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At Southeast Farallon Island, mean sea surface temperature was near average during June but increased to 1.13° C above the long-term mean in July. This change in temperature during the chick-rearing period triggered a decline in marine food availability, which caused the nests of several seabird species to fail. Brandt's and Pelagic Cormorants and Western Gulls were largely unaffected, however, and like last year finished the season with a high nest success. Post-breeding Black-vented Shearwaters, Heermann's Gulls, Elegant Terns, and Brown Pelicans arrived in high numbers and earlier than normal along the immediate coast, and the low numbers of juveniles among the Heermann's Gulls and Brown Pelicans suggested poor breeding success to the south of us. This early influx, coupled with the appearance of Craver's Murrelets, above-average numbers of Black Skimmers, and another Royal Tern (following one in spring) suggests a large-scale movement of southern seabirds north into the Region. Highlights included the state's first Salvin's Albatross, the continuing Northern Gannet and Common Black-Hawk, and the Region's second Gull-billed Tern, seventh Red-necked Stint, and eighth Glossy Ibis.

Abbreviations: C.B.R.C. (California B.R.C.); C.V. (Central Valley); C.R.P. (Cosumnes River Preserve, Sacramento); F.I. (Southeast Farallon Island, San Francisco); H.R.S. (Hayward R.S., Alameda); Point Blue (Point Blue Conservation Science); S.F. (San Francisco, not State Forest); Reports of exceptional vagrants submitted without documentation are not published. Documentation of C.B.R.C. review species will

be forwarded to the C.B.R.C. secretary Tom Benson, secretary@californiabirds.org.

WATERFOWL THROUGH QUAIL

The Canada Goose family on F.I. was last seen 17 Jul (Point Blue). Among a smattering of summer Blue-winged Teal, 2 males at the Adobe Creek Outlet at Clear Lake 13 Jun (FHa) provided Lake's second summer record. Summering male Harlequin Ducks remained throughout the period at Coyote Point and Pescadero S.B. (both *San Mateo*; m.ob.). A count of 154 White-winged Scoters off Clam Beach, *Humboldt* 24 Jul (Chris Welsh) was particularly impressive for summer; the bird found at Alviso 15 Feb was still present through 27 Jul (MMR, MJM, RGJ, Jason St. Pierre), providing the first summer record for *Santa Clara*. An unseasonable Black Scoter was in Crescent City Harbor, *Del Norte* 29 Jul (RbF, LKH, Cedric Duhalde). Bufflehead bred again at Loch Leven Lake, with a female and 4 young found 20 Jun (WGB), following last year's first *Placer* breeding confirmation at the same location. A Red-breasted Merganser at the Modesto W.T.P. 12 Jul (v.r. SSa) provided the sixth record for *Stanislaus* and the first in summer. Another unexpected inland record, particularly for summer season, was of 2 birds at Bridgeport Reservoir, *Mono* 10 Jun (RSTh, LBT).

California Quail are on the verge of extirpation in S.F. Only 2 males were reported from Golden Gate Park throughout the season. The last chicks were seen in the summer of 2012, and the last female was seen the following winter (*fide* DMO).

GREBES THROUGH PELICANS

Horned Grebe is scarce in summer, so at least 6, and possibly as many as 10, around *Humboldt* Bay, *Humboldt* as late as 11 Jul (Steve Hofhine, Brad Elvert, Alexandra Lamb, RbF) were exceptional. *Santa Cruz*'s first summer record was of a bird in Watsonville Slough 21 Jul (ph. AMR). Similarly, an Eared Grebe on South Lake Merced throughout the period (m.ob.) represented the first record of this species summering in S.F. At Calero Reservoir, *Santa Clara*, a Western

Grebe chick riding on an ad.'s back 16 Jul (AV) and a pair of nest-building Clark's Grebes 7 Jun (SCR) provided first breeding records for both species at that location.

Single Laysan Albatrosses were at F.I. 12 Jul (Point Blue) and off Half Moon Bay, *San Mateo* 26 Jul (DLSh et al.). A Murphy's Petrel and an early Buller's Shearwater were seen from a cruise ship 65 km sw. of Shelter Cove, *Humboldt* 2 Jun (PEL, Bruce Rideout). Among our scarcer shearwaters, 2 Flesh-footed Shearwaters were off Half Moon Bay, *San Mateo* 20 Jul (DLSh et al.), and 2 Manx Shearwaters were seen from Point Pinos, *Monterey* 19 Jul (DR, RC), with one there 31 Jul (BTM). Black-vented Shearwaters appeared several weeks earlier than usual, even compared to years with large influxes; the first arrivals were noted at Point Pinos, *Monterey* 19 Jul (DR, RC) and at Pigeon Point, *San Mateo* the next day (RSTh), and large numbers were present along the *Monterey* coastline by the end of the period (DR). Inside S.F. Bay, Ashy Storm-Petrels are most frequently recorded off H.R.S., where this summer's bird was found 16 Jul (RJR).

Apparently different Brown Boobies were on F.I. 5 Jun–1 Jul and 28–29 Jul (Point Blue), and a subad. was flying n. off Moss Beach, *San Mateo* 23 Jul (RSTh). Even more noteworthy was the first Brown Booby for the bayside of S.F. and *San Mateo*, an ad. female observed from Oyster Point in South San Francisco 5 Jul (RSTh). The continuing **Northern Gannet** was frequently observed at F.I. through the period (Point Blue) and Alcatraz Island, S.F. through 16 Jul (m.ob.); interestingly, it was not seen at either location 16 Jun–5 Jul, suggesting that it had at least one other residence. The American White Pelican present near Crescent City, *Del Norte* since Nov 2013 continued through the period (LuB, Casey Ryan). A huge influx of Brown Pelicans to coastal areas from late Jun through Jul included very few juvs. (e.g., only 3 juvs. among 1000 birds at Pigeon Point, *San Mateo* 12 Jul [RSTh]), suggesting poor breeding success in Mexico. In contrast, only 3–4 Brown Pelicans were present at F.I., the lowest number in more than a decade (Point Blue).

SA A juv. **Salvin's Albatross** was found 39 km sw. of Pillar Point, *San Mateo* 26 Jul (ph. AJ, m.ob.). Formerly considered a subspecies of Shy Albatross, Salvin's Albatross was elevated to full-species status by the American Ornithologists' Union in 2014, along with White-capped and Chatham Albatrosses. In the *San Mateo* bird, the darkness of the majority of the bill (not contrasting strongly with the black tip) and dark bases of the undersides of the primaries eliminate White-capped, and the lack of yellow or orange tones in the bill and comparatively paler crown and neck ruled out Chatham. This bird provided the first record for California and the second for North America, the first being of a very similar-plumaged bird (but older, being in wing molt) near the Aleutian Islands 4 Aug 2003. A sight record of Salvin's Albatross from Point Piedras Blancas 28 May 1996 was not accepted by the C.B.R.C.

BITTERNS THROUGH CRANES

Least Bitterns were reported in greater numbers than usual this summer, including three records of breeding. Up to 4 birds at Las Galinas 4–30 Jul (Jack Hayden, ph. Brian DeLay, Noah DeLay, m.ob.) provided *Marin*'s second breeding record. A single downy young bird was photographed there 4 Jul (ph. DSg), and 3 were seen 15 Jul (Diana Humple et al.). An ad. with a fledgling at Dow Wetlands Preserve, *Contra Costa* 14 Jul (Albert Linkowski), and a fledgling seen again 20 Jul (Logan Kahle), were in an area where this species was seen 3 Apr–3 Jun 2013 (including carrying nest material). These are apparently the only breeding records for *Contra Costa*. A Least Bittern at Thermalito Afterbay, *Butte* 29 Jun (John Lewis et al.) was followed by at least one fledgling 24 Jul (Matt Forster, ph. Ryan Martin, Kate Brice). Other reports included those of a bird 2 km e. of Colusa N.W.R., *Colusa* 13 Jul (Stephen Harris) and one or 2 birds at Mather Lake, *Sacramento* 13 Jun–13 Jul (ph. CCo, ph. Mark Sawyer, m.ob.). An ad. Little Blue Heron arranging sticks and displaying to Snowy Egrets at a heronry in Natomas, *Sacramento* 22 Jun–7 Jul (ph. Susie Nishio, ph. GEw, m.ob.) may have been the same individual reported last season in nearby *Yolo*. Sixteen Cattle Egret nests were tallied at the Ninth Street heronry in Santa Rosa, *Sonoma* this season, with 92% of young fledgling (Madrone Audubon Society). An ad. **Glossy Ibis** at Davis Wetlands 27 Jun was *Yolo*'s fourth (ph. MSr) and the eighth accepted for the Region. White-faced Ibis were widely reported in coastal counties, including singles as far n. as *Del Norte*, at the Smith River bottoms 1 Jul (LuB) and at Lake Tolowa 20 Jul (LuB).

The Hunter's Point Shipyard Ospreys fledged 2 young by the end of Jul (m.ob.), marking the third consecutive year of successful nesting in S.F. A pair of Bald Eagles fledged one young bird at Crystal Springs Reservoir, *San Mateo* in Jul (Tim Sullivan), for the second consecutive year of success at that nest site. Another eaglet fledged from a nest at Gallighan Slough by 30 Jun (GKt, m.ob.) was the first to fledge in *Santa Cruz* in modern times. The female **Common Black-Hawk** near Laguna de Santa Rosa, *Sonoma* fledged a single hybrid young with a Red-shouldered Hawk 30 Jun (ph. Stan Moore, LHg, m.ob.); the young bird was last seen 11 Jul (vt. Stan Moore). A Red-shouldered Hawk nest with 2 young at Meadow Valley 15 Jun (DvH) provided the first nesting record for *Plumas*. The pair of Swainson's Hawks in Coyote Valley, *Santa Clara* successfully fledged a single youngster just after 1 Jul that was seen though 9 Jul (RPh, ph. Caroline Lambert et al.). Another pair was seen nearby through 7 Jun (RPh, SCR). Other wandering coastal Swain-

son's Hawks were over Point Reyes, *Marin* 4 Jun (DMo) and over Mountain View, *Santa Clara* 7 Jun (ph. MMR). Also unexpected in summer was an ad. Ferruginous Hawk at Big Valley near Bieber, *Lassen* 4 Jun+ (Steve Hofhine, KAB).

Yellow Rails were heard again at Papoose Meadow, Eagle Lake, *Lassen* 21 Jun and 4 Jul (Curtis Marantz, Dick Norton, Michael Park, LKh); they have been reported there annually since 2011. Black Rails continued throughout the summer at multiple locations along Alviso Slough, *Santa Clara* (PDu et al.) for the second year in a row. Unseasonable summer Sandhill Cranes were found in several locations. An ad. spent 4 Jun–20 Jul near Elkhorn Slough (Shirley Murphy, ph. m.ob.), providing *Monterey*'s first record of a summering bird; perhaps this was the imm. that spent 19 Dec 2012–13 Apr 2013 at the same location? Another coastal surprise was furnished by 2 cranes at the Eel River Estuary, *Humboldt* 24 Jun (Jasmin Ruvalcaba, Stephanie Leja). Up to two pairs at Bridgeport Reservoir, *Mono* 21 Jun–29 Jul (PJM, R&NO, m.ob.) failed to breed this year; 4 other cranes lingered at Antelope Valley through 22 Jun (CPD, Jean Dillingham), perhaps another potential *Mono* breeding location. Other notable summer cranes included one at Butte House Meadow, *Butte* 24 Jun (Matt Forster, Charles Cornell, JLw) and 2 at Wilson Lake, *Tehama* 28 Jun (Peter Gaede).

SHOREBIRDS

Wandering American Avocets included 5 at Truckee, *Nevada* 3 Jul (SRs, DRs) and one on FI. 20 Jul (seventh island record; Point Blue). An alternate-plumaged ad. American Golden-Plover reported from Woodland W.T.P., *Yolo* 24 Jun (ph. SCH et al.) was presumably an early southbound migrant; an ad. Pacific Golden-Plover at S. Humboldt Bay, *Humboldt* 12 Jun (ph. Elizabeth Feucht) may have been heading the opposite direction. A Snowy Plover at the Kelsey Creek Outlet, Clear Lake 27 Jul–5 Aug (ph. JRW, DvW, m.ob.) was only the second for *Lake*. Three different Jun Wandering Tattlers were more than expected, with singles at FI. 21–23 Jun (Point Blue), at Don Edwards N.W.R., *Alameda* 23 Jun (Jason St. Pierre), and on the n. jetty of Humboldt Bay, *Humboldt* 26 Jun (Brad Elvert). Also notable was *Santa Clara*'s first Jul record at Alviso 20 Jul (†Chris Johnson, Lisa Avila). An inland Willet at Tracy W.T.P. 7 Jun (Terry Ronneberg) was thought to represent the first Jun record for *San Joaquin*. Single Whimbrels at the Kelsey Creek Outlet, Clear Lake 9 Jul (SJS) and 27 Jul (JRW) provided the seventh and eighth records for *Lake* (and only second and third in summer); other notable inland birds were found at Ukiah W.T.P., *Mendocino* 9 Jul (SJS, m.ob.), and Tracy W.T.P., *San Joaquin* 19 Jul (Terry Ronneberg,

ph. Mark & Lorna Elness). High inland counts of up to 38 Marbled Godwits at S. Lake Tahoe 22 Jul (FrO, LPt) and 40+ near Sugar Pine S.P. 12 Jul (Dan Stewart) were tallied in *El Dorado*; another at the Tracy W.T.P. 1 Jun (Terry Ronneberg et al.) was thought to represent the first Jun record for *San Joaquin*.

Two Surfbirds at Pebble Beach 29 Jun (ph. DR, RC) provided the first Jun record for *Monterey*. An ad. Ruff was at American Canyon Wetlands, *Napa* 21 Jul (RAR). The only Stilt Sandpiper reports were from the Yolo Bypass W.A., *Yolo*, with an ad. found 23 Jul (Eli Gross, ph. MSr, ph. Bob Ellis) and a juv. seen 30 Jul (TCo, m.ob.). The shorebird of the season was an ad. **Red-necked Stint** found at the Richmond W.T.P., *Contra Costa* 20–22 Jul (Logan Kahle, ph. m.ob.). Besides being a county and Bay Area first, this bird established only the seventh record for the Region. It was an unprecedented summer for Pectoral Sandpipers, with at least 45 in seven counties 17 Jul+ (all aged being ads.; m.ob.) being over ten times the recent seasonal average. Southbound Semipalmated Sandpipers included an early bird at H.R.S. 22 Jun (RJR). A Wilson's Snipe at the Kelsey Creek Outlet, Clear Lake 25 Jul (JRW) provided the first summer record for *Lake*; another at Huichica W.A., *Napa* 10 Jul (MBe) was also unseasonable. *Yolo*'s fourth breeding of Wilson's Phalarope was confirmed when a recently fledged youngster was found following an ad. at Yolo Bypass W.A. 19 Jul (DaW et al.). A Red Phalarope at Martinez 20 Jul (ph. Jeff Acuff, Albert Linkowski) was a rare find for *Contra Costa*.

JAEGERs THROUGH SKIMMER

A subad. Long-tailed Jaeger at Bridgeport 28 Jul (ph. David Pavlik) provided the first Jul record for *Mono*. Two Scripps's Murrelets 50 km wsw. of Cape Mendocino, *Humboldt* 2 Jun (PEL) were unusually early so far north. Even more notable was the first Scripps's Murrelet inside S.F. Bay, a bird near Treasure Island, S.F. 27 Jun (ph., vt. Dan Sidle). Coincident with the large and early movement of southern seabirds northward, Craveri's Murrelets were recorded for the first time since 2004. In *San Mateo* and S.F. waters nw. of Half Moon Bay, 7 were seen 20 Jul (DLSh et al.) and up to 7 with 2 Scripps's Murrelets were seen 26 Jul (DLSh, AJ et al.). Craveri's Murrelets are rarely seen from shore in the Region, so one at Point Pinos, *Monterey* 15 Jul (BLS) was remarkable.

A count of 14 Franklin's Gulls s. of Corcoran, *Kings* 6 Jun, with 8 there 24 Jun (both JSy), was very high for the C.V. The only other Franklin's Gull reported was at Crescent City, *Del Norte* 6 Jun (LuB). Heermann's Gulls nested again on a rooftop near Roberts Lake in Seaside, *Monterey*, with 8–12 nesting pairs estimated 10 Jun (DR).

Although nesting has not been documented every year, this has been the most frequent nesting location for Heermann's Gull in the Region. A huge influx of post-breeding Heermann's Gulls occurred along the immediate coast in late Jun and Jul, though very few juvs. were seen (and these not until mid-Aug), indicating exceptionally low breeding success in Mexico. At F.I., only 3 individual Heermann's were seen. This was far below average, likely due to the paucity of Brown Pelicans, which Heermann's Gulls kleptoparasitize. A number of pairs of California Gulls attempted nesting at F.I., with many birds on nests in late May and early Jun, but the colony failed to fledge any young (Point Blue). Unseasonable Mew Gulls were at Little River S.B., *Humboldt* 3 Jul (Casey Ryan) and Ocean Beach, S.F. 22 Jul (ph. David Assmann); one at Mono Lake 6 Jun (DS) was not only late but unusually far inland, providing just the third *Mono* record. Similarly unusual lingerers included single Herring Gulls at Mono Lake, *Mono* 6 Jun (GWP), at the Mad River estuary 6 Jul (first Jul record for *Humboldt*; ph. RbF), and at Clifton Court Forebay, *Contra Costa* 23 May–19 Jun (2 birds; ph. Albert Linkowski). Up to 7 ad. Western Gulls at the Koster Rd. gravel pit s. of Tracy, *San Joaquin* throughout the period (DGY, Terry Ronneberg) appeared to be summering, as some spent nights at the site rather than commuting back and forth from S.F. Bay as has been typical of "coastal" gulls visiting this inland location in the past.

A Least Tern at the Chico W.T.P. 2–22 Jul was joined by a second bird 6 & 8 Jul, and copulation was observed on the latter date, but nesting was not confirmed (ph. MRg, TDM, Matt Forster, m.ob.); this provided *Butte*'s third record of the species. The Region's second **Gull-billed Tern**, first found in May, continued through 24 Jun (JSy). A late northbound Black Tern was at H.R.S. 3 Jun (Bob Dunn), whereas a Common Tern at the Adobe Creek outlet at Clear Lake 13 Jun (ph. FHa) furnished *Lake*'s first summer record. The first Royal Tern in Monterey Bay since the warm-water decade of the 1980s was a basic ad. or second-year bird at Point Pinos, *Monterey* 19 Jul (†DR, RC). The influx of southern-breeding seabirds apparently included Black Skimmers as well. *Mendocino*'s first, an ad. at Virgin Creek S.B. 27 Jun (DT, ph. m.ob.), had been banded in 1999 or 2000 at the Salton Sea (*vide* Charles Collins). Amazingly, 2 different ads. (unbanded) were present at the same location 20 Jul (AGM, ph. m.ob.). Skimmers were recorded at eight locations, well above average, around Monterey Bay in *Monterey* and *Santa Cruz*. The number of individuals involved could not be determined, as no occurrence involved more than 4 birds, and some birds may have moved among sites.

One on the S.F. portion of Alameda Point 23 Jul (JSL) furnished only the third S.F. record.

OWLS THROUGH THRUSHES

Lake's first record of Barred Owl was established by a single bird along Elk Mountain Rd. 20 Jul (v.r., ph. JRW, DvW); 2 ads. and 2 juvs. were detected at the same location 25–28 Jul (GEC, SJS et al.), providing the first breeding record for the county. One or 2 Common Nighthawks that joined a flock of Lesser Nighthawks over a gravel mining area s. of Tracy 3 Jun (DGY) established the second or third record for *San Joaquin*. An imm. male Allen's Hummingbird that visited feeders in Acampo, *San Joaquin* 21 Jun (ph., †DGY) provided further evidence of a perhaps regular post-breeding movement through the greater Sacramento/San Joaquin River Delta region. Calliope Hummingbirds seem to slip southward, presumably through their breeding range in the Sierra Nevada, without being detected elsewhere during their southbound migration. The exception, though, is *Sacramento*, where birds have been reported in "fall" for the past several years. This season, a female or imm. male was spotted at a feeder in North Highlands 20 Jul (Bob Ellis). Any sapsucker in the C.V. in Jun would be exceptional and perhaps unprecedented. A briefly seen male at Lodi Lake, *San Joaquin* 1 Jun (DGY) was thought to be either a Red-naped or Yellow-bellied. Although one bird was present for much of the period, the pair of Peregrine Falcons that resided on F.I. for several years seems to have abandoned this site after years of failing to produce a fledgling (Point Blue).

A pair of Say's Phoebes that nested inside an elaborate wooden playhouse in a residential backyard at the Newell Open Space Preserve 4–27 Jul (MBE, Wendy Schackwitz, m.ob.) provided the first breeding record for *Napa*. Although Cassin's Kingbird is unexpected along the immediate coast in the Region at any season, one during the nesting season at Mendoza Ranch at Point Reyes N.S. 11 Jun (Albert Linkowski, Noah Arthur) was especially surprising. Eastern Kingbirds included 2 vagrants—one on F.I. 18 Jul (Point Blue) and another in lower Carmel Valley, *Monterey* 29 Jul (RC, DR, ph. BHL, ph. Chuck Bancroft)—plus breeders at the traditional site at Blue Lake, *Lassen*, with a single ad. found 30 Jun (Brent Campos) and 2 ads. at a nest containing one nestling 5 Jul (Michael Park, LKh). A Scissor-tailed Flycatcher at F.I. 10 Jun established the fourth record for the island (Point Blue).

A White-eyed Vireo, a singing male, at Oasis Ranch 8–28 Jun (CMc, KNN, ph. Nancy Overholtz, m.ob.) was *Mono*'s fifth. A Bell's Vireo sang along the Tule River near Lake Success, *Tulare* near where at least one bird was found in May

(SDS, JLD); this was our only report. *Sonoma*'s second Yellow-throated Vireo was at Bodega Harbor 4–6 Jun (DN, LHg, ph., v.r. m.ob.). Our only Red-eyed Vireo was a singing male at Wilder Ranch S.P., *Santa Cruz* 24 Jun (ph. AMR). A Bank Swallow over California State University, Monterey Bay 1 Jun (DGI) was the only one reported in *Monterey* during the period. The nearby colony at Fort Ord S.B. might still be active but was not checked. Other breeding sites in the county are no longer active. Elsewhere, in *Mono*, the discovery of 160+ birds at a new breeding location at the W. Walker River delta at Topaz Lake 23 Jun (PJM) was welcome news, especially since the historical colony nearby was destroyed several years ago. A Townsend's Solitaire above Point Lobos 20 Jun (ph. CSc) and another above Bottchers Gap 22 Jun (CRo, LRo) provided the first Jun records for *Monterey*. Adding to a small number of records for the Region's interior, an apparent Olive-backed Swainson's Thrush was along Hwy. 49 near Bassetts Station, *Sierra* 12 Jun (†RSTh, Lbt).

THRASHERS THROUGH ORIOLES

In addition to a singing Gray Catbird along Dechambeau Creek, *Mono* 7 Jun (JGa), catbirds were also at Bodega, *Sonoma* 8 Jun (DHf) and Año Nuevo S.R., *San Mateo* 25–26 Jun (JPa, Lbt, RSTh). The exact status of Cedar Waxwing as a breeder in the state is uncertain. Birds often linger into Jun, but Jul records are rare, so observations of a single waxwing near Lassen N.P., *Tehama* 7 Jul (LKh) and at least 3 along Alamitos Creek, *Santa Clara* 12 Jul (JPa) are intriguing. Phainopeplas were confirmed breeding in two new locations: Redding, *Shasta* 3 Jun (m.ob.) and Cottonwood Canyon, *Mono* 6–15 Jun (first *Mono* breeding; R&NO, KNN, m.ob.). Additional Phainopeplas on the C.V. floor e. of Lodi 9 Jul and at Acampo 12 Jul (both *San Joaquin*, DGY) may suggest a pattern of unusual Jul occurrences this season. Seven Ovenbirds included 4 on F.I. (Point Blue) and one inland at the Sacramento Zoo, *Sacramento* 7 Jun (Lyann Comrack, CCo, ph. Jenner Jung-hans, m.ob.). A Northern Waterthrush continued from spring near Lake Almanor, *Plumas* through 14 Jun (RDB), and another was at Point Reyes, *Marin* 2 Jun (PP). We miss Prothonotary Warbler most summers, so birds at Point Reyes, *Marin* 4–6 Jun (RAR, DSg) and June Lake, *Mono* 5 Jun (RSTh, Lbt) represented a good showing. Our only Tennessee Warbler was on F.I. 2–3 Jun (Point Blue). Nine American Redstarts was a typical total, but 4 Northern Parulas was well below our average of 12. Five Magnolia Warblers represented our best summer total since 2000 (8 Magnolias that year). A Bay-breasted Warbler, another species we miss most summers, was at Point Reyes, *Marin* 4–6

Jun (LKh), and another was on F.I. 6 Jun (Point Blue). Five Chestnut-sided Warblers were all coastal, and both our Blackpoll Warblers were on F.I. 2-6 Jun (Point Blue).

Two Clay-colored Sparrows on F.I. 2-3 Jun (Point Blue) were the only ones reported this season. A singing Brewer's Sparrow at Point Reyes, *Marin* 18 Jun (Noah Arthur) was an odd find. Summer Tanagers included 2 birds counter-singing at C.R.P. 21 Jun+ (JTr, ph. GEw, ph. ClH, m.ob.), one at Tuolumne River R.P. 26 Jun (third *Stanislaus* record; HMR, Sherrie Reeve), and another at Del Rey Oaks, *Monterey* 15 Jul (Virginia Showmah). Twenty-eight Rose-breasted Grosbeaks and 8 Indigo Buntings were typical summer totals. A Common Grackle at Point Reyes 3 Jun (ph. Mark Dettling) was *Marin*'s third ever. A Scott's Oriole along Hwy. 395 provided a first record for *Sierra* 11 Jun (†RStH, Lbt).

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Southern California



Guy McCaskie
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Drought conditions continued almost Regionwide through the summer, though there were some locally heavy thunderstorms on the eastern and southeastern deserts. Relatively warm offshore waters prevailed, perhaps linked to a weak El Niño–Southern Oscillation event that never really gained strength. Perhaps associated with these oceanographic conditions, breeding success for many seabirds in colonies just south of the Region appears to have been abysmal, with a virtual absence of

hatch-year Heermann's Gulls being seen with post-breeding flocks of the species in southern California, very few hatch-year Brown Pelicans noted among the thousands of post-breeding birds at the Salton Sea, and large numbers of Black-vented Shearwaters moving into southern California waters far earlier than normal. Highlights included an ad. Nazca Booby photographed off Los Angeles, the first ever recorded n. of Mexico (apart from a ship-assisted bird in May 2001), and a Blue-throated Hummingbird in the mountains of San Diego County, the first for the Region and only the second ever in California. This season also saw the first successful nesting of Neotropical Cormorants, a species rapidly increasing in the Region, at the south end of the Salton Sea.

Abbreviations: G.H.P. (Galileo Hill Park in extreme e. Kern); N.E.S.S. (n. end of the Salton Sea, *Riverside*); P.P. (Piute Ponds on Edwards Air Force Base, ne. *Los Angeles*); P.M.N.A.S. (Point Mugu Naval Air Station in *Ventura*); S.C.R.E. (Santa Clara River Estuary near *Ventura*, *Ventura*); S.E.S.S. (s. end of the Salton Sea, *Imperial*); S.F.K.R.P. (South Fork Kern River Preserve near Weldon, *Kern*); S.J.W.A. (San Jacinto Wildlife Area near Lakeview, *Riverside*). Because most

rarities in s. California are seen by multiple observers, only the observer(s) initially finding and/or identifying the bird are included. Documentation for species on the California B.R.C. (C.B.R.C.) review list is forwarded to the C.B.R.C. and archived at the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology in Camarillo.

WATERFOWL THROUGH CORMORANTS

A Harlequin Duck at Cayucos, *San Luis Obispo* 10 Jun–31 Jul+ (KLP) is believed to be one of the 3 seen at Estero Bluff S.P. in May. A Surf Scoter at S.E.S.S. (Young Rd.) 28 Apr–14 Jun (BLS, GMcC) was the only scoter reported inland. The only summering White-winged Scoters were single birds at Cayucos 18-31 Jul (TME) and at Imperial Beach, *San Diego* 7-9 Jul (R&GW). A Long-tailed Duck present at Avila Beach, *San Luis Obispo* in May was still there 31 Jul (P&JC), and another at Pismo Beach, *San Luis Obispo* remained through 4 Jun (TME). A Pacific Loon inland near Seeley (Fig Lagoon), *Imperial* 24 Jun (GMcC) provides the latest date for a spring migrant in the Salton Sink. A Common Loon in alternate plumage at Corvina Beach on the Salton Sea, *Riverside* 11 Jun (RMcK) was a late spring migrant, and a summering basic-plumaged bird on Tinemaha Res-