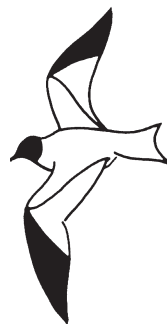


WESTERN BIRDS



Volume 47, Number 1, 2016

THE 39TH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE: 2013 RECORDS

STEPHEN C. ROTTENBORN, H. T. Harvey & Associates, 983 University Ave., Bldg. D, Los Gatos, California 95032;

GUY McCASKIE, 954 Grove Ave., Imperial Beach, California 91932

BRIAN E. DANIELS, BonTerra Psomas, 225 South Lake Ave, Suite 1000, Pasadena, California 91101

JOHN GARRETT, 711 S. Mentor Ave, Pasadena, California 91106

ABSTRACT: The California Bird Records Committee reached decisions on 285 records involving 562 individuals of 68 species and three species groups documented since the 38th report (Pike et al. 2014), endorsing 254 records of 532 individuals of 63 species and three species groups. First accepted state records of the Tundra Bean-Goose (*Anser serrirostris*), Nazca Booby (*Sula granti*), Marsh Sandpiper (*Tringa stagnatilis*), Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*), and Common Swift (*Apus apus*) outlined in this report bring California's total list of accepted species to 658, 11 of which are established introductions. Other notable records detailed in this report include the state's first Gray Hawk (*Buteo plagiatus*) during its return for a second winter, second Eastern Whip-poor-will (*Antrostomus vociferus*), fourth Little Bunting (*Emberiza pusilla*), and the largest incursions yet of the Blue-footed Booby (*Sula nebouxii*), Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*), Yellow-green Vireo (*Vireo flavoviridis*), and Common Redpoll (*Acanthis flammea*).

This 39th report of the California Bird Records Committee (CBRC), a committee of Western Field Ornithologists, summarizes evaluations of 285 records involving 562 individuals of 68 species and three species groups. The committee accepted 254 of the 285 records (an acceptance rate of 89%) involving 532 individuals of 63 species and three species groups. We consider 13 records of single individuals to represent returning or continuing birds that were accepted previously. Twenty-eight reports of 17 species were not accepted because the identification was not considered to be substantiated, and two reports of two species were not accepted because natural occurrence was questionable. One report of one species was not accepted because the date and location were uncertain; the committee added this new category of non-acceptance ("date and/or location uncertain") at its

2015 meeting to account for records for which the identification is known (e.g., from a photo), but for which the date and/or location could not be determined with precision sufficient for acceptance. Reports of multiple individuals together are given the same record number for purposes of review; we report the total number of accepted individuals, which may be greater than the number of accepted records. Although the majority of the records in this report pertain to birds documented in 2013, the period covered spans the years 1974 through 2013.

At its 2015 annual meeting, the committee replaced the Arctic Warbler (*Phylloscopus borealis*) with Arctic/Kamchatka Leaf Warbler (*P. borealis/examinandus*) on the main list and review list; the American Ornithologists' Union (AOU 2014) split these as species, and it is uncertain which species has (or have) been recorded in California. The committee also replaced Taiga/Tundra Bean-Goose (*Anser fabalis/serrirostris*) with Tundra Bean-Goose on the main list and review list. The committee has recently accepted the first California record of the Salvin's Albatross (*Thalassarche salvini*) from 2014, the details of which will be published in the next report. These records bring the total number of accepted species on California's state list as of press time to 659. Potential additions to the state list currently being considered by the committee are the Common Scoter (*Melanitta nigra*), Chatham Albatross (*Thalassarche eremita*), and Kelp Gull (*Larus dominicanus*).

At its 2015 annual meeting, the committee also voted to replace frigatebird sp. (*Fregata* sp.) with Magnificent/Great/Lesser Frigatebird (*Fregata magnificens/minor/ariel*) on the review list in recognition that unidentified frigatebirds in the state are not expected to be Ascension (*F. aquila*) or Christmas Island (*F. andrewsi*) Frigatebirds. The committee also removed the Blue-footed Booby and Yellow-green Vireo from the review list, so records of these species after 2014 are no longer reviewed.

During its 2014 annual meeting, the committee changed the northern boundary of California's offshore waters. Although the committee previously defined the northern boundary as 42° north latitude (a line drawn west from the California/Oregon border), the decision was made to consider all areas within the United States Fisheries Conservation Zone that are within 200 nautical miles of the California coast (except where the southern boundary is affected by areas under the jurisdiction of Mexico pursuant to international law), and for which California is the nearest point of land, to represent California waters. The effect of this change is to exclude from the CBRC's area of review a sliver of ocean that lies south of 42° north latitude but closer to points of land in Oregon. For example, a Galapagos/Hawaiian Petrel (*Pterodroma phaeopygia/sandwichensis*) 77 km northwest of Pt. Saint George, Del Norte County, 18 July 2013 was south of 42° north latitude; this record was initially accepted by the committee, but once it was determined that its location was closer to Oregon, this record was removed from the CBRC database of accepted records. The Oregon Bird Records Committee recently made a similar change to its offshore boundaries, and both committees' policies on this matter are now consistent and ensure that there are no gaps in coverage.

Species account headings are organized with English and scientific names first, followed in parentheses by the total number of accepted individuals

THE 39TH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CBRC: 2013 RECORDS

in the state (as of this report) and the number of new individuals accepted in this report. Following the heading are accounts for records accepted (as applicable), followed by records not accepted because the identification was not established, the date and/or location was uncertain, or the natural occurrence was questionable (as applicable). An asterisk (*) preceding the species name indicates that records of the species are no longer reviewed by the CBRC after 2013. A double asterisk (**) following the number of accepted state records indicates that the species has been reviewed for a restricted time span so the number of accepted records does not represent the total number of records for the state. Date ranges for each record are those accepted by the CBRC. A semicolon separates the observer(s) who originally discovered the bird from subsequent observers supplying documentation, a dagger (†) following an observer's initials indicates submission of a photograph, (S) indicates submission of a sketch, (§) indicates submission of audio recordings, (‡) indicates submission of a video, and (#) precedes a specimen number. The absence of a symbol following the observer's initials indicates the submission of a sight record alone. Additional details regarding minutiae of formatting and abbreviations may be found in previous CBRC reports, available at www.californiabirds.org/ and in CBRC (2007). Also available at the website is the California bird list, the review list, committee news, recent photos of rare birds, the CBRC's bylaws, a form for querying the CBRC database, and all annual reports from 1996 through 2012. Age terminology follows that used by CBRC (2007).

Observers are encouraged to submit documentation for all species on the CBRC's review list, sending it to Tom Benson, CBRC Secretary, California State University San Bernardino, 5500 University Parkway, San Bernardino, CA 92407 (e-mail: secretary@californiabirds.org). In recent years, the proportion of records supported only by photographs, without any written documentation, has increased considerably. Even minimal written details on a bird's appearance, accompanying photographs, can assist significantly in documenting records of rare birds (e.g., see Snow Bunting record 2013-015 below for an example of a record that would likely have been accepted with even minimal written details). Documentation of all CBRC records is archived at the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology, 439 Calle San Pablo, Camarillo, California 93012, and is available for public review.

TUNDRA BEAN-GOOSE *Anser serrirostris* (1, 1). California's first Tundra Bean-Goose was an adult at Unit 1 of the Salton Sea National Wildlife Refuge (N.W.R.), IMP, 19 Oct 2013 (GM†, TP†; 2013-181; Figure 1). Unlike the state's first bean-goose, which occurred at this same locality from 9 Nov 2010 to 12 Jan 2011 (2010-141; Nelson et al. 2013) and was seen by numerous observers, the one in 2013 could not be relocated after the initial sighting. The combination of small size, short neck, rounded head, ratio of culmen length to head (<1), and ratio of bill depth to culmen length (<2) eliminated the Taiga Bean-Goose (*A. fabalis*). Comparison of photos revealed differences in the shape and dimensions of the head and bill demonstrating that the individual seen in 2013 was different from the one occurring three years earlier, which was thought by many to be most likely a Taiga Bean-Goose.

EMPEROR GOOSE *Chen canagica* (93, 2). Two first-winter birds were at Crescent City Harbor, DN, 27 Dec 1994–3 Feb 1995 (BHuf†; 1995-146).

KING EIDER *Somateria spectabilis* (42, 1). A female was near the south jetty of Humboldt Bay, HUM, 26 Oct 2013 (AL; 2013-190).

THE 39TH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CBRC: 2013 RECORDS

ARCTIC LOON *Gavia arctica* (12, 3). A first-winter bird in crisp juvenile plumage was in Monterey Harbor, MTY, 5 Jan–24 Mar 2013 (BLS†; JLD, MJM†, CAM, DRO†, SBT†; 2013-003). Another first-winter bird with some feathers on the back replaced was at Malibu, LA, 12–15 Jan 2013 (JBo†, TMcG†, KR†, LS†, CT†; 2013-005), and a majority of committee members concluded that a first-winter Arctic Loon at Marina del Rey, LA, 2 Feb 2013 (AUT; 2013-019) was the same individual. But a yearling at Bonelli Regional Park in San Dimas, LA, 31 May–28 Sep 2013 (RHi†; TAB†, JLD†, JSF†, TFe†, TF-H†, DF†, KLG†, RHo†, CAM, GMcC, AJS†, DS†; 2013-070) was likely a different bird given its inland location and the interval between its discovery and the earlier coastal records. It is California's only Arctic Loon recorded away from tidewater; one at the Palo Alto Baylands, SCL, 12 Nov 2010 (2010-192) is the only other recorded away from the coast (Pike et al. 2014). The two individuals found in Los Angeles County were the first and second Arctic Loons recorded in that county and only the third and fourth for southern California.

YELLOW-BILLED LOON *Gavia adamsii* (96, 2). An adult described as still being in alternate plumage was just off Playa del Rey, LA, 1 Nov 2013 (BAL; 2013-217). There is precedent for Yellow-billed Loons undergoing prebasic molt so late, as some previously accepted records (e.g., 2011-155; Nelson et al. 2013) were also of birds in mostly alternate plumage. A juvenile was at Bodega Bay, SON, 23–26 Nov 2013 (EH; RAR; 2013-223).

SHORT-TAILED ALBATROSS *Phoebastria albatrus* (39**, 1). A juvenile was near Bodega Canyon, SON, 20 Oct 2013 (TBL†, TMcG†; 2013-183).

*HAWAIIAN PETREL *Pterodroma sandwichensis* (30, 11). Single individuals were near Arguello Canyon, 53 km west of Pt. Conception, SBA, 5 Sep 2012 (JSF†, TMcG, DPov; 2012-125); 81 km west-southwest of Cypress Pt., MTY, 15 Apr 2013 (PEL; 2013-054); 65 km southwest of Black Rock, HUM, 3 May 2013 (GMcC, RMe†, RSh†, BW†; 2013-058); 112 km west-southwest of Pt. Lobos, MTY, 5 May 2013 (DB, AD†; 2013-060); 79 km west-southwest of North Farallon I., SF, 9 May 2013 (TC†; 2013-082); 54 km southwest of Punta Gorda, HUM, 18 Jul 2013 (PEL; 2013-091); 69 km southwest of Shelter Cove, HUM, 18 Jul 2013 (PEL; 2013-093); on Monterey Bay, MTY and SCZ, 2 Aug 2013 (DLS; DPav†, BLS†; 2013-100); and 91 km southwest of San Clemente I., LA, 5 Sep 2013 (AJS†; JSF†, TMcG†, AS-J†; 2013-114). Two together 62 km southwest of Punta Gorda, HUM, 18 Jul 2013 (PEL; 2013-092) furnished California's first record of more than one. These records represent only a subset of those actually reported from birders on cruise ships in 2013; for example, only one of nine birds reportedly seen off California on 9 May 2013 was documented sufficiently for CBRC review. As described by Pike et al. (2014), coverage of offshore waters by birders riding cruise ships has confirmed the Hawaiian Petrel as now regular off California.

*GALAPAGOS/HAWAIIAN PETREL *Pterodroma phaeopygia/sandwichensis* (36, 7). Single individuals were over the outer portion of Arguello Canyon west-northwest of San Miguel I., SBA, 15 Apr 2013 (PEL; 2013-053); 56 km southwest of Punta Gorda, HUM, 16 Apr 2013 (PEL; 2013-055); 53 km west-southwest of Cape Mendocino, HUM, 3 May 2013 (PEL; 2013-062); 111 km west-northwest of the Eel River mouth, HUM, 10 Jul 2013 (PEL; 2013-094); 50 km west of Punta Gorda, HUM, 18 Jul 2013 (PEL; 2013-096); 65 km southwest of Shelter Cove, HUM, 18 Jul 2013 (PEL; 2013-097); and 65 km west of Ft. Bragg, MEN, 18 Jul 2013 (PEL; 2013-098). Current knowledge of the distributions of these two species implies that all of these were likely Hawaiian Petrels (Howell 2012).

GREAT SHEARWATER *Puffinus gravis* (14, 5). Five individuals in 2013 represented a showing unprecedented for California. One was 18 km south of Southeast Farallon I., SF, 11 Aug 2013 (AJ†; WGB†; 2013-103). Details of the pattern of molt revealed that one 22 km south of Southeast Farallon I., SF, 7 Sep 2013 (TB†, DSS;

THE 39TH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CBRC: 2013 RECORDS

2013-115) was the same individual as seen 8 km south of the island the next day (TMI, ST†; 2013-166). Birds considered different individuals were 26 km west of Pillar Pt., SM, 28 Sep 2013 (SCR†; 2013-167) and 12 km west of Hurricane Pt., MTY, 5 Oct 2013 (JGa†; SBT†; 2013-161). The first Great Shearwater for southern California was 20 km off Pt. Loma, SD, 13 Oct 2013 (PEL; DWA†, DBa†, TBI†, BP†; 2013-175). With records of four off British Columbia 5 Aug–6 Sep 2013 (Charlesworth 2014) and four or five off Oregon and Washington 24 Aug–6 Oct 2013 (Irons et al. 2014), the number of Great Shearwaters recorded off the Pacific coast over 10 weeks in the fall of 2013 was unprecedented.

WEDGE-TAILED SHEARWATER *Puffinus pacificus* (8, 1). One at Pt. La Jolla in La Jolla, SD, 13 Sep 2013 (StaW; GN†; 2013-243) represents California's only accepted record during a coastal seawatch, although there are two prior records, one from the Salton Sea, RIV (1988-150; Pyle and McCaskie 1992), and one from Salinas, MTY (2009-043; Pyle et al. 2001), of Wedge-tailed Shearwaters inland. Even though taken from shore, the photos of the one at La Jolla were good enough to establish its identity.

MAGNIFICENT FRIGATEBIRD *Fregata magnificens* (39**, 2). A first-winter bird near the harbor in Oceanside, SD, 26 Jan 2013 (JLi†; 2013-012) provided a rare winter record, while one in its first fall at Obsidian Butte, Salton Sea, IMP, 21 Sep 2013 (BMi†; RHol†, CMcC†; 2013-138) was recorded during the species' more typical late summer/fall period of occurrence.

MAGNIFICENT/GREAT/LESSER FRIGATEBIRD *Fregata magnificens/minor/ariel* (1**, 1). Given the distance at which the photos were taken, the committee left a frigatebird at Pt. Loma, SD, 30 Oct 2011 (PW†; 2011-277) unidentified, though it was likely an adult female Magnificent, as its black head and throat and lack of an apparent ulnar bar on the upper surface of the wings should eliminate the Great and its apparent large size should eliminate the Lesser.

Although the Magnificent is by far the most likely frigatebird to occur in California, the state's two records of the Great and single record of the Lesser indicate that frigatebirds not definitively documented to species cannot be assumed to be Magnificent.

MASKED BOOBY *Sula dactylatra* (18, 1). An adult was 18 km south of Cabrillo Beach, LA/ORA, 2 Sep 2013 (DAB†, JGa†; 2013-112). What the committee concluded was most likely the same individual was just off the Queen's Gate entrance to Long Beach Harbor, LA, 6 Oct–3 Nov 2013 (KAR†; JLD†, JSF†, LS†, AJSt†, DVP†; 2013-173; Figure 2), accompanied by a subadult Masked/Nazca Booby (2013-173N; see below).

MASKED/NAZCA BOOBY *Sula dactylatra/granti* (16, 4). A juvenile 19 km west of La Jolla, SD, 28 Sep 2013 (CAM; JK†; 2013-152) had a broad white collar, frequent in the Masked but shown rarely by the Nazca Booby (Howell et al. 2014). In contrast, first-cycle birds at La Jolla, SD, 18–19 Jun (PEL; 2013-081) and 14 km southwest of Pt. Loma, SD, 29 Dec 2013 (PEL; MSa†; 2013-236) had no such collar. Apparently some juvenile Masked Boobies can lack such a collar (Howell et al. 2014), so the identity of these birds remains unresolved. One in its third fall accompanying an adult Masked Booby (see 2013-173 above) was just off the Queen's Gate entrance to Long Beach Harbor, LA, 6 Oct–3 Nov 2013 (KAR†; JLD†, JSF†, LS†, AJSt†, DVP†; 2013-287). Some observers noted an orange tinge to the bill, and the bill shape (with a more recurved culmen and more attenuated tip) differed somewhat from that of the Masked Booby, suggesting the bird was a Nazca Booby or a hybrid between the two species. Photos, however, showed the bill not as orange or pinkish as expected in a Nazca Booby at this age, so the committee accepted it as a Masked/Nazca Booby.

NAZCA BOOBY *Sula granti* (1, 1). The first Nazca Booby for California, and for North America north of Mexico, was found dead at McGrath State Beach (S.B.), VEN, 23 Jul 2013 (AJSt†, DY; 2013-285) by Alexis Frangis, who salvaged the specimen

(WFVZ #56922). The carcass was missing feathers and skin from the neck, head, tail, and lower back, but the underwing pattern suggested a first- or second-cycle Masked or Nazca Booby. Tissue samples were provided by the WFVZ to Dou Yang for genetic analysis. Analysis of the bird's mitochondrial gene for cytochrome b, which is inherited only from the mother, clearly identified the mother as a Nazca Booby. However, because mixed pairs of Masked and Nazca Boobies, as well as apparent hybrids, have been observed (Howell and Webb 1990, Pitman and Jehl 1998), the possibility of a hybrid could not be ruled out solely by the mitochondrial DNA analysis. As a result, the nuclear gene for α -enolase (inherited from both parents) was analyzed and found consistent with the Nazca Booby with no evidence of hybridization (Yang et al. 2016).

BLUE-FOOTED BOOBY *Sula nebouxii* (349, 235). One was 4 km south of Dana Pt., ORA, 13 Jul 2013 (TAB, JLD, CAM, JKP†; 2013-088). Subsequently, starting in the second week of September 2013, this species staged a major movement into California, the first such movement since the early 1970s and involving far more birds than in any previous incursion. Because the Blue-footed Booby is a common resident in the Gulf of California and occurs only as a casual straggler along the Pacific coast of the Baja California Peninsula, it is reasonable to infer these birds originated in the Gulf of California, moved north from the Gulf of California through the Salton Sink and up the Coachella Valley, then west through the San Geronio Pass and over the Los Angeles Basin. Once on the coast, these birds appeared to move north, as implied by the presence of multiple birds on the coast of Los Angeles County north to Marin and Sonoma counties in northern California, with one going as far north as British Columbia (Towers et al. 2015). Far fewer appeared to move south, as suggested by the numbers on the coast of Orange and San Diego counties, though up to 19 were on Los Coronados Is. off northern Baja California after 15 Sep (W. Cummings pers. comm.), with four still present on 15 July 2014 (D. Povey pers. comm.).

Inland, numbers at the Salton Sea, RIV/IMP, no doubt exceeded 104 (the number recorded on 6 Oct by DAG), 18 Sep–25 Oct 2013 (GMact†; TAB†, RHolt†, KZK†, OJ†, GMcC, ASht†; 2013-136 and DAG; BHo†, CMcG†, RLM†, EST†, FS; 2013-147; both records combined into 2013-251; Figure 3). Elsewhere inland, up to six remained on L. Skinner, RIV, 13 Sep 2013–11 Feb 2014 (DF†; TAB†, HBK†, JSz†; 2013-123; SDNHM #54079, 28 Dec 2013; SDNHM #54080, 11 Feb 2014), and up to three ventured northward to L. Havasu, being reported on the San Bernardino County side of the lake 26 Sep 2013–4 Feb 2014 (RFr; TAB†, JLD, DVP†; 2013-176); in addition, one in flight over Borrego Springs, SD, 11 Sep 2013 (SES S; 2013-120), and another in flight near Desert Center, RIV, 11 Sep 2013 (OJ†; 2013-143) were no doubt moving northward from the Gulf of California, while single birds over Pasadena, LA, 11 Sep 2013 (JSc; 2013-257), at Legg L. in El Monte, LA, 12 Sep 2013 (KL†; 2013-253), picked up in downtown Los Angeles, LA, 13 Sep 2013 (*Los Angeles Times*†; 2013-132), and at Peck Road Water Conservation Park, LA, 16–22 Sep 2013 (LO†; 2013-256) were evidently moving west through the Los Angeles Basin.

At least 71 were reported in fall 2013 along the mainland coast from Los Angeles County north to Sonoma County with 12 in Los Angeles County [(one off Will Rogers S.B. 12 Sep (DAB†, DSC; 2013-119) and up to 11 at Playa del Rey 14 Sep–9 Dec (TAB†, JLD, RHolt†, KR†, CT†; 2013-122)]; one in Ventura County [in Ventura 14 Sep–7 Oct (JLD; OJ†; 2013-128)]; at least eight in Santa Barbara County [at least two off the pier in Goleta 16–17 Sep (NLet; 2013-126), one off the pier at Gaviota 18 Sep (WTF; 2013-264), at least two off Shoreline Park in Santa Barbara 20 Sep–2 Oct (BKS†, DMC, EBC; 2013-265), at least two off Carpinteria Bluff in Carpinteria 25 Sep–3 Oct (LBA; 2013-266), and one off Pedernales Pt. in Vandenberg Air Force Base 24 Sep (JMC†; 2013-145)]; seven in San Luis Obispo County [at least two frequenting Port San Luis and Shell Beach 16 Sep–15 Oct (TMcK; JCC†, JLD; 2013-168), one at Montaña de Oro State Park (S.P.) 14 Sep (KP; 2013-127), one at Morro Bay 14–15 Sep (SLS; BSt†; 2013-137), two at Pt. Piedras Blancas 18–26

THE 39TH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CBRC: 2013 RECORDS

Sep (EAE†; 2013-149), and one at Arroyo de la Cruz 22 Oct (WKN; 2013-288); nine in Monterey County [seven at Pt. Pinos/Monterey Harbor 15–24 Sep (BLSt; PF†, DRo†; 2013-124), one at Moss Landing 24 Sep (PF†, RFout†, DRo†; 2013-269), and one at Pt. Pinos 8 Oct (DRo†; 2013-270)]; 10 in Santa Cruz County [one at Seacliff S.B. 17 Sep (ARi†; 2013-133), up to two at Black Pt. 17–18 Sep (ARi†; 2013-134), one at Capitola 16 Sep (DLS; 2013-271), one at Lighthouse Pt. in Santa Cruz 20 Sep (SG; 2013-277), at least one at Terrace Pt. 19 Sep–16 Oct (AB, SG; 2013-278), one at Waddell Creek Beach near Davenport 17 Sep (DLS 2013-280), one at Natural Bridges S.B. 19 Sep (SBT; 2013-282), one at the San Lorenzo River mouth 21 Sep (ARi; 2013-283), and one along West Cliff Drive in Santa Cruz 20 Sep (ARi; 2013-284)]; a minimum of 15 in San Mateo County [one at Pescadero S.B. 17 Sep (EAE; 2013-148), at least seven at Pigeon Pt. 19–28 Sep (GH; JRy; 2013-272), one at Año Nuevo State Reserve 25–30 Sep (MDeF†; JMa; 2013-273), three at Moss Beach 16–19 Sep and one more on 1 Oct (DM; MDeF, MP†, DPom†, RST; 2013-274), one at Half Moon Bay 24 Sep (AJ†; 2013-275), and one off Franklin Pt. 10 Oct 2013 (JND; 2013-276)]; three in San Francisco County [at the Cliff House in San Francisco 16–25 Sep (JC†, EAE, RLeB†, JMort†, SRa†, DSS†; 2013-131)]; four in Marin County [up to two at Gull Rock near Stinson Beach 24 Sep–24 Dec (KMB, JLD, JEv†, JMort†, MR†, DSS; 2013-169), up to two at Pt. Reyes Lighthouse/Chimney Rock, MRN, 11–21 Sep (MaB, RH†; 2013-116)]; and two in Sonoma County [at Bodega Head 16–25 Sep (DWN†; AIW†; 2013-130)].

At least 14 were reported to the south of Los Angeles County with three in Orange County [one on the Santa Ana River in Huntington Beach 12 Sep (JLe†; 2013-262), one around the harbor in Dana Pt., ORA, 14–16 Sep (ZP; 2013-263), and one at the pier in Newport Beach 15 Sep (TAB†; 2013-125)] and 11 in San Diego County [five off Pt. La Jolla 9–17 Sep (StaW, DWA†, GMcC, GN†, MS†; 2013-121), at least five off the Tijuana River mouth/Imperial Beach 3 Oct 2013–22 Oct 2014 (likely birds foraging from the nearby Los Coronados Is.), with at least one of these birds as far north as La Jolla on 24 Jun 2014 and 23 Jul 2014 (ECo, JLD, PEL, CAM†, GMcC, DPov, BRI, MSa; 2013-162), and one at the entrance to San Diego Bay, SD, 2 Nov (JP†; 2013-215)].

Blue-footed Boobies also moved offshore, as indicated by as many as 22 on Anacapa I., VEN, 18 Sep 2013–5 Oct 2014 (JBa†, NLe†, OJ†, JCS†; 2013-179), one at Santa Barbara I., SBA, 20 Sep and 2 Nov 2013 (JH; NLe†; 2013-202), at least three at Scorpion Harbor and Potato Harbor, Santa Cruz I., SBA, 18 Sep 2013–7 Mar 2014 (JBa†, OB, OJ†, HPR†; 2013-250), considered birds different from those roosting on Anacapa I., and one at Prisoner's Harbor, Santa Cruz I., SBA, 17 Nov 2013 (PK, DPe; 2013-216). Farther north, three were at Southeast Farallon I., SF [one 21–25 Sep 2013 (DM†; 2013-259), one 25 Sep 2013 (DM†; 2013-260), and one 27–28 Sep 2013 (CR†; 2013-261)].

On the basis of photographs and descriptions committee member Pyle aged as many of the accepted Blue-footed Boobies as possible (121 of the 234 accepted), finding that 113 were in their first fall and eight individuals were older than this, being in their second fall or adults. This ratio suggests that the incursion may have been initiated by a very productive breeding season followed by a depletion of food resources.

IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: One reported second-hand at Mono L., MON, 25 Aug (2013-252) was 17 days earlier than the next, so not necessarily associated with the mid-September influx. The identification may well have been correct, as it was made by a biologist who viewed photos of the bird taken by tourists.

Reports posted on websites and/or entered at www.eBird.org with no documentation include single birds over the lower Los Angeles River in Long Beach, LA, 12 Sep 2013; at the Belmont Pier in Los Angeles, LA, 13 Sep 2013; at Soquel, SCZ, 19 Sep 2013; at the Tijuana River mouth, SD, 22 Sep 2013; at Pescadero S.B., SM, 27 Sep 2013 and 13 Oct 2013; at Seacliff S.B., SCZ, 28 Sep 2013; at La

THE 39TH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CBRC: 2013 RECORDS

Jolla, SD, 3 Oct 2013; at Tomales Pt., MRN, 5 Oct 2013; at Baldwin Creek Beach, SCZ, 8 Oct 2013; and at Waddell Creek Beach near Davenport, SCZ, 20 Oct 2013. Although these identifications were likely correct, the committee prefers to treat the records as unsubmitted.

*NEOTROPIC CORMORANT *Phalacrocorax brasilianus* (93, 48). California records of the Neotropical Cormorant have been increasing steadily, but 2013 saw an unprecedented influx, with more individuals tallied than in all previous years combined. The majority were around the Salton Sea and Imperial Valley. At the southeast end of the Salton Sea IMP, at least 15 (with up to 10 in a day) were between the west end of Young Road and the north end of Lack Road 9 Feb–20 Oct (BK†, TAB†, DVB†, RC†, CAM†, KH-L†, OJ†, GMcC, JMort†, TSct†, AJSt†, TEW; 2013-025); two were at Rock Hill 10 Apr–7 Jun (GMcC; 2013-074); one was at Morton Bay 18–24 May (GMcC; 2013-075); and one was at the southwest corner of the Wister Unit 21 Jun (GMcC; 2013-084). Elsewhere at the Salton Sea, single individuals were at North Shore Marina, RIV, 14 Mar (CMcG†; 2013-035); at avenues 84 and 85, RIV, 5 May–24 Jul (TAB†, CAM†, DVP; 2013-068); and at Desert Shores, IMP, 9 Nov (RLM†; 2013-205). In the Imperial Valley south of the Salton Sea, up to six in a day were at Fig Lagoon, IMP, 26 Apr–1 Sep (GMcC; 2013-056); up to six per day were at the Alamo River Wetlands Project near Brawley, IMP, 25 May–27 Jul 2013 (Bmi†, CAM†, GMcC; 2013-067); and one was at Ramer L., IMP, 16 Aug (TAB; 2013-110). Along the Colorado River, one was at L. Havasu, SBE, 6–13 Feb (JWet†; DVP†; 2013-024); up to two were at a fish farm in Blythe, RIV, 1 Mar–21 Apr (LBH, DVP†; EAE†, TSct†; 2013-032), with one at Quechan Marina in Blythe, RIV, 21 Apr (TSct†; 2013-049) thought to be one of these two; one was at Earp, SBE, 11 Aug (DVP; 2013-104); five were at Parker Dam, SBE, 7–13 Oct (LBH†, DVP†; 2013-172); one was at L. Havasu, SBE, 18 Oct (DVP; 2013-199); and one was at Winterhaven, IMP, 18 Dec (LBH, DVP; 2013-241). Single subadults (different birds) at the Prado Basin, RIV, 30 May 2013 (JEP†; 2013-069) and 31 May–7 Jun 2013 (JEP†; 2013-072) were much more notable, furnishing the first records for the coastal slope. Numbers at any given site in the southeastern part of the state fluctuated as birds moved around, so there was undoubtedly some overlap in individuals among sites. However, determining which birds might have been included in multiple records is impossible.

RED-FACED CORMORANT *Phalacrocorax urile* (0, 0). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: An odd-looking juvenile cormorant at Fisherman's Wharf in San Francisco, SF, 30 Sep 2013 (2013-234) was identified by the observer as a Red-faced primarily on the basis of a perceived pale bill. However, no yellow at the base of the bill or fleshy bare skin in the lores, as expected on a juvenile Red-faced, was visible in the photos, which were insufficient to identify the bird to species.

GLOSSY IBIS *Plegadis falcinellus* (29, 3). Apparent yearlings were at the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area, YOL, 28–29 Jul 2013 (SCH†, MP†; 2013-087) and Modoc N.W.R., MOD, 11 Aug 2013 (SCR†; 2013-165), the latter providing a first accepted record for Modoc County. A younger bird, apparently a juvenile, at Tracy 8 Aug (DGY†; 2013-113) was the first recorded in San Joaquin County. Although distinguishing between juvenile Glossy and White-faced (*P. chihi*) Ibises is often not possible, the bluish tinge to the narrow pale lines on the face, which were the correct shape and location for a Glossy, confirmed the identification of the Tracy bird.

BLACK VULTURE *Coragyps atratus* (7, 0). Occurrences of an adult at Morro Bay S.P., SLO, 10–12 Feb 2013 (MiB†, BiB†, TME, CAM; 2013-026) and 1 Oct 2013–7 Mar 2014 (TME†, MJM†, FM†, MMR†; 2013-156), and at Laguna L. and the California Polytechnic State University campus in San Luis Obispo, SLO, 31 Oct 2013–29 Mar 2014 (TME†, BED†, JLD†, CAM†, JeM†, KR, MLSt†, SBT†; 2013-198), were all thought to represent the same bird that has frequented Ventura and

THE 39TH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CBRC: 2013 RECORDS

Santa Barbara counties since Sep 2009 (2009-156). It was still being seen in San Luis Obispo County into 2015.

SWALLOW-TAILED KITE *Elanoides forficatus* (1, 0). **IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED:** One was reported at Abbott's Lagoon, MRN, 30 Sep 2007 (2007-311) just a few days prior to California's only accepted record, from Graton, SON, 4 Oct 2007 (2007-217). The Abbott's Lagoon occurrence was reported to the Northern California Birdbox (a telephone-based rare bird alert) at the time, but no details were submitted until a committee member learned who had reported the bird and solicited details in 2013. Given the this species' distinctiveness and the documentation from Graton just 35 km away and 4 days later, the committee suspected the Marin County record was valid and represented the same bird. However, the details for the Abbott's Lagoon bird were compiled six years after the fact, so understandably many details were incomplete or made less certain by the passage of time.

MISSISSIPPI KITE *Ictinia mississippiensis* (47, 1). A juvenile at Twin Lakes S.B. in Santa Cruz, SCZ, 13 Sep 2013 (DJ†; 2013-135) provided a first record for Santa Cruz County and just the ninth for northern California. **NATURAL OCCURRENCE QUESTIONABLE:** A juvenile with a broken leg was taken to a rehabilitation center in Pasadena, LA, 25 Oct 2013 (2013-203). The bird had reportedly been found "in the Mojave Desert," but the precise location of the bird when it was found was not known with certainty. Given the uncertainty regarding this bird's provenance (even the state much less the county in which it was found being unknown), five members voted not to accept the record.

GRAY HAWK *Buteo plagiatus* (1, 0). The bird recorded in Carpinteria, SBA, in its first winter 25 Nov 2012–15 Mar 2013 (2012-193) returned to the same location in adult plumage 5 Dec 2013–22 Mar 2014 (RD†; DMC, TF-H, KL†, CAM, GMcC, MM†, JEP†, HPR†, KR†, LS†, MAS†, BJSt, DTh†, RW†, MZ†; 2013-225).

SHORT-TAILED HAWK *Buteo brachyurus* (0, 0). **IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED:** A bird reported as a "Short-tailed Hawk or possibly Broad-winged Hawk (*B. platypterus*)" was at Santa Barbara, SBA, 25 Apr 2013 (2013-064). The distant photos showed a *Buteo* with a pale, dark-tipped tail and mostly pale underparts/underwings with neat, narrow, dark trailing edges. Some members acknowledged that a Short-tailed Hawk could not be ruled out and that this species is a candidate for vagrancy to California, given its recent increase in northwestern Mexico and southeastern Arizona (Williams et al. 2007). However, the relatively straight trailing edge to the wings and the uniformly pale underwing (without contrastingly darker secondaries) led most to conclude that the photos were a better match for a Broad-winged Hawk, and the record received no votes to accept.

LESSER SAND-PLOVER *Charadrius mongolus* (13, 2). An adult was photographed (*N. Am. Birds* [NAB] 67:665) on south San Diego Bay, SD, 19–24 Jul 2013 (MSa†; CAM†, AMe†, GMcC, JMM†, JRM†, VM†, LS†, CT†; 2013-090), and another adult was on the beach at Pajaro Dunes, SCZ, 2–4 Aug 2013 (BeR†, BoR, DRo†, BLS†; 2013-101). Both birds showed the white forehead patches and black upper borders to the rufous/orange on the breast consistent with the eastern Russian subspecies *stegmanni* (Hirschfeld et al. 2000, Garner et al. 2003), the only one known to have reached North America.

WILSON'S PLOVER *Charadrius wilsonia* (23, 2). An adult female was at Dockweiler S.B. near El Segundo, LA, 26 Mar 2013 (WLa†; KLG†, CT†; 2013-042), and a first-spring female was at the Tijuana River mouth, SD, 29 Mar 2013 (MSa†; GMcC; 2013-044). Although there are multiple records for San Diego County, and one or two records each for Orange, Ventura, and Santa Barbara counties, along with one from as far north as Monterey County (Roberson 2002), the bird in El Segundo provided the first record for Los Angeles County.

MARSH SANDPIPER *Tringa stagnatilis* (1, 1). One near Mecca, RIV, 26 Oct

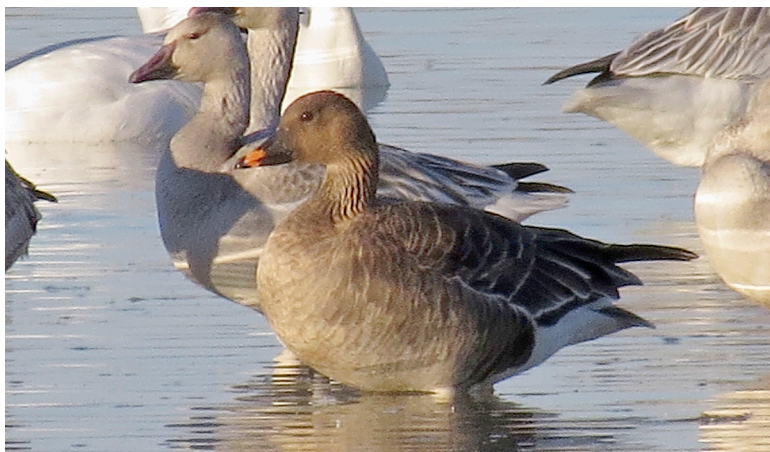


Figure 1. California's first accepted Tundra Bean-Goose (*Anser serrirostris*) was at Unit 1 of the Salton Sea National Wildlife Refuge, Imperial County, 19 Oct 2013 (2013-181). The short, stubby bill, small size, and rounded head eliminated the Taiga Bean-Goose (*A. fabalis*).

Photo by Garrett MacDonald



Figure 2. These boobies at Long Beach Harbor, Los Angeles County, 6 Oct–3 Nov 2013 included an adult on the right, which was accepted as a Masked Booby (*Sula dactylatra*) (2013-173), and a subadult on the left, which was accepted as a Masked/Nazca Booby (*S. dactylatra/granti*) (2013-287). The committee was unsure whether a slight orange tinge to the bill and different bill shape of the subadult suggested the possibility of a hybrid Masked/Nazca Booby.

Photo by Larry Sansone



Figure 3. This gathering of at least 30 Blue-footed Boobies (*Sula nebouxii*) at a favorite rock on the west side of Obsidian Butte at the south end of the Salton Sea, Imperial County, 6 Oct 2013, contributed to the total of 104 individuals recorded at the Salton Sea on that date (2013-136). This species staged an unprecedented influx into California in 2013.

Photo by Alison M. Sheehy

2013 (CMcG†; 2013-192; Figure 4) furnished a first state record but did not linger long enough for other observers to refind it. Away from extreme western Alaska, where fewer than 10 Marsh Sandpipers have been found, all in fall (Howell et al. 2014), the only previous record for North America was of a juvenile photographed at Estero Punta Banda, Baja California, 12–16 Oct 2011 (NAB 66:173–174 and 195).

HUDSONIAN GODWIT *Limosa haemastica* (50, 4). A first-spring female photographed (NAB 67:518) at Kershaw Pond between Ramer and Finney lakes, IMP, 24–26 May 2013 (GMcC; DWA†, KZK†, KAM†, CMcG†, BMI†, AJS†, SES, JTS†, JCS†; 2013-065) was the third recorded at the Salton Sink. A similar-looking first-summer female at Warm Springs at Mono L., MNO, 5–6 Jun 2013 (DeH†; CA†, KNN†; 2013-073) was considered by two committee members, from matching of wing coverts of the alternate plumage, to be the same individual, but most members disagreed, considering them different. A juvenile at the Huichica Creek Wildlife Area, NAP, 11–24 Sep 2013 (MR†; RLeB†, AMa†, JMOr†, DSS†, JCS†; 2013-118) and a juvenile at Piute Ponds near Lancaster, LA, 16–17 Sep 2013 (JSF†; 2013-180) were both surprisingly away from the immediate coast, as there are only three previous inland fall records for California.

BAR-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa lapponica* (43, 2). A first-summer female at the mouth of Elk Creek in Crescent City, DN, 17 Jun 2013 (LBr†; SL†, JLe; 2013-080) may have been an early fall migrant, while one in Alviso, SCL, 15–17 Nov 2013 (MMR†; WGB, MJM†, MP†, BR†, SCR†; 2013-214) may have been wintering locally or a late fall migrant. Both were believed to be of the subspecies *baueri*. Although this Alaska-breeding subspecies is responsible for most of California's records of Bar-tailed Godwit, birds of other subspecies have been recorded twice previously in the state, as well as in Washington and Alaska (Hajdukovich et al. 2015).

CURLEW SANDPIPER *Calidris ferruginea* (46, 3). An adult in basic plumage photographed (NAB 67:339) in Imperial Beach, SD, 22–24 Jan 2013 (GMcC, VM†, MSa†; 2013-008) provided the first winter record for California. An adult or second-cycle bird, still retaining some alternate plumage, at the wastewater-treatment plant in Salinas, MTY, 15–18 Aug 2013 (RFou†; TME†, BHi†, CAM†, BLS†; 2013-107)

THE 39TH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CBRC: 2013 RECORDS

and a juvenile at Virgin Creek Beach in MacKerricher S.P., MEN, 19–21 Sep 2013 (RHu†; KAH, RLeB†, RLeV†, JRW; 2013-139) were fall migrants. IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: One reported at Rodeo Lagoon, MRN, 22 Sep 2013 (2013-142) was never seen in flight, so the color of the rump was never established, which concerned members enough that the record was not accepted.

RED-NECKED STINT *Calidris ruficollis* (16, 2). Single adults were along the Los Angeles R. in Long Beach, LA, 16–22 Jul 2013 (RB†; TAB†, KLG†, CAM†, LS†, BSch S, DS S; 2013-089) and at Harper Dry L., SBE, 7–8 Aug 2013 (AEK; TAB†, JLD†, WTF†, CAM†, SLS, DVP; 2013-102). California's fall records of adults extend from 29 June to 11 August.

LITTLE STINT *Calidris minuta* (23, 2). An adult at the Tulare Lake Drainage District's North Evaporation Basin, KIN, 27–29 Jul 2013 (MES†; NH†, GW†, SLS; 2013-099) provided the second record for the Central Valley. By sequencing selected sections of the mitochondrial gene ND2, Yang et al. (2016) determined that the Red-necked/Little Stint in first alternate plumage collected near Red Hill at the Salton Sea, IMP, 17 Aug 1974 (1984-085; McCaskie 1975, SDNHM #38887) was a Little Stint (1974-501).

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER *Calidris fuscicollis* (30, 4). Three together at the Alexandre Dairy near Ft. Dick, DN, 10–11 Jun 2013 (LBr†; ADB†, RFow†; 2013-076) established the largest "flock" found in California, and an adult was at Piute Ponds near Lancaster, LA, 17 Jun 2013 (JSF†; TAB†, DM†; 2013-079). Mid-June records are typical for this notoriously late spring migrant.

LITTLE GULL *Hydrocoloeus minutus* (113, 5). Single first-fall immatures were at Avenue 84 on the northwest shore of the Salton Sea, RIV, 20–31 Aug 2013 (CMcG; MAC†, OJ, CAM†; 2013-111), at Crowley L., MNO, 24–25 Aug 2013 (CAM†; TME†, MP†; 2013-154), and near Desert Center, RIV, 17 Sep 2013 (OJ†; 2013-144). Two first-winter birds, one still retaining much juvenal plumage, were with a large number of Bonaparte's Gulls (*Chroicocephalus philadelphia*) at the Modesto Wastewater Treatment Plant, STA, 13 Nov 2011 (HR†; 2011-279). Although the Little Gull is of annual occurrence, it has averaged fewer than four individuals per year in California over the past 10 years.

ICELAND GULL *Larus glaucooides* (21, 6). Two records of mostly white first-cycle birds that had previously not been accepted by the committee, in part over concerns that the birds were so white that they may have represented leucistic individuals of another species, were reevaluated with new record numbers. Records 2009-051 from Half Moon Bay, SM, 25 Jan 2009 (AJ†; 2009-260) and 2009-049 from the Davis Wastewater Treatment Plant, YOL, 12 Feb–28 Mar 2009 (TE†; JCS†; 2009-261; photo in NAB 63:216) were accepted as Iceland Gulls, and a majority of the committee considered them different individuals. An adult at the Davis Wastewater Treatment Plant 19–20 Jan 2013 (SCH†; CL†; 2013-007) was considered the same as the one at this location 9–19 Mar 2012 (2012-036). Others in northern California included an adult at Pt. Richmond, CC, 12 Feb 2013 (NA†; 2013-028), a different adult in Foster City, SM, 12 Feb 2013 (AJ†; 2013-027), and one in its second spring at Half Moon Bay, SM, 7 Mar 2013 (JCI†; 2013-039). A second-winter bird photographed (NAB 67:339) near Lakeview, RIV, 9 Feb–6 Mar 2013 (MAC†; TAB†, DDiT†, GMcC, CMcG†, TMcG†; 2013-029) was well inland, and the first recorded in Riverside County. IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: Distant photos of a lone pale gull at Moss Landing, MTY, 1 Jan 2013 (2013-014) were interesting but inadequate to convince most of the committee that this bird was a first-winter Iceland Gull. A third-winter gull at the Yolo County Landfill near Davis, YOL, 21–22 Feb 2013 (2013-036) had too much black on the primaries for an Iceland Gull; a pale first-spring gull at the same location 6 Mar 2013 (2013-037) appeared to have undergone much fading, so it was difficult, if not impossible, to distinguish from a pale Thayer's Gull (*L. thayeri*)



Figure 4. Although this bird was never seen in flight, these photographs, along with four others, of a distant *Tringa* with Long-billed Dowitchers (*Limnodromus scolopaceus*) near Mecca, Riverside County, on 26 Oct 2013 (2013-192) document the first Marsh Sandpiper (*Tringa stagnatilis*) in California.

Photos by Chet McGaugh



Figure 5. This tern at Camp Del Mar on Camp Pendleton, San Diego County, 27 Mar 2013 (2013-043), and what was considered by the majority of the committee to be the same individual at the San Diego River mouth, San Diego County, 31 Mar 2013 (2013-048), was endorsed by four as a Sandwich Tern (*Thalasseus sandvicensis*), with the remaining five expressing reservations whether the bird could be a hybrid. These five pointed out the yellow at the tip of the bill bleeding into the black, especially along the cutting edge, rather than being clean cut with a smaller yellow tip as typical of a Sandwich Tern. In addition, enlargement of the photos reveals the yellow on the tip of the bill extends proximally a considerable distance along the tomium. Also, this bird appears very similar in size and bill shape to the nearby Elegant Terns, whereas a typical Sandwich Tern is slightly smaller, with a thinner, straighter bill and shorter legs.

Photo by Jimmy McMorran

THE 39TH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CBRC: 2013 RECORDS

this late in the winter. A white gull south of Tracy, STA, 1 Dec 2012 (2013-226) was believed by most of the committee to be a leucistic gull of some species other than the Iceland Gull. An adult gull with some plumage characters of *L. g. kumlieni* at the Shollenberger Wetlands in Petaluma, SON, 28 Dec 2013 (2013-237) was considered by some to be too bulky for an Iceland Gull and may have been a hybrid involving the Glaucous Gull (*L. hyperboreus*). The lone photo of a pale juvenile gull at the mouth of Baldwin Creek in Santa Cruz, SCZ, 27 Dec 2013 (2013-240) was inadequate to support the identification as an Iceland Gull. Because leucistic and faded individuals of other species and possible hybrids may resemble the Iceland Gull, this species has one of the lowest rates of acceptance of any on the CBRC's review list.

SLATY-BACKED GULL *Larus schistisagus* (53, 3). An adult at Sausalito, MRN, 23 Jan 2013 (DSS†; AJ†, ST†; 2013-010) and the same adult at Ferry Pt. in Richmond, CC, 8–15 Feb 2013 (MP†, DRM; 2013-021), along with different adults at Belvedere, MRN, 24-25 Jan 2013 (JLD, SCH†, JCS†; 2013-013) and Ferry Pt. in Richmond, CC, 16 Feb 2013 (TB†; 2013-038), were all with large numbers of gulls attracted to spawning herring in northern San Francisco Bay.

GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL *Larus marinus* (1, 1). Photographs (NAB 67:544) of an adult with other gulls at Avenue 84 on the northwest shore of the Salton Sea, RIV, on 1 and 5 May 2013 (DAG, CMcG†; TAB†, MAC†, AH, HBK; 2013-057) provided the documentation required to establish the first record for California. Stragglers have wandered west on repeated occasions to the eastern edge of the continental divide in Montana and Colorado. Alaska has two records east of the continental divide (Gibson and Withrow 2015). West of the divide single birds have reached southwestern British Columbia (Campbell et al. 1990), south-central Alaska (Gibson and Kessel 1997), and the Puget Trough of Washington (Wahl et al. 2005), all in winter.

SANDWICH TERN *Thalasseus sandvicensis* (3, 0). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: A tern closely resembling this species was photographed (NAB 67:404) with Elegant Terns (*T. elegans*) at Camp Del Mar on Camp Pendleton, SD,



Figure 6. Totally unexpected, this Common Swift (*Apus apus*) was remarkably well documented near Desert Center, Riverside County, 30 October 2013 (2013-195). This was a large swift with long wings and long, deeply forked tail. (A) This photo shows well the shape of the distinct white throat, as well as the distinct underwing pattern of blackish secondary coverts with whitish tips of the median coverts forming a distinct line. (B) This photo shows the dark rump and brownish tones to generally black plumage. The Fork-tailed Swift (*Apus pacificus*), a rare stray to Alaska, has potential for occurrence in California but differs from the Common Swift in having a white rump.

Photos by Oscar Johnson

THE 39TH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CBRC: 2013 RECORDS

27 Mar 2013 (2013-043; Figure 5), and what appeared to be the same individual, also with Elegant Terns, was at the San Diego River mouth, SD, 31 Mar 2013 (2013-048). This bird showed more yellow at the tip of the bill and longer crest feathers than expected on Sandwich Terns encountered on the coast of the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic states, leading to concern that the bird may have been a hybrid Sandwich × Elegant Tern. Alternatively, intergrades between *T. s. acufavidus* and the Caribbean/South American *T. s. eurygnathus* may show increased yellow in the bill (Hayes 2004).

ELF OWL *Micrathene whitneyi* (5*, 0). A pair nesting at Corn Spring, RIV, 22 Apr–26 Jun 2013 (EAE; OJ, TSc, AJS; 2013-077) was presumably the same as that nesting at this location in spring 2010 (2010-050; Johnson et al. 2012). Since it was first recorded in California on the lower Colorado River at Imperial Dam on 17 May 1903 (Brown 1904), the Elf Owl has been a very uncommon to rare summer resident confined to the Colorado River and a few desert oases of southeastern California (Grinnell and Miller 1944, Garrett and Dunn 1981). This species previously bred at Corn Springs from 1972 to 1976 (Garrett and Dunn 1981).

EASTERN WHIP-POOR-WILL *Antrostomus vociferus* (2, 1). One singing at Valencia Creek Ranch near Aptos, SCZ, 17 May–19 June 2013 (MWS; JLD, CAMS, BMa, GMcC, JMorS, DWN\$, DLS\$, BLSS; 2013-066) established the second record for California, and the first recorded singing. The Eastern Whip-poor-will's song consists of clear whistled notes that lack the burry quality of the song of the Mexican Whip-poor-will (*A. arizonae*). California's first record was of a first-fall male captured and measured at Pt. Loma, SD, 14 Nov 1970 (2010-079; Craig 1971, Johnson et al. 2012). A whip-poor-will in Coronado, SD, 25 Dec 1971–25 March 1972 (2010-112) may have been the bird captured at Pt. Loma the previous year, but the committee was unwilling to accept the identification as an Eastern Whip-poor-will without measurements and calls (Johnson et al. 2012).

COMMON SWIFT *Apus apus* (1, 1). Vagrant swifts can present enormous identification challenges, in part because of behavior that makes detailed study of plumage features difficult, but also because many species differ only subtly. Therefore, the committee was impressed with the documentation in support of California's first Common Swift near Desert Center, RIV, 30 Oct 2013 (OJt; 2013-195; Figure 6). This relatively large, all-dark swift with long, narrow wings, a long and deeply forked tail, and whitish throat is quite unlike any swift regularly occurring in North America. The Pallid Swift (*A. pallidus*) is the species most similar in plumage. The only other species of swift originating from the Old World and previously recorded in North America is the Fork-tailed Swift (*Apus pacificus*), an Asian species that is casual, primarily in fall, to Alaska (AOU 1998; Gibson and Byrd 2007), with just one record for Canada (Howell et al. 2014). The Fork-tailed Swift has a white rump that easily distinguishes it from *Apus apus*. There are three previous records of the Common Swift in North America: two from St. Paul I., Alaska (28 June 1950 and 28–29 June 1986, the former a specimen identified as the Asian subspecies *pekinensis*; Gibson and Withrow 2015) and one from the French island of Miquelon off the south coast of Newfoundland (23 June 1986; ABA Checklist 2002). There are four further records from eastern North America of dark-rumped *Apus* swifts identifiable to genus only but presumably representing the Common Swift (Howell et al. 2014). Photographs of the California *Apus* were sent to European authorities for opinions. One thought it better fit the Pallid Swift, but the rest sided with the Common Swift. The California *Apus* is a juvenile, with the plumage uniformly fresh, unlike an adult on this date (Duivendijk 2011). Both the Pallid and Common Swifts are polytypic, and there are some slight plumage differences between adults and juveniles, but generally they are distinguishable by the following features: the Pallid is overall a paler bird that shows more contrast, with the back ("saddle") darker than the head and rump and dark in the face ("mask"); it appears heavier in the body and head and has slightly broader wings

THE 39TH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CBRC: 2013 RECORDS

with blunter wing tips and slightly shorter tail. Another distinguishing feature is the pattern of the underwing coverts, with the Common having dark lesser and median coverts contrasting with pale greater coverts and the Pallid showing only dark lesser coverts (Duivendijk 2011). The committee concluded unanimously that this *Apus* was a Common Swift and endorsed it as the first record for California.

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD *Archilochus colubris* (15, 1). A first-fall male was studied in detail at the Cactus City Rest Area along Interstate 10, RIV, 9 Sep 2013 (OJ S; 2013-117). Although the bird was not photographed, the observer provided excellent documentation that showed knowledge and experience with the identification of the Ruby-throated Hummingbird out of range, including a sketch showing the wing and highlighting the shape of the tips of the two outermost primaries—a field mark critical to distinguishing this species from the Black-chinned Hummingbird (*A. alexandri*).

BROAD-BILLED HUMMINGBIRD *Cynanthus latirostris* (84, 2). A first-fall male in residential Goleta, SBA, 23–24 Oct 2013 (JHa†; 2013-249) and an adult male wintering in residential Borrego Springs, SD, 15 Nov 2013–17 Jan 2014 (CG†; GMcC, RT†; 2013-211) occurred at times and locations expected for this species.

CRESTED CARACARA *Caracara cheriway* (12, 0). The committee considered an adult Crested Caracara in the Tijuana River valley, SD, 10 Oct 2013 (GN†; GMcC; 2013-157) to be the same individual first documented on 9 Sep 2006 (2006-127) and reported sporadically through 9 Sep 2012 (2007-144, 2008-093, 2009-076, 2011-139, and 2012-118; Singer and Terrill 2009, Pike and Compton 2010, Nelson and Pyle 2013, Nelson et al. 2013, Pike et al. 2014).

EASTERN WOOD-PEWEE *Contopus virens* (12, 0). **IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED:** A late worn adult wood-pewee at Desert Center, RIV, 16–18 Oct 2013 (2013-232) was identified by the initial finder as this species by calls, though the full song was not heard. During the following days, other observers identified what was undoubtedly the same individual (which had only one or two rectrices) as a Western Wood-Pewee (*C. sordidulus*). The committee evaluated documentation that included sonograms and photos and concluded that the bird was a Western Wood-Pewee.

YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER *Empidonax flaviventris* (28, 1). One in its first fall at Montaña de Oro S.P., SLO, 11–13 Oct 2013 (CAM†; TME, JVR, JSR†, JCS; 2013-174) was initially identified by “purwee” calls only, as it proved unresponsive to playback or other means employed (pishing and owl whistles) to bring the bird into view. It was seen and photographed on subsequent days, and continued to call. Most though not all Yellow-bellied Flycatchers identified in California have been silent. **IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED:** Photographs of an *Empidonax* along Laguna Road near Ventura, VEN, 5 Oct 2013 (2013-196; Figure 7) showed the primaries apparently spaced in the pattern typical of the Western Flycatcher (*E. difficilis/occidentalis*), with one large gap between p6 and p7 rather than two nearly equal gaps (p5–p6 and p6–p7), and pale edges on the remiges nearly reaching the tips of the greater coverts, rather than separated by a wide black gap as in the Yellow-bellied (Baumann et al. 2014).

DUSKY-CAPPED FLYCATCHER *Myiarchus tuberculifer* (97, 3). Single Dusky-capped Flycatchers at El Carmelo Cemetery in Pacific Grove, MTY, 16–19 Nov 2013 (BTM†; MC†, PWF†, BH†, FH†, MR†, DR†; 2013-212) and Campbell Cove at Bodega Bay, SON, 26 Nov 2013 (LHu†; RO†, JSone†; 2013-227) were on the coast in November, fitting the species’ well-established pattern of late fall dispersal with many overwintering. One returning for its seventh winter to La Mirada Creek Park near Whittier, LA, 1 Dec 2013–25 Mar 2014 (JRo; CAM†, BO; 2013-248) was exceptional as only three of California’s 50+ wintering Dusky-capped Flycatchers have returned for subsequent winters. One at Upper Otay L., SD, 1 Jun 2013 (KH†; 2013-071) established the latest spring date for California. Rather than being



Figure 7. In this photograph taken near Ventura, Ventura County, 5 Oct 2013 (2013-196), of a bird reported as a Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, it is unclear whether the gap between the fifth and sixth primaries is large as in the Western Flycatchers or smaller and more or less equal to that between the sixth and seventh primaries, as is typical of the Yellow-bellied Flycatcher. However, the pale fringing on the secondaries extends proximally nearly to the tips of the greater coverts, consistent with the Pacific-slope or Cordilleran, rather than being separated by a broad blackish band as in the Yellow-bellied.

Photo by Jim Moore

a spring migrant, however, this bird may have wintered locally, as some wintering Dusky-capped Flycatchers have lingered well into May.

GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER *Myiarchus crinitus* (59, 2). First-fall immatures at Ft. Rosecrans National Cemetery on Pt. Loma, SD, 9–15 Oct 2013 (GN†; GMcC, JTS†; 2013-170) and at Southeast Farallon I., SF, 10-11 Oct 2013 (CR†; DM†, JRT†; 2013-185) occurred within the species' window of peak occurrence in California—mid-September to mid-October. IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: A report from the Salton Sea N.W.R. headquarters, IMP, 29 Sep 2013 (2013-153) would have established a first county record if accepted. The report included photographs and a description of calls heard (“weep”) that suggested the Great Crested Flycatcher to most committee members. But the white edges to the innermost tertials were relatively weak and appeared to lack the distal tapering characteristic of the Great Crested Flycatcher, and the colors in the photographs appeared oversaturated.

THICK-BILLED KINGBIRD *Tyrannus crassirostris* (22, 0). An adult returned for its fourth winter to the mouth of Poggi Canyon in Otay Valley, Chula Vista, SD, 18 Oct 2013–23 Mar 2014 (MSt†; TF-H†, CAM†, GMcC; 2013-193). Six of California's 22 accepted records of this species consist of known or likely fall migrants, with the balance being wintering birds, of which seven have returned for multiple winters.

BLUE-HEADED VIREO *Vireo solitarius* (75, 3). One fall migrant was banded and photographed near Desert Center, RIV, 16 Oct 2013 (BiD, JEd†, AnW†; 2013-188). One at Solana Beach, SD, 29 Nov 2013 (PEL; 2013-224) may well have wintered, but was not searched for as diligently as the adult back for its third winter in residential Pt. Loma, SD, 16 Nov 2013–8 March 2014 (JK†; PEL, CAM†, MSt†; 2013-213).

THE 39TH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CBRC: 2013 RECORDS

The first Blue-headed Vireo for mainland Los Angeles County (2011-273) returned for its second and third winters to Ken Malloy Harbor Regional Park, LA, 13 Jan–4 Mar 2013 (JLD, KLG†, KR†, SteW†; 2013-006) and 13 Dec 2013–5 Jan 2014 (TAB†; 2013-246). The record of a first-fall male collected by E. A. Cardiff at El Mirage, SBE, 22 Sep 2005 (SBCM #58695) was submitted for review in 2014 (TAB†; 2005-218). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: The committee considered another first-fall male (SBCM #57987) Cardiff obtained at El Mirage, SBE, on 30 Sep 2004, to more likely be a Cassin's Vireo (2005-218).

YELLOW-GREEN VIREO *Vireo flavoviridis* (123, 15). The incursion of fall 2013 was exceptional, 15 accepted records being more than in any previous year. Single individuals were at John Baca Park in Huntington Beach, ORA, 19–24 Sep (JEP; TAB†, JLD, DoH†, RHol, CAM; 2013-140); Palos Verdes, LA, 24 Sep (JA†; 2013-146); Laguna Road in Ventura, VEN, 26 Sep–13 Oct (DSC†, MF†, RMc†, AJSt, MT†; 2013-151); Santa Cruz, SCZ, 27 Sep (NLev†; 2013-150); Southeast Farallon I., SF, 29–30 Sep (DM†, LM†, KNN, CR†, JRT; 2013-159); Hailes Road in Ventura, VEN, 1–3 Oct (RMc†, JBa†, AJS; 2013-206) and 18–22 Oct 2013 (SBT†, JCa†, RFr†, AJSt, DVP†; 2013-155); near Desert Center, RIV, 2 Oct (BiD, JEd†; 2013-187); Oceano Campground in Oceano, SLO, 4–5 Oct (TME; MiB†, TSi†; 2013-160); Huntington Central Park in Huntington Beach, ORA, 8 Oct (VN†; 2013-197); and Oso Flaco L., SLO, 14 Oct (JGr; 2013-184). At Ft. Rosecrans National Cemetery on Pt. Loma, SD, two from 21 to 28 Sep 2013 (GN†; NC†, TGu†, GMcC, ARa†, SES, MSt†, ShW†; 2013-141) were followed by one from 9 to 15 Oct (GN†; NC†, GMcC; 2013-171). The previous high count for a fall was eight in 1988, 1996, and 1998 (CBRC 2007). All records were of first-fall immatures except for two (2013-146 and 2013-184) that could not be confidently aged on the basis of the supporting documentation. The committee also accepted a record of one found dead at a residence on Berkeley Road in Goleta, SBA, 26 Oct 2012 (RR; 2012-254; SBMNH #10586). At its 2015 annual meeting, the committee voted to remove the Yellow-green Vireo from the review list in light of the total number of accumulated accepted records and recent increases in the number of records per year, so records of this species after 2014 are no longer reviewed.

WINTER WREN *Troglodytes hiemalis* (16, 5). One singing at the Los Pinos Trailhead east of Rancho Santa Margarita, ORA, 15 Apr 2013 (TF-H†; TAB, CAM†; 2013-083) revealed the continuing difficulty of evaluating records of the Winter Wren with respect to the Pacific Wren (*T. pacificus*). Though the committee accepted the record unanimously, the voice recordings were faint enough that the difference in the “musicality” of the song was not evident to some members, and the appearance of the chin and throat (dull whitish gray vs. warmer) differed from photo to photo. Four other November–December records more typical for the Winter Wren were supported by photos, audio-recordings, and descriptions, especially of vocalizations: one in Blythe, RIV, 6–7 Nov 2013 (DAG, BHo†, OJt\$, DVP†; 2013-204), one at Inverness Park, MRN, 15–30 Nov 2013 (JEv†; KMBt\$, JMortt\$, MPt, PP, DSS†; 2013-210), one at the botanical gardens at the University of California, Riverside, RIV, 13–15 Dec 2013 (DRa†\$; 2013-229), and one at Southeast Farallon Is, SF, 31 Oct–4 Nov 2013 (CR†; LMS\$, JRT; 2013-238). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: The committee agreed at the 2014 meeting to reconsider two previous records, of one at Stovepipe Wells, INY, 2 Nov 2002 (2002-226), photographed but not heard calling, and one at Lundy Canyon near Lee Vining, MNO, 18 Dec 2004 (2004-610), well described but lacking a photo or recording; neither gained enough support after recirculation. Photos and audio recordings of one at Pescadero Creek, SM, 3 Feb 2013 (2013-020) were inadequate to support the claimed identification. One at Ramer L., IMP, 17 Jan 2013 (2013-051) and another at the Whitewater River mouth, RIV, 26 Feb 2013 (2013-034) were unseen and not audio-recorded. Many committee members were reluctant to accept records of the Winter Wren unless the

THE 39TH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CBRC: 2013 RECORDS

call notes were well recorded and/or descriptions of the call notes clearly indicated how they differed from those of Pacific Wren. A report from Bard, IMP, 14 Dec 2013 (2013-230) did not address critical field marks.

VEERY *Catharus fuscescens* (16, 2). One singing at Ft. Bidwell, MOD, 9 Jun 2013 (SCR†§; 2013-164), likely a yearling of the western subspecies *C. f. salicicola*, established the first record of the Veery for Modoc County. One singing and calling at San Francisco State University's Sierra Nevada Field Campus near Bassett's Station, SIE, 8–15 Jul 2013 (JLD, MP§, ARi†§, SBT; 2013-129) represented the third record for the Sierra Nevada and the first for California in July.

WOOD THRUSH *Hylocichla mustelina* (30, 2). Two records from the Mojave Desert fit the pattern of late-fall occurrence this species has established in California. One was at the Primm Valley Golf Club, SBE, 30–31 Oct 2013 (WBB; TAB†, JBo†; 2013-194), and another was at Zzyzx, SBE, 3–17 Nov 2013 (BiD; DO†; 2013-220).

RUFIOUS-BACKED ROBIN *Turdus rufopalliatu*s (19, 1). One was at Zzyzx, SBE, 13 Nov 2013 (BiD†; TAB†; 2013-209). This included, nine of California's 19 accepted records are of birds appearing briefly in November.

WHITE WAGTAIL *Motacilla alba* (29, 1). The date of a first-winter immature at the entrance to the saltworks in Chula Vista, SD, 10 Feb 2013 (MSa†; 2013-023) suggests it wintered locally, but the bird could not be relocated. It was the first wagtail recorded in San Diego County. The solid white median coverts, greater coverts, and edges to the secondaries signify the subspecies *M. a. lugens*, the Black-backed Wagtail, the 14th for California.

SNOW BUNTING *Plectrophenax nivalis* (127, 1). A first-fall female was on Southeast Farallon Is, SF, 29 Oct–1 Nov 2013 (CR†; 2013-245). DATE AND/OR LOCATION UNCERTAIN: In January 2013, a participant on one of the San Diego Natural History Museum's Canyoneer hikes gave a photograph, reportedly from Sweetwater Reservoir, SD, perhaps taken on or around 11 Jan 2013 (2013-015), to M. Kathy Estey, who showed it to Gary Grantham, who identified it correctly as a Snow Bunting. Grantham transmitted the photograph to the CBRC, but the exact date and location could not be verified because of loss of contact with the photographer, so the record is not acceptable.

LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH *Parkesia motacilla* (19, 1). One in Shoshone, INY, 4 Sep 2013 (JEP†; 2013-219) occurred in the center of the species' window of vagrancy in the fall, earlier than that of many other eastern wood-warblers. IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: A report from the Hidden Valley Golf Course near Norco, RIV, 12 Oct 2013 (2013-177) was brief and unconvincing; the date is abnormally late for a Louisiana Waterthrush at this latitude, though typical for the Northern Waterthrush (*P. noveboracensis*) in California. The Louisiana is still one of the rarest eastern wood-warblers in California,

BLUE-WINGED WARBLER *Vermivora cyanoptera* (48, 1). A first-fall male photographed in Oceano, SLO, 18–22 Oct 2013 (BiB†; JMC, TME, WTF†, BKSt†; 2013-178) was a first for San Luis Obispo County.

MOURNING WARBLER *Geothlypis philadelphia* (146, 3). A singing male at Bishop, INY, 22 Jun 2013 (CH, RHow; DPa†, JPa†, SLSS§; 2013-105) was toward the end of this species' expected window of occurrence in the spring. Two first-fall immatures near the coast, one in Laguna Grande Park, MTY, 12 Oct 2013 (SBT; 2013-186) and another in Tierrasanta, San Diego, SD, 3 Nov 2013 (PEL; BLC; 2013-200), were also somewhat later than average. IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: The description of a supposed Mourning Warbler at Blue Lake, HUM, 6 Oct 2013 (2013-244) omitted many important details.

CAPE MAY WARBLER *Setophaga tigrina* (29^{**}, 2). A male in Palo Alto, SCL, 21 Jan–26 Mar 2013 (JF; WGB†, TGr†, CL†, JMor†, SCR†, JT†; 2013-009)

THE 39TH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CBRC: 2013 RECORDS

was the first Cape May Warbler recorded in Santa Clara County. Another male in Golden Gate Park, SF, 21 Apr 2013 (DF†; 2013-050) was early enough it may have wintered somewhere closer than the species' normal winter range in the West Indies. The number of vagrant Cape May Warblers parallels outbreaks of the spruce budworm (*Choristoneura fumiferana*) in the boreal forest where the warbler breeds (Patten and Burger 1998). The species' incidence in California has decreased since the 1980s, prompting its re-addition to the review list in 2011. Both 2011 and 2012 saw numbers greater than the average in recent years, but 2013 returned to the low baseline. IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: A description from near Samoa, HUM, 18 Sep 2012 (2012-253) was too brief for acceptance.

*PINE WARBLER *Setophaga pinus* (118, 4). A first-winter female was at Greenwood Cemetery, San Diego, SD, 1 Jan–3 Mar 2013 (MSa†; GMcC; 2013-001), and an adult female, presumably the same individual, was there 16 Nov 2013–8 Mar 2014 (NC†, CAM†, GMcC, SRi, ACS†, CKS; 2013-222). A male was at the Palms Recreation Center in West Los Angeles, LA, 1 Mar 2013 (JSond†; 2013-033), another male was singing at Hilltop Park, Chula Vista, SD, 20–22 Mar 2013 (MSa†; 2013-041), and an adult male returned for its fourth winter to Hansen Dam Park, San Fernando, LA, 4 Nov 2013–17 Mar 2014 (KLG†; MAS†; 2013-201). More unusual was a first-fall male in Camarillo, VEN, 14 Oct 2013 (DA†; 2013-231). All of these records except the last conform to this species' normal pattern in California, of birds wintering near the southern California coast, especially in parks or cemeteries with pine trees. With an average rate of 5.2 records per year and a well-established pattern of occurrence, the CBRC elected to remove this species from the review list, and records after 2013 are no longer reviewed.

GRACE'S WARBLER *Setophaga graciae* (68, 3). The CBRC endorsed its first two spring records from the interior lowlands in 2013: a first-spring female foraged in pine trees at Apollo Park, Lancaster, LA, 24 Apr 2013 (JSF†; 2013-052), another in creosote bushes at Cerro Coso Community College in Ridgecrest, KER, 5 May 2013 (BoB; DVB†, KH-L†, BS†, SLS; 2013-059). Although 12 other Grace's Warblers have been accepted in spring or summer, all have been weeks later, and at higher elevations. One returning for its third winter to Greenwood Cemetery, San Diego, SD, 6 Oct 2013–8 Mar 2014 (TRS†; JLD, CAM†, GMcC, MS†; 2013-163) and another wintering at Ocean Meadows Golf Course, Goleta, SBA, 6 Nov 2013–9 Mar 2014 (AB†, DMC†, JLD, AOL†, CAM†, BMi, HPR†; 2013-235) both fit a larger pattern of wintering on the coast.

RED-FACED WARBLER *Cardellina rubrifrons* (24, 1). One was at Bluff L. in the San Bernardino Mountains, SBE, 16–18 Jun 2013 (BAi†; CAM†, BS†, SSot†; 2013-078).

FIELD SPARROW *Spizella pusilla* (13, 1). One banded at Edwards Air Force Base, KER, 6 Feb 2006 (CRF†; 2006-227) appeared to be of the western subspecies *arenacea*.

LE CONTE'S SPARROW *Ammodramus leconteii* (35, 1). One in Borrego Springs, SD, 25 Oct 2013 (WTH†; TAB†, CAM†, GMcC, MSa†; 2013-189) was the first Le Conte's Sparrow recorded in San Diego County.

LITTLE BUNTING *Emberiza pusilla* (4, 1). A first-fall immature Little Bunting extensively documented at Hammond Bridge in McKinleyville, HUM, 12–21 Dec 2013 (KMS; KMB†, BrD, RFow†, NH†, KCK, SEM†, MJM†, CAM†, JMort†, MMR†; 2013-228; this issue's front cover) was California's second on the mainland.

PYRRHULOXIA *Cardinalis sinuatus* (29, 1). A female was photographed at a backyard feeder in Rolling Hills on the Palos Verdes Peninsula, LA, 30 Jun 2013 (JA†; 2013-086). The urban location on the coast and wear evident on the bird's tail raised the question of natural occurrence. However, most members accepted that the wear on the tail was not abnormal (not clearly indicating prior captivity) and that

THE 39TH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CBRC: 2013 RECORDS

the record was consistent with a pattern of vagrancy established by previous records (Patten 2006; see below), so this record passed with a 7–2 vote on the third round. NATURAL OCCURRENCE QUESTIONABLE: A female in Westminster, ORA, 1–7 May 2013 (R&MC†; 2013-106) presented no identification challenge and, while slightly earlier than average, would have contributed to an emerging pattern of records on the coastal slope in spring. Patten (2006) suggested that this surprising pattern could reflect the late nesting and dispersal of the western subspecies *C. s. fulvescens*. The bird's appearance at a suburban location that had been the site of several other Pyrrhuloxia records that had not been accepted precluded its acceptance as a wild vagrant. Though the species is only infrequently kept in captivity, coastal records remain problematic. Two prior coastal spring records from residential areas, including one from nearby Costa Mesa, ORA (1999-078), were initially rejected on the basis of questionable natural occurrence but accepted subsequently on later review. The committee recognizes its inconsistency in accepting coastal records of the Pyrrhuloxia; however, over time as more records accumulate and patterns of occurrence may be clarified, these records may be reevaluated.

RUSTY BLACKBIRD *Euphagus carolinus* (38** 9). An apparent first-winter male was in Carpinteria, SBA, 18 Feb–5 Mar 2013 (WVD†; 2013-030). Seven records came from the coast in late October and November: single males were at San Carlos Cemetery, Monterey, MTY, 27–28 Oct 2013 (PWF†, BTM†, MR†, BLS†, GW†; 2013-191) and near the mouth of Baldwin Creek, SCZ, 11 Nov 2013 (JGa†§, NLev†; 2013-208). A male was at Ken Malloy Harbor Regional Park, LA, 10 Nov–18 Dec 2013, and a female was there 11 Nov–22 Dec 2013 (MC†, MD†, TF-H†, EG†, MM†, KR†; 2013-207). In Marin County a female was at Teal Pond, Pt. Reyes, MRN, 17 Nov 2013 (EC†; 2013-218) and another was at Rodeo Lagoon, MRN, 23-25 Nov 2013 (WLe, DW; LBl†, KSc†, DSS†, RS†; 2013-221). Another female was at the confluence of the San Gabriel River and San Jose Creek, LA, 19–22 Nov 2013 (RAH†; DD†; 2013-239). A slightly later migrant appeared at the Camino Real Marketplace in Goleta, SBA on 16 Dec 2013 (RPH†; 2013-247). The committee reviews records of this species from 1972 to 1974 and all records after 2006. The Rusty Blackbird's population has declined by 85–95% over the last 50 years (Greenberg and Matsuoka 2010). The species' rarity in California in recent years, and thus the committee's decision to resume reviewing it in 2006, reflect this decline. IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: The committee reversed its previous acceptance of a reported Rusty Blackbird photographed at Bodega Bay, SON, 18 Nov 2010 (2010-193).

COMMON GRACKLE *Quiscalus quiscula* (91, 1). One at Galileo Hill, KER, 9–17 Nov 2013 (TEW; CAM†; 2013-233) was at a time typical for fall migrants in the desert; California records of the Common Grackle peak in mid-November.

COMMON REDPOLL *Acanthis flammea* (174, 83). The winter of 2012–2013 brought the western U.S. an unprecedented incursion of the Common Redpoll. A smaller invasion in 2011–2012 was distinguished by how far south many of the birds reached, with one even reaching San Diego County (2012-014). The irruption of 2012–2013 was notable for the number of birds found, more than doubling the number of individuals ever recorded in California. Generally, however, they stayed far to the north. Six were near Fredonyer Peak, LAS, 18 Dec 2012 (JJS; 2012-235). Two in southern Surprise Valley, MOD, 28 Dec 2012 (SCR†; 2012-247) provided a first record for Modoc County. One near Lincoln, PLA, 31 Dec 2012–1 Jan 2013 (JY†, JLD, DeH, JCS†; 2012-236) was the southernmost recorded during the 2012–2013 incursion. Two were near Ft. Bidwell, MOD, 2 Jan 2013 (KMCK†; 2013-045). Ten were at Tule L. N.W.R., SIS, 5 Jan–16 Feb 2013 (FL†, KSp, BLS†, BEW†; 2013-016), with eight across the county line at Tule L. N.W.R., MOD, 5 Jan 2013 (KSp, BSc†; 2013-018). One was at a feeder in Alturas, MOD, 6 Jan 2013

THE 39TH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CBRC: 2013 RECORDS

(JCS†; 2013-004). One at Arcata Marsh, HUM, 7 Feb 2013 (AC; 2013-022) was the only one to reach the coast in this invasion. Up to 10 were at Lower Klamath N.W.R., SIS, 22 Dec 2012–27 Jan 2013 (RN, BScot†; 2012-217). A flock of about 40 was at the Lower Klamath N.W.R., SIS, 23 Feb 2013 (KF†; 2013-031); this was easily the largest flock ever recorded in California, and the committee voted to accept the 10 birds in record 2012-217 as constituting part of this flock. A flock of 13 redpolls photographed 11 km south of Alturas, MOD, 5 Jan 2013 (LFB, RST; KPA, SBT†; 2013-011), included 12 individuals that were accepted as Common Redpolls (see below). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: Accompanying the 12 Common Redpolls accepted south of Alturas, MOD, 5 Jan 2013 was one notably pale individual with clean white undertail coverts and an unstreaked rump (2013-011A). Though it may have been a Hoary Redpoll (*A. hornemanni*), a potential first for California, a majority of the committee found the photographs inconclusive. The committee unfortunately received no documentation for what was probably a Common Redpoll at the Tule L. N.W.R. Headquarters, SIS, 5 Jan 2013 (2013-017).

MISCELLANEOUS

The following long-staying individuals were still present on 31 Dec 2013: the Northern Gannet (2012-058) first seen at Southeast Farallon Island, SF, 25 Apr 2012; the female Common Black Hawk (2008-053) resident near Santa Rosa, SON, since 14 Apr 2008; and the Curve-billed Thrasher (2012-091) first seen at Starlite Estates near Bishop, INY, 11 Jun 2012. If a bird remains at a site continuously, the CBRC does not review reports following its initial acceptance, as it does for individuals that return to a location seasonally.

CORRIGENDA

The following corrections are noted for the CBRC's previous report (Pike et al. 2014): in the Parakeet Auklet account, the location for record 2011-272 should be changed from "off San Mateo, SM" to "offshore, west of the San Mateo County coastline," and in the list of observers, Steve Ross should be changed to Steve Rose.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The committee thanks Robert L. Pitman for comments on a Masked/Nazca Booby record and Bruce Mactavish for comments on an Iceland Gull record. René Corado and Linnea Hall at the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology (WVZ) and Philip Unitt at the San Diego Natural History Museum (SDNHM) helped the committee in various ways, and we thank them for their aid. We extend special thanks to James R. Tietz for updating the table of records published in *Rare Birds of California* and to Joseph Morlan for maintaining the corrigenda to *Rare Birds of California*. The following past and present CBRC members provided valuable comments on drafts of the manuscript: Thomas A. Benson, Kimball L. Garrett, Peter Pyle, Daniel S. Singer, and James R. Tietz. We also appreciate comments on the manuscript by reviewers Philip Unitt, Doug Faulkner, Jack Withrow, and Bill Tweit.

CONTRIBUTORS

Finally, the CBRC would not exist without the cooperation of birders and ornithologists throughout the state. We especially thank the following 283 people who contributed observations for records included in this report: Kenneth P. Able, Douglas W. Aguillard, Jim Aichele, Bruce Aird (BAi), Chris Allen, Bernardo Alps (BAL), Dorian Anderson, Noah Arthur, Samantha Bacon, William B. Baker, Larry Ballard (LBa),

THE 39TH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CBRC: 2013 RECORDS

Bob Barnes (BoB), Joel Barrett (JBa), Alan D. Barron, Richard Barth, Leonie F. Batkin, Dave Batzler (DBa), David A. Bell, Thomas A. Benson (TAB), Murray Berner, Thomas Blackman (TBl), David V. Blue, Len Blumin (LBl), Abraham Borker, William G. Bousman, Bill Bouton (BiB), Johnny Bovee (JBo), Tony Brake, Lucas Brug (LBr), Aaron Budgor, Kenneth M. Burton, Oliver Burton, Mike Bush (MiB), Mark Butler (MaB), Eugene A. Cardiff, Barbara L. Carlson, Jay C. Carroll, Jeff Cartier (JCa), Rich & Mary Castillon, Mark Catesby, Mark A. Chappell, Allen Chartier, Jamie M. Chavez, Nancy Christensen, Jeff Cislini (JCi), Everett Clark (ECI), David M. Compton, Daniel S. Cooper, Elizabeth Copper (ECo), Robert Copper, Mike Coulson, Tom Crabtree, Jason Crotty (JCr), Eric B. Culbertson, Brian E. Daniels, Jeff N. Davis, Malia De Felice, Rob Denholtz, Bill Deppe (BiD), Bruce Deuel (BrD), Dean DiTommaso, Darren Dowell, Jon L. Dunn, Manuel Duran, Todd Easterla, Tom M. Edell, John Edwards (JEd), Elias A. Elias, Jules Evens (JEv), Karan Fairchild, Jeff Fairclough, Jon S. Feenstra, Tim Fennell (TFe), Paul W. Fenwick, Tom Ford-Hutchinson (TF-H), Craig R. Fosdick, Rick Fournier (RFou), Rob Fowler (RFow), Mary Freeman, Rick Fridell (RFr), Wes T. Fritz, Dave Furseth, John Garrett (JGa), Kimball L. Garrett, Steve Gerow, Charlene Glacy, David A. Goodward, Tom Grey (TGr), Edmond Griffin, Jessica Griffiths (JGr), Trish Gussler (TGU), Robert A. Hamilton, Kevin Hamm, Steve C. Hampton, Jeff Hanson (JHa), Roger Harshaw (RHa), Garth Harwood, Lauren B. Harter, Karen A. Havlena, Neil Hayward, Kelli Heindel-Levinson, Rod Higbie (RHl), Bill Hill (BHl), Ron P. Hirst, Fred Hochstaedter, Don Hoechlin (DoH), Ronald Holland (RHol), Bill Hopson (BHo), Debbie House (DeH), Chris Howard, Jim Howard (JHo), Rosie Howard (RHow), Andrew Howe, Richard Hubacek (RHu), Lisa Hug (LHu), W. Terry Hunefeld, Eugene Hunn, Bob Hunter (BHl), Alvaro Jaramillo, Oscar Johnson, Jay Keller, Howard B. King, Page Knowles, William H. Knowlton, Alexander E. Koonce, Barbara Krause, Kenneth Z. Kurland, Keith C. Kwan, Alexandra Lamb, Walter Lamb (WLl), Caroline Lambert, Rick LeBaudour (RLeB), William Legge (WLe), Jack Lee (JLe), Paul E. Lehman, Nick Lethaby (NLe), Ron LeValley (RLeV), Nicholas Levendosky (NLe), Josh Lietzow (JLi), Sky Lloyd, Adrian O. Loghlen, James Lomax, Kevin Long, Frank Lospalluto, Garrett MacDonald (GMa), Aaron Maizlish (AMa), Michael J. Mammoser, Jon Mann (JMa), Curtis A. Marantz, Bruce Mast (BMa), Blake T. Matheson, Dan Maxwell, Sara Baase Mayer, Sean E. McAllister, Guy McCaskie (GMcC), Chris McCreedy (CMcC), Chet McGaugh (CMcG), Todd McGrath (TMcG), Bobbie McGuire (BMc), Tristan McKee (TMcK), Kevin McKereghan, Robert L. McKernan, Jimmy M. McMorran, Robert McMorran (RMc), Antony Mercieca (AMe), Ryan Merrill (RMe), Martin Meyers, Barbara Millett (BMl), Gary A. Moore, Peter J. Moore, Jennifer Moonjian (JeM), Jim Moore (JiM), Joseph Morlan (JMor), James R. Morris, Dominik Mosur, Elizabeth Muraoka, Vic Murayama, Lukas Musher, Russ Namitz, Dan W. Nelson, Kristie N. Nelson, Vincent Nichnadowicz, Gary Nunn, Dermot O'Brien, Brittany O'Conner, Rob O'Donnell, Lou Orr, Michael Park, Debby Parker (DPa), Jim Parker (JPa), David Pavlik (DPav), Jim Pea (JPe), Kaaren Perry, Zachary Perry, David Pettee (DPe), Jason K. Pietrzak, Barrett Pierce, James E. Pike, Tyler Pockette, Jeff Poklen (JPo), Donna Pomeroy (DPom), David Povey (DPov), Sidd Ramachandramurthi (SRa), Bernadette Ramer (BeR), Bob Ramer (BoR), David Rankin (DRa), Hugh P. Ranson, Andy Rathbone (ARa), Robert Rathburn, Harold Reeve, Bob Reiling (BRE), J. V. Remsen, Jr., Bruce Rideout (BRI), Michael Rieser, Alex Rinkert (ARi), Steve Ritt (SRi), Don Roberson (DRo), Michael M. Rogers, Kerry Ross, Stephen C. Rottenborn, Jonathan Rowley (JRo), Jim S. Royer, Ruth A. Rudesill, Cameron Rutt, Jennifer Rycenga (JRy), Matt Sadowski (MSa), Salvatore Salerno (SSa), Larry Sansone, Janet Scheel (JSch), Mark A. Scheel, Ken Schneider (KSc), Elliot Schoenig (ESc), Brad K. Schram, Tim Schreckengost (TSc), Alison Schulman-Janiger (AS-J), Beatrix Schwarz (BSch), Barbara Scoles (BSco), Adam J. Searcy, Ryan Shaw (RSh), Debra L. Shearwater, Alison Sheehey (ASH), Amy C. Shutt, Dessi Sieburth, Brad Singer (BSi), Daniel S. Singer, Tom Slater (TSI), Kenneth M. Slauson, Christopher

THE 39TH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CBRC: 2013 RECORDS

K. Smith, Susan E. Smith, Jeffrey Sondheimer (JSond), Jackie Sones (JSone), Steve Sosensky (SSo), Kevin Spencer (KSp), B.J. Stacy, Mark E. Stacy, Justyn T. Stahl, Trent R. Stanley, Bob Steele (BSt), Susan L. Steele, John C. Sterling, Frank Sterrett, Eric Stone (ESt), Ron Storey (RSt), Mark Stratton (MSt), Justin J. Streit, David L. Suddjian, Brian L. Sullivan, Julie Szabo (JSz), Christopher Taylor, Scott B. Terrill, Robert Theriault, Ronald S. Thorn, Don Thornton, James R. Tietz, Michael Tiffany, Jerry Ting, Steve Tucker, Amanda Utzman, Richard Vacha, Wim van Dam, David Vander Pluym, Brad Waggoner, Stanley Walens (StaW), Shannon Walsh (ShW), Bruce E. Webb, John West (JWe), James White (JWh), Jerry R. White, Phillip White, David Wiechers, Alan Wight (AlW), Ryan Winkleman, Anne Winters (AnW), Melanie Wirtanen, Steve Wolfe (StW), Gary Woods, Thomas E. Wurster, Dou Yang, John York, and Michael Zarky.

LITERATURE CITED

- American Birding Association. 2002. ABA Checklist: Birds of the Continental United States and Canada, 6th ed. Am. Birding Assoc., Colorado Springs, CO.
- American Ornithologists' Union. 1998. Check-list of North American Birds, 7th ed. Am. Ornithol. Union, Washington D.C.
- American Ornithologists' Union. 2014. Fifty-fifth supplement to the American Ornithologists' Union *Check-list of North American Birds*. Auk 131:CSi-CSxv.
- Baumann, M. J., Galen, S. C., Pederson, N. D., and Witt, C. C. 2014. Simple technique for distinguishing Yellow-bellied Flycatchers from Cordilleran and Pacific-slope Flycatchers. J. Field Ornithol. 85:391–396.
- Brown, H. 1904. The Elf Owl in California. Condor 6:45–47.
- California Bird Records Committee [CBRC] (R. A. Hamilton, M. A. Patten, and R. A. Erickson, eds.). 2007. Rare Birds of California. W. Field Ornithol. Camarillo, CA.
- Campbell, R. W., Dawe, N. K., McTaggart-Cowan, I. Cooper, J. M., Kaiser, G. W., and McNall, M. C. E. 1990. The Birds of British Columbia, vol II. Royal Br. Columbia Mus., Victoria.
- Charlesworth, C. 2014. British Columbia. N. Am. Birds 68:135–137.
- Craig, J. T., 1971. Eastern Whip-poor-will in San Diego. W. Birds 2:37–40.
- Duivendijk, N. V. 2011. Advanced Bird ID Handbook: The Western Palearctic. New Holland, Chatswood, Australia.
- Garner, M., Lewington, I., and Slack, R. 2003. Mongolian and Lesser Sand Plovers: An identification overview. Birding World 16:377–385.
- Garrett, K. L., and Dunn, J. L. 1981. Birds of Southern California: Status and Distribution. Los Angeles Audubon Soc., Los Angeles.
- Gibson, D. D., and Byrd, G. V. 2007. Birds of the Aleutian Islands, Alaska. Nuttall Ornithol. Club and Am. Ornithol. Union Series in Ornithol. 1.
- Gibson, D. D., and Kessel, B. 1997. Inventory of the species and subspecies of Alaska birds. W. Birds 28:45–95.
- Gibson, D. D., and Withrow, J. J. 2015. Inventory of the species and subspecies of Alaska birds, second edition. W. Birds 46:94–815.
- Greenberg, R., and Matsuoka, S. M. 2010. Rangewide ecology of the declining Rusty Blackbird: Mysteries of a species in decline. Condor 112:770–777.
- Grinnell, J., and Miller, A. H. 1944. The distribution of the birds of California. Pac. Coast Avifauna 27.
- Hajdukovich, N. R., DiCicco, L. H., and Tomkovich, P. S. 2015. Western North American records of Eurasian Bar-tailed Godwits. W. Birds 46:71–75.
- Hayes, F. E. 2004. Variability and interbreeding of Sandwich Terns and Cayenne Terns in the Virgin Islands, with comments on their systematic relationship. N. Am. Birds 57:566–572.

THE 39TH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CBRC: 2013 RECORDS

- Hirschfeld E., Roselaar, C. S., and Shirihi, H. 2000. Identification, taxonomy and distribution of Greater and Lesser Sand Plovers. *Br. Birds* 93:162–189.
- Howell, S. N. G. 2012. Petrels, Albatrosses, and Storm-Petrels of North America: A Photographic Guide. Princeton Univ. Press, Princeton, NJ.
- Howell, S. N. G., Lewington, I., and Russell, W. 2014. Rare Birds of North America. Princeton Univ. Press, Princeton, NJ.
- Howell, S. N. G., and Webb, S. 1990. The seabirds of las Islas Revillagigedo, Mexico. *Wilson Bull.* 102: 140–146.
- Irons, D., Waggoner, B., and Merrill, R. 2014. Oregon & Washington. *N. Am. Birds* 68:137–142.
- Johnson, O., Sullivan, B. L., and McCaskie, G. 2012. The 36th report of the California Bird Records Committee: 2010 records. *W. Birds* 43:164–188.
- McCaskie, G. 1975. A Rufous-necked Sandpiper in southern California. *W. Birds* 6:111–113.
- Nelson, K. N., and Pyle, P. 2013. Distribution and movement patterns of individual Crested Caracaras in California. *W. Birds* 44:45–55.
- Nelson, K. N., Rottenborn, S. C., and Terrill, S. B. 2013. The 37th report of the California Bird Records Committee: 2011 records. *W. Birds* 44:206–236.
- Patten, M. A. 2006. Dispersal and vagrancy in the Pyrrhuloxia. *W. Birds* 37:37–44.
- Patten, M. A., and Burger, J. C. 1998. Spruce budworm outbreaks and the incidence of vagrancy in eastern North American wood-warblers. *Can. J. Zool.* 76:433–439.
- Patten, M. A., and Erickson, R. A. 1994. Fifteenth report of the California Bird Records Committee. *W. Birds* 25:1–34.
- Pike, J. E., and Compton, D. M. 2010. The 34th report of the California Bird Records Committee: 2008 records. *W. Birds* 41:130–159.
- Pike, J. E., Garrett, K. L., and Searcy, A. J. 2014. The 38th report of the California Bird Records Committee: 2012 records. *W. Birds* 41:246–275.
- Pitman, R. L., and Jehl, J. R. 1998. Geographic variation and reassessment of species limits in the “Masked” boobies of the eastern Pacific Ocean. *Wilson Bull.* 110: 155–170.
- Pyle, P., and McCaskie, G. 1992. Thirteenth report of the California Bird Records Committee. *W. Birds* 23:97–132.
- Pyle, P., Tietz, J., and McCaskie, G. 2011. Thirty-fifth report of the California Bird Records Committee: 2009 records. *W. Birds* 42:134–163.
- Roberson, D. 2002. *Monterey Birds*, 2nd ed. Monterey Peninsula Audubon Soc., Carmel, CA.
- Singer, D. S., and Terrill, S. B. 2009. The 33rd report of the California Bird Records Committee: 2007 records. *W. Birds* 40:158–190.
- Towers, J. R., Atkins, R., Howard, K., Sykes, J., and Dunstan, G. 2015. The first confirmed record of a Blue-footed Booby in Canada. *Br. Columbia Birds* 25:13–16.
- Wahl, T. R., Tweet, B., and Mlodinow, S. G. (eds.). 2005. *Birds of Washington: Status and Distribution*. Ore. State Univ. Press, Corvallis.
- Williams, S. O. III, DeLong, J. P., and Howe, W. H. Northward range expansion by the Short-tailed Hawk, with first records for New Mexico and Chihuahua. *W. Birds* 38:2–10.
- Yang, D., Rottenborn, S. C., Terrill, S., Searcy, A. J., and Villablanca, F. X. 2016. First California records of the Little Stint and Nazca Booby confirmed through molecular analysis. *W. Birds* 47:58–66.

Accepted 20 January 2016