

was near Weldon July 8 (MTH). A Worm-eating Warbler photographed on the open desert near Twentynine Palms July 18 (SIT) was unexpected considering the time of the year, and is only the 4th to be found in *San Bernardino*. A singing MacGillivray's Warbler in Doan Valley on Mt. Palomar June 9 (MBS) is the first suspected territorial male of this species to be found in *San Diego*, though the species is known to nest in the San Bernardino Mts. and suspected to nest in the San Jacinto Mts., a short distance to the north. A ♀ Hooded Warbler at the S.F.K.R.P., July 11 (SAL) was probably summering locally. A pair of Painted Redstarts nest building at Barton Flats in the San Bernardino Mts. May 20–22 (MCL) had deserted the area by May 30 (MAP), and another in suitable breeding habitat near Cloudburst Summit n. of Chilao in the San Gabriel Mts., May 1 (GP) could not be found there after; successful nesting is yet to be proven in California.

### Tanagers to Finches

An estimated 35–45 pairs of Summer Tanagers in the Kern R. Valley e. of L. Isabella throughout the period (TG) were at the n.w. extreme of this species' breeding range; a singing male near Big Pine July 2 (T&JH) was n. of this species' range, and a pair that successfully raised young near San Dimas, *Los Angeles*, in July (SJM) and a single bird near Santa Paula, *Ventura* June 5 (JG) were w. of this species' range. A ♂ Rose-breasted Grosbeak near n. Vandenberg A.F.B., June 13 (FS) and another in Santa Barbara June 27–28 (CL) were lost summer stragglers. Territorial Indigo Buntings included 20 in the S.F.K.R.P. throughout the period (SAL), and one near Big Pine July 2 (T&JH) in the interior portion of the Region, and one at n. Vandenberg A.F.B. through June 26 (FS) on the coast. One in Arcadia, *Los Angeles* July 16–17 (MSM), another in Irvine, *Orange* July 21 (BSa), and a 3rd at the same location July 23 (RAH) were considered early fall transients.

Three territorial ♂ Black-throated Sparrows near Aguanga, *Riverside* in May (SJM) were on the coastal slope with California Gnatcatchers and "Bell's" Sage Sparrows; this species is normally found only to the east of the crest of the coastal mountains. Interesting reports of Grasshopper Sparrows included five singing males near Yucaipa, *San Bernardino* in April (SJM) and "several" singing males at the n. end of the San Fernando Valley, *Los Angeles* in April (RB); numbers of this species have been greatly reduced due to development of open grasslands w. of the coastal mountains, and the San Fernando Valley location

is already slated for development. A Dark-eyed (Gray-headed) Junco at Butterbreed Springs n. of California City, *Kern* June 11 (MTH) would appear lost.

Up to three Bronzed Cowbirds at Desert Center May 29–June 5 (C-TL, MAP) were outside the limited area of known regular occurrence along the Colorado R. and in the Imperial Valley.

Red Crossbills were widespread, but in small numbers, in the San Gabriel Mts. throughout the period, and included a flock of six with a juvenile at Charlton Flat June 5 (JF).

**Contributors (County coordinators in boldface):** Bruce Aird, Ron Beck, Floyd Bero, Cosmo Bloom, David V. Blue, N. Bruce Broadbooks, Eric Brooks, Eugene A. Cardiff (*San Bernardino*), Harry Carter, Mike Cassazza, Jaime M. Chavez, Mark O. Chichester, Charlie Collins, Elizabeth Copper (*San Diego*), Don Desjardin (*Ventura*), Jennifer J. Duvail, Tom M. Edell (*San Luis Obispo*), Richard A. Erickson, Jon Fisher, Terri Gallion, Kimball L. Garrett (*Los Angeles*), Jim Greaves, Mary Halterman (MHa), Robert A. Hamilton, Joan Hardie, Matt T. Heindel (*Kern*), Tom & Jo Heindel (*Inyo*), Roger Higson, Brad Hines, Richard G. Jeffers, Kathy Keane, Brad Keith, Howard King, Cin-Ty Lee, Stephen A. Laymon, Joan E. Lentz (*Santa Barbara*), Michael C. Long, Clint Loomis, Gerry McChesney (GeM), Robert McKernan (*Riverside*), Stephen J. Meyers, Mike San Miguel, Terri Middlemiss, Kathy C. Molina, Waller Park, Jim Parker, Michael A. Patten, Gerald Phillips, James E. Pike, Kurt and Cindy Radamaker (K&CR), Florence Sanchez, Bill Sauer (BSa), Rick Savall, Joyce Seibold, Brad C. Schram, Brad Sileson (BSi), Scott I. Taylor, Scott B. Terrill, Guy Tingos, Andrew Starrett, Mary B. Stowe, Philip Unitt, Pat A. Wells, Darrell Whitworth, Douglas R. Willick (*Orange*), John C. Wilson, Tom Wurster. An additional ≤50 observers who could not be individually acknowledged submitted reports this season.

—Guy McCaskie, *San Diego Natural History Museum, Balboa Park, P. O. Box 1390, San Diego, CA 92112.*

# Hawaiian Islands Region

## ROBERT L. PYLE

Six hurricanes and one tropical storm passed south of Hawaii this summer, with three more months left to challenge the record of ten storms in one year set by hurricane *Iwa* and nine others in the strong El Niño year of 1982. Unique about this year's storms was their strength: three had maximum gusts estimated at 190 m.p.h. or more, setting new record highs for central Pacific storms. Their closest approach to Hawai'i Island varied from 200–500 miles, causing high surf and enhanced rainfall but otherwise no damage. No unusual bird occurrences have yet been related to these storms, which never touched land in travelling westward thousands of miles in a week or two over the deep tropical eastern Pacific Ocean. Any seabirds travelling with them would most likely be of species breeding regularly in Hawaii.

Abbreviations: H. (*Hawai'i I.*); J.C.N.W.R. (*James Campbell N.W.R.*); K. (*Kaua'i I.*); M. (*Maui I.*); N.P.W.M.A. (*Nu'upia Ponds Wildlife Management Area, O'ahu, the new and more descriptive name for the wetland area on the former Kane'ohē Marine Corps Air Station, which has recently been officially re-named Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kane'ohē Bay*); O. (*O'ahu I.*).

## Petrels to Frigatebirds

Forty-four ad. Dark-rumped (Hawaiian) Petrels (*Endangered*) were banded at their burrows in the summit region of Haleakala Mt., M., July 18–22, the highest number in recent years (CH). Young in these burrows will be banded at fledging time in October. At least eight Bulwer Petrels, singly or in groups of ≤ 3, were observed July 26 with Wedge-tailed Shearwaters from a fishing boat between w. Maui and Kaho'olawe (CH). Four Newell Shearwaters (*Threatened*) found on O'ahu beaches were brought to Sea Life Park in mid-May and June. One died; the others were banded and released (MB).

Wedge-tailed Shearwaters nest abundantly on small offshore islets, but on the main islands predation by mongooses, dogs, and cats had limited known nesting to

one small colony at Black Pt., O. Significant was the discovery this year of 2 additional nesting colonies on O'ahu, both apparently well-established. At N.P.W.M.A., 23 active burrows were counted June 8, but eight dead adults found there May 31 indicated some predation (LT). Another colony was found in Kaena Pt. Natural Area Reserve. Both will be carefully protected and monitored until the young fledge in late fall.

Another high count of 17 White-tailed Tropicbirds was reported in Halemaumau Crater/Kilauea Caldera, H., July 31 (LT). A total of 987 Red-footed Booby nests was counted July 5 at Ulupau Head, O. (LT), where it is possible (but not permitted) to drive a standard auto on a road into the colony directly under booby nests 5 ft overhead. Four nests were occupied by brown-morph birds, notable in that virtually all of Hawaii's Red-footeds are white-morphs. More than 100 Great Frigatebirds were observed circling offshore of s. Waikiki Beach in the late afternoon of July 4 & 5, with decreasing numbers the next 3 afternoons, and none July 9 (DP). One was seen July 8 soaring over Honokohau Harbor, H. (MM), an unusual locality. At J.C.N.W.R., a Great Frigatebird was watched as it swooped, but missed, on a Hawaiian Stilt (*Endangered*) (MS). Great Frigatebirds are known to be heavy predators on young Sooty Tern chicks.

### Nene to Owls

About 130 Nene (*Endangered*) are now roaming free on Kaua'i Island, including the group (and its descendants) trans-

planted to Crater Hill on Kilauea Pt. N.W.R., K., 2 years ago (TT). An eclipse-plumaged Blue-winged-type teal oversummered at J.C.N.W.R. (MS,MO), and a female-plumaged Am. Wigeon was seen through the summer at Kaelepulu Pond, O. (LT,EV). A full-grown Io chick (*Endangered*) was observed on a nest near a picnic area in Kalopa Park, H., July 23 (LG). Hawaiian (Am.) Coots (*Endangered*) had one of the best breeding seasons ever at Hanalei N.W.R., K., with 3 times the normal number of successful nests (KV). On the opposite side of Kaua'i, at the new Kawaiie (state) Sanctuary, "many, many" coot broods were produced this season (TT). Twenty-seven young coots were seen there June 13 (JD).

Oversummering Pacific Golden-Plovers were reported on O'ahu at several localities: "quite a few" at Keehi Lagoon (PBr), a flock of seven seen several times in July in Manoa (EG), and 14 at N.P.W.M.A., June 15 (LT). More unusual was a Semipalmated Plover seen repeatedly through the summer at J.C.N.W.R. (MS). Another Semipalmated at Kanaha Pond, M., July 14 (PBr) and two there July 25 (PBa) may have been early fall arrivals. At the new Pouhala state wetland being developed near Waipi'o Pen., O., an interesting high count of 113 Hawaiian (Black-necked) Stilts (*Endangered*) was reported resting on the flats July 17 (LT). Counts of six (June 15), 12 (June 23), and 15 (July 20) Wandering Tattlers at N.P.W.M.A. (LT) are unusually high summer numbers for this species that doesn't breed in Hawaii. One Bristle-thighed

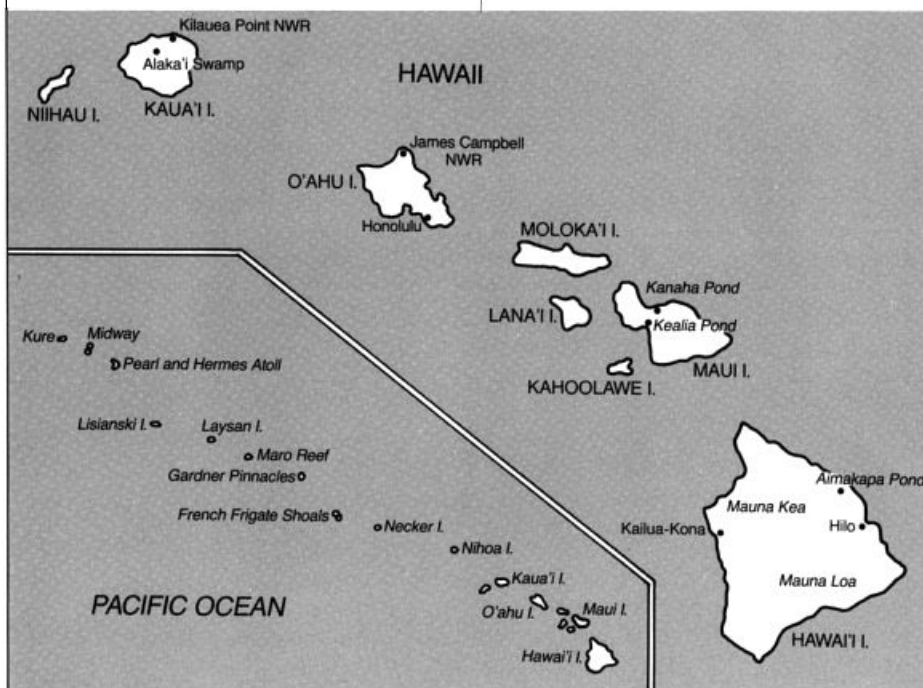
Curlew reported at South Pt., H., June 24 (EV) may have been an abnormal oversummering individual. Twenty Ruddy Turnstones at West Loch Shores Park, O., June 12, and 10 at N.P.W.M.A., June 15 (LT) are hard to classify as going, coming, or over-staying. But 55 Ruddies together July 18, 37 together July 29, three Sanderlings July 25, and one Pectoral Sandpiper July 29 (all at J.C.N.W.R., MS), were probably early fall arrivals.

A flock of 10-15 Nanday Parakeets was observed in Kailua-Kona, H., June 19 (TS). No records are known of this species breeding in the state, but it is observed more frequently than any parakeet other than Rose-ringed. A nest of Hawaiian (Short-eared) Owl (Pueo), with three fledglings dispersed nearby, was discovered in late June in scrubby vegetation between Hosmer Grove and the entrance to Haleakala N.P., M. (PBa).

### Passerines

**SA** It was a banner year indeed for the desperately *Endangered* Alala (Hawaiian Crow). Four chicks were hatched successfully in the captive flock at Olinda, M., the most ever hatched in captivity in one season. Five more chicks were successfully hatched from eggs collected in the wild on McCandless Ranch, H. The four captive-hatched chicks, being siblings or cousins of most of the captive adults, will be released into the wild at McCandless Ranch. Two of the chicks from wild eggs will be transferred to the captive flock, in hopes of broadening the genetic diversity which has been the critical limiting factor for successful production there. The remaining three chicks from wild eggs will be released at McCandless with the four captive chicks. Unfortunately, the male from one of the 3 wild breeding pairs, and four other birds, are now missing from the wild group, but with hopes that one—two may reappear. As fall approached, the tally was: known in the wild—eight adults, four immatures hatched last year, and seven chicks hatched this year; and at Olinda—10 adults, two of last year's wild chicks, and two wild chicks from this year. (All from Scott Johnston, Peter Shannon). **Keep your fingers crossed!**

In the beginning of an ambitious volunteer effort to survey the critically declining Elepaio on O'ahu, 2 observers found 17 birds July 21 in the upper reaches of a seldom-visited offshoot from Niu Valley in



back of e. Honolulu (EV,VS). An Elepaio nest, found there in late May, was visited several times before two young fledged successfully in July (VS). This is by far the largest number of Elepaio reported from one location on O'ahu in recent decades. Japanese Bush-Warblers, White-rumped Shamas, and Red-billed Leiothrix were all vocal and active June 12 on Manoa Cliffs trail back of Honolulu (LT). Several Hwamei observed near picnic areas in Kalopa Park, H., July 23 (LG) confirm that location is still one of the more reliable places to find this alien species in Hawaii.

Hawaii Creeper (*Endangered*) apparently had a very successful nesting season at Hakalau N.W.R., H. Most adult pairs seen this summer were with one–two fledglings, and in some flocks of mixed species they outnumbered the usually more numerous Hawaii Akepa (*Endangered*) (EV). On Maui, in a long-lasting monitoring program getting started in the Hanawi area, federal biologists netted and color-banded nine Akohekohe (*Endangered*) in June, including two juveniles. Maui Parrotbills (*Endangered*) came near the nets but none has yet been captured (TP). No Poouli or Nukupuu (both critically *Endangered*) has yet been found despite some intensive searches.

Eight Orange-cheeked Waxbills, including some juveniles, were seen repeatedly during June and July at the inland edge of N.P.W.M.A., some 4 km from the only known site where this very local species has been regularly found. Two Black-rumped Waxbills were reported June 24 at Pu'uanahulu, H. (EV), the only remaining locality where this very scarce alien species is still occasionally seen.

**Contributors:** Paul Baker, Marlee Breese, Phil Bruner, Jim Denny, Evelyn Giddings, Laura Gorman, Cathlees Hodges, Marie Morin, Mike Ord, Dick Perrine, Thane Pratt, Vaughn Sherwood, Mike Silber-nagel, Tom Snetsinger, Lance Tanino, Tom Telfer, Gerald Tolman, Eric VanderWerf, Kathleen Viernes.

—Robert L. Pyle, 741 N. Kalaeo Ave., Kailua, HI 96734.

# West Indies Region

**ROBERT L. NORTON**

The opening of the hurricane season coincides with this reporting period, yet the Puerto Rico Bank—experiencing a year-long drought—had some of its driest weather in decades. Rainfall at St. John, United States Virgin Islands (approximately midpoint of the marine platform) measured well below the season 100-year average. It was down 76 percent (-88 percent in June and -65 percent in July). No named storms (requiring minimum winds of 39 miles per hour) occurred in the West Indies in June or July, which would have provided much needed moisture to sundry insular ecosystems.

Several observers during a usually "dry" reporting period covered many areas of the Bahamas: Grand Bahama, Andros, Abaco, and New Providence. Also covered were Barbados and Guadeloupe in the Lesser Antilles during late July, including two classic study areas. The Smiths and Robertsons briefly visited Jon Barlow's last recorded (1973) site of the "Guadeloupe" House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon guadeloupensis*) and John Terborg's Guadeloupe study site, where they experienced a much reduced dry forest habitat. Lee Jones, who reconnoitered John Emlen's Grand Bahama pine forest study area for

some qualitative comparisons, found the current pine forest structure logged since 1970. And Sandy Sprunt IV of the National Audubon Society conducted seabird surveys in the north Bahamas, complimenting his *States and Conservation of Seabirds of the Bahamas* (1984). We are grateful for these contributors' peregrinations.

The government of the Bahamas has created a new national park, the Pelican Cays Land and Sea Park (20,500 acres) on Great Abaco, to be managed by the Bahamas National Trust primarily for the benefit of the Bahama Parrot. The Trust has a new ornithology group coordinated by Carolyn Wardle.

Abbreviations: Ba (*Bahamas*); Bd (*Barbados*); B.N.T. (*Bahamas National Trust*); and Gu (*Guadeloupe*).

## Pelicans to Terns

Either a vagrant or resident Brown Pelican was observed July 27 at Sandy Point, Great Abaco, Ba (AWW, SS, HK, WH, BNT), where Bahamians claim they breed in nearby cays. Local nesting would represent a new breeding station of *Pelecanus occidentalis carolinensis* in the West Indies since the destruction of the Bimini colony. Forty Neotropical Cormorants, 12 of which had breeding plumes, were noted again July 29 at Paradise Island golf course, New Providence, Ba (AWW *et al.*). A Little Egret was photographed among a sextet of Snowy Egrets in a small impoundment near Sam Lord's Castle in the s. of Barbados July 8 (DFA). Yet another adult in breeding plumage was seen at Dugommier, Gu July

