TENTH REPORT OF THE CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

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Western Field Ornithologists and the California Bird Records Committee are again pleased to thank Bushnell Corporation for its continued support. Bushnell has again been generous in sponsoring the publication of this report, including the printing of color photographs.

This, the tenth report of the California Bird Records Committee (hereafter the CBRC or the Committee), contains 195 accepted records of 77 species and 17 unaccepted records of 15 species. These numbers represent an acceptance rate of 92%, which is slightly higher than the rates of 88.7% in the ninth report (Roberson 1986) and 88.4% in the eighth report (Morlan 1985). In addition, the CBRC accepted for statistical purposes 17 records of the Yellow Rail that were cited by Grinnell and Miller (1944), even though they were not formally reviewed. One hundred and nineteen observers contributed descriptions or photographs of the birds in this report, for which the Committee is most grateful.

Owing mainly to the efforts of the Secretary, Don Roberson, the Committee is now making steady progress in reviewing older records. These include many specimen records, the majority of which were published in The Auk and The Condor and some of which were cited by Grinnell and Miller (1944). All such records accepted herein were reviewed via photos of the specimens, and often important measurements were independently taken. Old records have also come from the field notes of several observers, notably Laidlaw Williams and Guy McCaskie, and from the files of the Middle Pacific Coast Region of American Birds (hereafter abbreviated AB) and its predecessor Audubon Field Notes (AFN). Most of these reports have long been considered valid by other authors, and their publication here simply marks their formal CBRC acceptance under a formal record number. The process of reviewing historical records continues and should largely be completed with the publication of the thirteenth report (in prep.). The Committee
has now evaluated about 80% of all known records of review-listed species. We welcome documentation of unreviewed past records.

State list. This report adds two species to our California state list: American Black Duck and Brown Shrike. The state list now totals 563 species following these additions and the A.O.U. decision to recognize once again the Yellow-green Vireo (Vireo flavoviridis) at the species level (A.O.U. 1987). This species is casual in the fall along the California coast and is on the Review List. The CBRC has published a state list (California Bird Records Committee 1987; available from the Committee Secretary or the Circulation Manager for $1.00 postpaid) that updates its next most recent compilation (Binford 1986).

Review list. The list of species and species complexes we review has remained fairly stable over recent years, and a decision at the 1987 annual meeting may make it even more so. The Committee decided to stop reviewing records of species that have (or had) a small permanent resident population in the state. Thus Harris' Hawk and Sharp-tailed Grouse, whose resident populations have been extirpated, are no longer reviewed, nor will claims of the California Condor, no longer occurring in the wild, be evaluated. The Northern Cardinal was removed from the Review List as well, as a small permanent population has existed (though now in much reduced numbers) along the Colorado River since 1945 (the Committee has not yet considered whether the small introduced population in eastern Los Angeles County is viable, but will review the status of that population if evidence is submitted to suggest it is an established population under its criteria). On a much closer vote (7-3, the minimum needed to make a Review List change) the Sharp-tailed Sparrow was deleted from the Review List. It regularly winters in small numbers at a few favored coastal Salicornia marshes (Bolinas Lagoon, MRN, and Palo Alto, SCL, are examples) with individuals occasionally occurring elsewhere.

In 1987, the Committee voted to add the Blue-footed Booby (post-1972 records only) and Roseate Spoonbill (post-1977 records only) to the Review List; these years were after the last major incursions of these erratic species in California. All records of these species before our chosen cut-off date have been well summarized, for the booby by McCaskie (1970a), and for the spoonbill by Roberson (1980) and Garrett and Dunn (1981). In 1988, the Committee voted (7-3) to add Pterodroma petrels of the subgenus Cookilaria to the Review List. Observers are urged to indicate which members of this subgenus they deem eliminated by observation when submitting records of Cookilaria. For the most part, we expect to be reviewing members of the P. cooki/defilippiana/longirostris/pycrofti subset.

In general, our Review List includes species that average four or fewer records per year over the most recent ten-year period. The Committee solicits reports of the following: Yellow-billed Loon; Least Grebe; Wandering and Short-tailed Albatrosses (post-1900); Mottled, Cook's, and Stejneger's Petrel and Cookilaria petrels; Streaked and Greater Shearwaters; Wilson's, Band-rumped, and Wedge-rumped Storm-Petrels; White-tailed and Red-tailed Tropicbirds; Masked, Blue-footed (post-1972), Brown, and Red-footed Boobies; Olivaceous Cormorant; Anhinga; Reddish Egret; Yellow-crowned Night-Heron; White Ibis; Roseate Spoonbill (post-1977); Black-
bellied Whistling-Duck; Whooper and Trumpeter Swans; Emperor Goose; Baikal Teal; American Black Duck; Garganey; Tufted Duck; King and Steller’s Eiders; Smew; Mississippi Kite; Common Black-Hawk; Zone-tailed Hawk; Gyrfalcon; Yellow Rail; Purple Gallinule; Mongolian, Wilson’s, and Piping Plovers; Eurasian Dotterel; American Oystercatcher; Spotted Redshank; Gray-tailed Tattler; Upland Sandpiper; Little Curlew; Hudsonian and Bar-tailed Godwits; Rufous-necked and Little Stints; White-rumped, Curlew, and Buff-breasted Sandpipers; Jack Snipe; Little, Common Black-headed, and Lesser Black-backed Gulls; Sandwich and Sooty Terns; Thick-billed Murre; Kittlitz’s Murrelet; Parakeet, Least, and Crested Auklets; Black-billed Cuckoo; Groove-billed Ani; Snowy (post-1900) and Barred Owls; White-collared Swift; Broad-billed, Violet-crowned, Blue-throated, and Ruby-throated Hummingbirds; Red-headed Woodpecker; Greater Pewee; Eastern Wood-Pewee; Yellow-bellied, Dusky-capped, Great Crested, and Sulphur-bellied Flycatchers; Thick-billed Kingbird; Scissor-tailed Flycatcher; Eurasian Skylark; Blue Jay; Sedge Wren; Dusky Warbler; Northern Wheatear; Veery; Gray-cheeked and Wood Thrushes; Rufous-backed Robin; Gray Catbird; Curve-billed Thrasher; Yellow, White, White/Black-backed, and Black-backed Wagtails; Red-throated and Sprague’s Pipits; Brown Shrike; White-eyed, Yellow-throated, Philadelphia, and Yellow-green Vireos; Blue-winged, Golden-winged, Blue-winged × Golden-winged, Golden-cheeked, Yellow-throated, Grace’s, Pine, Cerulean, Prothonotary, and Worm-eating Warblers; Louisiana Waterthrush; Kentucky, Connecticut, Mourning, and Red-faced Warblers; Scarlet Tanager; Pyrrhuloxia; Varied and Painted Buntings; Cassin’s, Field, Baird’s, and LeConte’s Sparrows; Rustic and Snow Buntings; Common Grackle; Streak-backed Oriole; Brambling; White-winged Crossbill; and Common Redpoll.

The CBRC also reviews records of any species not yet on the State List.

Committee membership. Don Roberson is currently the Secretary and all reports should be sent directly to him (282 Grove Acre, Pacific Grove, CA 93950). The other current members (as of Feb 1988) are Stephen F. Bailey, Louis R. Bevier, Jon L. Dunn, Kimball L. Garrett, Paul E. Lehman, Curtis Marantz, Guy McCaskie, Joseph Morlan, and Peter Pyle. Former members also voted on some of the records included in this report.

Format. The format is very similar to that of the eighth (Morlan 1985) and, especially, the ninth (Roberson 1986) reports. Following Roberson (1986), the number of CBRC-accepted records is given in parentheses following the species name; those marked with an asterisk (*) are no longer on the Review List. Each record includes the locality and a standard abbreviation for the county (see below). The initials of the reporting observer(s), followed by the CBRC record number, are enclosed in parentheses. If the observer(s) who initially found or identified the bird provided documentation, his or her initials are listed first, followed by a semicolon. If an observer submitted a photograph, a dagger (†) follows his or her initials. Many photographers also submitted written descriptions with their photos, a practice we strongly encourage. A specimen is indicated by “#,” followed by the acronym (see below) for the museum that houses it and the specimen number (if available). Unless otherwise indicated by “#” or “†,” all reports are sight records. The full date span for each record is included. In most cases, the dates are from
the seasonal reports in *American Birds* and *Audubon Field Notes*. Dates differing from those listed in those publications are italicized, indicating that the Committee believes they are correct.

Some records document individual birds returning for additional years. Each annual occurrence is reviewed under a separate number and Committee members indicate if they believe the bird is the same individual as one previously accepted. If a majority expresses an opinion that it is the same, it is treated as additional dates of a previous record and does not add in the statistical count. Otherwise, it is considered a new individual. Following Committee policy, individuals judged "probably" the same are judged the same individual, but those considered "possibly" the same are handled as new birds.

All annotations are mine, although the information usually is derived from the Committee's files. The CBRC does not formally review the sex or age of a rarity submitted. Such designations given in this report are my opinions (but with Committee input), based on what I consider clear evidence. Likewise, the Committee does not assign rarities to a particular race. For some of the specimen records in this report, however, I include subspecific information where the identification to race was made by a competent ornithologist who has examined the specimen independently. In a few cases where the evidence is compelling, I have assigned individuals seen in the field to a particular race or subspecies group, using the cautionary wording "a bird showing the characters of . . . " This caveat follows the practice of the British Birds Rarities Committee in its handling of subspecies (e.g., Rogers 1987).

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

Museums that house specimens reported herein or that are otherwise referred to are abbreviated as follows: AMNH, American Museum of Natural History, New York; CAS, California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco; LACM, Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History; MLML, Moss Landing Marine Laboratory; MVZ, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley; PGMNH, Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History; SBCM, San Bernardino County Museum; SBMNH, Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History; SDNHM, San Diego Natural History Museum; USNM, United States National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C.
Other standard abbreviations include NM, National Monument; NP, National Park; NS, National Seashore; NWR, National Wildlife Refuge; Pt., Point; R., River. Compass directions are sometimes abbreviated.


Acknowledgments. The Committee is most grateful to the many contributors listed above, without whom this report would not have been possible. The Committee is particularly grateful to the many photographers who submitted transparencies at their own expense for our review and permanent archival in the files. The increased use of photography to document rarities with photos has made the CBRC’s job much easier and is encouraged. Photographers who deserve special mention for the extent of their contributions are Albert Ghiorso, Don Roberson, and, especially, Richard E. Webster.

The Committee also appreciates the review of certain difficult records by outside experts Peter J. Grant, Lars Jonsson, Ben F. King, Philip D. Round, and Richard L. Zusi. The continued help of Point Reyes Bird Observatory in obtaining and compiling records from the Farallones is greatly appreciated.
The Committee thanks David L. Suddjian for pointing out errors in earlier reports, which are corrected herein. Members and former members who reviewed an earlier draft of this manuscript and made many useful contributions and corrections were Stephen F. Bailey, Louis R. Bevier, Laurence C. Binford, Richard A. Erickson, Kimball L. Garrett, Jeri M. Langham, Paul E. Lehman, Curtis Marantz, Guy McCaskie, Joseph Morlan, Peter Pyle, and Don Roberson. The following curators or collections managers graciously provided members access to their collections and/or sometimes photographed or assisted in the photographing of a particular specimen: Luis F. Baptista and Stephen F. Bailey (CAS), Sheila Baldridge (MLML), Ned K. Johnson and Anne Jacobberger (MVZ), Vernal L. Yadon (PGMNH), Ralph W. Schreiber and Kimball L. Garrett (LACM), Amadeo M. Rea and Susan Breisch (SDNHM), Eugene A. Cardiff (SBCM), Dennis M. Power and Paul Collins (SBMNH), and Richard L. Zusi and Eirik A. T. Blom (USNM). Lloyd F. Kiff continues to archive the CBRC records, all of which are ultimately deposited at the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology, 1100 Glendon Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90024, for which we are most grateful.

**ACCEPTED RECORDS**

**YELLOW-BILLED LOON Gavia adamsii** (26). One was about ½ mile off Pt. Joe, Pebble Beach, MNT, 29 Dec 1969 (AB; 40-1985). One was off the Hopkins Marine Station, Pacific Grove, MNT, 21 Jan-15 Mar 1972 (AB; RAE; 41-1985). One immature was about ¼ mile off Lovers Pt., Pacific Grove, MNT, 13 Jan 1985 (AB; HLO; 62-1985).

The bird off Pt. Joe was originally published as an adult in AB 24:444, but the description indicates an immature.

*LAYSAN ALBATROSS Diomedea immutabilis* (15*). One was seen from shore off Pigeon Pt., SM, 30 March 1979 (BSa; 99-1983).

Small numbers are now found regularly off the coast, primarily between late fall and early spring and especially off central California. This species is no longer on the Review List.

**MOTTLED PETREL Pterodroma inexpectata** (5). One was found dead on the beach at Abbotts Lagoon, Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 25 Feb 1976 (*CAS 69267; 162-1984). One was found freshly dead at Cayucos, SLO, 28 Feb 1976 (*SDNHM 37952; 18-1985). One was seen from shore at Pt. Pinos, Pacific Grove, MNT, 12 Dec 1984 (DR; 8-1985).

The account of the Abbotts Lagoon and Cayucos birds (plus one additional beached bird still under review) was published by Ainley and Manolis (1979). The one from Pt. Pinos, seen flying during a gale, is the second record of a healthy bird seen from land.

**COOK’S PETREL Pterodroma cookii** (16). One was seen from the end of the Whitewater R. dike, north end of the Salton Sea, RIV, 24-29 July 1984 (SWC, DLD; GMcC, REW; Figure 1; 196-1984). Five were seen off the Cordell Bank, MRN, 23 June 1985 (JML, MJL, JM, DR; REW; 188, 190-193-1985).

These records are all accepted with the disclaimer that *P. defilippiana* and *P. pycrofti* are eliminated on distribution, not on appearance (see Roberson 1986 for a fuller explanation of this disclaimer). Two members felt the photograph from beyond the Cordell Bank (193-1985; bird 6) showed enough detail for the bird to be identified as *P. cookii* without the disclaimer, although other members felt the detail shown was not even sufficient to indicate the bird was a *Pterodroma*! Six birds were seen that day off the Cordell
Bank. One bird (189-1985; bird #2), seen more distantly than the others, is currently under review under the subgenus Cookilaria.

The remarkable Salton Sea record involved a healthy bird seen flying daily back and forth beyond the end of the dike protruding into the Salton Sea. This is the first interior record and adds yet another pelagic species to the list for this inland body of water. For a more detailed account of this record see AB 38:1061.

"Cook’s” type Petrel (Pterodroma sp)
24 July 1984
Mouth Whitewater River, ’NESS”,
Riverside Co

**Vertebral View**

immaculate white underparts, crisp narrow black border around edges of wings, dark grey "collar" extending down side of neck, to beak; head; eye patch dark grey; cap medium grey; bill short, dark, stubby (not seen well)

**Dorsal View**

back medium grey, slightly darker across neck (seen when bird flying away); head medium grey, eye patch and neck patch dark grey; wing coverts and primaries blackish brown, somewhat paler on secondaries; stump dark grey creating vague down "M" with dark wings; tail medium grey with darker tip; no white observed in tail

**General Appearance**

size 9/3 Caspian Tern, or slightly larger, heavier than a Black Tern (to which it could be compared); wings long and narrow, angle of wings held forward, forwardly head; see illustrations for shape/proportions

**Ascending Flight Pattern**

flight was low and direct for a few flaps and glides, then would fly high up in the arc and glide back down, then would repeat the pattern.

Figure 1. Cook’s Petrel, north end of Salton Sea, Riverside Co., California, 24 July 1984.

*Sketches by Donna L. Dittmann*

The “two to five” at Monterey Bay 24 Sep–16 Oct 1977 (previously accepted 99-1977; Luther 1980) should be revised to “up to four birds.”

A few individuals of this species are now found nearly every fall in the large storm-petrel flocks on Monterey Bay off Moss Landing, MNT.

RED-TAILED TROPICBIRD Phaethon rubricauda (3). One adult was seen at 34° 09' N, 122° 35' W, about 100 nautical miles WSW of Pt. Arguello, SBA, 30 Sep 1979 (GF; 87-1985). Another adult seen at 34° 58' N, 122° 36' W was about 80 nautical miles SW of Pt. Piedras Blancas, SLO, on 8 Oct 1979 (GF; 89-1985). These were two of three incorrectly reported as being 100-200 miles off the coast between 30 Sep and 8 Oct 1979 (AB 34:200; Garrett and Dunn 1981).

BROWN BOOBY Sula leucogaster (17). One immature was collected at Imperial Dam, IMP, on 20 Sep 1946 (*USNM 393391; 194-1984). Up to eight birds (eight records), including three adults, were at the Salton Sea, IMP/RIV, 6 Sep-11 Nov 1969, with one adult remaining to 25 Apr 1970 (HC†, GMcC; 90-1984). One immature was on Southeast Farallon Island, SF, 24–28 Sep 1983 (KH; 126-1985).

The 1969 invasion of Brown Boobies to the Salton Sea was unprecedented and has never been equaled. Blue-footed Boobies (Sula nebouxii) were also present there that fall. Larger numbers of that latter species invaded in 1971 and 1972 but only a few Brown Boobies appeared during those years. See McCaskie (1970a) for a full account of the 1969 invasion. The sighting from the Farallones constitutes the second coastal record and the first for northern California. There were two sightings from coastal California waters in 1983 (one previously accepted; Roberson 1986); they were during a major “El Niño” that brought a number of subtropical species (e.g., Brown Pelican, Pelecanus occidentalis, and Elegant Tern, Sterna elegans) farther north and in greater numbers than usual. The Imperial Dam bird was clubbed over the head with an oar (!) and succumbed during the evening, demonstrating the tameness of boobies (McMurray 1948).

OLIVACEOUS CORMORANT Phalacrocorax olivaceus (3). One adult was at the north end of the Salton Sea, RIV, 27 July–31 Aug 1985 (BEDa, GMcC, REW†; 100-1985). This is considered to be the same individual first found 1 Aug 1982 at the north end of the Salton Sea and seen intermittently at both ends of the Salton Sea thereafter (previously accepted 76-1982, 37-1983, Morlan 1985; 66-1983, Roberson 1986).

REDDISH EGRET Egretta rufescens (17). One immature was at the Tijuana R. mouth, SD, 12–23 Oct 1963, and was collected on the last date (GMcC; *SDNHM 30757; 48-1986). Present with that bird was another immature 12 Oct–6 Nov (GMcC; 339-1986). A basic-plumaged adult was at Elkhorn Slough, Moss Landing, MNT, late Aug–8 Oct 1967 (AB, GMcC; 37-1985). An immature was along the Santa Ana R. at Glassell, Anaheim, ORA, 10 Sept 1984 (LRH; 210–1984). One immature at the Sweetwater R. mouth, San Diego Bay, SD, 28 Oct 1984 was subsequently found dead in late Feb 1985 (GMcC; REW†; *SDNHM; 274-1985). A basic-plumaged adult, present at the south end of San Diego Bay, Chula Vista, SD, 12 Dec 1984–9 Mar 1985 (REW†, AME; 50–1985), was judged to be the same individual returning for its third winter (previously accepted 45-1984, 49-1984; Roberson 1986).

An account of the 1963 Imperial Beach birds was published by McCaskie (1964). The adult at Moss Landing represents the first and only record from northern Califor-
nia and the most northerly record for western North America. The species is now of nearly annual occurrence in coastal SD but is strictly casual elsewhere.

YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON Nycticorax violaceus (12). An adult was seen at the Tijuana R. mouth, Imperial Beach, SD, 3 Nov 1962 (GMcC; 42-1986). An adult at the same location 22–25 Oct 1963 (collected on the last date) was narrowly judged probably to be different from the first (GMcC; #SDNHM 30758; 39-1986). An adult at San Elijo Lagoon, SD, 13 July–8 Oct 1984 (GMcC, REW†; 237-1984) was judged to be the same individual that has intermittently been present there and at the nearby Scripps Institute, La Jolla, since 25 Oct 1981 (previously accepted 88-1981, Binford 1985; 81-1982, 37-1983, Morlan 1985).

The 1962 record was the first for California. The 1963 bird, the only specimen from California, was published by McCaskie (1964). McCaskie and Banks (1966) assigned this bird to the race N. v. bancrofti, breeding from central Baja California to western Mexico and the West Indies, rather than the nominate race, N. v. violaceus, from the eastern United States. Unitt (1984) remeasured the bird's bill (key measurement being the depth at the nostril, which is 22.5 mm) and supported the subspecific identification. For a summary of California records through 1977, see Hoechlin (1978).

WHITE IBIS Eudocimus albus (3). One immature at the Sefton estate on Pt. Loma, SD, 15 Nov 1935 was collected 20 Nov 1935 (#SDNHM 170999; 36-1986). This record was first published by Huey (1936) and at that time was considered the second state record, though the earlier one for Palo Verde, IMP, in March 1914 (Lincoln 1923) is not particularly detailed and has been questioned (Garrett and Dunn 1981). Pending acceptance of the earlier report, the San Diego bird stands as the first state record. Huey (1936) listed the full date span, but Grinnell and Miller (1944) gave only the 20 Nov date, which was repeated by Roberson (1980) and Garrett and Dunn (1981) but corrected by Unitt (1984). This record passed 9–1, but more recent coastal records have not fared as well, being rejected because their representing natural occurrences was questioned (Binford 1983, Morlan 1985). The Committee felt that the presumed greater rarity of this species in captivity in the 1930s than in the 1970s and the immature plumage suggested the 1935 bird was likely wild. The one dissenter felt it was inconsistent to differentiate this record from other rejected coastal records and pointed out a lack of any pattern of fall records for the state.

TRUMPETER SWAN Cygnus buccinator (6). One seen at Bailey Creek Meadow, between Grasshopper Valley and Termo, LAS, 8 Nov 1935 (189-1984) was previously published by McLean (1937). Another at Abbotts Lagoon, Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 1 Jan–9 Mar 1962 (GMcC; 193-1984) was previously published, but with incomplete dates, by Williams and Miller (1963).

These were two of five older records (see under Unaccepted Records, identification questionable, for the remaining three) that the Committee reviewed. As many recent reports have been, they were difficult for the Committee to evaluate. For any Trumpeter Swan, observers are urged to describe in detail the facial pattern where the white feathering meets the black skin around the eye. On the Tundra Swan (Cygnus columbianus) the black closes in front of the eye (eye then conspicuous against white background) and then cuts straight across the forehead, while on the Trumpeter Swan the black extends into the eye, making the eye inconspicuous, and the white dips down on the forehead in a distinct V shape. I believe this is the single best feature differentiating adult Trumpeter from Tundra Swans. The Committee is presently at a loss in identifying the immatures. Vocalizations can also be an excellent character if the observer is familiar with the full range of variation in Tundra Swan calls. The primary call of the Trumpeter has been described with different interpretations, but it is clearly quite different from any call of the Tundra. It has been likened to the noise made from a French horn (Bent 1925). However, immature Trumpeters have thinner and higher-pitched vocalizations than do adults (Banko 1960).
EMPEROR GOOSE Chen canagica (35). Four were at Pacific Grove, MNT, and at the nearby Carmel R. mouth, MNT, 10 Dec 1948–8 Feb 1949 (LW; 63-1985). Two at the Carmel R. mouth, MNT, mid Dec 1949–early Feb 1950 (LW; 65-1985) were considered possibly part of that flock but are treated here as separate birds. Two were at Morro Rock, Morro Bay, SLO, 12 Dec 1966 with one remaining until 12 Feb 1967 (EAP; GMcC; 60-1986). Five at Anaheim Bay, Seal Beach, ORA, 15 Dec 1968 (JRJ', GMcC; 56-1986) were reduced to three by late Dec and just one by early Jan 1969, which remained until 8 Mar 1969. At least three of the birds were photographed. The “departing” birds were casualties of the hunting season. One was at Lower Klamath NWR, SIS, 28-29 Oct 1979 (BEDe; 257-1984).

The ages of some of the above birds were specified in the original reports of them, but ageing of this species is very difficult because juveniles molt nearly all of the dusky mottling on the head by early winter or earlier and then closely resemble the adults.

AMERICAN BLACK DUCK Anas rubripes (1). One was shot by a hunter at Willows, GLE, 1 Feb 1911 (#MVZ 17198; 88-1978).

This constitutes a new addition to the State List. The path for acceptance of this record was a long and arduous one. It was originally submitted in 1978 and after two circulations was rejected for the State List and published as “unaccepted, origin questionable” (Luther et al. 1979). Because only the species, not the record, had been voted on, the Committee decided to recirculate the record under its revised procedures. After one round, the vote stood at 3–7, but extensive comments by one member prompted another round, and the record finally passed 9–1 on the third round (six rounds in all!).

The Committee’s change of opinion came about largely as a result of the research efforts by the one member, who pointed out that in 1911 “planted” introduced ducks were quite rare but by the 1930s the plantings were much more common as a result of the crash in waterfowl populations in the late teens and twenties. This may have caused Grinnell and Miller (1944) to question the record’s representing a natural occurrence and was perhaps the main factor in the record’s not having fared well in earlier Committee evaluations. Supporters of the record pointed out that Grinnell had originally endorsed it (Grinnell 1911 and Grinnell et al. 1918) and did not publish doubts about it before his death in 1939. They speculated that Miller had decided to question the record at some point before the publication of Grinnell’s and his epic work in 1944. Supporters also pointed to a pattern of vagrancy of this species in western North America, even to Alaska. Long-distance vagrancy is further supported by scattered records from the British Isles, by single records from Sweden and the Azores (Cramp and Simmons 1977), and by a bird shot in Korea in June 1977 that had been banded in Virginia over eight years earlier (Banks 1985)!

The lone dissenter in the end still felt that it was unwise to question the decision of Grinnell and Miller (1944), since more information concerning game stocking in the early 1900s must have been available to them than to the present Committee. He also felt that it was quite inappropriate to speculate on the motivations of these two authors, who have long been deceased and cannot comment on the issue.

Despite our acceptance of this particular record, the issue of recent American Black Ducks is by no means resolved. The 11 Nov 1978 record for the Niland Fish Hatchery, IMP, (149-1980; Binford 1985) still stands as unaccepted (natural occurrence questionable), and three other reports from northern California are unreviewed. There is now a small introduced population around Puget Sound, Washington, and Vancouver, British Columbia, and local duck clubs sometimes stock this species or Black Duck × Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) hybrids. A shipment of some 1000 such hybrids from Minnesota arrived at the Prado Duck Club, RIV, during the summer of 1986 (Loren R. Hays in litt.)! Obviously, a detailed assessment of the status and plumage variability of stocked American Black Ducks and hybrids at local duck clubs would greatly help the review of past and future records.
CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

GARGANEY Anas querquedula (4). One male was at Modoc NWR, MOD, 10 Mar–28 Apr 1985 (ECB, JML, MJL, WRR†, JTr†; 47-1985).

All of the records are of males in the spring, which is not surprising since spring males wear by far the most easily identified of the species' plumages. The Garganey is one of the most migratory of all waterfowl, and fall migrants would likely winter well south of California.

TUFTED DUCK Aythya fuligula (24). One male on a pond at the property of the Kaiser Gravel Plant in the Livermore Valley, ALA, was collected sometime between 23 Dec 1948 and 8 Jan 1949 (*CAS 61012; 155-1984). One male was at Arcata, HUM, 10 Apr 1968–10 Apr 1969 (SWH; 234-1984). Another male was at Abbotts Lagoon, Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 5 Feb–3 Mar 1980 (JE; 101-1983); this record is considered the first winter of Limantour's "second male," which was present 9 Nov–12 Dec 1980 (previously accepted 237-1980, 44-1981; Binford 1985). One male was at Saticoy, VEN, 16 Feb–17 Mar 1985 (TEW; 42-1985). A female was at the same locality 17 Feb–3 Mar 1985 (PEL; LRBe, TEW; 197-1985). One male at a pond near Grenada, SIS, 7 Apr 1985, was felt to be the same bird as one 4 miles away at Salt Lake, Lava Lakes Nature Center, near Yreka, SIS, 2–11 May 1985 (RE; SFB; 93-1985 and 294-1986); it was, by error, circulated and accepted twice under two different numbers.

The specimen from the Livermore Valley constitutes the first record for mainland North America and was published with the equivocal date span by Orr (1950). Orr (1962) later suggested the specimen had been secured on "about 28 December 1948." The Arcata record was the second for the state and remains the only one for summer. Although separate date periods were published by Harris and Gerstenberg (1970) and Yocum and Harris (1975), the Committee suspected the bird was continuously present in the area, making periodic visits to the sewage ponds where it was seen. It may have lingered into 1970 (record 454-1986, currently under review).

Small numbers of this species are now detected regularly in winter, the great majority from the coastal slope. Individuals often return for successive winters, and since the localities visited can vary slightly from year to year and even during the same winter, it is often difficult to assess the exact number of individuals.

KING EIDER Somateria spectabilis (15). One immature female was collected at Tomales Bay, MRN, 16 Dec 1933 (*CAS 1659; 158-1984). One (description appears to be of a female) was at Monterey harbor, MNT, 3 Feb–16 Mar 1958 (LW; 66-1985). One immature male at Cypress Pt., Pebble Beach, MNT, 21–26 Mar 1959 was probably the same bird that was rediscovered at the nearby Monterey harbor, MNT, 24–25 June 1959 (GMcC; LW; 199-1984). One at Brooks Island, Richmond, CC, 29 June through Aug 1984 (SFB†, RAE, DR; 156-1984) was judged to probably be the same bird there again 4 to at least 21 Sep 1985 (JML, JM; 120-1985). It may have remained continually through the intervening period in the general region.

A photo of the female from Año Nuevo State Beach, SM, 30 Apr 1978 (RMS†) supplements and expands the date span from the previously accepted 6–7 May (92-1978; Binford 1983). The Committee would appreciate any information on the earlier dates. The bird was "rumored present" since February (AB 32:1050).

The 1933 specimen was said to have been shot from a group of three (Moffitt 1940). An account of the MNT records cited above was published by Williams and Holmes (1960).

This species is of casual occurrence in coastal California, with the preponderance of records from northern California in winter, but birds do occasionally oversummer.

MISSISSIPPI KITE Ictinia mississippiensis (14). One in first summer plumage was at Furnace Creek Ranch, Death Valley NM, INY, 28–29 May 1982 (DHoe†, JSRT†, 139
Another in first summer plumage was along the Colorado River at Blythe, RIV, 24 July 1985 (TM; 101-1985).

This species is a casual visitant to California, especially in late spring. Furnace Creek Ranch is a particularly good locality; the record cited above is the fifth accepted for that location.

'HARRIS' HAWK \textit{Parabuteo unicinctus} (2*). One adult female was collected about 2\frac{1}{4} miles south of Palo Verde, IMP, 1 Nov 1914 (*MVZ 24926; 209-1984). Two immature females were collected 1/2 mile south of Palo Verde, IMP, 23 Dec 1915 (*MVZ 26433 and 26434; 208-1984).

This species was formerly resident along the Colorado River, with smaller numbers inhabiting the Imperial Valley, IMP. It was extirpated at the latter locality by the early 1950s, and the last sightings along the Colorado River were in the mid-1960s (Garrett and Dunn 1981). Efforts to reestablish the species along the Colorado River, particularly in IMP, have had some limited success, although it is too early to assess whether the effort will succeed. Over the last decade, the population in southern Arizona has increased and spread substantially (Gary Rosenberg pers. comm.), inspiring hope for a California recovery or perhaps a recolonization from Arizona. It also implies that factors other than habitat loss may have been responsible for the Harris' Hawk's demise.

The Committee no longer reviews records of this species.

ZONE-TAILED HAWK \textit{Buteo albonotatus} (17). An adult seen near Bonsall, SD, 19 Oct 1984-1 Jan 1985 (GMcC; 279-1984) was judged to be the same wintering bird returning for its third winter (previously accepted 135-1983, 5-1983; Roberson 1986).

YELLOW RAIL \textit{Coturnicops noveboracensis} (53). Seventeen specimens collected in the late fall and early winter and one collected in early spring between 1882 and 1910 are detailed below. Those marked with two asterisks were not listed by Grinnell and Miller (1944).

10 Apr 1892 SM, 168-1984** #CAS 70771
21 Nov 1897 Alameda, ALA, 170-1984 #CAS 43783
14 Dec 1898 Alviso, SCL, 169-1984 #CAS 11750
20 Dec 1898 SON, 167-1984 #CAS 21616
7 Nov 1900 Alameda, ALA, 170-1984 #CAS 58796
20 Nov 1900 Pt. Reyes Station, MRN, 174-1984 #CAS 43782
1901 or 1902 Mountain View, SCL 180-1984 #CAS 15548
27 Oct 1905 Pt. Reyes MRN, 172-1984 #CAS 34742
28 Oct 1905 salt marsh east of Alameda, ALA, 178-1984** #CAS 58799
30 Oct 1905 salt marsh east of Alameda, ALA, 177-1984** #CAS 58798
24 Nov 1905 Pt. Reyes, MRN, 173-1984 #CAS 38891
27 Dec 1905 Pt. Reyes, MRN, 171-1984 #CAS 38743
27 Dec 1905 Pt. Reyes, MRN, 175-1984 #CAS 38742
2 Nov 1908 MER, 181-1984 #CAS 12823
14 Nov 1908 MER, 182-1984 #CAS 13500
30 Dec 1908 MER, 183-1984 #CAS 13501
17 Nov 1910 ALA, 176-1984** #CAS 58797

In addition, although not formally reviewed, the Committee decided to accept the following seventeen additional specimen or nest records, the actual evidence for which has been lost (many in the 1906 San Francisco earthquake). All are listed by Grinnell and Miller (1944).
Figure 2. Little Stint. Elkhorn Slough, Moss Landing, Monterey Co., California, 15 Sep 1985.

Photo by William E. Grenfell, Jr.

Figure 3. Little Stint. Elkhorn Slough, Moss Landing, Monterey Co., California, 15 Sep 1985.

Photo by Alan Hopkins
Nest records:
1 June 1939 Bridgeport Valley, MNO
2 June 1939 Bridgeport Valley, MNO
6 June 1922 (nest with eight eggs) Long Valley, MNO

Specimen records:
undated Berryessa, SCL
28 Dec 1883 Alvadaro, ALA
16 Apr 1889 Quincy, PLU
24 Apr 1889 Quincy, PLU
2 Jan 1893 Redwood City, SM
23 Dec 1894 Redwood City, SM
12 Dec 1896 Newport Bay, ORA
21 Dec 1896 Redwood City, SM
22 Jan 1897 Redwood City, SM
24 Oct 1897 Redwood City, SM
17 Nov 1911 Redwood City, SM
4 Jan 1912 Redwood City, SM
8 Dec 1915 Suisun Marsh, SOL
9 Oct 1917 Shandon, SLO

One at Crespi Pond, Pacific Grove, MNT, 2-8 Oct 1970 (WR; RS; 230-1984) provided the first record for the state since 1936. The species is now much rarer than it was earlier in this century, although the early collectors with dogs very likely had an advantage over present-day birders attempting to locate this very secretive species.

PURPLE GALLINULE Porphyrla martinica (1). One juvenile female was picked up injured after hitting an overhead wire in a yard on the west side of Pt. Loma, SD, 1 Oct 1961 (*SDNHM 30289; 30-1986). The bird died the night of 2 Oct 1961. A brief account of this first state record was published by Huey (1962).

WILSON'S PLOVER Charadrius wilsonia (3). One male at Pacific Beach, SD, 24-29 June 1894 (*MVZ 31920; 58-1985) was collected on the latter date (Ingersoll 1895).

SPOTTED REDSHANK Tringa erythropus (2). A breeding-plumaged bird at Crescent City, DN, on 14 May 1985 was relocated a short distance north at the Elk Creek mouth on Lake Earl on 15 May (RAE; ADB, RLeVt'; 94-1985). The previous record of this Eurasian species at the north end of the Salton Sea, RIV, 30 Apr-4 May 1983, also involved a breeding-plumaged bird in spring (Roberson 1986).

UPLAND SANDPIPER Bartramia longicauda (8). One adult at Southeast Farallon Island, SF, 22-24 Aug 1968 (*MVZ; 64-1985) was presumably caught and eaten by a cat, as a wing was found 31 Aug 1968 (DeSante and Ainley 1980). Steven W. Cardiff, while dove hunting SW of Colton, SBE, collected one juvenile on 10 Sep 1973 (*SBCM 5229; 55-1986). One was at Furnace Creek Ranch, Death Valley NM, INY, 17-18 May 1985 (JML; MJL, GMcC, REWt'; 75-1985).

Records of the Upland Sandpiper are about equally divided between late spring and early fall. Because of the brevity of its visits, this species is extremely difficult for birders to chase down. Furnace Creek Ranch, with three May records (and another report unreviewed), has been the best place to find this species to date.

HUDSONIAN GODWIT Limosa haemastica (4). One was along Sandy Mush Rd., near the east end of Merced NWR, MER, 30-31 Aug 1983 (RJB; GZt; 123-1985). The four records are equally divided between spring and fall.

142
BAR-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa lapponica* (5). A female at Pebble Beach, near Crescent City, DN, 3–5 June 1984 (RAE; JR: 186-1984) established the first spring record of this species.

LITTLE STINT *Calidris minuta* (2). One juvenile was at Moonglow Dairy, Elkhorn Slough, Moss Landing, MNT, 10–21 Sep 1985 (JMa; SFB, JLD, RAE, WEG; ASH; JML, MJL, CM, JM, GMcC, DR; Figures 2 and 3; 117-1985). After the initial observation by John Mariani on 10 Sep, the bird was rediscovered on 14 Sep by Don Roberson and seen daily during high tides thereafter; it allowed close studies and ample photographic opportunities. The identification was confirmed (through photos) by Lars Jonsson of Sweden and Peter J. Grant of Great Britain. The Committee wishes to thank the owners of the Moonglow Dairy, Louis and Carol Calcagno, who graciously permitted enthusiastic crowds of birders on their property. The only previous record of this Eurasian species was of a juvenile at Bolinas 14–22 Sep 1983 (Roberson 1986). For superb plates and detailed information on the identification of small *Calidris* sandpipers, see Grant and Jonsson (1984) and Veit and Jonsson (1984).

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER *Calidris fuscicollis* (8). One female was collected at the north end of the Salton Sea, RIV, 7 June 1969 (GMcC; #SDNHM 37201; 17-1985). Another was at the same locality on 30 May 1985 (REW; 112-1985). An adult in partial breeding plumage at the Salinas sewage ponds, MNT, 14–16 Sep 1985 (SNGH; WEG; WEH; JML, MJL, DR; JW; Figure 4: 136-1986) was judged to be probably the same bird seen some 7 miles downstream near the mouth of the Salinas R., MNT, on 18 Sep 1985 (PJM; 181-1985).
Most records of this species are for the very late spring. The 1969 record was the first for the state. The record from MNT is only the second for fall for the state and one of the very few fall records for western North America; both of these were of breeding-plumaged adults.

**CURLEW SANDPIPER** *Calidris ferruginea* (12). One juvenile was west of Santa Maria, SBA, 16-20 Sep 1984 (LRBe; JLD, BWK, JML, PEL, MJL, JM, GMcC, DR, REW; 214-1984). A juvenile was at the north end of the Salton Sea, RIV, 13-16 Oct 1984 (GMcC; JLD, JS†; 224-1984). A juvenile was at the Salinas sewage ponds, MNT, 8-14 Sep 1985 (CT: SFB, EG†, WEG†, JML, MJL, JM, DR†, JW†; 118-1985).

All California records except one are for fall and involve about an equal number of adults and juveniles.

**BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER** *Tryngites subruficollis* (27). One juvenile was collected on a beach at Morro Bay, SLO, 14 Sep 1923 (#MVZ 43994; 207-1984). One was at Cadar Lane pond, Petaluma, SON, 25 Aug 1984 (BDP; 184-1984). Three juveniles were at the Salinas sewage ponds, MNT, 15-25 Sep 1984 (JML, MJL, DR; JBun, BEDe†, BGET, ASHT, JM, NMcm; 225-1984). One juvenile at Abbotts Lagoon, Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 24 Aug-13 Sep 1985 (DEQ; EG†, EM, DN†, BDP; 102-1985) and one juvenile at the Spaletta Plateau, Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 14-29 Sep 1985 (LCB, JML, JM, BDP; 131-1985, 166-1985) were probably the same individuals, the two localities being very close to one another. This record was, by error, circulated and accepted twice under different record numbers.
Figure 6. Great Crested Flycatcher, Point Reyes National Seashore, Marin Co., California, 23 Sep 1985.

Photo by Richard Stallcup

Figure 7. Thick-billed Kingbird, Santa Ana Nature Center, Claremont, Los Angeles Co., California, 6 Nov 1984.

Photo by Daniel L. Guthrie
CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

The dates of the sighting at Bodega Bay, SON, 12 Sep 1979 (previously accepted 53-1979; Luther et al. 1983) should be extended to 11-16 Sep 1979 (LCB).

The numbers of Buff-breasted Sandpipers at Pt. Reyes in the fall of 1985 are still unclear. The Committee has documentation of only one bird each from Abbotts Lagoon and the Spaletta Plateau, yet up to four and up to three were reported in AB 40:330 from each location, respectively. The Committee would greatly appreciate receiving details of the additional birds so that it may report the situation more accurately. This again illustrates the need for all observers to submit documentation of rarities, even those that they did not find and knew to have been present over an extended period.

The Morro Bay record cited above (Brooks 1924) was the first for the state. This species is now being found annually in small but varying numbers—some years being better than others. Nearly all records are of juveniles in fall.

LITTLE GULL Larus minutus (25). One adult was near Mecca, RIV, 16-21 Nov 1968 (GMcc, AS†; 233-1984). One first-winter bird was at Ferndale, HUM, 1 Jan 1984 (GSS, GSL; 27-1985). One juvenile was at Lake Elsinore, RIV, 3-5 Sep 1984 (GMcc; JLD, REW†; 213-1984). A wintering adult at the Stockton sewage ponds, SJ, 26 Oct 1984-24 Apr 1985 (JLD; 269-1984) is regarded as the same bird that has recurred there every winter since March 1979 (previously accepted; 21-1979, Luther et al. 1983; 85-1983, 93-1983, 1-1984, 42-1984, Roberson 1986), although more than one individual was present during some of these winters. See Roberson (1986) for a full listing of dates for each winter. A first-winter bird was at Salton City, IMP, 17 and 31 Jan 1985 (REM; JLD, CM†; 10-1985); it was looked for on some of the intervening dates but was not seen.

The adult near Mecca in 1968 established the first record of this species for California and western North America; its photo appeared on the cover of AFI (Feb 1969), and two other photos were published inside the issue. The juvenile cited above was the second in this plumage from California, the previous bird having been at Crescent City, DN, 15 Aug 1981 (Binford 1985). These sightings suggest the possibility of additional undiscovered nesting sites to the west of the known breeding locations around Hudson Bay and the Great Lakes (Godfrey 1986, A.O.U. 1983).

COMMON BLACK-HEADED GULL Larus ridibundus (11). A breeding-plumaged adult was at Irish Beach, near Manchester, MEN, 18-20 June 1984 (PAS; 166-1984). An immature was at the Stockton sewage ponds, SJ, 24 Mar-13 Apr 1985 (BDP; DGY; 43-1985).

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL Larus fuscus (2). One winter-plumaged adult was near Red Hill marina, south end of the Salton Sea, IMP, 18 Dec 1984-5 Jan 1985 (JLD; NBB, LRBe†, RAE, PEL, GMcc, DR†; Figure 5; 278-1984).

The previous record of this species for the state, for Roberts Lake, Seaside, MNT, 14 Jan 1978, was also of an adult (Binford 1978, Luther et al. 1979). An expert asked for analysis of the Salton Sea bird expressed misgivings, suggesting that the bill was too large for this species and that the dusky head flecking was not in the right location and might be staining of some sort. He suggested the bird might be a runt Yellow-footed Gull (L. livens). Despite these reservations the Committee accepted the record 10-0 on the second round, on the basis that the head flecking was well within the range of variation for this species and that the Yellow-footed was eliminated by wing tip pattern (visible in photos, a long tongue of gray on the eighth primary is absent in the Yellow-footed), bill shape, and overall size, the bird being described as clearly smaller than a Herring Gull (L. argentatus). The fact that the bird was still molting its primaries is correct for the Lesser Black-backed, which typically does not complete primary molt until mid-winter, quite unlike the Yellow-footed, which normally completes its molt by fall.

146
THICK-BILLED MURRE *Uria lomvia* (12). An weak adult female found on a beach at Pacific Grove, MNT, 27 Aug 1964 subsequently died (*PGMNH 2031A; 34-1985*). An immature male was found freshly dead on a beach at Monterey, MNT, 22 Feb 1965 (*PGMNH 2041A; 35-1985*). A breeding-plumaged adult was about 10 nautical miles north of Pt. Pinos, Monterey Bay, MNT, 8 Apr 1968 (VLY; 232-1984). One was ¼ to ½ mile off the Coast Guard wharf, Monterey, MNT, late Dec 1972-26 Jan 1973 (JLD; 30-1985). One was about 1 mile west of Asilomar Beach, Monterey Bay, MNT, 20 Oct 1985 (LCB, JGre, JMaT, RMt; 135-1985).

Record 32-1974 (Luther et al. 1979), previously accepted as “two, 14 Sep-10 Nov 1973, Monterey Bay,” should be revised to read “two birds at Monterey, MNT, one present 14 Sep-10 Nov 1973, the second 18 Sep-10 Nov 1973.”

Monterey is the site of nearly all California records of this species. For an account of records from the 1960s cited above see Yadon (1970). The 1968 bird was seen by five boatloads of birders. The bird seen in 1985 appeared to be in breeding plumage, but the ages of Thick-billed Murres can not be determined reliably in the field in late summer and possibly into the fall. Birkhead and Nettleship (1985) reported that 64% of the juvenile Thick-billed Murres were in a “summer” plumage, 25% showed “intermediate” characters, and only 11% were in a “winter” plumage. These birds fledged in that plumage so it is plausible that some may look that way into the fall.

PARAKEET AUKLET *Cyclorrhynchus psittacula* (25). One found dead at Zmudowski State Beach, MNT, 3 Mar 1974 (*MLML 4896; 57-1985*) was the first reported since 1955 and only the sixth since 1909 (including unreviewed records for 1937, 1944, and 1955). An account was published by Talent (1975). Note that the date in AB 28:688 and Roberson (1980) is incorrect; it was corrected by Roberson (1985).

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Figure 8. Scissor-tailed Flycatcher. Oasis, Mono Co., California, 2 May 1985.

*Photo by Jack Wilburn*
BARRED OWL *Strix varia* (4). One was heard calling along Walker Rd., Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park, DN, 6-25 May 1985 (RAE; 95-1985).

BROAD-BILLED HUMMINGBIRD *Cynanthus latirostris* (23). One male was at a feeder in San Diego, SD, 10 Nov 1961-mid Mar 1962 (GMcC; 32-1985). One male was in the Tijuana R. Valley, SD, 14 Oct 1962 (GMcC; 31-1985, 103-1986); it was, by error, circulated and accepted twice under two different numbers. One male was at a feeder in Redlands, SBE, 2 Jan-mid Feb 1964 (GMcC; 33-1985). One male at a feeder in Santa Barbara, SBA, 26 Oct 1983-7 Feb 1984 (Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Wills; 52-1984) was judged to be the same bird returning for its second winter (previously accepted 29-1983; Morlan 1985). One immature male was at the Carmel R. mouth, MNT, 29 Sep-2 Oct 1984 (KLH, DR, BT†; 229-1984).

The records listed above from the 1960s were all published by McCaskie (1970b). A black-and-white photo of the Redlands bird appears in that article but to date no transparency has been deposited in CBRC files. The bird at the Carmel R. mouth provided the second accepted record from northern California. It inadvertently was never published in AB but was published by Roberson (1985). This species now occurs nearly annually in southern California with almost all the records being for the fall and winter.

GREATER PEWEE *Contopus pertinax* (17). One collected at Brock Ranch, 20 miles east of Holtville, IMP, 29 Sep 1965 (*LACM 60645; 7-1986) was identified by K. L. Garrett as pertaining to the expected northern race, *C. p. pallidiventris*. One was on Pt. Loma, SD, 6-7 Oct 1984 (REW†; 52-1985). One was at Montecito, SBA, 10

Figure 9. Brown Shrike, Southeast Farallon Island, San Francisco Co., California, 20 Sep 1984.

*Photo by R. Phil Henderson*
CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

Nov 1984-10 Mar 1985 (JLD; PEL; REW; 265-1984). One was at Presidio Park, San Diego, SD, 10 Nov 1984-14 Apr 1985 (REW; JLD; GMcC; 277-1984). One was at Decoto, Union City, ALA, 23 Dec 1984-7 Mar 1985 (RAE; AG; KLH, JML, MJL, JM; 26-1985).

This species is now of nearly annual occurrence in southern California, the great majority of the records involving wintering birds. The record from Montecito is a first record for well-worked SBA; the one from Union City is only the third from northern California and establishes the northernmost record in North America.

DUSKY-CAPPED FLYCATCHER Myiarchus tuberculifer (10). One at La Jolla, SD, 8 Mar 1985 (LRBe; GMcC; REW; 49-1985) established the first record for SD.

GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER Myiarchus crinitus (12). One was collected on Southeast Farallon Island, SF, 25 Sep 1967 (#MVZ 158780: 205-1984). One was along Carpinteria Creek, Carpinteria, SBA, 19-20 Oct 1984 (LRBa; PEL; 264-1984). One was in Santa Monica, LA, 28 Oct 1984 (JA; 2-1985). One was at Pt. Reyes NS (Lighthouse), MRN, 23 Sep 1985 (RS; Figure 6; 134-1985).

The specimen from the Farallones constitutes the first record for California; another bird banded there that day (DeSante and Ainley 1980) is currently in circulation. This species is now of nearly annual occurrence in California, but because its visits are so brief, it is one of the most difficult vagrants for birders to chase down. All records are from the coast in fall.

THICK-BILLED KINGBIRD Tyrannus crassirostris (6). One was in the Tijuana R. Valley, SD, 19 Oct 1965 (GMcC; 38-1986). One was at Bonita, SD, 26-27 Dec 1966 (GMcC; 'tSDNHM; 37-1986). One was at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Gardens, Claremont, LA, 3 Nov 1984-10 May 1985 (JLD, DLG; GMcC, REW; Figure 7; 266-1984).

The Tijuana R. Valley bird was the first for the state. The one from Claremont was a first for LA.

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER Tyrannus forficatus (23). One male collected along Elizabeth Lake Rd. beyond Bouquet Canyon near Saugus, LA, 26 June 1915 (#MVZ 31346: 203-1984) established the first state record (Swarth 1915). One 6 miles east of Saugus, LA, 2 Oct 1937 (82-1985) was published by Philip (1938). One collected at Ferndale, HUM, 1 Nov 1957 (#CAS 60368: 163-1984) was published by Yocum and Harris (1975). An adult male collected at Solana Beach, SD, 22 Nov 1963 (GMcC; #SDNHM 30769: 47-1986) was published by McCaskie et al. (1967a). A male was collected at Hopland, MEN, 24 Apr 1966 (#MVZ 156692: 202-1984). One was at Furnace Creek Ranch. Death Valley NM, INY, 23 May 1970 (CSL; GMcC: 54-1986). One was at Colusa NWR, COL, 18 Oct 1970 (WGI; 52-1986). One was on Santa Barbara Island. Channel Islands NM, SBA, 23 May 1975 (HLJ; 53-1986). One was at the Butte Valley Wildlife Area, SIS, 15-16 June 1984 (BWo; 121-1985). One was in the Carmel R. Valley, MNT, 3-5 May 1985 (AKY; 91-1985). One was at Oasis. MNO, 25-27 May 1985 (BLaB; GMcC; DR, REW, JW; Figure 8; 56-1985). One was at various spots in Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 29 May-8 June 1985 (DAH; LCB, MGro, JTh, DT; 54-1985); the majority of the Committee felt that only one bird was involved.

EURASIAN SKYLARK Alauda arvensis (1). One was on the Spaletta Plateau, Pt. Reyes NS, MRN, 27 Oct 1984-17 Feb 1985 (JM; AG; MJL; 256-1984). This was the seventh and last winter for a bird that first appeared in Dec 1978 (previously accepted 4-1979. Luther 1980; 93-1981, Binford 1985). Presumably this individual wintered somewhere on Pt. Reyes during the winter of 1983-1984 but no definite
CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

sightings were recorded. For a full discussion of this record, with notes on skylark identification and systematics, see Morlan and Erickson (1983).

BLUE JAY Cyanocitta cristata (9). One came to a feeder at South Lake Tahoe, ED, early Nov 1983-Mar 1984 (BSo†; 185-1984). The bird came to the feeder of Clair and Cap Capistrant and was loosely associating with a group of up to 50 Steller's Jays (C. stelleri). The bird was recorded on the South Lake Tahoe Christmas Bird Count (AB 38:811) but has not been otherwise published.

NORTHERN WHEATEAR Oenanthe oenanthe (2). A male was collected on Southeast Farallon Island, SF, 11 June 1971 (*CAS 68566; 154-1984). The specimen, a first state record, was examined by Charles Vaurie (AMNH) and found to be too worn to be identified to race (Manuwal and Lewis 1972).

VEERY Catharus fuscescens (4). One immature at Kelso, SBE, 5 Nov 1978 (SWC†; 35-1984) established the third state record and occurred on a date very late for anywhere in North America.

GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH Catharus minimus (3). One immature male was collected on Southeast Farallon Island, SF, 3 Oct 1970 (*CAS 68501; 161-1984). R. Laybourne determined the specimen to be of the expected widespread race C. m. minimus. Establishing the first state record, it was one of two Gray-cheeked Thrushes recorded that day (DeSante and Ainley 1980); the other record remains unreviewed by the Committee.

GRAY CATBIRD Dumetella carolinensis (22). One in the Tijuana R. Valley, SD, 7-8 Nov 1964 (GMcC; *SDNHM 35095; 45-1986) was collected on the last date. One was at Pacific Grove, MNT, 30 Sep 1968 (AB; 36-1985). One was at Stovepipe Wells, Death Valley NM, INY, 4 Oct 1984 (REW†; 12-1985). One was at Iron Mountain Pump Station, SBE, 3-10 Nov (GMcC; 275-1984). One was on Southeast Farallon Island, SF, 29 May 1985 (PP; 67-1985). One was at Oasis, MNO, 29 May 1985 (REW; 113-1985).

The record cited above from the Tijuana R. Valley in 1964 was published by McCaskie et al. (1967b). According to Unitt (1984), Amadeo Rea assigned the specimen to the darker eastern race, D. c. carolinensis, though some sources, such as the A. O. U. (1957), list the species as monotypic.

RED-THROATED PIPI T Anthus cervinus (31). At least twelve (including one female collected on 13 Oct) were in the Tijuana R. Valley, SD, 12-27 Oct 1964 (GMcC; *SDNHM 35097; 31-1986). A minimum of ten (including one immature male collected on 19 Oct) were in the same area 9-30 Oct 1966 (GMcC; *LACM 46029; 32-1986). Up to ten were there 22 Oct-4 Nov 1967 (GMcC; 33-1986), the last date coming from Unitt (1984). One was at the Salinas sewage ponds, MNT, 29 Sep 1984 (DR; 226-1984).

The flock in 1964 established the first state record (McCaskie 1966) and included one very red-throated bird that was certainly an adult and likely a male. The bird at the Salinas sewage ponds established the first record for well-worked MNT. This species is now nearly annual in fall from along the coast, but where they go is a mystery; there is one winter specimen (USNM) from the southern tip of Baja California, Mexico, collected on 26 Jan 1883 (A.O.U. 1957); to date, there are no spring records for North America outside Alaska.

SPRAGUE'S PIPI T Anthus spragueii (14). One was in the Patterson fields, Goleta, SBA, 21-22 Sep 1984 (BEDa; PEL, REW†; 242-1984). One was near Lakeview, RIV, 2-17 Mar 1985 (JML, MJL, GMcC; 73-1985).
Both of these records were county firsts. The SBA bird was in very worn plumage and may well have been an adult; it establishes the earliest fall record for the state.

**BROWN SHRIKE** *Lanius cristatus* (1). One was on Southeast Farallon Island, SF, 20 Sep 1984 (RPH†, PP; Figure 9: 261-1984). This bird was trapped, photographed, and various feathers were retained (#CAS 71593). The bird was clearly a Palearctic shrike of some type, and in his submission of a record of a Brown Shrike, Peter Pyle clearly eliminated that species' close relatives, the Red-backed (*L. colurio*) and Isabelline Shrikes (*L. isabellinus*). The fact that two other Asiatic shrikes, the Bull-headed (*L. bucephalus*) and Tiger (*L. tigrinus*), were not initially considered (the latter species being highly migratory) caused some Committee members to raise questions. These questions were addressed by Pyle in additional correspondence. Basically, the Bull-headed Shrike is eliminated because it has rufous-chestnut ear coverts of the same color as the crown. The Tiger Shrike is eliminated because it has a larger bill, duller and less contrasting ear coverts, and a shorter tail, a conclusion endorsed by Philip D. Round, who examined photos: Round is very familiar with the Tiger Shrike as a migrant in Thailand.

It was suggested that the bird was of the nominate northern race, *L. c. cristatus*, but Ben F. King and Richard L. Zusi, who also reviewed the record, opined that the question is best left unresolved without the preservation of a specimen. Certainly *cristatus* would be the most likely race, but the only specimen taken in North America (Shemya Island, western Aleutians, Alaska, 10 Oct 1978) was identified as belonging to a more southerly race, *fuscicollis* (Gibson 1981). However, the Alaska specimen is an immature, and Medway (1970) found immatures not to be identifiable to race, even in the hand. Therefore the Alaska specimen should be reexamined.

The bird on Southeast Farallon establishes the first record for California and for North America away from Alaska, where there are now four published records (King et al. 1978, Gibson 1981, AB 38:235, AB 38:948).

**WHITE-EYED VIREO** *Vireo griseus* (11). One was at Huntington Beach Central Park, ORA, 21-28 May 1985 (BEDa; 116-1985). A singing bird was at Franks Valley, 1 mile north of Muir Beach, MRN, 26 May-15 June 1985 (DAH; LCB, JM, BDP; 53-1985).

This is a casual visitor to California with almost all records for late spring.

**YELLOW-THROATED VIREO** *Vireo flavifrons* (16). One was at Oasis, MNO, 18 May 1985 (LK; JML, MJL; 72-1985). One was found dead by Mary Yegella under an oak tree near the intersection of Tierra Grande Rd. and Carmel Valley Rd., Carmel Valley, MNT, 23 Aug 1981 (JLD; #PGMNH; 25-1985). One was at Huntington Beach Central Park, ORA, 25-27 May 1985 (LRH; 55-1985).

**PHILADELPHIA VIREO** *Vireo philadelphicus* (49). One collected in the Tijuana R. Valley, SD, 9 Oct 1965 (GMcC; #SDNHM 35511; 29-1986) established a first state record (McCaskie 1968). One collected at Fairhaven, HUM, 16 Sep 1967 (*#MVZ 15878: 206-1984*) was published by Yocum and Harris (1975). Another was collected on Pt. Loma, SD, 9 Nov 1969 (*#SDNHM 37390; 14-1985*). One was at the Carmel R. mouth, MNT, 7 Oct 1984 (GMcC; 220-1984), rather than 6 Oct (Roberson 1985). Another was at Pt. Loma. SD, 11 Oct 1984 (REW; 240-1984) is here published for the first time, being inadvertently left out of the seasonal report in AB. One was at Pt. Reyes NS (New Willows), MRN, 29-30 Sep 1985 (LCB, JML, MJL, JM, BDP; 132-1985).

**BLUE-WINGED WARBLER** *Vermivora pinus* (3). A singing male made a typically brief appearance in the willows on the SW side of Bridgeport Lake, MNO, 18 June 1984 (RS: 45-1985).
GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER *Vermivora chrysoptera* (26). A singing male was at Carpinteria Creek, Carpinteria, SBA, 1-2 June 1984 (TEW; DLD; 252-1984). A male at La Jolla, SD, 6-12 Oct 1984 (GMcC,REW; 219-1984) established a first, and long overdue, record for SD. A singing male was at Oasis, MNO, 23 May 1985 (JLD; 86-1985).

BLUE-WINGED × GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER *Vermivora pinus × V. chrysoptera* (2). One was found dead at the Westwood sewage ponds, LAS, 3 July 1984 (HG; #MVZ 169149). The specimen was sent to Kenneth C. Parkes, who stated that the bird should be placed in the category of “heterozygous Golden-wing” (see Parkes 1951), with a genotype WwSspp (note that there is a typographical error in the caption to the plate in this paper; the heterozygous Golden-wing genotype is erroneously given as WwSsPP). He comments that “this genotype can be obtained by various backcrosses, such as between an F1 ‘Brewster’s’ and a Golden-winged Warbler.” He felt the bird was about ¾ Golden-winged and ¼ Blue-winged.

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER *Dendroica dominica* (39). One was at Pt. Loma, SD, 15 Oct-5 Nov 1969 (AMC, GMCC; 58-1986). One was in the Tijuana R. Valley, SD, 3 Oct 1976 (NBB; 90-1985). One was at Morongo Valley, SBE, 23-24 Apr 1982 (EAC; 49-1986). One was at Clear Creek Outdoor Education Center, 10 miles N of La Cañada, LA, 10-11 May 1982 (HP; 250-1984). One was at Carpinteria Creek, Carpinteria, SBA, 2-3 June 1984 (DLD; DB, CM; 251-1984). One was along the Salinas R., near Salinas, MNT, 8-11 Nov 1984 (JML, MJL, BWe; 272-1984). One was at Olema Ranch Campground, Olema, MRN, 12 Dec 1984-12 Jan 1985 (RS; LCB, JE, JLD, BDP; 270-1984). One, probably a female, was at Oasis, MNO, 29-30 May 1985 (REW; JML; 71-1985).

The Carpinteria and Oasis birds showed the characters of the western race, *D. d. albilora*. The bird on Pt. Loma was initially trapped and measured, and the yellow lores and particularly the long bill (culmen = 14.1 mm) indicated the more easterly nominate race, *dominica*, although the very localized and poorly differentiated stoddardti was not eliminated. This record and the above conclusions were published by Craig (1972) and Unitt (1984) although the initial date of observation (14 Oct) is in error in both publications as indicated by the date written on a piece of paper photographed behind the bird. The Olema bird also showed the characters of nominate *dominica* (or stoddardti), possessing distinctly yellow lores, a yellow chin up to the bill, and a very long bill. These are the only two state records of individuals showing the characters of this race, and interestingly they are also from the late fall/early winter period. For additional details on distribution and characters separating the races see Baird (1958).

GRACE’S WARBLER *Dendroica graciae* (15). One on Oak Road in Montecito, SBA, 4 Nov 1980-28 Mar 1981 (PEL, GMCC; 3-1985) had returned for its second winter; this long-lived bird (previously accepted 23-1980, Binford 1983; 114-1984, Roberson 1986) returned for a sixth winter 7 Oct 1984-23 Mar 1985 (JLD, PEL, GMCC, BDP, DR, REW; 221-1984). One immature was on Pt. Loma, SD, 11-12 Oct 1984 (REW; GMCC; 222-1984). An immature was near the city hall in Carpinteria, SBA, 12-13 Oct 1984 (LRBa; JLD, PEL; 263-1984). A duller bird, clearly different from the adult male wintering less than a mile away on Oak Rd., was on Summit Rd., Montecito, SBA, 21 Dec 1984-25 Feb 1985 (PEL; JLD, GMCC, DR, REW; 5-1985). A male was in Ventura, VEN, 30 Dec 1984-3 Mar 1985 (JGra; JLD, PEL, CM, REW; 6-1985); a majority of the Committee decided that there was likely only one bird, although two were initially reported.

The above records fit the pattern of coastal fall migrants and wintering birds. All four of the wintering birds have occurred in planted pines (mainly Monterey Pines, *Pinus radiata*, which, at least in the Montecito area, are dying out).
CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

PINE WARBLER *Dendroica pinus* (10). One immature female was in the Tijuana R. Valley, SD, 4-6 Nov 1984 (GMcC, REW; 276-1984).

CERULEAN WARBLER *Dendroica cerulea* (8). A singing male at Central Park, California City, KER, 17 May 1985 (JCW; MOC; 106-1985) represents only the third spring record, the previous ones being of a female at Oasis, MNO, 27 May 1974 (Luther et al. 1979) and another female on Pt. Loma, SD, 26-27 May 1979 (Luther et al. 1983).

PROTHONOTARY WARBLER *Protonotaria citrea* (42). A male was collected 1 mile S and 8 miles E of Shandon, SLO, 22 May 1963 (#MVZ 151085; 201-1984). A male was at Morro Bay State Park, SLO, 2-6 Oct 1966 (NBB; EAP; 59-1986). One was at Furnace Creek Ranch, Death Valley NM, INY, 14 May 1984 (REM). A female was at Oceano Campground, Pismo Beach State Park, SLO, 1-7 Sep 1984 (BSch; JLD; 267-1984). A male was near Oxnard, VEN, 16-18 Sep 1984 (JLD; 268-1984). Another male was on Pt. Loma, SD, 25 Sep 1984 (REW; 239-1984). A male was at Scotty's Castle, Death Valley NM, INY, 3 Oct 1984 (REW; 241-1984).

WORM-EATING WARBLER *Helmitheros vermivorus* (28). An immature male was found dead on a street in Chula Vista, SD, 18 Sep 1960 (#SDNHM 30219; 44-1986). One was at Pacific Grove, MNT 25 Oct 1969 (WR; AB; 61-1985). One was at Nojoqui Falls County Park, SBA, 1 Dec 1984 (HC; AS; 4-1985).

The Chula Vista bird was the first recorded for California (Huey 1961).

LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH *Seiurus motacilla* (2). One was at Deep Springs College, Deep Springs Valley, INY, 7 Aug 1985 (JLD; 130-1985). The only previous state record (Miller 1908) was for Mecca, RIV, 17 Aug 1908 and previously accepted (Roberson 1986). The August date fits the very early migration of this species, and there are a number of late July and early August records for southern Arizona.

KENTUCKY WARBLER *Oporornis formosus* (16). A male was at California City, KER, 19 May 1985 (MH; MOC, JCW; 105-1986). A singing male was at Fort Piute, SBE, 22 May 1985 (BWK; 98-1985). A female was at Mojave, KER, 25 May 1985 (JCW; MH; 104-1985). A singing male near Rodeo Lagoon, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, MRN, 13 June 1985 (ASH; 84-1985) is published here for the first time.

CONNECTICUT WARBLER *Oporornis agilis* (18). A female was trapped and banded on Pt. Loma, SD, 4 June 1968 (VPJ; GMcC, 35-1968; McCaskie 1970c). One was found dead on Dearborn Park Rd., Pescadero, SM, "Oct 1975" (#MVZ 64784; 204-1984). One was at Pt. Reyes NS (Nunes), MRN, 7 Oct 1983 (RS; JE; 127-1985). One was at Oceano Campground, Pismo Beach State Park, SLO, 1-2 Oct 1984 (BSch; JLD, CM, JEM; 217-1984). One was at Pt. Reyes NS (Fish Docks), MRN, 14 Oct 1984 (DGY; JM; 259-1984).

The Pt. Loma bird provides the only spring record away from the Farallones. The June date fits the limited pattern of the other spring records. The bird from Pt. Reyes in 1984 established the latest fall date for the state.

MOURNING WARBLER *Oporornis philadelphia* (20). One was at the Big Sur R. mouth, MNT, 5 Oct 1984 (LK; JML, MJL; 271-1984).

*PAINTED REDSTART* *Myioborus pictus* (5*). One was at Zaca Lake, SBA. 19 Oct 1984 (PC; 262-1984). This species is no longer on the Review List.
CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS

SCARLET TANAGER *Piranga olivacea* (31). One found dead on San Nicolas Island, VEN, 30 Oct 1929 (#MVZ 54485; 195-1984) was thought to have been dead about “two to three weeks.” A female was at Tustin, ORA, 15 Nov 1982 (WGo; 17-1983). An immature male was on Pt. Loma, SD, 21 Oct 1984 (REW; 244-1984). Another male was on Pt. Loma, SD, 23 Oct 1984 (REW; 245-1984).

A record for Palo Alto, SCL, 24 May 1972 (previously accepted 66-1972; Winter 1973) was assigned to SM in error.

The record for San Nicolas Island cited above was the first for California (Miller and Miller 1930). The newly accepted records, all from late fall in southern California, fit the pattern for the majority of the records. There are only a few northern California records.

PYRRHULOXIA *Cardinalis sinuatus* (7). One male was near Calipatria, IMP, 17 Dec 1972-19 Feb 1973 (JButt, GMcC; 143-1985). A male at Heise Springs, north of Westmorland, IMP, 22 Jan-23 Mar 1973 (GMcC; 79-1984) had returned for its third winter; the full dates for the previous winters were 24 Feb-8 Mar 1971 and 31 Dec 1971-27 Mar 1972 (previously accepted, but with incomplete dates for the first winter: 1-1972, 2-1972; Winter 1973). Two, one male and one female, were at Corona, RIV, 23 July 1982 (MM; 13-1983).

It is sad to report that Heise Springs, formerly a fine oasis that sheltered a wide variety of birds, has become an agricultural field. Whether the birds at Corona represented a natural occurrence was intensively debated, as the area is on the coastal slope, although not far from the desert. The matter is complicated by the absence of a clear pattern of vagrancy in the deserts to the east. Despite some misgivings, the Committee passed the record 9-1 on the fourth and final round. Data on this species’ status in captivity would help the Committee’s assessment of future records.

PAINTED BUNTING *Passerina ciris* (11). An immature male was collected in the Tijuana R. Valley, SD, 10 Nov 1962 (GMcC; #SDNHM 30488; 41-1986). Another immature was collected in the same area on 28 Sep 1963 (GMcC; #SDNHM 30783; 40-1986).

These specimens represent the first records for California (McCaskie and Banks 1964, McCaskie et al. 1967c). R. W. Storer assigned them to the western race, *P. c. pallidior* (McCaskie et al. 1967c).

CASSIN’S SPARROW *Aimophila cassinii* (10). A singing male at the South Tufa area on the south edge of Mono Lake, MNO, 17-23 Jun 1984 (SEF, JM, MW; 197-1984) represents the most northerly record from the interior of California.

LE CONTE’S SPARROW *Ammodramus leconteii* (8). One collected on Southeast Farallon Island, SF, 13 Oct 1970 (*CAS 68505; 160-1984) was the first state record. Records from California through 1974 were reviewed by McCaskie (1975).

*SHARP-TAILED SPARROW* *Ammodramus caudacutus* (27*). Two were at Recreation Gun Club, near Venice, LA, 16 Jan-12 Feb 1944 (83-1985). One was collected at the Tijuana R. mouth, SD, 2 Nov 1963 (GMcC; #SDNHM 30788; 46-1986). One at the mouth of Pine Gulch Creek, Bolinas, MRN, 9 Nov-22 Dec 1984 (LCB, SEF, JM; 255-1984) is regarded as likely one of the birds that previously wintered at that spot (previously accepted 222-1980, Binford 1985; 120-1982, Morlan 1985).

The account of the birds at Venice was published by Cogswell (1944). The entire salt marsh there has long since been developed. The specimen from SD was identified by McCaskie et al. (1967c) and Unitt (1984) as the western race, *A. c. nelsoni*, as all other California specimens have been (Grinnell and Miller 1944). This species is no longer on the Review List.

154
SNOW BUNTING Plectrophenax nivalis (17). One was at Scotty's Castle, Death Valley NM, INY, 14 Nov 1970 (GMcC; †SDNHM; 51-1986). One was at Pt. Reyes NS (“Drake’s Corners”), MRN, 4-24 Nov 1982 (AG†, JM; 260-1984). One was at Crescent City, DN, 20-21 Nov 1984 (RAE, GSL; 273-1984).

Record 168-1977, previously accepted (Luther 1980) as “at least one and probably four different birds from 8 Dec 1972-5 Jan 1973” should be revised to two birds, one present 8 Dec 1972-5 Jan 1973 and joined by a second bird 11 Dec 1972-5 Jan 1973.

Most records are from the north coast in late fall and early winter and these are no exception. Although some of these were assigned to sex, this is a difficult task in fall and early winter when birds are not in the hand. See Svensson (1984) and Pyle et al. (1987) for more detailed information on the ageing and sexing of Snow Buntings.

COMMON GRACKLE Quiscalus quiscula (12). One was at Arcata, HUM, 11 Oct 1975 (TS, SS; 124-1985). AB 30:123 stated that the bird was photographed, but no transparencies are in our files. This is one of the few accepted fall records, the great preponderance of records being for late spring.

STREAK-BACKED ORIOLE Icterus pustulatus (3). An immature male was collected at Murray Dam, Lake Murray, near La Mesa, SD, 1 May 1931 (#SDNHM 14521; 43-1986). One, believed to be an immature male, was in La Jolla, SD, 10 Dec 1984-29 Apr 1985 (REW?, JLD, JML, MJL, BWK, GMcC; 22-1985).

The specimen documented the first record for the United States (Huey 1931). This bird may have wintered locally, a theory supported by the late departure of the La Jolla bird. Richard Webster found the La Jolla individual on 24 Feb 1985. While searching for it again on a subsequent day, he found it coming to a feeder at the home of Richard Eppley, who had been seeing it regularly since 10 Dec and had independently identified it.

CORRIGENDUM FOR SPECIES NO LONGER REVIEWED

*SHARP-TAILED SANDPIPER Calidris acuminata (20†). Record 80-1979, previously accepted (Binford 1985) as “two juveniles east of Dumbarton Bridge, Palo Alto, San Mateo Co.,” should be revised to read: “two juveniles on the salt ponds on the NW side of Highway 84, just west of the west end of the Dumbarton Bridge, Menlo Park, SM.” These ponds are (and were then) part of the San Francisco Bay NWR. This species is no longer on the Review List.

UNACCEPTED RECORDS, identification questionable

YELLOW-BILLED LOON Gavia adamsii. Two breeding-plumaged birds at Erdent Beach Cliffs just south of Crescent City, DN, 16 June 1985 (111-1985).

These birds were seen by a careful and experienced observer, but the majority of the Committee felt that two breeding-plumaged birds together on this date would be extraordinary, and the distances at which they were observed were too great to allow conclusive identification.

STREAKED SHEARWATER Calonectris leucomelas. One about 1 mile off Manresa Beach, Monterey Bay, SCZ, 5 Sep 1984 (211-1985). The Committee thought this bird, seen only briefly, was some type of aberrant shearwater, perhaps a leucistic Buller’s Shearwater (Puffinus bulleri) like one seen on Monterey Bay in Sep 1982 and initially identified as a Streaked. Characters reported for the bird off Manresa Beach that were not right for Streaked included a faint dark “M” dorsal pat-
tern, a lack of pale tips on the back and scapular feathers, and no dark streaks noted on the head and face. Additionally, there was no description of the underwing coverts, and the wing beat seemed too rapid.

**MANX SHEARWATER Puffinus puffinus.** One on Monterey Bay, MNT, 27 Aug 1977 (29-1979). This record was circulated after the A.O.U. (1983) separated the Black-vented Shearwater (P. opisthomelas) from the rest of the Manx Shearwater complex. The record was submitted as the nominate race of Manx Shearwater (P. p. puffinus) and after three rounds was rejected 3–7.

This record prompted some of the Committee's most acrimonious correspondence ever. The five past or present Committee members who saw this bird and submitted documentation had widely divergent opinions on the length of time the bird was under observation, the path of flight past the boat, and the sky conditions at the time of observation (dense fog or clear). Some discrepancies can be explained by the fact that the debate took place some 6 or 7 years after the sighting, but it also illustrates the need for a high standard of evidence in the form of a specimen or photo, especially of difficult-to-identify species.

Despite the controversy, the Committee agreed that this was a most interesting observation. The white undertail coverts, clearly noted by all observers, and the rather sharp demarcation between the black dorsal and white ventral coloration almost certainly eliminate Black-vented Shearwater. There was agreement that the bird represented probably either the nominate race of Manx Shearwater or the Newell's Shearwater of Hawaii, considered a race of Townsend's Shearwater (P. auricularis newelli) by the A. O. U. Checklist (1983). Those voting in favor of the record felt that some of the characters noted at the time (underwing and undertail pattern and tail length; see below) point to Manx, but others commented that, at the time, these characters were not critically examined nor were they known to be distinctive. Given the species' extreme rarity, the difficulty of the identification, and the intense debate over the circumstances of the observation by the reporting observers, the majority voted against the record.

Although nominate puffinus is restricted to the Atlantic, where it is a transequatorial migrant, it could appear off California or elsewhere in the North Pacific, if it entered the wrong ocean. There are single definite records of Manx Shearwaters of the nominate race from Australia (Kinsky and Fowler 1973a) and New Zealand (Kinsky and Fowler, 1973b); the one from Australia involved a bird that had been banded in Great Britain! Newell's Shearwater nests in the Hawaiian Islands (primarily on Kauai) and ranges north to about 40°N latitude in the Central Pacific (R. L. Pitman in litt.), withdrawing south and east in winter (A.O.U. 1983 and Pitman 1986). Both seem possible off California, although Newell's seems unlikely in the cold waters off the south coast of Alaska, where there are at least four summer reports of white-vented Manx-like shearwaters (Kessel and Gibson 1978, Roberson 1980, AB 40:1242).

Additional white-vented shearwaters will probably be seen off California and the Committee hopes they will be documented by a specimen, photo, or, at least, a detailed description based upon extensive views. Observers should concentrate on the exact color of the upperparts (blackrer in Newell's), length of tail (longer in Newell's), and underwing pattern (more contrast of flight feathers to underwing in Newell's), although the usefulness of this last character might be subject to variations in lighting (e.g., a Pink-footed Shearwater, P. cretopus, appears to have a much whiter underwing in very bright light). One of the best features, if the bird is seen extremely well, is the face pattern. Nominate Manx always has some dusky flecking in the white areas of the face, while Newell's shows no such flecking and has a sharper contrast between the black and white regions. Many, if not most, Newell's also show some black
UNACCEPTED RECORDS, identification questionable, Cont.

feathers in the undertail coverts; their vent still looks mostly white in the field, but the dark feathers can also be seen (P. Pyle in litt.). Observers are cautioned about the great variation in the amount of dusky on the underparts of the Black-vented Shearwater. Some birds appear quite white below, although all should show at least some dark to the undertail coverts. For more details on the identification, distribution, and systematics of certain members of the Manx complex see Harrison (1983) and Jehl (1982).

This record was published with equivocal conclusions in AB 32:251, as the nominate race of Manx Shearwater by Roberson (1980) and as Manx/Townsend's by Roberson (1985).

BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK Dendrocygna autumnalis. Record 24-1982 (27 Sep 1969, Oroville, BUT), previously rejected (Morlan 1985) as "origin questionable," should be revised to unaccepted, identification questionable. Since the record received more than one reject vote on the identification issue, it was not necessary to address the natural occurrence issue; five members questioned the natural occurrence.


The bird from SJ was published by Morton and Tate (1963). The three at Pt. Año Nuevo were published as only "possible" in AFN 23:515, and the one from Humboldt Bay had been published as "probable" in AFN 23:515.

TUFTED DUCK Aythya fuligula. One male on a farm pond along State Highway 12 near Clements, SJ, 16-28 Jan 1984 (48-1984). This bird showed extensive gray scaling across the back, which caused the observers and the Committee to question whether it was a pure Tufted Duck. After two circulations the record was rejected 2–8. Most felt the bird may have been a hybrid Tufted Duck × Greater Scaup (A. marila), Tufted Duck × scaup sp., or possibly a Lesser Scaup (A. affinis) × Ring-necked Duck (A. collaris). The record was published as a "possible Tufted Duck × Lesser Scaup" in AB 38:352, a hybrid combination that has not yet been definitively recorded.

Because of the extent of duck hybridization, it is important for observers of a Tufted Duck, or any other rare duck, to check for all the characters of the species. For more information on Aythya duck hybridization, especially between the Tufted Duck and Greater Scaup, see Gillham et al. (1966).

WOOD SANDPIPER Tringa glareola. One on Southeast Farallon Island, SF, 20 Aug 1985 (176-1985). This bird was seen by an experienced observer who knew the species from previous field experience. The views were mainly in flight, but distinctive vocalizations were heard. The majority of the Committee felt that the bird was probably this species, but wanted a more convincing record before placing the species on the State List. The Committee is usually reluctant to accept first state records from single observers; poor views (as here) will almost certainly doom such a report. The record was published in AB 40:330.

UPLAND SANDPIPER Bartramia longicauda. One near Davenport, SCZ, 3–4 Sep 1983 (61-1983). This record was finally rejected by the narrowest of margins (8–2) on the fourth and final round (a 9–1 vote is required for acceptance). Several members expressed concern about the brevity of the views and the confusion caused by the presence of several Whimbrels (Numenius phaeopus) in the same artichoke fields. The record was published in AB 40:330.
LITTLE GULL Larus minutus. One at the Carmel R. mouth, MNT, 27 Dec 1977 (19-1985). This sighting was accepted on the Monterey Peninsula Christmas Bird Count (AB 32:870-871).

BOREAL OWL Aegolius funereus. One heard calling at the south end of Echo Lake, ED, on the night of 21-22 Dec 1985 (169-1986). The locality is near Echo Summit, 1 mile north of U.S. Highway 50 at 7300 feet elevation. The observer was camping when he heard the bird give four to six series of calls, one from very close, the others farther away. The individual notes were given “forcefully” and delivered in rapid succession. The strong wind and estimated 10°F temperature discouraged any attempt to find the bird, and no calls were heard during another visit on the night of 16-17 Feb 1986. After listening to the Peterson recording of Boreal Owl, the observer became more convinced, the recording having the same ringing, echo quality that he remembered hearing at Echo Lake.

All Committee members felt this record was very interesting, but since the bird called only five times and no voice recording was made, it was felt that the evidence was insufficient to add the species to the state list. Many suspect that Boreal Owls will eventually be found in the Sierra Nevada, as they have been found recently in a number of western mountain ranges south to at least northeastern Oregon and northern New Mexico. Efforts to locate this species should take place during the height of the calling season (full moon said to be best) in late winter or early spring, when territorial birds may sing all night. There has also been success in detecting this species during the late fall before mountain snows restrict access to these areas. The exact locality of this observation is reported here to stimulate further investigation.

BROAD-BILLED HUMMINGBIRD Cynanthus latirostris. One male at Pacific Grove, MNT, 21 Apr 1969 (228-1984). Although seen by an experienced observer, the view was brief and the bird was viewed without binoculars, though at very close range. The description was felt by the majority of the Committee to be inadequate, and the record failed 4-6 on the second round. Committee members noted that this observation was from northern California, where the species is accidental, and that the bird was seen in spring, an unlikely season for Broad-billed Hummingbirds to be in the state (almost all accepted records are from the fall and winter). The record was published in AFN 23:622, McCaskie et al. (1979), and Roberson (1980, 1985).


CONNECTICUT WARBLER Oporornis agilis. One at Lanphere Dunes, HUM, 24 Sep 1984 (77-1985), was published in AB 39:100.

COMMON GRACKLE Quiscalus quiscula. One at California City, KER 13 May 1984 (254-1984). This record was initially submitted without photos and received a nearly passing 8-2 vote on the first round. This came as a surprise to the original observers, who had already lost faith in the identification. Their misgivings were included in additional evidence that included two photos. The record failed unanimously on the next round.

The photos do show an odd black bird with a large and slightly hooked bill. Opinions on its identity ranged from a Brewer’s Blackbird (Euphagus cyanocephalus) with a
UNACCEPTED RECORDS, identification questionable, Cont.

deformed bill to a Great-tailed Grackle (Q. mexicanus) with a partially grown tail or possibly a hybrid Brewer's Blackbird × Great-tailed Grackle (both species nest at this locality). The observers felt the bird was decidedly larger than the accompanying Brewer's Blackbirds. It was essentially entirely blackish, eliminating the Bronzed Grackle (Q. q. versicolor) from consideration; to date all Common Grackles known from California have shown the characterisics of this race.

UNACCEPTED RECORDS, natural occurrence questionable (identification accepted)

LAYSAN ALBATROSS Diomedea immutabilis. One picked up along the Long Beach Freeway, Long Beach, LA, 13 Apr 1982 (113-1983). The record was published in AB 36:893.

The story of this bird first appeared in the newspaper Long Beach Press Telegram on 16 Apr after the bird was taken to a rehabilitation center, subsequently died, and was destroyed. Fortunately, photos (to CBRC) were taken while the bird was still alive.

Some Committee members felt that the bird could have come west through San Gorgonio Pass and then on toward the coast. There is some precedent for this supposition, as there is a previous record from this pass (Dunn and Unitt 1977) and several others from elsewhere in the Southwest, all in spring. Other members felt that the bird may have ridden a ship into Los Angeles Harbor and somehow made it to the nearby freeway. In support of this position members submitted to the record newspaper articles from the San Francisco Examiner (18 Mar 1983) and the Oakland Tribune (17 Mar 1983) that reported four birds that rode a container ship into the port of Oakland, ALA, on the east side of San Francisco Bay. Before clearing customs, the sailors attempted to evict the albatrosses. Three flew away, and presumably one of these was picked up a short time later in nearby Concord, CC. The fourth was taken to nearby Lake Merritt for rehabilitation. Thus, all records of this species near ports are suspect. This was the position taken by the Committee, which rejected the record (as natural occurrence questionable) 4-6 on the second circulation. A rumor circulated about a number of Laysan Albatrosses that had ridden a ship into Los Angeles Harbor, LA, in spring 1982, but we have no firm documentation of this. That all stranded albatrosses have been Laysans seems peculiar in view of the fact that Black-footed Albatross (D. nigripes) greatly predominates offshore, at least near the California coast. It may be that this species is more attracted to ships at night and becomes "trapped" on the deck, which may not have the space necessary for a running take-off.

This species is no longer on the Review List.

LITERATURE CITED


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Immature female King Eider

Sketch by Barry Kent MacKay