

THE 44TH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE: 2018 RECORDS

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ABSTRACT: From its last report through 2018 the California Bird Records Committee reached decisions on 287 records involving 267 individuals of 79 species, two species groups, one hybrid, and two introduced populations, endorsing 250 records of 238 individuals and two introduced populations. The first accepted California records of the Eastern Meadowlark (*Sturnella magna*), the Tropical Parula (*Setophaga pitiayumi*), and the eastern group of subspecies of the Curve-billed Thrasher (*Toxostoma curvirostre*) are outlined in this report. The committee also voted to add naturalized populations of the Yellow-chevroned Parakeet (*Brotogeris chiriri*) and the Red-whiskered Bulbul (*Pycnonotus jocosus*) to the state list. These additions bring California's total list of accepted species to 675, of which 13 represent established introductions. Other notable records detailed in this report include the state's second Common Ringed Plover (*Charadrius hiaticula*), Marsh Sandpiper (*Tringa stagnatilis*), Gray Hawk (*Buteo plagiatus*), and Eurasian Skylark (*Alauda arvensis*), and third Wood Sandpiper (*Tringa glareola*), Tristram's Storm-Petrel (*Hydrobates tristrami*), and Red-flanked Bluetail (*Tarsiger cyanurus*).

This 44th report of the California Bird Records Committee (CBRC), a committee of Western Field Ornithologists, summarizes evaluations of 287 records involving 267 individuals of 79 species, two species groups, one hybrid, and two introduced populations. The committee accepted 250 of the 287 records, involving 238 individuals of 66 species, two species groups, one hybrid, and two introduced populations for an acceptance rate of 87.1%. A record is considered accepted if it receives no more than one "not accept" vote from the nine voting members if the identification is considered questionable, or no more than two "not accept" votes if the bird's natural occurrence is considered questionable. We consider 15 records of 11 individuals to represent returning or continuing birds. Thirty-six records, involving 37 individuals of 26 species and one species group, were not accepted because the identification was considered to be unsubstantiated; one record involving one individual was not accepted because its natural occurrence was questionable. For review, reports of multiple individuals together are given the same record number; we report the total number of accepted individuals, which may be different from the number of accepted records. Although most of the records in this report are of birds first documented in 2018, 24 are from prior years.

Since the period covered by this report, the committee has accepted the first California record of the Yellow-browed Warbler (*Phylloscopus inornatus*), the details of which will be published in the next (45th) report. This addition brings the California list to 676 species. At its January 2020 annual meeting,

the committee added the Wood Stork (*Mycteria americana*) and removed the Nazca Booby (*Sula granti*), Red-footed Booby (*Sula sula*), and Rusty Blackbird (*Euphagus carolinus*) from the list of species that it reviews. As a result of the removal of the Nazca Booby, the category of Masked/Nazca Booby (*Sula dactylatra/granti*) was also removed from the review list.

Species-account headings are organized with English and scientific names first, followed in parentheses by the total number of individuals accepted for California (records in this report included) 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 or location was uncertain, or the natural occurrence was questionable (as applicable). A double asterisk (**) following the number of accepted records indicates that the species has been reviewed only during a restricted period, so the number of accepted records does not represent the total number of records for the state. When the observer(s) who originally discovered the bird provided documentation, their initials are listed first in italics, followed by the initials of subsequent observers supplying documentation. A dagger (†) following an observer's initials indicates submission of a photograph, (\$) indicates submission of a sketch, (§) indicates submission of audio recordings, (§) indicates submission of a video, and (#) precedes a specimen number. We cite the following collections in this report: LACM, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County; SDNHM, San Diego Natural History Museum; SOUNHM, Southern Oregon University Natural History Museum, Ashland. The absence of a symbol following the observer's initials indicates the submission of a written report without other documentation. After the observers' initials is the identifying number assigned by the CBRC's secretary as each record is received.

As of the CBRC's 43rd report (Singer et al. 2020), age terminology follows that of Humphrey and Parkes (1959) as modified by Howell et al. (2003) and Howell and Pyle (2015). A document specifying terms for molts and ages is available at the CBRC's website, www.californiabirds.org/Age%20and%20plumage%20terminology.pdf. Definitions of abbreviations and additional details regarding minutiae of formatting may be found in the CBRC's previous annual reports (all available at www.californiabirds.org) and in *Rare Birds of California* (CBRC 2007; www.wfopublications.org/Rare_Birds/FM/Explanation-Additional_Info.html). A map of, and abbreviations for, counties in California are at www.wfopublications.org/Rare_Birds/MAPS/Map1.html. Also available at the CBRC's website are the California bird list, the review list, an online form for submitting documentation for review species, committee news, recent photos of rare birds, the CBRC's bylaws, and a form for querying the CBRC's database. Observers are encouraged to submit documentation for all species on the CBRC's review list to the CBRC's secretary (e-mail: secretary@californiabirds.org) or via the web form at www.californiabirds.org/report_sighting.html. Documentation of all records is archived at the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology (www.wfz.org) and is available for public review by appointment or by contacting the CBRC's secretary.

FULVOUS WHISTLING-DUCK *Dendrocygna bicolor* (8**, 2). One was at Lake Los Carneros and the Goleta Sanitary District plant, SBA, 9 Apr–7 Jul 2018 (RFC, DMC, NL, BMo†, HPR†, CSpt†, JTS†, GTi, TT†; 2018-031) and another (in formative

plumage) was at the Ballona Freshwater Marsh, LA, 11–20 Jul 2018 (*DSt†*, *DJB†*, *TAB†*, *CAD†*, *RE†*, *EL†*, *TGM†*§, *DSch†*, *JTS†*, *JCS†*, *CTa†*, *CLY†*; 2018-075). This duck bred along the coast of southern California until the early 1950s and in the Central Valley until 1983 (Hamilton 2008). In the Imperial Valley it persisted in declining numbers until 2010 but has not been confirmed as breeding since 1999 (*N. Am. Birds* 53:432), and the CBRC added it to the review list in 2011.

TRUMPETER SWAN *Cygnus buccinator* (147**, 0). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: Two specimens at SOUNHM misidentified as Trumpeter Swans, one shot at Tule Lake, SIS, 16 Nov 1930 (SOUNHM #582; 2007-045) and the other near Hilt, SIS, 27 Jan 1988 (SOUNHM #1675; 2007-046), are both Tundra Swans (*C. columbianus*). The committee reviews records of the Trumpeter Swan through 2011.

RUDDY SHELDUCK *Tadorna ferruginea* (0, 0). NATURAL OCCURRENCE QUESTIONABLE: One was near the Cosumnes River Preserve, SAC, 15 Oct 2018 (2018-192). This species is relatively common in captivity, and a natural vagrant to California is very unlikely.

BAIKAL TEAL *Sibirionetta formosa* (8, 1). A male in formative plumage was taken by a hunter ~15 km southeast of Los Banos, MER, 12 Dec 2018 (*DSco†*; 2018-248).

KING EIDER *Somateria spectabilis* (45, 0). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: Photos of a distant duck off the Suto Baths in San Francisco, SF, 4 Jan 2018 (2018-008) were too poor to confirm the identification as a King Eider.

STEJNEGER'S SCOTER *Melanitta stejnegeri* (0, 0). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: An adult male scoter photographed on Monterey Bay off Zils Road in Watsonville, SCZ, 15 Jan 2014 (2014-187; Figure 1) received some support as a Stejneger's Scoter, a potential first for California. Six committee members, however, were unwilling to endorse this identification, citing poor photos in which some field marks were difficult to interpret accurately. The American Ornithological Society recently split *M. stejnegeri* and *M. deglandi* from *M. fusca* (Chesser et al. 2019). The only record of Stejneger's Scoter in North America away from extreme western Alaska is of an adult male at Helena Valley Regulating Reservoir, Lewis and Clark County, Montana, 11 Apr–15 May 2015 (Jeff Marks pers. comm., Pyle et al. 2019).

RUDDY GROUND DOVE *Columbina talpacoti* (117**, 6). A female at Shoshone, INY, 19 Sep 2018 (*JEP†*; 2018-157) was only the third in California since January 2016. A flock of up to five with Inca Doves (*C. inca*) and Common Ground Doves (*C. passerina*) at the Palo Verde Ecological Reserve, RIV, 15 Dec 2018–20 Mar 2019 (*CaS†*; *TAB†*, *LK†*, *DVP†*; 2018-224) included three males, a female, and a bird in formative plumage. The committee reviews records of the Ruddy Ground Dove only prior to 2003 and since 2016.

BUFF-COLLARED NIGHTJAR *Antrostomus ridgwayi* (1, 0). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: A report of one in Corona, RIV, 28 Mar 2018 (2018-029) lacked a description of the bird or its vocalizations and received no support.

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD *Archilochus colubris* (20, 1). A female on San Clemente Island, LA, 5 Sep 2014 (*JTS†*; 2014-186) represented the first record for Los Angeles County. This individual had commenced preformative molt, which normally doesn't occur during migration.

BROAD-BILLED HUMMINGBIRD *Cynanthus latirostris* (109, 7). As in most cases with this rare stray to California, three reported in 2018 were frequenting feeders along the coast: single males in Bolinas, MRN, 2–6 Sep 2018 (*KH†*; *MD†*, *LH†*, *ANW†*; 2018-121), San Francisco, SF, 9–19 Mar 2018 (*MWE†*, *RFI*, *DK-B†*, *DMo*, *DEQ†*, *MJR†*, *RAR†*, *PS*, *JCS†*, *SBT*; 2018-028), and Mission Valley in San

Diego, SD, 27 Feb 2018 (MMcC†; 2018-025). A female at Shoshone, INY, 1 May 2018 (LW†; 2018-067) and a male in Bishop, INY, 1–3 Oct 2018 (CHo†, RH†, NJO†; 2018-200) were frequenting feeders well inland in extreme eastern California, where the Broad-billed Hummingbird is recorded far less frequently than along the coast. A male of unknown age in Los Leones Canyon, LA, 26 Sep 2018 (KW†; 2018-161) and a male undergoing preformative molt at Grimes Point, MTY, 29 Sep 2018 (SO†; 2018-163) were attracted to wildflowers, and far from any feeders.

VIOLET-CROWNED HUMMINGBIRD *Amazilia violiceps* (7, 1). An adult visiting a feeder at the Kern River Preserve, KER, 7 Jul–2 Aug 2018 (JRS, TAB†, EJ‡, MMe†, LPi†, AMS†, DSi\$, JTS†, BS†, SLS, JCS†, DSy; 2018-074; Figure 2) was only the second to be found well inland in California; the other occurred at Grass Valley, NEV, on the unexpected date of 8 Feb 2006 (2006-030; Heindel and Garrett 2008). Five coastal records stretch from San Diego County to Humboldt County.

PURPLE GALLINULE *Porphyrio martinicus* (6, 1). Remains, consisting of one foot and one wing distal of the elbow, were recovered along Harbor Drive near the Tenth Avenue Marine Terminal on San Diego Bay, SD, 2 Nov 2018 (GN†; 2018-211) and deposited at the San Diego Natural History Museum (SDNHM #56448).

EUROPEAN GOLDEN-PLOVER *Pluvialis apricaria* (0, 0). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: A golden-plover photographed at Devereux Slough, SBA, 21–29 Jan 2017 (2017-176; Figure 3) received support from a majority of committee members during all four rounds of voting. Despite being reviewed and endorsed by several European experts as representing this species, the photos were slightly out of focus and did not show the diagnostic white underwing coverts, leaving three committee members unwilling to endorse what would have been the first record for California and second for the Pacific coast of North America.

COMMON RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius hiaticula* (2, 1). An adult male at Abbotts Lagoon, MRN, 8–15 Oct 2018 (MSaw†, LC†, DL†\$, AMa†, MJR†, JCS†, GT†; 2018-182) was the second Common Ringed Plover recorded in California. The photos, such as the one on this issue's front cover, show the prominent white supercilium and the lack of an orange orbital-ring that differentiate the Common Ringed from the very similar Semipalmated Plover (*C. semipalmatus*). The width of the black breast band indicates the bird is an adult male.

UPLAND SANDPIPER *Bartramia longicauda* (34, 2). One at Furnace Creek Ranch, INY, 27 May 2018 (AH†, DVP†, LST†, SBT; 2018-048) was at a location where at least three have been found previously in late spring (CBRC 2007), and a juvenile was at Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), GLE, 8 Sep 2018 (WW†; 2018-131). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: A report of an unseen, calling Upland Sandpiper at Elings Park in Santa Barbara, SBA, 21 Sep 2018 (2018-154) was not endorsed by the committee.

BAR-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa lapponica* (51, 1). One was at Ocean Beach County Park, SBA, 11–12 Sep 2018 (BrH†, JEL, BKS†; 2018-142). Only 14 of California's 51 accepted records are from southern California.

HUDSONIAN GODWIT *Limosa haemastica* (55, 1). A juvenile at Kramer Junction, SBE, 17 Aug 2018 (TAB†; 2018-103) furnished the second record for San Bernardino County. Only 17 of California's 55 records come from the interior, with nine of those representing fall migrants.

CURLEW SANDPIPER *Calidris ferruginea* (52, 2). An adult female in alternate plumage was at Obsidian Butte, IMP, 3 May 2018 (JBe†; 2018-037). An adult molting into basic plumage was at the Tulare Lake Drainage District's Hacienda Basin, 28 km south-southwest of Corcoran, KIN, and the South Evaporation Ponds 7 km farther south, KER, 22 Jul–4 Aug 2018 (MES†, SLS†, SSu†; 2018-083).



FIGURE 1. This adult male scoter, photographed from the end of Zils Road in Watsonville, Santa Cruz County, 15 Jan 2014 (2014-187), appears to show black flanks, a large protrusion at the base of the culmen, and a reddish-orange upper mandible with a yellow edge—features all consistent with Stejneger's Scoter. The majority of committee members, however, considered the photos insufficiently clear to establish a first state record.

Photo by John F. Garrett



FIGURE 2. Showing its clean white underparts and mostly bright red bill, this adult Violet-crowned Hummingbird, photographed 9 Jul 2018, visited the hummingbird feeders at the Kern River Preserve, Kern County (2018-074).

Photo by Martin Meyers



FIGURE 3. This golden-plover, photographed at Devereux Slough, Santa Barbara County, 29 Jan 2017 (2017-176), shows some features consistent with the European Golden-Plover, including the number of visible primary tips, number of pale spots along the edge of the longest tertial, limited replacement of scapular and upper wing feathers at this time of year, and the pattern of golden edges on the replaced lower scapulars. Lacking photos showing the diagnostic white underwing coverts, however, the committee did not accept the record.

Photo by David M. Compton

LITTLE STINT *Calidris minuta* (34, 3). An adult was at Tulare Lake Drainage District's Hacienda Basin, KIN, 21 Jul 2018 (MEST†; 2018-082). California's first occurrence of two Little Stints together was of one in formative plumage at the south end of San Diego Bay NWR, SD, 16 Nov–15 Dec 2018 (MSad†: GuM; 2018-212) and an adult there 20 Oct 2018–24 Apr 2019 (PEL, GuM, MSad†; 2018-219). Most Little Stints in California have been fall vagrants between 6 July and 15 October; this adult at San Diego Bay was the first known to remain through the winter.

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER *Calidris fuscicollis* (31, 1). An adult that had commenced prebasic molt at the wetlands just north of Centerville Beach County Park, HUM, 5–12 Oct 2018 (MVB†; RFow†, CNR; 2018-171) furnished the first record for Humboldt County. Of the now 10 White-rumped Sandpipers known from California in fall (15 August–11 November), all have been adults. Juveniles are evidently unrecorded in the western United States.

SPOTTED REDSHANK *Tringa erythropus* (5, 0). **IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED:** One reported from Bear River Ridge Road, HUM, 17 Oct 2018 (2018-193) was not described well enough to be aged, and was stated to have yellowish-orange rather than the expected red legs, so received almost no support.

WOOD SANDPIPER *Tringa glareola* (3, 1). A juvenile at the wetlands just north

of Centerville Beach County Park, HUM, 14–23 Sep 2018 (TF†, RFow†, ISG†, LH†, DK-B†, TK†, KCK†, TGM†, LPi†, CNR†; 2018-144; Figure 4) was only the third Wood Sandpiper for California and the first for Humboldt County. The state's two previous records were of one in first alternate plumage at China Lake, KER, 22–23 May 2007 (2007-119; Singer and Terrill 2009) and a juvenile at Camp Pendleton, SD, 24–29 Sep 2012 (2012-142; Pike et al. 2014).

MARSH SANDPIPER *Tringa stagnatilis* (2, 0). An adult in alternate plumage at the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area, YOL, 15–21 Apr 2018 (JLD, RFow†, PJH†, MJR†, RWR†, JCS†, KSw†; 2018-033) was considered the same individual as at that locality 16–23 Apr 2016 (2016-022; McCaskie et al. 2018) and near Dixon, SOL, 9–13 Apr 2014 (2014-032; Singer et al. 2016).

THICK-BILLED MURRE *Uria lomvia* (51, 0). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: The report of a distant murre photographed from shore at Redwood National Park, DN, 5 Jan 2018 (2018-004) failed to get more than half the committee's support.

BLACK-HEADED GULL *Chroicocephalus ridibundus* (30, 1). An adult in basic plumage at the Colton/San Bernardino Rapid Infiltration and Extraction Treatment Facility, Colton, SBE, 23 Dec 2018 (TAB†, MAG†; 2018-233) was the first recorded in San Bernardino County.

BLACK-TAILED GULL *Larus crassirostris* (6, 1). An adult in alternate plumage was at Crescent City, DN, 11 Feb–11 Mar 2018 (LB†; RHD†, JLD, RFow†, DK-B, TK†, DvN†, LPi†, DEQ†, SSt†; 2018-022; Figure 5). All of California's Black-tailed Gulls have been found along the coast, with all but one occurring between 8 November and 11 March (CBRC 2007, 2020).

YELLOW-LEGGED GULL *Larus michahellis* (0, 0). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: An adult gull with a mantle clearly paler than that of nearby adult California Gulls (*L. californicus*), reported as a possible Yellow-legged at the north end of the Salton Sea, RIV, 9 Apr 2011 (2011-284), was judged by all committee members to be an adult Herring Gull (*L. argentatus*) with abnormally yellow legs. A western palearctic species, the Yellow-legged Gull is a rare but almost annual visitor to Newfoundland, with additional records from Quebec and the District of Columbia, coastal Virginia, Florida, and Texas. It seems unlikely to reach California (Howell et al. 2014).

SLATY-BACKED GULL *Larus schistisagus* (68, 6). Individuals in their second plumage cycle were along the San Gabriel River in Pico Rivera, LA, 6 Jan 2018 (JFG†; MH†; 2018-002), at the Marina Landfill and Point Pinos, MTY, 5 Feb–18 Mar 2018 (BTM†; BLS†; 2018-018), and at Don Edwards San Francisco Bay NWR, SCL, 17 Mar 2018 (NA†; 2018-056). One in its third cycle was at Half Moon Bay, SM, 23 Dec 2018 (AJ†; 2018-232), as was an adult 1 Mar 2018 (AJ†; 2018-026). These were all along the coast or in the coastal lowlands where most of California's Slaty-backed Gulls have been found. An adult near Vernalis, SJ, (DGY†; 2018-073) was inland where there are few records. This primarily Asiatic gull is now recorded in all but four of the coastal counties south through Los Angeles County, around San Francisco Bay, and inland around the Sacramento/San Joaquin River delta (CBRC 2007, 2020). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: The report of one in its first cycle at Point Pinos, MTY, 4 Jan 2018 (2018-086) received support from only four committee members. The majority of committee members are hesitant to endorse the identification of first-cycle Slaty-backed Gulls. While there has been much progress in understanding the field marks that define this plumage, much of it remains unpublished, and definitively eliminating other taxa (particularly hybrids) remains a challenge.

ARCTIC LOON *Gavia arctica* (16, 2). Adults were at Abbotts Lagoon, MRN, 26 Jan–7 Feb 2018 (MD†, RD†, JN†; 2018-015) and on Monterey Bay near Lighthouse Point, SCZ, 2 Feb 2018 (SM†; 2018-021).

YELLOW-BILLED LOON *Gavia adamsii* (104, 1). One in formative plumage was on Tomales Bay, MRN, 15 Dec 2018–3 Jan 2019 (MVB, NW†; 2018-226). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: A report of one on Lake Tahoe, PLA, 16 Apr 2018 (2018-061), was supported by distant, out-of-focus photos but lacked a description; it failed to get a majority of the committee's support.

WEDGE-RUMPED STORM-PETREL *Hydrobates tethys* (14, 1). One undergoing its second prebasic molt was photographed among a flock of Black (*H. melania*) and Least (*H. microsoma*) storm-petrels ~35 km north-northwest of San Nicolas Island, VEN, 15 Jul 2018 (AMa†, LSA†; 2018-079). The bird was noticed only after a review of the photographs following the encounter.

TRISTRAM'S STORM-PETREL *Hydrobates tristrami* (3, 1). A juvenile photographed ~35 km north of San Nicolas Island, VEN, 15 Jul 2018 (JBa†, DPet†, JPs†; 2018-080; Figure 6) represented California's first accepted record of a free-flying Tristram's Storm-Petrel. Like the Wedge-rumped Storm-Petrel above, this individual was not identified until photographs were reviewed after the encounter. The two previously accepted records are for Southeast Farallon Island: the first bird was captured in a mist net 22 Apr 2006 (2007-162; Singer and Terrill 2009, Warzybok et al. 2009), the second found dead 18 Mar 2015 (2015-025; Searcy et al. 2018). These are the only three photographically documented records from North America and the eastern Pacific Ocean.

JOUANIN'S PETREL *Bulweria fallax* (1, 0). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: Reports of single *Bulweria* petrels in the Santa Barbara Channel, VEN, 5 Sep 2007 (2007-243B) and ~16 km south-southwest of Strawberry Beach, SCZ, 12 Sep 2015 (2015-176) lacked sufficient details to confirm the identification as a Jouanin's Petrel; see the following account for more details.

BULWER'S/JOUANIN'S PETREL *Bulweria bulwerii/fallax* (2, 2). Both species of *Bulweria* have now been documented in California. Bulwer's Petrel breeds in the tropical and subtropical Atlantic and Pacific oceans, and locally in the Indian Ocean, while Jouanin's breeds in the Indian Ocean (Howell and Zufelt 2019). Jouanin's is larger and bulkier than Bulwer's, with a larger head and bill and broader wings and tail, and the pale band on the upper side of its wings is frequently less distinct (Howell 2012). There is intraspecific variation, however: in the western Pacific Bulwer's Petrels approach the smallest (presumably female) Jouanin's Petrels in bill size (S. N. G. Howell pers. comm.), potentially confounding identification of these petrels, especially given the conditions under which most pelagic observations are made. Further complicating this issue are the two all-dark species of *Pseudobulweria*, sightings of an unknown *Bulweria* around Comoros in the western Indian Ocean, and sightings of an enigmatic *Pseudobulweria* around New Ireland in Papua New Guinea (Howell and Zufelt 2019).

The committee re-evaluated and accepted a report of a petrel observed and photographed in the Santa Barbara Channel, VEN, 5 Sep 2007 (JPS†\$; 2007-243A) as a Bulwer's/Jouanin's Petrel. This report had previously been reviewed and not accepted as either a Bulwer's Petrel (2007-243; Pike and Compton 2010) or a Jouanin's Petrel (2007-243B; see above). While most committee members agreed that the bird appeared too large for a Bulwer's Petrel in comparison to shearwaters in the photos, most also considered the photos too poor to confirm the identification as a Jouanin's Petrel. Likewise, the committee endorsed a report of an all-dark petrel ~16 km south-southwest of Strawberry Beach, SCZ, 12 Sep 2015 (AMR, WB†, PB†, PWF†, RFou†, RG†, MGU, CHa†, FHa†, FO†, DLS, SBT†; 2015-176A; Figure 7) as

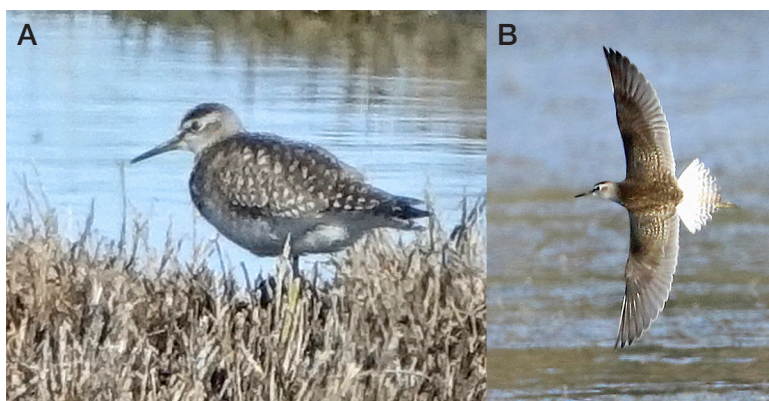


FIGURE 4. This juvenile Wood Sandpiper, only the third recorded in California, remained at the Centerville wetlands, Humboldt County (2018-144), for ten days, to the delight of many birders. When standing (A, taken 19 Sep 2018), this species appears similar to both the Lesser Yellowlegs (*T. flavipes*) and Solitary Sandpiper (*T. solitaria*), but in flight (B, taken 16 Sep 2018) it shows the prominent white rump and tail that distinguish it from either of those two species.

Photos by Lisa Hug (A) and Linda Pittman (B)



FIGURE 5. Taken 16 Feb 2018, this photo of the adult Black-tailed Gull at the harbor in Crescent City, Del Norte County, (2018-022), shows the eponymous broad black subterminal band on the tail. The dark slate-gray upperparts with no white mirrors on the wing tips are characteristics of the species' adult plumage.

Photo by Robert H. Doster



FIGURE 6. This juvenile Tristram's Storm-Petrel was photographed ~34.8 km north of San Nicolas Island, Ventura County, 15 Jul 2018 (2018-080). (A) Several key field marks distinguishing this species from other large, dark storm-petrels are visible, including its bulky structure, hooded appearance, completely dark primary shafts, bold pale upper wing bands that nearly connect across the rump, rump contrastingly paler than the back and upperparts, and deeply forked tail (Kirk Zufelt pers. comm., Howell 2012). (B) The massive size of Tristram's Storm-Petrel (left) is readily apparent in comparison to a dark-rumped Leach's Storm-Petrel (*H. leucorhoa chapmani*, right).

Photos by David Pereksta (A) and Joel Barrett (B)

a Bulwer's/Jouanin's Petrel after not accepting it as a Jouanin's Petrel (2015-176; see above). Primarily on the basis of a thorough analysis provided by Steve Howell, the committee eventually concluded that this bird appeared too small and slender-billed for a Jouanin's Petrel. While a few committee members supported its identification as a Bulwer's Petrel, all agreed that this bird was best left unidentified to species given the mediocre photos, potential identification difficulties, and the rarity of either species in the region.

CORY'S SHEARWATER *Calonectris diomedea* (3, 0). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: One was reported offshore from San Diego, SD, 27 Jul 2014 (2014-188). Unfortunately, the photos were of insufficient resolution to corroborate what would have been a fourth record for California.

WEDGE-TAILED SHEARWATER *Ardenna pacifica* (11, 1). One was well described at Pt. Pinos, MTY, 1 Sep 2018 (BTM; 2018-119).



FIGURE 7. This *Bulweria* petrel, photographed ~15.5 km south-southwest of Strawberry Beach, Santa Cruz County, 12 Sep 2015 (2015-176A), defied identification to species.

Photo by Chris Hartzell

MASKED BOOBY *Sula dactylatra* (40, 15). Following above-average numbers of boobies from 2015 to 2017, during the summer and fall of 2018 birders witnessed the largest incursion of Masked, Nazca, and Red-footed boobies into California yet. The overall increase in the numbers of boobies since 2015 has coincided with above-average ocean temperatures off southern California (Harvey et al. 2019). What is causing these boobies to move north from the tropics into the California Current remains uncertain, though Tompkins et al. (2017) found that a die-off of Pacific Sardines (*Sardinops sagax*) caused by increased ocean temperature resulted in Nazca Boobies traveling farther in search of food. The 14 Masked Booby records endorsed from 2018 represent just over one-third of all accepted records of this species for California. In southern California, individuals in their third basic plumage (having begun a second wave of primary molt and approaching definitive color) were in San Diego Bay, SD, 1 May 2018 (DSot; 2018-040); ~8.5 km west-southwest of Dana Point, ORA, 31 May 2018 (RCL†; 2018-052); at Santa Catalina Island, LA, 11 Jun 2018 (JL†; 2018-063); and ~9.5 km west of San Clemente Island, LA, 25 Aug 2018 (TAB†, TGu†, GT†; 2018-108). The remaining southern California records involved individuals in their second cycle (undergoing their first molt of primaries and showing varying amounts of brown feathering on the head, back, and wing coverts): in the Los Angeles harbor, LA, 1 May 2018 (MWe†; 2018-039); ~6.4 km offshore from Dana Point, ORA, 13 May 2018 (MTy†; 2018-043); ~5–8 km offshore from Manhattan Beach, LA, 7 Jun 2018 (BFot, AKL; 2018-064); from Point La Jolla, SD, 9 Jun 2018 (NJD†\$, NC†, KGR†; 2018-058); ~12 km southwest of Bolsa Chica State Beach, ORA, 1 Jul 2018 (MAS†; 2018-071); and at Anacapa Island, VEN, 25 Sep–16 Nov 2018 (TGu, DK-B†, LSa†, AJS†, DVP†; 2018-160). Another individual in its second cycle was encountered on two different organized pelagic trips, first ~27 km west of Point Loma, SD, 10 Jun 2018 (NC†, LE†, DPo, BR†, MSe†, MStr†; 2018-059), and then again at the Thirty Mile Bank, SD, 19 Aug 2018 (MB†, NC†, LE†, NK†, GuM, IS†; 2018-099). The only adult Masked Booby in California in 2018

flew past Point Pinos, MTY, 30 Nov 2018 (KB, BLS†; 2018-222). Only two other individuals, both in their third cycle, reached northern California, one at Cabrillo Canyon, SCZ, and Point Pinos, MTY, 13–19 Oct 2018 (BiH†, AMR†, BLS†, SBT; 2018-184), and the other at Southeast Farallon Island, SF, 6–7 Nov 2018 (JRT, JFG†; 2018-204). In addition to these records from 2018, the committee also endorsed one in its second cycle (with the second primary dropped) from Santa Barbara Island, SBA, 26 Oct 2015 (PAG†, NL; 2015-126). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: The committee judged the documentation submitted for four reports, 2015-103A, 2018-065, 2018-098, and 2018-107, to be insufficient to eliminate the Nazca Booby conclusively; see records 2015-103, 2018-065A, 2018-098A, and 2018-107A, respectively, in the Masked/Nazca Booby account for more details.

NAZCA BOOBY *Sula granti* (41, 26). After 2017, when the number of California records almost doubled from eight to 15 (Singer et al. 2020), in 2018 the total number of state records nearly tripled, rising from 15 to 39. One individual in its second cycle, photographed ~10 km west of the Tijuana River mouth, SD, 10 Jun 2018 (NC†, LE†, GN, DPo, BR†, MSe†, MStr†; 2018-060), had been banded during the first half of 2017 on Isla Española, Galápagos Islands (Dave Anderson pers. comm.), indicating that at least some birds that reach California come from the Galápagos Islands, where the majority of the population breeds. The northernmost individual reported in California in 2018 was one in its second cycle ~8 km southwest of Southeast Farallon Island, SF, 5 Jul 2018 (JCh†; 2018-101). Also in northern California, an adult (MiF†; 2018-241) and a bird in its third cycle (MiF†; 2018-242) were seen together ~78 km west-southwest of Point Sur, MTY, 26 Aug 2018. One in its second cycle at Monterey Bay, MTY, 24–26 Jun 2018 (JiS†, KSp†, EAY†; 2018-069) was considered the same individual as one in Estero Bay, SLO, 29 Jun 2018 (JoS†; 2018-104A) and again near Santa Barbara Island, SBA, 6 Oct 2018 (TGuf†, DPet†, LSa†, CoS†, AJS†; 2018-177) as it traveled south along the coast. The remaining 17 records accepted by the committee were all from southern California and of birds in their second cycle unless noted: ~3 km west of the Ocean Beach pier, SD, 16 Jan 2018 (BG†; 2018-010); at the Chula Vista Wildlife Reserve, SD, 1–5 May 2018 (MSad†, LSq†, PU, MWot†; SDNHM #55680; 2018-036); on San Nicolas Island, VEN, 25 May 2018 (JHo†, MR; 2018-050); ~11 km southwest of Santa Barbara Island, SBA, 15 Jul 2018 (HPR†, LSa; 2018-081); ~4 km southeast of Point Fermin, LA, 19 Jul 2018 (third cycle; KSu†; 2018-084); at County Line Beach, VEN, and Leo Carrillo State Beach, LA, 6–7 Aug 2018 (CAD†, KLG†; LACM #121174; 2018-088); ~11 km west of the San Diego River mouth, SD, 10 Aug 2018 (NC†; 2018-089); in the Los Angeles harbor, LA, 19–23 Aug 2018 (TAB†, ByO†, AH†; 2018-100); ~12 km offshore from San Diego, SD, 28 Aug 2018 (DT†; 2018-116); at Santa Barbara Island, SBA, 29 Aug–4 Sep 2018 (TAB†, JLD†, GuM, DPet†, AJS†, CoS†, GTe†; 2018-114); at Trask Knoll, 34 km south-southwest of Santa Rosa Island, SBA, 4 Sep 2018 (third cycle; DPet†; 2018-136); at Rodriguez Dome, 57 km west of San Miguel Island, SBA, 5 Sep 2018 (DPet†; 2018-137); at the Nine Mile Bank, SD, 23 Sep 2018 (MB†, NJD†, GuM, IS†; 2018-159); ~99 km west-southwest of San Nicolas Island, VEN, 5 Oct 2018 (MiF†; 2018-243); on Platform Ellen, 14 km southwest of Huntington Beach, ORA, 6 Oct 2018 (TAB†, JMB†; 2018-181); ~189 km west-southwest of San Clemente Island, LA, 23 Oct 2018 (MiF†; 2018-244); and ~189 km southwest of San Clemente Island, LA, 23 Oct 2018 (MiF†; 2018-245). The committee considered one in its second cycle seen offshore from Mission Bay, SD, 10 Jun 2018 (D†; 2018-196A) to be the same as one on Anacapa Island, VEN, 15 Jul 2018 (JLD†, HPR†, LSa†, JTS†, JRT; 2018-077). Single adults were ~16 km west-southwest of Dana Point, ORA, 20 Aug 2018 (KMCT; 2018-105); ~21 km southwest of San Clemente Island, LA, 6 Sep 2018 (DPet†; 2018-139); and in the Los Angeles harbor, LA, 8 Sep 2018 (TGM†, DSi; 2018-132). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: The committee judged the documentation submitted for two records, 2016-141 and 2018-138, to be insufficient

to eliminate the Masked Booby conclusively; see records 2016-141A and 2018-138A, respectively, in the Masked/Nazca Booby account for more details.

MASKED/NAZCA BOOBY *Sula dactylatra/granti* (43, 17). We received reports of several black-and-white boobies that could be identified only as this species pair. These included individuals in their second or third cycle at Point Dume, LA, 12 May 2018 (KLG‡; 2018-041); over the Thirty Mile Bank, SD, 28 May 2018 (JMM; 2018-051); ~1.5 km offshore from San Clemente, ORA, 23 Aug 2018 (FB‡; 2018-230); at the Huntington Beach pier, ORA, 1 Sep 2018 (BED‡; 2018-197); at Southeast Farallon Island, SE, 11 Oct 2018 (JFG‡; 2018-190); and two on Platform Eureka, 14 km southwest of Huntington Beach, ORA, 13 Sep 2018 (MDH‡; 2018-149). Juveniles or birds in their second cycle having just begun primary molt, without diagnostic bill color, were over the Farallon Escarpment, SE, 1 Aug 2018 (KL; 2018-087); ~4 km south of Point Fermin, LA, 22 Aug 2018 (NS‡; 2018-106); at the Tijuana River mouth, SD, 29 Aug 2018 (GN; 2018-115); and in Santa Monica Bay, LA, 31 Aug 2018 (MBI‡; 2018-117). Two boobies in their second or third cycle were not accepted as Masked Boobies before being accepted as Masked/Nazca Boobies. Committee members were unable to discern the bill color of one ~5–8 km offshore from Long Beach, LA, 15 Jun 2018 (GGe‡; 2018-065A) because photos of the bird were backlit. The descriptions of another with a dull or dusky yellow bill ~43 km west of Point Loma, SD, 17 Aug 2018 (PEL, NK‡, DPo; 2018-098A) appeared to contradict photos that seemed to show some orange coloration on the bill basally. The bill color of a booby ~4.1 km west-northwest of Pt. Pinos, MTY, 24 Aug 2018 (ST‡, EH‡, ALx‡, CSchw‡; 2018-107A) appeared ambiguous, so the CBRC did not accept the record as representing a Masked Booby. Likewise, two boobies in their second cycle were not accepted as Nazca Boobies prior to being accepted as this species pair. One in its second cycle ~53 km southwest of San Clemente Island, LA, 6 Sep 2018 (DPe‡; 2018-138A) had replaced only its inner two juvenile primaries and not yet attained diagnostic bill coloration. An adult that flew past Point Pinos, MTY, 14 Nov 2016 (SHa, BTM; 2016-141A,) was described by one observer as having an orange bill; two committee members cited the distance and brevity of the sighting as well as the foggy conditions as reasons for not endorsing this as a Nazca Booby. Two records, 2018-196 and 2018-104, were initially accepted as of Masked/Nazca Boobies but were subsequently re-evaluated and accepted as representing Nazca Boobies; see records 2018-196A and 2018-104A, respectively, under the Nazca Booby account above for more details. Finally, the committee endorsed the identification of one in its second cycle (with the first primary dropped) from Santa Barbara Island, SBA, 27–28 Sep 2015 (NL, JSch‡; 2015-103); this record was subsequently re-evaluated, but not accepted, as a representing a Masked Booby (2015-103A). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: Poor photographs of a black and white booby ~28 km west-southwest of Bodega Head, SON, 8 Jul 2018 (2018-102) did not, to all members' satisfaction, conclusively eliminate a white-morph Red-footed Booby.

RED-FOOTED BOOBY *Sula sula* (71, 38). Like the Masked and Nazca boobies, the Red-footed Booby irrupted in unprecedented numbers along the southern California coast in 2018. Several reached northern California as well. Almost all records represented brown-morph birds in their second cycle; very few were of adults. The earliest individuals in southern California were at Point Cabrillo, SD, 6 May 2018 (WKH, SKo‡‡; 2018-038) and ~6 km west-southwest of Dana Point, ORA, 23 Jul 2018 (HD‡; 2018-085). These two forerunners were followed by 26 along the coast from August to November. In San Diego County, individuals were ~18 km offshore from the San Diego River mouth, 9 Aug 2018 (JMM‡, BMu; 2018-091); at Mission Bay, 9–10 Aug 2018 (NC‡, GuM, JMM‡, JeS; 2018-090); ~48 km west of Point La Jolla, 17 Aug 2018 (PEL, NK‡; 2018-095); at Point Loma, 18–21 Aug 2018 (RA‡, MB‡, NC‡, GuM, GLR, MMT‡, RU‡; 2018-096) and 13 Oct 2018 (PU‡; 2018-253;

SDNHM #56364); ~45 km west-southwest of La Jolla, 19 Aug 2018 (white morph; NC†, LE†, GuM, MMT†; 2018-097); at Imperial Beach, 26 Aug 2018 (*DPO*; 2018-112); at the Oceanside pier, 1–9 Sep 2018 (MB†, TPB†, GuM, SSu†; 2018-133); and at the Nine Mile Bank, 3 Sep 2018 (DPe†; 2018-134) and 27 Oct 2018 (*DPO*; 2018-199). In Orange County, single birds were observed ~10 km southwest of the Huntington Beach pier, 12 Aug 2018 (*MGi*†; 2018-092); ~10 km south of the Newport Beach pier, 25 Aug 2018 (*MGi*†; 2018-109); ~12 km southwest of the Huntington Beach pier, 1 Sep 2018 (*MGi*†; 2018-127) and ~19 km southwest of it, 3 Sep 2018 (*MGi*†; 2018-126); and near or on Platform Eureka, 29 Sep 2018 (*MGi*†; 2018-164) and 6 Oct 2018 (BrA†, TAB†, RBM†, RS†; 2018-180). In Los Angeles County, individuals were encountered ~4.4 km west-northwest of San Clemente Island 25 Aug 2018 (TAB†, TGu†, GTe†; 2018-111) and in the Los Angeles harbor 17 Sep 2018 (*JuM*†; 2018-150). A bird initially found in the Los Angeles harbor on 15 Oct 2018 (*BeA*†; 2018-191) apparently wintered and was seen subsequently at the Huntington Beach pier, ORA, 9 Nov 2018 (*BED*†; 2018-209), ~4.8 km offshore from there, 30 Dec 2018 (*JBo*†, *GLT*†; 2018-249), ~5.3 km southwest of Dana Point, ORA, 30 Jan 2019 (*BW*†; 2019-010), and ~12 km west of the Tijuana River mouth, SD, 10 Feb 2019 (*GCH*, CB†; 2019-015). One photographed southwest of Port Hueneme, VEN, 16 Aug 2018 (*JaM*†; 2018-236) was considered the same individual seen the following day off Mugu Rock and in the Santa Barbara Channel, VEN (*DVP*†, SD†, LBH†; 2018-094). The only other reports from southern California through November were of three different individuals near Santa Barbara Island, SBA, 29 Aug 2018 (ARA†, DMC, GuM, CoS†, SBT; 2018-113), 4 Sep 2018 (DPe†; 2018-135), and 11 Oct 2018 (*RK*†; 2018-189); one near Anacapa Island, VEN, 6 Oct 2018 (TGu†, Lsa†, CoS†, AJS†; 2018-178); one ~153 km west-southwest of San Miguel Island, SBA, 5 Oct 2018 (*MiF*†; 2018-234); and one at Santa Cruz Island, SBA, 21 Nov 2018 (*SKi*†; 2018-216). An adult ~3.5 km west of the Newport Beach pier, ORA, 15 Dec 2018 (*KMC*†; 2018-228) was one of only two birds (see 2018-249 above) seen in southern California in December. Records from northern California were of adults at Moss Landing, MTY, 1 Jul 2018 (*RDC*†; 2018-070) and 12–13 Aug 2018 (*KCu*†, CRo†, SBT; 2018-093); and subadults at Point Pinos, MTY, 25 Aug 2018 (*BLS*†; 2018-110); Southeast Farallon Island, SF, 5–6 Sep 2018 (*JFG*†, JRT†; 2018-125) and 8–11 Nov 2018 (*JRT*, JFG†; 2018-208); ~30 km south-southwest of Four Mile Beach, SCZ, 30 Sep 2018 (EH†, DLS, WV†; 2018-168); and ~9.6 km south of Younger Lagoon, SCZ, 21 Oct 2018 (JG†, SBT; 2018-195). One flying over the eastern shore of South San Francisco Bay at Don Edwards NWR, ALA, 6 Oct 2018 (*SKa*†; 2018-179) represents California's only accepted record of a Red-footed Booby inland from the outer coast. Apart from the bird that wandered from the Los Angeles harbor to the Tijuana River mouth (records 2018-191, etc.), the only other long-staying Red-footed Booby that arrived in 2018 was one that roosted at Seaciff State Beach, SCZ, 1 Nov 2018–3 Jan 2019 (*LPa*†, LJ†, KCK†, SL†, LPi†, MJR†; 2018-206), went undetected for nearly five months, then reappeared at the same location 28 May–28 Sep 2019 (*Lj*†, SL†, RWR†, AMR†, RaW†; 2019-039). During the latter period the same individual was also observed at Seabright State Beach, SCZ, 12 Aug 2019, and Zmudowski State Beach, MTY, 20 Aug 2019. Over the 40 years from 1975 to 2014, California had only 19 accepted records, averaging one every other year. In stark contrast, 52 records were accepted during the four years from 2015 to 2018, averaging 13 per year.

TRICOLORED HERON *Egretta tricolor* (75**, 6). Single birds undergoing pre-formative molt or in formative plumage were at the San Luis Rey River mouth, SD, 13 Sep–9 Oct 2018 (*KLW*†, PT†; 2018-143); Sweetwater Marsh at the mouth of the Sweetwater River on San Diego Bay, SD, 3 Oct 2018 (*JnM*†; 2018-170A); San Diego River mouth, SD, 4–11 Oct 2018 (GuM, CMo†; 2018-170B); Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve, ORA, 14 Oct 2018 (*BLM*†; 2018-185); and Point Mugu Naval Air Station, VEN, 18 Oct 2018–25 Jan 2019 (*JPs*†; 2018-205). An adult was at Famosa Slough

and the San Diego River mouth, SD, 19 Nov 2018–21 Mar 2019 (SBM, CRO†, KGR†; 2018-214). Records prior to 1990 were not reviewed by the CBR.

GLOSSY IBIS *Plegadis falcinellus* (40, 2). Two adults were at the Woodland–Davis Clean Water Agency, YOL, 24 May–19 Jul 2018 (HoC†, JK, CDL†, DSS†; 2018-046). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: One adult reported from the Susanville sewage ponds, LAS, 13 May 2018, appeared to be a hybrid with a White-faced Ibis (*P. chihi*; 2018-044). Another adult reported flying over Big Valley, LAS/MOD, 16 Jun 2018 (2018-072) received support from only three members during the fourth round of voting; three of the dissenting members noted that the distant photos did not show enough detail to eliminate a hybrid. Hybrids can be difficult to identify and may appear identical to either parental species (Oswald et al. 2019). Field observations and review of past records by James Pike (pers. comm.) suggest that hybrids may greatly outnumber pure Glossy Ibis in California; as a result, the committee has recently taken a more conservative approach to endorsing records of the Glossy Ibis.

ROSEATE SPOONBILL *Platalea ajaja* (146, 1). One in or molting into second basic plumage was at the south end of the Salton Sea, IMP, 17–19 Sep 2018 (CScho†, GuM; 2018-146), where the majority of California's spoonbills have occurred.

BLACK VULTURE *Coragyps atratus* (11, 1). One, just the second for Inyo County, spent nearly a month in Bishop, INY, 15 Dec 2018–11 Jan 2019 (CA†, CGI, NJO†, RO†, DJH†, SLS†; 2018-225). The committee considers the following reports to represent the same individual that has remained in the San Francisco Bay area since March 2014 (2014-027; Singer et al. 2016): Doran Regional Park, SON, 22–30 Jan 2018 (LH†, EAE†, JCS; 2018-012); Bolinas, MRN, 12 Feb 2018 (KH; 2018-024); Davenport and Wilder Ranch State Park, SCZ, and Año Nuevo State Park, SM, 15 Feb–6 Mar 2018 (BTy†, RFi†, AMR†, JCS†; 2018-023); Point Reyes, MRN, 22–29 Apr 2018 (RD, HT; 2018-034), Point Reyes Station and Point Reyes National Seashore, MRN, 15 Jul–15 Oct 2018 (GeM, JPe†, MSct; 2018-076); and Bolinas, MRN, 2 Dec 2018–19 Feb 2019 (EC†; 2018-220). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: Two belated reports did not meet the criteria for acceptance by the committee, of one near Cambria, SLO, 20 Feb 2008 (2008-232) and one at Bishop Peak, SLO, 29 Jun 2008 (2008-233).

MISSISSIPPI KITE *Ictinia mississippiensis* (53, 2). One that had begun its second prebasic molt was along Alisal Creek in Solvang, SBA, 13–15 Jun 2018 (JR†, DMC, NL, BKS†, JuSt, WvD†; 2018-062), and a juvenile was at Sonora Junction, MNO, 19 Sep 2018 (TJ†; 2018-151). California records of the Mississippi Kite are relatively evenly split between the coast (24) and the interior (29) of the state.

COMMON BLACK HAWK *Buteogallus anthracinus* (13, 1). An adult was photographed over the Pacific Crest Trail ~5.5 km northwest of Fawnskin in the San Bernardino Mountains, SBE, on 17 May 2018 (AN†; 2018-169), the latest date for a spring migrant Common Black Hawk in California. Eight of the state's 13 records have come from the interior of southern California in spring.

GRAY HAWK *Buteo plagiatus* (2, 1). California's second Gray Hawk, an adult seemingly on territory at the Palo Verde Ecological Reserve along the Colorado River, RIV, 12 Apr–24 Jun 2018 (TAB†, GuM, WKH; 2018-032; Figure 8), was the first recorded in Riverside County. The range of the Gray Hawk extends from Costa Rica north through Central America and along the coast of the Gulf of Mexico to the Rio Grande valley of Texas and along the Pacific coast of mainland Mexico to south-central Arizona (Bibles et al. 2002, Milsap et al. 2011). The locations of known breeding nearest California are in Arizona along Date Creek and the Hassayampa River in Yavapai and Maricopa counties, respectively, ~100–150 km east of the Colorado River (Corman and Tomoff 2015, Witzeman and Corman 2017). For a more



FIGURE 8. This long-staying adult Gray Hawk, photographed here 17 Apr 2018, at Palo Verde Ecological Reserve, Colorado River (2018-032), was the first recorded in Riverside County and second in California.

Photo by Thomas A. Benson



FIGURE 9. A bright, sunny day at the beach at the Pajaro River mouth provided unexpected circumstances for the encounter of this first-cycle Gyrfalcon, a first for Monterey County, on 3 Feb 2018 (2018-016).

Photo by Blake T. Matheson

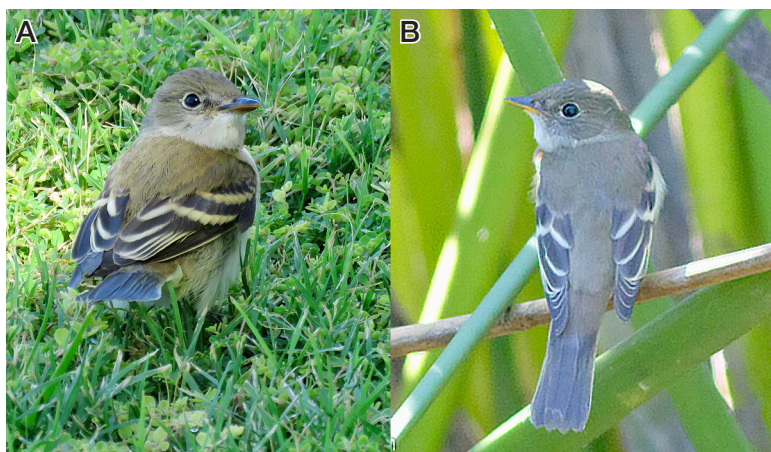


FIGURE 10. Alder Flycatchers at (A) Chet Huffman Park, Baker, San Bernardino County, 30 Aug 2018 and (B) Lake Los Carneros, Santa Barbara County, 30 Sep 2018. Features visible in these photos that distinguish the juvenile Alder from juveniles of at least the western subspecies of the Willow Flycatcher are the bold white edges on the tertials, yellowish (not tawny) wingbars, and greenish back lacking any brown tinge.

Photos by James E. Pike (A) and Kristie N. Nelson (B)



FIGURE 11. The second recorded in California, this Eurasian Skylark wintered at Lake Tolowa, Del Norte County (2018-210). This photo, taken 8 Dec 2018, shows the richly colored plumage and dark-centered back feathering consistent with the migratory subspecies *pekinensis*.

Photo by Keith C. Kwan

thorough treatment of the status and distribution of the Gray Hawk, including extralimital records elsewhere in the U.S., see the CBRC's 38th report (Pike et al. 2014).

ELF OWL *Micrathene whitneyi* (11, 0). A male at a confidential location in the Colorado Desert, RIV, 24 May 2018 (DAG; 2018-251) was considered the same as one there the previous year (2017-056; Singer et al. 2020).

GYRFALCON *Falco rusticolus* (16, 2). One in its first cycle (juvenile plumage) at the Pajaro River mouth, MTY/SCZ, 3 Feb–4 Mar 2018 (BTM†, RSC, CRF†, FHo†, LFL†, AMa, JeM, DR†, ShW; 2018-016; Figure 9) established the first records for Monterey and Santa Cruz counties. Arcata Bottoms, HUM, hosted another bird in its first cycle 31 Dec 2018–27 Mar 2019 (TK†, DK-B†, RJT†; 2018-240).

SULPHUR-BELLIED FLYCATCHER *Myiodynastes luteiventris* (20, 1). One at Palo Verde Ecological Reserve, Colorado River, RIV, 17 Jun 2018 (JMT; 2018-066) was not only the first recorded in Riverside County but the first recorded in the interior of California. Though the encounter was brief and no photos were obtained, the written details were sufficiently compelling that the committee accepted this record unanimously during the second round of voting. Additional considerations that factored into committee members' decisions were that the timing was consistent with a spring overshoot, and that the similar Streaked Flycatcher (*M. maculatus*) has not been recorded north of Mexico. This is only the second spring record for California, following one at Gazos Creek, SM, 14 Jun 1998 (1998-106; Erickson and Hamilton 2001).

THICK-BILLED KINGBIRD *Tyrannus crassirostris* (24, 0). An adult male returned for its ninth winter to the mouth of Poggi Canyon in Otay Valley, Chula Vista, SD, 21 Oct 2018–24 Mar 2019 (LE†, GuM, DVP†; 2018-194). One-third of California's records involve individuals that returned for multiple winters.

GREATER PEWEE *Contopus pertinax* (45, 2). One in formative plumage at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery, Point Loma, SD, 2–3 Sep 2018 (GG†, NJD†, JRM†; 2018-120) established California's fifth September record and its earliest date for a fall migrant by nine days (11 Sep 1991, Huntington Beach, ORA; 1991-201; Patten et al. 1995). An adult at Pacific Palisades, LA, 5–21 Oct 2018 (TGM\$, MAS†; 2018-172) returned for its second consecutive year, but like the previous year's bird, was recorded only in October (2017-151; Singer et al. 2020). One at Cibola NWR in Arizona, December 1977 (Rosenberg et al. 1991), briefly crossed the Colorado River into Imperial County, 19 Dec 1977 (PM; 1977-201).

YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER *Empidonax flaviventris* (29, 0). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: One was reported from Coyote Hills Regional Park, ALA, 14 Sep 2018 (2018-147). While the photos showed a round eye ring, other factors more strongly favored a Pacific-slope/Cordilleran Flycatcher (*E. difficilis/occidentalis*), including the generally brownish tone to the plumage, the absence of olive breast streaking, the pattern of primary spacing, and, most importantly, the long buffy fringes on the inner secondaries (Baumann et al. 2014). While we were unable to take measurements (as would be possible with a specimen), a Yellow-bellied Flycatcher should show significantly shorter buffy fringes on the anterior edges of the secondaries, and thus a wider "secondary bar" than a Pacific-slope/Cordilleran Flycatcher (Baumann et al. 2014).

ALDER FLYCATCHER *Empidonax alnorum* (8, 2). Individuals in juvenile plumage were at Chet Huffman Park in Baker, SBE, 30 Aug 2018 (JEP†; 2018-118) and at Lake Los Carneros, SBA, 30 Sep 2018 (KNN†, DMC†, JHa†, NL, HPR†, TEW; 2018-165; Figure 10), representing firsts for both counties. The latter bird was described as giving "pip" calls, while the former was not heard vocalizing. These are the first Alder Flycatchers accepted for California that were not singing males during spring



FIGURE 12. While this Red-flanked Bluetail was quite difficult to see well when first found at the William Andrews Clark Memorial Library in Los Angeles County (2018-239), it became more confiding later in its stay, as demonstrated by this photo taken 9 Mar 2019.

Photo by Matthew A. Grube



FIGURE 13. The first for northern California, this Curve-billed Thrasher wintered in Woodland, Yolo County (2018-009). This photo taken 27 Jan 2018 shows the clustered breast spotting, starkly contrasting white throat, and bright white-tipped tail feathers—plumage details specifying this individual belonged to the eastern *curvirostre* subspecies group, a first for California.

Photo by Alan N. Wight



FIGURE 14. The identity of this Eastern Yellow Wagtail at Rodeo Lagoon, Marin County (2018-148), shown here on 18 Sep 2018, was confirmed with audio recordings capturing its raspy flight call.

Photo by Scott Carey



FIGURE 15. The extent of yellow in the wing bars and the olive-brown (rather than blue-gray) color of the greater coverts imply that this warbler, photographed at the mouth of the Carmel River, Monterey County, 9 Oct 2018, was a hybrid Golden-winged \times Blue-winged Warbler (2018-175A).

Photo by Carol Rose

or summer (two records) or measured in hand during fall migration (four records; CBRC 2007). The Alder Flycatcher is very similar in plumage to the nominate subspecies of the Willow Flycatcher (*E. t. traillii*), making silent birds particularly difficult to identify with certainty (CBRC 2007). Eight committee members, however, judged the combination of field marks on the Baker bird—the relatively short and deep bill, obvious eye ring, rounded crown, olive back, and black wings with bold wing bars and edges to the tertials—to be more consistent with the Alder Flycatcher than with any subspecies of the Willow Flycatcher.

WHITE-EYED VIREO *Vireo griseus* (86, 3). A male in formative plumage was singing at the lower end of Refugio Creek, SBA, 1 May 2018 (*TT*†§; 2018-035), as was another at Oceano Campground, SLO, 1–4 Jun 2018 (*PL*§‡, *WK*†§, *NP*†§, *BKS*†, *MSt*†, *SBT*†§, *EW*†§; 2018-053). One in formative plumage was at Muir Beach, MRN, 15 Sep 2018 (*AMe*†; 2018-145).

BLUE-HEADED VIREO *Vireo solitarius* (88, 5). A male in formative plumage at Elk Glen Lake, Golden Gate Park, SF, 6 Oct 2018 (*FSM*†; 2018-238) was considered the same as another male at Lily Pond in the same park, 9–11 Oct 2018 (*RuW*†, *HuC*†, *LSw*†; 2018-183). Additionally, an adult was along the Los Angeles River at Los Feliz Blvd., Los Angeles, LA, 14 Feb–28 Mar 2018 (*CuS*†, *AB*†, *MAS*†; 2018-027); single males in formative plumage were at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery, Point Loma, SD, 6–7 Sep 2018 (*JTS*†, *JCl*†, *GN*†; 2018-140) and the Carmel River mouth, MTY, 30 Sep–11 Oct 2018 (*CRo*†, *BiH*†; 2018-176). One (age and sex unknown) was at the Mad River estuary, HUM, 10 Sep 2018 (*KMS*†; 2018-141). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: The photos of one reported at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery, SD, 27 Sep 2018 (2018-166) did not eliminate Cassin's Vireo (*V. cassinii*).

EURASIAN SKYLARK *Alauda arvensis* (2, 1). One at Lake Tolowa, DN, 12 Nov 2018–7 Jan 2019 was the second recorded in California (*LB*†§, *JMB*†§, *RFow*†, *DK-B*†, *KCK*†, *OTM*†, *LPi*, *CNR*§; 2018-210; Figure 11). Like the only previous Eurasian Skylark recorded California, which returned to Point Reyes, MRN, for seven winters beginning 16 Dec 1978 (1979-004; Luther 1980, Morlan and Erickson 1983, CBRC 2007), this individual was consistent with the long-winged, richly colored subspecies *pekinensis*, with dark-centered back feathers. This migratory subspecies breeds in northeastern Siberia, Kamchatka, and the Kuril Islands, wintering south to Japan, Korea, and northeastern China (Brazil 2009). It is rare but annual in spring and fall on the western Aleutian Islands (Gibson and Withrow 2015), casual in fall on the coastal mainland and Middleton Island (DeCicco et al. 2017), and has nested on the Pribilof Islands (Baichich et al. 1996). At least two individuals of this subspecies have reached Kure Atoll in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (Pyle and Pyle 2017).

WINTER WREN *Troglodytes hiemalis* (26, 3). One at Point San Pablo, CC, 2 Jan–20 Feb 2018 (*LK*§, *BTo*§; 2018-011), a first for Contra Costa County, returned for a second winter 20 Dec 2018–10 Feb 2019 (*LK*§, *JMB*§, *OTM*§, *JCS*, *SBT*§; 2018-231). Individuals were also along Rincon Creek, VEN/SBA, 21 Jan–18 Feb 2018 (*DPe*†§, *JCa*§, *KKr*†, *CoS*†; 2018-247) and at Orr Ranch, 7 km west-northwest of Galt, SAC, 28 Jan 2018 (*CCS*§; 2018-014). All but three of the California's 26 records are supported by audio recordings, underscoring the importance of vocalizations in distinguishing this species from the Pacific Wren (*T. pacificus*).

RED-FLANKED BLUETAIL *Tarsiger cyanurus* (3, 1). A bird in formative plumage at the William Andrews Clark Memorial Library, Los Angeles, LA, 21 Dec 2018–22 Mar 2019 (*RFM*†, *DWA*†, *DJB*†, *TAB*†, *MAC*†, *TGu*†, *MAG*†, *RH*†, *KCK*†, *LJL*†, *GuM*, *OTM*†, *LPi*†, *CNR*, *ES*, *LSa*†, *SLS*§; 2018-239; Figure 12) delighted many during its three-month stay. The third Red-flanked Bluetail recorded in California, this was the first at a publicly accessible location—the two known previously were on islands not open to the public: Southeast Farallon Island, SF, 1 Nov 1989 (1989-

172; Patten and Erickson 1994) and San Clemente Island, LA, 6 Dec 2011 (2011-202; Nelson et al. 2013).

VEERY *Catharus fuscescens* (16, 0). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED. One was reported from Bodega Bay, SON, 5 Sep 2018 (2018-129). This species has one of the lowest acceptance rates of any on the review list. While the majority of committee members believed the description matched that of a Veery, the pitfalls of *Catharus* identification are manifold. The committee has always been conservative with reports of Veeries seen briefly by single observers and not photographed. Furthermore, the date of this report is two weeks earlier than the earliest accepted fall record: 19–24 Sep 1991 at Galileo Hill, KER (1991-118; Patten et al. 1995).

CURVE-BILLED THRASHER *Toxostoma curvirostre* (36, 1). The first Curve-billed Thrasher recorded in northern California was in Woodland, YOL, 6 Jan–6 Mar 2018 (KCh, TAB†, JBro†, RSC†, JLD, LF†, RFow†, SCH†, CHaw†, LH†, GuM, JsM†, DvN†, LPi†, DEQ†, MJR†, DR†, RAR†, MSe†, JTS†, JCS†, ANW†; 2018-009; Figure 13). It was in formative plumage, retaining the juvenile rectrices. From the clustered (not uniform) spotting on the white chest, a white throat with abrupt (not smoothly transitioning) dark spots at the base, distinctly edged and bright white tips to the outer tail feathers, and distinct white wing bars, this individual appeared to belong to the nominate eastern group of subspecies (*curvirostre*, *oberholseri*, and *celsum*), not previously reported from California (Dunn and Alderfer 2017). This group is not otherwise known to occur west of the Chiricahua Mountains in southeastern Arizona, although Phillips et al. (1964) and Monson and Phillips (1981) considered a specimen from the Pinaleno Mountains in southeastern Arizona “close to” *curvirostre*.

EASTERN YELLOW WAGTAIL *Motacilla tschutschensis* (19, 1). One in formative plumage was at Rodeo Lagoon, MRN, 17–20 Sep 2018 (WL†, SC†, MFO\$, JsM†, DvN†, LPi†, MJR†; 2018-148; Figure 14). The raspier flight call, evident in audio recordings, eliminated the Western Yellow Wagtail (*M. flava*), and the length of the hind claw (which averages longer in the Eastern than in the Western) also supported this identification (Bot et al. 2014). It has been 10 years since California's last record (2008-110; Pike and Compton 2010). All of the state's accepted records fall within the rather narrow window of 27 August–25 September.

WHITE WAGTAIL *Motacilla alba* (37, 1). A male in formative plumage was at Fiesta Island, Mission Bay, SD, 6–7 Oct 2018 (DH†, MB†, EGK†, GuM, KGR†, RU; 2018-174). Since the first on 10 Feb 2013 (2013-023; Rottenborn et al. 2016), San Diego County accumulated three additional records in 2017 and 2018.

COMMON REDPOLL *Acanthis flammea* (179, 1). An adult male was in Aspendell, INY, 8–13 Jan 2018 (SLS, JLD, TH†, DJH†, CHo, RH†, NJO, RO, BS†; 2018-005).

SNOW BUNTING *Plectrophenax nivalis* (142, 4). Three were in Humboldt County: an adult female in the Arcata Bottoms, 17 Nov 2018 (MStet\$; 2018-213), a male in formative plumage at King Salmon, 28 Nov 2018–7 Feb 2019 (MVB†, DK-B, SV†; 2018-218), and a second individual that joined it for one day, 19 Dec 2018 (ALb; 2018-250). A female was at Asilomar State Beach, MTY, 14 Nov 2018 (FD†; 2018-252).

FIELD SPARROW *Spizella pusilla* (18, 1). One in formative plumage found in the front yard of a Half Moon Bay residence, SM, 26 Jan 2018 (A†; 2018-013) was the first Field Sparrow recorded in San Mateo County. IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED. A report of one at Pacific Grove, MTY, 24 Sep 2007 (2007-234) was not accepted after two rounds of voting.

LECONTE'S SPARROW *Ammospiza leconteii* (40, 1). One that had commenced preformative molt was at San Francisco Bay NWR, SCL, 7 Sep 2018 (MJM†; 2018-



FIGURE 16. California's first Tropical Parula wintered in Huntington Beach, Orange County, 5 Jan–14 Feb 2018 (2018-001). This photograph, taken 7 Jan 2018, shows the extensive white on the underside of the outermost rectrices and the broad white wing bars that indicate the northwestern subspecies *pulchra*, which likely accounts for all records in Arizona and now California.

Photo by Curtis A. Marantz



FIGURE 17. This Varied Bunting at Gaviota State Park, Santa Barbara County, 3 Nov 2018 (2018-201), was only the eighth for California and the first for Santa Barbara County.

Photo by Wes T. Fritz



FIGURE 18. The committee recently added the Yellow-chevrons Parakeet to the California list as an established, introduced population (2019-061). This individual was photographed at Whittier Narrows Recreation Area, Los Angeles County, 31 Dec 2013.

Photo by Thomas A. Benson

130), the first for Santa Clara County. IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED. The report of a possible LeConte's Sparrow poorly photographed at Galileo Hill, KER, 22 Oct 2015 (2015-122) garnered some support during three rounds of voting, but the documentation was ultimately deemed inadequate.

EASTERN MEADOWLARK *Sturnella magna* (1, 1). A singing male was found in Day, MOD, 10 Jun–30 Jul 2018, (LK†\$, JA†, KPA†\$, KCK, CAM\$, GuM, MMe†, JsM†, EP\$, LSa†, BKS†; 2018-057), establishing the first record for California. Both plumage features and audio recordings identified it as belonging to the nominate



FIGURE 19. A series of specimens of the Red-whiskered Bulbul, including this adult male collected in Arcadia, Los Angeles County, 28 Jan 1975 (LACM 102235), provided some of the information that resulted in the committee admitting this species to the California list as an established, introduced population (2019-062).

Photo by Kimball L. Garrett

subspecies group, not the geographically nearer subspecies *liliana*. See Kahle (2019) for more information on this record, including photos and audio spectrograms, and the status of the Eastern Meadowlark in western North America.

RUSTY BLACKBIRD *Euphagus carolinus* (67**, 12). Females were at Bette Davis Picnic Area, Griffith Park, LA, 10 Jan 2018 (AB†; 2018-006); Moonglow Dairy, Moss Landing, MTY, 13 Jan 2018–18 Feb 2018 (LK†, BT, DR†, SBT; 2018-007); Waller Park, SBA, 8 Feb–8 Apr 2018 (JMC†, BHe, DK-B†, KKe†, WK†, NJO†, RO†, BKS†, MSt†; 2018-020); the Baker sewage ponds, SBE, 26 Oct–1 Nov 2018 (two together; JEP†, CAM†, TAB†; 2018-198); San Clemente Island, LA, 4 Nov 2018 (NJD†; 2018-217), Galileo Hill, KER, 5 Nov 2018 (K&BK†; 2018-202); Buckley Ponds, 6 km east-southeast of Bishop, INY, 25 Nov 2018 (DVP†, NJO†; 2018-215); Lake Balboa, San Fernando Valley, LA, 1 Dec 2018–28 Jan 2019 (MiSt; 2018-221); and Furnace Creek Ranch, INY, 25 Dec 2018 (CHo†, RH; 2018:235). A male was at King Salmon, HUM, 6–10 Nov 2018 (DK-B†, FL, MVB†, RFow†, TK†; 2018-203), and an unsexed bird was at the Baker sewage ponds, SBE, 10–14 Nov 2018 (TAB†, CAM†; 2018-207). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: A report of one from Goodwin Pond, DN, 25 Dec 2018 (2018-254) included only a brief description that garnered weak support from committee members. The committee suspended reviewing reports of the Rusty Blackbird from 1975 to 2005.

COMMON GRACKLE *Quiscalus quiscula* (100, 2). Two females were both in Mono County: one at Bridgeport Reservoir, 26 May–19 Jun 2018 (RST, EAE†, DJH, KNN†, NJO†, LST†, SBT†; 2018-047) and another at Mono City, MNO, 2 Jun 2018 (FJ†, KNN†; 2018-054).

WORM-EATING WARBLER *Helmitheros vermivorum* (135, 1). One in formative plumage wintered at Reichmuth Park in Sacramento, SAC, 6 Jan 2018–17 Feb 2018 (JLD, CHaw†, DL†, LPi, DR, SBT, ANW†; 2018-003), providing the first record for Sacramento County.

LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH *Parkesia motacilla* (22, 1). One in formative plumage was at California Citrus State Historic Park, Riverside, RIV, 16 Dec 2018–13 Jan 2019 (JMB†, TAB†, GuM, AEM†, MMe†, JCS†; 2018-229).

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER *Vermivora chrysoptera* (81, 3). A male of unknown age was at the Zzyzx Desert Studies Center, SBE, 22 May 2018 (BD†; 2018-045). An adult male at Bodega Bay, SON, 5–8 Sep 2018 (DnN†\$, LH, BkO, ANW; 2018-128) was a first for Sonoma County. Another adult male was at Joshua Tree, SBE, 29 Oct 2013 (CTh†; 2013-289).

BLUE-WINGED WARBLER *Vermivora cyanoptera* (54, 1). One in formative plumage was along Carpinteria Creek, SBA, 13–15 Oct 2018 (NL, TAB†, AJS†; 2018-186). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED. A report of one at the Carmel River mouth, MTY, 8–10 Oct 2018 (2018-175) apparently represented a hybrid; see record 2018-175A in the account below. A report of two from Forest Hill, PLA, 14 Jan 2017 (2017-178) failed to garner any support from committee members.

GOLDEN-WINGED × BLUE-WINGED WARBLER *Vermivora chrysoptera* × *cyanoptera* (7, 1). One in formative plumage at the Carmel River mouth, MTY, 8–10 Oct 2018 (BiH†, DR†, CRO†, SBT; 2018-175; Figure 15) looked much like a Blue-winged Warbler, but the yellowish-olive cast to the greater coverts and yellowish wing bars suggested the expression of Golden-winged Warbler genes.

CONNECTICUT WARBLER *Oporornis agilis* (126, 4). One in formative plumage on San Clemente Island, LA, 4–5 Sep 2018 (BF†, NJD†, JTS†; 2018-122) was a first for Los Angeles County. Three others on Southeast Farallon Island, SF, included birds in formative plumage 5–12 Sep 2018 (JFG†; 2018-123) and 26 Sep 2018 (JRT, DMa†; 2018-162), and one of unknown age 21 Sep 2018 (KO, JFG; 2018-155).

Sixty-six (52%) of California's 126 records of the Connecticut Warbler come from Southeast Farallon Island, where the shortage of vegetation makes this normally skulking migrant easier to detect (CBRC 2007, 2020).

MOURNING WARBLER *Geothlypis philadelphia* (163, 3). In 2018 Southeast Farallon Island, SE, hosted two birds in formative plumage: one of undetermined sex 5–9 Sep 2018 (JFG†; 2018-124) and a male 22–28 Sep 2018 (JFG†, JRT; 2018-156). The report of another of undetermined age there 29 Sep 2014 (OJ; 2014-185) was also accepted. As with the Connecticut Warbler, Southeast Farallon Island is responsible for a significant portion (71 individuals, or 44%) of the Mourning Warbler records for California. IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED. After two circulations, the report of one at Golden Gate Park, SE, 15 Oct 2018 (2018-237) did not receive enough votes for acceptance.

CAPE MAY WARBLER *Setophaga tigrina* (48**, 4). Males in formative plumage were at Todd Park in Blythe, RIV, 3 Feb 2018 (TGo†; 2018-017) and the Zzyzx Desert Studies Center, SBE, 14 Oct 2018 (CL†; 2018-188), while adult males were at San Clemente Island, LA, 19–27 Sep 2018 (JTS†, NJD; 2018-152) and Shoshone, INY, 20 Sep 2018 (JEP†; 2018-158). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED. One reported from Endert Beach Road, DN, 25 Jun 2018 (2018-068) failed to receive committee endorsement. The committee reviews records of the Cape May Warbler from 1972 to 1974 and 2011 onward.

TROPICAL PARULA *Setophaga pitiayumi* (1, 1). A male in formative plumage wintered in Huntington Beach, ORA, 5 Jan–14 Feb 2018 (JEP†, DJP†, TAB†, JLD, TGu†, CAM†, GuM, MME†, LPi†, DR†, ES†, CSchu‡, RS†, MSe†, DSi\$, SLS, JCS†, MMT†, SBT†, RSW†; 2018-001; Figure 16). It was the first Tropical Parula for California and the first to winter in the United States west of Texas. This individual showed extensive white on the underside of the outermost rectrices and relatively broad white wing bars, indicating the northwestern subspecies *pulchra*, which breeds as far north as Sonora, Mexico (Regelski and Moldenhauer 2012). Comprising nine subspecies, the Tropical Parula is a widely distributed resident in the forests of South America (though absent from the Amazon Basin), Central America, and Mexico (Regelski and Moldenhauer 2012). The northernmost breeding populations, in southern Texas in the United States (*S. p. nigrilora*) and in Sonora and Chihuahua in northern Mexico (*S. p. pulchra*), generally migrate south for the winter, though small numbers remain in these regions year round (Regelski and Moldenhauer 2012). The Tropical Parula is a casual visitor elsewhere in Texas, and in Baja California Sur (five records), Arizona (nine records), New Mexico (one record; not reviewed by the New Mexico Bird Records Committee), Colorado (one record), and Louisiana (five records). These variously represent spring migrants overshooting the breeding range, post-breeding visitors, and (in Louisiana) wintering birds (Dunn and Garrett 1997, Leatherman and Mammoser 2007, Iliff et al. 2008, Lockwood and Freeman 2004, Rosenberg et al. 2017, *N. Am. Birds* 59:474, 631, Lauren Harter pers. comm.).

PINE WARBLER *Setophaga pinus* (119**, 1). One was at John Anson Ford Park in Bell Gardens, LA, 17 Nov 2006 (JSF\$; 2006-229). The CBRC reviews records of this species through 2013.

GRACE'S WARBLER *Setophaga graciae* (79, 7). Three individuals wintered in San Diego County, including an adult at Del Mar, 5 Feb–1 Apr 2018 (PEL, JBru†, NC†, LMD†, DK-B†, TR†, MSe†, SES\$; 2018-019) and an adult male in Encinitas, 7 Dec 2018–26 Mar 2019 (SES\$, MB†, SB†, EM†, OTM†, LPi†; 2018-223). The committee considered the third, an adult at Villa La Jolla Park, 14 Oct 2018–5 Apr 2019 (GN†, PCh; 2018-187), to be a returning individual (2017-098; Singer et al. 2020). A female in formative plumage was at Encinitas, SD, 4–5 Oct 2018 (MTu†; 2018-173). One in formative plumage at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, Clare-

mont, LA, 7–8 Apr 2018 (DTR†, TAB†\$, ML†; 2018-030) had likely wintered locally. One was near Blue Ridge Campground in the San Gabriel Mountains, LA, 5 May 2018 (CMcF; 2018-042). The first record for Mono County was of a singing male in formative plumage along Bald Mountain Road near June Lake, 24 May–13 Aug 2018 (CRi\$, SB, GuM, MMe†, KNN†, NJO†, LPi†, LSa†, SBT; 2018-055). An adult male was at the Chilao Visitor Center, San Gabriel Mountains, LA, 15–28 Jul 2018 (LMB†, DJB†, TGM†, ES, JCS†; 2018-078).

VARIED BUNTING *Passerina versicolor* (8, 1). An adult female at Gaviota State Park, SBA, 3 Nov 2018 (WTF†; 2018-201; Figure 17) was the first Varied Bunting for Santa Barbara County.

POPULATIONS ACCEPTED

In addition to evaluating and archiving records of birds that rarely occur in California, the committee also maintains a California bird list, which includes introduced species considered to be established in the state. For a species to be added to the list, its identification must be established and its population in the state must be considered “viable.” The committee’s criteria for viability are (1) that the species has bred in the state for 15 consecutive years, (2) that the population is increasing or stabilized after an initial period of increase, (3) that the species occupies enough geographically contiguous suitable habitat that the population is unlikely to diminish significantly, and (4) that the occupied environment is ecologically similar enough to the species’ native habitat, or to that of other successful introductions, that permanent establishment seems likely. Populations maintained primarily by continued releases or requiring intensive management are not considered viable.

YELLOW-CHEVRONED PARAKEET *Brotogeris chiriri*. The CBRC’s Introduced Birds Subcommittee (T. A. Benson, J. S. Feenstra, J. F. Garrett, K. L. Garrett, K. N. Nelson, and A. J. Searcy) gathered evidence that naturalized populations of this species have met the criteria for addition to the California list. The full committee accepted their proposal (2019-061; Figure 18). Yellow-chevroned Parakeets have been reported in the wild in California since at least the 1980s, the result of some of the tens of thousands of birds imported for the pet trade between 1977 and 1990 (Brightsmith et al. 2017) escaping captivity. Substantial populations were noted during the 1990s, and the population has continued to increase slowly and steadily in both size and geographic range since then, now likely numbering over 1000 individuals (Garrett 2018). Breeding was not documented until 1997, although the species was clearly naturalized here before then. It ranges across the coastal lowlands of Los Angeles County and northwestern Orange County, with the largest numbers in the western San Gabriel Valley and the Los Angeles Basin west of the Los Angeles River. Small flocks noted in the south San Francisco Bay area from 2000 to 2014 did not represent a self-sustaining population, nor do occasional reports away from the greater Los Angeles area. A series of seven specimens from southern California populations at the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History documents that the established subspecies is *B. c. chiriri*, widespread in much of east-central South America. This subspecies is characterized by green undersides of the rectrices (lacking a strong hint of blue), a yellowish tinge to the body feathers, and males with wing chord <126 mm (Brightsmith et al. 2017).

RED-WHISKERED BULBUL *Pycnonotus jocosus*. The committee likewise accepted the Introduced Birds Subcommittee’s proposal (2019-062; Figure 19) summarizing evidence that a naturalized population of this species has met the criteria

for addition to the California list. Red-whiskered Bulbuls were first reported in the wild in southern California in 1968 (Barber 1985), and likely started breeding shortly after that. A small population became established in the vicinity of San Marino and Arcadia in Los Angeles County, but the species was deemed an agricultural pest and subjected to intensive eradication efforts by the California Department of Food and Agriculture from 1968 to 1984 (Hitchcock 1987, Allen et al. 2016). These efforts were abandoned in 1985, and the population has slowly but steadily increased since then, and now probably numbers over 500 individuals. The highest numbers are concentrated in the Pasadena–San Marino–Arcadia area, but the species occurs widely throughout the western San Gabriel Valley, and sparsely in the eastern San Gabriel Valley, San Fernando Valley, and along the southeastern edge of the Santa Monica Mountains. Scattered sightings elsewhere in Los Angeles County, and in Ventura, Orange, and western San Bernardino counties, likely represent birds dispersing from the naturalized population, though some may represent local escapees. Specimens from southern California populations have not been identified to subspecies but are consistent with *P. j. jocosus* of southeastern China and *P. j. emeria* of eastern India. The latter is the subspecies established in Florida (Banks and Laybourne 1968).

MISCELLANEOUS

The long-staying Northern Gannet (*Morus bassanus*; 2012-058) first seen at Southeast Farallon Island, SF, 25 Apr 2012 (Pike et al. 2014), and the female Common Black Hawk (2005-060 et al.) resident near Santa Rosa, SON, since 14 May 2005 (Iliff et al. 2007), were both still present through 31 Dec 2018.

CORRIGENDA

The committee's 43rd report (Singer et al. 2020) contained a few errors that were discovered after publication. Incorrect dates were provided for two records: the correct date for the Yellow-bellied Flycatcher reported at Point Reyes National Seashore, MRN (2017-149) was 23–24 Sep 2017, and for the Dusky Warbler (*Phylloscopus fuscatus*) at Coyote Point, SM (2017-101), was 8–10 Oct 2017. We omitted the dates for the Mourning Warbler at Point Reyes NS, MRN, 11–17 Sep 2017 (2017-081). The White-winged Crossbill (*Loxia leucoptera*) at Big Lagoon, HUM, 21 Dec 2017 (*Tom Leskiw*; 2017-173) was *accepted*, bringing the number of records accepted in the 43rd report to six and the total number to 18. We also correct the dates for the following four records from San Bernardino County that were previously published incorrectly. The Wood Thrush (*Hylocichla mustelina*) at Mountain Home Village (1996-161; McCaskie and San Miguel 1999) was present 21–24 Dec 1996. The Curve-billed Thrasher at Big River (2006-177; Heindel and Garrett 2008) was present 30–31 Oct 2006; the correct dates were published initially, but the corrigenda of the 33rd report (Singer and Terrill 2009) amended the date incorrectly as 1 Nov 2006. The Streak-backed Oriole (*Icterus pustulatus*) at the Zzyzx Desert Studies Center (2006-145; Heindel and Garrett 2008) was present 9–14 Oct 2006. The Red-faced Warbler (*Cardellina rubrifrons*) at Green Canyon (2007-146; Singer and Terrill 2009) was present 26 Jun–20 Jul 2007. The committee recently received documentation that one of two Mourning Warblers on Southeast Farallon Island, SF, 26 Sep 2005 (2008-011 and 2008-012; Singer and Terrill 2009) was also present the following day. Without knowing which individual was present for a second day, the committee arbitrarily extended the date of record 2008-011 to 26–27 Sep 2005. Finally, following a review of Common Black Hawk records in northern California, the committee now considers the one near Aromas, SBT, 31 Mar 2008 (2008-055; Pike and Compton 2010) to be different from the long-staying bird near Santa Rosa, SON (2005-060 et al.; Iliff et al. 2007).

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