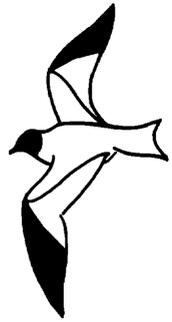


WESTERN BIRDS



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FOURTEENTH REPORT OF THE CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

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Western Field Ornithologists and the California Bird Records Committee (CBRC) are again pleased to thank Bushnell, a division of Bausch & Lomb, for its continued generous support in helping to sponsor the publication of these reports.

This report details 412 records from the California Bird Records Committee's review of older records, of which 276 (67%) were accepted. Both the number of records and the number of contributing observers (268) represent new highs for a Committee report. Our tenth report (Dunn 1988) described our attempt over the past decade to review not only all current reports of rarities in California, but available documentation on all published records of species on our Review List, no matter how long ago the bird occurred. We not only actively solicited written details and photographs from observers, we scoured the literature for additional information and attempted to locate and photograph for Committee files all extant specimens of vagrants to California. These data are now permanently archived. Reported here is our review of 42 specimens, some dating as far back as 1862, and our consideration of other documentation generated from 1935 to 1989.

Some of this report is the routine acceptance of long-cited records, but we have rejected some well-known older records that were wrong or inadequately documented. We also report here two species new to California: Murphy's Petrel (*Pterodroma ultima*) and White-tailed Ptarmigan (*Lagopus leucurus*); an introduced population of the latter has been established within the state. The acceptance of these species, briefly noted in our 13th report (Pyle and McCaskie 1992), brings the state list to 579 species.

For our review of old records, we sought details of all published records. We considered a record "published" if it appeared in the formal ornithological literature, major distributional works on California (e.g., Grinnell and Miller 1944, Yocum and Harris 1975, Cogswell 1977), *American Birds* or

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

its predecessors *Audubon Field Notes* and *Bird Lore*, or publications of government agencies. We excluded newsletters of local bird clubs or Audubon societies. When this project began in the early 1980s, we had reviewed less than half of all published records. With this publication, we have now obtained documentation for 92% of all published records. A few remain in circulation (about 75 pre-1988 records).

Some written details from the distant past were excellent, but other were not acceptable under today's standards. In some cases, no original notes survived, and recent recollections, as might be expected, were hazy. These situations largely account for the 33% rejection rate of records considered in this report. Some records were rejected after the observer wrote us and requested that a published record be withdrawn.

One observer, who provided details of an old record in response to our request, stated, "I have always been astounded by the desire of your committee for a description of rare birds rather than a concern about the integrity of those who report them." In contrast, a letter to the editor in *Birding* 23:184, 1991, decried the "focus of [records] committees on judging the *bird*er rather than (or in addition to) the *sighting*," contending that this practice is "a social or political game," and calling for "bird records committees [to get] back on track evaluating sight records." The evaluation of the documentation supporting a sight record requires Committee members to consider both the the written description and the experience and (occasionally) the credibility of the observer. Records supported by brief but persuasive details from experienced observers may be accepted, especially when the bird was seen at a time and place agreeing with other records of the same species. The committee has rejected some seemingly meticulous descriptions because the described circumstances (e.g., distance to bird, lighting) precluded the view claimed. In other instances it is apparent that the description has been enhanced by reference to the literature. For example, many Committee members are leery of descriptions that state a bird was, say, "6 to 6½ inches long," especially when a field guide gives the same range. Experienced observers estimate a bird's size in comparison to some common species (e.g., "it was about the size of a House Sparrow, but looked heavier"), and the way a report is written sometimes permits an evaluation of experience even though members may not personally know the observer.

Many descriptions came from the observer's field notes and were not written with a records committee review process in mind. Indeed, many of the records accepted in this report were of birds seen before the formation of this committee in 1970. Some were written from memory, sometimes supported by the briefest of jottings in the field. Each was considered separately on its merits. Some observers provided us with photographs many years old; Richard Genelly provided photos of specimens he took in 1935!

We list in an appendix all published records (through March 1990) for which we were unable to obtain documentation. Some records were supported by field notes describing the circumstances of the observation, but the written material did not include an actual description of the bird. In other cases documentation was provided to *American Birds'* regional

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

editors or other authorities, and reviewed positively by them, but the written details have since been lost. To suggest that these identifications, along with those of apparently missing or destroyed specimens, were likely correct, we set them apart in lists A and B of the Appendix. But even this gesture implies a conundrum, as certain other records were circulated upon a shred of a description and were rejected for inadequate details. The list of species we review was published by Roberson (1986) and updated by Langham (1991) and Pyle and McCaskie (1992). In general, the Review List comprises those species currently averaging less than four records a year and totalling less than 100 records for the state.

Format: Records are generally listed chronologically according to the first known date of occurrence, although in some circumstances another arrangement is more convenient. Species preceded by an asterisk are no longer on the Review List. Following the species name is a number in parentheses representing the total number of accepted records for California, including those in this report. For species no longer on our Review List, this number reflects only the records accepted during the years the species was reviewed. Double asterisks indicate that the total includes certain older "statistically accepted" records that were not formally reviewed (see Roberson 1986). As this report of older records essentially fills in the chronological list, the figure representing the total number of acceptable California records should be more accurate than in any previous CBRC report.

The concept of a "record" can be troubling, as some birds migrate solitarily but others migrate in pairs, family groups, or flocks. The Committee considers each individual a distinct "statistical" record unless it seems likely it was part of a pair, family, group, or flock. In these situations the assemblage represents but a single statistical record. For example, three Connecticut Warblers in a single grove of cypresses on Pt. Reyes would be considered to represent three records, as individuals of this species presumably migrate separately. In contrast, a family of three Emperor Geese at nearby Drakes Bay would represent but a single record, as they presumably arrived as a cohesive group. Pelagic birds offshore are usually considered separate statistical records. An offshore birder might encounter 40 Cook's Petrels and send in a single description of them, and the Committee might consider this documentation under a single record number. In compiling the number of Cook's Petrels recorded in the state, however, we would consider such an occurrence to represent 40 different statistical records, since each bird is likely to have traveled individually. These decisions (made by majority vote) account for the divergence between the total of record numbers and the "statistical" compilation of records of the species in California.

When individual birds return to a location after a lengthy seasonal absence, each occurrence is evaluated separately under a different record number. Committee members vote on whether they believe the same birds are involved. If a majority considers the birds undoubtedly or probably the same as ones occurring previously, for the statistical count they are

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

considered the same, whereas those considered only possibly the same are considered to be new individuals, increasing the total count.

Each record includes the locality, a standard county abbreviation (see below), and a full date span. In most cases, the date span is incorporated from the seasonal reports published in *American Birds* (hereafter *AB*) and its predecessors. We did not always list the full date span in our earliest reports, so we correct those here. If we have information that the *AB* date span is incorrect, the applicable date is italicized, indicating the correction. Enclosed in parentheses following the date are the initials of the reporting observer(s), listed alphabetically by last name, and followed by our CBRC record number. If the observer(s) who initially found and/or identified the bird is known, and those persons submitted documentation, their initials are listed first and are separated from the other observers' initials by a semicolon. If the contributor supplied a photograph, a dagger follows the initials. Records supported by specimens are followed by the acronym for the institution in which the specimen is housed and the specimen number, if available. The Committee reviewed specimens by circulating one or more photographs of the specimen, along with the label data, and often measurements.

Abbreviations: Ft., Fort; I., Island; nm, nautical miles; NM, National Monument; NP, National Park, NRA, National Recreation Area; NS, National Seashore; NWR, National Wildlife Refuge; Pt., Point; R., River; SB, State Beach; SR, State Reserve; SWA, State Wildlife Area.

The Committee uses standard county abbreviations: Alameda, ALA; Alpine, ALP; Amador, AMA; Butte, BUT; Calaveras, CLV; Colusa, COL; Contra Costa, CC; Del Norte, DN; El Dorado, ED; Fresno, FRE; Glenn, GLE; Humboldt, HUM; Imperial, IMP; Inyo, INY; Kern, KER; Kings, KIN; Lake, LAK; Lassen, LAS; Los Angeles, LA; Madera, MAD; Marin, MRN; Mariposa, MRP; Mendocino, MEN; Merced, MER; Modoc, MOD; Mono, MNO; Monterey, MTY; Napa, NAP; Nevada, NEV; Orange, ORA; Placer, PLA; Plumas, PLU; Riverside, RIV; Sacramento, SAC; San Benito, SBT; San Bernardino, SBE; San Diego, SD; Santa Barbara, SBA; San Francisco, SF; San Joaquin, SJ; San Luis Obispo, SLO; San Mateo, SM; Santa Clara, SCL; Santa Cruz, SCZ; Shasta, SHA; Sierra, SIE; Siskiyou, SIS; Solano, SOL; Sonoma, SON; Stanislaus, STA; Sutter, SUT; Tehama, TEH; Trinity, TRI; Tulare, TUL; Tuolumne, TUO; Ventura, VEN; Yolo, YOL; Yuba, YUB.

Acronyms for institutions housing specimens mentioned in this report are CAS, California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco; CM/EHS, Clarke Museum, Eureka High School, Eureka; HSU, Humboldt State Univ., Arcata; MVZ, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Univ. of California, Berkeley; PRBO, Point Reyes Bird Observatory, Bolinas; SBCM, San Bernardino County Museum, Redlands; SDNHM, San Diego Natural History Museum, San Diego; SDSU, San Diego State Univ., San Diego; UCD, Univ. of California, Davis (SFS, Sagehen Field Station); UCLA, Univ. of California, Los Angeles; UCSB, Univ. of California, Santa Barbara; USNM, United States National Museum, Washington, D.C.

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

RECORDS ACCEPTED

YELLOW-BILLED LOON *Gavia adamsii* (47). One on Tomales Bay, off Pierce Pt., MRN, 1 Jan 1968 was only the second for California (RS; 93-1987). One was at Moss Landing harbor, MTY, 26 Jan 1971 (RS; 66-1988). An immature was at the Berkeley fishing pier, ALA, 26 Jan 1973 (CBM; 191-1986). Single immatures were in the Monterey harbor, MTY, 3 Jan 1976 (TAC; 172-1987) and 28 Apr 1976 (RS; 94-1987). One was at the Marshall boatworks, MRN, 18 Dec 1982 (RJB, ARK, CSw; 99-1986). One, probably an immature, was in Drakes Estero, Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 13 Apr 1983 (CH; 212-1986).

One at Monterey, MTY, 26 Jan-4 May 1972 (AB, GMcC; 7-1972/140-1985) was accepted in our first report as present only 11-12 March 1972 (Winter 1973). Additional details (circulated under 140-1985) indicated that a bird was present since January; the Committee agreed that only one bird was involved and adopted the date span published by Remsen and Binford (1975). We follow Harris (1991) in expanding the dates of one at King Salmon, HUM (242-1986; Bevier 1990) to 26 Aug-3 Oct 1982.

The four pre-1974 records were reviewed and accepted by Remsen and Binford (1975) in their summary of western United States records. Birds having light fringes or bars on the brownish back are immature, which retain juvenal plumage until late winter (see Godfrey 1962). Binford and Remsen (1974) remains the standard reference on the identification of this species.

LEAST GREBE *Tachybaptus dominicus* (2). Up to nine birds (5 adults and 4 downy young) were on a seepage pond (now known as West Pond) near Imperial Dam, IMP, 18-23 Oct 1946 (125-1988), and an adult male and a chick were collected on 23 Oct (USNM 393392 and 393393; McMurry and Monson 1947). As the species typically hatches four to six eggs (James 1962), all four young may have been produced by the same pair, but the presence of additional adults suggests that several pairs may have nested. This was the first record for California, the first evidence of breeding in the United States on the Pacific drainage, and it remains the only accepted report from the California side of the Colorado River valley, although there is an insufficiently documented report from 1948 (see Records Not Accepted) and an unsubmitted report from 1955 (West Pond; Rosenberg et al. 1991). These reports, along with one from nearby Mittry Lake, Arizona, in 1951 (Monson and Phillips 1981) suggest that a small population persisted prior to the extensive clearing of riparian habitat along the Colorado River in the 1950s (Rosenberg et al. 1991). Details of California reports from the 1950s or earlier, if they exist, would be welcome.

McMurry and Monson (1947) reported the specimens to be of the west Mexican race *bangsi*, but Alexander Wetmore labeled them *T. d. brachypterus*.

MOTTLED PETREL *Pterodroma inexpectata* (20). One found dead on San Simeon SB, SLO, 13 Mar 1976 was prepared as a skeleton (DGA; uncatalogued specimen at PRBO; 235-1987). A male in wing molt was found freshly dead 11 Aug 1976 two miles south of the Mad River mouth, HUM (HSU 3747; 306-1986). Both records, including a photo of the head of the San Simeon bird, were published by Ainley and Manolis (1979). Both Mottled Petrels were discovered during censuses of beached dead birds sponsored by PRBO. Ainley and Manolis (1979) opined that this species' occurrences off California might be related to periods of abundance of the Northern Fulmar (*Fulmarus glacialis*), but recent work well offshore suggests that the Mottled Petrel may simply be regular in migration during November and December and again in March and April. The Humboldt specimen remains our only record for the northern summer, when a substantial portion of the population is in the Gulf of Alaska.

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

*MURPHY'S PETREL *Pterodroma ultima* (102). One was seen at 40°24' N, 124°35' W, about 20 nm W of Cape Mendocino, HUM, 10 Apr 1986; two were present 11 Apr 1986 at 34°45' N, 121°37' W, about 50 nm W of Purisima Pt., SBA, and another was present that day at 34°31' N, 121°29' W, about 40 nm W of Pt. Arguello, SBA (TRW; 100-1989). Some 98 were counted from the M. V. "Blitzen" offshore central California, from 25 to 95 nm beyond the nearest point of land, 29-30 Apr 1989 (SFB†, PP, DGY; 65-1989), one of which was collected at 37°19' N, 124°35' W, about 80 nm SW of SE Farallon I., SF (CAS 84182). Of these, 71 were seen on 29 Apr from 70 to 90 nm offshore (124°15' W to 125°05' W) on an arc from SW of the Farallones to a point about 65 nm SW of Pt. Arena, MEN, and another 27 were observed on 30 Apr as the boat returned along a line roughly 80 to 25 nm west of the Farallones. All birds were over deep waters beyond the continental shelf, from 1300 to 2250 fathoms deep. This trip was summarized by Bailey et al. (1989), who also published color photographs of three of the birds and of the specimen.

Within the past five years it has become clear that Murphy's Petrel is a regular component of the spring/summer avifauna over deep water off California. The species never appeared on our Review List, so no unreviewed records appear in the Appendix, although other reports accumulated around the time of the records above. Some records remain under review. Murphy's Petrel has now been found in the eastern North Pacific from at least early April to late September, with the highest concentrations from April to June.

*COOK'S PETREL *Pterodroma cookii* (110). One was seen at 36°04' N, 124°06' W, about 105 nm west of Pt. Sur, MTY, 7 Oct 1979 (GLF, RLP; 88-1985). Another was 120 nm WSW of San Diego, SD, 16 Aug 1980 (FHe; 347-1987). At least 40 were between 140 and 150 nm WSW of San Diego, SD, 16 Aug 1980 (FHe; 348-1987), and another was 120 nm miles SW of Pt. Conception, SBA, 17 Aug 1980 (FHe; 349-1987). One was at about 32°40' N, 122°10' W, about 120 nm miles W of San Miguel I., SBA, 9 May 1987, and another was at about 33° N, 124°10' W, about 190 nm SW of Pt. Conception, SBA, 12 May 1987 (RRV; 189-1987). Two were at about 31° N, 123°45' W, about 200 nm SW of Santa Rosa I., SBA, 8 Sep 1987; others were photographed (4 of 14 seen this date) just outside the 200-mile limit on 13 Sep 1987 (RRV†; 101-1989). At least 25 were between 31° N, 121° W and 30°30' N, 122° W, some 150-200 nm SSW of San Nicolas I., VEN, 11 Aug 1988, with about 20 more between 32°30' N, 123° W and 32° N, 124° W, some 180-200 nm SW of Pt. Conception SBA, 18 Aug 1988, and one more was at about 33°30' N, 123°45' W, about 190 nm WSW of Pt. Arguello, SBA, 22 Aug 1988 (RRV; 98-1989).

The 1979-1980 records were accepted with the disclaimer that Defilippe's (*P. defilippiana*) and Pycroft's (*P. pycrofti*) petrels were eliminated on known range, not on description (see Roberson 1986, Dunn 1988). Since then, Roberson and Bailey (1991) reported characters distinguishing the three taxa in the field. Photos of birds in September 1987 clearly show dark-tipped central rectrices (eliminating *P. defilippiana*) and long wings (which help to eliminate *P. pycrofti*); records since that date have been accepted as *P. cookii*, without the disclaimer. Descriptions of the earlier *P. cookii* lacked detail sufficient to rule out *P. defilippiana* or *P. pycrofti*.

In addition to the Cook's Petrels listed above, the Committee re-evaluated three *Cookilaria* petrels seen 40-50 nm SW of Cape San Martin, MTY, and Pt. Buchon, SLO, 17 Nov 1979 (JLD, RAE, GMcC, DR, ASm, RS; 71-1979; nos. 2, 3, 5) and accepted them as belonging to the *P. cookii/defilippiana/longirostris/pycrofti* set of *Cookilaria* petrels (see Dunn 1988 for a discussion of this species group on our Review List). These had previously been published as not accepted (as Cook's Petrels; Binford 1983), but under new Committee policy are now accepted to the

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

proper species group (*Cookilaria* with nearly all-white underwings). Distance precluded more specific identification.

The Committee no longer reviews records of *Cookilaria* petrels (species group) or Cook's Petrel (after 1 Jan 1989), but reports of birds identified to other species will be reviewed. The Cook's Petrel has proven to be a regular component of the avifauna from April to November over deep waters of the warm Pacific gyre beyond the strong influence of the colder California current.

STEJNEGER'S PETREL *Pterodroma longirostris* (1). One at about 35°40' N, 122°30' W, some 55 nm SW of Pt. Sur, MTY, 17 Nov 1979 (JLD, RAE, KH, GMcC, DR, ASm, RS; 71-1979). McCaskie and Roberson (1992) reported full details of the occurrence and discussed the species' field identification. Three more Stejneger's Petrels recorded in California waters in November 1990 (one photographed, see AB 45: 146, 174) are currently under review. This species may prove to be regular far offshore during autumn migration.

***WILSON'S STORM-PETREL** *Oceanites oceanicus* (109). One in a "great raft" of storm-petrels about 25 miles WNW of Pt. Loma, SD, 31 Aug 1935 (LM; 301-1988; specimen collected by Richard Fleming, UCLA 2222; Miller 1936) was the second recorded in the state. Another was between San Diego, SD, and San Clemente I., LA, 5 Sep 1962 (GMcC; 110-1988). Two were in a flock of 5000 storm-petrels on Monterey Bay, MTY, 4 Oct 1975 (GMcC; 192-1987). One was 6 miles W of Pt. Loma, SD, 3 Sep 1980 (DP; 330-1987). Five were in a storm-petrel raft less than 5 miles W of Pt. Estero, SLO, 22 Sep 1984 (BEDa, CM, BS; 308-1987).

The southern California birds were over fairly shallow inshore waters, often among large rafts of other storm-petrels, as the species occurs on Monterey Bay. Full dates of birds on Monterey Bay, MTY, were not always given in our early reports, so we correct the following here: one there 18 Aug–18 Oct 1972 (15-1973; correcting dates in Winter and McCaskie 1975), up to four present 24 Sep–23 Oct 1977 (99-1977; correcting number listed by Luther 1980), one there 30 Sep–24 Oct 1978 (124-1978; correcting dates in Luther et al. 1983), and up to two present 26 Aug–14 Nov 1982 (116-1982; correcting dates in Morlan 1985).

The Committee reconsidered record 58-1976, rejected in our fifth report (Luther et al. 1983). This bird was seen in the storm-petrel flock on Monterey Bay, MTY, 9 Oct 1976; the Committee unanimously agreed that it was the same bird accepted there 11 Oct 1976. The corrected record should read: one on Monterey Bay, MTY, 9–17 Oct 1976 (JHH, RS; 47-1976/58-1976). This species has been deleted from the Review List, but we continue to review all records through 1989.

RED-TAILED TROPICBIRD *Phaethon rubricauda* (6). An adult was at 33°44' N, 123°03' W, about 130 nm SW of Pt. Arguello, SBA, 8 Oct 1979 (GLF; 233-1987). Another was seen at about 31°30' N, 120°W, some 105 nm SSW of San Nicolas I., VEN, 16 Aug 1980 (FHe; 350-1987). A subadult was photographed at about 30°30' N, 122° W, approximately 200 nm SW of San Nicolas I., VEN, 11 Aug 1988 (RRV†; Figure 1; 99-1989), possibly slightly beyond our offshore limit. The Red-tailed Tropicbird may prove to be regular over the warm waters well beyond the continental shelf in the southwesternmost corner of our area of coverage, where the U.S. Fisheries Conservation Zone (our 200-nm limit) dips well south. This offshore area is west of northern Baja California but under international law is within U.S. jurisdiction, as the nearest points of land are San Nicolas and San Clemente islands. The Red-tailed Tropicbird is regular just south of this zone (Pitman 1986) and may disperse northward during years such as 1979, when warm water invades areas normally influenced by the colder California current.

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

R. L. Pitman and G. Friedrichsen saw another adult Red-tailed Tropicbird on 7 Oct 1979, about 147 nm SW of Pt. Sur, MTY, but did not describe it in their field notes (see Appendix, List B).

BLUE-FOOTED BOOBY *Sula nebouxii* (68**). An immature found grounded in a yard in San Gabriel, LA, 15 Oct 1974 (RC†, GSS; 65-1992) was captured and later appeared on the *Tonight Show* with Johnny Carson. A probable adult was seen around Gull I., an islet SW of Santa Cruz I., SBA, 22 June 1976 (RLP; 311-1987). One immature found on New Hogan Reservoir, CLV, 15 Sep 1976, died on 18 Oct (BGE, JML†, GGM†, DR†; 71-1987; CAS 69457; Elliott 1976). One immature was at Salton Sea Beach, IMP, 23 Aug 1977, and another was at the Whitewater R. mouth, north end of the Salton Sea, RIV, 24 Aug 1977, with ten there 4 Sep, nine there 5 Sep, and eleven there 9 Oct 1977 (SFB, GMcC, GSS; 193-1987). One was seen flying past Seal Rocks, San Francisco, SF, 1 Sep 1977 (PJM; 171-1987). One on Lake Havasu, SBE, 14-24 Sep 1977 (JLD; 170-1987) was also seen on the Arizona side of the lake. One was 2 miles W of Camp Pendleton, SD, 16 Mar 1980 (FHa; 328-1987). Two at the Whitewater R. mouth, north end of the Salton Sea, RIV, 12 Sep 1980 increased to four by 20 Sep; thereafter two to four were seen through 23 Oct 1980 (GMcC, BW; 335-1987). One was flying south past Pt. St. George, DN, 16 Jan 1981 (RAE, SSu; 84-1987).



Figure 1. Subadult Red-tailed Tropicbird (99-1989) at about 30°30' N, 122° W, approximately 200 nautical miles southwest of San Nicolas Island, Ventura County, 11 August 1988. Although the location is approximate and may be just beyond the CBRC's 200 nautical mile offshore limit, this is the first photograph of this species in or near California waters.

Photo by Richard R. Veit

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

The 1977 situation at the Salton Sea was somewhat complicated. The bird at Salton Sea Beach, erroneously published in *AB* 32:256 as a Brown Booby at Salton City and omitted by Garrett and Dunn (1981), is now accepted as a Blue-footed. As boobies at the Salton Sea tend to move north and concentrate at the north end, this bird may well have been among those that later appeared there. Also, a bird at the north end on 4 Sep, thought by the observer to be a Brown Booby, was seen too poorly to be identified conclusively.

Blue-footed Boobies occasionally wander north along the coast following their rare incursions to southern California, and the 1977 San Francisco bird might be attributed to this phenomenon. The coastal birds seen in 1976, 1980, and 1981, however, occurred during non-invasion years. The bird seen in 1981 at Pt. St. George represents the northernmost record for the state; only a Sep 1935 specimen from inside Puget Sound, Washington, whose natural occurrence has been questioned by some (Bill Tweit pers. comm.), is more northerly in North America. Coastal and offshore observers should be aware of both the Masked (*S. dactylatra*) and Red-footed (*S. sula*) boobies, and careful notes may be necessary to distinguish pelagic boobies. Both observers of the bird at Pt. St. George described the dusky face, white underparts, and three white dorsal patches (hind neck, lower back, uppertail coverts) characterizing the Blue-footed Booby. Some Red-footed Boobies may look similar, but by the time such birds show three white patches on the upperparts, they show extensive white on the upperwing coverts as well. The Pt. St. George bird had uniformly dark upperwings, ruling out a subadult Red-footed Booby with patchy upperparts.

This species has been on and off our Review List. It was on the original Review List in 1970, and records of 40 birds in 1972 were accepted in our second report (Winter and McCaskie 1975). After the 1972 invasion, the species was deleted from the list. Since then the species has averaged less than four records per year, and during the past five years we have diligently sought out all records from 1972 and later. Prior to 1972 many records for California had accumulated, most during irregular invasions (McCaskie 1970a).

BROWN BOOBY *Sula leucogaster* (45). An immature was collected at Headgate Rock Dam, SBE, on the California side of the Colorado R., 2 miles north of Parker, Arizona, 20 Nov 1957 (SDNHM 30080; 105-1988; Huey 1959). An immature on Ferguson Lake, Colorado River, IMP, 5 Sep 1958–7 Oct 1960 (GM†; GMcC; 96-1992) molted into adult plumage during its 3-year sojourn. It also frequented nearby Martinez Lake, Arizona; a photograph was published in *Audubon* magazine (May–June issue, 1961). An immature at the Whitewater R. mouth, north end of the Salton Sea, RIV, 28 July–13 Aug 1966 (GMcC; 395-1986) was collected on the latter date (SBCM 31470). One immature was diving off Rock Hill, south end of the Salton Sea, IMP, 29 Aug–18 Sep 1971 (GMcC; 137-1986). One was standing by a drainage ditch near the Alamo R., 7 miles E of Calexico, IMP, 15 July 1972 (BBu; 234-1986).

The species appears in southwestern California during irregular invasions, often associated with Blue-footed Boobies. The 1966, 1971, and 1972 records accepted here were during such invasion years. See McCaskie (1970a) for more information on this phenomenon.

From August to November 1977, an immature Brown Booby was on Lake Havasu, SBE (previously accepted; Luther et al. 1983), but the discussion in *AB* 32:240 cites a possible second bird there on 20 Nov 1977. Janet Witzeman has clarified this situation for us. The observers saw one bird near the harbor at Lake Havasu City, Arizona, and later saw on a sandbar in the lake a bird that looked the same. Because they never saw any boobies pass their boat, two birds might have been present.

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

REDDISH EGRET *Egretta rufescens* (41). An immature at Havasu Landing, Lake Havasu, SBE, 4-9 Sep 1954, collected on the latter date, was the first for California (GM; MVZ 135902; 250-1986; Monson 1958). Records of an immature at Newport Bay, ORA, 16 Nov 1961 to "May" 1962 (GMcC; 146-1986), an adult on San Diego Bay, SD, 5 May-27 June 1962 (GMcC; 147-1986), and an immature there 5 May-27 June 1962 (GMcC; 148-1986) were published by McCaskie (1964). An immature was at Bolsa Chica, ORA, 6-13 Oct 1963 (TAC; 261-1986). An immature was at the New R. mouth, south end of the Salton Sea, IMP, 8 Aug 1964 (GMcC; 149-1986). Two immatures were at Los Peñasquitos Lagoon, SD, 2-16 Sep 1968 (GMcC; 150 & 151-1986), one of which may have moved to nearby San Elijo Lagoon by late September (see Appendix, List B). Two immatures were at the Whitewater R. mouth, north end of the Salton Sea, RIV, 31 Aug-28 Sep 1969 (GMcC; JLD; 152 & 153-1986). Two immatures were on southern San Diego Bay, SD, 11-12 Oct 1969 (GMcC; 154 & 155-1986). Lone immatures were at the San Diego R. mouth, SD, 1 Nov-21 Dec 1969 (GMcC; 156-1986), and on southern San Diego Bay, SD, 26 July-29 Aug 1970 (GMcC; 157-1986). One was at Newport Bay, ORA, 31 July 1970 (GT; 233-1986). One commuted between San Diego Bay and the Tijuana R. mouth, SD, 6 Oct 1973-3 Apr 1974 (GMcC; JLD; 158-1986); by April it was in full breeding dress. One seen 13 Nov 1977-30 June 1978 in the Tijuana R. valley, SD (previously accepted 57-1978; Luther et al. 1983), moved to south San Diego Bay, SD, 16 July 1978, thus extending its dates of occurrence (GMcC; 194-1987). One was at Imperial Dam, IMP, 11 Feb-3 Mar 1979 (JLD, GMcC, KVR†; 104-1988). An immature was at the San Diego R. mouth, SD, 17 July-17 Sep 1981 (JC; GMcC; 201-1988). An adult was at the Tijuana R. mouth, SD, 8 Nov 1986-28 Feb 1987 (GMcC; MAP; 31-1987).

This species has been on and off our Review List. It was on the original Review List in 1970, delisted in 1981, then readmitted to the list in 1984 (Binford 1985). The Committee particularly thanks Guy McCaskie for help in reviewing the bulk of records for the state. He provided details of 32 of the 41 records now accepted by the CBRC. As is apparent from the foregoing records, the species is a scarce visitant to coastal San Diego County (24 accepted records for the 25-year period 1961-1985), with a few records scattered north to Orange County and in the interior at the Salton Sea. Birds farther north are exceptional, the northernmost being at Elkhorn Slough, MTY (Dunn 1988). Unfortunately, 15 published records of this species remain unsubmitted; the Committee welcomes details of the sightings (see Appendix).

YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON *Nyctanassa violacea* (13). An adult at Venice, LA, "late June" 1951 (ENH†, KES; Figure 2; 70-1992) represents the first documented record for California. The photograph is previously unpublished.

ROSEATE SPOONBILL *Ajaia ajaja* (4**). One subadult at the New R. mouth, south end of the Salton Sea, IMP, 29 Jan-31 July 1978 (GMcC; 195-1987) was likely a bird lingering from the numbers present in summer 1977. Following this influx, an immature near Castroville, MTY, 1 Jan-13 Feb 1978, provided the northernmost record for the western United States (DESt, FS†; 83-1987). A subadult was at the Alamo R. mouth, south end of the Salton Sea, IMP, 27 July-7 Sep 1980 (GMcC; 368-1987). An immature was at the Wister Unit of the Imperial Wildlife Area, south end of the Salton Sea, IMP, 4-10 Sep 1983 (BB†; 366-1987).

This species has been on and off our Review List. It was on the original Review List, and records (of 7 birds) were accepted in our first and second reports (Winter 1973, Winter and McCaskie 1975). At least 70 birds reached California in 1973, and the species was thereafter deleted from the list. Since the incursion of 28 birds in 1977, however, Roseate Spoonbills have been very scarce in California, possibly owing to declines in northwestern Mexico. We now review all records from 1978 and later; the total records shown in parentheses above are those accepted since 1978.

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

For more information on earlier records see Roberson (1980) and Garrett and Dunn (1981).

BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK *Dendrocygna autumnalis* (8). One was near Calipatria, IMP, 12 June 1951 (WA; 238-1987). This now constitutes the first confirmed record for the state, as the specimen shot in the Imperial Valley in the fall of 1912 (Bryant 1914), long considered the first acceptable record (Grinnell and Miller 1944), cannot be located (see Appendix, List A).

TRUMPETER SWAN *Cygnus buccinator* (15). Three were with a flock of 14 Tundra Swans (*C. columbianus*) seen in flight near the Sutter Buttes, SUT, 30 Dec 1986 (RLR, IJR; 18-1987). Descriptions of birds seen in flight, even in direct comparison with Tundra Swans, have presented difficulties to the Committee (see Langham 1991), and this record was not accepted until the third circulation. These birds were giving a "much louder, lower-pitched, richer, more musical, hollow honk that carried much better than the Tundra Swan calls," and the observers had experience with the range of the Tundra Swan vocalizations.

EMPEROR GOOSE *Chen canagica* (52**). One male shot at Eureka, HUM, 11 Dec 1927 (CM/EHS 538; 315-1986) may be previously unpublished, although it is among the statistical count of records cited by Harris (1991) and could be one of the



Figure 2. Adult Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (70-1992) in Venice, Los Angeles County, in late June 1951. This previously unpublished photograph represents the earliest documentation of this species in the state.

Photo by Ed N. Harrison

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

three said to have been collected on Humboldt Bay on "6 Dec 1927" (Davis 1940). Two were shot near Gustine, MER, 1 Dec 1935 (specimens at the Gustine Gun Club; 278-1986; Genelly 1955). One shot at Tule Lake, SIS, 10 Nov 1936 (USNM 588105; 127-1988) and a female shot there 29 Nov 1937 (USNM 588106; 128-1988) are previously unpublished. One was shot at Big Lagoon, HUM, 20 Oct 1945 (HSU 40; 314-1986). An adult shot on north Humboldt Bay, HUM, 12 Dec 1951 (HSU 2219; 316-1986) was one of two procured on that date (Yocum and Harris 1975), but the additional specimen is in private hands (S.W. Harris in litt.) and has not been reviewed. One was in the Crescent City harbor, DN, in "Dec" 1968 (JART; 279-1986). One at Laguna Beach, ORA, 15 Dec 1968 (JAJ; 10-1989) was among an unusual incursion of this species along the southern California coast in winter 1968-1969. Yet another was shot at Tule Lake, SIS, 15 Nov 1976 (HSU 3789; 317-1986). An immature shot 1/2 mile W of Dorris, SIS, 5 Nov 1983 (specimen at Tule Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Figure 3; 390-1987) is previously unpublished. One was at Tule Lake NWR, SIS, 19-21 Oct 1986 (MFR; 51-1987).

The last, an immature, was the subject of debate and extensive research. Some members were concerned with the possibility of a blue-morph Ross' Goose (*Chen*



Figure 3. Specimen of an immature Emperor Goose (390-1987) shot 1/2 mile west of Dorris, Siskiyou County, 5 November 1983. This previously unpublished specimen is now a life mount on public display at the Tule Lake National Wildlife Refuge visitor's center.

Photo by Don Roberson

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

rossi), one of which was at the Tule Lake refuge during winter 1986–1987. This Emperor Goose was described as plain blue-gray above and having blue-gray undertail coverts contrasting with a “pure” white tail. Some members pointed out that adult Emperor Geese are scaly above and not all have a “pure” white tail (though it may appear so in the field), while blue-morph Ross’ may have extensively white tails. Michael J. Lippsmeyer’s research with specimens at the Univ. of California, Davis, including those of blue-morph Ross’ and hybrid Ross’ × Snow (*C. caerulescens*) geese, addressed these concerns. The juvenal-plumaged Emperor Goose has a plainer plumage than the adult, and it molts into its adult-like first-winter plumage from October to December. The juvenal Ross’ Goose does not begin molt until December, and the molt is not completed until April. During their entire first winter, dark-morph Ross’ Geese should have white undertail coverts and extensive dark in the tail. The description is consistent with a molting juvenile Emperor Goose.

*TUFTED DUCK *Aythya fulgula* (54). This species has proved difficult to evaluate. Many California records are of birds that returned for successive winters, often wandering within an area rather than remaining at a single locale. One individual returned for nine winters and another returned for seven. With each winter’s report the Committee evaluates whether a previously accepted record pertains to the same individual. In addition to publishing the results of our review of a number of old records, this report corrects and augments some of our previous decisions and (in combination with Records Not Accepted, q. v.) clarifies the status of several sets of confusing records.

A female on the Smith R. estuary, DN, 16 Nov 1986 (ADB, GSL; 52-1987) was considered only possibly the same as a female there 5–7 Feb 1988 (ADB; 99-1988). A male seen intermittently at Arcata, HUM, 10 Apr 1968–10 Apr 1969 (previously accepted 234-1984; Dunn 1988) was again observed 16 Apr–17 July 1970 (RHG; 454-1986). A male at Grenada, SIS, 7 Apr 1985, and at Lava Lakes, Yreka, SIS, 2–11 May 1985 (previously accepted 93-1985/294-1986; Dunn 1988) returned to Grenada 11 Mar–12 Apr 1986 (RE†; 391-1987).

Males at the Muddy Hollow pond, Limantour, Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, were difficult to evaluate. The Committee believes the recurrence of two birds most probable. The first male was present for five consecutive winters: 7 Jan–17 Apr 1978 (previously accepted 78-1978; Luther et al. 1983), 23 Nov 1978–10 Mar 1979 (previously accepted 12-1979; Luther et al. 1983), 29 Sep 1979–12 Jan 1980, 3 Oct–27 Dec 1980 (previously accepted 237-1980/44-1981; Binford 1985), and 26 Oct–14 Nov 1981, at nearby Drakes Bay, and then returning to Limantour 5–19 Dec 1981 (KH; 100-1983). The characterization of record 12-1979 by Luther et al. (1983) as representing an “immature male” is erroneous; it is now known that many adult males return to California in eclipse or partial eclipse plumage in the late autumn, when they are often misidentified as younger birds. The second male was at Limantour 9 Nov–2 Dec 1980 (previously accepted 237-1980/44-1981; Luther et al. 1983) and was seen with the first male at nearby Drakes Bay 8 Nov 1981 (KH; 100-1983), before reappearing at Limantour 5 Dec 1981–3 Jan 1982 (GMcC; 137-1988). An immature male at Abbotts Lagoon, Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 5 Feb–3 Mar 1980 (JGE, DSh; 101-1983) is considered different from any of the individuals above. One additional Abbotts Lagoon report, of a bird returning for 2 or 3 years, remains in circulation.

A male returned to the Richardson Bay/Mill Valley/Tiburon area, MRN, for seven winters and was recorded on the following dates: 20 Dec 1976–6 Feb 1977 (previously accepted 4-1977; Luther 1980), 14 Jan 1979 (RS; 67-1988), 10 Feb–23 Mar 1980 (previously accepted 71-1980; Binford 1985), 12 Dec 1980–13 Feb 1981, and 7 Feb–8 Mar 1982 (previously accepted 46-1982; Morlan 1985). Although the bird was not found in winter 1977–1978, the Committee suggests that only a single bird was returning.

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

A male at Aquatic Park, Berkeley, ALA, 17 Feb 1980 returned 6–25 Feb 1981 (BJ; JM, JMR; 82-1987). A female was off the Hyde St. Pier, San Francisco, SF, 13 Feb 1984 (DK†; 115-1988). A male was at Coyote Hills Regional Park, ALA, 19 Jan–12 Feb 1980 (AG†; 81-1987). An adult male was on Belmont Slough, Foster City, SM, 19 Apr 1987 (SEF; 129-1987).

Full dates now available for a male that returned to Quail Lake, LA, and vicinity for probably nine winters, although it was not seen every winter. It was on Quail Lake 4 Dec 1978–26 Feb 1979 (previously accepted 49-1980; Binford 1985) and 10 Nov 1979–8 Jan 1980, moving to Cuddy Valley, KER, 15 Jan 1980 (previously accepted 80-1982; Morlan 1985), and returning to Quail Lake 29 Dec 1983–7 Mar 1984 (previously accepted 73-1984; Roberson 1986), 15 Oct 1985–“winter” 1986, and 19 Nov 1986–5 Mar 1987 (previously accepted 15-1987; Pyle and McCaskie 1992).

A female was at the Imperial County Warm Water Fish Hatchery, near Niland, IMP, 1–3 and 22 Feb 1986 (EAC†; GH, CM, GMcC; 202-1986/199-1986). A female on southern San Diego Bay, SD, 18 Feb 1985 (REW; 51-1985) was the southernmost recorded in western North America.

A number of these records elicited extensive debate about the identification of possible hybrid immature males and females of the Tufted Duck with other *Aythya* species. Some adult male Tufted Duck × scaup hybrids have been identified in California by the gray vermiculation on their black backs (see Dunn 1988), and some concern was expressed about the “brownish black” back described on the Belmont Slough adult, but the backs of some Tufted Ducks may appear brownish black rather than jet black. A full discussion of this problem is beyond the scope of this report, but see Gillham et al. (1966) and Gillham (1987). Most members considered records acceptable if the documentation showed no evidence of hybridization, even if some features of the bird (e.g., exact bill pattern) were not well described. The Committee urges observers to consider this problem and to describe the whole bird (not just the tuft), including the bill pattern and the wing stripe.

The bird at Arcata from 1968 to 1970 was the first recorded in summer in the state. In July and August 1968 it, along with several summering scaups, underwent a complete molt, including a flightless period (Harris and Gerstenberg 1970). It was known to be present 10 Apr–17 May 1968, 28 Jul–4 Nov 1968, 8 Mar and 10 Apr 1969, 16–20 Apr 1970, and 4–17 Jul 1970 (Harris 1991). We also follow Harris (1991) in expanding the dates of a male at Arcata, HUM (19-1986; Bevier 1990) to 6 Mar–10 May 1986.

KING EIDER *Somateria spectabilis* (26). A female shot on the Eel R. estuary, HUM, 20 Nov 1940 (specimen at Humboldt County Fairgrounds; 59-1990) and an immature male shot on Humboldt Bay, near Eureka, HUM, 23 Apr 1941 (CM/EHS 961; 313-1986) were discussed by Harris (1991), who corrected previously published dates (e.g., in Yocum and Harris 1975). An immature male at Moss Landing, MTY, mid-Feb to 26 Aug 1961 (GMcC; 94-1986) was considered different from the immature male off Cypress Point 21–26 Mar 1959, which reappeared in the Monterey harbor, MTY, 24–25 June 1959 (Dunn 1988), because the plumage had not changed over the two years. This interpretation (followed by Roberson 1985) differs from that published in *AFN* 16:70, in which but one bird was credited for both records. Another immature male was at Moss Landing, MTY, 18 Dec 1982 (RD†; 112-1988).

ZONE-TAILED HAWK *Buteo albonotatus* (28). An adult male collected 20 miles N of San Diego, SD, 23 Feb 1862 (MVZ 4375; 26-1990) represents the first California record. An immature was collected “near the coast” about 30 miles N of San Diego, 10 Sep 1907 (MVZ 5494; 27-1990; Grinnell 1909). An immature shot at Chula Vista, SD, 10 Oct 1932 (SDNHM 16137; 106-1988) was reported by

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

Huey (1933) to have been "present for several days" and to have been a female, but the specimen is labeled a male. One was at Ft. Piute, SBE, 17 June 1978 (GMcC; 196-1987). One was seen from Mt. Palomar, SD, 26 Feb–2 Mar 1983 (RH; 359-1987).

The Committee received much additional documentation of birds along the coastal slope of San Diego County and reviewed the situation. The decisions below supersede prior discussions of this topic (Roberson 1986, Dunn 1988). One at Whelan Lake, Oceanside, SD, 13 Jan 1979 (previously accepted 40-1979; Binford 1985) probably returned to the same general vicinity near Vista, SD, including at Guajome Regional Park and along Highway 76 over the next eight years as follows: 1–29 Feb 1980 (FHa; 325-1987), 7 Dec 1982–27 Feb 1983 (previously accepted 5-1983; Roberson 1986), 10 Dec 1983–14 Feb 1984 (previously accepted 135-1983; Roberson 1986), 19 Oct 1984–1 Jan 1985 (previously accepted 279-1984; Dunn 1988), 21–27 Feb 1986, 13–25 Sep 1986 (CW; 35-1987), and 7 Jan–1 Mar 1987 (CW; 108-1988). Although no Zone-tailed Hawk was seen during winter 1980–1981 and 1981–1982, and the dates could suggest the presence of two birds, a plurality of the Committee felt it more likely that one wide-ranging wintering bird accounted for all the sightings. However, one seen at the Highway 76 bridge over the San Luis Rey R., 3 miles N of Vista, SD, 9–27 June 1984 (CW; 309-1987) was considered more likely a different bird, because of the summer date. Sightings of single individuals some distance away near Lake Poway, SD, 3 Sep 1979 (JWM; 336-1987) and near Fallbrook, SD, 26 Dec 1982–8 Jan 1983 (previously accepted 27-1984; Roberson 1986) are also thought more likely to be of different birds.

Zone-tailed Hawks in the mountains of San Diego County may originate in the Sierra San Pedro Mártir of Baja California. Range expansion is possible, as pairs have nested for successive years on Hot Springs Mountain, SD (Langham 1991), and on Santa Rosa Mountain, RIV (Binford 1983).

*SHARP-TAILED GROUSE *Tympanuchus phasianellus*. "Resident and formerly abundant (up to about 1880) on suitable parts of the northeastern plateau region. Persisted, in lessening numbers, up to about 1915; nothing better than rumors of occurrence since then. Now thought to be extinct within the boundaries of this State" (Grinnell and Miller 1944). The Committee knows of seven specific records (151–157-1985, including superseded 118-1984) from 1855 to 1915. Three are supported by specimens, photos of which we have seen: a male near Ft. Bidwell, MOD, 28 Sep 1877 (USNM 77604; Henshaw 1880), and two males at Ft. Crook, now Dana, SHA, 17 Apr, exact year not recorded (USNM 16292 and 16293), which are previously unpublished. Additional published reports are of birds near Lookout, MOD, about 8 August 1855 (Newberry 1857), with a pair and six young seen at Lookout, MOD, around 1901 and birds last noted there in the fall of 1915 (Grinnell et al. 1918, Grinnell and Miller 1944), up to 50 at the mouth of Juniper Creek, LAS, prior to 1906; and one pair apparently nesting at Timbered Hill, MOD, in April and May 1915 (Grinnell et al. 1918). Details in the cited literature range from comparison to the Sage Grouse (*Centrocercus urophasianus*) and descriptions of the calls to anecdotal hearsay accounts.

YELLOW RAIL *Coturnicops noveboracensis* (63**). One was collected near the Freshwater Creek mouth, Humboldt Bay, HUM, "in 1884" (CM/EHS 908; 312-1986). Another was collected at Shandon, SLO, 9 Oct 1917 (MVZ 30727; 25-1990). In addition to the nest records and lost specimens listed by Dunn (1988), the Committee accepted for statistical purposes the following: a lost specimen from near Pajaro, MTY, Nov 1905; a nest found in Long Valley, MNO, 4 June 1939, and birds heard in Bridgeport Lake Valley, MNO, June 1939. The latter two records were discussed by Heaton (1940). The undated specimen listed by Dunn (1988) for "Berryessa" was actually near Alviso, SCL. As the Yellow Rail formerly nested in the

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

state and occurred regularly in coastal marshes during winter, we now review only records postdating 1940.

The old Humboldt Bay specimen, which is prepared as a life mount, presented an interesting exercise in detection. Yocum and Harris (1975) said, "Two were recorded on a marsh near Freshwater Creek, Humboldt County, in 1884. One of these was collected and mounted as part of the C. Fiebig collection (Townsend 1886). We assume that the mounted Yellow Rail in the Fiebig collection at the Clarke Museum, Eureka in 1974 is this same bird." Yet the specimen itself bears no data. Townsend's (1886) note provided a potential answer: the specimen had been mounted on wood, a very unusual preparation method. Gary S. Lester examined the specimen at our request and, with the use of a needle, was able to confirm it was indeed mounted on wood. The Committee accepted this specimen as the bird collected in 1884, but the second bird said to be present could not be reviewed for lack of details.

The Shandon specimen was designated by Bailey (1935) as the holotype of *C. n. emersoni*, a subspecies that is now generally recognized as invalid.

WILSON'S PLOVER *Charadrius wilsonia* (4). Three eggs were collected by E. E. Sechrist from a nest on Mullet I., south end of the Salton Sea, IMP, 20 May 1948 (SBCM 19108; 356-1987). This represents the second record and only nesting attempt known for California (Garrett and Dunn 1981). Sechrist's notes state, "Nest—small hollow in ground, lined with few bits of short sticks near sea, many Snowy Plover around." We presume at least one adult was present, and probably a pair, as both sexes incubate the eggs (Bergstrom 1986).

The review of this record presented the Committee with an unusual task, since few members were trained in the identification of eggs. We reviewed photographs of the egg set in comparison to egg sets of the Killdeer (*C. vociferus*), Snowy Plover (*C. alexandrinus*), and others of Wilson's Plover, and reviewed measurements (e.g., one egg measured 38 × 27 mm) and Sechrist's tag. The eggs were nearer the size of Killdeer eggs but differed in shape, being rounder and less truncated on one end than Killdeer eggs of the 39 sets compared. The background color and markings matched those shown by west Mexican sets of Wilson's Plover. Lloyd Kiff of the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology independently confirmed the identification.

AMERICAN OYSTERCATCHER *Haematopus palliatus* (11). One collected at San Diego, SD, 16 May 1862 (MVZ 4488; 59-1985) and another collected on Santa Barbara I., SBA, 2 June 1863 (MVZ 4489; 60-1985; Cooper 1868) were the first California records and were assigned to the west Mexican race *frazari*. Both birds provoked questions about possible hybridization with the Black Oystercatcher (*H. bachmani*).

Jehl (1985) devised a scoring system ranking ten characters (e.g., color of uppertail coverts, extent of white wing stripe) on a scale from 0 to 4 or 0 to 6. Under this system, scores below 10 specify *H. bachmani*, those above 30 *H. p. frazari*, and those between suggest introgression. Joseph Morlan and John Trochet studied the specimens and scored them independently; Joseph R. Jehl, Jr., also provided his original scores of these two specimens. The San Diego bird was scored 35 by Jehl, 35 by Morlan, and 33 by Trochet; it is clearly an American Oystercatcher. The Santa Barbara Island bird was scored 27 by Jehl, about 29 by Morlan, and about 26 by Trochet, scores borderline and problematic. Jehl considers the bird to be *frazari*. Jehl (1985) hypothesized that widespread collecting around the turn of the century on the islands off Baja California led to hybridization; Cooper's birds were taken prior that collecting.

UPLAND SANDPIPER *Bartramia longicauda* (9). One was watched in flight at Pt. Mugu, VEN, 9 Sep 1979 (REW; 338-1987). This fits well within the span of other coastal fall records (22 Aug–13 Sep).

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

BAR-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa lapponica* (8). A female found on Humboldt Bay, near Arcata, HUM, on 11 July 1968 was collected on 17 July 1968 (HSU 1475; 304-1986; Gerstenberg and Harris 1970). The bird, identified as the Siberian race *baueri*, was molting from a worn basic plumage into fresh basic plumage, and the ovary showed no signs of recent enlargement. This individual was likely in its first summer and may have summered locally, but no primarily Siberian-nesting shore-birds are known to have summered in California.

CURLEW SANDPIPER *Calidris ferruginea* (14). A juvenal-plumaged bird at Rodeo Lagoon, MRN, 7 Sep 1966 (HJ†; 59-1989) was the first recorded for the state.

*BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER *Tryngites subruficollis* (59). Juveniles were at the Gualala R. mouth, SON, 1-3 Sep 1980 (TLC†; 425-1986), on the Oxnard Plain near Pt. Mugu, VEN, 19-25 Sep 1980 (HS, NS, KLG; 334-1987), inland at Lake Shastina, SIS, 27-28 Sep 1981 (RE†; 125-1990), at the Arcata bottoms, HUM, 21-26 Sep 1985 (JCS; 184-1986), and at the Mad R. mouth, HUM, 11-12 Sep 1979 (RLeV†; 208-1989).

The Oxnard record illustrates a problem the Committee sometimes faces. AB 35:226 states that "1-3 [were] found around Pt. Mugu Sept. 13-25 and the species may prove to occur annually on the sod farms in this area." Three birds were reported on 13 Sep, with but one on 19 Sep and again 25 Sep. The Committee received details of only one bird on 19 Sep. Our usual policy is, once the identification is accepted, to adopt the entire date span published in *Am. Birds*, unless there is some reason to question it. Since we received no details, however, of the three birds on 13 Sep, half of the Committee felt only one bird was documented and thus only one bird could be accepted. We would welcome details of the 13 Sep sighting, which now appears in the Appendix (List D). A similar problem arose with the Arcata bird, as we had only one brief description of a bird seen by many over a week. If observers would forward details of all rarities they see, even if the bird is a stake-out, uncertainties over the date span or the number of birds could be reduced.

COMMON BLACK-HEADED GULL *Larus ridibundus* (14). A breeding-plumaged adult was at Larkspur Landing, MRN, 26-29 Apr 1968 (RS; 95-1987). This second state record has been overlooked by several authors (e.g., McCaskie et al. 1979, Roberson 1980).

THICK-BILLED MURRE *Uria lomvia* (18). A winter-plumaged bird was in the Monterey harbor, MTY, 6 Sep 1969 (GMcC; 129-1986), and another was there 19 Jan-22 Feb 1975 (RAE, JM, GSS; 210-1986).

Our third report (Luther et al. 1979) cites two Thick-billed Murres on Monterey Bay, MTY, 11 Aug 1974. The Committee obtained additional details and now accepts a total of four birds: two oiled birds, both in breeding plumage, just outside the Coast Guard pier, Monterey harbor, 11 Aug, with one remaining until 7 Sep, a winter-plumaged bird at this same locale 5-13 Oct, and another winter-plumaged individual a bit farther offshore on inner Monterey Bay 13 Oct 1974 (SFB; JLD, PEL, GMcC; 75-1974). Both birds seen on 11 Aug were actively preening their oiled bellies and thus ingesting oil. The ingestion of even small amounts of oil can cause alids considerable physiological stress (Nettleship and Birkhead 1985, Ehrlich et al. 1988). Given the gap of a month between sightings, the Committee felt it more likely that the October birds were new arrivals, rather than the presumably stressed oiled individuals, which were unlikely to have completed their postbreeding molt. Inner Monterey Bay has hosted most of the state's Thick-billed Murres to date.

PARAKEET AUKLET *Cyclorhynchus psittacula* (34). One in breeding plumage crashed ashore at Eureka, HUM, 7 Feb 1909 (HSU 2261; 309-1986). A breeding-plumaged female was taken 3 miles N of Samoa, on the ocean side of Humboldt Bay,

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

HUM, 5 Apr 1924 (HSU 3127; 310-1986; Davis 1940). Of three found dead at La Jolla, SD, 28 Jan 1937, one was preserved as a specimen (USNM 529104; 126-1988) and two were briefly described (KWK; 293 & 294-1988; Kenyon 1937). One found dead on Stinson Beach, MRN, 9 Apr 1944 (MVZ 89469; 56-1989) was preserved as a skeleton and was identified (by K. L. Garrett) from its skull. An immature male was found alive on Samoa Beach, HUM, 20 Nov 1983 (HSU 5483; 311-1986); a photograph of the beached bird was published by Harris (1991).

Clay (1912) told the story of the 1909 specimen in the picturesque terms of the time: "Buzz-z-z-z—Bang! Was the way one Andy Aiton described the first appearance of this little auklet. . . . It was a dark stormy night; the drizzling rain growing into a dense fog, with a strong wind blowing, turned the night into a dreary haze. The auklet was evidently lost, and, probably attracted by the street lights, flew blindly against an overhead telephone wire, thereby stunning itself and causing it to fall to the street below. On picking it up, Mr. Aiton found the bird alive. He gave it to a local taxidermist."

Twenty-eight specimens were secured in the 50 years between 1895 and 1944, when the species must have been much more common inshore than it is now. Only four birds (including one record in circulation and another unsubmitted; Appendix, List A) have been found beach-cast or inshore in the 48 years since then.

SNOWY OWL *Nyctea scandiaca* (68**). A sick male was captured by California Fish and Game personnel in the Yolo Bypass, south of Davis, YOL, 4 Jan 1967 (230B-1988); it died shortly thereafter from having eaten ducks infected with fowl cholera (the carcass was incinerated because of the cholera bacilli). A minor incursion of Snowy Owls reached northwestern California (see that winter Harris and Yocum 1968, Bevier 1990).

The species invaded on a much larger scale during winter 1973–1974. Reports of ten birds were accepted in our third report (Luther et al. 1979), including seven from the coastal northwest. During our review of old records, Richard A. Erickson and Gary S. Lester compiled as much documentation for us as could now be gathered. Some birds were extensively documented, photographs being printed in various newspapers, but others were only briefly described. The Committee concurred that at least 32 individuals occurred in coastal Del Norte and Humboldt counties from 23 Nov 1973 to 27 Mar 1974 (DA†, JBa†, NBa†, SFB, JLD, RAE, REG, NG†, GSL†, RLeV†, GMcC, PMcL†, NJM†; specimens listed below; 400-1986). All previous records (6, 7, and 8-1974) are now subsumed under this single record number. The specific occurrences, listed from north to south: one on the beach at the Oregon border, DN, 6 Jan 1974; one at the Smith R. mouth, DN, 23 Nov 1973; five in the Lake Talawa/Lake Earl area, DN, 10 Dec 1973–10 Feb 1974 (previously accepted as 7-1974; HSU 3249); one at Pt. St. George, DN, 30 Dec 1973 (previously accepted as 8-1974); one at McKinleyville, HUM, 20 Dec 1973; one found dead at the Mad R. mouth, HUM, on either 13 or 14 Dec 1973; one seen alive at the Mad R. mouth, HUM, 6 Jan 1974; one in the Arcata bottoms, HUM, in early Mar 1974; three on the Lanphere Dunes, HUM, 20 Dec 1973–20 Jan 1974; one picked up wounded at Manila, HUM, 2 Jan 1974; one north of Samoa, HUM, 18–20 Dec 1973; one at the Samoa Coast Guard station, in Jan 1974; one shot southeast of Arcata, HUM, 3 Jan 1974; another shot at Murray Field, Eureka, HUM, 12 Dec 1973; another seen alive there 28 Feb 1974; at least six on the south spit of Humboldt Bay, HUM, 15 Dec 1973–27 Mar 1974 (some were previously accepted as 6-1974); five in the Centerville beach/Eel R. mouth area, HUM, 10 Dec 1973-30 Jan 1974 (including HSU 3241).

Additional birds occurred farther south, including three previously accepted (Luther et al. 1979) from Bodega Bay, SON (30 Jan–9 Feb 1974), Pt. Reyes NS, MRN (6–7 Jan 1974), and Alameda, ALA (9–18 Feb 1974). One in Berkeley, ALA, 16 Feb

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

1974, was accepted in our eleventh report (Bevier 1990). One was on a roof in San Francisco, SF, 2 Jan 1974 (HF†; AP; 76-1989), and another was at Pt. Año Nuevo, SM, 9-14 Jan 1974 (LCB; 397-1986). The southernmost was a male found dead by David G. Ainley at the Salinas R. mouth, MTY, 11 Jan 1974 (CAS 83690; 12-1987). The carcass contained shotgun pellets.

The Committee now accepts 39 birds in California during the winter 1973-1974 incursion, by far the largest number in the state since the "flocks" in Humboldt County during the winter of 1896-1897 and the 20 or more present in 1916 (Grinnell and Miller 1944). We acknowledge that some birds may have moved to different sites and thus may account for more than one record, but many seemed to frequent the same locales for months. Many were killed or wounded by illegal shooting. It is likely that others were shot but never recovered. All appear to have been immatures. Our minimum count of 39 acceptable records is similar to the total of 43 reported by Sadie Brown in summarizing the reports for the season (AB 28: 685). She included three more in Del Norte and Humboldt counties than we accept, likely a discrepancy in the interpretation of the data (we used a rather conservative approach to maximum numbers), and one more for Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, on 22 Dec 1973. We have no details on this latter report, but would welcome them (see Appendix, List D).

BROAD-BILLED HUMMINGBIRD *Cyanthus latirostris* (34). A male was at Pt. Mugu, VEN, 16-17 Sep 1978 (HLJ; 150-1987). An immature male was at the Clark Ranch, 14 miles N of Blythe, RIV, 28 Sep-30 Nov 1979 (SG†; 84-1988).

GREATER PEWEE *Contopus pertinax* (23). One collected from a row of tamarrisks near the SE edge of the Salton Sea, IMP, 4 Oct 1952 (E. A. Cardiff 1907; 354-1987), was the first recorded in California (Cardiff and Cardiff 1953). The specimen is now a life mount on public display at the San Bernardino County Museum. One was at Blythe, RIV, 28-29 Nov 1979 (SG†; 83-1988); the date span reported here is from Rosenberg et al. (1991) and not from information in our file.

GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER *Myiarchus crinitus* (30). Single birds were measured and banded on SE Farallon I., SF, 25 Sep 1967 (HRT†; 198-1987), 4 Oct 1970 (DFD†; 16-1989), 6 Oct 1980 (KH†; 199-1987), and 2 Oct 1983 (KH†; 200-1987); another was seen but not caught 9 Oct 1978 (JGE†; 389-1986). One was observed at Goleta, SBA, 27 Sep 1974 (BS; 269-1987).

THICK-BILLED KINGBIRD *Tyrannus crassirostris* (8). One was at Lost Lake, RIV, south of Earp, SBE, late Nov-23 Dec 1979 (KVR†; 103-1988); a photograph was published by Rosenberg et al. (1991).

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER *Tyrannus forficata* (58). One was at Pt. Reyes NS (RCA station), MRN, 18 Aug-12 Sep 1967 (DG†, RS, MGZ; 68-1988). One was at the Vigo St. marsh, Eureka, HUM, 6 June 1969 (TE†, RHG; 355-1986). One was at Covington Park, Morongo Valley, SBE, 11-13 Oct 1971 (GSS; 460-1986). One was at Yucca Valley, SBE, 23 May 1971 (JAJ; 76-1987). A first-year female was banded on SE Farallon I., SF, 18-19 May 1973 (DG†, RHa; 202-1987). One was collected at Blythe, RIV, 13 June 1974 (specimen at Arizona State University's Blythe Field Station; 207-1988). One at Ventura, VEN, 4-8 Apr 1976 (DSt; 280-1986) was reported to have been present "for several months." One was at Salt Creek, 30 miles N of Baker, SBE, 18 July 1978 (ASE; 281-1986). A worn adult was at Patricks Point SP, HUM, 19-24 July 1980 (GJSt; 393-1986).

Although details of the Ventura bird prior to early April were not obtained, the date suggests that the bird wintered, only the second to do so in California.

EURASIAN SKYLARK *Alauda arvensis* (1). An adult returned for its sixth winter at Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 3-8 Nov 1983 (DHE; 193-1988); this record fills the gap

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

mentioned by Dunn (1988). This individual returned annually from 1978–1979 through 1984–1985 but during this sixth winter was located about 0.8 miles south of its usual location. Morlan and Erickson (1983) discussed the bird's discovery and identification.

GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH *Catharus minimus* (12). One was on SE Farallon I., SF, 28 May–8 June 1971 (DFD†; 21-1989); another was there 11 June 1975 (DFD†; 22-1989); an immature was there 12–14 Sep 1975 (RPH†; 102-1987). All were measured and banded. One was watched near the Pt. Reyes NS lighthouse, MRN, 31 Oct 1978 (RS; 69-1988). One was at Pt. Loma, SD, 2–10 Oct 1987 (GMcC; JLD, PEL, CM, MAP, DR, LS†; Figure 4; 252-1987).

The first two Farallon birds represent the only spring records for the state. The 1971 individual was first identified as a Swainson's Thrush (*C. ustulatus*) when banded on 28 May but was correctly identified upon recapture on 8 June. During the week it appeared to be residing in Cassin's Auklet (*Ptychoramphus aleuticus*) burrows and became very ragged and dirty. It was kept in captivity until released on the mainland on 15 June.

Wing length identified the Farallon immature to the expected nominate race; it was aged by skull pneumatization and the prominent buffy tips to the greater coverts (see Pyle et al. 1987). The Pt. Loma bird was the first in the state to linger long enough for many observers to enjoy it. It was interesting to note that flash photographs of the bird (Figure 4) caused an illusion of a large prominent eyering and white edges to the



Figure 4. Gray-cheeked Thrush (252-1987) at Pt. Loma, San Diego County, 2–10 October 1987. Some flash photographs of the bird caused an illusion of a prominent eyering and white edges to the outer rectrices, illustrating how written descriptions are needed to supplement photographs.

Photo by Larry Sansone

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

outer rectrices. All observers forwarding descriptions to the Committee described a much reduced eyering that appeared broken anteriorly, causing the dark eye to stand out prominently on the otherwise unmarked gray face, and an unmarked tail. The photos, while excellent in other respects, illustrate how flash photography can misrepresent fine details; it tends to overemphasize pale areas of a bird and wash out shades of green and yellow.

WOOD THRUSH *Hylocichla mustelina* (8). An adult male in Herman Gerhardt's backyard in Glendale, LA, 1-11 Aug 1968, was killed by a cat on the latter date (GSS, LACM 77806; 390-1986). This was only the second record from California.

GRAY CATBIRD *Dumetella carolinensis* (47). One was at Oasis, MNO, 10 June 1964 (GMcC; 107-1986), and a singing male was at nearby Deep Springs, INY, that same day (GMcC; 106-1986). One was in Santa Barbara, SBA, 16 Oct-3 Dec 1971 (NM; 342-1987). One was in John Derby's garden at Mammoth Lakes, MNO, 19-23 Sep 1974 (DAG; 320-1987). An adult was measured and banded on SE Farallon I., SF, 15 Oct 1974 (RPH†; 103-1987), and another was seen there 15 Oct 1982 (MA, RPH; 104-1987).

CURVE-BILLED THRASHER *Toxostoma curvirostre* (12). Laurence M. Huey took California's first specimen at Bard, IMP, on 31 Dec 1916 (adult female, SDNHM 32771; 318-1987; Huey 1920), and he, May Canfield, and Marvin Jones took four additional specimens 2 miles N of there on 29 Oct 1924 (SDNHM 32770; 316-1987), 14 Jan 1925 (SDNHM 9707; 319-1987), 16 Jan 1925 (SDNHM 9722; 315-1987), and 18 Jan 1925 (SDNHM 32769; 317-1987; McCaskie and Prather 1965). All are of the expected western Arizona race *palmeri*.

This concentration of early records suggests the Curve-billed Thrasher has been disfavored by the massive habitat changes along the Colorado River since 1925, nearly complete replacement of native willows and cottonwoods by the introduced saltcedar (*Tamarix chinensis*) (Rosenberg et al. 1991).

*RED-THROATED PIPIT *Anthus cervinus* (62). One at Pt. Reyes NS (Mendoza Ranch), MRN, 30 Sep 1978 (RS; 70-1988) was considered by a majority as probably one of three rediscovered at nearby Hall Ranch 7-13 Oct 1978 (accepted 111-1978; Luther et al. 1983). One was at the Santa Clara R. mouth, VEN, 28 Sep 1980 (BEDa; 225-1987). One was at Furnace Creek Ranch, Death Valley NM, INY, 5 Oct 1985 (JA; 83-1986).

The Furnace Creek bird, the first far inland in the state, was followed by another at this locale two autumns later (Pyle and McCaskie 1992). While the Red-throated is the most frequent fall vagrant pipit in California, it is unrecorded in Nevada (DeSante and Pyle 1986), where there is a mid-May specimen of the Olive-backed Pipit, *A. hodgsoni* (Burleigh 1968).

YELLOW-THROATED VIREO *Vireo flavifrons* (35). One was measured and banded on SE Farallon I., SF, 12-13 June 1969 (HR†; 426-1986). A singing male at Big Morongo Reserve, Morongo Valley, SBE, 13 June 1977 (SG; 85-1988) was possibly the same bird there from 30 Apr to 14 May 1977 (accepted record 30-1977; Luther 1980; late date corrected here). Another singing male was at Ft. Piute, SBE, 28 May 1978 (GA, CC, KVV; 158-1987). One was at Twin Pines Ranch near Banning, RIV, 29 Apr 1980 (RLMcK; 326-1987). One was at the Big Canyon Country Club, Newport Beach, ORA, 23 Sep 1984 (DRW; 307-1987).

PHILADELPHIA VIREO *Vireo philadelphicus* (69). One was at Bodega Bay, SON, 28 Sep 1974 (EM, MLR; 345-1986). One was seen on SE Farallon I., SF, 12 June 1975 (DFD; 346-1986), and single birds were measured and banded there 25 Sep 1976 (RPH†; 106-1987) and 12 Oct 1976 (HH; 19-1988). One was at Cabrillo Beach, San Pedro, LA, 17 Oct 1980 (BEDa; 226-1987).

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

YELLOW-GREEN VIREO *Vireo flavoviridis* (25). An immature female hit a window in San Diego, SD, 7 Oct 1967 (SDNHM 36247; 122-1988).

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER *Vermivora chrysoptera* (36). A male collected by Donald R. Medina on SE Farallon I., SF, 26 May 1963 (MVZ 160114; 249-1987) furnished the second state record. A male was measured and banded on SE Farallon I., SF, 18-20 June 1980 (HH, LBS†; 40-1988), and another was seen there 2 Sep 1980 (RJB, JN; 108-1987). A female was at Thousand Palms Oasis, RIV, 3 Oct 1980 (RLMcK; 333-1987).

We follow Harris (1991) in revising the dates of the male at Fairhaven, HUM (32-1975; Luther et al. 1979), to 21-22 Sep 1975 (collected on latter date; HSU 7179) and of another at Fairhaven (196-1980; Binford 1985) to 8-16 Oct 1979.

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER *Dendroica dominica* (59). One was at Scottys Castle, INY, 30 May 1971 (RSG; RAE; 345-1987). One was near Fairhaven, HUM, 24 Sep 1974 (RLeV; 246-1986). One was on Pt. Loma, SD, 26 Apr 1980 (CWS, ES; 327-1987). One collected by Steven W. Cardiff at Needles, SBE, 28 Feb 1984 (SBCM 39419; 55-1992) was of the white-lored western race *albiflora*, as most Yellow-throated Warblers in California have been, and provided the first winter record in the state. The second winter record was of a yellow-lored bird at Olema, MRN, in Dec 1984 and Jan 1985 (see Dunn 1988).

We follow Harris (1991) in revising the dates of a pair at Eureka, HUM (27-1983; Roberson 1986), to 11 Jun-1 Jul 1982.

GRACE'S WARBLER *Dendroica graciae* (22). A female collected in the Tijuana R. valley, SD, 29 Oct 1966 (GMcC; SDNHM 36047; 49-1992; Craig 1970) was the first recorded for California. A singing male was on Clark Mt., SBE, 23 May 1981 (BEDa; 324-1987).

Three of California's accepted records are from the small grove of White Fir (*Abies concolor*) at 7000 feet elevation on Clark Mountain, isolated in the Mojave Desert near the Nevada border, and there are two more unreviewed records in the literature. Grace's Warblers nest in the Charleston Mountains, Nevada, just 70 miles to the northeast. The observer of the Clark Mt. bird described watching a singing Grace's Warbler and hearing, in response, an "identical" song from the next ridge. He concluded there were two Grace's Warblers present, although the second bird was not seen. Committee members, however, pointed out that vocal mimicry is well known in the Parulinae (Kroodsmma et al. 1983, Payne et al. 1984, van Buskirk 1984), and the second bird was not accepted. Committee member Bailey, in fact, had watched a Black-throated Gray Warbler (*D. nigrescens*) countering to a Virginia's Warbler (*Vermivora virginiae* on this very mountain. Members Garrett and Morlan commented that the song of the Yellow-rumped Warbler (*D. coronata*) is highly variable and closely approaches that of Grace's.

PINE WARBLER *Dendroica pinus* (36). An immature male was on Pt. Loma, SD, 28 Oct 1967 (JRJ†; GMcC; 34-1986). Another immature male was on SE Farallon I., SF, 19 Oct 1974 (RPH†; 41-1988).

Pine Warblers have been misidentified as Prairie Warblers (*D. discolor*). Both species wag their tails. The Pine Warbler is larger, shows white undertail coverts (pale yellow on the Prairie); and has two prominent white wingbars (dull and poorly defined on the Prairie). The long tail extension beyond the tip of the longest undertail covert helps distinguish the Pine Warbler from the similar Blackpoll (*D. striata*) and Bay-breasted (*D. castanea*) warblers (J. Dunn, in comments).

CERULEAN WARBLER *Dendroica cerulea* (12). An immature was collected at the "southeastern edge" of the Salton Sea, IMP, 1 Oct 1947 (SBCM 37584; 353-1987). An immature female was measured and banded on SE Farallon I., SF, 23-24 Oct 1981 (BBn, RSn†; 394-1986).

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

The site of the Salton Sea bird, the first for California (Hanna and Cardiff 1947), is now under water with the rise of the Salton Sea. The bird was originally reported to be an immature female, but the specimen (reviewed by the Committee via five color photographs of the specimen at different angles) shows considerable bluish above and slightly veiled blackish scapular streaks, both characters of an immature male. Committee members believe it an immature male, perhaps missexed when prepared.

*PROTHONOTARY WARBLER *Protonotaria citrea* (85). A male was at Furnace Creek Ranch, Death Valley NM, INY, 12 Sep 1971 (RS; TM; 341-1987). A male was at Kelso, SBE, 27-28 Aug 1978 (EAC†; 351-1987). A female, probably immature, hit a window at McKinleyville, HUM, 29 Sep 1978 (HSU 7226; 305-1986). A tailless bird present on the Clark Ranch, 14 miles north of Blythe, RIV, 8-16 Oct 1979 (RJD; 101-1988) was apparently photographed, but we have not located the picture. One was at Morongo Valley, SBE, 27 Sep 1980 (MP; 329-1987). A female, probably immature, was at the Carmel R. mouth, MTY, 18 Oct 1980 (DLD, JSL; 234-1987). A male was at Furnace Creek Ranch, INY, 18 Oct 1980 (BEDa; 227-1987). An immature male was measured and banded on SE Farallon I., SF, 12-16 Sep 1981 (KH; RJB†; 109-1987). A female was at Baker, SBE, 13-14 Oct 1984 (EAC†; 352-1987). A male was at Lee Vining, MNO, 15 Sep 1985 (KH; 305-1987). A female came to a hummingbird feeder in Roseanne Abnet's yard, San Diego, SD, 25 Jan-20 Mar 1987 (GMcC, MAP; 185-1987).

We follow Harris (1991) in revising the dates of one at McKinleyville, HUM (434-1986; Langham 1991) to 11-16 Sep 1986. Records of this species after 1989 are no longer reviewed by the Committee.

WORM-EATING WARBLER *Helminthos vermivorus* (53). Single birds were on SE Farallon I., SF, 4-6 June 1973 (BC; 203-1987) and 20 June 1974 (BP†; 250-1987). One was on the Yucca Valley golf course, SBE, 14-16 May 1977 (LRBe; 263-1987).

We follow Harris (1991) in revising the dates of a male that wintered at Sunnybrae, HUM (3-1978; Luther et al. 1979), to 29 Dec 1977-18 Mar 1978. The bird, which was in Harris' yard, was singing on its final date of occurrence.

KENTUCKY WARBLER *Oporornis formosus* (51). An adult male was collected on SE Farallon I., SF, 3 July 1972 (CAS 69647; 11-1987), and another male at Eureka, HUM, 21-23 Nov 1972, was collected on the latter date (HSU 7188; 303-1986). Additional males were on SE Farallon I., SF, 11-12 May 1979 (RJB†; 110-1987), 23 June 1982 (CSt; 111-1987), and 23-24 May 1983 (RPH†; 112-1987), and a female was there 16 June 1975 (DFD†; 14-1989). All but the 1982 bird were measured and banded. Another male was banded at Palomar, near Bolinas, MRN, 13 May 1987 (PRBO†; 25-1989).

CONNECTICUT WARBLER *Oporornis agilis* (48). Single birds were on SE Farallon I., SF, as follows: a male 16 June 1958 (CAS 84321; 273-1986), a male 22 Sep 1965 (CAS 84322; 274-1986), a female 22 Sep 1965 (CAS 84323; 275-1986), an immature 13 Sep 1968 (HR†; 207-1987), a female 18 June 1969 (HR; 27-1988), and immatures 11 Sep 1974 (DW; 113-1987), 1-5 Sep 1980 (RJB†; 42-1988), 23 Sep 1982 (RPH; 29-1988), 15 Sep 1983 (HRC, RPH; 31-1988), and 11 Oct 1983 (HH; 30-1988). Another immature was measured and banded at Palomar, Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 12 Sep 1980 (DFD, JSL†; 392-1986).

Over half (26) of the state's accepted records have been from SE Farallon Island, and of those listed here, all but the one in 1974 were confirmed in hand by measurements (see Lanyon and Bull 1967). The 1958 specimen was the first recorded for California (Bowman 1961), and the 1965 specimens were the third and fourth (Tenaza 1967, who miscited the sex of the 1958 bird and overlooked the second state record in 1963; see Bevier 1990).

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

MOURNING WARBLER *Oporornis philadelphia* (60). Single birds were on SE Farallon I., SF, as follows: breeding-plumaged males 3 June 1978 (LBS†; 116-1987) and 15 June 1987 (PP†; 210-1987), immatures 14 Sep 1979 (RPH; 23-1988), 9–10 Sep 1980 (RPH; 24-1988), 10 Oct 1980 (PP; KH†; bird 1; 209-1987), 10 Oct 1980 (PP; bird 2; 117-1987), 13–14 Sep 1981 (RPH; 25-1988), and 14 Sep 1981 (RPH; 26-1988). An immature collected at Baker, SBE, 10 Nov 1979 was the latest fall migrant recorded in California and constitutes the only autumn record for the state's interior (SBCM 30529; 355-1987). Immatures were observed at Carpinteria, SBA, 17 Sep 1984 (LRBa; 96-1988) and Los Osos, SLO, 7 Sep 1986 (JEMcD; GPS; 366-1986).

Half (30) of the state's accepted records of the Mourning Warbler have been from SE Farallon Island. Of these, all but the second individual on 10 Oct 1980 and the second one in 1981 were banded and confirmed via measurements (especially wing minus tail; see Lanyon and Bull 1967). The birds only seen were identified by the combination of a yellow throat merging (without a hooded effect) into the yellow underparts and a thin often yellowish eyering only slightly broken fore or aft (see Pyle and Henderson 1990). The Los Osos bird had darker gray scalloping on a lighter gray incomplete breastband, suggesting an immature male (P. Pyle, in comments).

SCARLET TANAGER *Piranga olivacea* (71). A singing male was at Squaw Flat, Sespe Wildlife Area, VEN, 31 May 1958 (GMcC; 213-1986). A female was at Dana Pt., ORA, 23 Aug 1964 (GMcC, EAP; 108-1986). An immature female was banded at a campsite just east of Bard, IMP, 18 Oct 1970 (HR†; 306-1987). An immature male was at Emigrant Ranger Station, Death Valley NM, INY, 11 Nov 1970 (RLeV†; 244-1986). An immature was at Pt. Reyes NS ("road forks pool"), MRN, 26 Sep 1971 (RS; 71-1988). One, probably an immature male, was at Kelso, SBE, 26 Oct 1975 (PU; 53-1987). A male, age unknown, was on the Univ. of California campus, Santa Barbara, SBA, 12 Nov 1976 (SIR; 228-1987), and another was at Oxnard, VEN, 7 Oct 1978 (REW; 201-1986). A breeding-plumaged male was banded on SE Farallon I., SF, 18–22 June 1980 (RJB, HH, JK, CSt; 32-1988). A male, possibly an adult, was at Pt. Loma, SD, 24 Oct 1980 (JRO†; 103-1989). A breeding-plumaged male was at Los Osos, SLO, 15 June 1981 (HJB, MHJB; 277A-1986). A female was at Big Morongo Reserve, Morongo Valley, SBE, 24 Oct 1981 (EAC†, SJM†; 228-1986). An immature male was measured and banded on SE Farallon I., SF, 6 Nov 1981 (RPH†; 120-1987).

The 1981 Morongo Valley record initially presented a difficult review, since the only evidence originally submitted was a multi-generation copy of a single slide. One member thought the identification could be based on the maxillary tooth, lacking in the Summer Tanager (*P. rubra*) (see Ridgway 1887), but other members pointed out that there is overlap in this character and that the the apparent "tooth" was in the wrong location, likely an artifact of the photograph. Additional photos were discovered and added after two circulations, but no written details were ever submitted. Features that could be seen among the final four photos reviewed, and which clinched the identification, included contrastingly blackish-centered tertials with pale whitish edges, dark shaft streaks to the median coverts, and the greenish tone to the upperparts visible in an original photo. The review illustrated how much colors can change during the slide-duplication process; second- or third-generation copies may show a color much too warm and yellowish. We later learned that the bird met with a predator, as a half-eaten carcass was discovered (E. A. Cardiff pers. comm; SBCM 53453; we have not examined the specimen).

PYRRHULOXIA *Cardinalis sinuatus* (11). A female was in Chemehuevi Wash, SBE, 14 May 1983 (KK, JCW; 313-1987), at the same spot where the female of a pair was on a nest in July 1977 (see Luther 1980). The outcome of that breeding attempt (the only one for the state) was never known, but this 1983 bird might have

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

be the same female or offspring of the pair. It is considered "possibly the same" (thus statistically a different bird) by the Committee.

PAINTED BUNTING *Passerina ciris* (29). Birds in immature or female plumage were in the Tijuana R. valley, SD, 13-14 Sep 1962 (GMcC; 100-1986), 11 Oct 1962 (GMcC; 101-1986), and 22 Sep 1963 (GMcC; 104-1986). A first-year male, in green plumage with only a scattering of blue feathers on its head, was singing 8 miles W of Santa Rosa, SON, 24 June 1966 and subsequently collected (CAS 69789; 139-1985). A female, possibly an adult, was at Deep Springs, INY, 31 Aug 1971 (RS; 339-1987). An immature female was measured and banded on SE Farallon I., SF, 10 Sep 1975 (RPH†; 121-1987). A female or immature male was 10 miles N of Blythe, RIV, 13 Nov 1978 (RJD; 102-1988).

As Painted Buntings are rather common in captivity in Mexico (M. J. Lippsmeyer, L. Santaella in litt.) and are smuggled across the border (Nilsson 1981), evaluating records of this species, especially near the border (e.g., Tijuana R. valley) can be difficult. Farallon records from September to November (see Bevier 1990) strongly suggest that wild vagrants reach California.

The Santa Rosa bird, providing the first record for northern California, was originally considered an escape by some (Bolander and Parmeter 1978) but more likely wild by others (Roberson 1980). The specimen shows no cage wear or abnormalities in feet or claws, and it is the west Mexican race *pallidior* that is more often kept in captivity (L. Baptista pers. comm. to S. F. Bailey). Bailey examined the specimen and identified it as the eastern race *ciris*. Subsequently, Thompson (1991) cast doubt on the currently recognized criteria for subspecific identification, but Bailey recently noted (in litt.) that the brightness of the plumage and the short wing chord suggest that the bird was from an eastern population, even if racial separation is uncertain. The Committee unanimously considered the bird more likely wild than an escapee.

CASSIN'S SPARROW *Aimophila cassinii* (33). A skylarking male was 1 mile E of El Cajon, SD, 15-30 May 1970 (TAO, SFO; 75-1988). An immature was measured and banded on SE Farallon I., SF, 12 June 1975 (DFD†; 15-1989).

The El Cajon bird was at the same location, in sage scrub, frequented by singing males in May 1976 (Luther et al. 1979) and June 1978 (Binford 1983). It is possible that the same bird was responsible for all three records, the only ones for San Diego County. The song of the 1970 bird was tape-recorded on a child's toy recorder, and later played for J. Dunn and G. McCaskie, but this tape documentation is now lost. See also under Records Not Accepted, below.

SNOW BUNTING *Plectrophenax nivalis* (38). An immature female of the nominate race was collected on the south jetty of Humboldt Bay, HUM, 25 Nov 1945 (MVZ 94376; 90-1987); it represents the first record for California (Sholes 1946). One was with a large flock of Lapland Longspurs *Calcarius lapponicus* at Lower Klamath NWR, SIS, 25 Nov 1960 (GMcC; 92-1986), and a female was collected 2 miles E and 7 miles S of Tulelake, SIS, 22 Dec 1965 (GMcC; SDNHM 35513; 314-1987; McCaskie 1966). A female at the Arcata oxidation ponds, HUM, 20-21 Nov 1969 was collected on the latter date (S. W. Harris 627, specimen in HSU; 307-1986). Two were on the shore of Hartson Reservoir, LAS, 27-28 Dec 1973, with one remaining to 16 Feb 1974 (TDM, RS; 197-1987). Up to four birds were at Lake Talawa, DN, 13 Dec 1974 (3 birds) to 15 Feb 1975 (4 birds) (PFS, SLF; 243-1987). Three more were together at Lake Talawa, DN, 6 Nov 1977, with one remaining to 11 Nov (RSW; 352-1986). One was at Bodega Bay, SON, 13 Nov 1976 (ALE; 218-1986). One was at Tule Lake NWR, SIS, 27 Oct 1978 (BEDe; 240-1986). One was at the Garcia R. mouth, Pt. Arena, MEN, 16 Nov 1978 (KVV; 159-1987). One was on SE Farallon I., SF, 22-25 Oct 1979 (DT; 124-1987). One was on the north jetty of Humboldt Bay, HUM, 10-12 Nov 1982 (BBk; 113-1988).

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

COMMON GRACKLE *Quiscalus quiscula* (21). An adult male was collected along La Cresta Road, about 1 mile ENE of El Cajon, SD, 20 Nov 1967 (SDSU 2052; 357-1987). A male was at 7000 feet elevation along McGee Creek, MNO, 12 Apr 1987 (DAG; 127-1987).

The El Cajon bird, originally mislabeled as a Brewer's Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*), was discovered in the SDSU teaching collection in 1975 by Wayne Arendt and reidentified by Jon Dunn. The specimen represents the first California record, as cited by Roberson (1980) and Garrett and Dunn (1981), both of whom reported an incorrect date of 1969. The date was corrected by Unitt (1984), but he mistakenly called the specimen mounted. It is a study skin.

STREAK-BACKED ORIOLE *Icterus pustulatus* (4). A male was in the Tijuana R. valley, SD, 22 Sep 1962 (GMcC; 102-1986). Although there was concern about possible captive origin, three of the four records accepted to date have been from the coastal slope, and nine of ten CBRC members felt this was more likely a wild vagrant than an escapee.

COMMON REDPOLL *Carduelis flammea* (4). Jim Cowling collected a male at Manila, HUM, 22 May 1969 (S. W. Harris 500, specimen at HSU; 308-1986), the first redpoll in California since the "large flocks" in winter 1899 (Grinnell and Miller 1944).

POPULATIONS ACCEPTED

In addition to maintaining an archive of reviewed records, the Committee maintains a California state list, including established exotic as well as native species (Jones et al. 1981, Binford 1986). In 1986 the Committee established a permanent subcommittee on introduced species and adopted criteria for the acceptance of established populations. The subcommittee compiles information on these populations and proposes adding introduced species to the state list if it has information sufficient to prove the identification of the species and the viability of its population. To be judged viable, a population must have bred in the state for 15 consecutive years, must be increasing or stabilized after an initial period of increase, must occupy enough geographically contiguous suitable habitat to sustain itself, and must occupy an environment similar enough to the species' natural habitat or to that of other successful introductions that permanent establishment seems likely. Populations maintained primarily by recurrent releases (intentional or accidental) or that require intense management for survival are not considered viable.

The subcommittee recommended and the full Committee accepted the addition of one species new to the California list.

*WHITE-TAILED PTARMIGAN *Lagopus leucurus*. A population established along the crest of the Sierra Nevada, first introduced in August 1971 (NBi, CEB, DFD†, HAG, GMcC; 231-1980). Photographs by DeSante and several feathers picked up by McCaskie establish the identification; Clarke and Johnson (1990) subsequently published a photo of a California bird. Clait E. Braun, formerly of the Colorado Division of Game, Fish, and Parks, provided the Committee with the entire governmental agency file on the California introduction, whose purpose was "to introduce another game bird in an area lacking a huntable species" (see Gaines 1988).

Some 73 birds (including 16 chicks) were trapped in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado in August and September 1971 and April and September 1972 and were

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

shipped by air express to California for release. These were swapped for 250 "Afghan white-winged" Ring-necked Pheasants from California (whose introduction in Colorado, incidentally, was not successful; C. E. Braun pers. comm.). Ten ptarmigans were released at 11,000 feet elevation near Mono Pass, west of Bridgeport, MNO, on 26 Aug 1971, where they "immediately went to feeding and seemed contented and at home" (letter to Braun from H. T. Harper, upland game coordinator for California Dept. Fish and Game). An additional 28 were released in late September 1971, some 23 more in May 1972, and another 12 in September 1972.

The ptarmigans' breeding at the Hall Natural Area, MNO, northeast of Tioga Pass, has now been confirmed for over 15 years. The population has spread north to Matterhorn Peak, TUO, west to Mt. Hoffman, TUO, and south to the Ritter Range, MAD (Gaines 1988), over about 300 square miles, though breeding is confined to alpine habitats over 10,000 feet elevation, less than half this area. Lower elevations at Sonora Pass (9628 feet) to the north and around the Minaret Summit (9175 feet) to the south may present barriers to further expansion, although the population has not yet reached these points. The ptarmigans' habitat is confined to the willows *Salix nivalis*, *S. anglorum*, and *S. planifolia* (Johnsgard 1973). Jennifer A. Clarke, who provided information from 87 banded birds during a 4-year study of the population at the Hall Natural Area, considers the species to be established. The average productivity is about 30%, with an average of 18 chicks per spring (70% survival rate to the fall), and the average density was about 5 adult birds per square kilometer, rates similar to those of native populations in Colorado and Montana (Clarke and Johnson 1990). Extrapolating this density over the apparent current range suggests a population of about 1800 birds. The California Dept. of Fish and Game opened a hunting season on the White-tailed Ptarmigan in September 1989.

Some environmentalists expressed concern that the introduction might "bode danger to the world's smallest willow" (AB 31:1184), but no significant impacts on the alpine flora and fauna have yet been detected (J. A. Clarke in litt.). Yet concern over the introduction of non-native species and their impact on the environment is warranted. In a departmental memo, Clait Braun expressed concerns as early as 1972: "I believe that both California and our [Colorado] Division were extremely lax in not doing serious evaluation of the habitats where the birds were released.... Before additional transplants of any animal are conducted, I urge that adequate planning, pre-transplant habitat evaluation, and follow-up studies be conducted. We owe it to ourselves and the public."

CORRIGENDA TO RECORDS ACCEPTED

A Little Gull (*Larus minutus*) at Kelly Lake, Watsonville, SCZ (44-1982), accepted in Morlan (1985), was actually present 1-3 Jan 1981 (not 1-2 Jan). A Curve-billed Thrasher at Brock Research Center, IMP (80-1973), accepted in Winter and McCaskie (1975), was actually present 24 June 1973 (not 24 July). We thank David L. Suddjian and Jon L. Dunn, respectively, for these corrections.

We follow Harris (1991) in revising the following dates of occurrence: an Emperor Goose at Eureka, HUM, 11 Nov 1972 (23-1977) and another at the south spit, Humboldt Bay, HUM, 14 Nov 1972 (43-1977), both accepted in Luther (1980), were present until 30 Dec 1972; an adult Little Gull near Arcata, HUM (68-1978), accepted in Luther et al. (1983), was present 21 Feb-5 Mar 1978 (not 26 Feb); an adult Little Gull at Arcata, HUM (477-1986), accepted in Langham (1991), was actually present 11-16 Nov (not 13 Nov) 1982. A Dusky-capped Flycatcher (*Myiarchus tuberculifer*) at Arcata, HUM (55-1984), accepted in Roberson (1986), was present 13 Jan-14 Mar (not 12 Mar) 1984 and was collected (HSU 5733). A Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata*) at Fieldbrook, HUM (66-1978), accepted in Luther et

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

al. (1983), was present 16 Jan (not just "mid Jan") –9 Mar 1978. A male Golden-winged Warbler at Fairhaven, HUM (32-1975), accepted in Luther et al. (1979), was present 21–22 Sep (not just to 21 Sep) 1975 and was collected (HSU 7179); the female accepted under that same record number was present 19–21 Sep only. Another male Golden-winged Warbler at Fairhaven, HUM (196-1980), accepted in Binford (1985), was present 8–16 Oct (not just to 15 Oct) 1979. A singing male Scarlet Tanager at Fairhaven (219-1987), accepted in Langham (1991), was actually present 9 June 1987 (not 7 June). We thank Stanley W. Harris and Richard A. Erickson for providing these corrections.

We have also received additional documentation on two important records and correct our previously published data. California's first Dusky-capped Flycatcher, accepted in Roberson (1986), is corrected to read: "A male at Furnace Creek, Death Valley NM, INY, 23 Nov 1968 (NBB; GMcC, GSS; 84-1984) was collected (LACM 66519; Suffel 1970)." California's second Trumpeter Swan, accepted in Dunn (1988), is corrected to read: "An adult was present at Abbotts Lagoon, Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 25 Dec 1961–9 March 1962 (PDeB, GMcC, GMM†; 193-1984). Details of this sighting, but with an incomplete date span, were published by Williams and Miller (1963)."

The locality of California's first Blue Jay (Binford 1985), "Igos," SBE, is now known as Mountain Home Village.

RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED, IDENTIFICATION QUESTIONABLE

YELLOW-BILLED LOON *Gavia adamsii*. One at Monterey, MTY, 25 Jan–22 Feb 1969 (39-1985). One at Moss Landing, MTY, 25 Jan 1969 (398-1986). One at Drakes Bay, Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 1 Jan 1973 (190-1986). One at Bodega Bay, SON, 10 Dec 1973 (192-1986). One on Humboldt Bay, HUM, late Dec 1973–2 Jan 1974 (193-1986). One at King Salmon, Humboldt Bay, HUM, 15-17 Nov 1987 (401-1987). Upon our request for details, the observer of one at Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 3 Oct 1977 (AB 32:251) requested that the record not be accepted. In addition, Remsen and Binford (1975) found no or insufficient evidence to support the following records: Stinson Beach, MRN, 28 Apr 1965; Limantour, MRN, 4 Mar 1969; Big Lagoon, HUM, 19–23 Mar 1969; Bodega Bay, SON, 26 Dec 1970; Bodega Bay, SON, 21 Jan 1971 (2); Bodega Bay, SON, 25 Feb 1971; Bodega Bay, SON, 13 Feb 1972.

LEAST GREBE *Tachybaptus dominicus*. One at Winterhaven on the Colorado River, IMP, 2 May 1948 (338-1986) and one at the Mission Bay flood channel, SD, 20 Dec 1959 (337-1986; Stott and Selsor 1960). In both cases no descriptions were taken at the time of observation and the recollected details were insufficient to establish only the second and third records for the state.

SHORT-TAILED ALBATROSS *Diomedea albatrus*. One following a ship at 37°08' N, 124°29' W, about 50 nm W of Pt. Año Nuevo, SM, 17 Feb 1946 (396-1987; Traylor 1950). Three on the Sharpe Park golf course, Pacifica, SM, 5 Feb 1968 (143-1989).

Concerning the former, Traylor (1950) wrote, "Although there were no Laysan Albatrosses (*D. immutabilis*) present for direct comparison, two were seen the next day, and the difference between the two forms was striking. The white back of the Short-tailed is a most conspicuous field mark and can be seen almost as far as the bird. This individual had the white of the back extending a few inches up the wing. In the air *albatrus* appears larger than the Black-footed Albatross (*D. nigripes*) and the body is much stouter. Its flight is more deliberate, with less swinging and wheeling. The bill appeared to be yellow, although Mayr (Birds Southwest Pacific, 1945: 4) gives 'pinkish' as the color of the bill in the adult." The majority of the Committee felt

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED, identification questionable, Cont.

these details did not rule out the possibility of either the Wandering (*D. exulans*) or the Royal (*D. epomophora*) Albatross, both of which have plumages meeting this description. Of course, these southern albatrosses are strictly vagrants in the north Pacific, and, as none had occurred by 1946, it is not surprising they were not considered by the observer. But Wandering Albatross has now occurred in California (Paxton 1968) and Japan (Brazil 1991), and the Tasmanian race of the Shy Albatross (*D. cauta*) has been collected off Washington (Slipp 1952), indicating long-distance vagrancy by southern species. A yellow bill is incorrect for a Short-tailed Albatross at any age, and a bird with white "extending a few inches up the wing" is not an adult. Subadult Short-tailed Albatrosses have large white patches well out on the wing as well as near the back (see Roberson 1980, Harrison 1983).

The Short-tailed Albatross, victim of hunting and volcanic eruptions on its single nesting island of Torishima, Japan, was feared extinct by the end of World War II (Austin 1949). Under protection, however, the population slowly returned from fewer than ten adults in 1950 to several hundred today (Hasegawa 1984). Concomitantly, first-year birds have been seen again off California, within the species' historic pelagic range, in August 1977, December 1983, November 1985, and April 1987 (Luther 1980, Roberson 1986, Dunn 1988, Langham 1991).

SOLANDER'S PETREL *Pterodroma solandri*. One photographed off Pt. Arena, MEN, 21 May 1981 (45-1981). The Committee is reconsidering this record as of a Murphy's Petrel, now known to occur regularly off California from April to June. The standard reference for identifying the large dark *Pterodroma* is Bailey et al. (1989).

***COOK'S PETREL** *Pterodroma cookii*. One seen from SE Farallon I., SF, 21 Sep 1970 (6-1970) and another 12 nm WSW of the Cordell Bank, MRN, 7 June 1986 (304-1988). The 1970 report was not accepted in our first report (Winter 1973) but was reviewed again as a "*Cookilaria*" (see Dunn 1988), as was the 1986 report. The Committee felt that the details of both were too scanty to support even the more liberal designation.

BLUE-FOOTED BOOBY *Sula nebouxii*. One seen from a sailboat just off Pt. Loma, SD, 26 Aug 1977 (343-1987) and another by the same observer in the surf at Manhattan Beach, LA, 30 Aug 1977 (344-1987). Neither was seen with binoculars. One from a ship about 20 miles E of San Clemente I., LA, 27 Oct 1983 (310-1987) was likely a booby, but the sketch suggested a Red-footed or Masked Booby more than this species.

RED-FOOTED or BROWN BOOBY *Sula sula* or *S. leucogaster*. One photographed at dusk at Pt. Pinos, MTY, 3 Dec 1987 (360-1987). This all-dark booby with white underwing coverts was initially identified and submitted as an immature Brown Booby, but some observers later reidentified it as a dark-morph Red-footed Booby. The Committee felt that the fuzzy dark photographs were insufficient to identify this booby to species.

REDDISH EGRET *Egretta rufescens*. One on San Diego Bay, near Coronado, SD, 25 Sep 1937 (395-1987; Delareuelle 1938). One near Otay Lake, SD, 20 Sep 1943 (266-1986). One at Pt. Mugu lagoon, VEN, 18 Aug 1969 (461-1986).

Most members felt that the brief published description of the 1937 bird did not eliminate the Tricolored Heron (*E. tricolor*): "light-colored undersurface of the wings and body." There are no original field notes supporting the 1943 report; we do not know if this species was always as regular around San Diego Bay as it is now. Despite the observer of the birds at Pt. Mugu describing the staggering foraging behavior characteristic of the Reddish Egret, the record was defeated by the narrowest of margins (8-2), the dissenters stressing the need for caution in identifying the species north of San Diego County.

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED, identification questionable, Cont.

YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON *Nyctanassa violacea*. An immature at Solana Beach, SD, 1-11 Nov 1963 (249-1986; McCaskie 1964). The identification was based entirely on apparent leg length in flight and was not supported by other features, such as the color of the base of the bill (black on the Yellow-crowned, greenish-yellow on the Black-crowned Night-Heron, *Nycticorax nycticorax* (see Blom 1985).

TRUMPETER SWAN *Cygnus buccinator*. One at Wards Lake, Litchfield, LAS, "about the end of Jan" 1957 (109-1984). An immature photographed at Pescadero, SM, 22 Feb-25 Mar 1967 (82-1989). An adult and two immatures photographed in flight at the Santa Clara R. mouth, VEN, 17 Nov 1974 (198-1988). One adult at Shingletown, LAS, 15 July 1975 (194-1986). One at the Antelope Valley sewage ponds, LA, 5 Dec 1983 (47-1990). One at Colusa NWR, COL., 21 Mar 1986 (70-1987). The Committee continues to struggle with details of this rare species that are too brief. For example, the Colusa bird was described by a waterfowl biologist as seen in flight with a Tundra Swan (*C. columbianus*) and "clearly larger," with a "very deep, resonant, and trumpet-like call." Unfortunately, the observer did not respond to a request for further details on the age of the bird, the bare-part color, his experience with swans, and a better definition of the word "larger." Male swans are larger than females, and adults' voices differ from those of younger birds. A full appreciation of the variation within the common species is necessary for identification.

The 1957 bird was found dead with a band and was reported to the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Bird Banding Lab as a Trumpeter Swan. Danny Bystrak located the original documents on this bird, which had been banded 21 Mar 1954 as a second-year bird at Lakesle Lake, British Columbia. After it was found dead and published as a Trumpeter (on the mistaken understanding it had been banded as a cygnet), an autopsy by California Fish and Game personnel found that the breast bone and trachea were definitely those of a Tundra Swan. Although this was corrected in 1957, the erroneous identification still appeared on the government's computerized database until our review.

The angle of the photograph of the family group at the Santa Clara R. mouth precluded comparison of both neck length and bill shape, two important characters identifying adult swans. The Committee was unanimous that the photograph of the Pescadero bird showed an immature Tundra Swan. For good discussions on the identification of immature swans, see Bailey (1991) and Tobish (1991).

EMPEROR GOOSE *Chen canagica*. One at Staten I., SJ, 14 Feb 1957 (231-1984). One at Goose Lake, MOD, 7 Sep 1969 (141-1989). One at Lower Klamath NWR, SIS, 15 Mar 1981 (Figure 5; 237-1986).

The photograph of the last shows an anomalous whitish stripe on the flank, plus apparently broad and muted dorsal barring and a black hindneck, and the majority of the Committee felt that the bird might be a hybrid Emperor × Greater White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*). Those accepting the record pointed to the typical Emperor Goose bill and white tail and noted that the proposed hybrid combination is apparently unknown in the wild (Palmer 1976). We welcome comments from readers having expertise with North American dark geese.

AMERICAN BLACK DUCK *Anas rubripes*. One at Newport Bay, ORA, 25 Feb-3 Mar 1980 (366-1987). The bird was very tame. Most members felt that the description did not eliminate a domesticated Mallard (*A. platyrhynchos*). Eight members further indicated that the natural occurrence of this species at this urban location would have been questionable, even if the identification had been correct.

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED, identification questionable, Cont.

*TUFTED DUCK *Aythya fulvigula*. Two at Limantour, Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 7 Nov 1981 (420-1986). One reported at Tiburon, MRN, 19 Jan 1979 (AB 33: 309), was requested withdrawn by the observer when contacted for details and is thus not accepted.

COMMON EIDER *Somateria mollissima*. One at Ft. Point, San Francisco, SF, 12 Dec 1982 (73-1988), was a single-observer report of a species not yet on the California list, a situation that the Committee views with much caution. Furthermore, the bird was initially published as an "apparent female King Eider" (AB 37: 333). The color described ("grayish") was incorrect for the ruddier plumage typical example of the western race *v-nigra* of the Common Eider. The southernmost Pacific coast record of this species is of a specimen taken at Hardy Bay, northeastern Vancouver Island, British Columbia, on 27 Oct 1934 (Campbell et al. 1990).

KING EIDER *Somateria spectabilis*. Two "adult males" at Willits, MEN, 10 Nov 1944 (142-1989). One female at Pismo Beach, SLO, 17-18 Apr 1983 (322-1987).

ZONE-TAILED HAWK *Buteo albonotatus*. One at Cottonwood Springs, Joshua Tree NM, RIV, 14 May 1960 (94-1988). One at Mt. Palomar, SD, 8 July 1984 (312-1987). Both reports may well have been correct, but members were concerned about documentation consisting of only a 28-year recollection (the former) or very brief details (the latter).



Figure 5. Goose, submitted as Emperor Goose (237-1986), photographed at Lower Klamath National Wildlife Refuge, Siskiyou County, 15 March 1981. This record was not accepted, as the majority of the Committee thought the bird might be a hybrid between the Emperor and Greater White-fronted Goose. The Committee welcomes comments on this or any other decision.

Photo by Ray Ekstrom

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED, identification questionable, Cont.

CRESTED CARACARA *Polyborus plancus*. One at Seal Rocks, Pebble Beach, MTY, in "Feb" 1916 (155-1988; Heath 1919) was said to have been photographed, but the published details do not contain a useful description. Even if correctly identified, the bird may have been an escapee from captivity (see below).

GYRFALCON *Falco rusticolus*. One "white-gray phase" bird at Pt. Reyes NS lighthouse, MRN, 28 Feb 1965 (140-1989).

YELLOW RAIL *Coturnicops noveboracensis*. One reported on the Santa Barbara, SBA, Christmas Bird Count, 26 Dec 1914 (322-1986), was questioned by Dawson (1923), and no details survive.

AMERICAN OYSTERCATCHER *Haematopus palliatus*. One at Pebble Beach, MTY, between 3 and 6 Apr 1955 (123-1990). This very intriguing record included a sketch in the observer's notes of an oystercatcher with a white wing stripe. Although it is clear that the bird was not a typical Black Oystercatcher, the details are insufficient to eliminate a hybrid (see Jehl 1985 and under Records Accepted, above).

*BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER *Tryngites subruficollis*. One at Arcata, HUM, 25 Aug 1970 (243-1986).

COMMON BLACK-HEADED GULL *Larus ridibundus*. Two at Bodega Bay, SON, 9 Aug 1972 (198-1986).

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL *Larus fuscus*. One "adult" at the Red Hill marina, south end of the Salton Sea, IMP, 7 Jan 1988 (141-1988). Most members considered the California Gull (*L. californicus*) not eliminated, and some felt it was indicated.

SNOWY OWL *Nyctea scandiaca*. One at Wilson Valley, MOD, 14 Apr 1967, three at Lower Klamath NWR, SIS, 17 Apr 1967, and one at Table Bluff, 5 miles S of Eureka, HUM, 24 Apr 1967 (230C-1988) were described too sketchily to be accepted, even at the end of the minor 1967 invasion (see Accepted Records). These five birds were cited by Harris and Yocom (1968) and Harris (1991) as the latest California sightings. Several members noted that four of these were reported in "white" not "barred" plumage, suggesting adult males, a plumage unrecorded in the state. The latest date for a Snowy Owl in California appears to be 27 Mar 1974 (see Records Accepted).

Two on Potato Slough, San Joaquin delta, SJ, 16 Oct 1974 (81-1989) were thought by some members to have been Black-shouldered Kites (*Elanus caeruleus*).

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD *Archilochus colubris*. An immature hummingbird measured and banded on SE Farallon I., SF, 12 Sep 1986 (5-1987) was identified in hand by its rather bright green back, buffy flanks, short bill, and outer rectrix tips slightly broader than those of an immature Black-chinned Hummingbird (*A. alexandri*), which the Ruby-throated closely resembles. The shape of the tenth primary, now thought to be the best character (Baltosser 1987), was not examined in hand nor was it apparent in the photographs, even when enlarged sixteen times under a stereo microscope (enlargements provided by M. J. Lippsmeyer). We asked Nancy J. Newfield of Louisiana to examine the photographs and measurements independently. She opined (in litt.) that the back, while brighter than usual in the Black-chinned, was still not emerald green enough for the Ruby-throated, that the crown was too dull, that the flanks looked rather typical of the Black-chinned, that the shape of the outermost primary (seen in a photo) was more like the Black-chinned's, that the shape of the outermost rectrix suggested hybridization, and that the short bill suggested immaturity or hybridization.

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED, identification questionable, Cont.

DUSKY-CAPPED FLYCATCHER *Myiarchus tuberculifer*. One at Deep Springs, INY, 7 June 1986 (373-1986). The Dusky-capped Flycatcher's distinctive down-slurred whistle was not heard, and some other useful characters, such as rusty-edged secondaries, were not described. All accepted California records of this species are for late fall or winter.

One published as occurring "near Walters Camp, RIV," 9-14 Nov 1977, collected on the latter date (AB 32:259), was actually on the Arizona side of the Colorado River (K. V. Rosenberg pers. comm.).

THICK-BILLED KINGBIRD *Tyrannus crassirostris*. One reported on SE Farallon I., SF, 14 Sep 1975 (201-1987) had "extremely dark brown" upperparts, clean white underparts, cinnamon-edged remiges, and lacked a white tip to the tail. Fall Thick-billed Kingbirds have strongly yellow-washed underparts.

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER *Tyrannus forficatus*. Single birds at La Mirada, LA, 3 Jan 1947 (81-1985; Hall 1947), Indio, RIV, 24 Oct 1948 (80-1985; Tinkham 1949), Imperial Valley, IMP, 26 July 1969 (48-1990), and Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 20 July 1971 (342-1986). Details published in the first two records were exceedingly brief, and the report from the Imperial Valley was second-hand, lacking details.

BLUE JAY *Cyanocitta cristata*. One heard, but not seen, at Pt. Diablo, Golden Gate NRA, MRN, 27 Oct 1977 (137-1977). One at a feeder at Willow Creek, HUM, 6 Oct 1983 (257-1986).

Documentation of the bird at Willow Creek consisted only of recollections written three years after the observation. The record for Pt. Diablo was accepted in our fourth report (Luther 1980) but was recirculated after we received details (from JW) of a Steller's Jay (*C. stelleri*) in Yosemite NP giving apparently perfect imitations of Blue Jay calls. Although the Pt. Diablo bird was heard giving perhaps 40 times a strident descending "jay" call, characteristic of the Blue Jay, corvids are renowned mimics, and the Blue and Steller's Jays have hybridized (Williams and Wheat 1971). In winter 1977-1978, however, a small influx of Blue Jays (4 accepted records) reached the coast of far northern California. The report received a 4-6 vote on rereview, the bare majority needed to overturn a previously accepted record.

BRIDLED TITMOUSE *Parus wollweberi*. One reported at Weott, HUM, 3 Dec 1987 (97-1988) was likely an escaped Black-crested Finch (*Lophospingus pusillus*), a rather commonly kept native of Argentina that bears an uncanny resemblance to the titmouse and likely accounts for reports of the titmouse from as far north as Saskatchewan (see *Blue Jay* 39:199). The Bridled Titmouse is generally resident but was collected on the Arizona side of the Colorado River in winter 1977 (Rosenberg et al. 1991).

GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH *Catharus minimus*. One on SE Farallon I., SF, 18 Sep 1975 (62-1988). This individual was not caught, banded, and measured, unlike many Farallon Gray-cheeked Thrushes. No details were written at the time of observation and 13-year-old recollections were insufficient to convince the Committee of this difficult identification, even though fall records from the Farallones account for over 60% of California's Gray-cheeked Thrushes.

RUFOUS-BACKED ROBIN *Turdus rufopalliatu*s. One at Parker Dam, SBE, 4 Jan 1982 (39-1990). This report is previously unpublished.

GRAY CATBIRD *Dumetella carolinensis*. One on Santa Cruz I., SBA, 7 Oct 1979 (88-1988). One reported second-hand from Deep Springs, INY, 14-15 May 1982 (182-1986).

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED, identification questionable, Cont.

CURVE-BILLED THRASHER *Toxostoma curvirostre*. One photographed at the Salton Sea NWR headquarters, IMP, 1 Nov 1964–25 Jan 1965 (113-1986); one at Black Meadow Wash, Lake Havasu, SBE, 26 Dec 1952 (195-1988; McCaskie and Prather 1965); one in the Tijuana R. valley, SD, 6–15 Sep 1965 (116-1986). At least the Salton Sea and San Diego records appear to have been of Bendire's Thrashers (*T. bendirei*). These identifications relied heavily on eye color, now known to be variable in the latter species, and the color of the base of the mandible (black on Curve-billed, pale on Bendire's) was overlooked.

WHITE/BLACK-BACKED WAGTAIL *Motacilla alba/lugens*. One at San Joaquin Marsh, Irvine, ORA, 27 Oct 1985 (85-1986) was seen too briefly to be identified conclusively.

BLACK-BACKED WAGTAIL *Motacilla lugens*. One at Long Valley, MOD, 5 July 1987 (173-1987).

*RED-THROATED PIPIT *Anthus cervinus*. Single birds at Asilomar SB, Pacific Grove, MTY, 17 Nov 1976 (353-1986) and on SE Farallon I., SF, 21 Oct 1979 (105-1987). One reported at Arcata, HUM, 3 Nov 1976 (Harris 1991) was requested withdrawn by the observer when contacted for details.

SPRAGUE'S PIPIT *Anthus spragueii*. One at Goleta, SBA, 8 Oct 1964 (303-1988).

PHILADELPHIA VIREO *Vireo philadelphicus*. Single birds on Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 26 Sep–5 Oct 1970 (344-1986), on SE Farallon I., SF, 21 Sep 1978 (187-1986), at the Carmel R. mouth, MTY, 21 Oct 1980 (432-1986), and near Imperial Dam, IMP, 27 May 1983 (321-1987). A black-and-white photo of the Farallon bird appears in Roberson (1980). Most of these records stirred substantial debate, as the Philadelphia and Warbling (*V. gilvus*) vireos vary more widely in loral pattern and underpart color than has been described. There are problem birds with intermediate characters (e.g., yellow center of breast but whitish throat or reduced dark loral stripe).

YELLOW-GREEN VIREO *Vireo flavoviridis*. One at Gaviota SP, SBA, 2 Oct 1982 (301-1986).

BLUE-WINGED WARBLER *Vermivora pinus*. Single birds at Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, SF, 13 Sep 1963 (302-1988), Pt. Loma, SD, 19 Sep 1964 (109-1986), Arcata, HUM, 13 Jan 1975 (215-1987; Yocum and Harris 1975), Ft. Piute, SBE, 28 May 1977 (63-1988), and Pt. Loma, SD, 22 Oct 1980 (331-1987). In addition, the Committee voted not to accept one reported in the Tijuana R. valley, SD, 19 Sep 1965; it had been questioned by Unitt (1984) and rejected by Garrett and Dunn (1981).

Although there has been an upsurge in records during the past decade, there are only two accepted records prior to 1983. Most of these rejected records were of birds seen briefly or described poorly, or seen by observers unaware of the species' extreme rarity.

GRACE'S WARBLER *Dendroica graciae*. One at Scottys Castle, Death Valley NM, INY, 30 May 1971 (346-1987).

PINE WARBLER *Dendroica pinus*. Single birds at Pt. Reyes NS (Mendoza ranch), MRN, 5 Oct 1970 (348-1986), Tijuana R. valley, SD, 18 Sep 1971 (139-1986), Mad R. mouth, HUM, 22–23 Sep 1976 (216-1987); and Eureka, HUM, 31 Jan 1977 (217-1987). One reported at Riverside, RIV, 6 Dec 1969 (AFN 24:100c), was requested withdrawn by the observer when contacted for details. The observer of one

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED, identification questionable, Cont.

reported near Ferndale, HUM, 15 Sep 1975 (Harris 1991) now considers the bird to have been a Blackpoll Warbler (*D. striata*).

CERULEAN WARBLER *Dendroica cerulea*. An "immature male" at Pt. Loma, SD, 26 Oct 1967 (121-1986) was seen too briefly for this extremely rare species to be identified confidently. An immature male Cerulean may be confused with a female Black-throated Gray Warbler (*D. nigrescens*), and an immature female may be confused with a Blackburnian Warbler (*D. fusca*); see Lehman (1987).

*PROTHONOTARY WARBLER *Protonotaria citrea*. One in the Tijuana R. valley (Dairy Mart ponds), SD, 23 Oct 1986 (37-1987). The Committee obtained details of one that circled a boat "off San Diego" 21 May 1967 (AFN 21:541) that showed conclusively the location was inside Mexican waters, as suspected by Unitt (1984).

WORM-EATING WARBLER *Helminthos vermivorus*. One at the Mad R. mouth, HUM, 14-15 Sep 1975 (349-1986). The very brief and ambiguous description submitted was inadequate to document the occurrence.

KENTUCKY WARBLER *Oporornis formosus*. One near the Otay R. mouth, SE corner of San Diego Bay, SD, 24 Oct 1979 (337-1987). One at Cambria, SLO, 14 Sep 1980 (276-1986).

CONNECTICUT WARBLER *Oporornis agilis*. One at Pacific Grove, MTY, 6 Oct 1978 (24-1992); one at Pebble Beach, MTY, 27 Sep 1964; one at the Carmel R. mouth, MTY, 31 Aug 1981. In no case did the observers note the "walking" behavior characteristic of the Connecticut Warbler, and the 1964 and 1978 birds were described as gray-hooded. All fall records of the Connecticut Warbler in California have been of brown-hooded immatures. Some members felt the tail-wagging described for the 1978 bird might have been that of a Nashville Warbler (*Vermivora ruficapilla*).

MOURNING WARBLER *Oporornis philadelphicus*. An adult female collected by Helen Strong at Deep Springs, INY, 12 June 1968 (MVZ 15929; 101-1984; McCaskie 1970b). One at Pt. Reyes NS (Drakes Bay), MRN, 19 Sep 1975 (351-1986).

The identification of the Deep Springs specimen as a Mourning Warbler (confirmed by Wesley Lanyon) was based entirely on the "wing minus tail" formula set out by Lanyon and Bull (1967), who were able to separate 98% of specimens they reviewed (Mourning with a difference of 10 mm or more; MacGillivray's, *O. tolmiei*, with 11 mm or less). Other specimens, however, have shown greater variation in the formula (Hall 1979, Kowalski 1983), and the specimen has a mostly white throat, rather bold eye-arcs, and a rather broad grayish breast band, all characteristics of MacGillivray's Warbler (Pyle et al. 1987; Pyle and Henderson 1990).

Wing and tail measurements were taken independently by preparator Henry Robert (wing 59, tail 48, difference 11 mm), Lanyon (wing 60, tail 47, difference 13 mm), and by myself (wing 60, tail 48, difference 12 mm). These results are nearer the mean for Mourning Warbler, but many members felt they did not conclusively eliminate MacGillivray's Warbler. The Committee requested that the specimen be examined independently by F. Jay Pitocchelli at the American Museum of Natural History (who, with Dr. Lanyon, is working on a revision of the *Oporornis* key). Dr. Pitocchelli informs us (in litt.) that on the basis of the measurements, eye-arcs, date, and locale he considers the specimen a rare extreme example of MacGillivray's Warbler. California's first Mourning Warbler is now the specimen taken at Pt. Loma on 3 October 1968 (Bevier 1990).

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED, identification questionable, Cont.

RED-FACED WARBLER *Cardellina rubrifrons*. One at Old Mission Dam, SD, 26 Aug 1974 (340-1987).

SCARLET TANAGER *Piranga olivacea*. Two at Saratoga Springs, Death Valley NM, SBE, 30 May 1970 (359-1986). One "adult male" about 12 miles E of Los Osos, SLO, 3 June 1981 (277B-1986). One "adult male" along Alpers Creek, near Lee Vining, MNO, 11 Sep 1980 (286-1987). One at Goleta, SBA, 20 Oct 1980 (332-1987).

PYRRHULOXIA *Cardinalis sinuatus*. One at Escondido, SD, 2 Apr 1988 (117-1988).

PAINTED BUNTING *Passerina ciris*. One male on the Clark ranch, 14 miles north of Blythe, RIV, 2-31 July 1982 (397-1987). One "female" on San Clemente I., LA, 9 Sep 1986 (34-1987). The record for near Blythe was accepted by Rosenberg et al. (1991), but the CBRC has only brief second-hand details.

CASSIN'S SPARROW *Aimophila cassinii*. A pair in Hidden Valley, Joshua Tree NM, SBE, 9 Apr 1960 (74-1988). One on SE Farallon I., SF, 25 Sep 1967 (96-1987). Either record, had it been accepted, would have represented the first for California.

The Joshua Tree report was of a male skylarking and courting a female. Although the sighting was reported to the park naturalist and noted in the park's files, no detailed descriptions of the song or plumage were retained. Most members were reluctant to accept a first state record on incomplete details, and some were concerned about the April date (a month earlier than other California spring records). The record remains intriguing, however, as the Cassin's Sparrow responds to favorable environmental conditions by irregular and impressive range extensions, north to Wyoming and west to California (see Hubbard 1977, Faanes et al. 1979).

Although the bird on SE Farallon was observed from only 20 feet for 15 minutes and was identified from literature on the island, no detailed description was taken. The brief extant notes do not describe the exact tail pattern, the presence of flank streaks, or the state of molt, all important to the identification of nondescript *Aimophila* (Kaufman 1990). Since 1967 there have been six more fall Cassin's Sparrows on the Farallones, all occurring between 13 September and 3 October.

FIELD SPARROW *Spizella pusilla*. One in the Lanfair Valley, SBE, 11 Dec 1982 (323-1987).

SNOW BUNTING *Plectrophenax nivalis*. Up to three on SE Farallon I., SF, 29 Oct-10 Nov 1974 (35-1988), one there 11 Nov 1975 (33-1988), and another there 17 Nov 1975 (34-1988). No descriptions of these birds were taken.

STREAK-BACKED ORIOLE *Icterus pustulatus*. Single birds in the Tijuana R. valley, SD, 13 Oct 1962 (214-1986) and 8 Oct 1963 (105-1986); one on the Palos Verdes Peninsula, LA, 19 Sep 1983 (304-1987). Although the San Diego records have been long accepted (e.g., Roberson 1980, Garrett and Dunn 1981, Unitt 1984), in all cases the details were insufficient to support the identification of this extremely rare species.

RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED, NATURAL OCCURRENCE QUESTIONABLE (IDENTIFICATION ACCEPTED)

BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK *Dendrocygna autumnalis*. One at San Joaquin Marsh, Irvine, ORA, 18-28 July 1970 (GMcC, GSS; 358-1986). This

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

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

species is commonly kept in captivity (Todd 1979), and the Committee was unanimous in rejecting in an urban area along the southern California coast.

FALCATED TEAL *Anas falcata*. Males in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, SF, 5 Apr–21 May 1953 (JTH, ASp; 458-1986; Hedgpeth 1954) and at Newport Bay, ORA, 2 Jan–21 Feb 1969 (RBy†, GMcC; 128-1986).

The Committee was rather evenly split over the natural occurrence of both birds. The species is migratory and has reached Alaska (Roberson 1980), but it is also regular in captivity (Todd 1979) and there are records of presumed escapes in the eastern United States (AOU 1983). The Falcated Teal has occurred also at Vernon, British Columbia (5 Apr 1932) and Willapa Bay, Washington (3 Jan 1979), but the majority of the Committee was concerned about the lateness of the spring record and the urban locations of both birds, warranting caution pending additional records.

BAIKAL TEAL *Anas formosa*. A male collected on the Toyon duck club, near Brentwood, CC, 13 Dec 1931 (MVZ 61006; 106-1983; Moffitt 1932) would have represented the first state record. Moffitt (1932) believed this to be a wild bird, whereas Swarth (1932) considered it an escapee because the species was commonly imported by live-duck dealers in San Francisco. At least 527 were known to have been imported between 1928 and 1932, making the Baikal Teal, after the Mandarin Duck (*Aix galericulata*), the species most commonly imported. The specimen itself shows no unusual wear. Five additional late fall/early winter records (all shot by hunters) in the past 50 years have been accepted (see Morlan 1985, Pyle and McCaskie 1992).

CRESTED CARACARA *Polyborus plancus*. One was at Alameda, ALA, 7–10 Aug 1972 (JM; 369-1987). An adult was in the Mono Basin about 6 miles S of Lee Vining, MNO, 13 Sep–16 Oct 1987 (RS; CA, LRBa†, JLD, GMcC, PP, NGT, 267-1987). One, either a freshly molted adult or a second-year individual, was on rangeland along Machado Lane, Shasta Valley, SIS, 21 Oct 1988–26 Mar 1989 (BBy†, ADB, NEC, RE, MFR; 45-1989). One was on a ranch near Ft. Dick, DN, 28–30 Apr 1989 (GSL, LPL; 96-1989). It is possible that a single bird was responsible for the Shasta Valley and Ft. Dick sightings, less than 100 miles apart (ranchers at Shasta Valley said the bird disappeared “a couple weeks” prior to late April 1989, so the last date there is not precisely known; G. S. Lester in litt.). The Ft. Dick bird is also thought responsible for a later report at Gold Beach, Oregon (R. A. Erickson, in comments).

The AOU Check-list (1983) described the northern edge of the species' range as northern Baja California, southern Arizona, central Texas, and central Florida and cited extralimital records of apparently wild birds for central New Mexico and Oklahoma. There are three rather recent records from the Arizona side of the Colorado River, and the species was resident at Yuma, Arizona, until 1905 (Rosenberg et al. 1991), but Arizona populations have drastically declined in this century (Rea 1983) and now provide much less of a source population for vagrants. There are no acceptable Great Basin records, as birds in southwestern Colorado and at Yellowstone NP, Wyoming, have been thought to be escapees. Although the number of captive caracaras in private hands is unknown, and the species is not commonly kept in zoos, zoo birds have escaped and have traveled a least short distances; e.g., an escape from the Norfolk zoo in Virginia was observed in North Carolina (Potter et al. 1980).

The Committee believes that caracaras seen near coastal cities are all escapees, including ones reported at Monterey (Oct–Nov 1837; Grinnell and Miller 1944), Pebble Beach, MTY (1916; record 155-1988; see Records Not Accepted, identifica-

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

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

tion questionable, above), and recent birds at Alameda, ALA (above), Laguna Beach, ORA (early 1960s, with jesses on legs; G. McCaskie, in comments), Montaña de Oro SP, SLO (mid-1960s; G. McCaskie, P. Lehman, in comments), and Orinda, CC (Sep 1988, J. Morlan, in comments).

The CBRC recognizes that the likelihood of any bird's natural occurrence is usually judged from insufficient data. Its bylaws now permit a record to be accepted (if there is no question as to the identification) when but 8 of 10 members support natural occurrence, whereas acceptance of an identification requires 9 of 10 votes.

While the CBRC has not accepted any certain records of Crested Caracara for California, there is little doubt that the species has occurred within the state. There is an undocumented sight record from 1853 at Ft. Yuma (Grinnell and Miller 1944), and a specimen was taken on 15 Mar 1928 at Pilot Knob, just 1 mile south of the border into Baja California (Friedmann 1950). There are Pleistocene fossils of caracaras from California at the McKittrick and La Brea tar pits (Miller 1925, 1935, Friedmann 1950).

GRAY CATBIRD *Dumetella carolinensis*. One found dead at an Interstate 5 rest area near Los Baños, MER, 25 Mar 1973 (JL; 399-1986). This flattened and desiccated specimen was considered too damaged to be retrieved but was reviewed via the observer's description. The late winter date (when the species is exceptionally rare in California) and the condition of the dead bird along a major highway convinced most members that the occurrence was more likely the result of a bird killed by a vehicle and carried into this state on the grill.

PAINTED BUNTING *Passerina ciris*. A male collected at the University of California's Sagehen Creek field station, near Hobart Mills, NEV, 17-18 Apr 1972 (UCD/SFS 252; 229-1988; Hawthorne 1972). A male at a feeder in Los Osos, SLO, 18-27 Nov 1972 (270-1986). The former, collected in pine-fir forest at 6500 feet elevation on the eastern slope of the Sierra Nevada, bore a significant scar on its forehead, likely generated in captivity. The underparts were faded to dull yellow-orange, likely from inadequate nutrition in captivity, as happens with the red plumage of many birds. The Los Osos bird was in brighter plumage, but the majority of the Committee considers males at urban feeders to be prime candidates for captive origin.

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CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

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CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

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APPENDIX

This appendix lists all records published through March 1990 of species on our Review List for which a description has not been submitted to the CBRC. Most appeared in *American Birds* or its predecessor *Aububon Field Notes*. A few cited references do not specify the record listed but contain a summary of records, and we learned, by corresponding with the authors, which particular records had been summarized.

Several species listed here are no longer on the Review List: Cook's Petrel, Wilson's Storm-Petrel, Tufted Duck, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Barred Owl, Red-throated Pipit, and Prothonotary Warbler. The CBRC reviews all records of birds that occurred prior to the date of deletion of the species from the Review List; we still desire documentation for these records. For a few other species (e.g., Blue-footed Booby, Roseate Spoonbill) the CBRC began reviewing records only after a specified date, as noted below.

This Appendix consists of four lists stratified by the apparent strength of the missing documentation. In a few cases, the Committee voted to follow a cited author and reject an undocumented record; these examples are listed in the main text (see Records Not Accepted, above).

We appreciate the efforts of all observers who provided information to us (lists B and C), and we acknowledge them in the list of contributors. We welcome and solicit details of any of these records if the reader observed the bird or can help us locate documentation from another source. We would also appreciate correspondence regarding any published record overlooked in this listing and not currently in circulation (see the Committee's definition of a "published record" in the introduction to this report). Please direct all correspondence to the CBRC secretary, Michael A. Patten, P. O. Box 8612, Riverside, CA 92515.

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

List A: Specimens that cannot be located (9 records). Certain other missing specimens of the Emperor Goose and Yellow Rail, including a number destroyed in the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fire, were discussed in previous reports (Roberson 1986, Dunn 1988; see also under Yellow Rail accepted records, above). All were apparently examined by competent ornithologists. We are still attempting to locate and obtain documentation for these specimens.

BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK: Imperial Valley, IMP, fall of 1912 (Condor 16:94).

KING EIDER: Suisun Bay, SOL, between 15 Oct 1902 and 1 Feb 1903 (Grinnell and Miller 1944).

MISSISSIPPI KITE (*Ictinia mississippiensis*): Goleta, SBA, 18 June 1933 (Grinnell and Miller 1944).

ZONE-TAILED HAWK: National City, SD, 26 Nov 1906 (Condor 11:69); Chula Vista, SD, "Apr or May" 1945 (Unitt 1984). The latter is no longer in the Santa Cruz museum where Chester Bell had told Guy McCaskie it was (Unitt 1984).

UPLAND SANDPIPER: Tule Lake, SIS, 8 Aug 1896 (Grinnell and Miller 1944).

HUDSONIAN GODWIT (*Limosa haemastica*): north end of Salton Sea, RIV, 11 Oct 1980 (AB 35:226).

PARAKEET AUKLET: found dead on San Simeon beach, SLO, 6 Feb 1955 (Murrelet 38:24).

YELLOW-GREEN VIREO: Riverside, RIV, 29 Sep 1887 (Auk 5:210).

List B: Records for which one or more observer or compiler has informed us that no details are extant (64). In six cases, written details were forwarded to *American Birds'* regional editors, who found them acceptable, but the details cannot now be located. In others, prolonged views of an unambiguous species or extensive observer experience supplemented by contemporaneous field notes suggest the identification was probably correct. In still others, the observer is deceased and a surviving spouse checked the extant field notes without finding a reviewable description.

YELLOW-BILLED LOON: Moss Landing, MTY, 11 Jan 1976 (summarized in AB 30:760).

MOTTLED PETREL: 40 nm SW of Trinidad Head, HUM, 10 Apr 1986 (AB 40:518). The bird was "seen relatively well in relatively good light for a few seconds" by two very experienced seabird researchers (LBS, TRW) during scientific surveys.

*COOK'S PETREL: 32 nm SW of Cape Mendocino, HUM, 10 Apr 1986 (4 birds, not "2" as listed in AB 40:518). These birds were "seen relatively well in relatively good light for a few seconds" by two seabird researchers (LBS, TRW) having much experience with this species. Cook's Petrel is regular off the continental shelf from April to October.

RED-TAILED TROPICBIRD: 35°34' N, 124°21' W, some 147 nm SW of Pt. Sur, MTY, 7 Oct 1979 (summarized in AB 32:500, Roberson 1985). Both observers (GLF, RLP) were very experienced in pelagic survey work and stated that the bird was seen well, for "tropicbirds were not identified to species unless they flew close enough" for field marks to be observed. Details of three other Red-tailed Tropicbirds seen during this same cruise have been accepted by the CBRC (see Records Accepted).

BROWN BOOBY: Imperial Dam, IMP, 20 Sep 1958 (AFN 13: 53). The experienced observer (GM) "saw it ... perched on the abutment between the 2 spillway gates on the California side, apparently quite oblivious of several fisherman close by. It ... was an immature." Earlier that same day the observer had seen on Martinez Lake, Arizona, another immature Brown Booby that was present from 5 Sep 1958 to 7 Oct 1960 (see Records Accepted). He also had photographed another immature Brown Booby on the Arizona side of the Colorado River (Auk 63:96), all lending support to the probable identity of the 1958 bird.

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

REDDISH EGRET: Imperial NWR, IMP, 1 Oct 1954–3 Mar 1955 (AFN 9:275; McCaskie 1964). The experienced observer (GM), who had collected one just a month before on Lake Havasu (see Records Accepted), wrote in his field notes that this second individual was “a replica of the one I collected September 9th” but took no further description. The same observer, in discussing another Reddish Egret seen on 2 Sep 1960, on the Colorado River 31 miles above Imperial Dam, IMP (AFN 15:63; McCaskie 1964), wrote that his notes say it was an “immature bird.” Mission Bay, SD, 19–30 Apr 1958 (AFN 12:385, a report criticized by Unitt 1984); 29 Sep 1968, San Elijo Lagoon, SD, 29 Sep 1968 (AFN 23:107; this bird might have been one of the Reddish Egrets seen at Los Peñasquitos Lagoon earlier that month, see Records Accepted); NE corner of Salton Sea, RIV, 10 July 1972 (AB 26:904); San Diego Bay, SD, 19 Feb 1982 (AB 36:330).

YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON: Claremont, LA, 27 Mar–6 Apr 1963 (AFN 17: 434). This adult was approached close enough to photograph, but the pictures have not yet been located, either by the photographer (LAS) or at SDNHM, where McCaskie (1964) reported they were deposited. However, the photos were reviewed by competent field ornithologists, and this may have been the same bird present May–June 1963 at Harbor Lake, LA (accepted record; Roberson 1986).

EMPEROR GOOSE: Tomales Bay, MRN, 18 Dec 1948 (summarized by Cogswell 1977); Avila Beach, SLO, 12 Dec 1966 (AFN 21:457); Morro Bay, SLO, 15–16 Dec 1968 (AFN 23:520); Limantour, MRN, 27–31 Dec 1967 (AFN 22:473); San Simeon, SLO, 18–30 Dec 1968 (AFN 23: 520). Tule Lake, SIS, 5 Nov 1973 (AB 28:100). The experienced observer of the last (BEDe) forwarded a description to AB and took photos, but neither can now be located.

KING EIDER: San Pedro, LA, 29 Jan–early Feb 1983 (AB 37:338).

MISSISSIPPI KITE: Santa Barbara, SBA, 3 June 1970 (AFN 24:644).

MONGOLIAN PLOVER (*Charadrius mongolus*): Moss Landing SB, MTY, 3 Oct 1980 (AB 35:221). In AB this was considered the late date of one present at the nearby salt ponds 13–19 Sep 1980 (previously accepted; Luther et al. 1983), but there was a substantial gap between sightings and the bird “did not appear to be as bright” as the earlier bird (the only “description” available). It is best considered a separate and undocumented record.

WILSON'S PLOVER: Imperial Beach, SD, 11 May 1918. The observer had collected California's first Wilson's Plover in 1894 (Ingersoll 1895) and set out the circumstances of this second sighting in detail (Ingersoll 1918), but the published note does not include a description. Ingersoll suspected, from the bird's behavior, that it was mated to an unseen brooding female, but the nest was not found. Although there are no coastal breeding records of this bird in California, the details ring true, particularly in light of the egg set from the Salton Sea (see Records Accepted, above).

UPLAND SANDPIPER: Needles Landing, Lake Havasu, SBE, 11 Sep 1952 (AFN 7:29). The very experienced observer (GM) sent us his field notes, which describe the behavior and call, but not the plumage: “I could scarce believe my eyes, even though I have fancied seeing one on the refuge some day! It flushed, flew off a short ways, then lighted, folding its wings in the graceful way so typical of Upland Plovers [= Sandpipers], an act I witnessed many a time during my young North Dakota days. That was enough really to cinch identification, so I rushed back to the campground for my .410. However, the Plover had other ideas, for no matter how carefully I stalked it, it always flew off while I was still ... out of range.... I finally gave up, without feeling too sorry.... It gave a short, rolling call a couple of times.”

***BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER:** Arcata, HUM, 26 Aug 1978 (AB 33:210); Salinas R. mouth, MTY, 3 Sep 1978 (AB 33:210); Arcata bottoms, HUM, 11–12 Sep 1979 (2) (AB 34:196); Oxnard plain, VEN, 16–18 Sep 1979 (7) (AB 34:201).

BROAD-BILLED HUMMINGBIRD: Spring Valley, SD, 8–10 Mar 1979 (AB 33:314). The observer (MT) wrote that it was a male watched coming to a neighbor's

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

feeder over several days and was first discovered when its "chattering caught my attention"; this species does have a chatter recalling the Ruby-crowned Kinglet's (*Regulus calendula*). The observer recognized it from Arizona experience but wrote no description. Cabazon, RIV, 24 Sep 1979 (AB 34:202).

VIOLET-CROWNED HUMMINGBIRD (*Amazilia violiceps*): Santa Paula, VEN, 29 June–5 July 1977 (Johnson and Ziegler 1978, Roberson 1980; said to be same bird as accepted under CBRC 36-1976 returning for its second summer).

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER: Trinidad, HUM, 7 May 1969 (AFN 23:622). Calexico, IMP, 26 Mar 1974 (Garrett and Dunn 1981). The Committee has from AB files the observer's (JPD) written details stating that this bird was photographed from 30 feet and watched for 30 minutes, but it has been unable to locate the observer or the photograph. Furnace Creek Ranch, Death Valley NM, INY, 24 May 1974 (AB 28:853). Chiriaco Summit, RIV, 30–31 Jan 1976 (AB 30:768). The observer (JPR), conducting surveys with four other biologists, watched the bird on a fence post only 20 feet from the car for 3 minutes. He wrote a description and forwarded it at the time to AB, but it cannot now be located. Westgard Pass, INY, 4 June 1978 (AB 32:1056). The notes of the very experienced observer (REW) state that the bird had a "full tail" and was "very bright," which he recalls referring to the intensity of "the salmon color," and that it was "moving from conifer to conifer across the pass area," but no further details were taken. Woodside, SM, 7 June 1983 (AB 37:1025).

GRAY CATBIRD: Balboa Park, San Diego, SD, 16 Dec 1972 (Unitt 1984).

SPRAGUE'S PIPIT: Furnace Creek Ranch, INY, 2 Oct 1979 (AB 34:202).

YELLOW-THROATED VIREO: Cambria, SLO, 24 May 1966 (AFN 20:547).

PHILADELPHIA VIREO: Furnace Creek Ranch, INY, 25 Oct 1975 (AB 30:128); Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 3 Oct 1983 (AB 38:244). The experienced observer of the latter (BDP) had good views and forwarded a description at the time to AB, but it cannot now be located.

YELLOW-GREEN VIREO: Goleta, SBA, 11 Oct 1982 (second bird; first bird accepted; Langham 1991) (AB 37:225).

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER: San Bernardino, SBE, 8 Dec 1962 (Garrett and Dunn 1981); Honey Lake, LAS, 10 Oct 1976 (McCaskie et al. 1979). The latter bird was watched to within 10 feet in large cottonwoods around the headquarters building and "had bright dramatic markings," but no description was written nor was possible hybridization considered.

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER: Santa Barbara, SBA, 9–14 June 1979 (AB 33:806). The good observer (BS) recalled the trees it was in (same spot as the 1981 Yellow-throated Warbler previously accepted from this locale; see Binford 1985) and recalled seeing it well enough to determine it was of the white-lored race, but took no actual description.

GRACE'S WARBLER: Clark Mt., SBE, 30 May 1974. The published details (Johnson and Garrett 1974) state that Johnson "found a steadily singing male in the mixed forest of White Fir and pinyon at 7100 feet elevation on the north slope.... The bird stayed within close range and was watched for over one hour as it sang and infrequently foraged in both firs and pinyon." Three other May records from the firs on Clark Mt. have been accepted by the Committee.

*PROTHONOTARY WARBLER: Pt. Loma, SD, 4 Nov 1967 (AFN 22:91); Pt. Loma, SD, 25 Oct 1987 (AB 42:138).

WORM-EATING WARBLER: Oasis, MNO, 26 May 1981 (AB 35:864).

KENTUCKY WARBLER: SE Farallon I., SF, 2 June 1969 (AFN 23:693).

CONNECTICUT WARBLER: SE Farallon I., SF, 28–30 May 1965 (Condor 69:582); SE Farallon I., SF, 4 Oct 1968 (AFN 23:105).

MOURNING WARBLER: Goleta, SBA, 23 Sep 1982 (AB 37:225). The experienced observer (LRBe) forwarded a description at the time to AB, but it cannot now be located.

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

SCARLET TANAGER: Otay Mesa, SD, 21 Oct 1979 (AB 34:203); Carpinteria, SBA, 14 Sep 1982 (AB 37:225). The experienced observer of the latter (LRBe) forwarded a description at the time to AB, but it cannot now be located.

PYRRHULOXIA: Mecca, RIV, 10 Feb–29 Mar 1953 (AFN 7:236); near south end of Salton Sea, IMP, 28 Apr 1974 (AB 28:854).

VARIED BUNTING (*Passerina versicolor*): Arcadia, LA, 7 Aug 1966 (Garrett and Dunn 1981).

PAINTED BUNTING: Tijuana R. valley, SD, 17–24 Sep 1967 (AFN 22:92); Kelso, SBE, 21 Oct 1972 (Garrett and Dunn 1981); Tijuana R. valley, SD, 12 Oct 1974 (AB 29:124). Although no details of these birds apparently exist, the former two reports were of adult males whose natural occurrence might have been questioned.

RUSTIC BUNTING (*Emberiza rustica*): Upland, SBE, 18 Nov 1965 (AFN 20:461).

SNOW BUNTING: Arcata, HUM, 19–20 Nov 1975 (AB 30:124); Sand I., Humboldt Bay, HUM, 9 Nov 1977 (3) and Cape Mendocino, HUM, 9–14 Nov 1977 (both summarized in AB 32:255); Salmon Creek beach, SON, 23 Oct 1982 (AB 37:222).

STREAK-BACKED ORIOLE: Rancho Park, LA, 2–5 Jan 1966 (AFN 20:461).

List C: Records for which the observer was written one or more times with a request for details, but the Committee has received no response to our request (60). We can only presume that no description is available and that these are undocumented reports. We welcome the submission of any details subsequently discovered.

YELLOW-BILLED LOON: Inverness, MRN, 25 Jan 1971 (AB 25:620; record accepted by Remsen and Binford 1975).

*COOK'S PETREL: off southern California on a California Cooperative Fisheries Investigation cruise, 13–14 Oct 1988 (13) (AB 43:167). These were in the same area in which the species has proved to be regular.

STREAKED SHEARWATER (*Calonectris leucomelas*): Monterey Bay, MTY, 14 Oct 1978 (AB 33:209).

*WILSON'S STORM-PETREL: off Morro Bay, SLO, 7 Sep 1969 (AFN 24:196).

REDDISH EGRET: Imperial Beach, SD, 6–8 Aug 1989 (AB 44:161).

EMPEROR GOOSE: Pescadero, SM, 13 Apr 1960 (AFN 14:417); Aptos, SCZ, 19 Apr 1964 (AFN 18:483).

*TUFTED DUCK: Inverness, MRN, 15 Feb 1987 (AB 41:323).

MISSISSIPPI KITE: Furnace Creek, INY, 21 May 1973 (second bird; first bird accepted; Winter and McCaskie 1975) (AB 27:819); Imperial Beach, SD, 5 June 1983 (AB 37:912).

ZONE-TAILED HAWK: Oceanside, SD, 13 Jan 1978 (AB 32:399); Pt. Loma, SD, 20 Sep 1980 (AB 35:226).

YELLOW RAIL: San Jacinto Lake, RIV, 15–19 Apr 1978 (AB 32:1054); Tuolumne Meadows, Yosemite NP, TUO, 15 July 1980, (Gaines 1988).

UPLAND SANDPIPER: Furnace Creek Ranch, INY, 29 May 1984 (AB 38:960).

*BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER: Oxnard plain, VEN, 23 Sep–6 Oct 1979 (AB 34:201); Pt. Mugu, VEN, 25 Sep 1980 (AB 35:226); Lake Talawa, DN, 17 Aug 1986 (AB 41:139); Lake Talawa, DN, 29 Aug–12 Sep 1988 (one more during this span than the two already accepted here; see Pyle and McCaskie 1992) (AB 43:163).

BROAD-BILLED HUMMINGBIRD: Chimney Creek, KER, 24–27 Apr 1983 (AB 37:913).

GREATER PEWEE: Imperial Dam, IMP, "Dec" 1967 (AFN 22:479); Riverside, RIV, 19 Dec 1975 (AB 30: 768).

THICK-BILLED KINGBIRD: Pt. Loma, SD, 3 Dec 1966 (AFN 21:78).

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER: Los Angeles, LA, 12 Dec 1956 (Garrett and Dunn 1981); Smith R. mouth, DN, 1 May 1982 (AB 36:891); Moss Beach, SM, 28 May 1983 (AB 37:1025)

GRAY CATBIRD: Furnace Creek Ranch, INY, 30 May 1974 (AB 28:950); Ft. Piute, SBE, 31 May 1978 (AB 32:1056).

*RED-THROATED PIPIT: Oxnard plain, VEN, 19 Oct 1979 (2) (AB 34:202); Tijuana R. valley, SD, 4 Oct 1982 (AB 37:225).

PHILADELPHIA VIREO: Kelso, SBE, 3 Oct 1970 (AB 25:110); Kelso, SBE, 5 Oct 1975 (AB 30:128); Furnace Creek Ranch, INY, 27-30 May 1976 (AB 30:892); Tijuana R. valley, SD, 15 Oct 1977 (AB 32:262); Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 18 Sep 1987 (AB 42:132).

YELLOW-GREEN VIREO: Pt. Loma, SD, 12 Oct 1988 (AB 43:170).

BLUE-WINGED WARBLER: Deep Springs, INY, 27 May 1975 (AB 29:910).

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER: Deep Springs, INY, 25 June 1989 (AB 43:1369). The citation states the bird was of a yellow-lored race, but there are no details in AB files.

GRACE'S WARBLER: Clark Mt., SBE, 29 May 1984 (2) (AB 38:962); Pt. Loma, SD, 27 Sep 1987 (AB 42:138); Pt. Loma, SD, 11 Nov 1987 (AB 42:138).

*PROTHONOTARY WARBLER: Pt. Loma, SD, 18 May 1985 (AB 39:351).

WORM-EATING WARBLER: Pacific Grove, MTY, 21 Oct 1972 (AB 27:117); Riverside, RIV, 30 Oct-6 Nov 1975 (AB 30:129); Pt. Loma, SD, 27 May 1985 (AB 39:351); near Fairhaven, HUM, 9 June 1987 (Harris 1991).

CONNECTICUT WARBLER: Furnace Creek Ranch, INY, 20 Sep 1980 (AB 35:228).

MOURNING WARBLER: Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 21 Sep 1984 (AB 39:100); Pt. Loma, SD, 2 Oct 1985 (AB 40:160).

SCARLET TANAGER: Pt. Loma, SD, 29 Sep 1987 (AB 42:139); Pt. Loma, SD, 7 Nov 1987 (AB 42:139); Pt. Loma, SD, 16 Oct 1988 (AB 43:170); Pt. Loma, SD, 29 Oct 1988 (AB 43:170); Deep Springs, INY, 30 Sep 1989 (AB 44:164).

PYRRHULOXIA: Brock Ranch, IMP, 23 Dec 1977 (AB 32:401).

PAINTED BUNTING: Vallecitos, SD, 4 Oct 1977 (AB 32:264).

SNOW BUNTING: SE Farallon I., SF, 24 Oct 1981 (AB 36:216).

COMMON GRACKLE: near Blythe, RIV, 9 June 1979 (AB 33:898); California City, KER, 21 May 1988 (AB 42:483).

List D: Published records for which we have been unable to contact any observer (a minimum of 114). This list includes records said to be supported by specimens that were either not reviewed by any ornithologists (mostly waterfowl shot by hunters) or reports that may be erroneous entries in the literature.

YELLOW-BILLED LOON: Bodega Bay, SON, 20 Oct 1968 (AFN 23:99); this record was accepted by Remsen and Binford (1975), who said the bird was photographed, but we cannot locate the photo.

LEAST GREBE: West Pond, Imperial Dam, IMP, 14 May-22 June 1955 (Rosenberg et al. 1991).

BLUE-FOOTED BOOBY (records 1972 and later only): Lake Henshaw, SD, 18 Aug 1977 (AB 32:256).

BROWN BOOBY: Prince Islet off San Miguel I., SBA, 10 July 1956, 25-26 July 1961, and 5 June and 20 July 1968 (AFN 15:492, AFN 22: 647, and information from Don Bleitz found in AB files); this might be the same bird photographed here in 1965, already accepted (see Roberson 1986); Salton City, IMP, 4 Sep 1972 (AB 27:120); Imperial Dam, IMP, 26 Aug 1973 (AB 28:87).

REDDISH EGRET: San Diego Bay, SD, 12 Feb 1931 (Condor 33:125; no description in the published note); Ferguson Lake, Colorado River, IMP, 19 Nov 1955 (AFN 10:45; McCaskie 1964); Morro Bay, SLO, 9 July 1962 (AFN 16:507,

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

McCaskie 1964); San Elijo Lagoon, SD, 11–18 Sep 1962 (AFN 17:67; McCaskie 1964); Salton City, IMP, 15 Aug 1981 (AB 36:217). A photograph of the last was said to have been deposited at SDNHM, but the picture has not been found.

WHITE IBIS (*Eudocimus albus*): Palo Verde, Colorado River, IMP, Mar 1914 (Condor 25:181). The record was accepted by Grinnell and Miller (1944), but Garrett and Dunn (1981) noted that it “lacks supporting details.” The published note stresses only the observer’s Mexican experience.

ROSEATE SPOONBILL (records 1978 and later only): Pt. Mugu, VEN, “Dec 1977–Jan 1978” (AB 32:398).

BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK: Bakersfield, KER, 19 Nov 1973 (3) (AB 28:691); there was speculation these birds were the same as those accepted from the Salton Sea earlier that fall (Luther et al. 1979).

TRUMPETER SWAN: Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 29 Dec 1963 (2) (AFN 18:321). In addition, Grinnell and Miller (1944) listed several other unverifiable, mostly 19th-century records.

EMPEROR GOOSE: “Humboldt County,” 23 Dec 1920 (Lensink 1968); Buhne Pt., King Salmon, HUM, “mid-Feb”–26 Apr 1925 (initially 6 birds; 1 taken and at MVZ is currently in circulation; two more were said to have been shot (Condor 42:222) and another was found dead (C. Clay’s unpublished notes, summarized by Harris 1991); Klamath Basin, SIS, “1932” (Wilbur and Yocum 1971); Humboldt Bay, HUM, 27 Jan 1933 [second bird; specimen record of first bird published by Grinnell and Miller (1944) is in circulation]; Gridley, BUT, 21 Nov 1940 (Condor 50:271); Sacramento NWR, GLE, 27 Nov 1941 (Lensink 1968); Tule Lake, SIS, 8 Dec 1941–1942 (4) (Wilbur and Yocum 1971); Eureka ship channel, Humboldt Bay, HUM, 3 Dec 1942 (shot; Condor 48:282); Buhne Pt., King Salmon, HUM, 1–27 Feb 1947 (3 to 6) (some shot; Condor 49:172–173); Bay Bridge toll plaza, ALA, 26 Oct 1947, (Condor 50:133); Cayucos, SLO, 2 Dec 1951 (summarized by Cogswell 1977); N. Humboldt Bay, HUM, 12 Dec 1951 (second specimen; see Records Accepted); Tule Lake NWR, SIS, 18 Apr 1955 (Lensink 1968); Lower Klamath NWR, SIS, “Oct” 1955 (Lensink 1968); Crescent City, DN, 31 Dec 1957–4 Jan 1958 (up to 5) (Lensink 1968; summarized by Harris 1991); Lower Klamath NWR, SIS, “Nov” 1958 (Wilbur and Yocum 1971); Lower Klamath NWR, SIS, 21 Oct 1961 (AFN 16:60); Elk R. mouth, Humboldt Bay, HUM, 8 Nov 1961 (Lensink 1968); Klamath Basin, SIS, “1962” (Wilbur and Yocum 1971); Klamath Basin, SIS, “Nov” 1964 (flock of 25, two said to have been taken) (Wilbur and Yocum 1971); Klamath Basin, SIS, “Nov” 1965 (9) (Wilbur and Yocum 1971); Woodland, YOL, 8 Feb 1965; Klamath Basin, SIS, “1966” (“more than one”) (Wilbur and Yocum 1971); Limantour, Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 7 Dec 1966 (AFN 21:453); Eel R. delta, HUM, 10 Dec 1967 (2, 1 shot) (summarized by Harris 1991); Crescent City, DN, 18–31 Dec 1967 (summarized by Harris 1991); Lake Earl, DN, 4 Jan 1968 (2) (summarized by Harris 1991); Eel R. delta, HUM, 7 Dec 1968 (summarized by Harris 1991); Tule Lake, SIS, 11 Oct 1969 (5) (summarized by Cogswell 1977); Tule Lake, SIS, 10 Oct 1971 (summarized by Cogswell 1977); Big Lagoon, HUM, 11 Nov 1972 (AB 27:114); Pismo Beach, SLO, 15 Dec 1977 (AB 32:399); Sand I., Humboldt Bay, HUM, 23 Dec 1977 (shot; summarized by Harris 1991); coastal Del Norte and Humboldt counties, “Jan” 1982 (7 more than the 1 already accepted, including 3 shot by hunters on Big Lagoon, HUM) (summarized in AB 32:326 and by Harris 1991); Lower Klamath NWR, SIS, 20 Oct 1982 (shot, AB 37:219); Hunter Rocks, DN, 13–16 Jan 1984 (AB 38:352).

There is a possibility that some of the Klamath Basin birds were in Oregon, although it seems likely most were from California; few details exist (beyond the year reported) for many of these. A high percentage (40%) of Emperor Goose published records remains unreviewable. Presumably many birds were retained by hunters. Given the possibility of confusion with dark Ross’ Geese (see discussion under

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

Records Accepted), we may never know the historical extent of the Emperor Goose in northeastern California.

AMERICAN BLACK DUCK: Biggs, BUT, 17 Dec 1960; Lower Klamath NWR, SIS, "Nov" 1962; Lower Klamath NWR, SIS, "Sep" 1963 (McCaskie and DeBenedictis 1966). All were said to have been either shot or found dead, but apparently none was deposited in a museum.

***TUFTED DUCK:** Pt. Mugu, VEN, 18 Apr 1978 (AB 32:1054).

KING EIDER: Blackpoint, San Francisco, SF, "winter 1879-1880" (Grinnell and Miller 1944; this specimen was apparently never examined by an ornithologist); Bolinas Lagoon, MRN, 26 Oct and 2 Nov 1973 (both said by AB 28:100 to have been found dead or dying and preserved, but we have not located the specimens).

ZONE-TAILED HAWK: Furnace Creek Ranch, INY, 11 Jan 1934 (Condor 37:240); Corte Madera Lake, SD, 10 Jan 1980 (AB 35:335).

YELLOW RAIL (1940 and later only): Tomales Bay, MRN, 13 Feb 1961 (McCaskie et al. 1979).

AMERICAN OYSTERCATCHER: Whites Landing, Santa Catalina I., LA, 12 Feb 1910 (Condor 13:76). No description accompanies the published note, although the bird was said to be "positively identified" as it left the shore and "circled the boat." Grinnell and Miller (1944) considered the record "somewhat doubtful."

WILSON'S PLOVER: San Diego, SD, 29 Dec 1956 (AFN 11:231); Sorrento Valley, SD, 19 Apr 1961 (3) (AFN 15:43).

UPLAND SANDPIPER: Furnace Creek Ranch, INY, 13 May 1959 (Garrett and Dunn 1981).

***BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER:** Furnace Creek, INY, 1-5 July 1935 (Condor 38:40); Pt. Mugu, VEN, 13 Sep 1980 (3) (AB 35:226; see discussion under Accepted Records).

LITTLE GULL: south end of Salton Sea, IMP, 3 Dec 1972 (AB 27:663).

BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*): Fresno, FRE, "March" 1918 (McCaskie and DeBenedictis 1966; specimen said to be at Washington State Univ., but it is not there and the reference may be in error).

SNOWY OWL: Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 22 Dec 1973 (AB 28:685; see discussion under Records Accepted); aboard a boat 20 mi. W of Eureka, HUM, 17 Nov 1977 (Harris 1991).

***BARRED OWL** (*Strix varia*): Somes Bar, SIS, "May" 1986 (AB 40:1252); NE of Zenia, TRI, Apr-June and Sep 1988 (pair), returning 17 Apr-13 June 1989 (AB 43:1364); Wheel Gulch, Ten Mile R., MEN, July 1989 (2 birds) (AB 43:1364).

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER: La Jolla, SD, 24 Nov 1933 (Grinnell and Miller 1944); Cayucos, SLO, 28 Nov-5 Dec 1934 (Grinnell and Miller 1944); Anaheim, ORA, "Apr" 1947 (AFN 1:165); Playa del Rey, LA, 20 June 1949 (AFN 3:252); Santa Cruz, SCZ, 18 Nov 1955 (AFN 10:52); El Cerrito, CC, 24 June 1956 (AFN 10:407); Bolinas, MRN, 2 June 1974 (summarized in Roberson 1980); El Monte, LA, 23 July 1975 (AB 29:1033); Dos Palmas Springs, RIV, 14 July 1976 (Garrett and Dunn 1981); Palo Verde, IMP, 3-8 Oct 1977 (AB 32:259); Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 7 Aug 1980 (AB 35:222); Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 6 Aug 1983 (AB 38:243).

CURVE-BILLED THRASHER: Ramer Lake, IMP, 18 Dec 1973 (AB 28:535; published only as a "Bendire's/Curve-billed"); Brawley, IMP, 28 Nov 1974 (AB 29:123).

SPRAGUE'S PIPIT: near Westmorland, IMP, 6 Dec 1986 (AB 41:331).

PHILADELPHIA VIREO: San Pedro, LA, 13 Oct 1975 (AB 30:128).

YELLOW-GREEN VIREO: Costa Mesa, ORA, 3 Oct 1967 (AFN 22:91).

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER: Pt. Loma, SD, 19 Sep 1973 (AB 28:110); Pt. Loma, SD, 3 June 1979 (AB 33:806); Furnace Creek, INY, 24 May 1980 (Garrett and Dunn 1981).

CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

*PROTHONOTARY WARBLER: Morongo Valley, SBE, 6 May 1963 (AFN 17:435); San Diego, SD, 29 May–2 June 1978 (AB 32:1056); San Pedro, LA, 21 Sep 1981 (AB 36:219); Pasadena, LA, 27 Sep 1981 (AB 36:219); Santa Monica Canyon, LA, 29 Sep 1983 (AB 38:248).

KENTUCKY WARBLER: SE Farallon I., SF, 18 June 1976 (AB 30:1001).

PYRRHULOXIA: Cottonwood Springs, RIV, 6–7 May 1961 (AFN 15:440).

PAINTED BUNTING: Oakland, ALA, 9–11 Mar 1969 (male; AFN 23:518); Ventura, VEN, 17 Oct 1980 (male; AB 35:228). Both were considered escapees AB regional editors.

LE CONTE'S SPARROW (*Ammodramus leconteii*): Little Lake, INY, 23–24 Oct 1976 (AB 31:225).

SNOW BUNTING: Sand I., Humboldt Bay, HUM, 26 Nov 1968 (summarized by Harris 1991); Bodega Bay, SON, 9 Nov 1969 (2) (AFN 24:95); Saratoga Springs, Death Valley NM, SBE, 15 Nov 1971 (AB 26:124); Samoa, HUM, 4 Nov 1975 (2) (AB 30:124; one of these might have been the lone bird present here 7–17 Nov 1975, previously accepted; Roberson 1985); Cape Mendocino, HUM, 19–20 Nov 1978; Mad R. mouth, HUM, 26 Oct 1980; Arcata, HUM, 7 Nov 1981; Eel R. mouth, HUM, 11 Nov 1981 (2); Big Lagoon, HUM, 22 Dec 1981 (AB 36:329); Arcata, HUM, 30 Nov–3 Dec 1986 (said to have been photographed); King Salmon, HUM, 24 Nov 1988 (last six records summarized by Harris 1991).

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