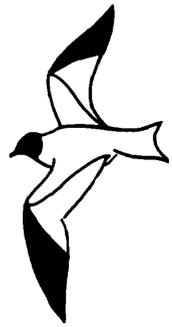


WESTERN BIRDS



Volume 23, Number 3, 1992

THIRTEENTH REPORT OF THE CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

PETER PYLE, Point Reyes Bird Observatory, 4990 Shoreline Highway, Stinson Beach, California 94970

GUY McCASKIE, 954 Grove Street, Imperial Beach, California 91932

Western Field Ornithologists and the California Bird Records Committee are again pleased to thank Bushnell, a division of Bausch & Lomb, for its continued generous support in sponsoring the publication of our reports.

This report contains 376 records of 96 species that have recently been reviewed by the California Bird Records Committee (hereafter, the CBRC or the Committee). The 321 accepted records of 83 species and 55 rejected records of 36 species represent an 85.4% acceptance rate. Reports were received from 37 of the state's 58 counties, including all coastal counties. As in past years, the best-represented counties were San Francisco (44 accepted records including 36 from Southeast Farallon Island), San Diego (35), Santa Barbara (31), Monterey (25) and Marin (21). Although the dates of the records extend from 30 August 1969 to 9 September 1989, the great majority of them (339) are from 1 December 1986 to 28 February 1989, representing a very high percentage of the records of CBRC Review-List species (see below) from California published in *American Birds* (hereafter AB) during this period. In 1991, the Committee received 236 records, an increase of 15 from 1990. The Committee greatly appreciates the increasing interest by the birding community in submitting documentation of rare birds in the state.

We continue to encourage birders and ornithologists to support the CBRC process by submitting written reports and/or photographs to Michael A. Patten, CBRC Secretary, P. O. Box 8612, Riverside, CA 92515. We believe that the decisions of the CBRC are highly qualified, standardized assessments of the validity of records but not always the final word on whether or not an identification is correct. "Final" Committee decisions are always re-reviewable given new information; historically,

decisions both to accept and to reject have been overturned upon further Committee review. Additional consequences of the Committee process include the archiving of all reviewed documentation and the accumulation of much useful information concerning the identification and status of Review-List species in the state, through the consolidation and synthesis of comments by ten or more members of various disciplines and with a wide range of field experience. See Roberson (1990) and Bevier (1990) for more on the evolution, functioning, and benefits of the Committee process.

All records published in CBRC reports are archived by Lloyd Kiff at the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology (439 Calle San Pablo, Camarillo, CA 93010) and are available to anyone interested in reviewing the documentation and assessments of the CBRC. All voice recordings are kept at the California Academy of Sciences, Department of Ornithology and Mammalogy, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA 94118. The Committee continues to review both current and past records of birds on its Review List; with the publication of our upcoming summary of old records in the fourteenth report, over 92% of all published records of Review-List species will have been evaluated. The Committee continues to solicit documentation of unreviewed past records, published or not.

State List and CBRC Review List. This report provides details on four additions to the California state list: Terek Sandpiper (*Xenus cinereus*), Long-toed Stint (*Calidris subminuta*), Xantus' Hummingbird (*Hylocharis xantusii*), and Gray Wagtail (*Motacilla cinerea*). The earliest accepted record of the Ruddy Ground-Dove (*Columbina talpacoti*) is also published here. Patten (1991) noted the CBRC acceptance of three additional species—Murphy's Petrel (*Pterodroma ultima*), Common Pochard (*Aythya ferina*), and White-tailed Ptarmigan (*Lagopus leucurus*). Recent acceptance of a Smith's Longspur (*Calcarius pictus*) photographed at Moss Landing, Monterey County, 13–18 September 1990, a Cave Swallow (*Hirundo fulva*) photographed near Westmorland, Imperial Co., 8 August 1987, and a Red-flanked Bluetail (*Tarsiger cyanurus*) photographed in hand at Southeast Farallon Island, 1 November 1989, brings the current state list to 579 species. Recent reports of the Crested Caracara (*Polyborus plancus*), Green Kingfisher (*Chloroceryle americana*), and Eyebrowed Thrush (*Turdus obscurus*) were not accepted. Details of these recent decisions will appear in the fourteenth and fifteenth reports. In addition, the CBRC is now evaluating records of a number of species that would increase the state list, including the Arctic Loon (*Gavia arctica*), Solander's Petrel (*Pterodroma solandri*), Townsend's Shearwater (*Puffinus auricularis*), Caribbean Coot (*Fulica caribaea*), Band-tailed Gull (*Larus belcheri*), Black-tailed Gull (*Larus crassirostris*), Iceland Gull (*Larus glaucooides*), Swallow-tailed Gull (*Creagrus furcatus*), Oriental Turtle-Dove (*Streptopelia orientalis*), Alder Flycatcher (*Empidonax alnorum*), Little Bunting (*Emberiza pusilla*), Eastern Meadowlark (*Sturnella magna*), Oriental Greenfinch (*Carduelis sinica*), and Eurasian Tree Sparrow (*Passer montanus*). The most recently published state checklist (*Field List of California Birds* by the CBRC, 1991) contains 578 species (Cave Swallow accepted after publication) and is available from the *Western Birds* circulation manager for \$1.00 postpaid.

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

The list of species and species complexes that the CBRC reviews was published by Roberson (1989) and updated by Langham (1991). In general, the Review List comprises species of which there are fewer than 100 records in California or fewer than 40 records in the state during the most recent 10-year period. At the Committee's 1992 annual meeting held 18 January at Goleta, three species were deleted from the Review List: the Tufted Duck (*Aythya fuligula*), Buff-breasted Sandpiper (*Tryngites subruficollis*), and Red-throated Pipit (*Anthus cervinus*). The CBRC will continue to review records of these species through 1991 (through the winter of 1991/92 for the Tufted Duck), but subsequent reports will not be reviewed. At this meeting the CBRC decided also to maintain a supplemental list of species of uncertain natural occurrence that have been documented in California. Species shall be placed on this list by a majority vote at an annual meeting of the Committee after a given record has completed its normal circulation and was not accepted because the natural occurrence was questioned.

Format. The format of this report is very similar to those of recent Committee reports (Dunn 1988, Bevier 1990, Langham 1991). Records are generally listed chronologically according to first known date of occurrence; exceptions occur in species with many records, including several at the same location, or to allow better understanding of CBRC decisions. Those species names preceded by an asterisk are no longer on the Review List. The total number of CBRC-accepted records through this report is given in parentheses following the species name. For species we no longer review, this number reflects only CBRC-accepted records during the period in which the species was on the Review List. Two asterisks following this number indicate restrictions on the period for which the species has been reviewed or the inclusion of some older reports not formally accepted (see Roberson 1986). Each record includes the locality, a standard abbreviation for the county (see below), and full date spans. In most cases, the dates are from the seasonal reports in AB. Dates differing from those listed in AB are italicized, indicating that we believe ours to be correct. Enclosed in parentheses are the initials of the reporting observer(s), listed in alphabetical sequence by last name and followed by the CBRC record number. If the observer(s) who initially found or identified the bird provided documentation, their initials are listed first and are separated from the other observers' initials by a semicolon. If an observer submitted a photograph, a dagger follows the initials. Specimens are indicated by catalogue number (see below for museum acronyms). Unless indicated by a dagger, a specimen number, or mention of voice or video recordings, all evaluations were based on written documentation of sight reports. When individual birds return to a location after a lengthy or seasonal absence, each occurrence is reviewed under a separate record number, and Committee members indicate whether or not they believe the bird is the same individual as one previously accepted. Such decisions follow the opinion of the majority of Committee members.

All annotations are ours, although the information is often derived from the Committee's files. The CBRC does not specifically review the age, sex, or subspecies of rarities; however, Committee members often provide

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

comments on the designation of these classes where appropriate. Many of the opinions on age, sex, and subspecies of the individuals assigned in this report reflect those of the Committee as a whole. We have taken the opportunity to comment more thoroughly on the age and sex of passerines, primarily on the basis of information provided by Pyle et al. (1987).

Abbreviations. The Committee has adopted standard county abbreviations; those listed in this report are as follows: ALA, Alameda; CC, Contra Costa; DN, Del Norte; HUM, Humboldt; IMP, Imperial; INY, Inyo; KER, Kern; LAS, Lassen; LA, Los Angeles; MRN, Marin; MEN, Mendocino; MER, Merced; MOD, Modoc; MNO, Mono; MTY, Monterey; ORA, Orange; RIV, Riverside; SAC, Sacramento; SBT, San Benito; SBE, San Bernardino; SD, San Diego; SF, San Francisco; SJ, San Joaquin; SLO, San Luis Obispo; SM, San Mateo; SBA, Santa Barbara; SCL, Santa Clara; SCZ, Santa Cruz; SHA, Shasta; SIS, Siskiyou; SON, Sonoma; STA, Stanislaus; TEH, Tehama; TRI, Trinity; VEN, Ventura; YOL, Yolo. See Langham (1991) for a list of all 58 county abbreviations. Museums that house specimens of records reported here, that have permitted CBRC members access to their specimens or are otherwise cited, are abbreviated as follows: AMNH, American Museum of Natural History, New York; CAS, California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco; HSU, Humboldt State University, Arcata; LACM, Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History; LSU, Museum of Natural Science, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge; MVZ, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley; SDNHM, San Diego Natural History Museum; UCSB, University of California, Santa Barbara. Other abbreviations include I., island; L., lake; NM, National Monument; NP, National Park; NS, National Seashore; NWR, National Wildlife Refuge; R., river; SB, State Beach; SR, State Reserve.

ACCEPTED RECORDS

YELLOW-BILLED LOON *Gavia adamsii* (40). An adult in alternate plumage was at Pacific Grove, MTY, 10 Oct 1987 (BS†; 265-1987). The rotting carcass of one recovered from a beach in Monterey, MTY, 24 Dec 1987 (AB; 129-1988) has been preserved as a skeleton (CAS 84051). One found dead on a beach near Trinidad Harbor, HUM, 2 Nov 1988 (ScS; GSL; 267-1988) was made into a life mount and placed in the coffee room of Humboldt State University's Wildlife Building (accession S. W. Harris 1189). One was seen in Crescent City Harbor, DN, 13 Dec 1988 (ADB; 49-1989).

LEAST GREBE *Tachybaptus dominicus* (1). One was present at the Imperial Warm Water Fish Hatchery near Niland, IMP, 19 Nov–24 Dec 1988 (BBr, JLD†, KLG, MJL, CM, GMcC, MAP, DR†, ASm†; 234-1988); a photograph has been published (AB 43:166). This is the second accepted record for California, the first being by McMurry and Monson (1947).

MOTTLED PETREL *Pterodroma inexpectata* (18). Three were seen on 8 Dec 1988 from a research vessel between 102 and 123 nautical miles WSW of Pt. Arena, MEN: one at 37°50'N, 125°58'W (PP; 278-1988), another at 38°58'N, 125°55'W (PP; 279-1988), and the third at 38°21'N, 125°47'W (PP; 280-1988). This species will probably prove to be regular over these offshore waters in winter.

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

WEDGE-TAILED SHEARWATER *Puffinus pacificus* (2). The second record for California was of a dark-morph individual off the Whitewater R. mouth, N end of the Salton Sea, RIV, 31 Jul 1988 (REW†; GMcC; 150-1988). McCaskie and Webster (1990) published full details; a photograph also appears in AB (42:1225). The first of this species to be found in North America north of Mexico, a light-morph individual, was photographed about 4 nautical miles due W of Pt. Pinos, MTY, on 31 August 1986 (Stallcup et al. 1988).

*WILSON'S STORM-PETREL *Oceanites oceanicus* (102). Up to 16 were seen 2 to 5 miles NW of the Cordell Bank, off Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 15-16 Aug 1987 (SFB, JM; 236-1987). One was about 30 miles W of San Gregorio, SM, 6 Sep 1987 (JM; 372-1987). Two were midway between San Miguel I. and Pt. Conception, SBA, 18 Sep 1987 (RRV; 270-1988). One was rafting with other storm-petrels on Monterey Bay off Moss Landing, MTY, 4 Oct 1987 (JML; 393-1987). One was in the Santa Barbara Channel, just S of Pt. Conception, SBA, 20 Aug 1988 (RRV; 83-1989). One was about 25 miles W of Pt. Loma, SD, 28 Aug 1988 (GMcC, MAP; 159-1988). One was over the Cordell Bank, MRN, 23 Oct 1988 (KFC; 87-1989). One was at 37°53'N, 123°21'W, 16 nautical miles NNW of N Farallon I., SF, 10 Jun 1989 (PP; 106-1989).

This species is found off the coast of California almost every fall, with most observations on Monterey Bay but the largest numbers reported around the Cordell Bank. One on Monterey Bay on 1 May 1978 (Roberson 1986) and the one listed above for 10 June 1989 are the only individuals recorded in spring. In autumn, birds have been found as early as 13 July and as late as 7 November.

BROWN BOOBY *Sula leucogaster* (22). A sub-adult roosted on the rocks at Pt. Lobos SR, MTY, 15-19 Jun 1988 (PM, MTr; CM, MJL, MAP, DR; 132-1988). An adult was attracted to a boat 2 to 3 miles SE of Santa Barbara I., SBA, 15 Oct 1988 (JKA, KCM†; 77-1989). Most occurrences in California have been at the Salton Sea, but these observations bring to six the number of records for the coast.

RED-FOOTED BOOBY *Sula sula* (8). A subadult of the white morph was observed around fishing boats off Pedro Pt., SM, and at the mouth of San Francisco Bay, SF, 14-20 Aug 1987, and at Pier 45 in San Francisco, SF, during the first two weeks of September 1987 (PB†; SFB, JLD, RAE, MJL, GMcC, JM, CM, DR, LT†, SW†; 224-1987, 39-1988). An immature (one to two years old; see Nelson 1988), photographed on and around fishing vessels between San Francisco Bay, SF, and Pt. Bonita, MRN, 13-18 Oct 1987, was found in a weakened condition at the San Francisco Aquatic Park, SF, and taken to the Marin Wildlife Center for treatment on the last date (Figure 1; MG†; JM†, SEF†, SP†; 275-1987); it never recovered, and was sent to Seattle for permanent care. An immature landed on a research vessel on Monterey Bay off Moss Landing, MTY, 8 Oct 1987, and remained aboard to the entrance of Moss Landing harbor (JK†; 276-1987). Another immature was photographed about 1.5 miles E of Santa Barbara I., SBA, 11 Oct 1987 (KLG†, MCa†, DGu†, ALH†, ASm; 262-1987). A dark immature was photographed about 7 miles W of Santa Catalina I., LA, 15 Nov 1987 (NBB, JLD†, ALH; 361-1987).

An unprecedented number of Red-footed Boobies appeared along the coast of California during the late summer and fall of 1987, more than doubling the number recorded for the state. Birders were alerted to the presence of the first bird off Pedro Pt. by a member of the crew of the *Red Baron*, Peggy Beckett, who contacted the San Francisco Rare Bird Alert by ship-to-shore telephone, then maneuvered her boat to enable birders on Pedro Pt. to see the bird, which was still feeding around the boat.

The plumages of Red-footed Boobies are complex (Nelson 1988). None of the birds listed here were adults, making confident assignment to race or geographical origin impossible with current knowledge. Most Committee members felt that these

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

birds may have ridden some distance on boats, but since there was no indication that they were restrained, this had no bearing on the acceptability of the records. Photographs of the birds off Pacifica and near Santa Barbara I. have been published in AB (42:18 and 42:128, respectively).

NEOTROPIC CORMORANT *Phalacrocorax brasilianus* (3). An adult was at the Whitewater R. mouth, N end of the Salton Sea, RIV, 20 Jun 1987 and at the Alamo R. mouth, S end of the Salton Sea, IMP, 15-29 Aug 1987 (MAP; GMcC; 231-1987). Single adult Neotropic Cormorants have been seen at various points around the Salton Sea since August 1982, being reported every year through 1987 except 1984. The Committee considers all reports to pertain to one individual (Morlan 1985, Roberson 1986, Dunn 1988, Bevier 1990).

REDDISH EGRET *Egretta rufescens* (22). An adult around S San Diego Bay, SD, 25 Sep 1987-12 Mar 1988 (GMcC, DR; 303-1987) and again 11 Sep 1988-7 Feb 1989 (JLD, GMcC; 190-1988) was the same bird with an abnormal growth on its bill that has been here every winter since 1982-1983 (Roberson 1986, Dunn 1988, Bevier 1990, Langham 1991). An immature frequented the Tijuana R. mouth, SD, 3 Aug-26 Nov 1988 (JLD, GMcC; 191-1988). One around Mission Bay and the San Diego R. mouth, SD, 20 Nov 1988-9 Sep 1989 (GMcC, MAP, DR; 41-1989) molted from immature to adult plumage during its stay.

Reddish Egrets are of annual occurrence along the coast of San Diego Co. but are exceptional elsewhere in California. The Mission Bay bird is the first to have overwintered in California.

YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON *Nyctanassa violacea* (12). An adult at the Scripps Institute of Oceanography, La Jolla, SD, 16 Jan-15 Feb 1988 (GMcC, PEL; 81-1988) and 26 Apr-27 Jul 1989 (GMcC, DR; 75-1989) was considered the same individual initially found on nearby San Elijo Lagoon in 1981 and seen intermittently there and in La Jolla since (Binford 1985, Morlan 1985, Dunn 1988, Bevier 1990, Langham 1991). This bird was paired with a Black-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) during the spring of 1989; the two birds built a nest and took turns sitting on it, but no eggs or young were observed.

BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK *Dendrocygna autumnalis* (7). Single adults were near the New R. mouth, S end of the Salton Sea, IMP, 1-4 Aug 1987 (GMcC; 229-1987) and along the S shore of the Salton Sea, IMP, 2-10 Jul 1988 (GMcC; CM, MAP; 134-1988).

All accepted records to date are from the Imperial Valley during the summer and fall, between 28 May and 4 November.

TRUMPETER SWAN *Cygnus buccinator* (14). An adult was with about 3000 Tundra Swans (*C. columbianus*) along Hwy. 12 near Terminous, SJ, 26 Dec 1987 (MJL; 60-1988). Three calling adults were seen in flight at the Lower Klamath NWR, SIS, 12 Feb 1988 (WEH; 295-1988). Two gray first-year birds were studied at the N end of Honey L., LAS, 2-3 Jan 1989 (JTr; TDM; 79-1989).

Recent information on the identification of swans by Tobish (1991) and Bailey (1991) will help in our evaluation of Trumpeter Swan reports, especially those of immatures.

EMPEROR GOOSE *Chen canagica* (41**). One was at Tule Lake NWR, MOD, 6-13 Nov 1987 (BED; 1-1988). One commuted between the Alameda shore and Bay Farm I., ALA, 19 Dec 1987-17 Apr 1988 (SFB, THK, PLAT†, CM, GMcC, JM, SWM†, EM†, MAP, DR†, DLS, RFT†; 398-1987). Because young birds lose much or all of the dark feathering on the head and hindneck in fall, ageing individuals lacking this plumage feature is not recommended.



Figure 1. A subadult white-morph Red-footed Booby (275-1987) found in a weakened condition at San Francisco Aquatic Park and brought on 18 October 1987 to the Marin Wildlife Center, where this interesting photograph was taken.

Photo by Joseph Morlan

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

BAIKAL TEAL *Anas formosa* (5). A male shot by a hunter at Tule Lake NWR, SIS, 14 Oct 1987 (BED†; 175-1988) was made into a life mount and retained in a private collection.

*TUFTED DUCK *Aythya fuligula* (49). A male on Quail L., LA, 19 Nov 1986–5 Mar 1987 (KLG, CM, ASm; 15-1987) and again 17 Nov 1987–5 Mar 1988 (KLG; 57-1989) is considered to be the same bird seen here during the winters of 1978–1980, 1983–1984, and 1985–1986 and in nearby Cuddy Valley, KER, 15 Jan 1980 (Binford 1985, Morlan 1985, Roberson 1986). Females were near Petaluma, SON, 28 Feb 1987 (JA; 154-1987) and on Elkhorn Slough near Moss Landing, MTY, 25–27 Mar 1987 (BM; DLS; 91-1987). A male was on L. Cachuma, SBA, 30 Nov–6 Dec 1987 (PEL, JLD; 373-1987), and a female was on this same lake 18 Dec 1987–17 Feb 1988 (CM; SFB, LRBe, JLD†, PEL, GMcC, MAP, DR; 43-1988). Males were on Hesperia Lakes near Victorville, SBE, 6–11 Dec 1987 (SJM; JLD, CM; 3-1988) and at the Smith R. mouth, DN, 24 Jan–14 Feb 1988 (ADB; 100-1988), returning 17 Jan–11 Feb 1989 (ADB; 50-1989). Females were off Belvedere, MRN, 2 Jan 1988 (DAH; 123-1988) and in Arcata, HUM, 16–17 Apr 1988 (SDF†, GSL; 203-1988). A male on the O'Neill Forebay, San Luis Reservoir, MER, 21–23 Feb 1988 (MJL; 209-1988) was considered to be the same bird present here in Feb 1986 (Bevier 1990). A male in San Francisco, SF, 19 Nov 1988–27 Mar 1989 (Figure 2; DM†; SFB, PEL, MMcC, JM, SWM; 257-1988) was accompanied

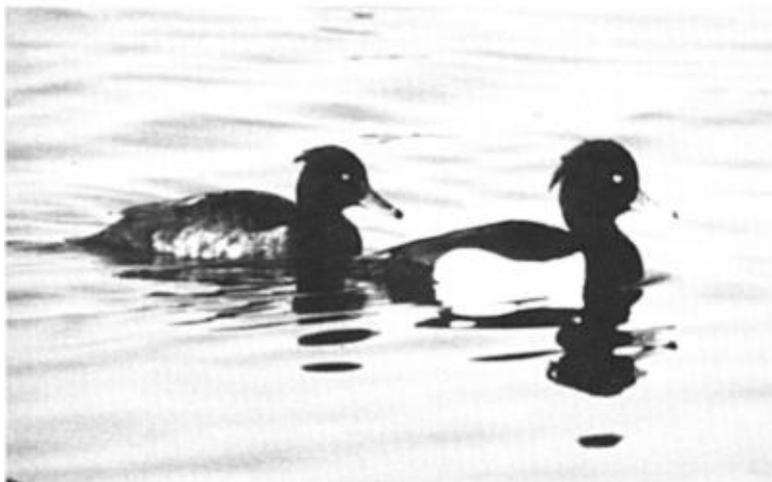


Figure 2. A male (257-1988) and a female (253-1988) Tufted Duck in San Francisco, 5 February 1989. The identification of the male poses no problem. Because females lack head plumes they can be confused with scaups. Female Tufted Ducks, however, have uniform dark brown to blackish backs, show a noticeable contrast between the dark back and the paler flanks, normally have no white around the base of the bill (some individuals show a small amount of white here), and have the bill's black tip separated from the blue-gray of the rest of the bill by a narrow band of white as on the male Tufted Duck, all characters evident in this photograph.

Photo by Mac McCormick

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

by a female 26 Nov 1988–27 Mar 1989 (Figure 2; JM; SFB, PEL, MMcC, SWM, DM, DR†, MS, RS; 253-1988). A male was on Castaic L., LA, 4 Dec 1988 (KLG; 1-1989). A male on Mallard Reservoir, CC, 31 Dec 1988 (RJR; 80-1989) was considered the same individual present here 27 Dec 1986–3 Jan 1987 (Langham 1991).

This visitor from Asia is now of regular occurrence in winter along the coast, with some returning year after year to the same localities. The birds on Elkhorn Slough and L. Cachuma, however, are the first to be found in Monterey and Santa Barbara counties, respectively, and the species is still unrecorded in most inland counties. The CBRC has discontinued reviewing reports of Tufted Ducks occurring after the winter of 1991–1992.

KING EIDER *Somateria spectabilis* (24). First-year males were at Moss Landing, MTY, 9–29 Dec 1988 (DEG; SFB, JM, DR†; 259-1988) and at Pomponio SB, SM, 29 Apr–7 May 1989 (JM, RST; 88-1989).

MISSISSIPPI KITE *Ictinia mississippiensis* (19). A subadult was at Huntington Beach, ORA, 5–11 Jun 1989 (JRG†, GMcC, MAP; 92-1989). A color photograph of this bird in flight has been published (AB 43:396). Most records of this species are for late spring, falling between 21 May and 21 June, and most of these have been found inland in Inyo and Mono counties. The Huntington Beach bird is only the second to be accepted from along the coast at this time of the year, although there is an unreviewed June record from Santa Barbara Co. and two other accepted summer records for San Diego Co.

ZONE-TAILED HAWK *Buteo albonotatus* (21). An adult seen over the Plano Trabuco, near Mission Viejo, ORA, 30 Jan–3 Feb 1988 (MAP; 90-1988) was considered to be the same bird present here during the winters of 1985–1986 and 1986–1987 (Bevier 1990, Langham 1991). An adult was near Laguna Beach, ORA, 22–30 Oct 1988 (BBc; BF, GF; 70-1989). A pair on Hot Springs Mt., SD, 4 Jul 1988 (GMcC; 135-1988) was believed to be nesting and was considered the same pair that nested here in 1986 and 1987 (Langham 1991); the Committee lacks information on the full 1988 date span.

GYRFALCON *Falco rusticolus* (4). A first-year bird with a broken wing captured by two hunters near McArthur, SHA, 26 Dec 1987 (BY†; 296-1988) has been retained in captivity at the Los Angeles Zoo. The previous three records of this species are from the northern half of the state as expected, with the first collected near Tule Lake, SIS, 23 Oct 1948 (Jewett 1949), the southernmost photographed E of Dixon, YOL, 17 Jan–8 Feb 1982 (Binford 1985), and the third seen at Tule Lake NWR, SIS, 31 Oct 1983 (Bevier 1990). Two additional mid-winter occurrences in the NE portion of the state are under review by the Committee.

YELLOW RAIL *Coturnicops noveboracensis* (60**). One at the S end of Tomales Bay, MRN, 2–21 Dec 1987 (RS; SNHG, PP; 399-1987), was caught by a Great Egret (*Casmerodius albus*) on the latter date. The retrieved specimen, a female, is now CAS 84063. One captured alive during high tides at the Palo Alto Baylands, SCL, 17 Jan 1988 was taken to an animal shelter, kept for two days, and released at the capture site (Figure 3; JB, JMD†; 78-1988). One was flushed by a hunting dog from a seasonal pond along the N spit of Humboldt Bay S of Samoa, HUM, on 7 and 17 Feb 1987 (DAL; 79-1988).

MONGOLIAN PLOVER *Charadrius mongolus* (3). An alternate-plumaged adult was at Moss Landing Wildlife Area, MTY, 14–16 Aug 1989 (DEG; MAP, RFT†, BJW; 109-1989). A juvenile found at this exact location 13–19 Sep 1980 (Luther et al. 1983) established the first record for California.

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

EURASIAN DOTTEREL *Charadrius morinellus* (3). A juvenile on the Spalleta plateau, Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 10–13 Sep 1988 (MJL; SK†, PLAT†; 170-1988) was in the same field of short grass that attracted California's second Eurasian Dotterel 6–9 Sep 1986 (Langham 1991). A superb color photograph of the 1988 bird has been published (AB 43:27).

AMERICAN OYSTERCATCHER *Haematopus palliatus* (9). One photographed on Pt. Loma, SD, 11 Sep 1987 (TEC†; 54-1988) is only the fifth to be recorded on the coast and the third for San Diego Co. One on San Nicolas I., VEN, 12 Sep 1987–11 Nov 1988 (TM; 272-1988) was on the Channel Islands, site of most occurrences in California.

Hybrids between the American and Black (*H. bachmani*) oystercatchers have occurred in southern California; however, both of these birds appeared to be typical of the Baja California race of American Oystercatcher (*H. p. frazari*) as outlined by Jehl (1985).

SPOTTED REDSHANK *Tringa erythropus* (5). A basic-plumaged bird was on Staten I., SJ, 19–20 Nov 1988 (MJL†; BBr, TDM, JM; 260-1988). One in alternate plumage was near Oceanside on the Camp Pendleton marine corps base, SD, 19–23 May 1989 (EKD; DA†, GMcC, MAP; 90-1989); a photograph of this bird appears in AB (43:396).



Figure 3. A Yellow Rail (78-1988) released at the Palo Alto Baylands on 19 January 1988. This photograph clearly shows just how dark a Yellow Rail is, the light bronze color being restricted to the fringes of the blackish feathers. Note how the white on the secondaries can be partially obscured.

Photo by J. M. Danzenbaker

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

There are now three spring and two fall records for California, one spring and three fall records for coastal British Columbia (Campbell et al. 1990), and a winter record for Oregon (Schmidt 1989), suggesting that this species can occasionally be expected along the Pacific coast of North America at almost any time of year.

TEREK SANDPIPER *Xenus cinereus* (1). A basic-plumaged adult was at Carmel River SB, MTY, 28 Aug–23 Sep 1988 (BRH, EMW; SFB, JLD, WEH†, GWL†, PLAT†, MJL, CM, GMcC, JM, BDP, MAP, DR†, RS†, DLS, RFT, BJW; 160-1988). Full details of this first state record were published by Wilson and Harriman (1989), and photographs were published in AB (43:26). One photographed on Vancouver Island, British Columbia, 21 July–6 August 1987 (Goodwill and Goodwill 1988), one that spent January 1988 at Buenos Aires, Argentina (Pugnali et al. 1988), and one on 23 June 1990 in Massachusetts (Stemple et al. 1991) constitute the only other records of this species from the Americas outside of Alaska.

HUDSONIAN GODWIT *Limosa haemastica* (6). A juvenile at the Carmel R. mouth, MTY, 28 Aug 1988 reappeared at the nearby Salinas R. mouth, MTY, 4 Sep–3 Oct 1988 (SEF; SFB, JLD, HG, WEH†, SLaF, MJL, TM, CM, JM, BDP, MAP, DR†, DS, RFT; 162-1988). Another juvenile was on San Nicolas I., VEN, 5–16 Sep 1988 (TM†; 271-1988).

Although there are only six previous records (two spring and four fall) of this species in California, it occurs somewhat regularly in British Columbia (Campbell et



Figure 4. One of three Ruddy Ground-Doves (249-1988) at Furnace Creek Ranch, Death Valley, 12 November 1988. Note that this female has a dark-tipped gray bill, lacks scaling about the head and neck, and that the black markings on the greater and median coverts form straight lines on the folded wings. The tail is longer than a Common Ground-Dove's.

Photo by Jon L. Dunn

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS



Figure 5. Dusky Warbler (6-1988) on Southeast Farallon Island, 14 October 1988. Note the short tenth primary visible along the leading edge of the wing. Possession of a tenth primary distinguishes the genus *Phylloscopus* from the wood warblers of North America.

Photo by Phil Henderson



Figure 6. Northern Wheatear (64-1989) on Southeast Farallon Island, 6 November 1988.

Photo by Scot Anderson

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

al. 1990) and has been found in Washington (Roberson 1980) and Oregon (Schmidt 1989), including a flock of 16 at Bayocean Spit, Tillamook Co., Oregon on 17 Aug 1980. This pattern of records may support speculation by Kessel and Gibson (1978) that Alaskan breeders of this species use a trans-Pacific migration route to get to and from wintering grounds in South America.

BAR-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa lapponica* (7). Juveniles were seen at the Salinas R. mouth, MTY, 11 Sep 1988 (SFB; 171-1988) and at Bolinas Lagoon, MRN, 20 Sep 1988 (KHa; 177-1988). Another juvenile was photographed at the marsh at Pescadero SB, SM, 20 Aug-9 Sep 1989 (RST†; GHF, SEFT, AG†, MJL, JM, BDP, MAP, MTa†, FT; 110-1989). Like the preceding species, the Bar-tailed Godwit has been recorded along the entire Pacific coast south to California, with eight fall records for British Columbia (Campbell et al. 1990), at least seven (five fall and two spring) records for Washington (Roberson 1980), and nine (six fall and three spring) records for Oregon (Schmidt 1989).

LONG-TOED STINT *Calidris subminuta* (1). A juvenile was well photographed at the Salinas sewage ponds, MTY, 29 Aug-2 Sep 1988 (BD, MAP; SFB, JLD, GWL†, PLaT†, MJL, GMcC, JM, BDP, KR, DS, DLS, RFT†, JTr†, BRZ†, KJZ; 161-1988). Patten and Daniels (1991) published a full account, including photographs, of this first record for California; other photographs appear in AB (42:1226 and 43:27) and in *Birding* (20:384). This Asiatic breeder had long been considered a likely candidate to reach the state.

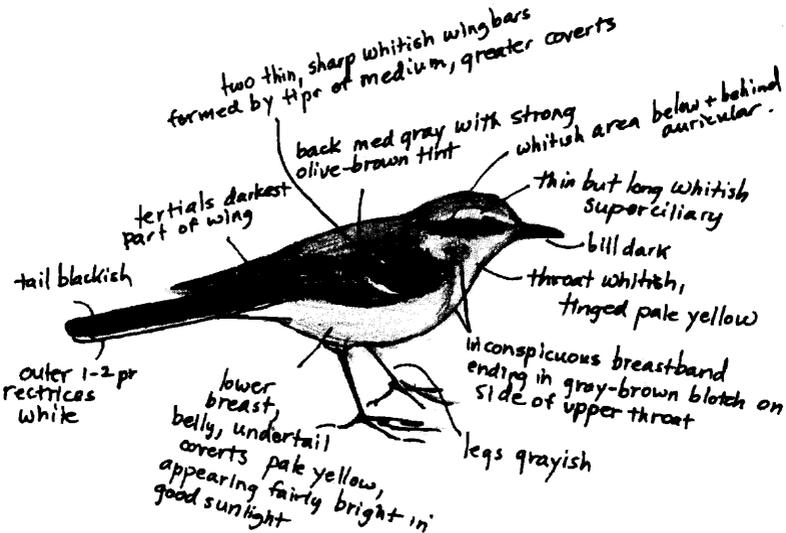


Figure 7. Yellow Wagtail (240-1987) at the Malibu Creek mouth, Los Angeles County, 6 September 1987.

Sketch by Kimball L. Garrett

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER *Calidris fuscicollis* (10). An alternate-plumaged bird was at the Santa Clara R. mouth, VEN, 11–12 Jun 1988 (JSR; NBB, CM, MAP; 149-1988). A photograph of it has been published (AB 42:1226).

CURLIEW SANDPIPER *Calidris ferruginea* (13). An adult was at the Salinas sewage ponds, MTY, 10 Jul 1987 (DEG; 222-1987). Most occurrences of this species in California have been in late summer and fall, with the earliest adult being at San Elijo Lagoon, SD, 4 Jul 1981 and the earliest juvenile being at Fort Dick, DN, 28–29 Aug 1981 (Binford 1985).

*BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER *Tryngites subruficollis* (55). Two were at Año Nuevo SR, SM, 27–31 Aug 1987 (MAS; SFB, JM; 244-1987). One was on the Spaletta plateau, Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 6–7 Sep 1987 (DAH, BDP; 241-1987). One was near Santa Maria, SBA, 6 Sep 1987 (A & JC, BP; 374-1987). One was photographed on SE Farallon I., SF, 8–14 Sep 1987 (PH, RDHT; 5-1988). One was at Abbott's Lagoon, Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 11–24 Sep 1987 (WEHT, JM; 370-1987). One was near Fort Dick, DN, 15–17 Oct 1987 (ADB; 287-1988). One was photographed on Edwards Air Force Base, KER, 5 Sep 1988 (JLD†, JWI†; 164-1988). Two were photographed at L. Talawa, DN, 7 Sep 1988 (ADB†; 63-1989). One was on San Nicolas I., VEN, 5–11 Sep 1988 (TM; 2-1989). Up to nine birds were on the Spaletta plateau, Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 9–18 Sep 1988 (DAH, MJL, JM, BDP, MAP; 165-1988). One was photographed on L. Shastina, SIS, 16–17 Sep 1988 (MFR; RE†; 61-1989). One was at Hayward Regional Shoreline Park, ALA, 18–19 Sep 1988 (PG; JM, RJR; 219-1988). One was at the Hollister sewage ponds, SBT, 30 Sep 1988 (KVV; 62-1989).



Figure 8. Gray Wagtail (180-1988) at the Salinas River mouth, Monterey County, 10 October 1988.

Photo by Stephen F. Bailey

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

All records appeared to be of juveniles, as expected in fall. Nine on Pt. Reyes on 12 Sep 1988 was the largest number ever to be found together in California and may have included two or three unsubmitted observations from elsewhere on Pt. Reyes immediately after this date (AB 43:163). The inland records from Siskiyou, San Benito, and Kern counties are notable as most previous individuals have occurred along the coast. Reports of this species (1992 and later) are no longer reviewed by the CBRC.

LITTLE GULL *Larus minutus* (36). One was on Crowley L., MNO, 6 Aug–28 Sep 1987 (JLD†; GMcC, CM; 283-1987); a photograph appears in Gaines (1988, p. 141). A first-winter bird was photographed at the Tulare Lake Drainage District's evaporation ponds near Lost Hills, KER, 27 Sep 1987 (CVP†; 49-1988). One in first-summer plumage was near Salton City, IMP, 8 May 1988 (WDS; 42-1989). An adult was at the Whitewater R. mouth, N end of the Salton Sea, RIV, 13 Sep 1988 (JLD; 242-1988). One in first-winter plumage was photographed on Monterey Bay, MTY, 16 Oct 1988 (DAS; RLB†, RER; 291-1988). An adult on the Lodi sewage ponds, SJ, 16 Nov 1988–18 Jan 1989 (DGY; 8-1989) was considered the same bird as one seen just to the W of Lodi, SJ, 12 Feb 1989 (AK; 47-1989) and present on the Stockton sewage ponds, SJ, 24 Jan–2 Apr 1989 (JM; 46-1989). This was also considered one of a maximum of five birds that have been present in Stockton each winter since March 1979 (see Langham 1991).



Figure 9. Yellow-green Vireo (181-1988) at Point Reyes National Seashore, Marin County, 30 September 1988. Note the dull plumage and bright red eye, characteristics of an adult. The large bill, relatively dull superciliary, and lack of a prominent black lateral crown stripe are features useful in distinguishing the adult Yellow-green Vireo from the Red-eyed Vireo.

Photo by Peter LaTourrette

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

When the Crowley Lake bird was found on 6 August it was clearly molting from first-summer plumage into adult basic plumage and was associating with two summering Bonaparte's Gulls (*L. philadelphia*); thus we assume it had spent the summer at this locality. The Tulare Lake bird is the first to be found in the southern San Joaquin Valley.

COMMON BLACK-HEADED GULL *Larus ridibundus* (13). An adult was at the Hayward Regional Shoreline Park, ALA, 28 Aug 1988 (RJR; 297-1988). There are two previous summer records, of one in Arcata, HUM, 16-23 Jul 1972 (Winter and McCaskie 1973) and another near Manchester, MEN, 18-20 Jun 1984 (Dunn 1988).

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL *Larus fuscus* (6). An adult was seen sporadically at the Alamo R. mouth, S end of the Salton Sea, IMP, 25 Oct 1986-1 Mar 1987 (RH; MJL, GMcC; 29-1987), and a basic-plumaged adult frequented the same place 13 Dec 1986-24 Feb 1987 (GMcC; 28-1987). These two birds had very different head markings, the latter having heavier, more extensive mottling, the former having finer, more restricted streaking. They were seen together on 24 Feb 1987. Photographs of the bird with the fine head markings have been published (AB 41:329); it was possibly the same as one present here 18 Dec 1984-5 Jan 1985 (Dunn 1988) and at the N end of the Salton Sea 14 Sep-5 Oct 1986 (Langham 1991), but the Committee felt it best treated as a separate individual.

PARAKEET AUKLET *Cyclorhynchus psittacula* (31**). Two were at 38°34'N, 125°41'W, 95 nautical miles W of Pt. Arena, MEN, 8 Dec 1988 (LBS *vide* PP; 281-1988) and another was observed on the same date at 39°15'N, 125°27'W, 78 nautical miles W of Pt. Cabrillo, MEN (PP; 282-1988). A weak-looking bird in alternate plumage was swimming along a current line at 37°01'N, 122°30'W, 11.7 nautical miles WSW of Año Nuevo SR, SM, 6 Jun 1989 (PP; 105-1989). These are the first live birds to be found in California waters since January of 1908, when Rollo H. Beck (1910) collected at least 14 individuals on Monterey Bay. It is possible, however, that this species is at least irregular in winter and early spring in offshore California waters, especially where the outer edge of the California Current mixes with the warmer central Pacific water mass, 50-200 nautical miles from shore (Pyle pers. obs.), an area that has received very little ornithological coverage.

RUDDY GROUND-DOVE *Columbina talpacoti* (9). A male was photographed at China Ranch, near Tecopa, INY, 31 Aug-29 Sep 1984 (JTat; 231-1988), and a female was photographed there 17-20 Sep 1987 (JTa; JLD†, JML, MJL, CM, MAP; 257-1987). At Furnace Creek Ranch, Death Valley NM, INY, a male was present 17 Oct 1987-4 Jan 1988 (BD; CC, JLD†, CM, GMcC, MAP; 293-1987), another male was present 21 Oct-3 Nov 1988 (GMcC, MAP, DR†; 205-1988), and up to three females were there 3 Nov 1988-2 April 1989 (Figure 4; SFB, JLD†, KLG†, GMcC, SM, MAP, ASc, FT; 249-1988, 250-1988, and 251-1988).

The male photographed at China Ranch established the first accepted record for California; one reported earlier near Fillmore, VEN, was presumed by the CBRC to have been an escapee (Binford 1985), but the record may be recirculated. Photographs of the Furnace Creek Ranch females have been published in AB (43:169) and by Dunn et al. (1990), who provide an excellent account of how to distinguish the Ruddy from the Common (*C. passerina*) Ground-Dove.

BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO *Coccyzus erythrophthalmus* (12). First-year birds were banded and measured on SE Farallon I., SF, 26 Aug 1987 (PPT; 246-1987) and at Lamphere Dunes W of Arcata, HUM, 9 Sep 1987 (CJR†; 139-1988). One was seen on Pt. Reyes NS ("New Willows"), MRN, 12-17 Sep 1987 (JM, BDP; 242-1987).

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

California Black-billed Cuckoos have occurred in fall between 26 Aug and 18 Oct, with most during September. A photograph of the Farallon I. bird, the earliest fall migrant recorded in California, has been published (AB 42:130).

GROOVE-BILLED ANI *Crotophaga sulcirostris* (4). One photographed at Galileo Hill, KER, 14–15 Oct 1988 (JWf†; GHR†, PR; 284-1988) was the northernmost of four thus far recorded in California.

*BARRED OWL *Strix varia* (6). Single birds heard calling near Willow Creek, HUM, 26 Dec 1987 (SDF; 98-1988) and at Howland Hill, near Crescent City, DN, 22 Feb 1989 (ADB; 51-1989) were considered the same birds first found at these locales in 1983 (Binford 1985, Morlan 1985, Bevier 1990, Langham 1991). Two birds, presumably a pair, were heard calling near the S end of Ruth Reservoir, TRI, on twelve nights between 25 Apr 1988 and 13 Jun 1989 (GR; 207-1989). These birds are assumed to be colonizing extreme northwestern California, where there are now several resident birds. The Committee no longer reviews records after December 1989.

CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOW *Caprimulgus carolinensis* (2). A freshly killed bird was found on a road near Loleta, HUM, 4 Jan 1989 (RAE†; 102-1989). The specimen (HSU 7749) was made into a life mount and displayed in the Wildlife Building at Humboldt State University. Full details were published by Harris and Hawkins (1990).

BROAD-BILLED HUMMINGBIRD *Cyanthus latirostris* (32). An adult male was at Turtle Rock Nature Center, Irvine, ORA, 29–30 Sep 1982 (DRW; 194-1988). First-year males were in Mission Viejo, ORA, 30 Nov–12 Dec 1987 (DRW; JLD, GMcC; 50-1988), and Ventura, VEN, 22 Nov 1987–4 Mar 1988 (VJK†; SFB, LRBe, JLD†, THK, PEL†, CM, GMcC, MAP, DR, JSR; 45-1988). A female was at the same site in Ventura, VEN, 31 Jan–4 Mar 1988 (GMcC; THK, CM, MAP; 72-1988).

XANTUS' HUMMINGBIRD *Hylocharis xantusii* (2). An adult male was at Yaqui Well, Anza-Borrego SP, SD, 27 Dec 1986 (RK; 174-1987). A female was in Ventura, VEN, 30 Jan–27 Mar 1988 (KHb, JSR; SFB, LRBe†, JLD†, KLG, VJK†, THK, PEL†, CM, GMcC, MAP, DR, ASm†; 65-1988). Full details of these records are published elsewhere in this issue.

VIOLET-CROWNED HUMMINGBIRD *Amazilia violiceps* (2). One at a feeder in Bouquet Canyon, near Saugus, LA, 25–29 May 1987 (JLD, KLG, JML, CM, GMcC, MAP, ASm†; 143-1987) was the second to have occurred in California, the first having been at a feeder in Santa Paula, VEN, between 6 July and late December 1976 (Johnson and Ziegler 1978). There was no question as to the specific identity of this bird, but one Committee member felt the nominate southern race could not be excluded and was therefore unwilling to consider the bird positively a genuine vagrant. Photographs later obtained by the Committee, however, show that the coloration on the upper side of the tail was not bronzy or copper as is typical of nominate *violiceps* (S. N. G. Howell pers. comm.). A color photograph of this bird has been published (AB 41:380).

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER *Melanerpes erythrocephalus* (3). An adult was present in Winchester Canyon, Goleta, SBA, 14 Sep 1988–23 Apr 1989 (KB; SFB, DC†, JLD†, KLG, PEL†, MJL, CM, GMcC, MAP, DR†; 168-1988); photograph published (AB 43:53). An adult near Niland, IMP, 17 Jul–22 Aug 1971 (Cardiff and Driscoll 1972) and another on Pt. St. George, DN, 9 Jun 1986 (Bevier 1990) are the only previous accepted records for the state; a report of one found dead near La Puente, LA, 20 May 1962 (Marqua 1963) is currently being reviewed.

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

GREATER PEWEE *Contopus pertinax* (21). One at the San Diego Zoo, San Diego, SD, 20 Feb–30 Mar 1988 (GMcC; 92-1988) returned to the same eucalyptus grove the following winter, 6 Dec 1988–1 Mar 1989 (GMcC, MAP; 5-1989).

YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER *Empidonax flaviventris* (4). A first-year bird was caught, banded, and carefully measured on SE Farallon I., SF, 3–5 Sep 1986 (PP†; 56-1987). One was seen and photographed in Carpinteria, SBA, 16–17 Oct 1987 (PEL; LRBa, CDB, CB, JAJ, JEL, RM, CM, JSR, LSt, ASm; 261-1987).

Both of these records were accepted by the Committee on the second round. Minor concerns about the Farallon bird during the first round included the fact that the wing formula (Phillips et. al. 1966) suggested that the bird was a male whereas the wing and bill lengths were small, suggesting a female, that the difference between the wing and tail lengths of 11 mm was 1 mm shy of a published range (12–20 mm; Pyle et. al. 1987), and that the bird may have been a Cordilleran Flycatcher (*E. occidentalis*), which at the time had not yet been split from the Pacific-slope Flycatcher (*E. difficilis*; A.O.U. 1989) and was not as well known by Committee members. During second-round comments it was pointed out that the published measurements were based on specimens and might differ slightly from those obtained on live birds, and that Pacific-slope and Cordilleran flycatchers are similar if not identical to each other in the plumage characteristics useful in separating them from the Yellow-bellied Flycatcher. Plumage features characteristic of the Western Flycatcher (*Empidonax difficilis* in the broad sense) include olive or brownish tones to the upperparts, a prominently almond-shaped eye ring that is weak or broken above the eye, mustard-colored underwing linings, duller yellow underparts without the appearance of an olive breast band, and, especially in the immature, brownish wings with buffy feather edges and wing bars. The Farallon and Carpinteria birds, like fall Yellow-bellied Flycatchers, had greener upperparts, rounder eye rings that were full above the eye, lemon-yellow underwing linings, generally brighter yellow underparts with diffuse olive breast bands, and black wings contrasting markedly with bright lemon feather edges and wing bars.

On the basis of these characteristics, Committee members were satisfied that the Carpinteria bird was not a Western Flycatcher, but the question arose whether or not a fall first-year Acadian Flycatcher (*E. virescens*) had been adequately eliminated. Outside reviewer Steven W. Cardiff provided a lengthy analysis based on examination of the specimen collection at LSU, cautioning the Committee that none of the noted characteristics on its own eliminated the Acadian Flycatcher. Most Committee members agreed with this analysis but felt that the combination of all characters ruled out Acadian to their satisfaction, as did outside reviewers Kenn Kaufman, Greg W. Lasley, Bret Whitney, and Alan Wormington. With such difficult identifications it is always best to synthesize all criteria simultaneously. The Committee especially thanks the outside reviewers for their input on this record.

The Farallon bird was the third and earliest for the island and for California (see DeSante et al. 1985 for details on the previous two); the Carpinteria bird was the first for mainland and southern California.

DUSKY-CAPPED FLYCATCHER *Myiarchus tuberculifer* (15). One wintered in Mission Viejo, ORA, 21 Nov 1987–3 April 1988 (JLD, CM, GMcC, MAP, DRW†; 375-1987). One along the Alamo R. near the S end of the Salton Sea, IMP, 22–30 Dec 1987 (JLD, CM, GMcC, MAP; 44-1988) was the first record for Imperial County. One was near Aptos, SCZ, 21 Jan–10 Mar 1988 (DLS; MJL, DR; 61-1988). One was in Balboa Park, San Diego, SD, 16 Feb–7 Apr 1988 (GMcC; 91-1988).

These four records continue to support the winter pattern of occurrence of this species in California. All 15 accepted individuals have been found between November and March.

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER *Myiarchus crinitus* (24). Individuals were observed on SE Farallon I., SF, 13 Oct 1970 (DDeS; 17-1989), 18 Sep 1971 (DDeS; 18-1989), and 27 Sep 1974 (DDeS; 19-1989). One was in Arcata, HUM, 13 Oct 1978 (SWH; 214-1987). One was on Pt. Loma, SD, 25 Sep 1987 (GMcC; 288-1987). One was at Pismo SB, SLO, 6-7 Oct 1987 (JLD, PEL, CM, DR, KJZ†; 253-1987). One was at the Carmel R. mouth, MTY, 9 Oct 1988 (MCM; 218-1988).

The bird at Pismo SB, a photograph of which appeared in AB (42:137), was only the 5th of 24 accepted individuals in California to have been observed at the same locale for more than one day.

THICK-BILLED KINGBIRD *Tyrannus crassirostris* (7). The bird at Peters Canyon, near Lemon Heights, ORA, returned for its fifth and sixth winters, 4 Nov 1987-5 Mar 1988 (MAP; 89-1988) and 29 Nov 1988-5 Mar 1989 (GMcC; 74-1989). It has previously been accepted by the Committee as having occurred each winter since 1982-1983 (Morlan 1985, Bevier 1990).

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER *Tyrannus forficatus* (49). A molting adult was at Ramer L., Imperial Valley, IMP, 29 Aug 1987 (GMcC; 280-1987). Adult males were at Furnace Creek Ranch, Death Valley NM, INY, 24 Oct 1987 (PEL; JLD, CM, GMcC; 295-1987), at Moss Landing Wildlife Area, MTY, 21-22 Jul 1988 (BN; CS†; 157-1988), and near Arroyo Grande, SLO, 17-26 Aug 1988 (VH; JLD†, MAP; 158-1988).

It is interesting that all four of these individuals were adults, the July and August birds being worn and the October bird being fresh. This species typically molts on its winter grounds, suggesting that the worn birds were southbound migrants whereas the October bird may have molted locally or was an early winter wanderer.

DUSKY WARBLER *Phylloscopus fuscatus* (3). A first-year individual was captured, banded, and carefully measured on SE Farallon I., SF, 14 Oct 1987 (Figure 5; DBe, PH†; 6-1988). Remarkably, this is the third record of this Siberian vagrant in the state and second for SE Farallon I. See Madge (1987) and Round (1988) for recent information on the identification of this species.

NORTHERN WHEATEAR *Oenanthe oenanthe* (4). One was well seen and photographed between Orland and Kirkwood, TEH, 13-15 Oct 1988 (SFB, JLD†, EH, CM, GMcC, JM, BDP, MAP, DR†; 197-1988). Another was photographed on SE Farallon I., SF, 6-10 Nov 1988 (Figure 6; SA†, PH; 64-1989).

These are the first records for California since 1977 and the second and third fall records; a photograph of the Tehama County bird appears in AB (43:164). It was not possible to determine the age or sex of either bird, except that relatively pale plumage indicated that they were not adult males (Svensson 1984). The Committee also felt it best not to speculate on the race of either bird. The nominate race breeding across Eurasia and in Alaska would be expected, but the only infallible way to distinguish immatures and females in basic plumage from those of the Greenland race (*O. o. leucorhoa*) is by measurements (Cramp and Simmons 1988). A reassessment of the 11 June 1971 specimen from SE Farallon I. (Manuwal and Lewis 1972) based on measurements published by Cramp and Simmons (1988) indicates that this bird was of the nominate race (J. Morlan in litt.).

VEERY *Catharus fuscescens* (7). One was observed at the lighthouse on Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 15 Oct 1988 (DDeS; 292-1988).

GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH *Catharus minimus* (7). A first-year individual of the nominate race was banded and measured on SE Farallon I., SF, 17-18 Oct 1987 (JC; PH†; 7-1988).

GRAY CATBIRD *Dumetella carolinensis* (41). One was at Snow Creek Village, near Cabazon, RIV, 23 Sep 1987 (TJG; 51-1988). One was at Scottys Castle, Death

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

Valley NM, INY, 16 Oct 1987 (JLD; GMcC; 292-1987). One was at Rancho Palos Verdes, LA, 16-18 Oct 1987 (JKA; 363-1987). One was at Furnace Creek Ranch, Death Valley NM, INY, 7-8 Nov 1987 (MTaf; JLD, KLG, GMcC; 376-1987). One was seen at Los Osos, SLO, 14 Feb 1988 (MCo; 142-1988). Individuals were found at Cabrillo NM, Pt. Loma, SD, 11-17 Jul 1988 (GMcC, MAP; 136-1988) and 3-26 Oct 1988 (EEP; GMcC, MAP; 192-1988 and 222-1988). One was at Furnace Creek Ranch, Death Valley NM, INY, 21-22 Oct 1988 (GMcC, MAP, DR; 206-1988). One was at Paso Picacho Campground in the Cuyamaca Mts., SD, 29 Oct 1988 (DA; 71-1989).

The July bird at Cabrillo NM was molting and may have summered locally. The second bird at this heavily birded locality was seen very intermittently, prompting speculation that there was more than one individual. Because the species is secretive and the bird was always observed in the same area, the Committee decided by an 8-2 vote that observations on 3 and 9 October 1988 (192-1988) and 21-26 October 1988 (222-1988) were most likely of the same bird. That all nine of these records are for southern California is not surprising; only nine of the 41 accepted Gray Catbirds have been in northern California.

YELLOW WAGTAIL *Motacilla flava* (7). One was at the Malibu Creek mouth, LA, 6 Sep 1987 (Figure 7; WC; JKA†, NBB, KLG†, RCR; 240-1987). Unlike previous Yellow Wagtails in California, this bird had bright yellow underparts and lacked extensive streaking on the upper breast, suggesting that it may have been an adult male in basic plumage (see Svensson 1984, Cramp and Simmons 1988; pertaining to the European races). Because the plumage of each age/sex class varies with race, and the race of this bird could not be determined, the Committee felt it best not to specify this bird's age or sex until more is known about variation in the eastern Palearctic subspecies of the Yellow Wagtail.

GRAY WAGTAIL *Motacilla cinerea* (1). California's first was observed and photographed at the Salinas R. mouth, MTY, 9-10 Oct 1988 (Figure 8; DAS; SFB†, JLD, SEF†, MJL, GMcC, JM, MAP, DR†, RS†; 180-1988). This represents the first North American record of this species S of the outer Aleutian and St. Lawrence islands, Alaska; there is a sight report from the Northwest Territories (AOU 1983). The Gray Wagtail's occurrence in California was not entirely unexpected given the tendency of other Siberian wagtails to occur along the Pacific coast. The Committee could not ascertain this individual's race, age, or sex, although the brightness of the plumage suggested either a first-year male or an adult female, and the short tail (relative to the European race) suggested the expected Siberian form, *M. c. robusta*.

WHITE WAGTAIL *Motacilla alba* (2). An adult, probably a male, wintered at Oxnard, VEN, 22 Nov 1987-6 Mar 1988 (JSR; JKA, LRBa, NBB, JLD†, CM, GMcC, MAP, DR; 362-1987) and returned to the same locality 16 Oct 1988-4 Mar 1989 (JLD, GMcC; 248-1988). A photograph was published in AB (42:322). The prominent black eyeline and grayish back indicate the expected race *M. a. ocularis* of the eastern Palearctic and Alaska (Morlan 1981, in litt.).

BLACK-BACKED WAGTAIL *Motacilla lugens* (4). An adult was well studied at Port Hueneme, VEN, 2 Aug-7 Sep 1987 (JKA†, JLD, KLG, MJL, CM, GMcC, MAP; 230-1987).

***RED-THROATED PIPIT** *Anthus cervinus* (59). One was at Furnace Creek Ranch, Death Valley NM, INY, 19-20 Sep 1987 (JLD; MJL, CM, MAP; 258-1987). Separate individuals were found at Goleta, SBA, 6 Oct 1987 (JLD; 378-1987), 15 Oct 1987 (HPR; 379-1987), 2-3 Oct 1988 (SEF; PEL; 210-1988), 8 Oct 1988 (HPR; 273-1988), 9 Oct 1988 (PEL, GMcC; 199-1988), and 17-27 Oct 1988 (JLD; 244-1988). One to two birds were in the Tijuana R. valley, SD, 7-10 Oct 1987 (GMcC; 289-1987). One was near Morro Bay, SLO, 9-17 Oct 1987 (CM;

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

JLD, PEL, KJZ; 377-1987). One was at Virgin Creek SB, MEN, 10-13 Oct 1987 (KFC; BK†; 173-1988). One at the Carmel R. mouth, MTY, 11 Oct 1987 (JML; 394-1987) is previously unpublished. One was at the Salinas R. mouth, MTY, 3 Oct 1988 (GHR; 184-1988). Individuals visited SE Farallon I., SF, 6-7 Oct 1988 (PP†; 212-1988) and 27 Oct 1988 (PP†; 286-1988). One was near Oxnard, VEN, 11-15 Oct 1988 (JSR; 85-1989). A bird at the Santa Maria R. mouth, SBA, 16 Oct 1988 (PEL; 274-1988) was flushed into San Luis Obispo County, and another was found 2 miles up the Santa Maria R., SBA, 45 minutes later (PEL; 275-1988). One was observed from a research vessel 69 nautical miles SW of San Miguel I., SBA, 21 Oct 1988 (RRV; 84-1989). Two were found in the Tijuana R. valley, SD, 23 Oct 1988 (GMcC; 223-1988).

The bird at Furnace Creek Ranch was only the second to be recorded away from the coast in California; the first, at the same locale on 5 Oct 1985, was recently accepted. Unprecedented numbers were detected along the coast during the falls of 1987 and 1988, in part reflecting the increased ability of birders to discover this species by its distinctive call note. Several of the records above were based entirely or almost entirely upon this vocalization, as described by observers familiar with the call and those of similar-sounding species. All 59 accepted records fall between 9 September and 17 November. The CBRC has discontinued reviewing records of this species after 1991.

SPRAGUE'S PIPIT *Anthus spragueii* (20). One was at Goleta, SBA, 5 Oct 1987 (CDB; JLD; 380-1987). One on SE Farallon I., SF, 16 Oct 1987 (JC; PH; 8-1988) was only the third for northern California, all at this locale.

WHITE-EYED VIREO *Vireo griseus* (15). One was at Carpinteria, SBA, 21-30 Oct 1987 (RPH; JLD†, PEL†, CM, GMcC, MAP; 296-1987). One at Glass Creek near Mammoth Lakes, MNO, 2 Sep 1988 (WDS; 43-1989) is previously unpublished. One was on Pt. Loma, SD, 16-25 Oct 1988 (GMcC, MAP, EEP; 200-1988).

These are the first accepted fall records for the state. By eye color the Glass Creek bird was an adult, the other two were first-year birds. The early date for the Glass Creek bird along with its age suggests that it may have summered locally, as did one seen at Goleta, SBA, 18 May-14 Sep 1982 (Morlan 1985).

YELLOW-THROATED VIREO *Vireo flavifrons* (30). A singing male found at Nicasio, MRN, 31 May 1987 (JE; 121-1988) is previously unpublished. One was by Mono L., MNO, 26 Aug 1987 (ES; 277-1987). One was at Goleta, SBA, 18-19 Nov 1987 (CDB, JLD, PEL†, CM; 381-1987). One was at Scotty's Castle, Death Valley NM, INY, 19 May 1988 (BD; 145-1988). One was near Oxnard, VEN, 24 Sep 1988 (JSR; 86-1989).

PHILADELPHIA VIREO *Vireo philadelphicus* (64). One was on SE Farallon I., SF, 14 Sep 1977 (RLeV; 6-1989). One was at the lighthouse on Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 26 Sep 1980 (DDeS; 12-1989). One was in the Tijuana R. valley, SD, 23-29 Oct 1987 (GMcC; 297-1987). One was at Pismo SB, Oceano, SLO, 1 Nov 1987 (TME; CM; 2-1988). One was observed and tape-recorded singing in Golden Gate Park, SF, 15-17 June 1988 (SFB, JM, SWM, RR; CAS recording CBRC-5; 130-1988). One was near the lighthouse on Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 22 Sep 1988 (SPC; 216-1988). One was at Carmel, MTY, 3 Oct 1988 (DAS; JLD; 243-1988). One was at Huntington Beach, ORA, 5-6 Oct 1988 (MAP, DRW; 254-1988).

YELLOW-GREEN VIREO *Vireo flavoviridis* (24). One was in Big Sycamore Canyon, VEN, 21 Sep-5 Oct 1987 (NM; JLD†, KLG†, PEL, CM, GMcC, BP, MAP, JSR; 287-1987). One was at Goleta, SBA, 24 Sep 1988 (HPR; 276-1988). One was in the Tijuana R. valley, SD, 25-26 Sep 1988 (GMcC; 189-1988). An adult was at the Nunes ranch, Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 30 Sep 1988 (Figure 9; PLAT†; 181-1988). One was at Irvine, ORA, 1 Oct 1988 (GMcC, MAP; 188-1988). One was at

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

Pacific Grove, MTY, 9–12 Oct 1988 (SEF†; DR, RFT†; 183-1988). One was at La Jolla, SD, 21–23 Oct 1988 (GMcC; 221-1988). One was on SE Farallon I., SF, 25 Oct 1988 (PP†; 285-1988).

The seven during fall 1988 represent the highest annual total so far recorded in California; the next highest was four in 1982. The bird on Point Reyes was the first adult reported from California.

BLUE-WINGED WARBLER *Vermivora pinus* (9). One was near Finney L., IMP, 13 Sep 1988 (JLD; 241-1988). One was at Long Beach, LA, 17–18 Sep 1988 (JKA, SHD, KLG, KJ; 176-1988).

Both birds were reported as males (AB 43:170) because of their bold black eye lines and extensive yellow crowns with the green of the upperparts extending only to the extreme hind nape. The age/sex classes of this species are not distinct; rather, as in many passerines, the plumage of each class overlaps with another's so that there is continuous variation from the dullest first-year females to the brightest adult males. Both descriptions indicate bright birds that were probably males but possibly adult females.

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER *Vermivora chrysoptera* (32). A male was found along DeChambeau Creek, near Mono L., MNO, 16 Aug 1987 (JHH; 278-1987). A female was at Mojave, KER, 21–22 May 1988 (JLD, MF, CM; 140-1988). Males were at Newport Beach, ORA, 30 Sep–1 Oct 1988 (GMcC, MAP, DRW; 187-1988) and Irvine, ORA, 26–30 Oct 1988 (DRW; JLD; 245-1988).

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER *Dendroica dominica* (55). One was on SE Farallon I., SF, 16–19 Sep 1974 (DDeS; 13-1989). One was near Murrieta, RIV, 8 Sep 1987 (JH; IPL; 285-1987). One was at Stinson Beach, MRN, 29 Nov 1987 (KHa; RS; 59-1988). Singing males were at California City, KER, 28 May 1988 (WC, GT; 120-1988) and near Trinidad, HUM, 14 Jun 1989 (KI; GSL; 95-1989).

The Stinson Beach bird had a large bill and extensive yellow in the supraloral zone and thus was of either the nominate race or the poorly defined and local race *D. d. stoddardi*. This is only the third confirmed record of a "yellow-lored" bird in the state, the previous two also being for late fall or winter (Craig 1972, Dunn 1988). One of these was of a bird that wintered in 1984–1985 at Olema, just 13 miles N of Stinson Beach (Dunn 1988). The Farallon and Murrieta birds were seen to have white above the lores, indicating the subspecies *D. d. albilora*. The other two individuals were likely *albilora*, as suggested by the descriptions and the fact that all previous spring Yellow-throated Warblers in California have been of this race. Although *albilora* can have small amounts of yellow above the lores, this area is mostly white, as opposed to mostly yellow in the nominate race. As with the Blue-winged Warbler, the Yellow-throated Warbler's plumage varies continuously with age and sex.

GRACE'S WARBLER *Dendroica graciae* (20). Individuals returned to winter at Montecito, SBA, 4 Oct–10 Dec 1987 (JLD, PEL, BDP; 273-1987) and at Ventura, VEN, 25 Oct 1987–25 Mar 1988 (LRBa, MAP; 87-1988). One was found at La Jolla, SD, 13 Feb–4 Apr 1988 (PEL, CM, GMcC; 82-1988). A singing male was found on Santa Cruz I., SBA, 22 Mar 1988 (HPR, MAH; 116-1988).

This was the ninth and last winter for the Montecito bird (accepted all eight previous winters: Binford 1985, Roberson 1986, Dunn 1988, Bevier 1990, Langham 1991) and the fourth winter for the Ventura bird (accepted previously: Dunn 1988, Bevier 1990, Langham 1991). The Santa Cruz I. bird was supposed by some members to have wintered on the island because 22 March is too early for a migrant, but in most years the Montecito and Ventura birds were last reported from late February through March, so the date itself is not conclusive.

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

PINE WARBLER *Dendroica pinus* (34). First-year females were near Briceland, HUM, 25 Sep 1985 (RWS; 218-1987), at the Mendoza ranch, Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 15–17 Oct 1987 (RS; AG†, JML, JM; 268-1987), in the Tijuana R. valley, SD, 1 Nov 1987 (GMcC; 299-1987) and 22–23 Oct 1988 (GMcC, MAP; 224-1988), at Gaviota SB, SBA, 5 Nov 1987 (PEL; 382-1987), and at Ackerson Meadow, TUO, 22 Nov 1987 (JWn; 391-1987). First-year males or adult females were at Riverside, RIV, 1 Oct 1987 (DGo; GA; 52-1988) and on SE Farallon I., SF, 18–19 Nov 1987 (PH†; 9-1988). A first-year male at Morro Bay SP, SLO, 19 Dec 1987–29 Mar 1988 (JSR; CM†, MAP; 4-1988), was frequently heard singing before its departure. First-year males or adult females were on Pt. Loma, SD, 24–25 Oct 1988 (GMcC; 225-1988) and in Presidio Park, San Diego, SD, 6–7 Nov 1988 (GMcC; 228-1988). A female, probably first-year, was at Hope Ranch, Santa Barbara, SBA, 31 Dec 1988–28 Feb 1989 (JLD, KLG, PEL, CM, GMcC, MAP, DR; 4-1989).

The Briceland bird was previously unpublished. Although there is overlap in the plumage of this species' age/sex classes, most individuals can be recognized in the field as either first-year females, first-year males/adult females, or adult males by the brightness and amount of green and yellow in their plumage and the distinctness of the streaking on their underparts.

CERULEAN WARBLER *Dendroica cerulea* (10). A first-year male was on the campus of the University of California, Irvine, ORA, 1–3 Oct 1988 (PEL, GMcC, MAP; 186-1988).

***PROTHONOTARY WARBLER** *Protonotaria citrea* (73). One was along the coast at San Francisco, SF, 30 Aug 1969 (RWS; VGD; 232-1987). One was at the Whitewater R. mouth, N end of the Salton Sea, RIV, 3 Sep 1987 (DLD; 281-1987). One was at the New R. mouth, S end of the Salton Sea, IMP, 5 Sep 1987 (MCM; 53-1988). One was at Furnace Creek Ranch, Death Valley NM, INY, 5–11 Sep 1987 (JLD†, GMcC, GHRT; 284-1987). A singing male was found at Oasis, MNO, 22 May 1988 (NBB, MAP; 146-1988). One was at Morro Bay, SLO, 4 Sep 1988 (GPS; 236-1988). One was at the lighthouse on Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 29 Sep 1988 (SPC; 217-1988). One was at Pismo SB, Oceano, SLO, 12 Nov 1988 (MTH; 72-1989).

The Prothonotary Warbler resembles the Blue-winged Warbler in that the age/sex classes overlap in the amount of green wash on the nape and crown. Unlike Blue-winged Warblers, however, Prothonotary Warblers can be reliably sexed by the amount of white in the tail. Males typically have five rectrices on each side of the tail with white patches, whereas females have two or three such rectrices on each side, and the white patches on the rectrices are larger in males than in females (see Pyle et al. 1987). Once a Prothonotary is sexed in the field by the white in the tail, its age might be inferred by the amount of green on the nape and crown. Records of this species (1990 and later) are no longer reviewed by the CBRC.

WORM-EATING WARBLER *Helmitheros vermivorus* (49). Individuals were banded and measured at Lamphere Dunes, W of Arcata, HUM, 3–7 Dec 1982 (CJR†; 138-1988), and on SE Farallon I., SF, 16 Oct 1987 (PH†; 10-1988). Wintering individuals were found on Pt Loma, SD, 17 Oct 1987–27 Feb 1988 (CM, GMcC; 298-1987) and at Huntington Beach, ORA, 21 Oct 1987–3 Feb 1988 (JLD, CM, GMcC, MAP; 294-1987). One was at the Carmel R. mouth, MTY, 25 Oct–3 Nov 1987 (DR, BJW; 264-1987). One was near Morro Bay, SLO, 19 Dec 1987–31 Jan 1988 (MTH; SFB, JLD, CM, MAP, DR; 64-1988). One was found at Malibu, LA, 20 Dec 1987 (HB; 107-1988). One was at Pacific Grove, MTY, 21 Mar–15 Apr 1988 (KSt; 109-1988). One was at Irvine, ORA, 11 May 1988 (DRW; 148-1988). One was at Pt. Reyes NS ("Road Forks Pool"), MRN, 9 Sep 1988 (PP, RSt; 167-1988). One was at Oasis, MNO, 2–12 Nov 1988 (SFB, JLD, KLG†; 238-1988). One was at Half Moon Bay, SM, 3 Dec 1988 (DJK; 262-1988).

A photograph of the Huntington Beach bird appears in AB (42:138).

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

KENTUCKY WARBLER *Oporornis formosus* (44). Males were captured by cats and eventually died at Claremont, LA, 9 May 1985 (KLG, DGuf; LACM 104915; 133-1988) and, previously unpublished, at Mammoth Lakes, MNO, 15 June 1985 (DAG; CAS 84059; 256-1988). A second-year male was banded and measured on SE Farallon I., SF, 14-17 July 1987 (PP†; 247-1987). A male was near Mono L., MNO, 13 Aug 1987 (DAG; 279-1987). An adult female was banded and measured near Alviso, SCL, 18-27 Sep 1987 (LRM†; 272-1987). On SE Farallon I., SF, a female was present 17 Jun 1988 (PP†; 154-1988) and a first-year male was banded and measured 9-10 Sep 1988 (SFB†; 300-1988). An immature female was at the Pt. Loma lighthouse, SD, 12 Oct 1988 (JNW; REW; 50-1990). A male was at Butterbredt Springs, KER, 19-21 May 1989 (GMcC, MAP; 91-1989).

The July bird on SE Farallon I., although originally thought by the observer to be a female (AB 41:1485), was later judged a worn 2nd-year male after a reevaluation of the photograph. Sexing this species in the field can be difficult as the plumage of first-year males approaches that of adult females, although there is little if any overlap between these two age/sex classes. The Mono Lake record was the last description received from the late David Gaines; the Committee wishes to acknowledge the many contributions of this excellent field observer to the CBRC and to California ornithology.

CONNECTICUT WARBLER *Oporornis agilis* (37). A first-year female was banded and measured near Alviso, SCL, 2 Sep 1987 (LRM†; 271-1987). Birds banded and measured on SE Farallon I., SF, were an adult female 21-24 Sep 1987 (RAE, PH†; 11-1988) and a first-year female 12 Oct 1987 (PH†; 12-1988). One was at Big Sycamore Canyon, VEN, 27 Sep 1987 (PEL; LSt; 383-1987). One was at the lighthouse on Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 9 Oct 1987 (RS; 58-1988). One was at Montaña de Oro SP, SLO, 23-25 Sep 1988 (GPS; JLD, PEL, MJL, GMcC, MAP; 178-1988).

Photographs of the two Farallon birds appear in Pyle and Henderson (1990). Ageing and sexing fall females and immatures of this species in the field, by plumage alone, is not feasible (Pyle and Henderson 1990).

MOURNING WARBLER *Oporornis philadelphia* (49). Individuals were banded and measured on SE Farallon I., SF, 27-28 Aug 1987 (PP†; 248-1987, probably a male), 13 Sep 1987 (two birds, both PH†; 13-1988, probably a female, and 14-1988, a male), 13 Oct 1987 (PH†; 15-1988, probably a male); 14-15 June 1988 (PP†; 153-1988, a male), 30 Aug 1988 (PP†; 166-1988, a female), and 8-11 Sep 1988 (SFB†; 299-1988, a male). Others were found at Goleta, SBA, 15-16 Sep 1988 (PEL; LRBa; 277-1988) and at the Carmel R. mouth, MTY, 8 Oct 1988 (DR; GMcC; 182-1988). All were first-year birds except the female on 30 Aug 1988.

Some first-year birds in fall, such as 14-1988, may be reliably sexed as males by the presence of black feathers on the upper breast, however, those without black feathers are not necessarily females. On such birds, males tend to have brighter underparts and a darker and more extensive gray wash to the nape and head, but sexing in the field of first-year birds without black in the breast is not advisable (Pyle and Henderson 1990). The adult female on 30 August 1988, the first of this age/sex class documented in California in the fall, was interesting in that it had a white throat, a field mark of fall immature MacGillivray's Warblers (*O. tolmei*). Photographs of this bird and the first-year male of 8-11 September 1988 were published by Pyle and Henderson (1990).

SCARLET TANAGER *Piranga olivacea* (58). A female was banded and measured on SE Farallon I., SF, 22 Oct 1976 (RLeV; 7-1989). Adult males were in the Hollywood Hills, LA, 15-17 July 1982 (CF; 58-1989) and at the Carmel R. mouth, MTY, 11-17 Oct 1987 (PEL; DR†; 259-1987). First-year males were on Pt. Loma, SD, 14-18 Oct 1987 (CM, GMcC; 291-1987) and 23-30 Oct 1988 (DBa; JLD, GMcC, MAP; 226-1988). A female was at Huntington Beach, ORA, 7-15 Nov

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

1987 (LRH; JLD†, CM; 385-1987). At Goleta, SBA, a first-year male was seen 10–12 Nov 1987 (CDB; JLD†, PEL; 384-1987) and a first-year female hit a window and perished, 12 Nov 1987 (UCSB 20302; 386-1987). Females were at Ventura, VEN, 15 Nov 1987 (JSR; 47-1988) and on SE Farallon I., SF, 26 Nov 1987 (PH; 16-1988).

PAINTED BUNTING *Passerina ciris* (20). Dull first-year birds were near Santa Maria SBA, 8 Sep 1987 (GHR; JLD; 389-1987) and on Pt. Loma, SD, 4 Oct 1987 (PEL; CM; 387-1987). A first-year male was at Goleta, SBA, 21 Nov 1987 (JLD, PEL†; 388-1987), and a probable first-year female was there 4–5 Nov 1988 (PEL; JLD, MAP; 247-1988).

Immatures of this species molt their body feathers twice in the fall, once between June and August when they shed the juvenal plumage, and again between September and November when they acquire first basic plumage (Thompson 1991). This second or "supplemental" molt includes 3–6 outer primaries on each wing. The sexes are very similar before the supplemental molt, so dull birds seen from August through early October are not necessarily females. After the supplemental molt, first-year males can be distinguished from females by their brighter lime-green plumage and blue edges on the newly replaced outer primaries.

CASSIN'S SPARROW *Aimophila cassinii* (31). One was on SE Farallon I., SF, 13 Sep 1988 (DDK; 211-1988).

LE CONTE'S SPARROW *Ammodramus leconteii* (14). Individuals in juvenal plumage were on SE Farallon I., SF, 18–19 Sep 1987 (PH†; RAE; 17-1988) and 20–24 Sep 1987 (RAE, PH†; 18-1988). One was at China L., KER, 27 Nov 1988–2 Jan 1989 (DVB†, JLD, MJL, GMcC, MAP; 258-1988). One was at Fort Dick, DN, 5 Jan–11 Feb 1989 (ADB, RE, RAE, GSL, LPL; 48-1989).

Photographs of the China Lake and Fort Dick birds appear in AB (43:171 and 43:232, respectively), and a photograph of the second Farallon bird (along with a discussion of juvenal-plumaged Le Conte's Sparrows on migration) appears in Pyle and Sibley (1992).

RUSTIC BUNTING *Emberiza rustica* (2). One near Half Moon Bay, SM, 25–27 Nov 1988 (DJK, RST; JM, MAP, DR; 237-1988) makes the second record of this species for the state; the first was at Stone Lagoon, HUM, 7–8 Jan 1984 (Morlan 1986).

SNOW BUNTING *Plectrophenax nivalis* (26). A male was near Del Rio, HUM, 29 Nov 1987–5 Jan 1988 (FJB; AD, SDF, GSL, LPL; 402-1987). An adult male, the first of this age/sex class reported in California, was on SE Farallon I., SF, 27 Oct 1988 (PP; 213-1988).

COMMON GRACKLE *Quiscalus quiscula* (19). One was at Baker, SBE, 14 Nov 1987 (MAP; 56-1988). A male was at Santa Barbara, SBA, 29 Dec 1987–2 Mar 1988 (SFB, LRBa, JLD†, PEL†, CM, GMcC, MAP, DR†; 46-1988). A female was at the Mendoza ranch, Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 21–22 May 1988 (RS†; JM; 124-1988). A female was at Furnace Creek Ranch, Death Valley NM, INY, 22–23 May 1988 (MAP; 147-1988). A male was at Crescent City, DN, 10–12 Nov 1988 (RAE, LPL; 268-1988).

This species has a nearly complete first prebasic molt, retaining only a few underwing coverts, so fall birds can not be aged in the field. The Pt. Reyes bird was singing and displaying, suggesting to some observers that it was a male. As females are known to display on occasion (Ficken 1963), and the bird had a brownish belly and flight feathers, we believe it to have been a female. All individuals noted above showed characters of the expected race, the Bronzed Grackle, *Q. q. versicolor*.

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED, IDENTIFICATION QUESTIONABLE

YELLOW-BILLED LOON *Gavia adamsii*. One reported at the Waddell Creek mouth, near Santa Cruz, SCZ, 7 May 1986 (271-1986) would represent one of the latest spring records in California; many Committee members felt that this basic-plumaged bird may have been an odd Common Loon (*G. immer*).

WEDGE-TAILED SHEARWATER *Puffinus pacificus*. One was reported on Monterey Bay, MTY, 11 Sep 1988 (298-1988). Most Committee members felt the observation was too brief to suffice for such a rarity. Sight reports should include extensive description ruling out the Pink-footed Shearwater (*P. creatopus*) and Flesh-footed (*P. carneipes*) shearwaters for light- and dark-morph birds, respectively; see Stallcup et al. (1988) and McCaskie and Webster (1990).

WEDGE-RUMPED STORM-PETREL *Oceanodroma tethys*. Details of three reported from the general area of 32°45'N 122°15'W, about 120 nautical miles SSW of Pt. Conception, SBA, 9 May 1987; one at 33°40'N 121°50'W, about 80 nautical miles SW of Pt. Conception, SBA, 11 May 1987, and three more at 33°30'N 122°10'W, about 100 nautical miles SW of Pt. Conception, SBA, 11 May 1987 (all 190-1987) were felt inadequate, especially for a species with only four accepted records in California. Some members felt that the manner of flight and frequent pattering reported for these birds better fit the Wilson's than the Wedge-rumped Storm-petrel.

BROWN BOOBY *Sula leucogaster*. One reported about 10 miles W of Moss Landing, MTY, 22 Jun 1987 (221-1987) was felt to be a booby by virtually all committee members; however, the details of plumage coloration and pattern, along with the colors of the soft parts, did not eliminate the immature Masked (*S. dactylatra*) or Red-footed Booby. One reported from the S end of the Salton Sea, IMP, 27 Apr 1989 (66-1989) was seen only briefly at some distance, and lacked substantiating details.

TRUMPETER SWAN *Cygnus buccinator*. An immature swan photographed in Modesto, STA, 20 Jan 1988 (208-1988) was initially reported as this species. Information on the identification of immature swans presented by Tobish (1991) and Bailey (1991), however, led the committee to consider it more likely an immature Tundra Swan, an identification with which the observer later agreed.

GARGANEY *Anas querquedula*. A female-plumaged teal with a strongly patterned face was in Arcata, HUM, 30 Jan-10 Feb 1987 (73-1987). The description suggested a Garganey but could have pertained to Green-winged Teal (*A. crecca*), especially the nominate (Eurasian) race, which, like the Garganey, has two pale borders to the speculum. Viewing conditions during the period were poor (persistent rain accompanied by miserable light conditions), and some observers looking for the bird are known to have misidentified a female Green-winged Teal as the reported Garganey. The Committee felt that there were too many discrepancies among the descriptions, that the upperwing pattern was not well described, and that the species is otherwise too similar in appearance to many Blue-winged (*A. discors*) and Green-winged teals to confirm this significant record.

TUFTED DUCK *Aythya fuligula*. Individuals reported from Salinas, MTY, 15 Nov 1986 (47-1987) and Larkspur, MRN, 16 Feb 1987 (196-1988) may well have been Tufted Ducks, but the documentation was inconclusive.

MISSISSIPPI KITE *Ictinia mississippiensis*. An immature reported in flight at Moss Landing, MTY, 17 Sep 1988 (169-1988) was seen too briefly to warrant acceptance by most Committee members. The species is much rarer in California

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED, identification questionable, Cont.

during fall than spring, so especially extensive documentation is required for fall records.

YELLOW RAIL *Coturnicops noveboracensis*. One was reported from Upper Newport Bay, ORA, 12 Apr 1989 (60-1989). Most Committee members felt the observation was too brief to support such a significant record.

COMMON RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius hiaticula*. An odd plover near Lakeview, RIV, 7-14 May 1988 (143-1988) was felt by most Committee members to be a Semipalmated Plover (*C. semipalmatus*) with a wider than average breast band. Reports of Common Ringed Plover ideally should be accompanied by detailed descriptions of at least the breast band, the facial pattern, the extent of webbing between the toes and, if at all possible, a comparison of the bird's call with that of Semipalmated Plover.

UPLAND SANDPIPER *Bartramia longicauda*. One was reported from the beach at San Elijo Lagoon, SD, 14 Nov 1987 (302-1987). The mid-November date and the habitat both weighed against its being accepted as an Upland Sandpiper.

RUFIOUS-NECKED STINT *Calidris ruficollis*. A juvenile sandpiper in Eureka, HUM, 20 Aug 1987 (86-1988) was submitted as possibly this species. The record, including photographs, was reviewed by Lars Jonsson and Richard R. Veit, both of whom concluded that the bird was a Semipalmated Sandpiper (*C. pusilla*); the Committee unanimously agreed.

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER *Calidris fuscicollis*. Individuals were reported from the Cache Creek settling basin, near Woodland, YOL, 15 Aug 1987 (371-1987) and at the S end of the Salton Sea, IMP, 13 Aug 1988 (67-1989). The Cache Creek bird was not observed in flight, hence the rump was never clearly seen. Half of the Committee members felt the bird was more likely an adult Western Sandpiper (*C. mauri*) or a Wilson's Phalarope (*Phalaropus tricolor*) than a White-rumped Sandpiper.

COMMON BLACK-HEADED GULL *Larus ridibundus*. One was reported at Malibu Lagoon, LA, 26 Nov 1988 (252-1988). This record was rejected, on a split vote, because the documentation was inconclusive.

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL *Larus fuscus*. Individuals were reported from the Santa Maria R. mouth, SBA, 25 Sep 1984 (321-1986), from the Whitewater R. mouth, N end of the Salton Sea, RIV, 4 Apr 1987 (266-1987), and from the Carmel R. mouth, MTY, 27 Oct 1987 (270-1987).

The bird at the Santa Maria R. mouth stimulated much discussion, generating useful information on the identification of immature Lesser Black-backed Gulls. Photographs show most feathers to be worn, indicating faded first-summer plumage, with some fresh dark gray second-winter feathers on the mantle. Two outside consultants disagreed on the bird's identity, with one expert stating emphatically that it was a Lesser Black-backed Gull, the other feeling it was not this species. Most Committee members felt that the identification was most likely correct, but only three endorsed it as such. The one member who saw the bird felt it best left unidentified.

The bird at the Salton Sea was an adult in summer plumage, but the description failed to specify the shape and exact pattern of the bill and the color of the eyes, and most Committee members felt there was a possibility that it was a California Gull (*L. californicus*) in breeding condition with vivid orange-yellow legs and the black in the bill obscured. The Carmel bird was in 3rd-winter plumage and compared directly with Western Gulls (*L. occidentalis*), but as it was reported to have pinkish legs and

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED, identification questionable, Cont.

to lack dusky head markings, most Committee members felt that it was probably a small female Western Gull.

RUDDY GROUND-DOVE *Columbina talpacoti*. One was reported in Encinitas, SD, 15 Oct 1988 (220-1988A). Most Committee members felt the documentation was insufficient to eliminate a Common Ground-Dove. See Dunn et al. (1990) for information on separating these two species.

BROAD-BILLED HUMMINGBIRD *Cynanthus latirostris*. A female was reported from Oceanside, SD, 24 Sep 1986 (43-1987). The observer did not submit any details; the only description available for review by the Committee was written during a telephone conversation with the observer. The Committee was reluctant to accept this record based on second-hand information, especially since hybrid hummingbirds can present identification problems.

EASTERN WOOD-PEWEE *Contopus virens*. Wood-pewees giving repeated clear upslurred whistles were observed in Los Osos, SLO, 21 Oct 1986 (26-1987) and at the Carmel R. mouth, MTY, 11-14 Dec 1986 (457-1986). These two records were circulated together, provoking lengthy discussions among Committee members on variation in the vocalizations and appearances of Eastern and Western (*C. sordidulus*) wood-pewees. The identifications of both birds relied heavily on the calls, which were consistently described by the four Los Osos observers as a clear short "pee-wee" and by three observers submitting descriptions of the Carmel bird as a clear rising "pweeee" lasting about one second. A tape recording, sonograph, and photographs of the Carmel bird accompanied the record. The Los Osos bird also gave many "chip" or "pit" notes, and the Carmel bird was heard on one occasion to give a short series of light "chips." The Los Osos bird was described as appearing like a typical Western Wood-Pewee and having a dark mandible, whereas the Carmel bird was described essentially as being dark gray above with a uniform grayish wash across the breast, pale undertail coverts, and an orange mandible with a black tip.

The identification of wood-pewees that are not in full song is one of the most difficult field-identification challenges for North American ornithologists. Most Committee members felt that, with current knowledge, neither of these wood-pewees could be identified to species, although the calls, appearance, and late date of the Carmel bird suggested to most members that it was likely an Eastern Wood-Pewee.

The records prompted several members to describe clear calls of varying length, strength, and inflection that they had heard from other pewees in California; these included birds in Committee-member Roberson's backyard in late April and early May 1987, tape recordings and sonographs of which were circulated with the record. Outside consultant Marie Mans also provided the Committee with recordings of Western Wood-Pewees from Lundy Canyon, Mono County, that gave various clear upslurred calls, some sounding much like the bird at the Carmel R. mouth, and she further related that she had heard this call many times from Western Wood-Pewees. She believed that they might be given most often by birds in their first spring. Although "chip" notes were generally considered to be given more frequently by the Eastern than the Western Wood-Pewee, there was disagreement on this, as well as on the exact quality of these notes. Members had frequently heard similar notes from Western Wood-Pewees.

Differences in the appearance of the two species were also discussed. Although there is much overlap between the plumages of the two species, Eastern Wood-Pewees tend to have greener backs that contrast slightly with darker crowns, paler, streakier underparts, and mandibles entirely orange or mostly orange with a black tip; Western Wood-Pewees tend to have uniform brownish or sooty backs and crowns, darker, more uniform underparts, and mandibles mostly dark with orange at the base.

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED, identification questionable, Cont.

Committee members reported having seen both Easterns with entirely dark mandibles and apparent Westerns with entirely orange mandibles. As the appearances of the two California birds were not diagnostic of the Eastern Wood-Pewee, most members felt it best to withhold acceptance until the calls of the two species on migration are better understood. The bird at the Carmel R. mouth was the first wood-pewee recorded in California in December.

ALDER FLYCATCHER *Empidonax alnorum*. An otherwise undescribed Traill's Flycatcher was heard giving a sharp call note, described as "peet," at Oasis, MNO, 6 Sep 1987 (282-1987). Most members felt that there was a good chance this bird was an Alder Flycatcher but required more substantial documentation, including a detailed plumage description, measurements, and preferably audiospectrograms of vocalizations, before accepting a first state record of this enigmatic species. Members having experience with the calls of both Willow (*E. traillii*) and Alder flycatchers felt that there are diagnostic differences between them that could be used to identify vagrants of either species. There was concern, however, that the full range of variation in the calls of Willow Flycatcher, typically described as "whit," is not well known. Several members mentioned that they had heard occasional "peet" notes from Willow Flycatchers on their breeding territories in California, although the softer "whit" was the predominant note given by these birds.

The circulation of this record prompted several members to report other migrant Traill's Flycatchers in California that had been heard giving "peet" call notes, all of which were observed in June or from late August to mid-September. There have also been four birds banded on SE Farallon I. between 27 August and 4 September (Pyle and Henderson 1991) and a fifth on 21 August 1991 that had measurements and plumage suggesting the Alder Flycatcher but did not call. Observers in California are urged to submit descriptions of Traill's Flycatchers giving "peet" calls so that patterns in occurrence and appearance of these birds can be ascertained. The acceptance of a non-singing Alder Flycatcher in California can only follow a concerted assessment of all identification criteria on many individuals, as preceded acceptance of the Least Flycatcher (*E. minimus*) as a regular visitant to the state and its removal from the CBRC Review List (Winter and McCaskie 1975, Luther et al. 1979).

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER *Tyrannus forficatus*. One was reported near Linden, SJ, 2 Jan 1988 (151-1988). This individual was described as a juvenile, with a notched but short tail, which would be unlikely during early January. Most members felt that this individual was a Northern Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*) or a Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*) with an atypically notched tail.

VEERY *Catharus fuscescens*. A *Catharus* thrush at the Nunes ranch, Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 24 Oct 1987 (77-1988), was seen in the deep shade by a number of observers, all of whom felt that the upperparts appeared redder than is typical of a Swainson's Thrush (*C. ustulatus*). There was also general agreement that the flanks of the bird were gray, without brownish tones, and that its breast had small round spots that changed from brown above to gray below. All three of these characters suggested that the bird was a Veery. The descriptions of the eye ring varied, however, with most observers perceiving it as thin but fairly prominent and full or nearly full, more like the eye ring of Swainson's Thrush than that of Veery. The principal observer was not fully confident that this bird was not a Swainson's Thrush, but submitted it as a possible Veery to elicit further comment from the Committee, a practice that the CBRC encourages in cases like this. Committee members along with outside reviewer Claudia Wilds generally agreed that the bird could have been a Veery but that the identification was inconclusive owing to the description of the eye

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED, identification questionable, Cont.

ring. Two members felt that the bird was possibly from western populations of Veery (*C. f. salicicola*), which resemble Swainson's Thrush more closely than do eastern populations and are not as well known by the observers and Committee members.

EYEBROWED THRUSH *Turdus obscurus*. Although descriptions of birds at Yaqui Well, SD, 3 Mar 1990 (31-1990) and San Rafael, MRN, 6 Mar 1990 (32-1990) suggested this species, neither was detailed enough to eliminate an atypical American Robin (*T. migratorius*), particularly of the western race (*T. m. propinquus*), which is duller than other subspecies and often has a distinct supercilium. Neither observer said why the bird was not an American Robin. We encourage observers to rule out similar species, particularly when they are reporting prospective first records for the state.

RED-THROATED PIPIT *Anthus cervinus*. One was reported near Pt. Mugu, VEN, 11 Oct 1987 (44-1990). The bird was not heard calling and the description was too brief to eliminate other Asian species of pipits.

WHITE-EYED VIREO *Vireo griseus*. A taped recording of a singing bird at the Big Sur R. mouth, MTY, 27 Sep-3 Oct 1987 (239-1988) was submitted as possibly pertaining to this species. Outside consultants Donald J. Borror and Richard A. Bradley both made audiospectrographs of the tape, and commented that the bird could have been a White-eyed Vireo. Borror, however, had never heard or recorded a White-eyed Vireo sounding quite like the California bird, and Bradley thought that the song could also have been that of an immature wren, possibly a House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*). These comments resulted in unanimous rejection by the Committee on the second round.

PHILADELPHIA VIREO *Vireo philadelphicus*. Descriptions from Blue Lake, HUM, 20 Sep 1988 (263-1988) and the Nunes ranch, Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 30 Sep 1988 (215-1988) were too brief to eliminate the possibilities that these birds were Yellow-green or Warbling (*V. gilvus*) vireos.

BLUE-WINGED WARBLER *Vermivora pinus*. One was reported from Butterbrecht Springs, KER, 9 Oct 1988 (68-1989). As this would represent the latest record for California, most Committee members required more substantial documentation than was provided.

SWAINSON'S WARBLER *Limnolthlypis swainsonii*. One was reported in the Tijuana R. valley, SD, 1 Nov 1987 (300-1987). This bird, which would have represented a first California record, was well seen by two observers, both of whom submitted detailed descriptions, but the record was rejected by the Committee in the second round by a 3-7 vote. Although some members felt that the descriptions fit Swainson's Warbler better than any other species, Committee members Bailey and Marantz compared the bird's reported plumage with good series of museum specimens at CAS and LSU, respectively, and found several small discrepancies between the skins and the descriptions. These discrepancies plus the late date for this relatively early migrant were the main points precluding acceptance.

MOURNING WARBLER *Oporornis philadelphia*. A yellow-throated *Oporornis* warbler banded and measured on SE Farallon I., SF, 8 Sep 1984 (118-1987) was judged to be either a Mourning Warbler with atypically bold eye crescents or a hybrid between Mourning and MacGillivray's warblers; in either case, too much uncertainty existed for the record to be accepted. A photograph of this bird, along with further discussion, appears in Pyle and Henderson (1990).

One was reported from the Oxnard plain, VEN, 27 Sep 1986 (42-1987). The identification of this bird relied heavily upon its yellow throat. Committee members

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED, identification questionable, Cont.

felt that the description was otherwise too brief to eliminate other warblers, such as a yellow-throated MacGillivray's Warbler (see Pyle and Henderson 1990).

SCARLET TANAGER *Piranga olivacea*. One was reported from Bolinas, MRN, 10 Sep 1987 (274-1987). This individual, described as an immature female, was seen briefly by an experienced observer who had just arrived in California and was unaware of the rarity of Scarlet Tanagers in the state. Uncertainty about the length and quality of observation and the extremely early date, especially for an immature female, caused members to shy away from acceptance (by a 3-7 vote on the second round).

YELLOW GROSBEAK *Pheucticus chrysopheplus*. One was reported in Carmichael, SAC, 10 Aug 1989 (33-1990). Although the report was intriguing, not enough description was submitted to document what would be, pending consideration of natural occurrence, a first state record.

The description of this bird was submitted on a standard rare-bird sighting form. We discourage the use of these forms as they do not present an organized account of a sighting or of the field marks observed. We recommend using these forms as a reference for what to include but submitting details in the form of a written account.

FIELD SPARROW *Spizella pusilla*. One was reported near Mt. Shasta, SIS, 17 Dec 1988 (44-1989). Although the description of the bird's plumage suggested a Field Sparrow, there was no indication of the bird's shape or size in the write-up. Most members were concerned that the bird may have been an unusually bright immature White-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*).

LE CONTE'S SPARROW *Ammodrammus leconteii*. One was reported from Elk Head, HUM, 10 Oct 1987 (400-1987). At the time there were no records of the species north of SE Farallon I., so most Committee members required more substantial documentation than was provided.

COMMON GRACKLE *Quiscalus quiscula*. A pair was reported from Pacifica, SM, 21 May 1988 (288-1988), one was reported from Crescent City, DN, 10 Jul 1988 (264-1988), and a flock of twelve birds were reported near Oceanside, SD, 16 Nov 1988 (73-1989). Grackles were suggested by all three descriptions but none of them adequately eliminated the possibility of the Great-tailed Grackle (*Q. mexicanus*).

COMMON REDPOLL *Carduelis flammea*. One was reported from Berkeley, ALA, 4 Jan 1988 (80-1988). The Committee unanimously felt that this bird was not a redpoll but was likely another species with a face blackened by nectar or pitch from eucalyptus trees.

RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED, NATURAL OCCURRENCE QUESTIONABLE (IDENTIFICATION ACCEPTED)

JACKASS PENGUIN *Spheniscus demersus*. One was observed near Chimney Rock, Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 3-16 Feb 1981 (KFC; 172-1988). Bailey (1981) suggested that the description of this bird favored the Humboldt Penguin (*S. humboldti*); however, the Committee and Bailey later agreed with the observer's identification. The Jackass or Black-flipped Penguin has been kept in captivity in California; birds are legally imported into the U.S. from South Africa (Nilsson 1981). No Committee member felt that this individual reached California as a natural vagrant.

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED, natural occurrence questionable (identification accepted), Cont.

PAINTED BUNTING *Passerina ciris*. Adult males were seen near Imperial Beach, SD, 13 Sep 1987 (TEC; 55-1988), in San Luis Obispo, SLO, 21-25 Jan 1988 (MA; 118-1988), at Huntington Beach, ORA, 11-12 Nov 1988 (GMcC; 283-1988), and in Santa Barbara, SBA, 14 Feb-9 Apr 1989 (P & JMcC†; PEL; 55-1989). The Imperial Beach bird had yellowish underparts, the San Luis Obispo bird had bright red underparts, the Huntington Beach bird had "funny-looking bright burnt orange" underparts, and the Santa Barbara bird initially had bright red underparts that began to fade to orange before it was last seen. The rejection of these records is consistent with the philosophy of most Committee members that winter adult males and/or males showing less than bright red underparts in California are more likely escaped cagebirds than true vagrants, although the two individuals with bright red underparts were accepted by two members who felt that enough winter records accumulated of Painted Buntings had to suggest true vagrancy. Examination of museum specimens at LACM and CAS by Committee members Garrett and Bailey, respectively, supported the contention that aviary birds of this species were more likely than wild birds to have faded underparts (apparently due to diet deficiencies), although a male specimen from South Carolina (CAS 52927), presumably not an escapee, also showed underparts suffused with yellow. Accordingly, the natural occurrence of the Imperial Beach and Huntington Beach birds was unanimously rejected, although it was pointed out in comments that a wild bird may suffer diet deficiencies from being out of range, as happened with the Santa Barbara bird. It was also suggested that second-winter males may regularly show more orange in the underparts than adults, but this point needs confirmation. Adult male Painted Buntings are common in captivity in Mexico (Pyle pers. obs.), and illegal importation into California is known to occur (Nilsson 1981).

CORRIGENDA TO ELEVENTH REPORT (BEVIER 1990)

Under Accepted Records, p. 148: The Observer for record 225-1986 (Yellow-billed Loon) was Jon Winter, not John Wilson.

CORRIGENDA TO TWELFTH REPORT (LANGHAM 1991)

Under Accepted Records, p. 115: The Grace's Warbler reportedly in Irvine, ORA, 21 Feb-27 Mar 1987 (169-1987) was actually in Newport Beach, ORA.

CONTRIBUTORS

Contributors, identified by their initials in the text (accepted records only), are as follows: Doug Aguillard, Jonathan K. Alderfer, Janice Andersen, Gene Anderson, Scot Anderson, Martha Arnold, Ben Bacon (BBc), Stephen F. Bailey, Alan Baldridge, Larry R. Ballard (LRBa), Alan D. Barron, Bruce Barrett (BBr), Dave Batzler (DBa), Dave Beadle (DBe), Peggy Beckett, Chris D. Benesh, Barbara Berton (BBe), Louis R. Bevier (LRBe), David V. Blue, Clyde Blum, Fred J. Broerman, Ronald L. Branson, Karen Bridgers, N. Bruce Broadbooks, Henry Brodtkin, J. Broyles, Kurt F. Campbell, Scott P. Carey, Mary Carmona (MCa), Clay Coler, Mildred Comar (MCo), Wanda Conway, Dick Collett, Troy E. Corman, Art and Janet Cupples, Jon Curson, Valeria G. DaCosta, Brian Daniels, J. M. Danzenbaker, David DeSante, Anthony Desch, Bruce E. Deuel, Earl K. Dore, Stephen H. Ducatman, Jon L. Dunn, Tom M. Edell, Ray Ekstrom, Richard A. Erickson, Jules Evens, Marc Fenner, Alan and Marjorie

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

Fiers, Richard Filson, George H. Finger, Shawneen E. Finnegan, Sam D. Fitton, Carol Friedman, Brenda Fugle, Gary Fugle, David A. Gaines, James R. Gallagher, Kimball L. Garrett, Al Ghiorso, Theodora J. Glenn, Douglas E. George, Dave Goodward (DGo), Phil Gordon, Michele Greco, Helen Green, Kevin Guse, Stephen Gustafson, Dan Guthrie (DGu), Kem Hainebach (KHb), Keith Hansen (KHa), Michael T. Hanson, W. Edward Harper, Joe Harris, John H. Harris, Roger D. Harris, Stanley W. Harris, Bettie R. Harriman, Ed Hase, Loren R. Hays, Phil Henderson, Ronald P. Hirst, Mark A. Holmgren, David A. Holway, Arthur L. Howe, Steve N. G. Howell, Valerie Hubbart, Kenneth Irwin, Jerome A. Johnson, Karen Johnson, Durrell D. Kapan, Bob Keiffer, Dan J. Keller, Virgil J. Ketner, Richard Klauke, John Klusmire, Sanford Komito, Theodore H. Koundakjian, Andy Kratter, Serge LaFrance, Jeri M. Langham, Greg W. Lasley, Peter La Tourrette, David A. Leal, Paul E. Lehman, Joan E. Lentz, Gary S. Lester, Lauren P. Lester, Ron LeValley, Michael J. Lippsmeyer, Isabel P. Ludlum, Timothy D. Manolis, Curtis Marantz, Guy McCaskie, Paul and Janny McConnell, Mac McCormick (MMcC), Mary S. McKinnon, L. Richard Mewaldt, Mark C. Miller, Steven Mlodinow, Kathy C. Molina, Mike Morgan, Nan Moore, Randy Moore, Bryan Mori, Joseph Morlan, Scott W. Morrical, Michael H. Morris, Paul Mosimann, Dan Murphy, Kathleen Murphy, Tom Murphy, Ellis Myers, Steve J. Myers, Bill Niendorff, John M. O'Leary, Bob Pann, Benjamin D. Parmeter, Michael A. Patten, Cliff V. Peterson, Edwin E. Post, Steve Pringle, Peter Pyle, Kurt Radamaker, C. John Ralph, Hugh P. Ranson, G. Reid, Robert J. Richmond, Don Roberson, Robin E. Roberson, Michael F. Robbins, Rick Rocco, Gary H. Rosenberg, Philip Rostron, Michael Rothkopf, Jim S. Royer, Russell C. Ruffing, Larry Sansone, Alan Schmierer (ASc), Brad Schram (BSc), Scott Shannon (ScS), K. Shepard, Shirley Shephard (ShS), W. David Shuford, David A. Sibley, Martin A. Sidor, Dan Singer (DS), Arnold Small (ASm), Gregory P. Smith, Mark Solomon, Robert "Woods" Sutherland, Larry B. Spear, Rich Stallcup, Emilie Strauss, Bengt Stridh (BSt), Craig Strong, David L. Suddjian, Jan Tarble (JTa), Monte Taylor (MTa), Larry Thompson, Ronald S. Thorn, Robert F. Tintle, Francis Toldi, Gerald Tolman, Marguerite Trocme (MTr), John Trochet (JTr), Kent Van Vuren, Richard R. Veit, Richard E. Webster, Brian J. Weed, Gilbert West, Douglas R. Willick, Steve Williams, Erika M. Wilson, John Wilson (JWl), Jon Winter (JWn) Joseph N. Worley, David G. Yee, Bob Yutzy, Barry R. Zimmer, Kevin J. Zimmer.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Committee is most grateful to the 205 contributors listed above, the most ever in one Committee report. Non-CBRC members who deserve mention for the extent of their contributions are: Phil Henderson (16 records), Jim S. Royer (10), Benjamin D. Parmeter (9), Rich Stallcup (9), and Alan D. Barron (7). The Committee also appreciates the review of certain difficult records by the following outside consultants: Donald J. Borror, Richard A. Bradley, Steven W. Cardiff, Steve Hilty, Steve N. G. Howell, Ned K. Johnson, Lars Jonsson, Kenn Kaufman, Greg W. Lasley, Marie Mans, Richard R. Veit, Bret Whitney, Claudia Wilds, and Alan Wormington. David F. Abbott also provided comments based on photographs that appeared in *Birding* magazine. Former members Louis R. Bevier, Jeri M. Langham, and Curtis Marantz voted on a substantial number of records. Current or recent members who reviewed an earlier draft of this manuscript and made many useful contributions and corrections are Stephen F. Bailey, Jon L. Dunn, Richard A. Erickson, Kimball L. Garrett, Matt T. Heindel, Paul E. Lehman, Michael J. Lippsmeyer, Joseph Morlan, Michael A. Patten, and Don Roberson. We thank Jeri Langham for providing a computerized copy of the introduction to the twelfth report, from which we appropriated selected standard sections. The following curators or collections managers provided members or outside reviewers access to their collections: Mary LeCroy (AMNH), Luis F.

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

Baptista and Stephen F. Bailey (CAS), Stanley W. Harris (HSU), Kimball L. Garrett (LACM), J. V. Remsen, Jr. and Steven W. Cardiff (LSU), Ned K. Johnson and Barabara Stein (MVZ), and Amadeo M. Rea and Philip Unitt (SDNHM). This is contribution 528 of the Point Reyes Bird Observatory.

LITERATURE CITED

- American Ornithologists' Union. 1983. Check-list of North American Birds, 6th ed. Am. Ornithol. Union, Washington, D.C.
- American Ornithologists' Union. 1989. Thirty-seventh supplement to the American Ornithologist's Union Check-list of North American Birds. *Auk* 106:532-538.
- Bailey, S. F. 1981. February observations. *Gull* 63:44-46.
- Bailey, S. F. 1991. Bill characters separating Trumpeter and Tundra swans: A cautionary note. *Birding* 23:89-91.
- Beck, R. H. 1910. Waterbirds in the vicinity of Point Pinos, California. *Proc. Calif. Acad. Sci.* 3:57-72.
- Bevier, L. R. 1990. Eleventh report of the California Bird Records Committee. *W. Birds* 21:145-176.
- Binford, L. C. 1985. Seventh report of the California Bird Records Committee. *W. Birds* 16:29-48.
- Campbell, R. W., Dawe, N. K., McTaggart-Cowan, I., Cooper, J. M., Kaiser, G. W., and McNall, M. C. E. 1990. *The Birds of British Columbia*. Vol. 1. Royal British Columbia Museum, Victoria.
- Cardiff, E. A., and Driscoll, A. T. 1972. Red-headed Woodpecker in the Imperial Valley of California. *Calif. Birds* 3:23-24.
- Craig, J. T. 1972. Two fall Yellow-throated Warblers in California. *Calif. Birds* 3:17-18.
- Cramp, S., and Simmons, K. E. L., eds. 1988. *The Birds of the Western Palearctic*. Vol. 5. Oxford Univ. Press, Oxford, England.
- DeSante, D. F., Johnson, N. K., LeValley, R., and Henderson, R. P. 1985. Occurrence and identification of the Yellow-bellied Flycatcher on Southeast Farallon Island, California. *W. Birds* 16:153-160.
- Dunn, J. L. 1988. Tenth report of the California Bird Records Committee. *W. Birds* 19:129-163.
- Dunn, J. L., Garrett, K. L., and Alderfer, J. K. 1990. Identification of Ruddy and Common ground-doves. *Birding* 22:138-145.
- Ficken, R. W. 1963. Courtship and agonistic behavior of the Common Grackle. *Auk* 80:52-72.
- Gaines, D. A. 1988. *Birds of Yosemite and the East Slope*. Artemisia Press, Lee Vining, CA.
- Goodwill, M. E., and Goodwill, J. E. V. 1988. Terek Sandpiper in British Columbia, Canada. *Am. Birds* 42:177.
- Grinnell, J., and Miller, A. H. 1944. The distribution of the birds of California. *Pac. Coast Avifauna* 27.
- Harris, S. W., and Hawkins, B. 1991. A specimen of Chuck-will's-widow from Humboldt County, California. *W. Birds* 21:77.
- Jehl, J. R. Jr. 1985. Hybridization and evolution of oystercatchers on the Pacific coast of Baja California. *Ornithol. Monogr.* 36.

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

- Jewett, S. G. 1949. Gyrfalcon taken in California. *Condor* 51:233.
- Johnson, J. A., and Ziegler, F. R. 1978. A Violet-crowned Hummingbird in California. *W. Birds* 9:91-92.
- Kessel, B., and Gibson, D. D. 1978. Status and distribution of Alaska birds. *Studies Avian Biol.* 1.
- Langham, J. M. 1991. Twelfth report of the California Bird Records Committee. *W. Birds* 22:97-130.
- Luther, J. S., and McCaskie, G. 1979. Third report of the California Bird Records Committee. *W. Birds* 10:169-187.
- Luther, J. S., McCaskie, G., and Dunn, J. 1983. Fifth report of the California Bird Records Committee. *W. Birds* 14:1-16.
- Madge, S. C. 1987. Field identification of Radde's and Dusky warblers. *Br. Birds* 80:595-603.
- Manuwal, D. A., and Lewis, T. J. 1972. A wheatear on Southeast Farallon Island, California. *Auk* 89:895.
- Marqua, D. G. 1963. Red-headed Woodpecker in southern California. *Condor* 65:332.
- McCaskie, G., and Webster, R. E. 1990. A second Wedge-tailed Shearwater in California. *W. Birds* 21:139-140.
- McMurry, F. B., and Monson, G. 1947. Least Grebe breeding in California. *Condor* 49:125-126.
- Morlan, J. 1981. Status and identification of forms of the White Wagtail in western North America. *Continental Birdlife* 2:37-50.
- Morlan, J. 1985. Eighth report of the California Bird Records Committee. *W. Birds* 16:105-122.
- Nelson, J. B. 1988. *The Sulidae*. Oxford Univ. Press, Oxford, England.
- Nilsson, G. 1981. *The Bird Business: A Study of the Commercial Cage Bird Trade*. Animal Welfare Inst., Washington, D.C.
- Patten, M. A. 1991. An update from the California Bird Records Committee. *W. Birds* 22:95.
- Patten, M. A., and Daniels, B. E. 1991. First record of the Long-toed Stint for California. *W. Birds* 22:131-138.
- Phillips, A. R., Howe, M. A., and Lanyon, W. E. 1966. Identification of the flycatchers of eastern North America with special emphasis on the genus *Empidonax*. *Bird-Banding* 41:190-197.
- Pugnali, G., Blanco, D., and Rodriguez, H. 1988. [A record of the Terek Sandpiper, *Xenus cinereus* (Aves, Scolopaciidae) at Punta Rasa, on the Atlantic coast of Buenos Aires Prov., Argentina.] *Not. Faunisticas* 13:1-2. (Spanish with English summary).
- Pyle, P., and Henderson, P. 1990. On separating female and immature *Oporornis* warblers in fall. *Birding* 22:222-229.
- Pyle, P., and Henderson, R. P. 1991. The birds of Southeast Farallon Island: Occurrence and seasonal distribution of migratory species. *W. Birds* 22:41-84.
- Pyle, P., Howell, S. N. G., Yunick, R. P., and DeSante, D. F. 1987. *Identification Guide to North American Passerines*. Slate Creek Press, Bolinas, CA.
- Pyle, P., and Sibley, D. 1992. Juvenal-plumaged Le Conte's Sparrows on migration: Are they being overlooked? *Birding* 24:70-76.

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

- Roberson, D. 1980. Rare birds of the West Coast. Woodcock Publ., Pacific Grove, CA.
- Roberson, D. 1986. Ninth report of the California Bird Records Committee. *W. Birds* 17:49-77.
- Roberson, D. 1989. News from the California Bird Records Committee. *W. Birds* 20:269-271.
- Roberson, D. 1990. North American bird records committees. *Birding* 22:276-285.
- Round, P. D. 1988. Field identification of Radde's and Dusky warblers. *Br. Birds* 81:532.
- Schmidt, O., ed. 1989. Rare Birds of Oregon. *Ore. Field Ornithol. Spec. Publ.* 5.
- Stallcup, R., Morlan, J., and Roberson, D. 1988. First record of the Wedge-tailed Shearwater in California. *W. Birds* 19:61-68.
- Stemple, D., Moore, J., Giriunas, I., and Paine, M. 1991. Terek Sandpiper in Massachusetts: First record for eastern North America. *Am. Birds* 45:397-398.
- Svensson, L. 1984. Identification Guide to European Passerines. 3rd ed. Lars Svensson, Stockholm, Sweden.
- Thompson, C. W. 1991. The sequences of molts and plumages in Painted Buntings and implications for theories of delayed plumage maturation. *Condor* 93:209-235.
- Tobish, T. 1991. Notes on immature swans in spring. *Birding* 23:88-89.
- Wilson, E. M., and Harriman, B. R. 1989. First record of the Terek Sandpiper in California. *W. Birds* 20:63-69.
- Winter, J., and McCaskie, G. 1975. 1973 report of the California Field Ornithologists Records Committee. *W. Birds* 6:135-144.

Accepted 27 October 1991