

BREEDING BIRD CENSUS: 2009

1. RIPARIAN FOREST

BOSQUE RIBEREÑO

TALULA BARBEE

Orange County Water District

14980 River Road

Corona CA 92880

Location: California; Riverside Co.; Riverside; Santa Ana River; 33°57'45"N, 117°27'59"W; Riverside West Quadrangle, USGS. **Continuity:** New. **Size:** 9.9 ha.

Description of Plot: The irregularly shaped plot is located within the Santa Ana River floodplain. Its longest side is 570 m and its shortest side is 76 m. The plot is comprised of over 75% native flora such as cottonwood, elderberry, and wild grape. The closed canopy is dominated by cottonwood, arroyo willow, and black willow. Mean canopy height, 10 m (range 8–12 m). The understory is dominated by elderberry and arroyo willow, and the dominant ground cover plants are blackberry and wild grape. Roughly 1.8 ha of giant cane (*Arundo donax*) were removed from the plot before the 2009 season, and the site is currently being managed for regrowth. The river has a maximum depth of approximately 1 m. The maximum width is 35 m. **Edge:** Between 51 and 75% of the plot's perimeter is bordered by the same habitat, and the plot lies within a tract of similar habitat >500 ha in size. The plot is bordered by the Santa Ana River, non-native grassland, and the Van Buren Boulevard Bridge. Similar riparian woodlands occur along several miles of the Santa Ana River. Residential and industrial parks are near to the plot as well. **Topography and Elevation:** The plot is nearly level with a slope of <5%. Minimum elevation 202 m, maximum 208 m. **Weather:** Mean start temp., 17.6°C (range 10–22°C). The weather was typical for southern California. No survey visits were conducted within 24 hours of rainfall. **Source:** wind and temperature data were obtained by using a Kestrel weather meter. **Coverage:** 14.7 h; 7 visits (2 sunrise, 0 sunset); 29 April; 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 June; 6 July; 2009. **Census:** Common Yellowthroat, 47.0 (190); Song Sparrow, 23.0 (93); Yellow Warbler, 20.0 (81); American Goldfinch, 14.0 (57); Spotted Towhee, 11.0 (44); Northern Rough-winged Swallow, 7.0 (28); Least Bell's Vireo, 5.0 (20; 2N,5FL); Anna's Hummingbird, 4.0 (16); Bushtit, 4.0; Bewick's Wren, 3.0 (12); Yellow-breasted Chat, 3.0; Nuttall's Woodpecker, 2.0; Black Phoebe, 1.0;

California Towhee, 1.0; House Finch, 1.0. **Total:** 15 species; 146.0 territories (590/40 ha). **Visitors:** Mallard, Cooper's Hawk, Mourning Dove, Black-chinned Hummingbird, Downy Woodpecker, Pacific-slope Flycatcher, House Wren, Black-headed Grosbeak, Blue Grosbeak, Red-winged Blackbird, Bullock's Oriole, Lesser Goldfinch. **Remarks:** Heavy debris racks at this site provided nesting substrate for ground-nesting species. Least Bell's Vireo nesting was monitored at this site. Breeding by two California species of concern, Yellow Warbler and Yellow-breasted Chat, was documented. The site is also managed for removal of invasive plants such as *Arundo donax* and castor bean. **Other Observer:** David McMichael.

2. MIXED HARDWOOD POLETIMBER

BOSQUE MIXTO MADERERO

DAVID ROSGEN

White Memorial Conservation Center

P.O. Box 368

Litchfield CT 06759

Site Number: CT1265009. **Location:** Connecticut; Litchfield Co.; Litchfield; White Memorial Foundation–Wheeler Hill; 41°42'N, 73°13'W; Litchfield Quadrangle, USGS. **Continuity:** Established 1965; 44 yr. **Size:** 8.5 ha. **Description of Plot:** See Aud. Field Notes 19:609–610 (1965), J. Field Ornithol. 64(Suppl.):36 (1993), and Bird Populations 8:125 (2007). Non-native invasive shrubs, vines, and herbaceous plants are continuing to take over this plot. **Weather:** Mean start temp., 21.2°C (range 12–28°C). The weather throughout all of 2009 was much wetter than normal in Connecticut. The months of May, June, and July saw more wet days than dry ones. It was very conducive to vegetation growth, and it helped produce an abundance of seeds, berries, and insects as the season progressed. Rainfall was above average in May with 22 wet days producing a total of 13 cm of rain. The number of wet days remained at 22 in June, but the amount of precipitation increased significantly to 21.6 cm. That's well-above average. In July, there were 19 wet days that produced a total of 29.2 cm of rain. That's also way above average. May's mean temperature was 13.7°C, which is about average. The mean temperature in June was 17.7°C, which is a little below average. In July, the mean temperature was 19.4°C, which is close

to average. **Source:** White Memorial Foundation's weather station. **Coverage:** 24.0 h; 10 visits (0 sunrise, 4 sunset); 8, 15, 22 May; 1, 8, 16, 25 June; 6, 14, 24 July; 2009. Maximum number of observers/visit, 3. **Census:** Ovenbird, 16.5 (78; 2N,13FL); Veery, 16.0 (75; 1N,11FL); Red-eyed Vireo, 15.0 (71; 8FL); Gray Catbird, 13.5 (64; 2N,16FL); American Redstart, 13.0 (61; 4N,22FL); Eastern Towhee, 10.0 (47; 1N,15FL); Common Yellowthroat, 8.5 (40; 12FL); Chestnut-sided Warbler, 5.5 (26; 6FL); Yellow Warbler, 5.0 (24; 2N,12FL); Black-capped Chickadee, 4.5 (21; 2N,20FL); Tufted Titmouse, 4.5 (22FL); American Robin, 4.0 (19; 1N,9FL); Northern Cardinal, 4.0 (1N,7FL); Wood Thrush, 3.5 (16; 1FL); Black-and-white Warbler, 3.5 (7FL); Baltimore Oriole, 3.5 (3N,11FL); Eastern Wood-Pewee, 3.0 (2FL); Cedar Waxwing, 3.0 (1N,2FL); American Goldfinch, 2.5; Blue Jay, 2.0 (2FL); American Crow, 2.0 (1N,7FL); Scarlet Tanager, 2.0 (2FL); Mourning Dove, 1.5; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 1.5 (3FL); Blue-winged Warbler, 1.5 (3FL); Rose-breasted Grosbeak, 1.5 (3FL); Downy Woodpecker, 1.0 (1N,4FL); Eastern Kingbird, 1.0 (1FL); Tree Swallow, 1.0 (1N,5FL); White-breasted Nuthatch, 1.0 (4FL); House Wren, 1.0 (1N,6FL); Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, 1.0 (1N,2FL); Chipping Sparrow, 1.0 (1N,3FL); Song Sparrow, 1.0 (1N,4FL); Red-winged Blackbird, 1.0 (4FL); Common Grackle, 1.0 (1N,4FL); Brown-headed Cowbird, 1.0 (1FL); House Finch, 1.0; Wild Turkey, 0.5; Ruby-throated Hummingbird, 0.5; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 0.5; Hairy Woodpecker, 0.5; Great Crested Flycatcher, 0.5; Yellow-throated Vireo, 0.5; Warbling Vireo, 0.5; Broad-winged Hawk, +; Red-tailed Hawk, +; Barred Owl, +; Northern Flicker, +; Pileated Woodpecker, +; Least Flycatcher, +; Fish Crow, +; Eastern Bluebird, +; Louisiana Waterthrush, +; Hooded Warbler, +; Purple Finch, +. **Total:** 56 species; 166.5 territories (784/40 ha). **Visitors:** Eastern Phoebe, Pine Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler. **Remarks:** This was another record-setting year for breeding birds in this plot. The total of 56 species was eight more than the previous 10-year average of 48 and nine more than last year. The total of 166.5 territories far surpassed the previous record high of 141.0 set in 2007, was 31.5 more than last year, and was far more than the 10-year average of 110. The growing number of bird feeders and nest boxes at the adjacent campground store, along with continued habitat succession (despite the fact that much of the vegetation is non-native and invasive) may be contributing factors in some of these increases. The most abundant species this year was Ovenbird, which increased by 3.5 territories over last year when it was number three. Veery increased by 2.0 territories from last year but dropped from number one to number two. Red-eyed Vireo moved up to the number three spot this year, from number four last year, with an increase of 2.5 territories. Gray Catbird dropped from number two last year to number four this year even

though its number of territories was unchanged. No species suffered any real significant decreases in number this year. Species found on territory this year but not last year included Broad-winged Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Pileated Woodpecker, Tree Swallow (using a new nest box), Fish Crow, Eastern Bluebird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Louisiana Waterthrush (in a seasonal stream that didn't dry up this year), and Hooded Warbler (a first for this plot). There weren't any species found last year but not this year. Nesting success was fantastic this year with a total of 254 fledglings from 35 different species being detected. That is quite a bit better than last year's 198 fledglings from 30 species. **Other Observers:** John Eykelhoff and John Grabowski. **Acknowledgments:** Samantha Foster and Ashley Hayes helped type the original report.

3. SECOND-GROWTH HARDWOOD FOREST BOSQUE SECUNDARIO DE MADERAS DURAS

DAVID ROSGEN

White Memorial Conservation Center

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Site Number: CT2765006. **Location:** Connecticut; Litchfield Co.; Morris; White Memorial Foundation–Van Winkle Road; 41°42'N, 73°12'W; Litchfield Quadrangle, USGS. **Continuity:** Established 1965; 43 yr. **Size:** 10.1 ha. **Description of Plot:** See Aud. Field Notes 19:590–591 (1965), J. Field Ornithol. 64(Suppl.):37–38 (1993), and Bird Populations 8:126 (2007). Frequent flooding of the brooks that flow through the plot has deposited quite a bit of silt which hasn't been good for native herbaceous plants. Non-native invasive species like Garlic Mustard are thriving. **Weather:** Mean start temp., 19.1°C (range 15–22°C). The weather throughout all of 2009 was much wetter than normal in Connecticut. The months of May, June, and July saw more wet days than dry ones. It was very conducive to vegetation growth, and it helped produce an abundance of seeds, berries, and insects as the season progressed. Rainfall was above average in May with 22 wet days producing a total of 13 cm of rain. The number of wet days remained at 22 in June, but the amount of precipitation increased significantly to 21.6 cm. That's well-above average. In July, there were 19 wet days that produced a total of 29.2 cm of rain. That's also way above average. May's mean temperature was 13.7°C, which is about average. The mean temperature in June was 17.7°C, which is a little below average. In July, the mean temperature was 19.4°C, which is close to average. **Source:** White Memorial Foundation's weather station. **Coverage:** 20.0 h; 10 visits (0 sunrise, 6 sunset); 11, 21 May; 1, 8, 19, 26 June; 5, 13, 23, 30 July; 2009. **Census:** Veery, 18.5 (73; 8FL); Ovenbird, 18.0 (71; 3N,19FL); Red-eyed Vireo, 16.5 (65; 8FL); Wood Thrush, 6.0 (24; 2FL); Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 5.0 (20;

4N,13FL); Eastern Wood-Pewee, 4.5 (18; 1N,2FL); Scarlet Tanager, 4.5 (3FL); Great Crested Flycatcher, 3.5 (14; 6FL); Tufted Titmouse, 3.5 (1N,12FL); American Robin, 3.5 (1N,5FL); Black-capped Chickadee, 3.0 (12; 2N,11FL); Gray Catbird, 3.0 (1N,5FL); Black-and-white Warbler, 2.5 (7FL); Northern Cardinal, 2.5 (2N,8FL); Red-bellied Woodpecker, 2.0 (1N,3FL); Blue Jay, 2.0 (1N,5FL); American Crow, 2.0 (1N,6FL); Cedar Waxwing, 2.0 (2FL); Eastern Phoebe, 1.5 (6FL); Black-throated Green Warbler, 1.5 (1FL); Downy Woodpecker, 1.0 (1N,4FL); Hairy Woodpecker, 1.0 (1N,3FL); White-breasted Nuthatch, 1.0 (1N,5FL); American Redstart, 1.0 (1N,7FL); Chipping Sparrow, 1.0 (2FL); Song Sparrow, 1.0 (4FL); Rose-breasted Grosbeak, 1.0; Brown-headed Cowbird, 1.0 (1FL); Baltimore Oriole, 1.0 (2N,6FL); Mourning Dove, 0.5; Northern Flicker, 0.5; Pileated Woodpecker, 0.5; Blue-headed Vireo, 0.5; Brown Creeper, 0.5 (4FL); Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, 0.5 (3FL); Hermit Thrush, 0.5; Northern Waterthrush, 0.5 (2FL); Common Yellowthroat, 0.5; Chestnut-sided Warbler, 0.5 (2FL); Pine Warbler, 0.5 (2FL); American Goldfinch, 0.5; Wild Turkey, +; Barred Owl, + (3FL); Yellow-throated Vireo, +; Blue-winged Warbler, +; Blackburnian Warbler, +. **Total:** 46 species; 120.5 territories (477/40 ha). **Visitors:** Wood Duck, Red-tailed Hawk, Louisiana Waterthrush, Magnolia Warbler, Eastern Towhee, Indigo Bunting. **Remarks:** This formerly stable plot saw another big increase in the number of territorial males this year despite a slight decrease in the number of species from 47 last year to 46 this year. The number of territories went from 103.0 last year to a record high 120.5 this year. That's far more than the previous 10-year average of 92 which was impacted by three bad years (2004, 2005, and 2006). The number of species found those years was also less than average, but the numbers now are in line with the long-term average. We still don't know what went wrong in those years. This year, things went right for the birds with good weather favoring breeding success. Veery remained the most abundant species this year, and its number of territories increased by 1.0. Ovenbird remained in the number two spot despite increasing by 2.5 territories. Red-eyed Vireo remained in the number three spot and increased by 1.5 territories. Most of the rest of the top ten species either increased in number or remained stable. No species saw any significant decrease in number. Species found on territory this year but not last year included Barred Owl, Brown Creeper, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Blue-winged Warbler, and Blackburnian Warbler. Species found on territory last year but not this year included Red-tailed Hawk, Eastern Kingbird, Louisiana Waterthrush, Magnolia Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, and Eastern Towhee. Breeding success was excellent this year with a total of 180 fledglings from 34 different species being detected. Last year, 159 fledglings from 28 species were detected. **Other Observer:** John Eykelhoff. **Acknowledgments:**

Samantha Foster and Ashley Hayes helped type the original report.

4. CENTRAL HARDWOOD FOREST WITH SCATTERED PINE

BOSQUE CENTRAL DE MADERAS DURAS CON PINOS DISPERSOS

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Location: District of Columbia; Washington; Rock Creek Park; 38°57'N, 77°3'W; Washington West Quadrangle, USGS. **Continuity:** Established 1948; 54 yr. **Size:** 26.3 ha. **Description of Plot:** See Aud. Field Notes 2:153–154 (1948). **Weather:** Mean start temp., 15°C (range 4–22°C). **Coverage:** 22.0 h; 22 visits (2 sunrise, 0 sunset); 24, 31 March; 9, 13, 16, 21, 28 April; 6, 13, 20, 28 May; 1, 3, 8, 10, 12, 18, 22, 24, 26, 29 June; 1 July; 2009. Maximum number of observers/visit, 3. **Census:** American Robin, 11.5 (17; 8N); Acadian Flycatcher, 10.0 (15; 3N); Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, 8.0 (12); Red-eyed Vireo, 6.5 (10); Carolina Chickadee, 5.0 (8); Tufted Titmouse, 5.0; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 4.0 (6); Downy Woodpecker, 3.0 (5); Eastern Wood-Pewee, 2.5; Brown-headed Cowbird, 2.5 (2FL); Yellow-throated Vireo, 2.0; White-breasted Nuthatch, 2.0; Wood Thrush, 2.0 (2N); Ovenbird, 2.0; Northern Cardinal, 1.5 (1N); Hairy Woodpecker, 1.0; Northern Flicker, 1.0; Pileated Woodpecker, 1.0; Great Crested Flycatcher, 1.0; Scarlet Tanager, 1.0; Yellow-billed Cuckoo, 0.5; Carolina Wren, 0.5; Red-shouldered Hawk, +; Mourning Dove, +; Chimney Swift, +; Ruby-throated Hummingbird, +; Eastern Phoebe, +; Blue Jay, +; American Crow, +; Common Grackle, +; Baltimore Oriole, +. **Total:** 31 species; 73.5 territories (112/40 ha). **Visitors:** Black-throated Blue Warbler. **Remarks:** American Robins appear to be colonizing the forest plot; they were the most abundant species in 2009 but had no territories from 1973–1981. The last census, in 2002, recorded 1.0 territory. Other thrushes, Veery and Wood Thrush, are in decline. Veery went unrecorded, and there were only 2.0 Wood Thrush territories. A Black-throated Blue Warbler appeared once on 24 June. **Other Observers:** Bob Ford and Bill Yeaman.

5. WHITE OAK SAVANNAH

SAVANA DE ROBLE BLANCO

MICHAEL F. G. CLARK

101 Governor's Road, #708

Dundas ON L9H 6L7

Site Number: ON2893110. **Location:** Ontario; Municipality of Muskoka; Torrance; Southwood Shield

Plateau; 44°56'N, 79°30'W. **Continuity:** Established 1993; 12 yr. **Size:** 10.4 ha. **Description of Plot:** See J. Field Ornithol. 65(Suppl.):60–61 (1994) and Bird Populations 8:127–128 (2007). **Weather:** Mean start temp., 12.6°C (range 9–17°C). Temperatures were about 1°C below the norm each month. Rainfall was 18% over the norm for the 3-month study period. June's rainfall was 23% below the norm, and July's was 76% over the norm. **Source:** Environment Canada. **Coverage:** 17.9 h; 10 visits (0 sunrise, 1 sunset); 17, 30 May; 6, 8, 10(2), 11(2) June; 13, 14 July; 2009. **Census:** Chestnut-sided Warbler, 19.0 (73); American Robin, 10.0 (38); Red-eyed Vireo, 9.0 (35); Chipping Sparrow, 8.0 (31); Field Sparrow, 8.0; Yellow-rumped Warbler, 6.5 (25); Brown Thrasher, 6.0 (23); American Redstart, 6.0; Eastern Towhee, 6.0; Common Yellowthroat, 5.5 (21); Black-capped Chickadee, 4.5 (17); Song Sparrow, 4.0 (15); Veery, 3.0 (12); cuckoo sp., 1.0; Eastern Whip-poor-will, 1.0; Northern Flicker, 1.0; Great Crested Flycatcher, 1.0; Eastern Bluebird, 1.0; Gray Catbird, 1.0; Brown-headed Cowbird, 1.0; American Goldfinch, 1.0; Rose-breasted Grosbeak, 0.5; Red-winged Blackbird, 0.5. **Total:** 23 species; 104.5 territories (402/40 ha). **Visitors:** Killdeer, Common Nighthawk, Hairy Woodpecker, Eastern Kingbird, Blue Jay, White-breasted Nuthatch, Hermit Thrush, Ovenbird, Yellow Warbler, Scarlet Tanager, Baltimore Oriole. **Remarks:** Resurgent breeding warbler numbers continue to be the story on this plot. Both the 37 total warbler pairs and the 19 Chestnut-sided Warbler pairs set new plot highs (the latter for all species). The four Song Sparrow pairs was the highest count in nine years. Rose-breasted Grosbeak bred for only the second time on the plot, and Gray Catbird bred for the first time since 2000. The 104.5 total territories is the plot's third highest, with the total warbler territories (37.0; 4 species) dominating the seedeaters (27.5 territories; 6 species) for the third year running. The total of 23 breeding species is at the 12-year average.

6. OAK-MAPLE RIDGE-TOP FOREST

BOSQUE DE ROBLE-ARCE DE TOPE DE COLINAS

DAVID R. BARBER

Acopian Center for Conservation Learning

Hawk Mountain Sanctuary

410 Summer Valley Road

Orwigsburg PA 17961

Site Number: PA1382312. **Location:** Pennsylvania; Berks Co.; Eckville; Owl's Head; 40°44'N 75°50'W; New Ringgold Quadrangle, USGS. **Continuity:** Established 1982; 28 yr. **Size:** 19.3 ha. **Description of Plot:** See Am. Birds 37:55 (1983). **Weather:** Mean start temp., 11.8°C (range 0–21°C). **Coverage:** 18.5 h; 10 visits (10 sunrise); 16, 23 April; 19, 29 May; 10, 15, 17, 19, 22, 25 June; 2009. **Census:** Ovenbird, 15.0 (31); Red-eyed Vireo, 7.0 (15); Scarlet Tanager, 3.5 (7); Great

Crested Flycatcher, 3.0 (6); Eastern Towhee, 1.5; Indigo Bunting, 1.5; Eastern Wood-Pewee, 1.0; Blue Jay, 1.0; Wood Thrush, 1.0; Black-and-white Warbler, 1.0; Rose-breasted Grosbeak, 1.0; Downy Woodpecker, 0.5 (1N); Common Yellowthroat, 0.5. **Total:** 13 species; 37.5 territories (78/40 ha). **Visitors:** Mourning Dove, Common Raven, Black-capped Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Hermit Thrush, Gray Catbird, Cedar Waxwing, Hooded Warbler, American Redstart, Brown-headed Cowbird, American Goldfinch. **Other Observers:** Sue Schmoeyer and Mike Ward.

7. OAK-MAPLE SLOPE FOREST

BOSQUE DE ROBLE-ARCE DE LADERAS

DAVID R. BARBER

Acopian Center for Conservation Learning

Hawk Mountain Sanctuary

410 Summer Valley Road

Orwigsburg PA 17961

Site Number: PA1382313. **Location:** Pennsylvania; Berks Co.; Eckville; River of Rocks; 40°45'N 75°50'W; New Ringgold Quadrangle, USGS. **Continuity:** Established 1982; 28 yr. **Size:** 16.9 ha. **Description of Plot:** See Am. Birds 37:55 (1983). **Weather:** Mean start temp., 12.7°C (range 5–17°C). **Coverage:** 17.7 h; 10 visits (10 sunrise); 17, 24 April; 15, 30 May; 2, 4, 11, 16, 23, 30 June; 2009. **Census:** Red-eyed Vireo, 11.0 (26); Ovenbird, 8.0 (19); Scarlet Tanager, 3.5 (8); Eastern Wood-Pewee, 3.0 (7); Black-throated Green Warbler, 3.0; Blue-headed Vireo, 2.5; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, 2.0; Wood Thrush, 2.0; Black-and-white Warbler, 2.0; Brown-headed Cowbird, 2.0; Downy Woodpecker, 1.0 (1N); Northern Flicker, 1.0 (1N); Tufted Titmouse, 1.0; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1.0; Rose-breasted Grosbeak, 1.0. **Total:** 15 species; 44.0 territories (104/40 ha). **Visitors:** Mourning Dove, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Hairy Woodpecker, Pileated Woodpecker, Great Crested Flycatcher, Blue Jay, Black-capped Chickadee, Hermit Thrush, American Robin, Cedar Waxwing, Hooded Warbler, American Redstart. **Other Observers:** Laurie Goodrich and Dave Krueel.

8. VIRGIN HARDWOOD SWAMP FOREST

BOSQUE PANTANOSO VIRGEN DE MADERAS

DURAS

MICHAEL DAWSON

Audubon Center at Francis Beidler Forest

336 Sanctuary Road

Harleyville SC 29448

Location: South Carolina; Dorchester Co.; Harleyville; Francis Beidler Forest Sanctuary; 33°13'N, 80°20'W; Pringletown Quadrangle, USGS. **Continuity:**

Established 1979; 16 yr. **Size:** 8.9 ha. **Description of Plot:** See Am. Birds 34:50 (1980) and J. Field Ornithol. 65(Suppl.):64 (1994). The plot is continuing to recover from the damage caused by hurricane Hugo in 1989. Scrubby areas have thinned greatly as saplings have increased in height and shaded the forest floor. **Weather:** Mean start temp., 17.2°C (range 13–19°C). The weather was seasonable. Water levels were slightly higher than average for the season. **Coverage:** 13.5 h; 9 visits (9 sunrise, 0 sunset); 30 April; 6, 7, 15, 21, 26, 27 May; 2, 4, June; 2009. **Census:** Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, 23.0 (103); Northern Parula, 6.5 (29); White-eyed Vireo, 5.5 (25); Red-eyed Vireo, 4.5 (20); Tufted Titmouse, 4.5; Acadian Flycatcher, 4.0 (18); Great Crested Flycatcher, 4.0; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 3.5 (16); Carolina Wren, 3.5; Pileated Woodpecker, 3.0 (13); Prothonotary Warbler, 3.0; Northern Cardinal, 3.0; Hooded Warbler, 2.0; Downy Woodpecker, 1.0; American Crow, 1.0; Swainson's Warbler, 0.5. **Total:** 16 species; 72.5 territories (326/40 ha). **Visitors:** Wood Duck, Yellow-crowned Night-Heron, White Ibis, Red-shouldered Hawk, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Barred Owl, Kentucky Warbler, Summer Tanager. **Other Observer:** Norman Brunswig.

9. UPLAND CHRISTMAS TREE FARM

FINCAS DE ARBOLES DE NAVIDAD DE ALTURAS

ELIZABETH W. BROOKS

5540 Jericho Hill Road

Alfred Station NY 14803

Site Number: NY2483108. **Location:** New York, Allegany Co., Andover; Kent Christmas Tree Farm; 42°10'N, 77°50'W; Andover Quadrangle, USGS. **Continuity:** Established 1983; 27 yr. **Size:** 10.7 ha. **Description of Plot:** See Am. Birds 38:91(1984). During the previous two years, all the Scotch pine trees in the study area were removed and either burned or left in large piles to decompose. **Weather:** Mean start temp. 17.9°C (range 12.2–25.6°C). **Coverage:** 12.3 h; 8 visits plus 1 woodcock survey (0 sunrise, 1 sunset); 9 April; 6, 15, 23 June; 6, 13, 20, 27 July; 3 August; 2009. **Census:** Chipping Sparrow, 15.0 (56; 2N,3FL); Song Sparrow, 14.0 (52); American Robin, 7.0 (26; 1N,3FL); Yellow-rumped Warbler, 7.0; Cedar Waxwing, 5.0 (19); Purple Finch, 5.0; Magnolia Warbler, 3.0 (11); American Goldfinch, 3.0; Eastern Towhee, 2.0 (1N,3FL); Field Sparrow, 2.0; Brown-headed Cowbird, 2.0 (females); American Woodcock, 1.0; Mourning Dove, 1.0; Savannah Sparrow, 1.0; Red-winged Blackbird, 1.0; Common Yellowthroat, 0.5; Indigo Bunting, 0.5; Bobolink, 0.5. **Total:** 18 species; 70.5 territories (264/40 ha). **Visitors:** Northern Harrier, Killdeer, Black-billed Cuckoo, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Eastern Kingbird, Red-eyed Vireo, Blue Jay, American Crow, Black-capped Chickadee, Prairie Warbler, Common Grackle, Pine Siskin. **Remarks:** The

number of territories (70.5) was above the 26-year average of 67.3 territories. There were no new species recorded in the study area. Because of a potential insect pest, all the Scotch pine trees in the study area were removed and either burned or left in large piles to decompose during the previous two years. Most birds preferred to nest in spruce rather than Scotch pine, and most of the removed Scotch pines were over 4 m tall and not normally used by birds for nest sites, so the removal of the Scotch pine trees had little effect on nesting activity. No nests were found parasitized by cowbirds. **Acknowledgments:** Appreciation to Rick Walker and Dennis Smith for weather data and to Tom and Kathy Kent for their continued interest and permission to conduct the study on their land.

10. CLIMAX HEMLOCK-WHITE PINE FOREST WITH TRANSITION HARDWOODS

BOSQUE CLIMAX DE PICEA-PINO BLANCO EN TRANSICION A MADERAS DURAS

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P.O. Box 368

Litchfield CT 06759

Site Number: CT2765008. **Location:** Connecticut; Litchfield Co.; Litchfield; White Memorial Foundation-Catlin Woods; 41°43'N, 73°12'W; Litchfield Quadrangle, USGS. **Continuity:** Established 1965; 43 yr. **Size:** 10.5 ha. **Description of Plot:** See Aud. Field Notes 19:594–595 (1965), J. Field Ornithol. 67(Suppl.):60 (1996), and Bird Populations 8:129–130 (2007). The vegetation was resurveyed in 1990 and 2004, but the results have not been published. More storm damage has occurred which has increased the number of blow-downs. Succession is continuing in places opened up by previous blow-downs. **Weather:** Mean start temp., 20.3°C (range 14–26°C). The weather throughout all of 2009 was much wetter than normal in Connecticut. The months of May, June, and July saw more wet days than dry ones. It was very conducive to vegetation growth, and it helped produce an abundance of seeds, berries, and insects as the season progressed. Rainfall was above average in May with 22 wet days producing a total of 13 cm of rain. The number of wet days remained at 22 in June, but the amount of precipitation increased significantly to 21.6 cm. That's well-above average. In July, there were 19 wet days that produced a total of 29.2 cm of rain. That's also way above average. May's mean temperature was 13.7°C, which is about average. The mean temperature in June was 17.7°C, which is a little below average. In July, the mean temperature was 19.4°C, which is close to average. **Source:** White Memorial Foundation's weather station. **Coverage:** 22.0 h; 11 visits (0 sunrise, 7 sunset); 7, 15, 22, 30 May; 11, 23 June; 5, 14, 20, 30 July; 4 August; 2009. **Census:** Ovenbird, 18.0 (69; 4N,22FL);

Veery, 17.0 (65; 15FL); Black-throated Green Warbler, 14.0 (53; 5N,19FL); Red-eyed Vireo, 12.0 (46; 7FL); Hermit Thrush, 10.0 (38; 7FL); Wood Thrush, 7.5 (1N,9FL); Blackburnian Warbler, 6.5 (25; 2FL); Scarlet Tanager, 4.5 (3FL); Great Crested Flycatcher, 4.0 (15; 4FL); Pine Warbler, 4.0 (7FL); Black-capped Chickadee, 3.5 (13; 1N,22FL); Blue-headed Vireo, 3.0 (11); Mourning Dove, 2.5; Eastern Wood-Pewee, 2.5 (1N,2FL); American Robin, 2.5 (2N,11FL); Gray Catbird, 2.5 (4FL); Black-and-white Warbler, 2.5 (3FL); Blue Jay, 2.0 (5FL); Cedar Waxwing, 2.0 (2FL); Northern Cardinal, 2.0 (1N,5FL); Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 1.5 (1FL); Downy Woodpecker, 1.5 (1FL); Hairy Woodpecker, 1.5 (4FL); American Crow, 1.5 (2FL); Tufted Titmouse, 1.5 (8FL); Common Yellowthroat, 1.5 (2FL); Yellow-rumped Warbler, 1.5 (1N,3FL); Pileated Woodpecker, 1.0 (1N,3FL); Chipping Sparrow, 1.0 (4FL); American Goldfinch, 1.0; Wild Turkey, 0.5; Great Horned Owl, 0.5 (3FL); Red-bellied Woodpecker, 0.5; White-breasted Nuthatch, 0.5; Brown Creeper, 0.5 (5FL); Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, 0.5 (3FL); Worm-eating Warbler, 0.5; Blue-winged Warbler, 0.5 (3FL); Chestnut-sided Warbler, 0.5 (3FL); Baltimore Oriole, 0.5; Purple Finch, 0.5; Pine Siskin, 0.5 (4FL); Barred Owl, +; Northern Flicker, +; Eastern Kingbird, +; Winter Wren, +; Golden-crowned Kinglet, +; Black-throated Blue Warbler, +; Dark-eyed Junco, +; Rose-breasted Grosbeak, +; Common Grackle, +; Brown-headed Cowbird, +. **Total:** 52 species; 142.0 territories (541/40 ha). **Visitors:** Broad-winged Hawk, Fish Crow. **Remarks:** A total of 52 species, 142.0 territories, 17 active nests, and 198 fledglings were found this year. The species and territory totals are new record highs, and the numbers of nests and fledglings detected are above average. Last year, 46 species and 133.0 territories were found in this plot. This year's increase is probably due to very good weather conditions for much of the breeding season. The most abundant species changed their order this year with Ovenbird increasing by 2.0 territories to move into the top spot. Veery dropped to number two even though its number of territories was unchanged, and Black-throated Green Warbler dropped to number three, because it lost 2.5 territories. Red-eyed Vireo remained in fourth place despite increasing by 2.0 territories. Hermit Thrush also increased by 2.0 territories, but remained in fifth place. This is a new record high for Hermit Thrush which has been on an increasing trend for many years. Species found on territory this year but not last year included Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Blue-winged Warbler (extending its territory from more suitable habitat on the south side of Webster Road), Pine Siskin (leftover from last winter's irruption), and Baltimore Oriole (a visitor last year). Species found last year but not this year included Red-tailed Hawk, Least Flycatcher, Northern Waterthrush, and Yellow Warbler. **Other Observer:** John Eykelhoff.

11. YOUNG MIXED HARDWOOD-CONIFER STAND

BOSQUE JOVEN-MIXTO DE MADERAS
DURAS/RODAL DE CONIFEROS

DAVID ROSEN

White Memorial Conservation Center

P.O. Box 368

Litchfield CT 06759

Site Number: CT2778262. **Location:** Connecticut; Litchfield Co.; Morris; White Memorial Foundation-Pitch Road; 41°42'N, 73°10'W; Litchfield Quadrangle, USGS. **Continuity:** Established 1978; 32 yr. **Size:** 8.5 ha. **Description of Plot:** See Am. Birds 33:72 (1979). The plot has suffered further degradation in the form of torn-up ground and broken trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants from a constant onslaught of ATV, dirt bike, and 4-wheel-drive truck traffic. This is despite our best efforts to block them from gaining access to the plot. **Weather:** Mean start temp., 20.9°C (range 15–25°C). The weather throughout all of 2009 was much wetter than normal in Connecticut. The months of May, June, and July saw more wet days than dry ones. It was very conducive to vegetation growth, and it helped produce an abundance of seeds, berries, and insects as the season progressed. Rainfall was above average in May with 22 wet days producing a total of 13 cm of rain. The number of wet days remained at 22 in June, but the amount of precipitation increased significantly to 21.6 cm. That's well-above average. In July, there were 19 wet days that produced a total of 29.2 cm of rain. That's also way above average. May's mean temperature was 13.7°C, which is about average. The mean temperature in June was 17.7°C, which is a little below average. In July, the mean temperature was 19.4°C, which is close to average. **Source:** White Memorial Foundation's weather station. **Coverage:** 15.5 h; 8 visits (1 sunrise, 4 sunset); 2, 14, 25 June; 6, 15, 24, 30 July; 4 August; 2009. **Census:** Red-eyed Vireo, 13.5 (64; 1N,7FL); Veery, 12.0 (56; 5FL); Ovenbird, 10.0 (47; 2N,9FL); Wood Thrush, 5.0 (24; 1FL); Black-capped Chickadee, 4.0 (19; 14FL); Tufted Titmouse, 4.0 (18FL); American Robin, 3.5 (16; 4N,14FL); Scarlet Tanager, 3.5; Gray Catbird, 3.0 (14; 1N,5FL); Eastern Wood-Pewee, 2.0 (2FL); Hermit Thrush, 2.0; Chipping Sparrow, 2.0 (3FL); Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 1.5; Downy Woodpecker, 1.5 (1FL); Blue Jay, 1.5; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1.5 (6FL); Cedar Waxwing, 1.5; Common Yellowthroat, 1.5; American Redstart, 1.5; Northern Cardinal, 1.5 (2FL); Red-bellied Woodpecker, 1.0; American Crow, 1.0 (3FL); Black-throated Green Warbler, 1.0; Rose-breasted Grosbeak, 1.0; American Goldfinch, 1.0; Mourning Dove, 0.5; Hairy Woodpecker, 0.5; Eastern Phoebe, 0.5 (1FL); Great Crested Flycatcher, 0.5; Blue-headed Vireo, 0.5; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 0.5 (1N,3FL); Louisiana Waterthrush, 0.5 (2FL); Black-and-white Warbler, 0.5;

Song Sparrow, 0.5; Barred Owl, +; Black-throated Blue Warbler, +; Brown-headed Cowbird, +. **Total:** 37 species; 86.0 territories (405/40 ha). **Visitors:** Blackburnian Warbler. **Remarks:** The number of species found this year rebounded slightly to 37, but that is still below the 10-year average of 42. The total number of territorial males also rebounded. This year, 86.0 were recorded. That is 9.5 more than last year and 13.5 territories over the previous 10-year average. It is, however, still well below the numbers recorded from 1979 through 2003. It was in 2004 that ATVs, dirt bikes, and 4-wheelers started destroying the plot. Red-eyed Vireo remained the most abundant species this year and increased by 1.5 territories over last year. Veery moved up to second place with an increase of 1.0 territory over last year. Ovenbird dropped to third place with a decrease of 1.5 territories from last year. Species found here this year but not last year included Cedar Waxwing, Golden-crowned Kinglet, and Song Sparrow. The only species found last year but not this year was Pine Warbler. **Other Observer:** Russ Naylor. **Acknowledgments:** Samantha Foster and Ashley Hayes helped type the original report.

12. UPLAND MIXED PINE-SPRUCE-HARDWOOD PLANTATION

PLANTACION MIXTA DE PINO-ABETO-MADERAS DURAS EN ALTURAS

ELIZABETH W. BROOKS
5540 Jericho Hill Road
Alfred Station NY 14803

Site Number: NY2474107. **Location:** New York; Allegany Co., Ward; Phillips Creek State Reforestation Tract; 42°8'N, 77°45'W; Andover Quadrangle, USGS. **Continuity:** Established 1974; 36 yr. **Size:** 16.6 ha. **Description of Plot:** See *Am. Birds* 28:699-700 (1974), *J. Field Ornithol.* 63(Suppl.):79-80 (1992) and 66(Suppl.):79-80 (1995), *Bird Populations* 10:130-131 (2010). **Weather:** Mean start temp., 14.2°C (range 11.1-22.2°C). **Coverage:** 13.3 h; 9 visits (1 sunrise, 5 sunset); 31 May; 7, 14, 22, 28 June; 4, 12, 19, 26 July; 2009. **Census:** Black-throated Green Warbler, 7.0 (17); Dark-eyed Junco, 7.0; Blackburnian Warbler, 6.0 (14); Common Yellowthroat, 5.0 (12); Magnolia Warbler, 5.0; Blue Jay, 4.0 (10); Ovenbird, 4.0; Yellow-rumped Warbler, 4.0; Purple Finch, 4.0; Blue-headed Vireo, 3.5 (8); Black-capped Chickadee, 3.0 (7); Red-breasted Nuthatch, 3.0; Winter Wren, 3.0; Brown Creeper, 2.0; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 2.0; Hermit Thrush, 2.0; American Robin, 2.0; Chestnut-sided Warbler, 2.0; Chipping Sparrow, 2.0; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 1.5; Mourning Warbler, 1.5; Red-shouldered Hawk, 1.0; Great Crested Flycatcher, 1.0; American Crow, 1.0; Cedar Waxwing, 1.0; Song Sparrow, 1.0; Scarlet Tanager, 1.0; Indigo Bunting, 1.0; American Goldfinch, 1.0. **Total:** 29 species; 81.5 territories (196/40 ha).

Visitors: Broad-winged Hawk, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Downy Woodpecker, Eastern Wood-pewee, Eastern Phoebe, Common Raven, House Wren, Veery, Gray Catbird, Canada Warbler, Rose-breasted Grosbeak. **Remarks:** The total number of territories (81.5) was down from the 35-year average (86.8). There were no new species recorded in the study area. Wood Thrush was missing after being reported in 30 of the past 34 years; Purple Finch had the highest number of territorial males (4) ever recorded. **Acknowledgments:** Appreciation to Rick Walker and Dennis Smith for weather data.

13. RIPARIAN SCRUB

MATORRAL RIBEREÑO

JILL COUMOUTSO

Santa Ana Watershed Association
P.O. Box 219
Chino CA 91708

Location: California; Riverside Co.; Norco; Norco Burn; 33°57'29"N, 117°31'56"W; Corona North Quadrangle, USGS. **Continuity:** Established 2006; 4 yr. **Size:** 14.6 ha. **Description of Plot:** See *Bird Populations* 9:192 (2009). **Weather:** Mean start temp., 17.9°C (range 11.2-25.3°C). Temperatures were mild, as typical for southern California's Mediterranean climate. **Source:** a Kestrel 3000 was used to measure temperature and wind speed. **Coverage:** 21.6 h; 8 visits (0 sunrise, 0 sunset); 26 March; 13, 30 April; 14, 28 May; 11, 24 June; 13 July; 2009. **Census:** Anna's Hummingbird, 13.0 (36); Least Bell's Vireo, 13.0 (17N,45FL); Yellow Warbler, 11.0 (30; 1N,1FL); Song Sparrow, 11.0; Spotted Towhee, 9.0 (25; 2FL); House Wren, 8.0 (22; 2N); Yellow-breasted Chat, 7.0 (19; 1FL); Black-headed Grosbeak, 6.0 (16); Common Yellowthroat, 5.0 (14); Mourning Dove, 4.0 (11; 1N); California Towhee, 3.0 (8); House Finch, 3.0; Lesser Goldfinch, 2.0; American Goldfinch, 2.0; Cooper's Hawk, 1.5; Nuttall's Woodpecker, 1.0 (1N); Pacific-slope Flycatcher, 1.0; Bewick's Wren, 1.0 (1FL); California Thrasher, 1.0; Northern Flicker, 0.5; Say's Phoebe, 0.5; Tree Swallow, 0.5 (1N); Western Bluebird, 0.5 (1N). **Total:** 23 species; 104.5 territories (286/40 ha). **Visitors:** Red-tailed Hawk, Eurasian Collared-Dove, Common Ground-Dove, Black-chinned Hummingbird, Downy Woodpecker, Western Wood-pewee, Willow Flycatcher, Black Phoebe, Ash-throated Flycatcher, Cassin's Kingbird, Warbling Vireo, Western Scrub-Jay, Barn Swallow, Bushtit, American Robin, Northern Mockingbird, Orange-crowned Warbler, Western Tanager, Blue Grosbeak, Hooded Oriole, Bullock's Oriole. **Remarks:** The endangered Least Bell's Vireo and Anna's Hummingbird were the most abundant breeders on the plot. The high number of vireos is probably due to an increase in population across the entire site, which

allowed it to go from third most abundant species last year to most abundant this year. In addition to winter and breeding bird surveys, this site is currently being monitored for the nests of Least Bell's Vireo. Other species of concern that bred on the plot included Yellow-breasted Chat and Yellow Warbler. One Yellow Warbler nest was located which fledged at least one young. This site continues to be treated for Arundo re-growth on a yearly basis. A Brown-headed Cowbird trap was present adjacent to the plot for the entire breeding season.

14. RIPARIAN SCRUB BASIN CUENCA CON MATORRAL RIBEREÑO

MELODY AIMAR

Santa Ana Watershed Association
6075 Kimball Avenue, Bldg. D
Chino CA 91708

Location: California; Riverside Co.; Riverside; Mockingbird Canyon; 33°53'33"N, 117°24'47"W; Riverside West Quadrangle, USGS. **Continuity:** Established 2004; 6 yr. **Size:** 12.7 ha. **Description of Plot:** See Bird Populations 8:142-143 (2007). **Weather:** Mean start temp., 20.3°C (range 14-27°C). Temperatures were mild, as is typical for southern California's Mediterranean climate. There was no precipitation within 24 hours of survey visits. **Coverage:** 16.0 h; 8 visits (0 sunrise, 0 sunset); 11 March; 1, 8 April; 19 May; 11, 17 June; 2, 14 July; 2009. **Census:** Bewick's Wren, 20.0 (63; 3FL); California Towhee, 16.5 (52; 1FL); Song Sparrow, 12.5 (39); Spotted Towhee, 12.0 (38); Anna's Hummingbird, 10.0 (31); California Quail, 7.0 (22); Black-headed Grosbeak, 7.0 (2FL); Lesser Goldfinch, 7.0; Bushtit, 5.0 (16); California Thrasher, 4.5 (14); Nuttall's Woodpecker, 4.0 (13); Phainopepla, 4.0; Common Yellowthroat, 4.0; Western Scrub-Jay, 3.0 (9); Hooded Oriole, 3.0 (1FL); Black-chinned Hummingbird, 2.5; Mourning Dove, 2.0; Black Phoebe, 2.0 (1N); House Finch, 2.0 (2FL); Northern Flicker, 1.0 (1N); Ash-throated Flycatcher, 1.0; Western Kingbird, 1.0; House Wren, 1.0; Cooper's Hawk, 0.5; Red-tailed Hawk, 0.5; Least Bell's Vireo, 0.5 (1FL); California Gnatcatcher, 0.5 (3FL). **Total:** 27 species; 134.0 territories (422/40 ha). **Visitors:** Downy Woodpecker, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Barn Swallow, Northern Mockingbird, Yellow Warbler, American Goldfinch. **Remarks:** As in previous years, Song Sparrow, California Towhee, Spotted Towhee, and Bewick's Wren remain the four most abundant species. This year, however, Bewick's Wren moved to the top, doubling in numbers from last year. Phainopepla, which was absent last year, returned this year with 4.0 territories. Although the Red-tailed Hawks utilized the plot, they did not nest on-site this year, but they did produce at least one young. Most territory

numbers increased in 2009. **Acknowledgments:** We would like to thank Gage Canal for access to their property.

15. STREAMSIDE RIPARIAN WOODLAND I BOSQUE RIBEREÑO I

TERRY REESER

Santa Ana Watershed Association
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Chino CA 91708

Location: California; Orange Co.; Yorba Linda; Featherly Regional Park; 33°52'24"N, 117°42'23"W; Black Star Canyon and Prado Dam Quadrangles, USGS. **Continuity:** Established 2004; 6 yr. **Size:** 17.8 ha. **Description of Plot:** See Bird Populations 8:143-144 (2007) and 9:182 (2009). The Freeway Complex wildfire in November 2008 severely burned 80-90% of the plot. Habitat recovery and regrowth is progressing slowly throughout the plot, augmented by invasive plant management. Both cover and understory density were impaired in most of the plot. **Weather:** Mean start temp., 20.5°C (range 17-26°C). Temperatures were mild, as typical for southern California's Mediterranean climate. **Source:** weather data were obtained with a Kestrel 3000 weather meter. **Coverage:** 48.8 h; 8 visits (0 sunrise, 0 sunset); 31 March; 14, 24 April; 12, 28 May; 17, 25 June; 14 July; 2009. **Census:** Song Sparrow, 32.0 (72); Common Yellowthroat, 24.0 (54); Spotted Towhee, 13.0 (29); Yellow Warbler, 12.5 (28; 2N,1FL); Least Bell's Vireo, 11.0 (25; 3N,1FL); Anna's Hummingbird, 10.5 (24); House Wren, 10.5 (1N,1FL); Bewick's Wren, 9.0 (20; 1N,1FL); Black-headed Grosbeak, 8.0 (18); Nuttall's Woodpecker, 7.0 (16); Yellow-breasted Chat, 7.0; California Towhee, 7.0; Black Phoebe, 5.0 (11); Wrentit, 4.0 (9); House Finch, 4.0 (1N,3FL); Wood Duck, 3.0 (7); American Coot, 3.0 (6FL); Lesser Goldfinch, 3.0 (5FL); Western Bluebird, 2.5 (1N,1FL); Mallard, 2.0 (2FL); Downy Woodpecker, 2.0; Ash-throated Flycatcher, 2.0; Red-winged Blackbird, 2.0; Cooper's Hawk, 1.0 (1N,3FL); Red-shouldered Hawk, 1.0; Common Gallinule, 1.0 (4FL); Western Oriole, 1.0; American Goldfinch, 1.0; Acorn Woodpecker, 0.5. **Total:** 33 species; 193.5 territories (435/40 ha). **Visitors:** California Quail, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Snowy Egret, Black-crowned Night-Heron, Killdeer, Spotted Sandpiper, Mourning Dove, Greater Roadrunner, Allen's Hummingbird, Say's Phoebe, Western Kingbird, Common Raven, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, American Robin, California Thrasher, Phainopepla, Blue Grosbeak, Bullock's Oriole. **Remarks:** The breeding bird community includes riparian, coastal sage, and chaparral species. The endangered Least Bell's Vireo and California species of concern Yellow Warbler and Yellow-breasted Chat bred on the plot along with other species of concern such as Downy Woodpecker. The remaining mature stands of cottonwood and black

willow throughout the plot benefit many species observed including Yellow Warbler, Nuttall's Woodpecker, and Downy Woodpecker. I possibly over-counted some species due to surveying only one side of the river, but I took this into account for some species. The Red-shouldered Hawk territory represents two half-territories where the other parts of the territories are upstream for one and to the south for the other. Nest monitoring for Least Bell's Vireo and winter bird surveys take place on the plot. **Acknowledgments:** I thank Harbors, Beaches, and Parks Resources and Development Department, County of Orange, including Supervising Park Ranger, Ron Nadeau, for site access and its continuing logistical support.

16. STREAMSIDE RIPARIAN WOODLAND III BOSQUE RIBEREÑO III

ALLYSON BECKMAN

*Santa Ana Watershed Association
25864-K Business Center Drive
Redlands CA 92374*

Location: California; Riverside Co.; Redlands; San Timoteo Canyon; 33°59'5"N, 117°7'45"W; Sunnymead Quadrangle, USGS. **Continuity:** Established 2004; 6 yr. **Size:** 12.3 ha. **Description of Plot:** See Bird Populations 8:144-145 (2007) and 9:182-183 (2009). **Weather:** Mean start temp., 19.6°C (range 11-31°C). Temperatures were warm, as typical for southern California's Mediterranean climate. There was no precipitation during, or within 24 hours of, any survey visit. **Source:** weather data were obtained by using a Kestrel 3000 weather meter. **Coverage:** 24.0 h; 8 visits (1 sunrise, 0 sunset); 27 March; 7, 28 April; 11, 18 May; 16, 23 June; 14 July; 2009. **Census:** Song Sparrow, 21.0 (68); Bewick's Wren, 18.0 (59); Spotted Towhee, 16.0 (52); California Towhee, 13.0 (42); Lesser Goldfinch, 13.0; Mourning Dove, 10.0 (33); Bushtit, 9.0 (29); Anna's Hummingbird, 8.0 (26); Northern Rough-winged Swallow, 8.0; Least Bell's Vireo, 7.5 (24; 9N,29FL); Common Yellowthroat, 6.0 (20); Yellow Warbler, 5.0 (16); House Finch, 5.0; American Crow, 4.0 (13); Oak Titmouse, 4.0; Black-chinned Hummingbird, 3.0 (10); Nuttall's Woodpecker, 3.0; Black Phoebe, 3.0; Ash-throated Flycatcher, 3.0; House Wren, 3.0; Yellow-breasted Chat, 3.0; Black-headed Grosbeak, 3.0; American Goldfinch, 3.0; Northern Flicker, 2.0; Common Raven, 2.0; European Starling, 2.0; Phainopepla, 2.0; Bullock's Oriole, 2.0; Red-shouldered Hawk, 1.5; California Quail, 1.0; Cooper's Hawk, 1.0; Barn Owl, 1.0; Downy Woodpecker, 1.0; Western Bluebird, 1.0; California Thrasher, 1.0; White-tailed Kite, 0.5. **Total:** 36 species; 189.5 territories (616/40 ha). **Visitors:** Red-tailed Hawk, American Kestrel, Western Scrub-Jay, Blue Grosbeak. **Remarks:** Thirty-six species bred on this plot. The plot has been undergoing passive restoration over the last eight years after the removal of over 80 ha of invasive *Arundo donax*. One endangered

species, Least Bell's Vireo, bred on the plot. Nest monitoring for the Least Bell's Vireo and winter bird surveys are also conducted on this plot.

17. FIELD, RIDGE, SHRUBBY TREES, AND WOODS

CAMPOS, COLINAS, ARBUSTOS Y BOSQUES

MICHAEL F. G. CLARK

*101 Governor's Road, #708
Dundas ON L9H 6L7*

Location: Ontario; Municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth; Dundas; Dundas Valley Plot #1; 43°15'N, 79°54'W. **Continuity:** Established 1994; 14 yr. **Size:** 5.8 ha. **Description of Plot:** See J. Field Ornithol. 60(Suppl.):14 (1989), 66(Suppl.):27-28 (1995), and 67(Suppl.):73-74 (1996). Ongoing succession or "thickening up" continues. **Weather:** Mean start temp., 19.6°C (range 14-26°C). Temperatures were about 1°C under the norm for both months. Rainfall was 16% over the 30-year norm for the 2-month study period. **Source:** Environment Canada. **Coverage:** 13.5 h; 8 visits (0 sunrise, 2 sunset); 5, 13, 21, 25 May; 2, 4, 17, 23 June; 2009. **Census:** Yellow Warbler, 15.0 (103); Gray Catbird, 12.0 (83); Northern Cardinal, 12.0; Blue-winged Warbler, 6.0 (41); American Goldfinch, 6.0; American Robin, 5.0 (34); Field Sparrow, 5.0; Indigo Bunting, 4.5 (31); Rose-breasted Grosbeak, 4.0 (28); Common Grackle, 4.0; Song Sparrow, 3.5 (24); Blue Jay, 3.0 (21); Black-capped Chickadee, 3.0; Yellow-billed Cuckoo, 1.0; Great Crested Flycatcher, 1.0; Baltimore Oriole, 1.0; Ruby-throated Hummingbird, 0.5; House Wren, 0.5. **Total:** 18 species; 87.0 territories (600/40 ha). **Visitors:** Northern Flicker, American Crow, White-breasted Nuthatch, Common Yellowthroat, Chipping Sparrow. **Remarks:** Continuing habitat "thickening up" (succession) may account for the lowest Yellow Warbler breeding total and second lowest Gray Catbird total over 14 years on this revised plot. Below-normal start temperatures may have affected bird detection on some visits. Breeding seedeaters (6 species; 35 pairs) outnumbered warblers (2 species; 21 pairs) by 14 pairs, a plot record. The total of 87 breeding pairs, the plot's second lowest total, is up 7.5 pairs from last year. The total of 18 breeding species is at the plot average. Song Sparrow recovered from zero breeding pairs last year to 3.5 this year.

18. SHRUBBY SWAMP AND SEDGE HUMMOCKS PANTANO ARBUSTIVO-MOGOTE

DAVID ROSGEN

*White Memorial Conservation Center
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Litchfield CT 06759*

Location: Connecticut; Litchfield Co.; Litchfield; White Memorial Foundation-North Shore Marsh; 41°43'N, 73°13'W; Litchfield Quadrangle, USGS. **Continuity:**

Established 1965; 43 yr. **Size:** 8.1 ha. **Description of Plot:** See Aud. Field Notes 19:625–627 (1965), Bird Populations 7:125–126 (2006) and 10:133–134 (2010). Habitat succession continued despite numerous serious flooding events. Two of these occurred during the breeding season. The entire plot was much wetter than normal all year. **Weather:** Mean start temp., 21.9°C (range 16–26°C). The weather throughout all of 2009 was much wetter than normal in Connecticut. The months of May, June, and July saw more wet days than dry ones. It was very conducive to vegetation growth, and it helped produce an abundance of seeds, berries, and insects as the season progressed. Rainfall was above average in May with 22 wet days producing a total of 13 cm of rain. The number of wet days remained at 22 in June, but the amount of precipitation increased significantly to 21.6 cm. That's well-above average. In July, there were 19 wet days that produced a total of 29.2 cm of rain. That's also way above average. May's mean temperature was 13.7°C, which is about average. The mean temperature in June was 17.7°C, which is a little below average. In July, the mean temperature was 19.4°C, which is close to average. **Source:** White Memorial Foundation's weather station. **Coverage:** 28.0 h; 12 visits (0 sunrise, 8 sunset); 2, 9, 19, 26 May; 2, 12, 23 June; 4, 13, 19, 27 July; 3 August; 2009. Maximum number of observers/visit, 3. **Census:** Swamp Sparrow, 31.5 (16; 1N,48FL); Red-winged Blackbird, 30.5 (151; 5N,52FL); Yellow Warbler, 29.0 (143; 5N,59FL); Common Yellowthroat, 22.0 (109; 2N,27FL); Gray Catbird, 18.5 (91; 6N,39FL); Song Sparrow, 9.0 (44; 1N,15FL); Veery, 7.5 (37; 10FL); Tree Swallow, 7.0 (35; 4N,27FL); Common Grackle, 7.0 (2N,24FL); American Robin, 5.0 (25; 4N,19FL); Cedar Waxwing, 5.0 (2N,11FL); Eastern Kingbird, 4.0 (20; 2N,7FL); American Goldfinch, 4.0 (4FL); Black-capped Chickadee, 3.5 (17; 17FL); Great Crested Flycatcher, 3.0 (15; 1N,9FL); Warbling Vireo, 3.0 (2N,9FL); Baltimore Oriole, 3.0 (2N,10FL); Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 2.5 (2N,14FL); Willow Flycatcher, 2.5 (1N,7FL); Least Flycatcher, 2.5 (1FL); Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, 2.5 (2N,8FL); American Redstart, 2.5 (1N,12FL); Downy Woodpecker, 2.0 (2N,7FL); Alder Flycatcher, 2.0 (2FL); Tufted Titmouse, 2.0 (8FL); Northern Cardinal, 2.0 (4FL); Northern Flicker, 1.5 (1N,6FL); Black-and-white Warbler, 1.5 (6FL); Great Blue Heron, 1.0 (1N,3FL); Mourning Dove, 1.0 (2FL); Red-bellied Woodpecker, 1.0 (3FL); Hairy Woodpecker, 1.0 (1N,4FL); Eastern Wood-pewee, 1.0; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1.0 (4FL); Wood Duck, 0.5 (3FL); Osprey, 0.5 (1FL); Bald Eagle, 0.5; Spotted Sandpiper, 0.5; Red-eyed Vireo, 0.5; Blue Jay, 0.5 (1FL); Wood Thrush, 0.5 (1FL); Northern Waterthrush, 0.5; Chestnut-sided Warbler, 0.5; Rose-breasted Grosbeak, 0.5; Brown-headed Cowbird, 0.5 (1FL); Mallard, +; Green Heron, +; American Woodcock, +; Black-billed Cuckoo, +; Ruby-throated Hummingbird, +; Pileated Woodpecker, +; Purple Finch, +. **Total:** 52 species; 227.5 territories (1123/40 ha). **Visitors:** Mute

Swan, Yellow-throated Vireo, Fish Crow, Carolina Wren, Blue-winged Warbler, Canada Warbler. **Remarks:** Despite the wet conditions, including flooding, birds did very well with their breeding activity this year. As would be expected in these conditions, birds nesting in trees or shrubs fared much better than those attempting to nest on the ground. A record-tying high of 52 species were found on territory this year. That's the same number as last year and 2006. Woodland species have really taken hold with continued tree growth. The total number of territories decreased slightly to 227.5, but that's still the second highest number ever recorded in this plot. The record high is 232.5 territories last year. Swamp Sparrow increased by 1.5 territories from last year, and moved into the number one spot. The second most abundant species this year was Red-winged Blackbird. It decreased by 5.5 territories from last year. Yellow Warbler, which nested in the shrubs above the floodwaters, remained in the number three spot with the same number of territories as last year. The numbers for most of the other top ten species were fairly close to last year's figures. For the first time in many years, a pair of Great Blue Herons nested in this marsh this year. Also, a pair of Osprey, which nested a little farther up the Bantam River, included this marsh in their territory. Though they didn't build a nest, a pair of Bald Eagles was territorial here for the first half of the season. Besides the eagles, other species found on territory this year but not last year included Green Heron, Black-billed Cuckoo, and Ruby-throated Hummingbird. In spite of the flooding, an impressive total of 485 fledglings from 38 different species were detected this year. Last year, 443 fledglings from 34 species were detected. **Other Observers:** Lorraine Amalavage, John Eykelhoff, Daren Jacklin, and Terry Weaver.

19. COASTAL SCRUB

MATORRAL COSTANERO

MEGAN ELROD & IRENE KOULOURIS

PRBO Conservation Science

3820 Cypress Drive #11

Petaluma CA 94954

Location: California; Marin Co.; Bolinas; Palomar Field Station; 37°55'N, 122°45'W; Bolinas Quadrangle, USGS. **Continuity:** Established 1971; 35 yr. **Size:** 8.1 ha. **Description of Plot:** See *Am. Birds* 25:1003–1004 (1971). Succession from coastal scrub continues on the plot. **Weather:** The bioyear rainfall (1 July 2008–30 June 2009) was 532.4 mm. The breeding season rainfall (1 April–31 July) was 23.2 mm. **Coverage:** 252.7 h; 71 visits (55 sunrise, 0 sunset). 2009. **Census:** Wrentit, 11.5 (57; 12N,33FL); Bushtit, 5.0 (25); Spotted Towhee, 5.0 (6N,7FL); Swainson's Thrush, 4.0 (20); Orange-crowned Warbler, 4.0 (2N,1FL); Allen's Hummingbird, 3.5 (17); Bewick's Wren, 3.5 (3N); Golden-crowned Kinglet, 3.0 (15); Hutton's Vireo, 2.5; Chestnut-backed Chickadee,

2.5; Wilson's Warbler, 2.0 (1N); Anna's Hummingbird, 1.5; Purple Finch, 1.5; Mourning Dove, 1.0; Winter Wren, 1.0; American Robin, 1.0; Song Sparrow, 1.0 (3N,6FL); White-crowned Sparrow, 1.0 (5N,7FL); American Goldfinch, 1.0 (2N); California Quail, 0.5; Northern Flicker, 0.5; Pacific-slope Flycatcher, 0.5; Western Scrub-Jay, 0.5; Red-tailed Hawk, +; Band-tailed Pigeon, +; Hairy Woodpecker, +; Olive-sided Flycatcher, +; Red-breasted Nuthatch, +; Dark-eyed Junco, +. **Total:** 29 species; 57.5 territories (284/40 ha). **Visitors:** None listed. **Remarks:** The total number of territories on the plot decreased from 58.5 in 2008 to 57.5 this year. Wrentit territories decreased from 13.0 to 11.5, Bewick's Wren territories decreased from 6.0 to 3.5, and Wilson's Warbler territories decreased from 5.0 to 2.0. Bushtit territories increased from 3.0 in 2008 to 5.0 this year. The observers and supervisors believe that the density of the vegetation is having a negative effect on their ability to completely monitor the plot. **Acknowledgments:** We thank the Point Reyes National Seashore for their cooperation. This is PRBO contribution No. 1846.

20. DISTURBED COASTAL SCRUB A MATORRAL PERTURBADO A

ALEX WANG & IRENE KOULOURIS

PRBO Conservation Science

3820 Cypress Drive #11

Petaluma CA 94954

Location: California; Marin Co.; Bolinas; Palomarin Field Station; 37°55'N, 122°45'W; Bolinas Quadrangle, USGS. **Continuity:** Established 1972; 35 yr. **Size:** 4.7 ha. **Description of Plot:** See Am. Birds 26:987-988 (1972). Succession from coastal scrub continues on the plot. **Weather:** The bioyear rainfall (1 July 2008-30 June 2009) was 532.4 mm. The breeding season rainfall (1 April-31 July) was 23.2 mm. **Coverage:** 227.2 h; 79 visits (40 sunrise, 0 sunset). 2009. **Census:** Wrentit, 7.0 (60; 14N,19FL); Wilson's Warbler, 6.5 (55; 2N,4FL); Song Sparrow, 4.5 (38; 9N,11FL); Orange-crowned Warbler, 3.5 (30; 2N,4FL); Anna's Hummingbird, 2.5; Allen's Hummingbird, 2.5; Bewick's Wren, 2.5 (1N); Swainson's Thrush, 2.5; Bushtit, 2.0 (2N); Chestnut-backed Chickadee, 1.5; Spotted Towhee, 1.5 (5N,12FL); Hutton's Vireo, 1.0; Purple Finch, 1.0; American Goldfinch, 1.0 (1N); California Quail, 0.5; Mourning Dove, 0.5; Northern Flicker, 0.5; Pacific-slope Flycatcher, 0.5; Western Scrub-Jay, 0.5; American Robin, 0.5; Dark-eyed Junco, 0.5 (2N,4FL); Red-tailed Hawk, +; Band-tailed Pigeon, + (1N); Olive-sided Flycatcher, +; Steller's Jay, +; Red-breasted Nuthatch, +; Golden-crowned Kinglet, +; White-crowned Sparrow, +; Black-headed Grosbeak, +; Brown-headed Cowbird, + (2FL). **Total:** 30 species; 43.0 territories (366/40 ha). **Visitors:** None listed. **Remarks:** The total number of territories increased from 37.5 in 2008 to 43.0 this year. Wrentit territories remained about the same (7.5 in 2008 to 7.0

this year), Wilson's Warbler territories increased from 1.5 to 6.5, and Song Sparrow territories increased from 3.0 to 4.5. The observers and supervisors believe that the density of the vegetation is having a negative effect on their ability to completely monitor the plot. **Acknowledgments:** We thank the Point Reyes National Seashore for their cooperation. This is PRBO contribution No. 1844.

21. DISTURBED COASTAL SCRUB B MATORRAL PERTURBADO B

MARGARET KELLOGG & IRENE KOULOURIS

PRBO Conservation Science

3820 Cypress Drive #11

Petaluma CA 94954

Location: California; Marin Co.; Bolinas; Palomarin Field Station; 37°55'N, 122°46'W; Bolinas Quadrangle, USGS. **Continuity:** Established 1971; 35 yr. **Size:** 8.1 ha. **Description of Plot:** See Am. Birds 25:1002-1003 (1971) and J. Field Ornithol. 66(Suppl.):104 (1995). Succession from coastal scrub continues on the plot. **Weather:** The bioyear rainfall (1 July 2008-30 June 2009) was 532.4 mm. The breeding season rainfall (1 April-31 July) was 23.2 mm. **Coverage:** 373.3 h; 80 visits (46 sunrise, 0 sunset). 2009. **Census:** Wrentit, 14.5 (72; 14N,16FL); Wilson's Warbler, 9.0 (44); American Goldfinch, 8.0 (40; 11N,4FL); Bewick's Wren, 6.5 (32); Winter Wren, 5.5 (27); Swainson's Thrush, 5.0 (25); Orange-crowned Warbler, 5.0 (1N); Golden-crowned Kinglet, 4.5 (22); Allen's Hummingbird, 4.0 (20); Anna's Hummingbird, 3.5 (17); Song Sparrow, 3.5 (4N,2FL); Chestnut-backed Chickadee, 3.0 (15); Spotted Towhee, 3.0 (1N); Purple Finch, 2.0; Mourning Dove, 1.5 (1N); Bushtit, 1.0 (1N); Brown-headed Cowbird, 1.0; Band-tailed Pigeon, 0.5; Northern Flicker, 0.5; Hutton's Vireo, 0.5; Steller's Jay, 0.5; Western Scrub-Jay, 0.5; Western Bluebird, 0.5; American Robin, 0.5; California Quail, +; Red-tailed Hawk, +; Pacific-slope Flycatcher, +; Red-breasted Nuthatch, +; White-crowned Sparrow, +. **Total:** 29 species; 84.0 territories (415/40 ha). **Visitors:** None listed. **Remarks:** The total number of territories increased dramatically from 2008 to 2009, rising from 59.5 to 84.0. Wrentit increased from 13.0 to 14.5 territories, Golden-crowned Kinglet increased from 2.0 to 4.5, American Goldfinch doubled from 4.0 to 8.0, Orange-crowned Warbler increased from 1.0 to 5.0, and Bewick's Wren increased from 5.5 to 6.5. Swainson's Thrush decreased from 7.0 to 5.0 territories, and Song Sparrow decreased from 5.0 to 3.5. Western Bluebird was not present in 2008 but had 0.5 territories in 2009. The observers and supervisors believe that the density of the vegetation is having a negative effect on their ability to completely monitor the plot. **Acknowledgments:** We thank the Point Reyes National Seashore for their cooperation. This is PRBO contribution No. 1845.