

NOTES

A WINTER RECORD FOR THE ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW IN MONTEREY COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

On 9 January 1972, while studying a concentration of shorebirds at the mouth of the Salinas River, Monterey County, my attention was attracted by a flock of approximately 30 swallows feeding over the water well offshore. At first glance these appeared to be Tree Swallows (*Iridoprocne bicolor*) and Violet-green Swallows (*Tachycineta thalassina*) in equal number, but as I watched them, a Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*) suddenly appeared. In characteristic fashion it enabled me to watch it, approaching within 50 feet of me, then temporarily going out of sight as it mingled with the other swallows, only to reappear again from the middle of the river. Under these circumstances there was no question as to its identity, but had it been possible I would have collected it in order to determine the race. I spent the better part of an hour hoping it would feed, even briefly, over the marsh in which I was standing, but it never did.

This is apparently the first actual record of the occurrence of this species in central California during the winter months. It has been noted at San Diego on 27 January (The Distribution of the Birds of California, Grinnell and Miller, 1944), but this is generally considered to represent a rather early record for the spring migration. The race (*psammochrous*) breeding in southern California is one of the earliest spring migrants to appear, so an occasional individual in late January is to be expected. *Thomas D. Burleigh, 1242 Sylvan Road, Monterey, California.*