 Oct 2001 (RDB†; 2002-015) received less than full support in its first three rounds primarily because of the poor quality of prints of digital images; the record was accepted when better-quality prints were circulated. One was seen briefly by an experienced observer on the unprecedented date of 20 Apr 2004 at Butterbredt Spring, KER (PEL; 2004-064), among a migrating wave of Cassin's Vireos (*V. cassinii*), with which it may have wintered. The record convinced nine members by its second round, becoming only the second accepted spring Blue-headed Vireo for California. The first was a well-documented singing male at Huntington Beach, ORA, 13 May 2000 (McKee and Erickson 2002). The Blue-headed Vireo migrates early, and late April is near the end of its normal migration at the latitude of southern California (Alderfer 2005); interestingly, there are no spring reports but over 30 fall reports from Southeast Farallon I. (P. Pyle, pers. comm.).

Another early migrant, this one in fall, was at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery, SD, 17 Sep 2004 (MTH; GMcC; 2004-144). California's earliest in fall was at Southeast Farallon I., SF, 9–13 Sep 1995 (San Miguel and McGrath 2005). In the East the Blue-headed Vireo migrates relatively late, and the majority of California's records are from late September through late October. More typical dates were those of Blue-headed Vireos at Toyon Bay, Santa Catalina I., LA, 28 Sep 2004 (DGo; 2004-184, the first to be accepted from that county), Mendoza Ranch, MRN, 1–2 Oct 2004 (LCh†, RFi, JMo; 2004-149), and Neary Lagoon, Santa Cruz, SCZ, 1 Oct 2004 (SG; 2004-185). Two were at Southeast Farallon I., SF, in 2004: 30 Sep (JT; ABr, KNN†; 2004-179) and 5 Oct (KNN; 2004-180). See also Records Not Accepted, identification not established.

YELLOW-GREEN VIREO *Vireo flavoviridis* (85, 3). One at Cabrillo National Monument, Pt. Loma, SD, 15 Sep 2004 was early (RoB; SBM; 2004-141); there are only four California records earlier in the fall. Others were at the Goleta Sewage

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Ponds, SBA, 11 Oct 2004 (NL; DC, WF; 2004-161) and Nunes Ranch, Pt. Reyes, MRN, 22 Oct 2004 (SBT; DN†; 2004-170). See also Records Not Accepted, identification not established.

BLUE JAY *Cyanocitta cristata* (12, 1). One near Weed, SIS, 8 Nov 2004 provided a first county record (GF, NEC†; 2004-197).

SEDGE WREN *Cistothorus platensis* (8, 1). A calling Sedge Wren photographed at the Goleta sewage ponds, SBA, 13 Oct 2004 was the earliest accepted for California by two days (NL; DC, WF†, MAH†, CAM; 2004-162; Figure 8).

DUSKY WARBLER *Phylloscopus fuscatus* (10, 1). One in its first fall, captured, photographed, and banded 2 Oct 2004 at the Big Sur Ornithology Lab, Andrew Molera State Park, MTY, was exhausted and died shortly after being released (JGr†; #CAS 92944; 2004-150). Similar species of the notoriously difficult Old World genus *Phylloscopus*, such as Radde's Warbler (*P. schwarzi*) and the Yellow-streaked Warbler (*P. armandii*), were eliminated by a combination of this bird's eyeline (darker, extending to bill), supercilium (thinner in the Dusky; often with a darker border above and below in Radde's and the Yellow-streaked), bill (thinner and darker in the Dusky), and overall brownish coloration. See Bradshaw (1994), Baker (1997), and Madge (1990) for further information on identification within this complex.

STONECHAT *Saxicola torquatus* (1, 1). This unexpected bird, seen on San Clemente I., LA, 20–21 Oct 1995, was initially identified as a Vermilion Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*) (RTP†; 2005-005). Years later, Brian L. Sullivan, while writing a summary of the birds of San Clemente I. (Sullivan et al. 2005), requested the documentation from Patton, as this record would have predated the single record of the Vermilion Flycatcher for the island. The photos and supporting field notes, which fortunately had been saved, proved the bird to be a Stonechat, a first record for lower North America. Plumage features, posture, and structure helped identify the bird as likely an individual of the Siberian *maura* group of subspecies, either *S. t. maura* or *S. t. stejnegeri*. Unlike this bird, the similar Whinchat (*S. rubetra*) has a much bolder supercilium and bold streaking on the upperparts. The brief written description was helpful by mentioning a pale rump (the rump is streaked in the Whinchat) and the bird's behavior of constant tail-fanning and wing-flicking (the Whinchat is more sedate). In North America, the Stonechat is previously known from just eight records in western Alaska (Sullivan et al. 2005) and a single remarkable record of *maura* or *stejnegeri* at Grand Manan I., New Brunswick, Canada, 1 Oct 1983 (Wilson 1986). See Sullivan et al. (2005) for a photograph of the Stonechat on San Clemente I. and Beaman and Madge (1998), Robertson (1977), and Stoddart (1992) for details on identification within *Saxicola*.

VEERY *Catharus fuscescens* (11, 1). A one-year-old Veery mist-netted and banded 19 Jun 2004 on lower Rush Cr., MNO (KGr†; 2004-107; Figure 9), was the fourth recorded in spring in California.

RUFOUS-BACKED ROBIN *Turdus rufopalliatu*s (13, 1). A brief description of one at the Cactus City Rest Area, RIV, 23 Nov 2003 (CMcG†; 2003-199) was accompanied by a dark digital photo that was identifiable only when digitally altered to brighten the image. This manipulation of the photograph sparked much discussion within the committee on the legitimacy of altered digital images. The committee concluded that simple brightening of digital images—as in the case of the one identifiable image supporting this record—does not affect the image's legitimacy.

CURVE-BILLED THRASHER *Toxostoma curvirostre* (17, 1). One wintering at Black Meadow Landing, Colorado River, SBE, 4 Nov 2004–20 Feb 2005 (MB, MJ†, DVP†; 2004-204) was judged to be the same individual that wintered there 2003–2004 (2004-027; San Miguel and McGrath 2005). One at Quail Hollow Day

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Use Area north of Earp, SBE, 20 Feb 2004 (TE†; 2004-038) was less than 15 km from the bird at Black Meadow Landing.

*RED-THROATED PIPIT *Anthus cervinus* (204**, 5). An additional five individuals, including one documented by a specimen, were accepted, bringing the total number in the Tijuana R. valley, SD, 12–27 Oct 1964 to 17, as published by McCaskie (1966) (GMcC; #MVZ 154172; 1986-031A). The committee reviews records of the Red-throated Pipit through 1991 only.

SPRAGUE'S PIPIT *Anthus spragueii* (78, 7). Three records involving seven individuals were accepted from the Imperial Valley, where small numbers have been detected in recent years during late fall and winter. The known but ill-defined winter distribution of Sprague's Pipit extends northwest into south-central and southeastern Arizona (Alström and Mild 2003). Because the birds in the Imperial Valley are generally seen, and many remain, in appropriate winter habitat, it appears likely this region is within the extreme western edge of the species' winter range. Up to five were near Calipatria, IMP, 14 Nov 2004–19 Feb 2005 (MB, ELK, GMcC; 2004-196), one was in the Palo Verde Valley, RIV, north of Palo Verde, IMP, 27 Nov 2004 (MSanM; 2004-220), and one was near Calipatria, IMP, 15 Dec 2004 (DVP; 2005-036).

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER *Dendroica dominica* (105, 7). An older record from Westhaven, HUM, 8 Oct 1992 was accepted (GSL†; 2004-092). The year 2004 yielded an outstanding six spring records, the best showing since 1981. All were males of the expected subspecies *albilora*; five of the six were singing: at Long Beach, LA, 25 Apr 2004 (KGL†; 2004-086); Drake's Beach, Pt. Reyes, MRN, 18–22 May 2004 (MWE; LML; 2004-094); Crissy Field, SF, 19 May 2004 (JHf; 2004-071); Furnace Cr. Ranch, Death Valley National Park, INY, 29–31 May 2004 (DVP; AH, DR, RST, SBT; 2004-078); Manzanita Lake, Lassen Volcanic National Park, SHA, 8 Jun 2004 (JMi; 2004-109; Figure 10); Big Sur R. mouth, MTY, 13 Jun 2004 (RFo, SBT; 2004-108).

GRACE'S WARBLER *Dendroica graciae* (44, 1). Two returning individuals wintered at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery, Pt. Loma, SD: the male spent his third winter there, 17 Sep 2004–2 Apr 2005 (PAG, MTH†, GMcC, MS; 2004-145), and a female, presumably one of two there the previous winter, was observed 26 Sep 2004–2 Apr 2005 (GMcC; PAG, MTH, MS; 2004-147). A singing male was on territory at least 30 May–29 Jun 2004 at the Chimney Cr. Recreation Area campground, TUL (RAB, MJB†, RFi, LL, JMo, RSt†, LS†, SBT, DVP; 2004-079; Figure 11). According to the campground host, it had been present about three weeks before being encountered by birders on May 30. Although breeding by Grace's Warbler has yet to be confirmed in California, it has undoubtedly taken place at Clark Mt., SBE, where multiple pairs have occurred, including a pair May–Jul 2003 (San Miguel and McGrath 2005). The Grace's Warbler in Tulare County was the first recorded in the Sierra Nevada and only the second territorial individual away from Clark Mt. (the first was a male at Arrastre Cr., SBE, 15 Jun–3 Jul 1975; Luther et al. 1979). See also Records Not Accepted, identification not established.

PINE WARBLER *Dendroica pinus* (71, 4). One at China Ranch, INY, 16 Oct 2004 was the eighth for California's interior (SJM†; 2004-205). Another migrant was at Oceano, SLO, 22 Oct 2003 (JMC; 2003-189). A first-winter female 1–29 Feb 2004 furnished the fifth winter record of Pine Warbler for El Dorado Park in Long Beach, LA (KSG†; 2004-048). The park hosted at least one wintering Pine Warbler from Dec 1997 to Dec 2000. A first-winter male was at Pacific View Memorial Park in Corona del Mar, ORA, 16 Feb–17 Apr 2004 (MJ†, CAM, JP†; 2004-041).

CERULEAN WARBLER *Dendroica cerulea* (16, 1). A singing male at the Big Sur R. mouth, MTY, 24 May 2004 (RFo; 2004-080) was California's sixth in spring and first since 1997.

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WORM-EATING WARBLER *Helmitheros vermivorus* (99, 3). One was at Nunes Ranch, Pt. Reyes, MRN, 2 Oct 2004 (SBT; 2004-176); another was at the Millpond Recreation Area, Bishop, INY, 9–12 Nov 2004 (CE, JHe†, DP, JP, DHo, WHM, JZ; 2004-218). One seen in Santa Barbara, SBA, 3 Jan 1981 (BKS; 2005-084) was recently submitted and accepted.

LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH *Seiurus motacilla* (16, 1). One at Oak Meadows Park, Los Gatos, SCL, 9–16 Aug 2004 was the fourth for northern California (JPa; WGB, MB, LWC, ME, TE†, KCK, RWL, MMR, SBT, DVP; 2004-119). The date fits the pattern for the species, which is an early migrant.

CONNECTICUT WARBLER *Oporornis agilis* (95, 3). Santa Barbara County hosted two in 2004: one at Prisoner's Cove, Santa Cruz I., 25 Sep 2004 (JLD; 2004-167), the second on the mainland in Santa Barbara 15–17 Oct 2004 (ABi; DC, JEL, NL; 2004-169). Southeast Farallon I., SF, averages just over 1.4 Connecticut Warblers per year, so one there 4 Oct 2004 (RDIG; JTz; 2004-199) was expected.

MOURNING WARBLER *Oporornis philadelphia* (127, 3). A singing male was at the Big Sur R. mouth, MTY, 5–6 Jun 2004 (RFo; RST, SBT, DVP; 2004-084). One was at Southeast Farallon I., SF, 2 Oct 2004 (KNN†; JTz; 2004-181), and another was at Mendoza Ranch, Pt. Reyes, MRN, 3 Oct 2004 (SBT; 2004-175). See also Records Not Accepted, identification not established.

SCARLET Tanager *Piranga olivacea* (131, 6). Two records from San Diego County nearly a year apart are by far the latest for California. The first was of a first-winter male at Greenwood Memorial Park, San Diego, SD, 2 Jan 2004 (GMcC; MTH†, SBT; 2004-005). Another male, probably also in its first winter, was near Guajome Regional Park, Oceanside, SD, 30 Dec 2004 (JTz; 2004-222). Although they were detected during winter, both were likely exceptionally late migrants, as the species migrates late in fall. The majority of fall Scarlet Tanagers in California have occurred from mid-October to mid-November, with the previous latest record 13 December. Scarlet Tanagers winter primarily in the Andes of South America and are unlikely to winter within the United States. The 2004 records are among the latest for the United States. Previous January records of Scarlet Tanagers include a well-documented individual at Charleston, SC, 28 Dec 1990–13 Jan 1991 (McNair and Escobar 1993) and one from Rio Rancho, NM, 4–9 Jan 2002, preserved as a specimen (Museum of Southwestern Biology, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, #MSB 32102) (Dickerman and Draper 2003). In their review of winter records of Scarlet Tanagers in the southeastern U.S. McNair and Escobar (1993) found that most claims lacked persuasive evidence and more likely pertained to the Summer Tanager (*P. rubra*).

Two one-year-old males were seen in the spring: one at Oso Flaco L., SLO, 4–5 Jun 2004 (CAM, ASC; 2004-082) and another at the San Bruno Mt. State and County Park, SM, 11 Jun 2004 (RFi, MH, JMo, ZT†; 2004-091; Figure 12). A first-fall male was in the Tijuana R. Valley, SD, 31 Oct–1 Nov 2004 (THu; TAB†, GMcC; 2004-177). An older record from El Capitan State Beach, SBA, 22–25 Oct 1999 was accepted (DAC; 2005-008). See also Records Not Accepted, identification not established.

CASSIN'S SPARROW *Aimophila cassini* (46, 1). One at Stinson Beach, MRN, 16–17 Sep 2004 (DSC; LWC, MWE†, SNGH†, MJM†, JMo, DN†, EPr, MMR, DSS†, RS†, DVP‡; 2004-143; Figure 13) provided a long-overdue first for Marin County. It was the first along the mainland coast in fall, although there have been eight in fall at Southeast Farallon I. and one in fall on San Clemente I.

*NELSON'S SHARP-TAILED SPARROW *Ammodramus nelsoni* (30**, 1). This record initially circulated for statistical acceptance, but the committee obtained photos to substantiate standard acceptance of this specimen, collected at Alviso, SCL, 31 Jan



Figure 13. This Cassin's Sparrow (*Aimophila cassinii*) was photographed 17 September 2004 at Stinson Beach, Marin County. Note the fine streaking on the crown and nape and delicate barring on the rump and central rectrices, which are diagnostic for the species.

Photo by Martin Meyers

1896 (MHa†, PD†; #USNM 163104; 2005-047). The committee reviews records of Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow through 1986 only.

SNOW BUNTING *Plectrophenax nivalis* (105, 5). Two were in the east San Francisco Bay area: one at the San Leandro marina, ALA, 25–26 Jan 2004 (WGB, JMo, DQ, KaR†; 2004-016) and another with blacker upperparts at the Clifton Court Forebay, CC, 27 Feb–17 Mar 2004 (ASo†, LWCT, EG†, RHo†, CL, LML†, JMo†, EPa; 2004-039). Migrants at Southeast Farallon I., SF, 26 Oct 2004 (RDIG; ABr†, NCo; 2004-209) and the mouth of the Mad R., HUM, 27 Oct 2004 (MK; 2004-173) were rather early. Another was at the north end of Lake Talawa, DN, 13 Nov 2004 (RFo†; 2004-188).

PYRRHULOXIA *Cardinalis sinuatus* (22, 1). The committee agreed to re-review the record of a Pyrrhuloxia seen at Pt. Loma, SD, 10 Jun 1998 (REW; 1999-044A) after it was initially not accepted on grounds of questionable natural occurrence. It was accepted on the second round of recirculation. The date is appropriate for a spring overshoot, as 19 of California's 22 records fall within the window of 7 May to 31 July. While most of California's Pyrrhuloxias have been seen in the southeastern deserts, records from Encinitas, SD, and, especially, from San Miguel I. 19–23 Jun 1990 (Heindel and Garrett 1995) indicate that they occasionally wander coastward and even offshore. Point Loma, although close to an urban center and the border with Mexico where the species is occasionally kept as a cage bird (Hamilton 2001), is a well-known vagrant trap. The bird's "disheveled" appearance, which caused concern during the initial voting, was considered expected for a naturally occurring second-year vagrant, which would be at the end of its molt cycle. Additionally, because the species is seldom reported within California, "background" levels of escapees appear to be low. As with other species frequently raising the issue of natural occurrence, not accepting records simply because of their location (i.e., coastal southern California for

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Mexican-kept cagebirds), even if the record fits the pattern of occurrence for the state, may interfere with our understanding of these species' natural movements.

*PAINTED BUNTING *Passerina ciris* (106, 4). An adult male at the Sepulveda Wildlife Reserve, LA, 7 Aug 2004 (AL†, BK; 2004-117) initially raised some concern about natural occurrence since it was close to urban Los Angeles, but it was accepted unanimously on the second round. The date is perfect for adult males moving into the Southwest to molt, a phenomenon seen annually in southeast Arizona. Painted Buntings in their first fall were at Ridgecrest, KER, 15 Sep 2004 (AH; 2004-152), Atascadero Cr. in Goleta, SBA, 29 Sep 2004 (DC; 2004-182), and China Ranch, INY, 2 Oct 2004 (JP†; 2004-192). The committee reviews Painted Bunting records through 2004 only. See also Records Not Accepted, identification not established.

COMMON GRACKLE *Quiscalus quiscula* (69, 3). A male returned for a second winter to the Earvin "Magic" Johnson Recreation Area, Willowbrook, LA, 11 Jan–7 Feb 2004 (KGL†; MJI; 2004-049). A first-spring male was at the headquarters of the Wister Unit, Imperial W.A., near Niland, IMP, 27 Mar 2004 (MMR†; GMcC, TMcG, DN†; 2004-046). Two were at Desert Center, RIV: one in spring on the early date of 1 Apr 2004 (CMcG†; 2004-062), the other in fall on 17 Oct 2004 (CMcG†; 2004-172). Like all Common Grackles recorded previously in California, these individuals represented the more westerly subspecies, *versicolor*. See also Records Not Accepted, identification not established.

BLACK ROSY-FINCH *Leucosticte atrata* (12, 3). Previously unreviewed specimens now accepted are an adult male from Bodie, MNO, 15 Jan 1904 (PP†; #CAS 15167; 2005-028) and a female from Blue Bell Mine, Badger Flat, INY, 1 Jan 1984 (REJ†; #CM-WSU 84-321; 2005-013). One was at Aspendell, INY, 14–18 Nov 2004 (SS†; JLD; 2004-207).

COMMON REDPOLL *Carduelis flammea* (76, 3). One was in Sierra Valley, PLU, 3 Jan 2004 (CD; 2004-031), another was at Tule Lake NWR, SIS, 26 Nov 2004 (DSH; 2005-002), and a third remained "for 3 weeks" in Dec 2004 in Eureka, HUM (DO†; 2005-032). See also Records Not Accepted, identification not established.

RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED, identification not established

GARGANEY *Anas querquedula*. A pair reported in Petaluma, SON, 29 Apr 2004 (2004-103) was not accepted because of an inadequate description of the male and no description of the female.

COMMON EIDER *Somateria mollissima*. One reported at Newport Harbor, ORA, in May 1982 (2004-186) was not accepted because of the lack of information regarding the photograph submitted 22 years later and concerns about whether the location of the photograph was mislabeled. If correct, the record would have been the first for California. The photograph (which the committee agreed was of a Common Eider) was purportedly taken during a pelagic trip when the boat was leaving from the harbor, but when questioned other participants on the trip did not recall any eider being seen. In addition, the bird was not of the expected Pacific coast subspecies (*v-nigrum*) and was missing the primaries in one wing. Therefore the committee suspects the claimed location is incorrect and suggests the photo is of a captive bird. Because both location and identification need to be established before a record is not accepted on grounds of questionable natural occurrence, this record is not accepted because its location was not established.

ARCTIC LOON *Gavia arctica*. One reported off North Beach, Pt. Reyes, MRN, 15 Dec 2001 (2001-216) received considerable support during the first two rounds but was ultimately not accepted on the fourth. Several committee members thought

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the quality of the documentation was inadequate to warrant acceptance of such a rare and difficult species. The bird was reported for several days by many observers, yet details submitted to the committee were sparse. One reported near Westport, MEN, 25 Apr 2004 (2004-112) was not accepted because of the brevity of the description. The documentation for one reported near Pomponio State Beach, SM, 28 Aug 2004 (2004-136) did not provide detail sufficient to convince even the observers themselves to support the record. The Arctic Loon is relatively difficult to identify, so the committee has a high standard for its documentation. For discussion and details on the identification of this species see Reinking and Howell (1993).

YELLOW-BILLED LOON *Gavia adamsii*. One off Pt. Piedras Blancas, SLO, 12 May 2004 (2004-096) was not accepted because of the lack of a description of anything other than the bill color and shape. There was no indication of the age of the bird, the length of the sighting, the distance to the bird, or any other supporting details required to establish the record's acceptability.

SHY ALBATROSS *Thalassarche cauta*. One was reported off Pt. Piedras Blancas, SLO, 28 May 1996 (1996-093A). It was not accepted following three rounds of voting in 1997, then resubmitted in 2003 following the acceptance of other California records of the Shy Albatross (e.g. Cole 2000, Garrett and Wilson 2003), and finally not accepted on the fourth round of voting. The record raised several concerns among committee members: the observer's reported distance from the bird (2.5 miles), the fact that this would have established the first record for California, and the observer's identifying it as one subspecies, then years later changing his mind to identify it as another subspecies. Many committee members continued to support this record in the final round based upon the observer's experience and the adequacy of the description.

GALAPAGOS/HAWAIIAN PETREL *Pterodroma phaeopygia/sandwichensis*. A *Pterodroma* photographed 2 miles west of Moss Landing, MTY, 4 May 2003 (2003-048) circulated as this species pair and was rejected before being resubmitted as a Stejneger's Petrel (see below). Another was reported 20 miles off Pt. Pinos, MTY, 23 May 2004 (2004-077). Although a majority of the committee members considered the bird properly identified, the brevity of the sighting, the lack of a description, and the observers' lack of absolute certainty in their identification led to the non-acceptance of the record.

STEJNEGER'S PETREL *Pterodroma longirostris*. A *Pterodroma* was photographed 2 miles west of Moss Landing, MTY, 4 May 2003 and initially circulated as a Dark-rumped (Galapagos/Hawaiian) Petrel (*P. phaeopygia/sandwichensis*), but it was not accepted (see above). Several committee members and an experienced outside reviewer commented that the photographs matched Stejneger's Petrel more closely than the Dark-rumped. When the record was not accepted as a Dark-rumped Petrel, it was resubmitted as Stejneger's Petrel. Because there was no written description of the bird in the documentation, however, committee members had to rely solely on review of the photographs. A majority of the committee did not consider the photographs adequate to support the identification of the bird. The blurry photographs did not clearly show plumage characteristics of the dorsal surface, nor did they clearly show the facial pattern and bill shape and size. The record was ultimately not accepted as a Stejneger's either (2005-019).

PARKINSON'S PETREL *Procellaria parkinsoni*. One was reported from a pelagic trip off Pt. Reyes, MRN, 11 Oct 2004 (2004-168) but was not accepted as a first state and North American record because of the lack of photographs that showed the bird's overall shape, bill size and shape, and, most importantly, leg color sufficiently to rule out the Flesh-footed Shearwater (*Puffinus carneipes*) convincingly. The committee received considerable comment from an array of international seabird experts, but

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many of these reached contradictory conclusions or were inconclusive, so the majority of the committee considered it best to let this record go. Perhaps not coincidentally, there was a well-documented record from the same general area on 1 Oct 2005, currently under review by the committee.

STREAKED SHEARWATER *Calonectris leucomelas*. One reported off Pt. Pinos, MTY, 23 Aug 2003 (2003-098) was not accepted because of concerns over the brevity of the sighting and some aspects of the description that were considered by some to be incorrect for this species.

CORY'S SHEARWATER *Calonectris diomedea*. One off Pt. Pinos, MTY, 22–23 Aug 2003 (2003-099) was not accepted because of concerns over the brevity of the sighting, lack of photographs, and the lack of details in the description of what would be the species' second record for California. Some committee members were willing to accept it only if it was considered the same bird as California's first, from Bodega Canyon, SON, 9 Aug 2003 (San Miguel and McGrath 2005), while other committee members considered it a different bird.

GREATER SHEARWATER *Puffinus gravis*. One reported off Pt. Pinos, MTY, 12 Oct 2003 (2003-178) was not accepted primarily because of the brevity of the sighting and because only the bird's dorsal surface was described. Only one observer from the pelagic trip submitted documentation, though that observer was experienced with the species. Although the record was not accepted, some committee members believe that the identification may have been correct in spite of the description's lacking sufficient detail.

MANX SHEARWATER *Puffinus puffinus*. One off Santa Barbara, SBA, 25 Oct 2003 (2003-184) was not accepted because of the brevity of the observation and the lack of a detailed description. Another from Southeast Farallon I., SF, 18 Sep 2004 (2004-190) was not accepted because the minimal documentation rested primarily on an unannotated sketch.

BROWN BOOBY *Sula leucogaster*. One off Santa Cruz, SCZ, 25 Oct 2004 (2004-174) was not accepted; the description did not rule out the Red-footed Booby (*Sula sula*).

TRICOLORED HERON *Egretta tricolor*. One near Oceanside, SD, 20 Dec 2003 (2004-156) was not accepted. The minimal description of the bird as having a "red belly" is inconsistent with this species, which has a white belly.

YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON *Nyctanassa violacea*. An immature was reported from Zzyzx, SBE, 29 Sep 2004 (2004-213). A majority of the committee thought the description did not conclusively rule out an immature Black-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*).

WHITE IBIS *Eudocimus albus*. A flock of 20 reported soaring over Calabasas, LA, 12 Dec 2004 (2004-216) was not accepted because committee members concluded that the documentation better described American White Pelicans (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*).

GLOSSY IBIS *Plegadis falcinellus*. A *Plegadis* ibis was photographed at the Piute Ponds on Edwards Air Force Base, LA, 12-23 May 2004 (2004-068). This record generated considerable discussion, and a majority of the committee considered the bird a hybrid. The committee acknowledges that much is still not known about the extent of hybridization and the variation of plumages and soft-part coloration in hybrids, as well as within the parental species. Several members supported this record, but upon gaining further information and confidence about identification of this species and of hybrids, most committee members were uncertain that this bird was a pure Glossy Ibis.

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MISSISSIPPI KITE *Ictinia mississippiensis*. One reported in Blythe, RIV, 27 May 2002 (2002-111) was not accepted because of the lack of a detailed and convincing description and the poor quality of the accompanying sketch. Regardless, this record still had support from many committee members from the description of the behavior of the bird taking a dragonfly on the wing, as this species often does.

CRESTED CARACARA *Caracara cheriway*. One reported at Sheffield Reservoir, SBA, 9 Oct 2001 (2005-026) was not accepted because the documentation described only a crest, white head, black body, and yellow bill. The bill color is inconsistent with this species.

GYRFALCON *Falco rusticolus*. One reported in a backyard in Fort Bragg, MEN, 11 Nov 2004 (2005-018) received no support because of a poor description, which ruled out this species.

AMERICAN OYSTERCATCHER *Haematopus palliatus*. One at Albert's Anchorage on Santa Cruz I., SBA, 15 Feb 2004 (2004-034) was not accepted because of the lack of a description. The Channel Islands are an area where hybrids with the Black Oystercatcher (*H. bachmani*) have previously occurred, so reports of this species must effectively rule out hybrids. The index devised by Jehl (1985) is an effective tool for identifying—or eliminating—hybrid oystercatchers in California.

COMMON GREENSHANK *Tringa nebularia*. One at Hayward Regional Shoreline, ALA, 11 May 2003 (2004-083) was not accepted primarily because of the lack of corroboration from other observers, the fact that the bird was not reported until a year after the sighting, and the lack of detail in the description. Most committee members considered the documentation inadequate for an unprecedented spring record of a Eurasian shorebird known only from a single record from the west coast south of Alaska, of one in McKinleyville, HUM, in fall 2001, returning in fall 2002 (Garrett and Wilson 2003).

BAR-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa lapponica*. One at Bodega Bay, SON, 6 Jul 2004 (2004-137) was not accepted because of concerns over the brevity and incompleteness of the sighting, the early date, and the fact that it could have been a worn and bleached small Marbled Godwit (*L. fedoa*).

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER *Calidris fuscicollis*. One at Pope Marsh, South Lake Tahoe, ED, 16 May 2004 (2004-069) was not accepted because the description did not eliminate other shorebirds with white rumps such as the Red Knot (*C. canutus*), Curlew (*C. ferruginea*) and Stilt (*C. himantopus*) sandpipers, and Wilson's Phalarope (*Phalaropus tricolor*).

RED-NECKED STINT *Calidris ruficollis*. One described as a molting adult at the Salmon Cr. mouth, SON, 10 Aug 2004 (2005-021) was considered by a majority of the committee to be inadequately documented. Several concerns were raised, including the lack of descriptions from other observers, the lack of consideration of an alternate-plumaged Sanderling (*C. alba*), the description of spotting across the breast, the lack of description of some important field marks, and the lack of photographs to corroborate the identification.

LITTLE STINT *Calidris minuta*. One in Albany, ALA, 10–15 Aug 2004 (2004-132) was not accepted because the description did not convincingly address the bird's age or rule out the similar Red-necked Stint (*C. ruficollis*), nor were photographs taken of this difficult-to-identify species.

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL *Larus fuscus*. One at the Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant, SCL, 14 Jan 2004 (2004-036) was not accepted because of the brevity of the sighting and the lack of description of leg and eye color. One along the American River Parkway in Sacramento, SAC, 13–14 Mar 2004 (2004-111) was not

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accepted because the description lacked detail sufficient to convince the committee of the identification. Another at Rodeo Lagoon, MRN, 29 Dec 2003 (2004-100) was not accepted because of inconsistencies between the description and known characteristics of this species—primarily the lack of streaking in the head and the dull “fleshy” colored legs—and the lack of photographs. Committee members commented on the relative rarity of this species in California and the many pitfalls of identifying large gulls and estimating their ages. Reports of this species should include detailed descriptions that carefully eliminate other species, and adequate photographs if possible.

SLATY-BACKED GULL *Larus schistisagus*. An adult gull reported from Beal's Point on Folsom Lake, PLA, 5–6 Jan 1998 (2002-195) generated considerable discussion and many members' support, but was ultimately not accepted in the fourth round of voting. A primary concern was the paleness of the mantle that may indicate a hybrid with the Asian subspecies of the Herring Gull, *L. argentatus vegae*. The majority of the committee considered that this bird was not typical enough of a Slaty-backed Gull to be convincing as a first state record.

DUSKY-CAPPED FLYCATCHER *Myiarchus tuberculifer*. One reported from Southeast Farallon I. Oct 24 2004 (2004-208) would have established the earliest fall date for California. Two descriptions noted that the primaries were edged rufous, but no mention was made of the edges of the secondaries, which are rufous in Dusky-capped Flycatcher and whitish in other North American species of *Myiarchus*. Details of the head pattern, such as the noticeably pale throat and relatively uniformly colored head, more suggested the Ash-throated Flycatcher (*Myiarchus cinerascens*). The observers noted that the tail lacked rufous but did not indicate if the rufous was absent from the underside of the tail. Ultimately, most committee members thought the bird may have been a freshly molted Ash-throated Flycatcher, which can be strikingly bright yellow below relative to its plumage during the breeding season.

GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER *Myiarchus crinitus*. A *Myiarchus* with features suggesting a Great Crested Flycatcher was observed briefly at the Cosumnes R. Preserve, SAC, 5 Jul 2004 (2004-120). Most members considered this record to lack the level of detail to establish such a significant record, as there are no spring or summer records of this species for California, and 80% of the state's records fall within the narrow window of 16 September to 13 October. Additionally, several members thought the Brown-crested Flycatcher (*M. tyrannulus*), which may be more likely than the Great Crested given the date and location, was not eliminated.

BLUE-HEADED VIREO *Vireo solitarius*. Several older records preceding the split of the Solitary Vireo complex into three species lacked details sufficient to gain acceptance: two from Southeast Farallon I., SF, one 10–11 Sep 1977 (2002-069), the other 26–28 Oct 1982 (2002-075); one from the San Lorenzo R., SCZ, 5 Oct 1992 (2002-086); one near New Brighton State Beach, SCZ, 10 Oct 1993 (2002-089); and one from La Selva Beach, SCZ, 24 Oct 1994 (2002-092). A bird observed 15 May 2004 (2004-067) at the Mid Hills Campground in the Mojave National Preserve, SBE, was tentatively identified as this species by a careful observer. The bird was not exceptionally bright, apparently in the realm of a dull Blue-headed Vireo or bright male Cassin's Vireo (*V. cassinii*), which can be difficult to distinguish. Some details such as the tail pattern were not observed, and, given the scarcity of spring records for the West, the record was not accepted. A singing vireo reported near Westmorland, IMP, 20 May 1976 (2005-034) was initially identified as a Blue-headed, but the observer has since lost confidence in that identification. In part because of the Blue-headed Vireo's extreme scarcity in California in spring, the observer wished to have this record not accepted, because it had been published as *V. s. solitarius* in *American Birds* 30:892. Several members commented that the bird may have been identified correctly but thought the judgment of the observer was valid.

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YELLOW-GREEN VIREO *Vireo flavoviridis*. A bonded pair with the male singing was reported near Klamath, DN, 5–7 Jul 2004 (2005-038). There are no spring records for California and no summer records further north than southern Arizona, so a mated pair from northern California would be unprecedented. Sound recordings and a verbal description were submitted with the report, yet it was unclear if the recordings submitted were from the birds in question or intended to provide examples demonstrating differences among the vireos' songs and calls, as recordings of the Red-eyed (*V. olivaceus*), Warbling (*V. gilvus*), and Philadelphia (*V. philadelphicus*) were also included for comparison with the Yellow-green. Considering how much more likely a pair of Red-eyed Vireos would be at the reported location (the Red-eyed Vireo has bred in California, *Field Notes* 49:982), and that no conclusive evidence such as a photograph or verification by another observer was obtained, the committee thought the record should not be accepted.

SPRAGUE'S PIPIT *Anthus spragueii*. A very brief description of five individuals in a plowed field near Abbott's Lagoon, MRN, 13–20 Nov 2004 (2004-198) received no support, as the Red-throated Pipit (*A. cervinus*) or even Savannah Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) could not be eliminated.

GRACE'S WARBLER *Dendroica graciae*. One was reported from Lighthouse Field State Park, SCZ, 2 Nov 2004 (2004-201). The supercilium and some other field marks were incompletely described, and some members thought the bird may have been a bright male Audubon's Warbler (*D. coronata auduboni*) known to be in the area.

MOURNING WARBLER *Oporornis philadelphia*. An intriguing *Oporornis* tentatively identified as a Mourning Warbler was observed at Galileo Hill, KER, 15 Sep 2004 (2004-157). Mourning Warblers vary significantly, particularly in the size and shape of the eye ring (e.g., Fig. 12 in Garrett and Wilson 2003) and throat color. This bird had features somewhat atypical of the Mourning Warbler and suggesting MacGillivray's Warbler (*O. tolmiei*), leading the committee not to accept it.

RED-FACED WARBLER *Cardellina rubrifrons*. One reported from Sonora Pass, TUO, 2 Jul 2002 (2002-128) took four rounds before being not accepted. Although the bird was fairly well described, it was observed very briefly, possibly without binoculars, at an unlikely location, and so failed to convince half the committee.

SCARLET TANAGER *Piranga olivacea*. An older record involving a bird seen at the Oceano Campground, SLO, 24 Nov 1991 (2004-029) may have been correct, but the description was too brief and lacked detail.

FLAME-COLORED TANAGER *Piranga bidentata*. One reported from Torrance, LA, 12 Apr 2004 received no support (2004-098). It was observed feeding on bird seed spilled on the ground, behavior unexpected for a tanager. Combined with the short description, the behavior led most members to think the bird was more likely a Black-headed Grosbeak (*Pheucticus melanocephalus*) or perhaps an escaped exotic.

SMITH'S LONGSPUR *Calcarius pictus*. The report of one in a mixed flock of longspurs near the Calipatria State Prison, IMP, 30 Dec 2002 (2003-001) was nearly accepted during its first circulation but was ultimately not accepted in the third round. Although the bird was seen by experienced observers, crucial field marks, particularly the wing-covert pattern and primary-tip spacing, were not described, and some members thought observing the tail pattern while the bird was in flight was insufficient to distinguish between Smith's and the Lapland (*C. lapponicus*), which can appear very similar. Most of the difference in the tail pattern between the two species is in the inner webs of rectrices 4 and 5, which are difficult to observe in flight. Additionally, no call was heard. Longspurs as a group vary considerably within species; documentation of a rarity such as a Smith's Longspur requires scrupulous detail. Some committee

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members were also concerned that the bird was never seen again, though it would not have been expected to leave its wintering flock.

PAINTED BUNTING *Passerina ciris*. A puzzling bird reported from Red Mt., MEN, 2 May 2004 (2004-072) was described as having upperparts suggesting an adult male Painted Bunting: a red rump and greenish-yellow back, although the head was described as blackish and the wings as brownish-red. The underparts were described as greenish, consistent with a female or immature male, but should be red in an adult male. Male Painted Buntings in their first spring are usually greenish overall, but some show some red or blue feathers. Although this record possibly involved a gyn-andromorphic plumage, combining male and female characters, the song, described as resembling that of a Lazuli Bunting (*P. amoena*), was an additional reason to believe the bird was not a Painted Bunting. The Painted Bunting's song, though similar in quality to that of other *Passerina* buntings, is warbling, sweet, and smooth, unlike the relatively harsh and double-noted song of a Lazuli Bunting.

COMMON GRACKLE *Quiscalus quiscula*. Three records had details insufficient for acceptance: one near Fort Dick, DN, 18 Oct–11 Nov 2003 (2003-163), one in Ridgecrest, KER, 19–20 Mar 2004 (2004-051), and one in Irvine, ORA, 27 Jun 2004 (2004-140) that likely pertained to a Great-tailed Grackle (*Q. mexicanus*).

COMMON REDPOLL *Carduelis flammea*. Two reported visiting a feeder 5–16 May 2004 at South Lake Tahoe, ED (2004-065), were described as being the same size as the nearby *Carpodacus* finches, yet redpolls are notably smaller. Additionally, the description lacked detail, particularly on the bill, which is remarkably small in redpolls. The date was also unlikely for redpolls in California.

RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED, identification accepted but natural occurrence questionable

HAWAIIAN GOOSE *Branta sandvicensis*. One at Jenner along the Russian River, SON, 3–22 May 2002 (2003-025) was not accepted because of the extreme unlikelihood that it was a wild bird. The Hawaiian Goose is a sedentary species endemic to Hawaii (Madge and Burn 1988).

TRUMPETER SWAN *Cygnus buccinator*. Two first-year swans were collared with alphanumeric codes 8Y3 and 9Y3 as cygnets in Idaho. The former was photographed at Hansen Dam, LA, 23–24 Dec 2004 and was relocated at Lake Havasu NWR, SBE (and adjacent Arizona), 6 Mar 2005 (2004-219). The latter appeared in Goleta, SBA 8–12 Dec 2004 and was found dead on 17 Dec (2005-012). Because Trumpeter Swans were transplanted several hundred miles to southern Idaho in order to reestablish a population and these birds were known to have come from that population, the majority of the committee members thought that they may not have flown to California if they had not been artificially relocated in Idaho.

HARRIS'S HAWK *Parabuteo unicinctus*. One at Ramona, SD, 11 Oct 2004 (2005-022) was not accepted because it was wearing jesses and leg bands, signifying that it had been a captive bird.

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This report would not have been possible without the 183 observers who submitted reports to the committee. Other individuals contributed to the committee's review of particular species in the main report and in the appendix: Krista Fahy, Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, for information on the Snowy Owl and Yellow Rail; Mary Hennen, Field Museum of Natural History, for photographs of Sharp-tailed Sparrow specimens; Carla Cicero, Kim Tsao, and Julie Woodruff, Museum of Vertebrate Zool-

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CORRIGENDA

The following corrections should be made to the Report of the California Bird Records Committee: 2003 Records (San Miguel and McGrath 2005). We thank Guy McCaskie for bringing these to our attention.

On page 87 under the Blue-footed Booby, the date for the Oregon record should be 7-9 Sep 2002, not 7-9 Oct 2002.

On page 89 "Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus* (6, 2)" should be changed to "Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus* (5, 2)."

On page 93 under the Yellow Rail, the fact that John C. Sterling submitted sound recordings as part of his documentation of the vocalizing bird near the city of Mount Shasta should be added to record 2003-092.

On page 102 under Le Conte's Sparrow, the initials for Jim Tietz should be added to the list of those submitting documentation, as one of two finding and/or identifying the bird.

On page 103 under the Painted Bunting, the dates for the two at Andrew Molera State Park are 31 Aug-16 Sep 2003 (2003-113A) and 16 Sep 2003 (2003-113B).

On page 107 under the Blue-headed Vireo, the earliest CBRC-endorsed date for a fall migrant in California is 9-13 Sep 1995 (as listed on page 99), not 14 Sep 1986.

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APPENDIX 1: EVALUATION OF HISTORICAL AND UNREVIEWED RECORDS

Over its 35-year existence, the California Bird Records Committee has tried to identify and evaluate historical records of species on its review list. In its early years, it reviewed a number of records preceding its establishment in 1970; by its third report (Luther et al. 1979), the committee was reviewing significant historical records. At its 1984 annual meeting, the committee decided to "fulfill its primary purposes of evaluating, publishing, and storing records of California rarities by reviewing all reports, including those which are quite old" (Roberson 1986). Toward that end, it "obtained unpublished notes, reviewed published accounts, and considered extant specimens." The results of this historical review began to be published in the ninth report (Roberson 1986), and much was published in the fourteenth report (Roberson 1993).

On the basis of a discussion at the CBRC's 1994 meeting, an informal subcommittee was formed. Michael A. Patten, Matthew T. Heindel, and Richard A. Erickson searched through the committee's archives to find records formally accepted but whose documentation was only marginally acceptable. The intent was to have the entire committee "demote" those records to being accepted only statistically. This was done to balance the decision (actually finalized in 1999, see category 4 below) to accept statistically nine records not accepted because of shortcomings in their documentation but that the committee unanimously agreed were accurate.

Continuing this effort as part of the background research for the committee's forthcoming monograph *Rare Birds of California*, and following through on a decision by the CBRC at its 2004 meeting, Erickson (on behalf of the original subcommittee) reviewed the records statistically accepted and proposed for statistical acceptance. In 2004 the subcommittee's recommendations were presented to the full committee for formal consideration. In addition to the 22 records originally recommended for "demotion," the subcommittee recommended that the following be accepted only

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“statistically”: (1) 65 old records never questioned but never formally reviewed by CBRC (usually involving specimens and most published in the 14th CBRC report); (2) 25 instances of periods undocumented/unreviewed before, between, or after periods accepted for returning or long-staying individuals; (3) the nine records accepted statistically in 1999, plus one late addition; and (4) three specimen records published in the second CBRC report but never formally reviewed by CBRC. These groupings changed and grew somewhat when the full committee considered them, but in general they correspond to categories 1 and 3, 2, 4, and 5, respectively, discussed below.

The subcommittee also recommended that four groups of records be considered not accepted, but only “statistically.” These included: (1) eight old Yellow-billed Loon records not accepted by Remsen and Binford (1975) and published as not accepted in the 14th CBRC report; (2) 10 records not accepted for various reasons; (3) 14 old records never fully established (at least according to the CBRC) and lacking extant documentation, most published in the 14th report; (4) all outstanding pre-1970 records lacking adequate documentation, that is, unsubmitted. The first two groups are covered in categories 6 and 7 below, but the other two are not addressed here.

In 2004 the full committee rejected many of the subcommittee’s recommendations and put its own stamp on the proceedings. To make its appraisal as complete as possible, the committee sought to evaluate various categories of unreviewed records. Some of the records identified, although based on specimens, cannot be reviewed; in many cases, the specimens have been lost, many to the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fire, which destroyed the collection of the California Academy of Sciences. In the 1980s, the committee created a category for such records, “statistical acceptance,” allowing it to count such presumably valid records toward the total number of occurrences of a particular species in the state. For the first time here, the committee also uses statistical acceptance for instances of periods undocumented or unreviewed in years before, between, or after accepted periods for records involving returning or long-staying individuals; in these instances, documentation is not available but the committee is persuaded the birds in question were indeed present. Records statistically accepted, restricted to these two categories, are designated by an asterisk (*) below and in all the committee’s publications.

The compilation of records by the subcommittee identified a number of records problematic in their earlier resolution by the committee, and in 2004 the committee sought to resolve these problems. It was almost unanimous in being comfortable with a list of unreviewed records. Furthermore, it did not want to create special categories to treat a tiny fraction of the records. It did want to reserve the asterisk of statistical acceptance for known specimen-supported records historically published but not currently reviewable and gaps in the documentation for long-staying or returning (multi-year) individuals. The committee’s review of the records reported here differed from its normal record review in that there was no documentation for any of the records; committee members were voting on *policies* toward sets of records, mostly trying to make the committee’s approaches over the years consistent.

During its term, the 2004 committee considered several categories of historical records:

1. Historical Records for Statistical Acceptance

This category contains historical specimen-based records, most published in ornithological journals and by Grinnell and Miller (1944). Because many of the specimens are no longer extant, review of them is impossible, although the committee found no reason to question them; for those records supported by existing specimens (discovered through this process) the committee plans future review. The number following the location is the committee’s record number.

EMPEROR GOOSE *Chen canagica* (adding 19 records of 20 birds). Grinnell and Miller (1944) listed these records on the basis of their earlier publication elsewhere. Some of the specimens have since been lost. These records were mentioned in

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the ninth report (Roberson 1986), but the committee took no formal action at that time.

winter 1884	Humboldt Bay, HUM	2004-500*	Townsend 1886
1 Nov 1895	vic. Gridley, BUT	2004-501*	Loomis 1901a
? Dec 1906	Davis, YOL	2004-502*	Bryant 1915
3 Nov 1910	Rio Vista, SOL	2004-503*	female; Littlejohn 1912
? Nov 1912	Colusa, COL	2004-504*	juv. male; #MVZ 24508; Bryant 1914
? Dec 1912	Ingomar, MER	2004-505*	Bryant 1914
15 Nov 1913	10 mi. w. of Modesto, STA	2004-506*	Bryant 1914
late Oct 1915	vic. Gridley, BUT	2004-507*	Muller 1916
fall 1916	Norman, GLE	2004-508*	Hunter 1918
ca. 1921	Rio Vista, SOL	2004-509*	imm.; #MVZ 59137
1 Mar 1925	Humboldt Bay, HUM	2004-510*	imm.; #MVZ 52036; Grinnell 1931; Zerlang and Fraser 1931
26 Apr 1925	Humboldt Bay, HUM	2004-511*	male; Davis 1940
3 Dec 1927	Humboldt Bay, HUM	2004-512*	imm. male; #MVZ 57187; Zerlang and Fraser 1931
6 Dec 1927	Humboldt Bay, HUM	2004-513*	male and female; Davis 1940
13 Dec 1928	Limantour, MRN	2004-514*	adult; #CAS 43715; Orr 1944
20 Jan 1930	Pit R. near McArthur, SHA	2004-515*	#MVZ 54483; Grinnell 1931
2 Nov 1932	Willows, GLE	2004-516*	Grinnell and Miller 1944
20 Dec 1932	Willows, GLE	2004-518*	#MVZ 63663; Beck 1934; Grinnell and Miller (1944) erroneously reported this as 20 Dec 1933
27 Jan 1933	Humboldt Bay, HUM	2004-517*	male; #MVZ 71275

The November 1932 report from Willows is unsupported by any specimen or publication other than Grinnell and Miller (1944). The December 1932 specimen from Willows is listed by Grinnell and Miller (1944) and on its specimen tag at MVZ as taken 20 Dec 1933, but a close reading of Beck (1934) indicates that he became aware of this specimen in February 1933 and thus the date he reported of 20 Dec 1932 is presumably the correct one.

PARAKEET AUKLET *Aethia psittacula* (adding 5 records of 8 birds). The following specimen records were published by Grinnell and Miller (1944) and in earlier literature; the specimens, in the California Academy of Sciences, were lost in the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fire. The records were mentioned in the ninth report (Roberson 1986), but the committee took no formal action at that time.

10 Jan 1895	San Francisco, SF	2004-519*	male; Loomis 1901b
8 Jan 1899	San Francisco, SF	2004-520*	male and female; Loomis 1901b
17 Dec 1899	San Francisco, SF	2004-521*	male and female; Loomis 1901b
14 Jan 1905	Monterey Bay, MTY	2004-522a*	1 bird; Beck 1907
17 Jan 1905	Monterey Bay, MTY	2004-522b*	2 birds; Beck 1907

SNOWY OWL *Bubo scandiacus* (adding 4 records). Grinnell and Miller (1944) listed the following records on the basis of their publication in earlier literature. The specimen from Lake Earl was at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History but was destroyed by a fire there in 1961 (K. Fahy pers. comm.).

26 Dec 1908	near Eureka, HUM	2004-523*	Clay 1909
1 Nov 1916	Lake Earl, DN	2004-524*	adult female; Dawson 1923
17 Nov 1916	Upper Mattole, HUM	2004-525*	Smith 1917
17 Nov 1916	Trinidad, HUM	2004-526*	Smith 1917

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2. Returning or Long-staying Rarities for Statistical Acceptance

This category includes instances of periods of undocumented or unreviewed years between, before, or after accepted periods for records of returning or long-staying individuals. Each of the birds involved in the records below has been accepted for some part of its stay, and the committee sought to fill in unreviewed periods by accepting for statistical purposes the missing dates, the vast majority of which have been published in *Field Notes* or *American Birds*. Returning birds do not add to the overall number of occurrences of a species in the state.

TUFTED DUCK *Aythya fuligula*. A male Tufted Duck previously accepted for two of the five winters it spent at Lake Sherwood, VEN (winter 1973-74, 1974-025; winter 1974-75, 1976-025; Luther et al. 1979), was statistically accepted for the remaining three winters, noted but not reviewed by Luther et al. (1979): 25-31 Jan 1973 (2004-585*; *Am. Birds* 27:662), 19 Nov 1975-late Feb 1976 (2004-586*; *Am. Birds* 30:126, 30:765), and 19 Nov 1976-31 Jan 1977 (2004-587*; *Am. Birds* 31:222, 31:372). A male wintering in Tiburon and Mill Valley, MRN, from Dec 1976 (1977-004; Luther 1980) through Mar 1982 (1982-046; Morlan 1985) was statistically accepted for the date span mentioned but not reviewed by Morlan (1985), 12 Dec 1980-13 Feb 1981 (2004-588*; *Am. Birds* 35:715). A male wintering at Limantour and Drakes Bay, MRN, from Jan 1978 (1978-078; Luther et al. 1983) through Dec 1981 (1980-237/1981-044; Binford 1985) was statistically accepted for the following dates, mentioned but not reviewed by Roberson (1993): 29 Sep 1979-12 Jan 1980 (2004-589*; *Am. Birds* 34:195, 34:303) and 3 Oct-27 Dec 1980 (2004-590*; *Am. Birds* 35:221, 35:332). A male that wintered at Quail Lake, LA, and nearby Cuddy Valley, KER, between Dec 1978 (1980-049; Binford 1985) and Nov 1991 (1992-019; Patten et al. 1995) was statistically accepted for the one unreviewed winter (noted by Roberson 1993), 15 Oct 1985-winter 1986 (2004-591*; *Am. Birds* 40:158).

REDDISH EGRET *Egretta rufescens*. An easily recognizable individual Reddish Egret with a bill deformity that was first documented at San Diego Bay, SD, Dec 1982 (1984-045/1984-049; Roberson 1986) and returned for 19 winters—through 23 Dec 2001 (2001-136; Garrett and Wilson 2003)—to the San Diego Bay/Tijuana R. mouth area, SD, had been accepted by the committee for 19 of its 20 seasons in California. The committee voted to accept for statistical purposes the sole missing season it spent at the Tijuana R. mouth, 19 Aug 1999-9 Feb 2000 (2004-527*; *N. Am. Birds* 54:220). This bird, adult when first discovered in 1982, is the oldest documented Reddish Egret ever (Garrett and Wilson 2003; cf. Lowther and Paul 2002, who reported the longevity record for the Reddish Egret to be 12 years, 3 months).

YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON *Nyctanassa violacea*. A Yellow-crowned Night-Heron that summered at San Rafael, MRN, 12 Jul-18 Sep 1968 (1977-126) and for the following five years was reviewed and formally accepted only for the first year, although Luther (1980) mentioned the subsequent years. The committee statistically accepted the returning bird for the following dates listed by Luther (1980): 3 May and 14 Jul-3 Sep 1969 (2004-595*; *Am. Birds* 23:620, 23:690, 24:89), 30 Jun-27 Jul 1970 (2004-596*; *Am. Birds* 24:712), 29 May—"summer" 1971 (2004-597*; *Am. Birds* 25:794, 25:900); 28 May-18 Jul and 5 Nov 1972 (2004-598*; *Am. Birds* 26:803, 26:900, 27:113), and 8 Apr-29 Jun and mid-Oct 1973 (2004-599*; *Am. Birds* 27:815, 27:913).

The long-staying Yellow-crowned at San Elijo Lagoon, Scripps Institute of Oceanography, La Jolla, and elsewhere around San Diego, SD, has been accepted for 21 separate time periods during its intermittent stay from 25 Oct 1981 (1981-088; Binford 1985) to 17 Apr 2001 (2001-069; Garrett and Wilson 2003). The committee accepted for statistical purposes the unreviewed dates of 19-31 Mar 1985 (2004-600*; Bevier 1990) for this bird. Although there is little data on longevity of

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the Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (Watts 1995), this bird was documented for almost 20 years and is the longest-lived of the species we can find in the literature.

ZONE-TAILED HAWK *Buteo albonotatus*. A Zone-tailed Hawk that spent seven of the eight winters between 13 Jan 1979 (1979-040; Binford 1985) and 1 Mar 1987 (1988-108; Roberson 1993) around Whelan Lake, Vista, and Guajome Regional Park, SD, was statistically accepted for the period 21–24 Feb 1986 that it spent at Vista (2004-601*; *Am. Birds* 40:334, Roberson 1993). The committee accepted for statistical purposes a record of an adult Zone-tailed at Hot Springs Mt., SD, during “summer 1989” (2004-528*; *Am. Birds* 43:1366) as one of a pair that summered at this location beginning in 1986 (1986-332; Langham 1991). A Zone-tailed that wintered at Ojai, VEN, each year from 1993 (1993-194; Erickson and Terrill 1996) through Dec 1997 (1997-183; Rottenborn and Morlan 2000) was statistically accepted for the one interval not reviewed, 28 Aug 1994–17 Feb 1995 (2004-529*; *Field Notes* 49:196).

PIPING PLOVER *Charadrius melodus*. California’s first Piping Plover has been reviewed formally only for the fourth winter it spent at Goleta, SBA (1974-084; Luther et al. 1979). The committee accepted for statistical purposes this same bird’s three previous visits to Goleta: 14–18 Apr 1971 (2004-530*; *Am. Birds* 26:655, Lehman 1994), 16 Dec 1971–22 Apr 1972 (2004-531*; *Am. Birds* 26:655, 26:808; photo in Roberson 1980), and 16 Dec 1972–6 Jan 1973 (2004-532*; *Am. Birds* 27:663, Lehman 1994).

LITTLE GULL *Larus minutus*. A Little Gull that spent 11 winters in the Stockton area from March 1979 (1979-021; Luther et al. 1983) to March 1989 (1989-046; Pyle and McCaskie 1992) was statistically accepted for the period 11 Dec 1987–18 Apr 1988 that it spent at the Stockton Waste Treatment Plant, SJ (2004-533*; *Am. Birds* 43:316, 43:478). The original documentation for this record was lost during its initial circulation in 1988.

BLACK-HEADED GULL *Larus ridibundus*. A Black-headed Gull that returned to the Stockton Waste Treatment Plant, SJ, for eight winters beginning in March 1979 (1979-020; Luther et al. 1983) had been reviewed and accepted only for six of those seasons; the committee statistically accepted the missing winters of 7–12 Nov 1980 (2004-534*; *Am. Birds* 35:221) and 10 Nov 1981–8 Apr 1982 (2004-535*; *Am. Birds* 36:214, 36:890).

BARRED OWL *Strix varia*. The committee statistically accepted three unreviewed date spans for a long-present male Barred Owl ± 3 mi. e. of Crescent City, DN, one of California’s first, first detected 12 Mar 1982 (1982-026; Binford 1985) and last reported in April 1989 (1989-051; Pyle and McCaskie 1992): 17 Feb–29 Sep 1984 (2004-538*; *Am. Birds* 38:354), 19 Mar–21 Dec 1986 (2004-540*; *Am. Birds* 40:520, 41:324), and 28 Sep–27 Dec 1987 (2004-542*; *Am. Birds* 42:316).

GREATER PEWEE *Contopus pertinax*. A Greater Pewee that wintered at Griffith Park, LA, for five winters between 7 Nov 1979 (1980-019; Binford 1983) and 23 Mar 1984 (1983-088; Roberson 1986) was statistically accepted for the previously unreviewed period 3 Nov 1980–23 Feb 1981 (2004-602*; *Am. Birds* 35:227, 35:336).

THICK-BILLED KINGBIRD *Tyrannus crassirostris*. The committee accepted for statistical purposes reports of a Thick-billed Kingbird that spent nine winters at Peters Canyon, ORA, for the unreviewed period 8 Nov 1984–6 April 1985 (2004-543*; *Am. Birds* 39:103, 39:211, 39:350); the bird had previously been accepted for winters starting in Dec 1982 (1982-110; Morlan 1985) and concluding in Jan 1992 (1992-068; Patten et al. 1995). The committee also statistically accepted reports of a Thick-billed Kingbird at Santa Paula, VEN, for “winter 1999–2000” (2004-603*) and “winter 2000–2001” (2004-604*) as the bird had been accepted for the periods

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23 Feb–3 Mar 1999 (1999-086; Rogers and Jaramillo 2002) and 19 Nov–21 Dec 2002 (2002-220; Cole and McCaskie 2004).

SKY LARK *Alauda arvensis*. California's only Sky Lark wintered at Pt. Reyes, MRN, from Dec 1978 (1979-004; Luther 1980) to Feb 1985 (1984-256; Dunn 1988). The committee accepted for statistical purposes three winters that it had acknowledged (Binford 1985) but not reviewed: 27 Oct–1 Nov 1979 (2004-544*; *Am. Birds* 34:197), 25 Oct 1980–21 Feb 1981 (2004-545*; *Am. Birds* 35:222, 35:333), and 31 Oct 1982–29 Jan 1983 (2004-546*; *Am. Birds* 37:221; Morlan and Erickson 1983).

GRACE'S WARBLER *Dendroica graciae*. A male that wintered at Montecito, SBA, from Jan 1980 (1980-023; Binford 1983) to Dec 1987 (1987-273; Pyle and McCaskie 1992) was statistically accepted for the unreviewed periods 10 Oct 1981–10 Mar 1982 (2004-536*; *Am. Birds* 36:332; Binford 1983) and 11 Oct 1982–1 Apr 1983 (2004-537*; *Am. Birds* 37:340, 37:913). This bird, which returned for nine seasons, is the longest-lived Grace's Warbler documented (Stacier and Guzy 2002). A male wintering at Carpinteria, SBA, from Feb 1980 (1980-119; Binford 1983) to Mar 1984 (1984-062; Roberson 1986) was statistically accepted for the unreviewed period 24 Oct 1982–12 Mar 1983 (2004-539*; *Am. Birds* 37:340, 37:913; Lehman 1994; Binford 1983).

WORM-EATING WARBLER *Helminthos vermivorus*. The committee statistically accepted a Worm-eating Warbler that returned to Whaley Park, Long Beach, LA, 1–5 Nov 1982 (2004-541*; *Am. Birds* 37:225) after wintering there 5 Nov 1981–21 Mar 1982 (1982-005; Binford 1985) and a second bird at Recreation Park, Long Beach, 5 Nov 1982–9 Mar 1983 (2004-605*; *Am. Birds* 37:225) that was previously accepted as being at that park 6 Nov 1981 (1983-037; Roberson 1986).

NELSON'S SHARP-TAILED SPARROW *Ammodramus nelsoni*. A Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow previously accepted as spending 27 Dec 1970–20 Feb 1971 (1978-015; Luther 1980) and 20 Dec 1972–1 Jan 1973 (1977-151; Luther 1980) at Dumbarton Pt., ALA, was statistically accepted as returning the intervening winter, 2 Nov 1971–1 Jan 1972 (2004-547*; *Am. Birds* 26:113, 26:653) and on 8 Jan 1974 (2004-548*; *Am. Birds* 28:690). One accepted as wintering at Upper Newport Bay, ORA, during the winters of 1972–73 (1973-022; Winter and McCaskie 1975), 1974–75, and 1976–77 was statistically accepted for the two missing winters: 29 Nov 1973–late Feb 1974 (2004-549*; Sexton and Hunt 1979) and 30 Nov 1975–14 Mar 1976 (2004-550*; *Am. Birds* 30:130, 30:770). One that wintered at Bolinas Lagoon, MRN each year from 4 Feb 1977 (1977-014; Luther 1980) seasonally through 23 Jan 1987 (1986-452; Langham 1991) was statistically accepted for the one missing year, 12 Dec 1981 (2004-551*; *American Birds* 36:329).

3. Records Earlier Statistically Accepted but Not Previously Published

YELLOW RAIL *Coturnicops noveboracensis* (adding 11 records). The committee previously statistically accepted the following records on the basis of their publication by Grinnell and Miller (1944) but did not give them record numbers; we remedy that oversight here and cite the committee reports in which they appeared as well as publications of them in addition to Grinnell and Miller. The first five records were based on specimens lost in the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fire.

undated 1800s	near Alviso, SCL	2004-572*	Dunn 1988, Roberson 1993
28 Dec 1883	Alvarado, ALA	2004-573*	Dunn 1988
24 Apr 1889	Quincy, PLU	2004-574*	Dunn 1988
12 Dec 1896	Newport Bay, ORA	2004-575*	Dunn 1988
? Nov 1905	Pajaro R. near Pajaro, MTY	2004-576*	Roberson 1993
8 Dec 1915	Suisun Marsh, SOL	2004-577*	Dunn 1988
6 Jun 1922	Long Valley, MNO	2004-578*	nest with 8 eggs; Dawson 1922, 1923:1544–1548; Dunn 1988

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1 Jun 1939	Bridgeport Valley, MNO	2004-579*	nest; Heaton 1940; Dunn 1988
2 Jun 1939	Bridgeport Valley, MNO	2004-580*	nest; Heaton 1940; Dunn 1988
? Jun 1939	Bridgeport Valley, MNO	2004-581*	additional birds heard; Heaton 1940; Roberson 1993
4 Jun 1939	Long Valley, MNO	2004-582*	nest; Heaton 1940; Roberson 1993

UPLAND SANDPIPER *Bartramia longicauda* (adding 1 record). At its 2003 meeting the committee statistically accepted the record from Tule Lake, SIS/MOD (2004-583*), 8 Aug 1896 on the basis of Cooke (1910) and Grinnell and Miller (1944), who reported “a wing of this bird was mailed to Washington, D.C., to ensure correctness of the field identification, but was not preserved.”

YELLOW-GREEN VIREO *Vireo flavoviridis* (adding 1 record). At its 2003 meeting, the committee statistically accepted a record from Riverside, RIV (2004-584*), 29 Sep 1887. The record, based on a specimen since lost, was published by Price (1888) (who took the specimen) and Ridgway (1904) (who confirmed the identification). Price (1888) gave the date of collection as 1 Oct 1887, but Ridgway (1904:146) noted that the specimen label specified the date as 29 Sep 1887; the committee chose to follow Ridgway (1904).

4. Records Treated Inconsistently, Returned to Not Accepted, Identification Not Established

At its 1999 meeting, the committee voted to move 10 controversial records from “not accepted” to “statistically accepted.” In 2004, under its policy of limiting statistical acceptance to two categories, the committee decided that such treatment was not appropriate for these records, which had undergone review.

EMPEROR GOOSE *Chen canagica*. Two reported at Limantour Estero, MRN, 14–29 Dec 1968 (1989-094) were not accepted in Patten et al. (1995) and return to that status.

TUFTED DUCK *Aythya fuligula*. One reported at Cape Mendocino, HUM, 23 Feb 1980 (1986-326) was not accepted in Patten and Erickson (1994) and returns to that status.

REDDISH EGRET *Egretta rufescens*. One reported at Pt. Mugu, VEN, 18 Aug–mid Nov 1969 (1986-461) was not accepted in Roberson (1993) and returns to that status.

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER *Dendroica dominica*. One reported at the Carmel R. mouth, MTY, 21–28 Sep 1969 (1989-093) was not accepted in Patten et al. (1995); records from Southeast Farallon I., SF, 4 Jun 1978 (1988-020) and 2–7 May 1980 (1988-021; banded) were not accepted in Heindel and Garrett (1995). All three return to “not accepted, identification not established.”

PROTHONOTARY WARBLER *Protonotaria citrea*. One reported from Malibu, LA, 30 Sep–11 Oct 1979 (1987-152) was not accepted in Heindel and Garrett (1995) and returns to that status.

WORM-EATING WARBLER *Helminthos vermivorus*. One at Pacific Grove, MTY, 21 Oct 1972 (1996-065) was statistically accepted at the 1999 meeting (Rogers and Jaramillo 2002); as it never circulated completely through the committee, it returns to “unreviewed” status. One banded at Southeast Farallon I., SF, 5 Jun 1973 (1987-204) was not accepted in Heindel and Garrett (1995) and returns to that status.

SNOW BUNTING *Plectrophenax nivalis*. One reported from Southeast Farallon I., SF, 26 Oct 1972 (1987-251) was not accepted in Heindel and Garrett (1995) and returns to that status.

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5. Unreviewed Specimen Records Previously Published by the Committee

Three records published as "Specimen Records" in the committee's second report (Winter and McCaskie 1975) were never formally reviewed. These are based on specimens of a first-fall Rose-breasted Grosbeak from Brock Research Center, IMP, 24 Sep 1972 (#SBCM 5112), a first-fall Indigo Bunting from Pachalka Spring, SBE, 1 Oct 1972 (#SBCM 50962004-541), and a first-fall Orchard Oriole from Pachalka Spring 30 Sep 1972 (1973-008, #SBCM 5057). The committee will investigate the status of these specimens and, if possible, formally review them. Because their publication by Winter and McCaskie (1975) may imply they were accepted, we clarify here that these records remained unreviewed.

6. Records Published as "Not Accepted" That Actually Remain Unreviewed

In the committee's 14th report, in summarizing historical records of the Yellow-billed Loon, Roberson (1986) reported that "Remsen and Binford (1975) found no or insufficient evidence to support the following records: Stinson Beach, MRN, 28 Apr 1965; Limantour, MRN, 4 Mar 1969; Big Lagoon, HUM, 19-23 Mar 1969; Bodega Bay, SON, 26 Dec 1970; Bodega Bay, SON, 21 Jan 1971 (2); Bodega Bay, SON, 25 Feb 1971; Bodega Bay, SON, 13 Feb 1972." Although the report calls these records "not accepted," they were never formally voted on and are thus unreviewed.

7. Miscellaneous Records Not Accepted, Identification Not Established

The reasons for not accepting the following records are not typical. For example, the bird was not in California, or the record was withdrawn by the observer. But the committee did not want to establish new categories of non-acceptance. Under the committee's bylaws records can not be withdrawn once circulation of the record has begun, although this policy has not always been followed consistently.

EMPEROR GOOSE *Chen canagica*. One reported at Humboldt Bay, HUM, 30 Dec 1972 (2004-562) was withdrawn by the observer. A goose reported at San Diego, SD, 16 Dec 1989 (2004-563) was published as an Emperor (cf. *Am. Birds* 44:987) but was actually a Ross's Goose (*C. rossii*).

TUFTED DUCK *Aythya fuligula*. One reported at Tiburon, MRN, 19 Jan 1979 (2004-564) was withdrawn by the observer.

YELLOW-BILLED LOON *Gavia adamsii*. One reported at Pt. Reyes, MRN, 3 Oct 1977 (2004-565) was withdrawn by the observer.

UPLAND SANDPIPER *Bartramia longicauda*. One reported at Southeast Farallon I., SF, 23 May 1969 (2004-566) was withdrawn by the observer.

DUSKY-CAPPED FLYCATCHER *Myiarchus tuberculifer*. One near Walters Camp, Cibola N. W. R., Arizona, 9-14 Nov 1977 (2004-567) was not in California (see Rosenberg et al. 1991:237).

PHILADELPHIA VIREO *Vireo philadelphicus*. A specimen collected at Harper Dry Lake, SBE, 30 Sep 1990 (2004-568; #SBCM 52709) is actually a Warbling Vireo (*V. gilvus*), and the record was withdrawn by the observer (cf. *Am. Birds* 45:152, 45:1163).

PINE WARBLER *Dendroica pinus*. One reported at Riverside, RIV, 6 Dec 1969 (2004-569) was withdrawn by the observer.

CERULEAN WARBLER *Dendroica cerulea*. A Blackburnian Warbler (*D. fusca*) at Morongo Valley, SBE, 26-30 Oct 1991 (2004-570) was erroneously published as a Cerulean Warbler by Small (1994).

PROTHONOTARY WARBLER *Protonotaria citrea*. One reported off San Diego, SD, 21 May 1967 (2004-571; *Audubon Field Notes* 21:541) was actually south of the international boundary near Islas Los Coronados, Baja California, Mexico (Jehl 1977).

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