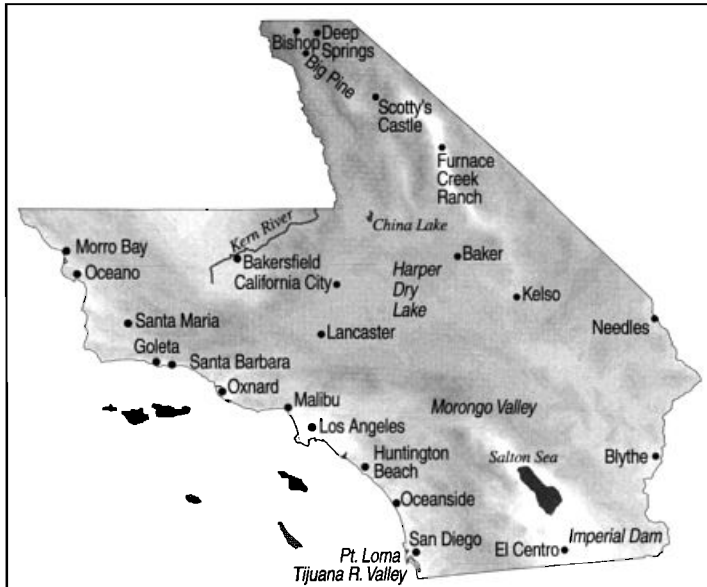


# Southern Pacific Coast



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The fall period was warmer and drier than normal, with no storms from the north reaching us before seasons' end. Landbird migration was generally considered un spectacular, and vagrant eastern wood-warblers and other passerines appeared in below-average numbers. However, the late fall did produce California's first Nutting's Flycatcher. Of particular note was an incursion of corvids, including Pinyon Jays and interior forms of the Western Scrub-Jay, through the deserts and, in some cases, to the coast; significant movements of certain irruptive montane species, including Red-breasted Nuthatches, Pine Siskins, and Cassin's Finches, also occurred.

**Abbreviations:** C.L. (China Lake Naval Air Weapons Station, extreme ne. Kern); E.A.F.B. (Edwards Air Force Base, se. Kern); F.C.R. (Furnace Creek Ranch, Death Valley N.P.,

Inyo); G.H.P. (Galileo Hill Park, extreme e. Kern); LACM (Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County); N.E.S.S. (n. end of the Salton Sea, Riverside); S.M.R.E. (Santa Maria River Estuary, Santa Barbara/San Luis Obispo line); S.E.S.S. (s. end of the Salton Sea, Imperial); S.F.K.R.P. (South Fork Kern River Preserve, near Weldon, Kern). Because virtually all rarities in s. California are seen by many observers, only the observer(s) initially finding and identifying the bird are included. Documentation for species on the California Bird Records Committee (CBRC) review list is forwarded to the CBRC Secretary and archived at the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology, Camarillo.

## Loons Through Frigatebirds

A juv. Red-throated Loon near Imperial 5–14 Nov (GMcC) was the 5th for Imperial. A Pacific Loon, rare inland, was at Haiwee Res. in the Owens Valley, Inyo, 14 Oct (JZA) and another was photographed near Imperial 8 Nov (KZK). A Laysan Albatross 42 mi. sw. of Pt. Arguello, Santa Barbara, 25 Nov (DMH) was in an area where small numbers probably occur regularly. Northern Fulmars pushed s. into s. California waters in Nov, as indicated by 500+ during a pelagic trip off Santa Barbara 25 Nov (DMH). A concentration of 2500 Pink-footed Shearwaters at Leo Carrillo State Beach, Los Angeles, 13 Aug (KLG) was amazing for so close to shore. Single

Flesh-footed Shearwaters off Marina del Rey, Los Angeles, 14 Oct (DMH), in the Santa Barbara Channel off Santa Barbara 28 Oct (GeH), and 35 mi. sw. of Pt. Conception, Santa Barbara, 25 Nov (DMC) were of note because few are reported in s. California waters. A Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel, rare in s. California, was 14 mi. w. of San Miguel I. 25 Nov (DMH). A Black Storm-Petrel on s. San Diego Bay 15 Sep (JC) was unexpected.

A Red-billed Tropicbird near Cherry Bank off Ventura 31 Aug (DMH) and another 13 mi nw. of San Clemente I. 23 Sep (KL) were in areas where small numbers regularly occur, but one 11 mi. off Newport Beach, Orange, 21 Sep (MC) and another 7 mi. off Oxnard 14 Oct (WW) were unusually close to shore. A Red-footed Booby was 160 mi. off San Diego 14 October (NC). The only frigatebird reported was a female 40 mi. w. of Morro Bay, San Luis Obispo, 1 Sep (TM); the Great Frigatebird would appear to be as likely as the Magnificent at this location, particularly so in a year when no Magnificents reached the Salton Sea or the California coast.

## Herons Through Cranes

The only Tricolored Heron was one at the Tijuana R. mouth 24 Aug+ (RAP). A Reddish Egret at the Tijuana R. mouth, San Diego, 26 Aug+ (GMcC) was the same bird that has spent the past 18 winters in this area; an imm. at the San Diego R. mouth 8 Sep (JM) may have been the same bird seen at San Elijo Lagoon, San Diego, 11 Sep–1 Oct (DT). The Wood Stork found in Sorento Valley, San Diego, 8 Jul remained through 15 Sep (JZi). A Brant at C.L. 13–29 Nov (JSe) was the first to be found in this area in fall. A Black-bellied Whistling-Duck was at S.E.S.S. 19 Aug (A&VH). A male Harlequin Duck north of Arroyo Laguna, San Luis Obispo, 12 Nov (DL) was the only one reported. A Surf Scoter at S.E.S.S. 25 Nov+ (MMP) was the only one found inland. A Black Scoter, a casual straggler inland, at S.E.S.S. 25 Nov+ (MMP) was joined by a second 30 Nov+ (KZK). A Long-tailed Duck at Salton City, Imperial, 15 Nov (RC) and another at S.E.S.S. 25 Nov (LS) were inland, where rare.

An ad. Northern Goshawk at Willow Creek in the Saline Valley, Inyo, 8 Nov (REM) was at an unexpected location. Up to two Harris's Hawks were still at Borrego Springs, San Diego, 17 Nov (PJ). Two Broad-winged Hawks were with migrating Turkey Vultures near Weldon, Kern, 10 Sep (TG), another was there 4 Oct (TG), and

single imm. were at G.H.P. 26 Sep (MSanM) and 1 Oct (TEW), and Nipton, *San Bernardino*, 18 Oct (MJSanM); single migrants were along the coast over San Juan Capistrano, *Orange*, 25 Sep (BED) and Pt. Loma, *San Diego*, 1 Oct (GMcC) and 11 October (JSa). A Zone-tailed Hawk returned to Santa Barbara/Goleta 26 Sep (MAH) for its 8th winter, another returned to Escondido, *San Diego*, 20 Oct (RH) for its 3rd winter, one was in *Orange* 8 Nov (ALL), and another was inland near Weldon 3 Sep (PM). The earliest Rough-legged Hawk of the fall was one at G.H.P. 8 Nov (KSG).

Four Sandhill Cranes near Brawley, *Imperial*, 15 Sep (GMcC) were early, and one at Cottonwood Marsh on Owens L., *Inyo*, 3–5 Oct (T&JH) was far from any area of regular occurrence

### Plovers Through Phalaropes

Migrant American Golden-Plovers included 2 at Arroyo Laguna 1 Oct (JSR), one there 12 Nov (DL), one at S.M.R.E. 7–8 Oct (GT), *Inyo*'s first in Bishop 2–3 Oct (NH), and another near Calipatria, *Imperial*, 10 Sep (JLD). Up to 3 Pacific Golden-Plovers near Port Hueneme, *Ventura*, 18 Aug–28 Oct (DP, DD), 2 at Seal Beach, *Orange*, 28 Sep+ (JF), 1–2 at Bolsa Chica, *Orange*, 15 Sep+ (BED, AnL), and one at the Tijuana R. mouth 24 Aug+ (RAP) were at a known wintering site, but one near Keeler 14 Aug (JLD) was the first in *Inyo*. A Mountain Plover at Lancaster, *Los Angeles*, 17 Sep (KSG) was somewhat early, and up to 2 near Port Hueneme 18–28 Oct (JA, DD) were the only ones found along the coast.

A Solitary Sandpiper at F.C.R. 4 Nov (VW) was exceptionally late for a migrant, and one near Chino, *San Bernardino*, 17 Oct+ (JEP) was suspected to be wintering locally. A Wandering Tattler, a casual straggler to the interior, was at S.E.S.S. 11–15 Sep (GMcC). An ad. **Bar-tailed Godwit** at the San Diego R. mouth 4–5 Sep (JM) was the 4th to be found in s. California. Single Red Knots at Tinemaha Res. 27 Aug (CH), near Keeler 24 Sep (JLW), at E.A.F.B. 14 Aug (CMcG, SJM), and Lancaster 27 Aug (KSG, JEP) were inland and away from the Salton Sea. At least 20 juv. Semipalmated Sandpipers along the coast 1–26 Aug, and an additional 6 in the e portion of the Region 11–25 Aug, along with late individuals in Irvine 10–16 Sep (BS) and E.A.F.B. 16 Sep (TEW), were less than expected in this narrow window. A somewhat late Pectoral Sandpiper was in Huntington Beach 21 Nov (JEP). A juv. Curlew Sandpiper in Huntington Beach, *Orange*, 21–24 Nov (JEP) was unusually late and only the 12th to be found in s. California. A Stilt Sandpiper near Port Hueneme 11–12 Sep (JT), another in

Irvine 10–16 Sep (WG), and 4 at San Elijo Lagoon, 30 Sep (EH) were along the coast, where rare; 1–2 at E.A.F.B. 23–26 Sep (RAH, MSanM) and one at C.L. 30 Sep (SSt) were inland and away from the Salton Sea. A Buff-breasted Sandpiper, a casual fall straggler to s. California, was inland at E.A.F.B. 16–19 Sep (JCW), one was on the coast near Port Hueneme 2–12 Sep (DD), and what may have been another was in the same area 25–29 Sep (SSo). Single Ruffs were along the coast at Morro Bay 7–9 Sep (TME), in Long Beach, *Los Angeles*, 7 Oct (DSC) and on s. San Diego Bay 13 Oct (MA), and inland near Keeler 12–17 Sep (T&JH), at E.A.F.B. 14–16 Sep (NBB), near Calipatria 1 Oct (MAP), and near Brawley 5 Nov+ (GMcC). A Red Phalarope in Compton, *Los Angeles*, 30 Aug (DSC), 1–2 at C.L. 23 Sep–11 Oct (SSt, DLaB), one in California City, *Kern*, 13–15 Oct (JEP), and one at Silver Lakes, *San Bernardino*, 6 Sep (BD) were inland.

### Jaegers Through Alcids

An ad. Parasitic Jaeger at S.E.S.S. 13–17 Sep (BM) and a juv. there 25 Sep (GMcC), along with a jaeger believed to be a juv. Parasitic at C.L. 5 Sep (DLaB), were the only ones found inland. A juv. Long-tailed Jaeger was inland at Cottonwood Marsh on Owens L. 11 Sep (REM), another was at N.E.S.S. 10 Sep (MAP), and a 3rd was in Irvine 21 Sep (BED).

A Franklin's Gull at Refugio State Beach, *Santa Barbara*, 30 Sep (NL) was the only one reported along the coast; 3 at Cottonwood Marsh on Owens L. 14 Aug–22 Sep (JLW, REM), single birds around Lancaster 16 Sep (RW) and 15–17 Sep (JEP, KLG), near Barstow 10–11 Sep (JEP), and at least 30 around S.E.S.S. 17 Aug–5 Nov (GMcC) were inland, where more numerous. Five Heermann's Gulls scattered around the Salton Sea 11 Aug–8 Sep (AME, GMcC, CMcG) was more than expected. A Mew Gull at C.L. 25 Nov (SSt) was the 3rd in e. *Kern*, and one at S.E.S.S. 13 Oct (GMcC) was somewhat early. An ad. Lesser Black-backed Gull at S.E.S.S. 30 Sep–13 Oct (GjH) was evidently a migrant. A juv. Western Gull near Keeler 14–23 Sep (JLD) was the first for *Inyo*. Ten Sabine's Gulls at various locations in the Owens Valley between 22 Sep and 18 Oct (T&JH, REM),  $\leq 3$  at C.L. 20 Sep–4 Oct (SSt), one at E.A.F.B. 23 Sep (RAH), 2 at Lancaster 20–24 Sep (KSG, JEP, DSC), two at Harper Dry L., *San Bernardino*, 28 Sep (BD), 2 juv. at Daggett, *San Bernardino*, 14 Oct (MAP), and single birds at S.E.S.S. 22–23 Sep (GMcC) and 14 Oct (KZK) were inland, and a juv. was photographed on shore near Port Hueneme 22 Sep (DD). A Black Skimmer at Mystic L., *Riverside*, 4 Aug (AME) was at an unexpected location.

Common Murres moved s. into s. California waters earlier and in larger numbers than usual, as indicated by 11 off La Jolla, *San Diego*, 10 Oct (PAG) and 15+ off *Ventura* 14 Oct (WW). Two Craveri's Murrelets near the nw. tip of Catalina I. 26 Aug (KLG), believed to be an ad. with a nearly grown chick, were the only reported.

### Doves Through Woodpeckers

At least 18 White-winged Doves were seen along the coast 19 Aug–22 Oct, the northernmost in Cambria, *San Luis Obispo*, 24 Sep (JSR), and single birds near Onyx, *Kern*, 22–28 Aug (DLaB) and in Inyokern, *Kern*, 4–12 Nov (SSt) were unusually far n. for the interior. An Inca Dove in Ridgecrest, *Kern*, 3 Apr remained through 1 Oct (CL). A Common Ground-Dove near Bakersfield, *Kern*, 1 Sep (JCW, \*LACM) was the first to be found in the San Joaquin Valley. A female Ruddy Ground-Dove at F.C.R. 22 Oct (JLD) was the only one this fall. A Yellow-billed Cuckoo hit a window at F.C.R. 2 Aug (VW), and the one found at G.H.P. 17 Jun remained through 26 Aug (JCW). A recently dead Flammulated Owl in Highland Park, *Los Angeles*, 5 Nov (DSC, \*L.A.C.M.) provided one of the latest California records of this summer visitor. Two migrant Black Swifts were over Pt. Loma 4 Oct (REW). A roost for migrating Vaux's Swifts in downtown Los Angeles peaked at 10,000 on 28 Sep (KLG).

A movement of Lewis's Woodpeckers into s. California brought small numbers to scattered locations along the coast after 26 Sep, and larger numbers to high desert oases after 8 Sep, including a flock of 40 at Silverwood L., *San Bernardino*, 19 Nov (SJM). Single Acorn Woodpeckers at G.H.P. 26 Aug (JCW) and 23 Sep (RAH) were far from areas of normal occurrence. A juv. Williamson's Sapsucker was at G.H.P. 9–26 Sep (KSG) and a male at L. Perris, *Riverside*, 29 Oct (CMcG) were noteworthy. Five Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were found at desert oases after 18 Oct and 6 more were along the coast after 15 Oct.

### Flycatchers Through Corvids

Late migrant Olive-sided Flycatchers were at G.H.P. 15 Oct (TEW) and San Nicolas I., *Ventura*, 21 Oct (RAH). Four Least Flycatchers were along the coast 29 Aug–6 Oct, with another inland at Deep Springs, *Inyo*, 15 Sep (JLD). Dusky Flycatchers, scarce and poorly understood in fall in the Region, were at California City, 26 Aug and 9–10 Sep (TEW), and on the coast (where possibly attempting to winter) at H.C.P. 11–23 Nov (JEP), Lake Forest, *Orange*, 18 Nov+ (JEP), and Pasadena, *Los Angeles*, 20 Nov+ (TEW). Six Eastern Phoebe, somewhat

above average, included single birds at G.H.P. 15–20 Oct (KSG), Morongo Valley, *San Bernardino*, 24 Oct (TZ), near Oceanside, *San Diego*, 19 Oct+ (PAG), Lake View Terrace, *Los Angeles*, 5 Nov+ (RB), returning to San Jacinto Wildlife Area, *Riverside*, 11 Nov+ (AEM), and Palos Verdes Peninsula, *Los Angeles*, 18–19 Nov (KL). The Brown-crested Flycatchers that nested in Borrego Springs, *San Diego*, were last seen 18 Sep (MBS).

**SA** Perseverance paid off at Mason Regional Park in Irvine, *Orange*, when a *Myiarchus* flycatcher, found 11 November and tentatively identified as a Dusky-capped, revealed itself in late December through vocalizations and a suite of plumage and structural characters to be California's first **Nutting's Flycatcher** (JEP, DRW, BED, LDT, m.ob.; ph., vt., voice recordings). Two previous records north of Mexico are both from Arizona. Clearly any winter *Myiarchus* in the Region demands close scrutiny. Ash-throated and Dusky-capped Flycatchers, both casual in winter (away from the southeastern deserts, where Ash-throated is regular in small numbers), have been considered the "default" species at that season.

Eight Tropical Kingbirds were along the coast 23 Sep–18 Nov, as expected. A Cassin's Kingbird at Tinemaha Res., *Inyo*, 28 Aug (T&JH) was one of the few ever recorded in the Owens Valley; another near Niland, *Imperial*, 5 Nov (GMcC) was also at an unusual locality. The Thick-billed Kingbird returned for its 9th winter at Pomona, *Los Angeles*, 29 Oct+ (MSanM). Four Eastern Kingbirds were found 8 Sep–4 Oct, 2 in the desert interior and 2 on the coast. Eight Western Kingbirds near Niland 24 Oct (GMcC) and one in Goleta 5 Nov (DMC) were late. A Scissor-tailed Flycatcher was in the Tijuana River Valley, 8 Sep (DA).

Bell's Vireos remained on the breeding grounds as late as 16 Sep near Lake View Terrace (KLG) and 5 Oct at China Ranch, *Inyo* (ADeM); migrants, always scarce, were noted in Huntington Beach 12 Aug (BED) and near Pt. Hueneme, 9 Sep (WW). Five Philadelphia Vireos included single birds inland in the White Mts., *Inyo*, 8–9 Sep (REM), G. H. P. 20 Sep (KSG), and China Ranch 9 Oct (T&JH), and along the coast at Pt. Loma, 29 Sep (SSm) and Arroyo Grande, *San Luis Obispo*, 15 Oct (BKS, TME). Four Red-eyed Vireos (3 coastal) were found 7–24 Sep (BB, KC, KSG, PAG), and a late bird was killed by a Sharp-shinned Hawk at

Westminster, *Orange*, 21 Oct (DRW). Yellow-green Vireos were near Pt. Mugu, *Ventura*, 7–8 Oct (DP), Oceano, *San Luis Obispo*, 8 Oct (DD), and near Pt. Hueneme 20–25 Oct (RAH).

**SA** One of the largest invasions of corvids in over 25 years took place this fall, with noteworthy numbers and widespread sightings of Pinyon Jays and Woodhouse's Western Scrub-Jays in particular. Pinyon Jays first appeared on the deserts of e. *Kern* 9 Sep (2 in Ridgecrest; SSt) and e. *San Bernardino* 10 Sep (50+ at Baker; JEP). Through the rest of Sep and into early Oct, individuals or flocks reached localities such as Blythe, *Riverside* (5 on 3 Oct; RHl) and F. C. R. (2 on 24 Sep; RHu). A flock of 25 at Mill Creek Summit 17 Sep (KLG) represented one of the few records for *Los Angeles*, and elsewhere on the coastal slope birds reached Grand Terrace, *San Bernardino*, 17 Sep (3; WKH) and *Riverside* 29 Sep (GM). Flocks were also found in the Lockwood Valley, *Ventura*, and Cuyama Valley, *Santa Barbara/San Luis Obispo*, where the species is rarely noted. Western Scrub-Jays of the interior subspecies *woodhouseii* or *suttoni* occurred well sw. of their normal range; most or all of the 15+ scrub-jays recorded on the deserts of e. *Kern* 13 Sep–1 Nov were likely of this group, as was one at Mojave Narrows, *San Bernardino*, 30 Sep (SJM). Clark's Nutcrackers well outside their breeding habitat; flocks up to 35 at Hunter Mtn., *Inyo*, 4–14 Sep (JLD), birds in the Garcia Range, *San Luis Obispo*, 2 Oct (BKS), many flocks moving through n. *Ventura* 26 Sep–21 Nov, and at 9 at Mojave Narrows 30 Sep (SJM) paralleled the movement of Pinyon Jays. Finally, an incursion of Steller's Jays (subspecies?) into the deserts of *Inyo* and ne. *Kern* occurred 14 Sep–25 Nov.

A Yellow-billed Magpie was at El Capitan State Beach, *Santa Barbara*, 14 Nov (MK); this species has been rare in recent years in its southernmost coastal range. Out-of-range American Crows were at F.C.R. 4 Nov (3; VW), El Centro, *Imperial*, 14 Nov (GMcC), and Stovepipe Wells, Death Valley, *Inyo*, in Oct/Nov (SBT).

### Chickadees Through Pipits

Chestnut-backed Chickadees in Goleta 30 Aug (RFC) and 10–13 Oct (GBW) were s. of their normal range. Red-breasted Nuthatches were widespread after early Aug but numbers were generally low. White-breasted Nuthatches of

the interior *mexicana* group were at G.H.P. 27 Sep (KLG) and California City 24–25 Nov (TEW); one of undetermined subspecies was at S.E.S.S. 30 Sep–1 Oct (GMcC, ph. MAP), and a coastal *aculeata* was on Pt. Loma 4 Oct–4 Nov (REW). Up to 20 Pygmy Nuthatches reached the *Santa Barbara* coast 23 Aug–23 Nov, and one was in Sylmar, *Los Angeles*, 13 Oct (RB).

Winter Wrens were widespread, with the earliest found 26 Aug at Oceano (MDS). Golden-crowned Kinglets were felt to be rather common and widespread this fall, beginning in Sep. Western Bluebirds wandered widely on the deserts, reaching F.C.R. 4 Nov (VW) and several localities at S.E.S.S. after 18 Nov (GMcC). Larger-than-normal numbers of Mountain Bluebirds reached the coast, including 4 in Huntington Beach 3 Nov (KR), 100+ in San Pascual, *San Diego*, 18 Nov (SW), and 9 in Diamond Bar, *Los Angeles*, 21 Nov (MSanM). Enigmatic and scarce in the interior as a fall migrant, Swainson's Thrushes were recorded between 5 Sep (at F.C.R.; MJSanM) and 22 Oct (Long Beach; TEW); birds in El Centro 29 Sep (KZK) and at S.E.S.S. 30 Sep (GJH) furnished the first fall records for the Salton Sea.

Gray Catbirds were at Pt. Hueneme 11 Sep (RN) and California City 24 Sep (AH). A Brown Thrasher in the Saline Valley 10–20 Nov (REM) was the only one reported. The only Red-throated Pipit was in the Tijuana R. Valley 12–14 Oct (GMcC).

### Wood-Warblers

Golden-winged Warblers were at S.F.K.R.P. 3 Aug (PH) and in Lompoc, *Santa Barbara*, 23 Nov+ (BKH). A Blue-winged Warbler was at Yucca Valley, *San Bernardino*, 23 Sep (WJM). Tennessee Warblers are declining as vagrants to California; only 9 (7 coastal, 2 on the n deserts) were found this fall, 6 Sep–22 Oct. The only Virginia's Warbler outside the 25 Aug–5 Oct date span was one in Pacific Palisades, *Los Angeles*, 12 Nov (RB). Five Lucy's Warblers were on the *Santa Barbara/Ventura* coast 13 Sep–20 Oct. Four Northern Parulas on the deserts included one wintering 14 Nov+ at S.E.S.S. (GMcC); a fledged young from the summer's nesting at Gaviota, *Santa Barbara*, was seen 15 Aug (NS), and 6 others were on the coastal slope 1 Sep–2 Oct. A Chestnut-sided Warbler in Birchim Canyon, *Inyo*, 20 Aug (J&DP) was early; 5 others were on the deserts 13 Sep–18 Nov and 12 were along the coast 24 Sep–23 Nov. A Black-throated Blue Warbler in Palm Springs, *Riverside*, 23 Nov (NW) and 3 along the coast 3–29 Oct were fewer than normal. Only 14 Magnolia Warblers were reported, with 8 along the coast 21 Sep–22 Oct and 6 on the deserts 20

Sep–29 Oct. Exceptionally early in the lowlands were single Audubon's Warblers at Santa Maria, *Santa Barbara*, 12 Aug (JMC) and one the same day at Lompoc (GL). A Townsend's X Hermit Warbler in Westminster 18 Oct+ may have been the first such hybrid to winter in *Orange* (DRW). Black-throated Green Warblers were at Pt Loma 1 Oct (GMcC) and Montaña de Oro, San Luis Obispo, 15 Oct (JSR); one in National City, San Diego, 27 Nov+ was back for its 5th winter (DWA). An average 8 Blackburnian Warblers included one inland at California City 24 Nov (TEW) and 7 on the coast 1–28 Oct. Two Pine Warblers wintering in Long Beach 9 Nov+ included a male returning from last winter (KSG, MSanM). A Prairie Warbler n. of Niland 22 Nov (HK, MMP) was the 2nd for *Imperial*; 4 others were along the coast 9 Sep–20 Oct. Well below average were 14 Palm Warblers along the coast 10 Sep–27 Nov; inland, singles were at California City 23–24 Sep (TEW), G H P 18–20 Oct (KSG), and Niland 29 Oct (PAG). A Blackpoll Warbler was at Haiwee Res. 3 Oct (JW), and at least 4 were in e. *Kern* 12 Sep–8 Oct; ±22 along the coast 16 Sep–13 Oct were fewer than average. Twenty-seven Black-and-white Warblers and ±50 American Redstarts, a bit below average, included some that remained to the end of the period. Spruce-woods warblers have declined as vagrants to California, but more southerly species such as the Prothonotary Warbler have increased; 4 Prothonotaries were found on the n. deserts 15 Sep–30 Oct, and 7 more were along the coast 12 Sep–23 Oct. Of 5 Ovenbirds found 22 Sep–15 Oct, the only interior bird was one at Horsethief Spring, *San Bernardino*, 1 Oct (CTL). Twenty-nine Northern Waterthrushes were equally divided between the coast and deserts. *Santa Barbara's* first **Louisiana Waterthrush** at Lompoc 23 Nov+ (BKH) followed a bird at Yucca Valley, *San Bernardino*, 19–22 Sep (SK, MAP). A Kentucky Warbler at Rincon Creek 8–24 Sep was the first documented record for *Ventura* (DMC). Following *Kern's* first fall record of Connecticut Warbler in 1999, this year saw one at G.H.P. 7 Sep (KSG) and another in Inyokern 19–20 Sep (BS). The only Hooded Warbler reported was in Newport Beach, *Orange*, 28–30 Oct (COJ). Four Canada Warblers were along the coast 13 Sep–9 Oct. A Painted Redstart, casual in the lowlands of the Region, was on Pt. Loma 14 Oct (TP).

### Tanagers Through Finches

Hepatic Tanagers, casual on the coast, were at Pt Loma 26 Sep (PAG) and in Laguna Woods, *Orange*, 8 Oct–12 Nov (and possibly wintering, DRW). Some 20 Summer Tanagers were recorded widely in the Region, as expected.

Documented Scarlet Tanagers were at Pt. Loma 5 Oct (REW), Newport Beach 21 Oct (JEP), Irvine 22 Oct (BED), and Wilmington, *Los Angeles*, 26–29 Oct (KL).

A below-average 14 Clay-colored Sparrows were reported between 9 Sep and 12 Nov. A **Field Sparrow** at F.C.R. 5 Oct (ADeM) was only the 5th for the Region, all in fall and winter. American Tree Sparrows were in Bakersfield 25 Nov (JCW) and on San Clemente I. 19 Nov (DSC). Four Black-chinned Sparrows were found along the coast in *Los Angeles* and *Orange* 27 Aug–27 Sep. An early Lark Bunting was at Baker Meadow, *Inyo*, 30 Aug (REM); others were in Yucca Valley 23 Sep (WJM) and near Imperial, 17 Nov (BM). Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrows at Seal Beach, *Orange*, 15 Oct+ (2–3 birds; JF) and Morro Bay (TEM) were on winter territories. Other than 3 birds in *Inyo* 21 Oct–5 Dec, the only Harris's Sparrow was on the Edwards AFB in extreme s. *Kern* 2 Nov+ (EMcG). McCown's Longspurs were at Mystic Lake, *Riverside*, 29 Oct (MAP) and Palmdale, *Los Angeles*, 11 Nov (KLG); Chestnut-collared and Lapland Longspurs were in below-average numbers.

Seventeen Rose-breasted Grosbeaks 10 Sep–19 Nov were fewer than normal, as were the 16 Indigo Buntings found 25 Aug–1 Oct. Painted Bunting records are confused by the species' status in captivity. Immatures were in the interior at Big Pine, *Inyo*, 20–21 Aug (2 on latter date; T&JH), F.C.R. 27 Aug (MSanM, BED), Baker Meadow 30–31 Aug (SH), at G.H.P. 30 Sep–4 Oct (NF), and near Calipatria 6 Oct (GMcC), and along the coast in Wilmington 2 Sep (DMH), at Ragged Point, extreme n. *San Luis Obispo*, 2 Oct (BAB), and in Leucadia, *San Diego*, 22 Oct (KA); an ad. male was in Camarillo, *Ventura* (GS). The only Dickcissel reports were in Malibu, *Los Angeles*, 17 Sep (KLG), Huntington Beach 4–7 Oct (JEP) and Goleta 22 Nov (KB).

With only 12 reports this fall (2 Sep–8 Oct), many Bobolinks surely went unreported. A Rusty Blackbird was on the Palos Verdes Peninsula 28 Oct (KL). Three Bronzed Cowbirds near Calipatria 21 Nov (GMcC) provided the first late fall/winter record for the Salton Sea. Orchard Orioles were on Pt. Loma 9 & 29 Oct (REW). Fifteen Baltimore Orioles were along the coast starting 7 Sep, with a few remaining to winter; another was at G. H. P. 23 Sep (TEW).

A moderate invasion of Cassin's Finches brought flocks of up to 45 in *Santa Barbara* after 29 Sep and on the deserts s. to the Imperial Valley where 7 were found 2–14 Nov. Pine Siskins were relatively common and widespread, and Evening Grosbeaks were found at G.H.P. 12 Nov (TEW), *Santa Barbara* 5–7 Nov

(DM) and Pine Mountain, *Ventura*, 21 Nov (WW).

### Exotics

A Red Pileated-Finch (*Coryphospingus cucullatus*) was at a Huntington Beach feeder 23 Aug (SG).

### Cited observers (county coordinators in boldface):

Jim Abernathy, Kathy Aldern, Monica Alfaro, Richard Barth, Bill A. Bouton, Karen Bridgers, N. Bruce Broadbooks, Jamie M. Chavez, Karen Clarke, Richard Clements, Jim Coatsworth, Mike Coffey, Natalia Collier, **David M. Compton** (*Santa Barbara*), Daniel S. Cooper, Rebecca F. Coulter, Brian E. Daniels, Al DeMartini, Bill Deppe, Don Desjardin, Dean Ditommaso, Jon L. Dunn, **Tom M. Edell** (*San Luis Obispo*), Alan M. Eisner, **Michael Evens** (*San Diego*), Nick Freeman, Sylvia Gallagher, Terri Gallion, **Kimball L. Garrett** (*Los Angeles*), Karen S. Gilbert, Peter A. Ginsburg, Wayne Gochenour, Ed Hall, Robert A. Hamilton, Noah Hamm, Steve Hampton, George Harding (GeH), William K. Hayes, Gjon Hazard (GjH), Phil Heavin, D. Mitchell Heindel, **Tom & Jo Heindel** (*Inyo*), Roger Higson, Brad K. Hiens, Richard Hodges, Mark A. Holmgren, Debbie House, Chris Howard, Andrew and Vernon Howe (A & VH), Robert Hudson, Curtis O. Johnson, Paul Jorgensen, Melissa Kelly, Howard King, Sandy Koonce, Kenneth Z. Kurland, Denise LaBarteaux, Kevin Larson, David Lawrence, Andrew Lee (AnL), Cin-Ty Lee, Alex Lees (AIL), Nick Lethaby, Chuck Lewis, Gene Lynch, John Martin, Paul Mason, Robert E. Maurer, **Guy McCaskie** (*Imperial*), Chet McLaugh, Dave Menzies, Anthony E. Metcalf, Bob Miller, William J. Moramarco, Gretchen Morse, Tom Murphy, Stephen J. Myers, Richard Norton, **Michael A. Patten** (*San Bernardino, Riverside*), Robert A. Patten, David Pereksta, James E. Pike, Tim Plunket, Molly M. Pollock, Kim Reger, James S. Royer, Jim Sams (JSa), Michael J. San Miguel, Mike San Miguel, Larry Schmahl, Brad K. Schram, Joyce Seibold (JSe), Grace Smith, Sue Smith, Steve Sosensky (SSo), Nancy States, Bob Steele, Susan Steele (SSt), Mike D. Stiles, Mary Beth Stowe, Scott B. Terrill, John Tiffany, Guy Tingos, Larry D. Tripp, David Trissel, Stan Walens, Nat Weber, Richard E. Webster, **Walter Wehtje** (*Ventura*), Robert Weissler, Grant B. Weybourne, Judy L. Wickman, **Douglas R. Willick** (*Orange*), **John C. Wilson** (*Kern*), Vickie Wolfe, Thomas E. Wurster, Jerry Zatorski (JZa), Tom Zeeny, Jim Zimmer (JZi). An additional 50+ observers who could not be individually acknowledged submitted reports this season.

