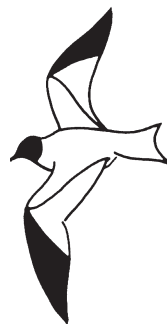


# WESTERN BIRDS



Volume 52, Number 1, 2021

## THE 45<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE: 2019 RECORDS

THOMAS A. BENSON, California State University San Bernardino, 5500 University Parkway, San Bernardino, California 92407; [secretary@californiabirds.org](mailto:secretary@californiabirds.org)

DEBORAH J. HOUSE, 172 Summit Road, Bishop, California 93514; [roadkill23@earthlink.net](mailto:roadkill23@earthlink.net)

GUY McCASKIE, 954 Grove Avenue, Imperial Beach, California 91932; [guymcc@pacbell.net](mailto:guymcc@pacbell.net)

ALEX M. RINKERT, 322 Seabright Avenue #1, Santa Cruz, California 95062; [arinkert12@comcast.net](mailto:arinkert12@comcast.net)

ADAM J. SEARCY, 15 E. Valerio Street, Santa Barbara, California 93101; [serpophaga@gmail.com](mailto:serpophaga@gmail.com)

RYAN S. TERRILL, Occidental College, 1600 Campus Road, Los Angeles, California 90041; [ornithoterrill@gmail.com](mailto:ornithoterrill@gmail.com)

**ABSTRACT:** From its last report through 2019, the California Bird Records Committee reached decisions on 204 records involving 225 individuals of 62 species and one species group, endorsing 176 records of 197 individuals. These include the first accepted state record of the Yellow-browed Warbler (*Phylloscopus inornatus*), bringing California's total list of accepted species to 676, of which 13 represent established introductions. Other especially notable records detailed in this report include the state's third Common Eider (*Somateria mollissima*), third Common Ringed Plover (*Charadrius hiaticula*), fourth and fifth Red-flanked Bluetail (*Tarsiger cyanurus*), a significant incursion of Cassin's Sparrows (*Peucaea cassinii*) into the eastern Mojave Desert, and the first Spotted Redshank (*Tringa erythropus*) in 30 years.

This 45<sup>th</sup> report of the California Bird Records Committee (CBRC), a committee of Western Field Ornithologists, summarizes evaluations of 204 records involving 225 individuals of 62 species and one species group. The committee accepted 176 of the 204 records, involving 197 individuals of 62 species and one species group, for an acceptance rate of 86.3%. A record is considered accepted if it receives no more than one "not accept" vote from the nine voting members on the grounds of questionable identification, or no more than two "not accept" votes on the grounds of questionable natural occurrence. We consider 24 records of 16 individuals to represent returning or continuing birds that were accepted previously. Twenty-eight records, involving 28 individuals of 22 species, were not accepted because the identification was not considered to be substantiated. 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. Most of the records in this report are of birds first documented in 2019, although a few are earlier.

Following the recent split of the Mexican Duck (*Anas diazi*) from the Mallard (*A. platyrhynchos*) by the American Ornithological Society (Chesser et al. 2020), the committee will be evaluating the addition of the Mexican Duck to the California list on the basis of several reports still pending review and will publish the results of its analysis in a future report.

Species-account headings are organized with English and scientific names first, followed in parentheses by the total number of individuals accepted for California (this report included) and the number of new individuals accepted in this report. Accounts summarize 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 individuals indicates that the species has been reviewed for only a restricted period, so the number of accepted individuals does not represent the total number 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 symbol following an observer's initials indicates she or he submitted a photograph (†), sketch (\$), audio recording (§), and/or video (‡). The absence of a symbol following the observer's initials indicates the submission of written documentation only. After the observers' initials is the record's identifying number assigned by the CBRC's secretary. A (#) precedes a specimen number; we cite the collections of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County (LACM) and San Diego Natural History Museum (SDNHM) in this report.

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). Definitions of abbreviations and additional details regarding minutiae of formatting may be found in the CBRC's previous annual reports and in CBRC (2007), both available via the CBRC's website: [www.californiabirds.org](http://www.californiabirds.org). Also available through this website are the California bird list, the review list, an online form for submitting documentation of 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 secretary via e-mail ([secretary@californiabirds.org](mailto:secretary@californiabirds.org)) or the website. Documentation of all records is archived at the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology ([www.wfvz.org](http://www.wfvz.org)) and is available for public review by appointment or by contacting the CBRC's secretary.

GARGANEY *Spatula querquedula* (28, 4). A male in West Sacramento, YOL, 1–17 Mar 2019 (GE†, LC†, JAH†, NJO†, LPi†, MJR†, CNR, JCS†, RSt†, LST†, SBT†; 2019-021) may have wintered locally, and a female at New Chicago Marsh at the south end of San Francisco Bay, SCL, 7 Jun 2019 (AHi†; 2019-051) was evidently a spring migrant. A fall migrant undergoing preformative molt was with other teal in Baker, SBE, 20 Sep 2019 (JEP†; 2019-124) and represented a first record for San Bernardino County. A first-year female associating with Blue-winged Teal (*S. dis-*

## THE 45<sup>TH</sup> CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE REPORT

*cors*) spent the winter at the Salton Sea State Recreation Area, RIV, 10 Nov 2019–30 Mar 2020 (TABe†, CAD†, MAG†, AHi†, DJH†, PAI†, GM, RLM†, SJM†, ES, AJS†, DSie†, JTS†; 2019-174; Figure 1).

After California's first Garganey in Long Beach, LA, on 19 Mar 1975 (Luther et al. 1979), 22 more were recorded in the following 27 years, followed by four years with none. This pattern supports comments by Howell et al. (2014) that records in western North America have declined markedly since the late 1990s. However, an additional four have been recorded since one spent the winter of 2017–2018 in Santa Maria, SBA (Singer et al. 2020), and two more individuals were reported in 2020 (CBRC 2020).

COMMON POCHARD *Aythya ferina* (5, 1). An adult male on San Pablo Bay, SOL, was shot by an anonymous hunter on 9 Jan 2019 (†, *fide* DSS; 2019-003); the specimen was not preserved. Although five Common Pochards have now been found in California, there is only one other report of this Eurasian duck in North America south of Alaska, from Victoria, British Columbia, in November 2020 ([www.eBird.org](http://www.eBird.org)).

KING EIDER *Somateria spectabilis* (46, 1). A female in formative plumage was at the Smith River mouth, DN, 27 Nov–16 Dec 2019 (BT†, DK-B†; 2019-190). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: A report of one at Bodega Head, SON, 12 Oct 2019 (2019-161) received only two supporting votes.

COMMON EIDER *Somateria mollissima* (3, 1). An adult female at Pebble Beach, MTY, 12–28 Feb 2019 (TABe†, PEL, GM, OTM†, NJO†, DRob†, CNR, NKS†, LST†, SBT†; 2019-016; Figure 2) represents the southernmost record for the Pacific coast. This individual showed the narrow, pointed frontal lobes of the bill that are characteristic of the subspecies *v-nigrum* (see Goudie et al. 2000). The previous two Common Eiders in California were both in Del Norte County, the first in 2004 (*S. m. v-nigrum*; Cole et al. 2006), the second in 2011 (*S. m. dresseri*; Nelson et al. 2013, Able et al. 2014). Far fewer Common than King Eiders have been reported along the west coast from southern British Columbia south: fewer than a dozen of the former, while the latter has occurred annually.

RUDDY GROUND DOVE *Columbina talpacoti* (118\*\*, 1). A male was with Inca Doves (*C. inca*) at Oasis, RIV, 2 Oct 2019 (RLM\$; 2019-132).

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD *Archilochus colubris* (21, 2). Females in juvenile or formative plumage on San Clemente Island, LA, 5 Sep 2014 (JTS†; 2014-186), and at the El Carmelo Cemetery in Pacific Grove, MTY, 9–12 Sep 2019 (PBA†, CR†, JeB†, BH†; 2019-204) provided the first records for Los Angeles County and Monterey County, respectively.

BROAD-BILLED HUMMINGBIRD *Cynanthus latirostris* (112, 3). A female in formative plumage frequented a feeder in Lone Pine, INY, 15–17 Apr 2019 (RK, MPo†; 2019-049); only 10 of California's 112 Broad-billed Hummingbirds have occurred between April and July. An adult male remained near Monastery Beach, Carmel, MTY, 24 Oct–18 Nov 2019 (RC†, TD†, BH†, DRob†; 2019-165). The committee also endorsed a belated report of an adult male photographed at the Living Desert Zoo and Gardens, Palm Desert, RIV, 27 Nov 2010 (AG†; 2010-197).

COMMON RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius hiaticula* (3, 1). An adult male at the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary, Irvine, ORA, 28 Aug–3 Sep 2019 (BAi†, JMB†, CHar†, TABe†, SC†, GM, MMe†, NJO†, ES†, SBT†, CY†; 2019-099) provided the third record for California. Elsewhere on the Pacific coast south of Alaska, the only records are of single fall migrants in British Columbia at Oyster Bay in 2018 (<https://bcfo.ca/bc-bird-records-committee-sightings-database/>) and Boundary Bay in 2019 ([www.eBird.org](http://www.eBird.org)), and in Washington at Port Susan Bay in 2006 (Aanerud 2011).

## THE 45<sup>TH</sup> CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE REPORT

UPLAND SANDPIPER *Bartramia longicauda* (36, 2). A juvenile was at the Silver Saddle Resort, Galileo Hill, KER, 6–7 Sep 2019 (KO†, TABe†, CHo, RH; 2019-103), and one of unknown age was at Elings Park, Santa Barbara, SBA, 8 Sep 2019 (PAG; 2019-104). In California, fall migrants have been recorded between 8 August and 28 October, with 75% of these between 17 August and 23 September.

BAR-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa lapponica* (54, 3). One in formative plumage was at Oro Loma Marsh along the Hayward Regional Shoreline, ALA, 21–25 Jul 2019 (M†, DRot†, JT†, BT†, MPe†; 2019-066). Juveniles were at Tunitas Creek Beach, SM, 16–24 Oct 2019 (DA†, WGB†, MDeF†, CHay†, RH†, JMo†, NJO†, LPi†; 2019-146) and Emeryville Marina, ALA, 31 Oct–6 Dec 2019 (S†, LB†, JMo†, MJR†; 2019-159).

HUDSONIAN GODWIT *Limosa haemastica* (59, 4). An adult male in alternate plumage at the San Diego River mouth and adjacent Mission Beach, SD, 27 May–2 Jun 2019 (DWA†, DBat†, TABe†, NJD†, TGu†, GM, JRM†, NJO†, GLR, JTS†; 2019-038) was the first Hudsonian Godwit recorded in San Diego County. Fall migrants in juvenile plumage included one at the Salinas River National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), MTY, 1–7 Aug 2019 (RC†, DRob†, CR†, RAR†, SBT†; 2019-077); another at the Arcata Marsh, HUM, 24 Aug 2019 (TK†, MVB†; 2019-087); and a third at Tunitas Creek Beach, SM, 14 Oct–16 Nov 2019 (DSid†, DA†, WGB†, MDeF†, JG†, CHay†, RH†, JMo†, NJO†, AP†, LPi†; 2019-141). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: The report of one at El Segundo Beach, LA, 2 Apr 2019 (2019-055) received no support.

RED-NECKED STINT *Calidris ruficollis* (26, 1). One in alternate plumage was at the San Pablo Bay NWR, SOL, 7 Aug 2019 (RM†; 2019-081).

LITTLE STINT *Calidris minuta* (34, 0). The committee infers that one at the south end of San Diego Bay, SD, 2 Aug 2019–3 Apr 2020 (PEL, CA†, NC†, NF†, MAG†, DJ, GM, AN†; 2019-080) was the same bird as at that site 20 Oct 2018–24 Apr 2019 (2018-219; Benson et al. 2020).

SPOTTED REDSHANK *Tringa erythropus* (6, 1). A juvenile remained near Ormond Beach, Oxnard, VEN, 15–25 Sep 2019 (LSa†, TABe†, GM, DPe†, AJS†, RST†, SBT†; 2019-119; see this issue's front cover). It had begun the preformative molt, having replaced a few of the juvenile scapulars with unmarked pale gray feathers. California's five previous records fall between 1983 and 1989 (CBRC 2007), making this the state's first Spotted Redshank in 30 years.

LONG-BILLED MURRELET *Brachyramphus perdix* (31, 0). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: Photos of a black-and-white murrelet off Centerville Beach, HUM, 15 Jul 2004 (2004-224) did not show the expected white scapular stripes and failed to convince five committee members that it was this species. There have been no records of the Long-billed Murrelet in California since 2015.

BLACK-HEADED GULL *Chroicocephalus ridibundus* (31, 1). The committee considers an adult in basic plumage at the North Shore Marina, Salton Sea, RIV, 3 Jan 2019 (DTR†; 2019-002) and 13 km to the west at Oasis, RIV, 13 Feb–16 Mar 2019 (RLM†, MAG†, CMcG†; 2019-017) to be the same bird first reported frequenting the same region during the winter of 2013–2014 (Singer et al. 2016), then every winter since the winter of 2016–2017 (Singer et al. 2020). An adult in alternate plumage was at Bouldin Island, SJ, 22 Feb 2019 (DFD; 2019-020).

BLACK-TAILED GULL *Larus crassirostris* (8, 2). The committee considered an adult in alternate plumage at the mouth of Gazos Creek, SM, 30 May 2019 (MDeF†, CHay†; 2019-041) to be the same as one on Southeast Farallon Island, SF, 23 Oct–1 Nov 2019 (JRT†; 2019-150).

SLATY-BACKED GULL *Larus schistisagus* (72, 4). One in its second cycle was at Point Pinos, MTY, 1 Jan 2019 (BTM†; 2019-001). Single adults were on the coast at

## THE 45<sup>TH</sup> CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE REPORT

Gazos Creek Beach, SM, 21 Jan 2019 (AJ†; 2019-005); at Marina State Beach, MTY, 29 Jan–15 Mar 2019 (BTM†; 2019-009); and well inland at the Koster Road gravel pit near Tracy, SJ, and the nearby Delta–Mendota Canal near Vernalis, STA, 17–23 Feb 2019 (JG†, JHH†, JCS; 2019-019). This Asiatic gull is now recorded in all but four of the coastal counties from Del Norte to Los Angeles, around San Francisco Bay, and inland around the Sacramento/San Joaquin River delta (CBRC 2007, 2020). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: Reports of first-cycle Slaty-backed Gulls at the Koster Road gravel pit near Tracy, SJ, 24 Feb 2019 (2019-023) and at Point Pinos, MTY, 28 Dec 2019 (2019-209) received little support from committee members.

ARCTIC LOON *Gavia arctica* (16, 0). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: Three reports lacked adequate documentation: at the north end of the Salton Sea, RIV, 13 Nov 2019 (2019-176); offshore from Dillon Beach, MRN, 8 Dec 2019 (2019-195); and offshore from Stone Lagoon, HUM, 10 Dec 2019 (2019-196).

WEDGE-TAILED SHEARWATER *Ardenna pacifica* (11, 0). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: The report of one seen briefly during a pelagic birding trip ~35 km south-southeast of Southeast Farallon Island, SE, 29 Sep 2019 (2019-130) lacked sufficient documentation.

MASKED BOOBY *Sula dactylatra* (46, 6). Masked Boobies continued to occur in above-average numbers for the fifth consecutive year, though the six in 2019 were fewer than the 2018 peak of 14 (Benson et al. 2020). All records in 2019 were from southern California, where 80% of the state's Masked Boobies have occurred. Single adults flew past Point La Jolla, SD, 3 Feb 2019 (JD; 2019-012) and Cabrillo National Monument, SD, 31 Aug 2019 (GN†; 2019-098). A long-staying adult, first seen ~18 km southeast of Point Fermin, LA, 19 Jul 2019 (GG†; 2019-065), was subsequently encountered ~3 km outside Los Angeles harbor, 25 Jul 2019 (MW†; 2019-072), at Dockweiler State Beach, LA, 9 Aug 2019 (DSc†; 2019-082), at Hollywood Beach in Oxnard, VEN, 12 Aug 2019 (JMa†; 2019-086), and offshore in the San Pedro Channel, LA, 25 Aug 2019 (GG†, BAL; 2019-093). Three individuals in their second cycle occurred in November and December 2019. One was discovered on the Oceanside pier, SD, 21 Nov 2019 (MA†, EB†; 2019-198), when it was captured for rehabilitation at Sea World. It was released off La Jolla 10 Dec 2019 and subsequently seen nearby at Point Loma on 12 December and on the Zuñiga Jetty at the mouth of San Diego Bay on 14 December. The second was found on Dog Beach in Huntington Beach, ORA, 18 Dec 2019 (LPe†; 2019-202) and taken in for rehabilitation at the Wetlands and Wildlife Care Center. The third was seen on Moonlight State Beach, Encinitas, SD, 30–31 Dec 2019 (JMM†, MBi†; 2019-203). The committee also endorsed the report of a second-cycle Masked Booby ~17 km north-northwest of Santa Catalina Island, LA, 16 Sep 2018 (MiF†; 2018-246). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: Documentation for two reports, 2019-096, and 2019-100, did not eliminate the Nazca Booby; see records 2019-096A and 2019-100A, respectively, in the Masked/Nazca Booby account for more details.

NAZCA BOOBY *Sula granti* (62, 21). In 2019, Nazca Boobies were recorded in double-digit numbers for the second year in a row, with most occurring off the southern California coast. Single adults were seen ~9.4 km south-southwest of Dana Point, ORA, 11 Jun 2019 (KMC†; 2019-053); ~177 km west-southwest of San Nicolas Island, VEN, 19 Jul 2019 (CW†; 2019-091); ~2.7 km south-southwest of the Newport Beach pier, ORA, 24 Jul 2019 (KMC†; 2019-070); ~7 km west of Point Conception, SBA, 25 Jul 2019 (CW†; 2019-075); at Point La Jolla, SD, 28 Jul–1 Aug 2019 (PEL, BLC; 2019-074); ~48 km west of Point Loma, SD, 18 Aug 2019 (GM, BRid†, JTS†; 2019-084); over the Thirty Mile Bank, SD, 2 Sep 2019 (AJS†; 2019-105); ~4 km west-northwest of Santa Barbara Island, SBA, 3 Sep 2019 (AJS†; 2019-106); ~109 km west-southwest of San Nicolas Island, VEN, 4 Sep 2019 (AJS†; 2019-107); and





FIGURE 1. This female Garganey in formative plumage, photographed 30 Nov 2019 at the Salton Sea State Recreation Area, Riverside County (2019-174), nicely shows the striped head and slightly smaller size that differentiate it from the similar female Blue-winged Teal behind it.

*Photo by Thomas A. Benson*



FIGURE 2. This Common Eider, an adult female photographed 17 Feb 2019 at Pebble Beach, Monterey County (2019-016), is only the third known to have reached California. It shows the sloping forehead and barred sides that differentiate it from a similar-looking female King Eider.

*Photo by Brad K. Schram*

## THE 45<sup>TH</sup> CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE REPORT

over the Lasuen Seamount, ~23 km south-southwest of Newport Beach, ORA, 4 Oct 2019 (*RCL*†; 2019-134). A group of three adults flew out of San Diego Bay, SD, 6 Sep 2019 (*AJS*, *JWet*†; 2019-108). Two adults found on Santa Barbara Island, SBA, 12 Oct 2019 (*NL*, *CSt*†; 2019-145) were still there and observed allopreening 14 Nov 2019 (*JH*†; 2019-179). One undergoing its second prebasic molt, first photographed at Camp Pendleton, SD, 23 Jul 2019 (*DB*†; 2019-069), was subsequently seen offshore from San Clemente and at Dana Point Harbor, ORA, 25 Jul–15 Aug 2019 (*FB*†, *JLD*, *BEE*†, *TGu*†, *DK-B*†, *ES*†; 2019-071). Two additional birds undergoing their second prebasic molt were ~7 km southeast of Ventura Harbor, VEN, 3 Aug 2019 (*JoB*†; 2019-079) and in Los Angeles Harbor, LA, 17–19 Nov 2019 (*KM*†, *CLY*†; 2019-178). Individuals undergoing their third prebasic molt were over the Nine Mile Bank, SD, 18 Aug 2019 (*MV*†; 2019-089) and 13 Oct 2019 (*NC*†, *GM*; 2019-139), while a third found at Naval Air Station North Island, SD, 26 Aug 2019 (*JW*†, *LDS*†, *PU*; 2019-097) was taken into rehabilitation at Sea World but later perished (SDNHM #56365). There were only two records from northern California in 2019: an adult at Southeast Farallon Island, SF, 2 Feb 2019 (*JS*†, *PW*†; 2019-011) and one undergoing its second prebasic molt over Cabrillo Canyon, SCZ, 5 Oct 2019 (*AMR*†; 2019-136). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: Documentation submitted for one report, 2019-095, did not eliminate the Masked Booby; see record 2019-095A in the Masked/Nazca Booby account for more details. Since accepting the first California record of the Nazca Booby, of one found dead at McGrath State Beach, VEN, 23 Jul 2013 (Rottenborn et al. 2016), the committee has now accepted 62 records for an average of 8.9 per year during the 7-year period from 2013 to 2019. As a result, at its annual meeting in 2020 the committee voted to remove this species from the review list; we review records of the Nazca Booby through 2019 only.

**MASKED/NAZCA BOOBY** *Sula dactylatra/granti* (48, 7). The following reports of black-and-white boobies lacked documentation sufficient for identification to species, but the committee endorsed them as Masked/Nazca Boobies: an adult or near-adult at South Cardiff State Beach, SD, 5 Feb 2019 (*RTP*†; 2019-013); an adult ~2.7 km west of the Las Pulgas Creek mouth, Camp Pendleton, SD, 28 Jun 2019 (*SM*†; 2019-059); individuals undergoing their second or third prebasic molt flying past Imperial Beach, SD, 29 Jun 2019 (*MSad*†, *JTS*; 2019-063) and past Point La Jolla, SD, 24 Aug 2019 (*DJ*, *SW*; 2019-095A); one undergoing its second prebasic molt ~5 km offshore from Dana Point, ORA, 23 Aug 2019 (*RCL*†; 2019-094); and an adult (*BAL*, *MES*†; 2019-096A) and one in second prebasic molt (*BAL*†, *MES*†; 2019-100A) together on Santa Barbara Island, SBA, 24 Aug 2019. The committee reviews records of the Masked/Nazca Booby through 2019.

**RED-FOOTED BOOBY** *Sula sula* (85, 18). For the second consecutive year, Red-footed Boobies staged a significant incursion into the waters off southern California, though the total number of individuals was only half of that in 2018. All records below are of brown-morph birds undergoing their second prebasic molt unless noted otherwise. Two individuals in their first or second plumage cycle flew past the Huntington Beach pier, ORA, 1 Jan 2019 (*BED*; 2019-022). One on Platform Edith, 14 km off Huntington Beach, ORA, 9 Feb 2019 (*TAB*†; 2019-014) was still there 4–11 May 2019 (*TAB*†, *TGu*†, *DH*†, *ES*†; 2019-033), with two more 2 km southeast at Platform Eureka, ORA, 4 May 2019 (*TAB*†, *TGu*†, *DH*†, *DEQ*†, *ES*†; 2019-034A and 2019-034B). Another was ~2.3 km west-southwest of the Newport Beach pier, ORA, 29 May 2019 (*KMC*†; 2019-040). Following this cluster of sightings in May, later in 2019 most of the Red-footed Boobies occurred between July and October: in Avalon Harbor, Santa Catalina Island, LA, 14–15 Jul 2019 (*CB*†; 2019-064); near Santa Catalina Island, LA, 21–23 Jul 2019 (*CSe*†; 2019-068); ~4 km southwest of Crescent Bay Point Park, Laguna Beach, ORA, 30 Jul 2019 (*KMC*†; 2019-076); ~9 km southwest of the Huntington Beach pier, ORA, 13 Aug 2019 (*DC*†; 2019-109);

## THE 45<sup>TH</sup> CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE REPORT

over the Thirty Mile Bank, SD, 18 Aug 2019 (adult; GM, JTS†; 2019-085); ~8 km south-southwest of Dana Point, ORA, 23 Sep 2019 (undergoing third prebasic molt; CMo†; 2019-121); and ~17 km south of Goleta Point, SBA, 26 Oct 2019 (RPe†; 2019-164). One found on the beach at Coronado, SD, 14 Sep 2019 (AMe†, PU†; 2019-133) was captured for rehabilitation at Sea World but did not survive (SDNHM #56382). The final two birds recorded in southern California in 2019 were single juveniles ~16 km west-southwest of La Jolla, SD, 20 Oct 2019 (DF†; 2019-188) and on the jetty at the entrance to Newport Harbor, ORA, 16 Nov–17 Dec 2019 (TABe†, PAI†, DSie†; 2019-177). In northern California, one was on Southeast Farallon Island, SF, 23 Oct–27 Nov 2019 (KO†, MSi†, JRT†; 2019-151) and another (undergoing its third prebasic molt) was at Crissy Field, SF, 8 Nov–25 Dec 2019 (DK-B†, JMo†, LPi†, PP†, MJR†, JWa†, ANW†; 2019-169). In 2020 the committee voted to remove the Red-footed Booby from the review list; we review records through 2019 only.

TRICOLORED HERON *Egretta tricolor* (81\*\*, 6). One in formative plumage was at Colorado Lagoon, Long Beach, LA, 6 Oct 2019 (RAH†; 2019-135). An adult at Rodeo Lagoon, MRN, 10–23 Nov 2019 was also observed flying past Crissy Field, SF, 11 Nov 2019 (WL, JMo†, AP†, LPi†, MJR†, DSS†, LSu†, JWa†, ANW†; 2019-170), representing the first and second records for San Francisco County and Marin County, respectively. Orange County hosted three birds, including two undergoing preformative molt or in formative plumage at San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary, ORA, 15 Oct 2019 (JAK†; 2019-140) and at Upper Newport Bay, ORA, 10 Nov 2019–18 Apr 2020 (TABe†, AB†, AC†, TGu†, MK†, B&KK†, RPh†‡, ES†, L-SV†; 2019-175), and an adult at Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve, ORA, 26–28 Oct 2019 (CHa†, ES†, LW†; 2019-154). One undergoing its preformative molt was on San Diego Bay at Bayside Park and Sweetwater Marsh, Chula Vista, SD, 30 Oct–21 Dec 2019 (KR†, AN; 2019-158; Figure 3).

GLOSSY IBIS *Plegadis falcinellus* (40, 0). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: Documentation for ibises reported as the Glossy at the Woodland–Davis Clean Water Agency, Woodland, YOL, 19–22 May 2019 (2019-036) and in the Prado Basin, RIV, 1 Apr–21 May 2019 (2019-078) did not eliminate the possibility of hybrids.

ROSEATE SPOONBILL *Platalea ajaja* (147, 1). One in its first cycle flew over Unit 1 of the Salton Sea NWR, IMP, 11 Oct 2019 (GM; 2019-138).

BLACK VULTURE *Coragyps atratus* (11, 0). The committee concluded that all records of the Black Vulture accepted in 2019 represented continuing or returning birds. Those pertaining to the one in the San Francisco Bay area since March 2014 (2014-027 et seq.; Singer et al. 2016, CBRC 2020) included reports from Point Reyes Station, MRN, 2 Apr 2019 (RSC; 2019-024); Inverness, Olema, and Nicks Cove, MRN, 8 Jun–21 Jul 2019 (CC†, KF†; 2019-050); Bodega Bay, SON, 24 Sep–9 Oct 2019 (EH†, JV†; 2019-122); and Bolinas Lagoon, MRN, 3–17 Nov 2019 (AHi†; 2019-171). An adult with an identifiable injury to its left eye near Bishop, INY, 12 Dec 2019–21 Feb 2020 (ND†, DJH†, RH†; 2019-197) is considered the same as the one in that area the previous winter (2018-225; Benson et al. 2020). In both winters it was molting its remiges. Like the Turkey Vulture (Chandler et al. 2010), the Black Vulture normally molts its remiges annually in May and June (P. Pyle pers. comm.). This anomalous molt timing might suggest prior captivity, leading one committee member to question whether the bird's occurrences were natural. IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: A report from Eureka, HUM, 3 May 2019 (2019-044) lacked sufficient documentation.

MISSISSIPPI KITE *Ictinia mississippiensis* (53, 0). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: A report of one near University City, San Diego, SD, 14 Sep 2019 (2019-120) provided too few details to rule out other species.





FIGURE 3. This first-cycle Tricolored Heron was photographed 3 Nov 2019 at Sweetwater Marsh, San Diego Bay, San Diego County (2019-158).

*Photo by Andrew Newmark*



FIGURE 4. This dark juvenile Gyr Falcon near McArthur on 6 Dec 2019 (2019-205) represented a second Shasta County record.

*Photo by Josh Able*



FIGURE 5. This Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher, California's 21<sup>st</sup>, was photographed 16 Sep 2019 at Point Lobos State Reserve, Monterey County (2019-117). The smaller and mostly dark bill, whitish eyebrow and mustache, and bold black malar differentiate it from the similar Streaked Flycatcher (*Myiodynastes maculatus*), a potential vagrant to California. The narrow shaft streak to the outer rectrix indicates a juvenile feather.

*Photo by Judith Ellyson*



FIGURE 6. California's 19<sup>th</sup> Blue Jay, photographed 14 Nov 2019 at Fortuna, Humboldt County (2019-172).

*Photo by Rob Fowler*

## THE 45<sup>TH</sup> CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMON BLACK HAWK *Buteogallus anthracinus* (12, 1). An adult was photographed at Dos Palmas Preserve, RIV, 11 Sep 2019 (SS†; 2019-113). Most of California's Common Black Hawks have occurred in spring; this record is only the third of a fall migrant.

BOREAL OWL *Aegolius funereus* (0, 0). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: The report of one calling in Citrus Heights near Sacramento, SAC, 1 Jul 2019 (2019-060) did not receive any support from committee members. There are no accepted records of this species in California.

GYRFALCON *Falco rusticolus* (17, 1). A juvenile near McArthur, SHA, 6 Dec 2019 (JAB†, KPA; 2019-205; Figure 4) was only the second recorded for Shasta County, the previous Gyrfalcon also occurring near McArthur almost 32 years earlier, on 26 Dec 1987 (1988-296; Pyle and McCaskie 1992).

GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER *Myiarchus crinitus* (64, 2). Individuals having suspended the preformative molt were at Laguna Grande Park, MTY, 28 Sep–1 Oct 2019 (JeB†, RC†, DRob†, CR†, BLS†; 2019-128) and in Birchim Canyon, INY, 21 Oct 2019 (NJO†, RO†, DPa†, JPa†, SBr†, JHei, TH, CHo†, RH†; 2019-147).

SULPHUR-BELLIED FLYCATCHER *Myiodynastes luteiventris* (21, 1). One in formative plumage was found at Point Lobos State Reserve, MTY, 16 Sep 2019 (RiF, JE†, PWF†; 2019-117; Figure 5).

THICK-BILLED KINGBIRD *Tyrannus crassirostris* (24, 0). An adult returned for a 10<sup>th</sup> consecutive winter to the mouth of Poggi Canyon in Otay Valley, Chula Vista, SD, 31 Oct 2019–27 Mar 2020 (AN†, DPo; 2019-160).

GREATER PEWEE *Contopus pertinax* (46, 1). Three adults included one in Pacific Palisades, LA, 25 Oct 2019–1 Mar 2020, returning for a third consecutive winter (CAD\$, RJN†; 2019-153); one in Mile Square Park, Fountain Valley, ORA, 21 Nov–16 Dec 2019 (BBad†, RPh†, TABe†, CHAr†, AJS†, DSie†; 2019-191); and another returning for a second winter to Balboa Park, San Diego, SD, 25 Nov 2019–21 Mar 2020 (AN†; 2019-187). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: A report from Mount Laguna, SD, 2 Oct 2019 (2019-131) did not rule out the Western Wood-Pewee (*C. sordidulus*).

YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER *Empidonax flaviventris* (30, 1). One having suspended the preformative molt was captured and banded on Southeast Farallon Island, SE, 13 Sep 2019 (JFGa†, JRT; 2019-118).

WHITE-EYED VIREO *Vireo griseus* (88, 2). A singing male was near Inverness, MRN, 31 May 2019 (DSS\$; 2019-042), and a singing male in formative plumage was at Arcata Marsh, HUM, 21–23 Jun 2019 (RoF†\$, DK-B\$, TK†\$; 2019-057).

BLUE-HEADED VIREO *Vireo solitarius* (89, 1). A male in formative plumage was at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery, Point Loma, SD, 28–29 Sep 2019 (NC†, SD†, NF†, LW†; 2019-129). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: The documentation for an adult vireo reported as the Blue-headed at Huntington Central Park, Huntington Beach, ORA, 21 Sep 2019 (2019-123) did not rule out a bright Cassin's Vireo (*V. cassinii*).

BLUE JAY *Cyanocitta cristata* (19, 1). One in formative plumage spent the winter in Fortuna, HUM, 8 Nov 2019–29 Feb 2020 (RoF†, DLe\$, DK-B; 2019-172; Figure 6).

WINTER WREN *Troglodytes hiemalis* (27, 1). One at Putah Creek, SOL, 24–28 Oct 2019 (RM\$, MarS†; 2019-156) was the sixth recorded in the Central Valley and the first in Solano County. IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: The spectrogram of the call of a supposed Winter Wren recorded at Clear Lake State Park, LAK, 29 Nov–30 Dec 2019 (2019-207) did not show the harmonic bands characteristic of this species (see Hejl et al. 2002).

## THE 45<sup>TH</sup> CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE REPORT

**YELLOW-BROWED WARBLER** *Phylloscopus inornatus* (1, 1). One in formative plumage photographed at Markleeville, ALP, 24–25 Oct 2019 (TE†, TAB†, CH†, RH†, GM, MME†, AP†, DRob†; 2019-152; Figure 7) represented a first record for California. This individual showed the indistinct pale median crown stripe, relatively dull lores, distinct upper wing bar, and overall bright, contrasting plumage that help distinguish the Yellow-browed from the most similar *Phylloscopus* warblers (Alström and Olsson 1988, Lehman 2000, Howell et al. 2014), of which only Pallas's Leaf Warbler (*P. proregulus*) has been recorded in northeast Asia (Brazil 2009) or North America (Lehman and Rosenberg 2007). The Yellow-browed Warbler breeds in the eastern Palearctic Region and winters primarily in southeast Asia (Clement 2020). Although detected increasingly as a fall vagrant in western Europe, this species rarely reaches North America (Howell et al. 2014). Previous records south of Alaska are of one in late fall in British Columbia (also in October 2019; <https://bcfo.ca/brc-round-27-jan-feb-2020-accepted-records/>) and one in early spring that likely wintered in Baja California Sur (Mlodinow and Rademaker 2007). Additionally, a single-observer sight record from Wisconsin (Frank 2007) has been placed on the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology's checklist as a hypothetical species ([https://wsobirds.org/images/pdfs/WI\\_Taxonomic\\_Order\\_2019.pdf](https://wsobirds.org/images/pdfs/WI_Taxonomic_Order_2019.pdf)).

**DUSKY WARBLER** *Phylloscopus fuscatus* (21, 1). One was at the mouth of Mal Paso Creek, MTY, 27–28 Oct 2019 (DRob†; 2019-180). While 18 (85%) of California's 21 Dusky Warblers have occurred in October, this is the second latest (CBRC 2007).

**RED-FLANKED BLUETAIL** *Tarsiger cyanurus* (5, 2). Two Red-flanked Bluetails were banded at Southeast Farallon Island, SF: one in formative plumage 3 Nov 2019 (JRT†; 2019-162; Figure 8) and one of undetermined age 7–8 Nov 2019 (MSi†, JRT†; 2019-167). Four (80%) of the now five Red-flanked Bluetails accepted in California were on offshore islands (CBRC 2007, 2020).

**WOOD THRUSH** *Hylocichla mustelina* (36, 1). One was along Putah Creek, SOL, 15–19 Sep 2019 (RM\$, HC\$, SCH\$, KS\$; 2019-116). Fall records in California extend from 1 October to 25 November (CBRC 2007, 2020), making this an exceptionally early fall migrant or a summer visitor detected late in its stay.

**CURVE-BILLED THRASHER** *Toxostoma curvirostre* (37, 1). One in formative plumage was at Palo Verde Ecological Reserve, Blythe, RIV, 1 Jan 2019 (WRT†; 2019-004). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: Most committee members could not distinguish supposed Curve-billed Thrashers photographed at Palo Verde Ecological Reserve, RIV, 12 Oct 2019 (2019-142) and Joshua Tree, SBE, 27 Nov 2019 (2019-193) from other thrasher species.

**WHITE WAGTAIL** *Motacilla alba* (38, 1). One seen and heard calling while flying over a boat near Santa Barbara Island, SBA, 13 Oct 2019 (NL; 2019-143) was considered by the committee to be the same female in formative plumage found at San Clemente Island, LA, 15–17 Oct 2019 (NJD†, JTS†; 2019-144). It is the first recorded for the Channel Islands. The bird's bold white wing bars, blackish centers on the greater coverts, and gray crown are characteristic of the subspecies *M. a. ocularis* (see Sibley and Howell 1998), which in California tends to occur later in fall than *M. a. lugens* (CBRC 2007).

**COMMON REDPOLL** *Acanthis flammea* (180, 1). A female in formative plumage was at the Fish Docks, Point Reyes National Seashore (NS), MRN, 14–20 Jun 2019 (AWL†, DBart†, MDet†, DLe†, RAR†, DSS; 2019-054). Although 87% of California's 180 accepted records come from the Modoc Plateau between 26 November and 5 March, there are now five records of late spring (3 May–27 June) migrants along the coast or on islands (CBRC 2007, 2020).





FIGURE 7. This Yellow-browed Warbler at Markleeville, Alpine County, photographed here 25 Oct 2019 (2019-152), was the first recorded in California.

*Photo by Todd Easterla*



FIGURE 8. This Red-flanked Bluetail at Southeast Farallon Island, San Francisco County, 3 Nov 2019 (2019-162) shows the brown greater coverts, plain tertials, and pointed rectrices indicative of formative plumage (see Leader 2009).

*Photo by James R. Tietz*



## THE 45<sup>TH</sup> CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE REPORT

SNOW BUNTING *Plectrophenax nivalis* (145, 3). Three individuals were found in fall 2019: one in formative plumage at Humboldt Bay, HUM, 28 Oct 2019 (SSe†, FF†; 2019-157); a female in formative plumage at Nunes Ranch, Point Reyes NS, MRN, 8–10 Nov 2019 (MaF†, AHi†, JJA†, BBo†; 2019-168); and one at Gold Bluffs Beach, HUM, 18 Nov 2019 (CNR; 2019-194). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: One reported from Hayward Regional Shoreline, ALA, 11 Nov 2019 (2019-184) was insufficiently documented.

CASSIN'S SPARROW *Peucaea cassinii* (96, 41). The largest incursion of the Cassin's Sparrow into California yet known occurred in the spring of 2019. Two prior irruptions in the Lanfair Valley in the eastern Mojave Desert involved 15 singing males in 1978 (Luther et al. 1983) and three singing males in 1993 (Erickson and Terrill 1996). All three of these events followed wet winters that resulted in unusually lush vegetation in the deserts of southern California (CBRC 2007). The first birds to arrive in 2019 were three singing males at Cabazon, RIV, 18–22 Apr 2019 (TABe†§; 2019-025), preceding the previous early date for a spring migrant by two weeks (2 May 1978, Whitewater River mouth, RIV; 1980-069; Binford 1985). At least 33 birds along Cedar Canyon Road in the Lanfair Valley, SBE, 3 May–21 Jun 2019 (TABe†‡§, AHo†§, JPi†, TGu†, DWN†, JTS§, ET†§; 2019-032; Figure 9) included 25 singing males, six females, and two juveniles. The two juveniles, a fledgling ~5.8 km east of Lanfair Road and a juvenile ~9.6 km west of Lanfair Road, established the first records of Cassin's Sparrow breeding in California. Away from the Lanfair Valley, singing males were found on San Clemente Island, LA, 30 Apr 2019 (NJd†§, JTS†; 2019-031); in Greenwater Valley, INY, 14 May 2019 (PG†§; 2019-035); ~2.5 km north of Cima, SBE, 26 May 2019 (JC†; BT†; 2019-056); and at Camp Pendleton, SD, 19 Jun 2019 (JFG†‡; 2019-111). The sole fall migrant was one in worn formative plumage commencing second prebasic molt on Southeast Farallon Island, SF, 4–6 Sep 2019 (JRT†; 2019-101).

FIELD SPARROW *Spizella pusilla* (19, 1). One in formative plumage was photographed at Furnace Creek Ranch, INY, 20 Dec 2019 (TL†; 2019-200). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: Photographs of one reported at a residence in Bishop, INY, 18–27 Dec 2019 (2019-201) appeared to show a weakly marked White-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*) in formative plumage that superficially resembled a Field Sparrow.

LECONTE'S SPARROW *Ammospiza leconteii* (41, 1). One in formative plumage near the Drake's Estero trailhead at Point Reyes NS, MRN, 17 Nov 2019 (SBU†; 2019-181) extended the late date for a fall migrant in California by one day (CBRC 2007).

RUSTY BLACKBIRD *Euphagus carolinus* (74\*\*, 7). Wintering individuals included a female at Jesse Owens Park, Los Angeles, LA, 7 Jan–4 Feb 2019 (RB†; 2019-006) and a male near the San Diego River mouth, SD, 30 Nov 2019–1 Mar 2020 (KG†, TAB†, GM, JSp, JTS†; 2019-192). A female photographed at Cypress Point in Tomales Bay State Park, MRN, 27 Sep 2019 (DLu†; 2019-127) established California's earliest date for a fall migrant by five days (Harris 1996, CBRC 2007). Additional fall migrants were single males at Carpinteria State Beach, SBA, 5 Nov 2019 (RPO†; 2019-166); Lake Balboa, San Fernando Valley, LA (MiS†; 2019-182), and Santa Cruz Island, SBA (DDe†; 2019-199), both 21 Nov 2019; and a female on San Clemente Island, LA, 26 Nov 2019 (JTS†; 2019-189). The Rusty Blackbird has averaged 4.5 accepted records per year in California over the last 15 years, leading to its removal from the review list in 2020. The CBRC reviews reports of the Rusty Blackbird from 1972 to 1974 and 2006 to 2019.

COMMON GRACKLE *Quiscalus quiscula* (101, 1). A female was at Nunes Ranch at Point Reyes NS, MRN, 13 Jun 2019 (AHi; 2019-067). All four Common Grackles



FIGURE 9. This Cassin's Sparrow, photographed taking food to a nearby fledgling in the Lanfair Valley, San Bernardino County, 21 Jun 2019 (2019-032), provided the first evidence of this species breeding in California.

*Photo by Thomas A. Benson*



FIGURE 10. This male Golden-winged Warbler in formative or first alternate plumage was photographed 4 Jun 2019 at Presidio Park in San Diego, San Diego County (2019-046).

*Photo by Douglas W. Aguillard*



FIGURE 11. Most of California's records of the Connecticut Warbler are from Southeast Farallon Island, so any mainland sighting of this skulker is a rare treat. This bird in formative plumage was photographed 9 Sep 2019 at Lila Keiser Park in Morro Bay, San Luis Obispo County (2019-110).

*Photo by Janny and Steve Tillman*



FIGURE 12. An early spring surprise was this Red-faced Warbler in formative plumage found at Wardlow Park in Long Beach, Los Angeles County, photographed here 28 Apr 2019 (2019-028).

*Photo by Trish Gussler*

## THE 45<sup>TH</sup> CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE REPORT

accepted from Marin County have occurred on Point Reyes between 21 May and 16 June (CBRC 2007, 2020).

**WORM-EATING WARBLER** *Helmitheros vermivorum* (139, 4). One fall migrant was at the Goleta Monarch Grove, SBA, 5 Sep 2019 (NL†, SK†; 2019-102), and another was at the Wiyot Tribe Table Bluff Reservation, HUM, 25 Nov 2019 (RoF; 2019-186). Two individuals in formative plumage overwintered, one in Davis, YOL, 27 Oct 2019–29 Feb 2020 (ZP†, NJO†, LPi†, MJR†, ZV†§; 2019-155) and one at the Arcata Marsh, HUM, 22 Nov 2019–20 Mar 2020 (AL, RoF†, DK-B†; 2019-183).

**GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER** *Vermivora chrysoptera* (83, 2). A male in formative or first alternate plumage was at Presidio Park, San Diego, SD, 4 Jun 2019 (MBr, JTS†, DWA†, EGK†, MMa†, GM, GLR; 2019-046; Figure 10). A female in formative plumage was at Dos Palmas Preserve, RIV, 11 Sep 2019 (SS†; 2019-112).

**BLUE-WINGED WARBLER** *Vermivora cyanoptera* (55, 1). An adult male in definitive basic plumage wintered at El Dorado Regional Park in Long Beach, LA, 16 Feb–26 Mar 2019 (RA†, DJB†, TAB†, TGu†, WH†, LJL†, GM, MMe†, LPi†, CNR, ES, JTS†; 2019-018). The only other record of a Blue-winged Warbler wintering in California is of a male in formative plumage in Ferndale, HUM, 2 Jan–7 Mar 1993 (1993-027; Erickson and Terrill 1996).

**CONNECTICUT WARBLER** *Oporornis agilis* (127, 1). Rarely recorded anywhere in California away from Southeast Farallon Island, one in formative plumage was beautifully photographed at Lila Keiser Park, Morro Bay, SLO, 9 Sep 2019 (J&ST†; 2019-110; Figure 11).

**MOURNING WARBLER** *Geothlypis philadelphia* (167, 4). Of the four Mourning Warblers documented in 2019, three were in fall and one was in spring, roughly mirroring the overall seasonal distribution of California's records of this species. The one in spring was a male in first alternate plumage at the Silver Saddle Resort, Galileo Hill, KER, 3 Jun 2019 (MBr, JTS†; 2019-045). The three in fall comprised a male in formative plumage at Nunes Ranch, Point Reyes NS, MRN, 13 Sep 2019 (MaF†, DSS; 2019-114) and individuals in formative plumage (sex unknown) at Creekside Park, CC and ALA, 16 Sep 2019 (AMa, MJR†; 2019-115) and Huntington Central Park, Huntington Beach, ORA, 21 Sep 2019 (RSc†; 2019-125). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: The report of one at Idyllwild, RIV, 12 Sep 2019 (2019-137) did not receive sufficient support from the committee.

**KENTUCKY WARBLER** *Geothlypis formosa* (110\*\*, 1). One was recorded singing at Arcata Marsh, HUM, 2 Jun 2019 (GB§; 2019-043). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: The report of one from Ten Mile River, MEN, 25 Aug 2019 (2019-088) did not receive sufficient support from the committee.

**CAPE MAY WARBLER** *Setophaga tigrina* (51\*\*, 3). This species occurs more frequently in fall than in spring, but the three records accepted from 2019 were all from spring. An adult male in definitive alternate plumage was on San Clemente Island, LA, 4 Jun 2019 (NJD†; 2019-047), and two single males in first alternate plumage were at Point Reyes NS, MRN, one near the Fish Docks 11 Jun 2019 (LC; 2019-052), the other at Mendoza Ranch 19 Jun 2019 (MaF†; 2019-092). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: A report from Clear Lake State Park, LAK, 30 Aug 2019 (2019-210) was not accepted.

**GRACE'S WARBLER** *Setophaga graciae* (84, 5). Presumed fall migrants included individuals in formative plumage at La Jolla Colony Park, San Diego, SD, 22–23 Oct 2019 (AN†; 2019-148); at Point Loma, SD, 24 Oct 2019 (PEL; 2019-149); and at Idyllwild, RIV, 4 Nov 2019 (GA†; 2019-163). Wintering birds included a female in formative plumage at Long Beach Recreational Park, LA, 24 Jan–31 Mar 2019 (TAB†, TGu, JTS†; 2019-007); and returning adults at Villa La Jolla Park, La Jolla,



## THE 45<sup>TH</sup> CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE REPORT

SD, 27 Sep 2019–21 Mar 2020 (ARA†; 2019-126); Encinitas, SD, 9 Nov 2019–6 Mar 2020 (TGo†, SES†; 2019-173); and Del Mar, SD, 24 Nov 2019–5 Jan 2020 (DK†; 2019-185). Individuals observed in spring and summer included a singing adult male at the Chilao Visitor Center, San Gabriel Mountains, LA, 23 Apr 2019 (RST†; 2019-026) that subsequently moved to nearby Charlton Flats, LA, 30 Apr–14 Jun 2019 (DDo†, KLG, ML†, DSt†§; 2019-037), and an adult at Crestview Rest Area, MNO, 22 Jun 2019 (BAi†; 2019-058).

RED-FACED WARBLER *Cardellina rubrifrons* (26, 1). One in formative plumage was at Wardlow Park, Long Beach, LA, 27–28 Apr 2019 (KM†, TABe†§, TGu†, KR†, ES†, AJS†; 2019-028; Figure 12). This record is over two weeks earlier than California's next earliest record of a spring migrant, 13 May 1990 in Caruthers Canyon, New York Mountains, SBE (1990-096; Patten and Erickson 1994). This timing is consistent with the arrival of early spring migrants in Arizona (Martin and Barber 1995), and there are no accepted records from California in winter. IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: The report of one from Morris Ranch Road in Garner Valley, RIV, 1 Mar 2019 (2019-029) did not receive sufficient support from the committee.

### 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 seq.) resident near Santa Rosa, SON, since 14 May 2005 (Iliff et al. 2007), were both still present through 31 Dec 2019.

### CORRIGENDA

In the 22<sup>nd</sup> report (McCaskie and San Miguel 1999) the date span for a Violet-crowned Hummingbird (*Leucolia violiceps*) in Carlsbad, SD (1996-154), was published as 13 Nov–3 Dec 1996; the correct interval is 3 Nov–3 Dec 1996. In the Acknowledgments section of the 44<sup>th</sup> report (Benson et al. 2020), we regrettably misspelled the name of Steve N. G. Howell. Also in the last report, the statement in the Bulwer's/Jouanin's Petrel (*Bulweria bulwerii/fallax*) account that Bulwer's from the western Pacific approach the larger Jouanin's in bill size was a misinterpretation of a communication from S. N. G. Howell. Nevertheless, the question of variation in size within Bulwer's Petrel, first addressed by Mathews and Iredale (1915), needs a quantitative analysis.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Printing of this report was facilitated by donations from Patricia Bacchetti, Thomas A. Blackman, Linda Easter, Karen Havlena, Clifford Hawley, Jeff Hawley, Nina Lee, Peggy Macres, Tony Metcalf, Frances Oliver, Deren Ross, Laura Solomon, Bradley Stovall, and Deb Turski. We extend our gratitude to James R. Tietz for updating the table of records published in *Rare Birds of California* ([www.californiabirds.org/cbrc\\_book/update.pdf](http://www.californiabirds.org/cbrc_book/update.pdf)) and to Joseph Morlan for maintaining the CBRC's website ([www.californiabirds.org](http://www.californiabirds.org)). The following past and present CBRC members provided comments on drafts of the manuscript: Jon Dunn, Peter Pyle, Dan Singer, and Jim Tietz. We also thank Philip Unitt, Daniel D. Gibson, and Carl G. Lundblad for their review and comments on the draft report.

Finally, the CBRC would not exist without the cooperation of birders and ornithologists throughout California. We especially thank the following people who contributed documentation for records included in this report: Alex R. Abela, Josh Able (JAb), Kenneth P. Able, Christopher Adler, Douglas W. Aguillard, Mike Aguilera, Bruce Aird (BAi), Jeff Allen (JAl), Bernardo Alps (BAI), Dorian Anderson, Jeffrey J.



# THE 45<sup>TH</sup> CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE REPORT

Anderson, Ryan Andrews, Gordon Atkins, Patricia Bacchetti (PBa), Brett Badeaux (BBad), Mario V. Balitbit, Jeffrey Barnum (JeB), Brad Barnwell (BBar), Joel Barrett (JoB), Richard Barth, Don Bartling (DBar), David J. Barton, David Batzler (DBat), Elke Behner, Thomas A. Benson (TABe), Adrienne Berman, Matthew Binns (MBi), Dan Biteman (DBi), Thomas A. Blackman (TABl), Gary Bloomfield, Len Blumin, Bonnie Bompert (BBö), William G. Bousman, Cressita Bowman, Stevan Brad (SBR), Matt Brady (MBr), Jeff M. Bray, Frank Brennan, Patrick Brock (PBr), Stanley Buman (SBu), Kristin M. Campbell, Barbara L. Carlson, Andrea Carpio, Rita Carratello, Paul Chad, Juli Chamberlin, Shuming Chen, Donna Chinn, Nancy Christensen, Richard S. Cimino, Holly Coates, Connor Cochrane, Lucas Corneliussen, Ed Dames, Brian E. Daniels, Nancy Davidson, Christine A. Dean, Malia DeFelice (MDeF), Terence Degan, David F. DeSante, Jay Desgrosellier, Nicole J. Desnoyers, Mark Dettling (MDet), David Dewey (DDe), Sandeep Dhar, Darren Dowell (DDo), Jon L. Dunn, Todd Easterla, Bettina E. Eastman, Elias A. Elias, Judith Ellyson, Gil Ewing, Danielle Fasser, Paul W. Fenwick, Frank Fogarty, Michael Force (MiF), Mark Forney (MaF), Kent Forward, Rick Fournier (RiF), Rob Fowler (RoF), Nathan French, Peter A. Gaede, Jim Gain, Paul Galvin, John F. Garrett (JFGa), Karl Garrett, Kimball L. Garrett, Gregg Gentry, Ian S. Gledhill, Ariel Gonzalez, Tito Gonzalez (TGo), John F. Green (JFG), Matthew A. Grube, Trish Gussler (TGu), Robert A. Hamilton, Steve C. Hampton, Calvin Hardcastle (CHar), John H. Harris, Christopher Hayward (CHay), Gjon C. Hazard, Jo Heindel (JHei), Tom Heindel, John Hendrickson (JHen), Alex Henry (AHe), Bill Hill, Adrian Hinkle (AHi), James A. Kendall, Don Hoehlin, William Hopson, Deborah J. House, Chris Howard (CHo), Jim Howard (JHo), Rosie Howard, Andrew Howe (AHo), Eugene Hunn, Patricia A. Isaacson, Christine Irwin, Megan Jankowski, Alvaro Jaramillo, Daniel Jehl, Sharon Jue, Eric G. Kallen, Deven Kammerichs-Berke, Barbara J. Kelley, James A. Kendall, Sangeet Khalsa, Mark Kincheloe, Dan King, Russell Kokx, Tony Kurz, Brenda & Ken Kyle, Alexandra Lamb, Derek Lecy (DLc), William Legge, Paul E. Lehman, Tim Lenz, Linda J. LeRoy, Nick Lethaby, Albert W. Linkowski, Mickey Long, Robin C. Lowe, David Lumpkin (DLu), Aaron Maizlish (AMa), John Mallinckrodt (JMa), Shane Mansur, Marcie Mason (MMa), Blake T. Matheson, Guy McCaskie, Chet McGaugh (CMcG), Bryan McIntosh, Robert L. McKernan, Jimmy M. McMorran, Alexandria Mena (AMe), Martin Meyers (MMe), Chase Moore (CMo), Kim Moore, Joseph Morlan (JMo), James R. Morris, Oscar T. Moss, Roger Muskat, Stephen J. Myers, David W. Nelson, Andrew Newmark, Richard J. Norton, Gary Nunn, Ryan P. O'Donnell, Kurt Ongman, Nancy J. Overholtz, Ron Overholtz, Adam Panto, Debby Parker (DPa), Jim Parker (JPa), Robert T. Patton, David Pereksta (DPe), Lisa Perrone (LPe), Robert Perry (RPe), Michael Peters (MPe), Rita Phillips (RPh), Zane Pickus, James E. Pike, John Pinson (JPi), Linda Pittman (LPi), David Povey (DPo), Martin Powell (MPo), Peter Pyle, David E. Quady, David T. Rankin, Mark J. Rauzon, Bob Richmond (BRic), Bruce Rideout (BRid), William Rideout, Alex M. Rinkert, Don Roberson (DRob), Adam Roberts, Geoffrey L. Rogers, Carole Rose, Kerry Ross, Dan Roth (DRot), Ruth A. Rudesill, Casey N. Ryan, Matt Sadowski (MSad), Edana Salisbury, Larry Sansone (LSa), Dean Schaff (DSc), Jon Schneiderman (JSc), Roger Schoedl (RSc), Brad K. Schram, Spencer Seale (SSe), Adam J. Searcy, Christian Sekas (CSe), Debra L. Shearwater, Dan Sidle (DSid), Desmond Sieburth (DSie), Melissa Simon (MSi), Daniel S. Singer, Susan E. Smith, Jeffrey Spaulding (JSp), Lea D. Squires, Mark E. Stacy, Justyn T. Stahl, Cuyler Staplemann (CSt), Mike Stensvold (MiS), Mark Stephenson (MarS), John C. Sterling, Daniel Stoebel (DSt), Ron Storey (RSt), Stephanie Stragier (SSt), Linda Sudduth (LSu), Brian L. Sullivan, Kirk Swenson, Linda S. Terrill, Ryan S. Terrill, Scott B. Terrill, Ed Thomas, James R. Tietz, Janny & Steve Tillmann, Jerry Ting, Bob Toleno, Manolo Turner, Philip Unitt, Jeff Valfer, Zeke VanZante, Margaret Viens, Lam-Son Vinh, Stanley Walens, Lisa Walker (LWa), Louis B. Warren, Peter Warzybok, Joyce Waterman (JWa), John Weigel (JWe), Matthew West, Jana Whittle

## THE 45<sup>TH</sup> CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE REPORT

(JWh), Bart Wickel, Alan N. Wight, Lindsay Willrick (LWi), Charlie Wright, Loren Wright (LWr), Callyn Yorke, Chezy L. Yusuf.

### LITERATURE CITED

- Aanerud, K. Eighth report of the Washington Bird Records Committee. 2011. *Wash. Birds* 11:35–55.
- Able, K. P., Barron, A., Dunn, J. L., Omland, K. E., and Sansone, L. 2014. First occurrence of an Atlantic Common Eider (*Somateria mollissima dresseri*) in the Pacific Ocean. *W. Birds* 45: 90–99.
- Alström, P., and Olsson, U. 1988. Taxonomy of Yellow-browed Warblers. *Br. Birds* 81:656–657.
- Benson, T. A., Fowler, R., McCaskie, G., and Stahl, J. T. 2020. The 44th annual report of the California Bird Records Committee: 2018 records. *W. Birds* 51:228–260; doi.org/10.21199/WB51.3.4.
- Binford, L. 1985. Seventh report of the California Bird Records Committee. *W. Birds* 16:29–48.
- Brazil, M. 2009. *Birds of East Asia: China, Taiwan, Korea, Japan, and Russia*. Princeton Univ. Press, Princeton, NJ.
- California Bird Records Committee (R. A. Hamilton, M. A. Patten, and R. A. Erickson, eds.). 2007. *Rare Birds of California*. W. Field Ornithol., Camarillo, CA.
- California Bird Records Committee (J. R. Tietz and G. McCaskie, eds.). 2020. Update to *Rare Birds of California*, 1 January 2004–7 December 2020; [https://www.californiabirds.org/cbrc\\_book/update.pdf](https://www.californiabirds.org/cbrc_book/update.pdf).
- Chandler, R. M., Pyle, P., Flannery, M. E., Long, D. J., and Howell, S. N. G. 2010. Flight feather molt of Turkey Vultures. *Wilson J. Ornithol.* 122:354–360; doi.org/10.1676/09-094.1.
- Chesser, R. T., Billerman, S. M., Burns, K. J., Cicero, C., Dunn, J. L., Kratter, A. W., Lovette, I. J., Mason, N. A., Rasmussen, P. C., Remsen, J. V. Jr., Stotz, D. F., and Winker, K. 2020. Sixty-first supplement to the American Ornithological Society's *Check-list of North American Birds*. *Auk* 137:1–24; doi.org/10.1093/auk/ukaa030.
- Clement, P. 2020. Yellow-browed Warbler (*Phylloscopus inornatus*), in *Birds of the World* (J. del Hoyo, A. Elliott, J. Sargatal, D. A. Christie, and E. de Juana, eds.). Cornell Lab Ornithol., Ithaca, NY; <https://doi.org/10.2173/bow.yebwar3.01>.
- Cole, L. W., Nelson, K. N., and Sterling, J. C. 2006. The 30th report of the California Bird Records Committee: 2004 records. *W. Birds* 37:65–105.
- Erickson, R. A., and Terrill, S. B. 1996. Nineteenth report of the California Bird Records Committee: 1993 records. *W. Birds* 27:93–126.
- Frank, J. 2007. Rare bird documentation. *Passenger Pigeon* 69:349–358.
- Goudie, R. I., Robertson, G. J., and Reed, A. 2000. Common Eider (*Somateria mollissima*), in *The Birds of the North America* (A. Poole and F. B. Gill, eds.), no. 546. Cornell Lab Ornithol., Ithaca, NY; <https://doi.org/10.2173/bow.comeid.01>.
- Harris, S. W. 1996. *Northwestern California Birds*, 2nd ed. Humboldt State Univ., Arcata.
- Hejl, S. J., Holmes, J. A., and Kroodsma, D. E. 2002. Winter Wren (*Troglodytes hiemalis*), in *The Birds of North America* (A. Poole and F. B. Gill, eds.), no. 623. Cornell Lab Ornithol., Ithaca, NY; doi.org/10.2173/bow.winwre3.01.
- Howell, S. N. G., and Pyle, P. 2015. Use of “definitive” and other terms in molt nomenclature: A response to Wolfe et al. (2014). *Auk* 132:365–369; doi.org/10.1642/AUK-14-180.1.
- Howell, S. N. G., Corben, C., Pyle, P., and Rogers, D. I. 2003. The first basic problem: A review of molt and plumage homologies. *Condor* 105:635–653; doi.org/10.1093/condor/105.4.635.

# THE 45<sup>TH</sup> CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE REPORT

- Howell, S. N. G., Lewington, I., and Russell, W. 2014. Rare Birds of North America. Princeton Univ Press, Princeton, NJ; doi.org/10.1515/9781400848072.
- Humphrey, P. S., and Parkes, K. C. 1959. An approach to the study of molts and plumages. *Auk* 76:1–31; doi.org/10.2307/4081839.
- Iliff, M. J., McCaskie, G., and Heindel, M. T. 2007. The 31st report of the California Bird Records Committee: 2005 records. *W. Birds* 38:161–205.
- Leader, P. J. 2009. Ageing and sexing of Asian chats: Siberian Rubythroat, Siberian Blue Robin, Rufous-tailed Robin and Red-flanked Bluetail. *Br. Birds* 102:482–493.
- Lehman, P. E. 2000. First record of the Yellow-browed Warbler (*Phylloscopus inornatus*) in North America. *W. Birds* 31:47–60.
- Lehman, P. E., and Rosenberg, G. H. 2007. First North American record of Pallas's Warbler (*Phylloscopus proregulus*) at Gambell, Alaska. *N. Am. Birds* 61:4–8.
- Luther, J. S., McCaskie, G., and Dunn, J. 1979. Third report of the California Bird Records Committee. *W. Birds* 10:169–187.
- Luther, J. S., McCaskie, G., and Dunn, J. 1983. Fifth report of the California Bird Records Committee. *W. Birds* 14:1–16.
- Martin, T. E., and Barber, P. M. 1995. Red-faced Warbler (*Cardellina rubrifrons*), in *The Birds of North America* (A. F. Poole and F. B. Gill, eds.), no. 152. Acad. Nat. Sci., Philadelphia; doi.org/10.2173/bow.refwar.01.
- Mathews, G. M., and Iredale, T. 1915. On some petrels from the north-east Pacific Ocean. *Ibis* 57:572–609; doi.org/10.1111/j.1474-919X.1915.tb08206.x.
- McCaskie, G., and San Miguel, M. 1999. Report of the California Bird Records Committee: 1996 records. *W. Birds* 30:57–85.
- Mlodinow, S. G., and Radamaker, K. 2007. First record of Yellow-browed Warbler (*Phylloscopus inornatus*) for Mexico. *N. Am. Birds* 61:358–362.
- 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., and Erickson, R. A. 1994. Fifteenth report of the California Bird Records Committee. *W. Birds* 25:1–34.
- Pike, J. E., Garrett, K. L., and Searcy, A. J. 2014. The 38th report of the California Bird Records Committee: 2012 records. *W. Birds* 45:246–275.
- Pyle, P., and McCaskie, G. 1992. Thirteenth report of the California Bird Records Committee. *W. Birds* 23:97–132.
- Rottenborn, S. C., McCaskie, G., Daniels, B. E., and Garrett, J. F. 2016. The 39th annual report of the California Bird Records Committee: 2013 records. *W. Birds* 47:2–26; doi.org/10.21199/WB47.1.1.
- Sibley, D. A., and Howell, S. N. G. 1998. Identification of White and Black-backed Wagtails in basic plumage. *W. Birds* 29:180–198.
- Singer, D. S., Dunn, J. L., Harter, L. B., and McCaskie, G. 2016. The 40th annual report of the California Bird Records Committee: 2014 records. *W. Birds* 47:291–313; doi.org/10.21199/WB47.4.3.
- Singer, D. S., Benson, T. A., McCaskie, G., and Stahl, J. 2020. The 43rd report of the California Bird Records Committee: 2017 records. *W. Birds* 51:2–26; doi.org/10.21199/WB51.1.1.

Accepted 8 January 2021