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THE 35TH REPORT OF THE CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE: 2009 RECORDS

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ABSTRACT: Since its 34th report (Pike and Compton 2010), the California Bird Records Committee (CBRC) has accepted records of 176 individuals of 58 species, 2 species pairs, and 1 hybrid, most of which were of birds observed in 2009. Two species, the White-chinned Petrel (*Procellaria aequinoctialis*) and the recently split Winter Wren (*Troglodytes hiemalis*), are added to the California state list, bringing the total to 643 accepted species. We introduce a new tabular format to present CBRC records, similar to that found at the CBRC's webpage *Update to Rare Birds of California* (www.californiabirds.org/cbrc_book/update.pdf). In 2011, the CBRC added two species to its review list, the Fulvous Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna bicolor*) and Cape May Warbler (*Dendroica tigrina*).

This 35th report of the California Bird Records Committee (CBRC) summarizes decisions on 230 records of 77 species, 2 species pairs, and 1 hybrid combination, primarily of birds documented in 2009. The committee accepted 154 of the 230 records involving 176 individuals of 58 species, 2 species pairs, and 1 hybrid, for an acceptance rate of 67%. It considered 17 accepted records to represent individuals previously accepted by the CBRC (see Pyle and Sullivan 2010). Seventy-eight records of 42 species were not accepted because the identification or natural occurrence in California was not adequately substantiated.

Highlights of this report include first records accepted for California of the White-chinned Petrel (*Procellaria aequinoctialis*) and the recently split Winter Wren (*Troglodytes hiemalis*), decisions leading to the addition of the Hawaiian Petrel (*Pterodroma sandwichensis*) to the state list, discussions of the identification of the Gray-tailed Tattler (*Tringa brevipes*), first-winter Slaty-backed Gull (*Larus schistisagus*), Brown Shrike (*Lanius cristatus*), Yellow-green Vireo (*Vireo flavoviridis*), and Winter Wren, and discussion of

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decisions involving hybridism with reference to the Sandwich (*Thalasseus sandwicensis*) and Elegant (*T. elegans*) terns and the Blue-winged (*Vermivora cyanoptera*) and Golden-winged (*V. chrysoptera*) warblers. With the addition of the two species, California's list stands at 643 species, ten of which are non-native and two of which have been extirpated within historical times. In 2011 the CBRC added two species to its review list, the Fulvous Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna bicolor*) and Cape May Warbler (*Dendroica tigrina*).

We attempt to economize this report in comparison with past reports by listing records in a tabular format similar to that found at the CBRC's webpage *Update to Rare Birds of California* at www.californiabirds.org/cbrc_book/update.pdf and by restricting discussion to more important issues revealed by these records. See the Western Field Ornithologists (WFO) website www.westernfieldornithologists.org, CBRC (2007), and Pike and Compton (2010) for more details on the committee's procedures, a list of species reviewed by the CBRC, directions on submitting records, archiving of records, county and other abbreviations, museum abbreviations, recent photographs of CBRC review species, and news and addresses for recent CBRC members. Documentation of review-list species should be submitted to Guy McCaskie, CBRC Secretary, P. O. Box 275, Imperial Beach, CA 91933-0275 (e-mail: secretary@californiabirds.org).

In Table 1, the heading for each species includes the number of records accepted by the CBRC, number of records submitted, percentage accepted, and number of accepted records listed in this report. Totals resulting from review of a species for a restricted interval (thus not representing all documented records for California) are marked with one asterisk (*), and species not currently reviewed by the CBRC are marked with two asterisks (**). Numbers in the left-hand column represent, chronologically, the number of individuals accepted, as also listed and explained by CBRC (2007) and at the update webpage; records not accepted lack this number, and individuals judged the same as one accepted previously are identified by the number of initial acceptance.

Each record's date span is that accepted by the CBRC; italics indicate that it differs from that reported in *North American Birds* (NAB). For accepted records, the right-hand column shows the observers' initials (see Acknowledgments). A semicolon separates those who originally discovered the bird from subsequent observers supplying documentation, and a symbol following the initials indicates that the observer submitted a photograph or digital image (†), a video (‡), or a voice recording (§). The symbol # indicates a specimen, followed by the museum's abbreviation (see Acknowledgments) and the specimen's catalog number. The right-hand column also gives reasons records were not accepted and other notes.

To reduce the confusion of a large number of species being indexed under two names in one year, *Western Birds* will adopt the AOU's new classification of the parulid warblers (Chesser et al. 2011) with volume 43.

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

TRUMPETER SWAN. The record from Modoc County (2009-157) represented two pairs of adults and two first-winter birds, apparently family groups.

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Table 1 Records Evaluated in this 35th Report of the California Bird Records Committee

	Date	Locality	CBRC record	Observers and notes
BAR-HEADED GOOSE	<i>Anser indicus</i> Accepted: 0 of 3 (0%), 0			
	3–5 Jan 2009	Seal Beach, ORA	2009-005	natural occurrence not accepted
EMPEROR GOOSE	<i>Chen canagica</i> Accepted: 90 of 114* (79%), 1			
85	3–13 Dec 1996	MacKerricher SP, MEN	2010-010	RJK†
	15 Dec 2007	Pt. Reyes, MRN	2008-123	identification not accepted
TRUMPETER SWAN	<i>Cygnus buccinator</i> Accepted: 83 of 203 (41%), 6			
78–83	17 Feb 2009 (6)	near Alturas, MOD	2009-157	SCR†
KING EIDER	<i>Somateria spectabilis</i> Accepted: 38 of 43 (88%), 1			
38	27 Dec 2009–10 Jan 2010	Cabrillo Beach, San Pedro, LA	2009-238	BED†, OJ†, LMD†, KLG, CMcG†, MSanM†, SSo†; photo NAB 64:358
ARCTIC LOON	<i>Gavia arctica</i> Accepted: 7 of 16 (44%), 0			
	14 Jun 2009	off Sea Ranch, SON	2009-108	identification not accepted
YELLOW-BILLED LOON	<i>Gavia adamsii</i> Accepted: 84 of 124 (68%), 5			
80	8–30 Nov 2008	Bodega Bay, SON	2008-174	RSc; JLo†, RLB†, NMcM, ANW†
80	15 Jan–30 Aug 2009	Nick's Cove, Tomales Bay, MRN	2009-038	CC†, AF†, MFi†, SG†, SNGH†, GL†, DEQ, DW†; same as 2008-174 (Fig. 1); photo NAB 63:498
	27 Jan 2009	near Beale Air Force Base, YUB	2010-065	identification not accepted
81	1–5 Feb 2009	Jenner, SON	2009-044	SJD†, DEQ
82	11–12 Mar 2009	Miller Pt., Tomales Bay, MRN	2009-216	LBl†; RSt
83	12–28 Apr 2009	Elk R. Estuary, Eureka, HUM	2009-070	NSB†; SCa†, KR
	20 Jun 2009	Limantour Beach, Point Reyes National Seashore, MRN	2009-240	identification not accepted
80	25 Jun–3 Aug 2009	Bodega Bay, SON	2009-117	SNGH†, BM†, NS†, RuT†; same as 2008-174 and 2009-038 (Fig. 1)
84	12–24 Sep 2009	Samoa, HUM	2009-163	SCa†
SHORT-TAILED ALBATROSS	<i>Phoebastria albatrus</i> Accepted: 31 of 39* (79%), 5			
27	3 May 2009	10 km WNW Fort Bragg, MEN	2009-184	KeS
28	30 Jul 2009	22 km W Santa Cruz, SCZ	2009-126	LE†
29	31 Jul 2009	25 km SW Fish Rock, MEN	2009-185	KeS†
30	16 Sep 2009	43 km WNW Pt. Reyes, MRN	2009-158	TAB†, DLS†

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Table 1 (continued)

	Date	Locality	CBRC record	Observers and notes
31	11 Oct 2009	56 km SW Half Moon Bay, SM	2009-182	RC†, AJ†, RMS; Fig. 2
GALAPAGOS/HAWAIIAN PETREL <i>Pterodroma phaeopygia/sandwichensis</i> Accepted: 21 of 29 (72%), 1				
	3 Jul 2007	151 km SW San Nicolas I., VEN	2007-152	identification not accepted
	2 Aug 2009	61.7 km W of Cypress Pt., MTY	2009-150	identification not accepted
	2 Aug 2009	off Half Moon Bay, SM	2009-213	identification not accepted
20	26 May 2009	71 km S Pt. Arena, MEN	2009-115	MPF
21	26 May 2009	44 km WSW Bodega Head, SON	2009-116	MPF
HAWAIIAN PETREL <i>Pterodroma sandwichensis</i> Accepted: 12 of 12 (100%), 12; see species account				
1	1 Aug 1997	over Cordell Bank, MRN	1997-122, 2009-250	see Rottenborn and Morlan (2000)
2	15 Jul 2000	over Cordell Bank, MRN	2000-101, 2009-251	see McKee and Erickson (2002)
3	9 Aug 2005	30 km W Pt. Reyes, MRN	2005-109, 2009-252	see Illif et al. (2007)
4	13 Aug 2006	32 km NW Fort Bragg, MEN	2006-109, 2009-253	see Heindel and Garrett (2008)
5	6 Sep 2006	134 km SW San Nicolas I., VEN	2006-128, 2009-254	see Heindel and Garrett (2008)
6-7	8 Aug 2008 (2)	off Ft Bragg, MEN	2008-101, 2009-255	see Pike and Compton (2010)
8	24 May 2009	31 km S of SE Farallon I., SF	2009-114, 2009-258	MPF
9	2 Aug 2009	201 km SW of SE Farallon I., SF	2009-212, 2009-259	MPF
10	12 Aug 2009	51 km WNW Pt. Reyes, MRN	2009-132, 2009-256	MBr†, JLD, OJ, MMe†, PP, LS†, NS†
11	16 Aug 2009	44 km WSW Pt. Reyes, MRN	2009-133, 2009-257	ME†, GE†, RyT†, SBT†, ANW†
12	23 Aug 2009	16 km off Ft Bragg, MEN	2009-137	MMa, DWN†
STEJNEGER'S PETREL <i>Pterodroma longirostris</i> Accepted: 8 of 13 (62%), 1				
8	31 Jul 2009	52 km W Cypress Pt., MTY	2009-204	MPF
WHITE-CHINNED PETREL <i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i> Accepted: 1 of 1 (100%), 1				
1	18 Oct 2009	28.5 km SW Pescadero Pt., SM	2009-194	AJ†; HC†, ME†, JCS†; see species account
WEDGE-TAILED SHEARWATER <i>Puffinus pacificus</i> Accepted: 7 of 21 (33%), 1				
	29 Apr 2008	275 km SW of SE Farallon I., SF	2008-058	identification not accepted
	1 Sep 2008	off Pescadero, SM	2009-120	identification not accepted

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Table 1 (continued)

	Date	Locality	CBRC record	Observers and notes
7	22 Dec 2009	Salinas, MTY	2009-243	CR†, SWa†; #CAS 96075; see species account
	TRISTRAM'S STORM-PETREL <i>Oceanodroma tristrami</i>		Accepted: 1 of 4 (25%), 0	
	21 Jul 2007	E of San Juan Seamount, SBA	2007-160	identification not accepted; see species account
	MASKED/NAZCA BOOBY <i>Sula dactylatra/granti</i>		Accepted: 8 of 12 (75%)	
8	1 Nov 2007	25 km NW San Clemente I., LA	2008-070	MiS†
22	Jul 2008	Pt. Pinos, MTY	2009-081	identification not accepted
	BLUE-FOOTED BOOBY <i>Sula nebouxii</i>		Accepted: 110 of 119* (92%), 18	
93	5 Mar 2009	8 km W Pt. Loma, SD	2009-060	TAB†; photo NAB 63:503
94	22 Aug–6 Sep 2009	N shore, Salton Sea, RIV	2009-139	CAM, GMcC
95	9–27 Sep 2009	Corona del Mar/Dana Pt., ORA	2009-162	DCR; CAM, MMT†, JWe†
96	17 Sep 2009	New R. mouth, Salton Sea, IMP	2009-159	GMcC
97	26 Sep 2009	Anacapa I., VEN	2009-179	ARA†, DMC, TMcG†, DP†
98	19 Oct 2009	Obsidian Butte, Salton Sea, IMP	2009-211	MSc†
99–110	25 Oct–8 Nov 2009 (12)	Whitewater R. mouth, Salton Sea, RIV	2009-201	CAM†, CMcG†; photo of 7 birds NAB 64:153
	RED-FOOTED BOOBY <i>Sula sula</i>		Accepted: 18 of 23 (78%), 1	
18	20–21 Sep 2009	18 km ESE Anacapa I., VEN, and off Pt. Dume, LA	2009-186	MPF; SWe†
	NEOTROPIC CORMORANT <i>Phalacrocorax brasilianus</i>		Accepted: 19 of 21 (90%), 2	
	31 Jan 2009	Fig Lagoon near Seeley, IMP	2009-042	identification not accepted
18	19 Sep 2009	L. Havasu, SBE	2009-161	TABe†
19	6-8 Oct 2009	Obsidian Butte, Salton Sea, IMP	2009-175	MPF; GMcC
15–16	26 Nov 2009–10 Jan 2010	Fig Lagoon, near Seeley, IMP	2009-226	GMcC, MSa†; same as 2007-273 and 2008-162
	TRICOLORED HERON <i>Egretta tricolor</i>		Accepted: 58 of 63* (92%), 1	
58	7–21 May 2009	Ormond Beach, VEN	2009-090	RMcM†; DD†
	YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON <i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>		Accepted: 46 of 53 (87%), 4	
28	8–15 Jul 2008	Famosa Slough, Ocean Beach, SD	2008-092	BM; same as 2006-056, et al.
33	30 Mar–22 Jun 2009	North I. Naval Air Station, SD	2009-113	TMF, KF†, MFP†; same as 2007-118
28	10 May–30 Jul 2009	Famosa Slough, Ocean Beach, SD	2009-085	KaS†; JPe†; same as 2006-056, et al.
43	5–18 Jul 2009	Imperial Beach, SD	2009-118	GMcC

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Table 1 (continued)

	Date	Locality	CBRC record	Observers and notes
44	9 Jul–20 Aug 2009	Famosa Slough, Ocean Beach, SD	2009-112	JPe†
45	13 Nov 2009–4 Jul 2010	Pt. Mugu Naval Air Station, VEN	2009-229	RMcM†, DP†; first-year bird
46	13 Nov 2009–25 Jul 2010	Pt. Mugu Naval Air Station, VEN	2009-228	RMcM†, DP†; adult
GLOSSY IBIS <i>Plegadis falcinellus</i> Accepted: 22 of 36 (61%), 1				
	17 Jan 2008	Henry Miller Road, MER	2008-071	identification not accepted; see species account
	16 Feb 2008	Brewer Road, PLA	2008-180	identification not accepted; see species account
22	19 Apr 2009	near Bishop, INY	2009-073	JLD†; MFr†, ToH, JH
	29 Jul 2009	Prado Basin, RIV	2009-155	identification not accepted
BLACK VULTURE <i>Coragyps atratus</i> Accepted: 4 of 5 (80%), 1				
4	10–13 Sep 2009	Goleta, SBA	2009-156	HPR†; DMC, JLD, BKS†, MV†, CAM†, MSanM, DWA†; photo NAB 64:154
4	29 Nov–4 Dec 2009	Santa Paula, VEN	2009-221	TABe†, CAM†, PEL†‡, DP†, DVP†; same as 2009-156
MISSISSIPPI KITE <i>Ictinia mississippiensis</i> Accepted: 44 of 60 (73%), 1				
44	23 May 2009	Mesquite Springs, INY	2009-093	AHo, BSt†
HARRIS'S HAWK <i>Parabuteo unicinctus</i> Accepted: 50 of 66 (76%), 1				
49	6 Oct 2009	Borrego Springs, SD	2009-172	SB†
CRESTED CARACARA <i>Caracara cheriway</i> Accepted: 28 of 40 (70%), 1				
	8 Oct 2006	near Gilroy, SCL	2008-142	identification not accepted
28	4–23 Jul 2008	near Marina, MTY	2009-082	BTM; see species account
23	25 Apr–14 Nov 2009	east Tijuana R. Valley, SD	2009-076	TRSt†; KM, EGK†; same as 2006-127, et al.
AMERICAN GOLDEN-PLOVER <i>Pluvialis dominica</i> Accepted: 51 of 70** (73%), 9				
	13 Oct 2006	Arnold Road, Oxnard Plain, VEN	2007-002	identification not accepted
	7 Jul 2008	Pt. Mugu Naval Air Station, VEN	2008-103	identification not accepted
42	9–21 Sep 2008	Santa Maria R. mouth, SBA/SLO	2008-210	WTF†; CAM†, MPB†
45	24 Oct 2008	Ripley, RIV	2008-165	JCS†
	29 Nov 2008	Lodi Sewage Ponds, Lodi, SJ	2008-223	identification not accepted

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Table 1 (continued)

	Date	Locality	CBRC record	Observers and notes
46	22 Apr 2009	Imperial Beach, SD	2009-074	PEL, PU; MSa†
47	7 Sep 2009	Salinas R. State Beach, MTY	2009-198	RJA†
48	17-24 Sep 2009	Siedel Road, near Arcata, HUM	2009-170	RF, KR, JCS†
	18 Sep-3 Oct 2009	Doran Park, Bodega Bay, SON	2009-169	identification not accepted
49	27 Sep 2009	Modesto Sewage Pond, STA	2009-166	JIG†
50	2-4 Oct 2009	Salinas, MTY	2009-174	OJ; AB†
51	11-14 Oct 2009	Loleta Bottoms, HUM	2009-180	RF†; KMB
	12 Oct 2009 (2)	Sharp Park Beach, SM	2009-195	identification not accepted
AMERICAN OYSTERCATCHER <i>Haematopus palliatus</i>			Accepted: 43	of 71** (61%), 0
	30 Sep 2007	Santa Cruz I., SBA	2007-212	identification not accepted
GRAY-TAILED TATTLER <i>Tringa brevipes</i>			Accepted: 1	of 6 (17%), 0
	25 Aug 2008	SE Farallon I., SF	2008-109	identification not accepted (Fig. 3)
UPLAND SANDPIPER <i>Bartramia longicauda</i>			Accepted: 29	of 34 (85%), 1
29	3 Jun 2009	near Lancaster, LA	2009-103	JSF†
HUDSONIAN GODWIT <i>Limosa haemastica</i>			Accepted: 40	of 52 (77%), 14
27	10-18 Jun 2009	Tulare L., KIN	2009-106	JSe†; RHa†, SSu†; photo NAB 63:651
28	4 Aug 2009	Arcata Marsh, HUM	2009-127	DFx; SMcA†, KR†
29	22 Aug 2009	Long Beach, LA	2009-135	SSo; BA†
30	25-27 Aug 2009	Watsonville Slough, SCZ	2009-138	RW; OJ†, SBT
31-34	26 Aug 2009 (4)	Glass Beach, Fort Bragg, MEN	2009-140	DT; GEC, KAH†, CV†, LW†
35	30 Aug 2009	near Corcoran, KIN	2009-143	JFL†
36-37	30 Aug-2 Sep 2009 (2)	Virgin Cr. SB, Fort Bragg, MEN	2009-148	BDo, RHu†, TJ†, RJK†, HK†, DT
38	30 Aug-3 Sep 2009	Ten Mile SB, Fort Bragg, MEN	2009-147	BBw†; HK†, RK, DT
39	19 Sep 2009	Cock Robin I., HUM	2009-160	SMcA†
40	20-30 Sep 2009	Virgin Cr. SB, Fort Bragg, MEN	2009-164	DT, CW; RLV†, KAH, RH†
BAR-TAILED GODWIT <i>Limosa lapponica</i>			Accepted: 36	of 61 (59%), 2
	20 Aug 2007	Pescadero Cr. mouth, SM	2007-286	identification not accepted
35	1 Jul 2009	near Manila, HUM	2009-146	LET
36	31 Oct 2009-12 Jan 2010	Upper Newport Bay, ORA	2009-202	NAG†; BA†, DWA†, TABe†, JLD†, CAM, GMcC, LS†, JWe†; photo NAB 64:191
RED-NECKED STINT <i>Calidris ruficollis</i>			Accepted: 13	of 31 (42%), 1
13	30 Aug-1 Sep 2009	Yolo Bypass near Davis, YOL	2009-144	ToE†; DB†, JFH†, JCS†

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Table 1 (continued)

	Date	Locality	CBRC record	Observers and notes
LITTLE STINT <i>Calidris minuta</i>	Accepted: 11 of 24 (46%), 1			
11	29–30 Aug 2009	Owens L., INY	2009-142	C&RH†; JLD, DH†, KNN, LS†, BS††
WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER <i>Calidris fuscicollis</i>	Accepted: 24 of 40 (60%), 1			
	15 May 2009	near Lemoore, KIN	2009-097	identification not accepted
24	24–25 May 2009	China L., KER	2009-094	LLA, TEW; AHo, AEK, BS††
BLACK-HEADED GULL <i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	Accepted: 25 of 35 (71%), 0			
	10 Apr 2009	near Blythe, RIV	2009-071	identification not accepted
LITTLE GULL <i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>	Accepted: 102 of 109 (94%), 2			
101	1–29 Mar 2009	L. Perris, RIV	2009-056	TABe†; AHo; photo NAB 63:503
102	5 Jun 2009	South L. Tahoe, ED	2009-145	ToE, JCS
ICELAND GULL <i>Larus glaucooides</i>	Accepted: 7 of 50 (14%), 0; see species account			
	13 Jan 2008	Carmet and Jenner, SON	2009-230	identification not accepted
	2 Feb 2008	Clear Lake, LAK	2009-231	identification not accepted
	8 Feb 2008	Yolo Co. Landfill, Davis, YOL	2009-009	identification not accepted
	8 Feb 2008	Yolo Co. Landfill, Davis, YOL	2009-010	identification not accepted
	7 Dec 2008–11 Jan 2009	Clear Lake, LAK	2009-232	identification not accepted
	15 Jan 2009	Yolo Co. Landfill, Davis, YOL	2009-014	identification not accepted
	22 Jan 2009	Sunset SB near Watsonville, SCZ	2009-045	identification not accepted
	25 Jan 2009	Venice SB, Half Moon Bay, SM	2009-051	identification not accepted
	6 Feb 2009	near Fort Dick, DN	2009-053	identification not accepted
	12 Feb–28 Mar 2009	Davis WTP near Davis, YOL	2009-049	identification not accepted
	15 Feb 2009	near Fort Dick, DN	2009-050	identification not accepted
	17 Feb–18 Mar 2009	River Park, Lompoc, SBA	2009-055	identification not accepted
	25 Feb 2009	Fresno Co. Landfill, FRE	2009-054	identification not accepted
LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL <i>Larus fuscus</i>	Accepted: 67 of 82 (82%), 6			
51	18 Jan–15 Feb 2009	Mecca Beach, Salton Sea, RIV	2009-013	MFr, NF†; CAM†, CMcG†; same as 2008-022, etc.

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Table 1 (continued)

	Date	Locality	CBRC record	Observers and notes
62	12–17 Feb 2009	Davis WTP near Davis, YOL	2009-048	ToE†; SCH†, JCS†; photo NAB 63:319
63	21 Feb–5 Mar 2009	Piute Ponds near Lancaster, LA	2009-061	MSc†; JSF, CAM†, MSanM†
64	27 Feb–23 Mar 2009	Davis WTP near Davis, YOL	2009-077	ToE†; DB†, SCH†, JCS†
65	28 Feb–5 Mar 2009	Davis WTP near Davis, YOL	2009-079	SA†
61	8 Oct 2009–13 Feb 2010	Red Hill, Salton Sea, IMP	2009-176	GMcC; DWA†, PEL†, MSA†, KH-L; same as 2008-215
66	16–17 Nov 2009	Hwy 41 S of Lemoore, KIN	2009-210	GW†; SSu†; #MWFB 8667
44	28 Nov 2009–15 Feb 2010	Obsidian Butte, Salton Sea, IMP	2009-220	MJB†; GRG†, KH-L, GMcC, MSA†, BJS†; same as 2007-260, etc.
67	26 Dec 2009–26 Feb 2010	Salt Cr., RIV	2009-233	STu†; CMcG†
SLATY-BACKED GULL <i>Larus schistisagus</i> Accepted: 38 of 50 (76%), 3				
	15 Dec 2007	Redbud Park, Clear L., LAK	2008-146	identification not accepted
	20 Feb 2008	Venice SB, Half Moon Bay, SM	2008-036	identification not accepted
	31 Dec 2008	Venice SB, Half Moon Bay, SM	2009-058	identification not accepted
36	10 Feb 2009	Venice SB, Half Moon Bay, SM	2009-065	RST
37	21–22 Feb 2009	near Fernbridge, HUM	2009-052	ToE†; KR†
38	27 Feb–10 Mar 2009	Davis WTP, near Davis, YOL	2009-078	SCH; DB†
SOOTY TERN <i>Onychoprion fuscatus</i> Accepted: 12 of 16 (75%), 1				
12	27 Jul–30 Aug 2009	Bolsa Chica, ORA	2009-154	BED†
BRIDLED TERN <i>Onychoprion anaethetus</i> Accepted: 3 of 5 (60%), 0				
2	13 May–17 Jun 2008	Santa Margarita R. mouth, SD	2008-063	BF; EF†, GMcC; same as 2007-161
SANDWICH TERN <i>Thalasseus sanduicensis</i> Accepted: 3 of 7 (43%), 0				
	4 Aug 2007	near Zuñiga Point, SD	2007-157A	genetic purity not accepted
	11 May 2009	San Diego R. mouth, SD	2009-086	genetic purity not accepted
THICK-BILLED MURRE <i>Uria lomvia</i> Accepted: 49 of 60 (82%), 1				
48	5–14 Jun 2007	Chimney Rock, Pt. Reyes, MRN	2010-018	TaE†
	July 1998?	central California coast	2009-015	natural occurrence not accepted; #UCSC A-510; see species account

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Table 1 (continued)

	Date	Locality	CBRC record	Observers and notes
49	14 Jun 2009	Sea Ranch, SON	2009-109	ToE†
LONG-BILLED MURRELET <i>Brachyramphus perdix</i> Accepted: 26 of 31 (84%), 4				
	9 Aug 1994	mouth of Humboldt Bay, HUM	2009-136	identification not accepted
23	6 Aug 2009	off Smith R. mouth, DN	2009-128	EAE†; JJ†, MMo†
24	7 Aug 2009	off Smith R. mouth, DN	2009-129	EAE†; JJ†, MMo†
25	11–12 Aug 2009	off Little R. mouth, HUM	2009-131	EAE†; RF, MMo†, KR
26	11 Oct 2009	off S spit, Humboldt Bay, HUM	2009-181	KR; SFB
PARAKEET AUKLET <i>Aethia psittacula</i> Accepted: 86 of 89 (97%), 7				
80–81	17 Jan 2009 (2)	22 km WSW Pt. Buchon, SLO	2009-012	CAM†; TME, BKS†; photo NAB 63:324
82	24 Jan 2009	25 km W Pt. Buchon, SLO	2009-036	GMcC; JLD, TME, CAM, DoR†, BKS†
83–84	1 Mar 2009 (2)	34 km W San Miguel I., SBA	2009-057	PEL; DMC, NL, LM†, MMR†, CT†
85	2 May 2009	Manresa SB, SCZ	2009-124	JuG; HN†, fide DSu; #MLMLSB 2457
86	5 Jun 2009	Ocean Beach, San Francisco, SF	2010-045	MC
BROAD-BILLED HUMMINGBIRD <i>Cyananthus latirostris</i> Accepted: 76 of 87 (87%), 3				
61	14 Oct 1995	Mason Park, Irvine, ORA	2010-009	BED
75	27 May–24 Jun 2009	Borrego Springs, SD	2009-102	RoT†
76	8 Nov 2009–24 Mar 2010	Goleta, SBA	2009-209	PeK†; DMC, WTF, PEL, NL, CAM, MV†
LUCIFER HUMMINGBIRD <i>Calothorax lucifer</i> Accepted: 0 of 1 (0%), 0				
	24 Mar 2009	Redwood Park, Oakland, ALA	2009-068	identification not accepted; see species account
YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER <i>Empidonax flaviventris</i> Accepted: 22 of 40 (55%), 0				
	10 Oct 2009	Apollo Park near Lancaster, LA	2009-196	identification not accepted
ACADIAN FLYCATCHER <i>Empidonax virescens</i> Accepted: 0 of 2 (0%), 0				
	17 May 2009	Galileo Hill, KER	2009-087	identification not accepted; see species account
DUSKY-CAPPED FLYCATCHER <i>Myiarchus tuberculifer</i> Accepted: 79 of 90 (88%), 0				
78	2 Dec 2009–12 Apr 2010	La Mirada Cr. Park, La Mirada, LA	2009-222	JoR; JSF, WRo†; same as 2008-040 and 2008-187
GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER <i>Myiarchus crinitus</i> Accepted: 53 of 65 (82%), 4				

(continued)

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Table 1 (continued)

	Date	Locality	CBRC record	Observers and notes
50	20 May 2009	Pt. Loma, SD	2009-089	PEL, DWA†, TAB†, GMcC; photo NAB 63:535; see species account
	15 Sep 2009	Moss Landing, MTY	2009-208	identification not accepted
51	26–30 Sep 2009	Santa Ana R., n. Orange, ORA	2009-165	JLD, JH†, CAM†, MSanM†
52	9 Oct 2009	Pt. Reyes, MRN	2009-190	MBu; KTh, DW†
53	15–20 Oct 2009	Laguna Grande L., MTY	2009-193	DoR†
THICK-BILLED KINGBIRD		<i>Tyrannus crassirostris</i>	Accepted: 18 of 21 (86%), 0	
	23 May 2009	near Williams, COL	2009-092	identification not accepted
BROWN SHRIKE		<i>Lanius cristatus</i>	Accepted: 3 of 3 (100%), 1	
3	24–25 Sep 2009	SE Farallon I., SF	2009-187	MBr†, RyT†; JTz† photo NAB 64:188
WHITE-EYED VIREO		<i>Vireo griseus</i>	Accepted: 67 of 69 (97%), 9	
59	9–19 Jan 2009	Picacho SRA, IMP	2009-006	MBr, JCS†; PEL†, GMcC, BSt†; photo NAB 63:358; see species account
60	25–28 May 2009	Galileo Hill, KER	2009-095	AHo; JCS†
61	31 May 2009	Aspendell, INY	2009-099	BSt†; C&RH; photo NAB 63:504
62	31 May 2009	Huntington Beach, ORA	2009-104	BED; MMe
63	1 Jun 2009	near Santee, SD	2009-100	CHa; GMcC
64	6 Jun 2009	Pt. Reyes, MRN	2009-105	SBT, LST†; LLi††
65	17 Jun 2009	Montecito, SBA	2009-134	PGa
66	20–27 Jun 2009	Goleta, SBA	2009-110	NL; ECa†, DMC, OJ†, PEL, ARA†, ALa, DRi†
67	2–4 Jul 2009	DeForest Park, Long Beach, LA	2009-130	KGi; see species account
67	22–27 Sep 2009	DeForest Park, Long Beach, LA	2010-026	JB; same as 2009-130; see species account
BLUE-HEADED VIREO		<i>Vireo solitarius</i>	Accepted: 63 of 99 (64%), 1	
63	25 Sep 2009	Santa Barbara I., SBA	2009-178	NL
YELLOW-GREEN VIREO		<i>Vireo flavoviridis</i>	Accepted: 95 of 112 (85%), 2	
94	22–27 Jul 2009	San Elijo Lagoon, SD	2009-119	SES, PEL; DWA†, EGK†, GMcC, JPe†, TRS†, JSw†; photo NAB 63:657; see species account
95	18–19 Oct 2009	Oceano, SLO	2009-227	JSR†

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Table 1 (continued)

	Date	Locality	CBRC record	Observers and notes
CAVE SWALLOW <i>Petrochelidon fulva</i>	Accepted: 5 of 6 (83%), 1			
5	31 Jan–8 Feb 2009	Salton Sea NWR HQ, IMP	2009-039	M&JSc†; JSF, PEL, CAM; photo NAB 63:358; see species account
WINTER WREN <i>Troglodytes hiemalis</i>	Accepted: 1 of 1 (100%), 1			
1	3–21 Jan 2009	Montecito, SBA	2010-078	OJ; JLD, JDa§, MAH†, CCou§, ECa†, LM†, MV†, CAM, HPR†, DMC, LS†
SEDGE WREN <i>Cistothorus platensis</i>	Accepted: 10 of 12 (83%), 1			
10	17–20 Oct 2009	Glen Helen Park, Devore, SBE	2009-192	MSanM†; TABe†, AHo, AEK, CAM, BSi†
WOOD THRUSH <i>Hylocichla mustelina</i>	Accepted: 25 of 26 (96%), 1			
25	fall 2008	Lee Vining, MNO	2009-219	#LACM 115150; see species account
RUFOUS-BACKED ROBIN <i>Turdus rufopalliatu</i> s	Accepted: 16 of 18 (89%), 1			
16	8 Nov 2009	Black Meadow Landing, SBE	2009-214	EP†
CURVE-BILLED THRASHER <i>Toxostoma curvirostre</i>	Accepted: 24 of 32 (75%), 6			
19	1–3 Sep 2009	Montebello, LA	2009-149	RBa†; see species account
20	22–23 Sep 2009	Cactus City Rest Stop, I-10, RIV	2009-152	J&MT†; CAM, CMcG†; see species account
21	8 Oct 2009–1 Mar 2010	Chiriaco Summit, RIV	2009-177	MSanM, CAM†; DSC†, ME†, SJM†, RJN†, DVP†; photo NAB 64:155
16	1 Nov 2009–1 Mar 2010	Black Meadow Landing, SBE	2009-205	EP†; TABe†, CK, PEL‡; same as 2004-027 and 2004-204
22	1 Nov 2009–28 Feb 2010	Black Meadow Landing, SBE	2009-205	EP†; TABe†, CK, PEL‡
23	22 Nov 2009	Picacho SRA, IMP	2009-225	GCH
24	24 Dec 2009–9 Jan 2010	Laguna Dam, IMP	2009-239	PEL; HDD†
EASTERN YELLOW WAGTAIL <i>Motacilla tschutschensis</i>	Accepted: 18 of 27 (67%), 0			
	15 Oct 2009	Pillar Pt., Half Moon Bay, SM	2009-191	identification not accepted
WHITE WAGTAIL <i>Motacilla alba</i>	Accepted: 27 of 36 (75%), 1			
27	27 Dec 2009–2 Jan 2010	Laguna WTP, Santa Maria, SBA	2009-237	PaK; ARA†, JMD†, WTF†, OJ†, NL, CAM†, HPR‡, DVP†; <i>M. a. lugens</i>

(continued)

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Table 1 (continued)

	Date	Locality	CBRC record	Observers and notes
SNOW BUNTING <i>Plectrophenax nivalis</i>			Accepted: 122 of 135 (90%), 3	
120	30 Apr–7 May 2009	Ocean Beach, SD	2009-083	JPe†; TAB†, DFu†, EGK†, PEL, GMcC, SJM†, GLR, MSa†; photos NAB 63:506, WB 41(4):back cover; see species account
120	23–26 May 2009	Pacific Grove, MTY	2009-091	BH†, DoR†, BLS†; same as 2009-083; photo WB 41(4):back cover; see species account
121	27 Oct 2009	SE Farallon I., SF	2009-224	JTz†
122	26 Nov 2009	Mission Peak, ALA	2009-223	BBr†
BLUE-WINGED WARBLER <i>Vermivora cyanoptera</i>			Accepted: 45 of 58 (78%), 3	
43	25 May 2009	Butterbredt Spring, KER	2009-096	SBT; JSF, KH-L†, CL, JCS†, TEW, LLA
44	12 Sep 2009	Mojave Narrows, SBE	2009-235	BDe
45	10–15 Oct 2009	near Manresa State Beach, SCZ	2009-183	ToE†
BLUE-WINGED × GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER <i>V. cyanoptera</i> × <i>chrysoptera</i>			Accepted: 6 of 7 (86%), 1	
6	2 Jun 1999	Santa Rosa, SON	1999-131A	DnN†
YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER <i>Dendroica dominica</i>			Accepted: 128 of 135 (95%), 5	
124	17–20 Jan 2009	Mission Valley, SD	2009-011	SBM; DWA†, BLC, AHa, EGK†, GMcC, JN; <i>D. d. albilora</i>
125	30 Apr 2009	Bishop, INY	2009-107	DPa; <i>D. d. albilora</i>
126	17 May 2009	Pt. Reyes, MRN	2009-088	DMo†; ME; <i>D. d. albilora</i>
127	31 May–1 Jun 2009	Pt. Loma, SD	2009-098	PU; DWA†, TAB†, MG†, EGK†, GMcC; <i>D. d. albilora</i>
128	18 Dec 2009	Benicia, SOL	2010-028	NH†, EH†; <i>D. d. albilora</i>
GRACE'S WARBLER <i>Dendroica graciae</i>			Accepted: 59 of 68 (87%), 2	
58	3 Jan–10 Mar 2009	Goleta, SBA	2009-046	ARA†; DMC, LM
58	21 Oct 2009–15 Feb 2010	Goleta, SBA	2009-217	NL; DL†, CAM; same as 2009-046
59	4 Jan–1 Mar 2009	Del Mar, SD	2009-004	SES; BLC, JHt†, GMcC

(continued)

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Table 1 (continued)

	Date	Locality	CBRC record	Observers and notes
PINE WARBLER <i>Dendroica pinus</i>		Accepted: 94 of 118 (80%), 2		
93	25 Sep 2009	Oceano, SLO	2009-197	BKS; MaS; see species account
	3 Oct 2009	Oceano, SLO	2009-173	identification not accepted
94	5 Oct 2009	Pt. Loma, SD	2009-171	GMcC; BJS†
82	5 Dec 2009–2 Apr 2010	Estancia Park, Costa Mesa, ORA	2009-241	NAG†, BED, JLD; same as 2007-100, et al.
CONNECTICUT WARBLER <i>Oporornis agilis</i>		Accepted: 111 of 133 (83%), 1		
111	18 Sep 2009	SE Farallon I., SF	2009-188	RyT†; MBrt†; photo NAB 64:188
MOURNING WARBLER <i>Oporornis philadelphia</i>		Accepted: 139 of 171 (81%), 1		
139	22 Jun 2009	Dogtown, MRN	2009-111	RDG
RED-FACED WARBLER <i>Cardellina rubrifrons</i>		Accepted: 21 of 28 (75%), 0		
	29 May 2009	16 km NE of Lancaster, LA	2009-101	identification not accepted
SCARLET TANAGER <i>Piranga olivacea</i>		Accepted: 148 of 168** (88%), 1		
128	2 Nov 2003	SE Farallon I., SF	2009-168	PP; JE†
FIELD SPARROW <i>Spizella pusilla</i>		Accepted: 8 of 17 (47%), 0		
	5 Oct 2000	Furnace Cr. Ranch, INY	2001-013A	identification not accepted; see species account
	27 Oct 2009	Devore, SBE	2009-206	identification not accepted
BAIRD'S SPARROW <i>Ammodramus bairdii</i>		Accepted: 7 of 9 (78%), 1		
7	5 Sep 2009	Desert Center, RIV	2009-153	CMcG†; see species account
LE CONTE'S SPARROW <i>Ammodramus leconteii</i>		Accepted: 33 of 38 (87%), 0		
	12 Oct 1971	Furnace Cr. Ranch, INY	2010-007	identification not accepted
YELLOW-BREASTED BUNTING <i>Emberiza aureola</i>		Accepted: 0 of 2 (0%), 0		
	10 Oct 2009	SE Farallon I., SF	2009-234	identification not accepted; see species account
RUSTY BLACKBIRD <i>Euphagus carolinus</i>		Accepted: 16 of 17* (94%), 2		
15	11 Nov 2009–4 Apr 2010	Arcata Bottoms, Arcata, HUM	2009-207	KR†; KMB†, EAE†, RF
16	14–19 Nov 2009	Goleta, SBA	2009-218	NL, MV†
COMMON GRACKLE <i>Quiscalus quiscula</i>		Accepted: 80 of 123 (65%), 1		
80	22 Apr 2009	Inyokern, KER	2009-075	BS†, SS†; Q. q. versicolor
COMMON REDPOLL <i>Acanthis flammea</i>		Accepted 80 of 104 (77%), 1		
80	12 Mar 2009	Fresno, FRE	2009-062	STh†; see species account

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YELLOW-BILLED LOON. Analysis of digital images and written documentation indicated that the individuals at Bodega Bay, SON, in Nov 2008 (2008-174) and Jun–Aug 2009 (2009-117) and that in Tomales Bay, MRN, Jan–Aug 2009 (2009-038) almost certainly represented the same second-cycle individual that moved back and forth, while a second (probably first-cycle) individual was observed in Tomales Bay simultaneously in Mar 2009 (2009-216). See Figure 1 for analysis of physical and plumage features linking these records.

SHORT-TAILED ALBATROSS. The first-year individual observed off Half Moon Bay, SM, 11 Oct 2009 (2009-182) was equipped with a satellite transmitter as a chick on Mukojima Island, Japan, 10 May 2009, after it was hand-transferred from Torishima Island at 1 month of age. It was tracked heading north in California waters from 28 Sep to 14 Oct 2009, entering waters off counties from Monterey to Del Norte (Figure 2; NAB 64:147). Another first-year bird with a transmitter was also recorded in California waters in Aug 2009 (Figure 2). The CBRC is currently discussing how to handle records for California waters of seabirds equipped with satellite transmitters but not recorded by field observers, including the Aug 2009 record and three additional Short-tailed Albatrosses tracked in 2010.

HAWAIIAN PETREL. The CBRC has previously reviewed the Galapagos and Hawaiian petrels as a “species pair” (CBRC 2007). New criteria for field identification proposed by Force et al. (2007) led the committee to review the records to species and accept the 12 Hawaiian Petrels listed here. Two records did not have documentation sufficient to allow identification to species and are listed in Table 1 (and retained in the CBRC database) as “Galapagos/Hawaiian petrels.” The acceptance of the Hawaiian Petrel and evidence from satellite transmitters indicating this species ranges to within almost 320 km (200 nautical miles) of Oregon and California (J. Adams pers. comm.) suggests that it is more regular in California waters than the Galapagos Petrel (Force et al. 2007). But our understanding of the identification and distribution of each species is still evolving, and it is possible that the Galapagos Petrel also occurs off the Pacific coast of North America (Pyle et al. in press).

WEDGE-TAILED SHEARWATER. Record 2009-043 is of a light-morph individual that landed on a porch in Salinas and was transported alive to the International Bird Rescue Research Center in Cordelia, California, where it later died. Now CAS 96075, this specimen represents the second inland record; previously, an individual of the dark morph was photographed at the Salton Sea 31 July 1988 (CBRC 2007).

WHITE-CHINNED PETREL. Record 2009-194, of one off Half Moon Bay, SM, on 18 Oct 2009, is the first accepted for California and the first for the North Pacific Ocean. The natural occurrence of a specimen found in Texas in Apr 1986 (AB 44:1158) has been debated (AOU 1998), and this plus observations off North Carolina in Oct 1996 (FN 51:39) and Maine in Aug 2010 represent the only other records for North America (Chesser et al. 2011). A photograph of the California bird appeared on the cover of *Western Birds* 41(2).

TRISTRAM’S STORM-PETREL. Rejected record 2007-160 was only the second report of this species from California, following one accepted from Southeast Farallon Island 22 Apr 2006 (Warzybok et al. 2008, Singer and Terrill 2009). The individual reported in 2007 was observed briefly and described thoroughly by a very experienced pelagic-seabird observer familiar with the species (Warzybok et al. 2008), and several other observers also glimpsed it and provided support for the identification. Most CBRC members consistently accepted this record as it circulated through three rounds, but on each round two members believed that the bird was seen too briefly to be accepted as a second record for the eastern Pacific. In the record’s fourth and final round of circulation following discussion at the annual meeting only three members endorsed it.

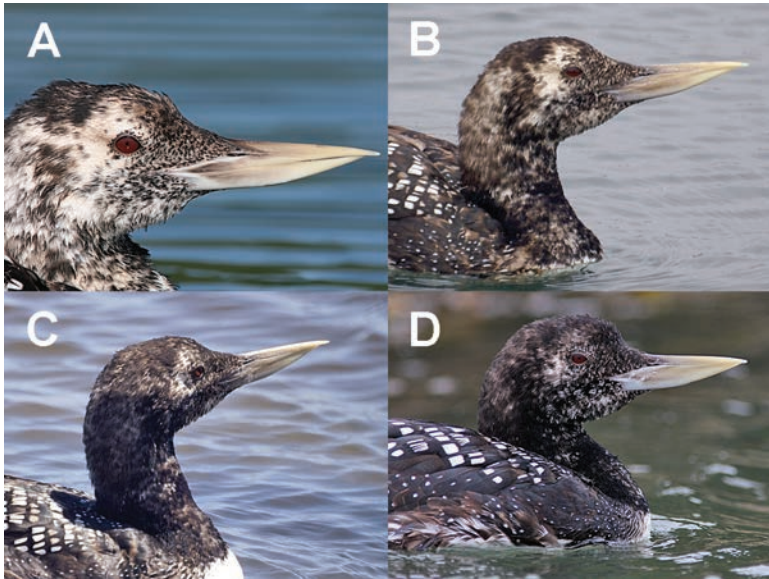


Figure 1. Yellow-billed Loon (*Gavia adamsii*) in Tomales Bay, Marin Co., 18 May 2009 (A), and 31 Aug 2009 (D), and in Bodega Bay, Sonoma Co., 25 Jun 2009 (B) and 12 Jul 2009 (C), showing progression of second prealternate molt (see species account). In these images, note the large bill with the maxilla crossing to the right, the pattern of white feathering around the eye, and the white patch with distinctive dagger-shaped black feather below the gape, demonstrating that these photos (of records 2009-038 and 2009-117) are of the same individual; other photos link record 2008-174 (Bodega Bay, Nov 2008) with the Tomales Bay bird prior to its prealternate molt.

Photos by Galen Leeds (A, D), and Ruth Tonascia (B, C)

GLOSSY IBIS. Most members believed the 17 Jan 2008 report from Merced County (2008-071) to have involved a pure Glossy Ibis, but the significance of the record (first in winter for California) and facial features less than full for a Glossy Ibis caused enough members to be concerned about hybridism with the White-faced Ibis (*Plegadis chihi*) to withhold acceptance. From its plumage, several members suspected the bird was in its second winter, and this plus its being away from breeding grounds during the nonbreeding season may have diminished facial features characteristic of breeding Glossy Ibises (Pyle 2008). Similar concerns were expressed regarding the individual poorly photographed in Placer County 16 Feb 2008 (2008-180).

CRESTED CARACARA. The number of records accepted from California (29) is undoubtedly inflated by multiple reports of the same individuals at different localities (Pyle and Sullivan 2010, K. Nelson pers. comm.). Record 2009-082, of an adult near Marina, MTY, 4–23 Jul 2008, may have been of the same individual observed at the same location in previous years.

GRAY-TAILED TATTLER. The first-fall tattler photographed on Southeast Farallon Island, SF, on 25 Aug 2008 (2008-109; Figure 3) had extensive white fringing to the

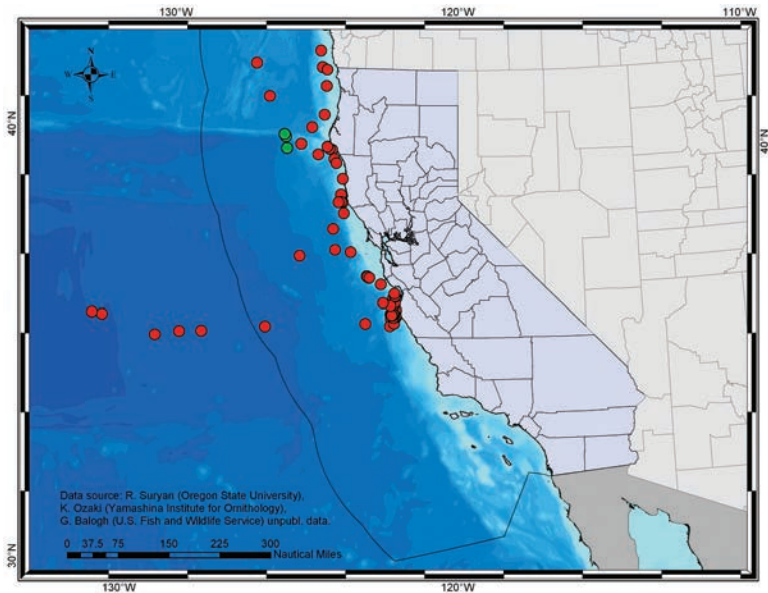


Figure 2. Data from two Short-tailed Albatrosses (*Phoebastria albatrus*) tracked in California waters in 2009 (red dots), including one that was also observed off Half Moon Bay 11 Oct 2009 (2009-182; see species account). Green dots indicate a separate first-year bird that fledged from Torishima Island with a faulty transmitter, located at the position indicated on 31 Aug 2009, but with month-long gaps in data-transmission before and after this date, so it is unknown how long it remained in California waters. Unpublished information and map courtesy of Robert M. Suryan, Oregon State University.

upperpart feathers and a rising double-noted call, typical of the Gray-tailed Tattler. However, it also showed an extensive dark gray wash to the sides below the folded wing and a long nasal groove, extending about two-thirds the length of the bill, marks favoring the Wandering Tattler (*T. incanus*; Paulson 1986, Pyle 2008). Several other odd tattlers giving the calls of one species but appearing more like the other have been reported from the Farallon Islands and elsewhere during the past two decades, and on the basis of this and other information the committee concluded that variation in this species pair is insufficiently understood for the 2008 record to be accepted. Hybridism between the two species, not previously reported for the tattlers but well documented in other shorebirds, could account for these variations.

HUDSONIAN GODWIT. Thirteen juveniles documented in California Aug–Sep 2009 represented the most in one season by far, the previous high seasonal total being of three (in 2003 and 2007). We thank Robert J. Keiffer for carefully assessing records from the area of Fort Bragg, MEN (including four together at Glass Beach; Figure 4) to ensure that no individual is represented in more than one record.

RED-NECKED STINT. The individual near Davis, YOL, on 30 Aug 2009 (2009-144; Figure 5) was a long-awaited first juvenile to be accepted for California and continental North America. Several previous records of juveniles were not accepted



Figure 3. Unidentified tattler reported as a Gray-tailed Tattler (*Tringa brevipes*) photographed on Southeast Farallon Island, San Francisco Co., 25 Aug 2008 (2008-109); see species account.

Photo by Matt Brady

because of the difficulty in distinguishing the Red-necked from the juvenile Little Stint (*C. minuta*) and Semipalmated Sandpiper (*C. pusilla*).

SLATY-BACKED GULL. A first-winter gull photographed at Venice Beach, SM, 31 Dec 2008 (2009-058) was large with contrasting plumage, a large black bill, and whitish head feathering, features suggesting the Slaty-backed (Howell and Dunn 2007), but it also showed extensively replaced pale grayish to silvery back feathers with black central shaft streaks (Figure 6). Review of images, including those at Japanese websites, suggests that first-cycle Slaty-backed Gulls typically do not undergo postjuvinal (preformative or first prealternate; see Pyle 2008) molt this extensive by late December and that replaced feathers more typically have broad black centers and pale fringes, as matched by the only two first-cycle birds accepted by the CBRC (2007), both from this location Jan–Feb 2006 (Heindel and Garrett 2008). However, some of the gulls depicted on various websites might also be misidentified Vega Gulls (*L. argentatus vegae*) or hybrids, making it difficult to garner a clear understanding of the timing of molt, the pattern of the post-juvinal upperpart feathers, and the interaction between these two variables in pure first-cycle Slaty-backed Gulls. Another first-cycle gull at Clear Lake, LAK, on 15 Dec 2007 (2008-147) showed similar postjuvinal back feathers and was not accepted as a Slaty-backed Gull. The CBRC is making some progress regarding the identification of first-cycle Slaty-backed Gulls but not enough to accept records such as these.

ICELAND GULL. The committee continues to handle records of this species with extreme caution, given taxonomic uncertainties and the fact that the known winter range of the Iceland Gull does not seem to make the species a good candidate to reach California with frequency (see CBRC 2007). The 13 records listed in Table 1, like those not accepted in the past, were split among gulls the committee believed were more likely small and/or bleached Glaucous-winged (*Larus glaucescens*), Glaucous (*L. hyperboreus*), Thayer's (*L. thayeri*), or hybrid (e.g., "Nelson's Gull, *L. nelsoni*")



Figure 4. Two of four juvenile Hudsonian Godwits (*Limosa haemastica*) at Glass Beach, Mendocino Co., 26 Aug 2009 (2009-140), showing individual variation in brightness of juvenal back feathers. See species account.

Photo by Lisa Walker



Figure 5. Red-necked Stint (*Calidris ruficollis*) near Davis, Yolo Co., 30 Aug 2009 (2009-144), the first juvenile of this species accepted for California (see species account). Note the short but stout bill, stocky body with extended primary projection, indistinct and restricted breast streaking, and rufous-edged back feathers contrasting with grayish wing coverts, which, along with well-photographed unwebbed toes, helped confirm the bird's identity as a Red-necked Stint.

Photo by Dan Brown, www.naturestoc.smugmug.com



Figure 6. First-winter gull photographed at Venice Beach, San Mateo Co., 31 Dec 2008 (2009-058). It shows some features suggesting the Slaty-backed Gull (*Larus schistisagus*) but was not accepted as this species by the CBRC (see species account).

Photo by Matt Brady



Figure 7. Bridled Tern (*Onychoprion anaethetus*), Santa Margarita River mouth, San Diego Co., May 2009 (2008-063). See species account.

Photo by Erin Feinblatt, www.erinfeinblatt.com

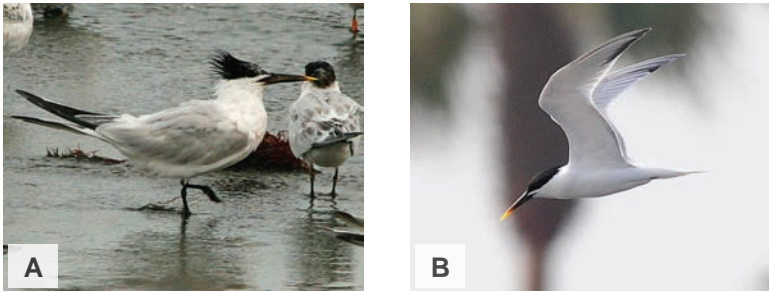


Figure 8. These terns photographed on the beach near Zuñiga Point, San Diego Co., 4 Aug 2007 (A; 1007-157A) and at the San Diego River mouth, San Diego Co., 11 May 2009 (B; 2009-086) resemble Sandwich Terns (*Thalasseus sandvicensis*) but were not accepted as this species because of the possibility of introgression with the Elegant Tern (*T. elegans*). See species account.

Photos by Matt Sadowski (A) and Douglas W. Aguillard (B)



Figure 9. Brown Shrike (*Lanius cristatus*) captured and banded 24–25 Sep 2009 on Southeast Farallon Island, San Francisco Co. (2009-187). See species account.

Photo by Matt Brady

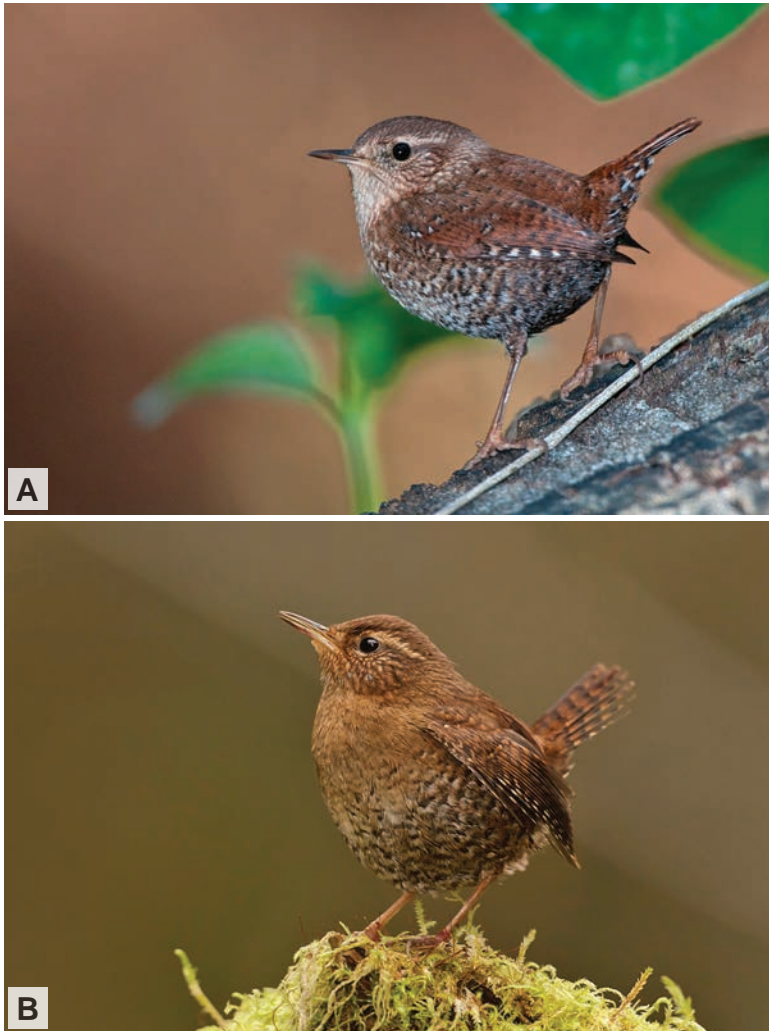


Figure 10. Winter Wren (A; *Troglodytes hiemalis*) at Montecito, Santa Barbara Co., 19 Jan 2009 (2010-078), and a Pacific Wren (B; *T. pacificus*) photographed 17 Feb 2008 in Mendocino Co. See species account for identification tips.

Photos by Larry Sansone (A) and Bob Steele (B)

gulls, or hybrids or intergrades between Kumlien's (*L. glaucoides kumlieni*) and Thayer's gulls.

BRIDLED TERN. The individual at the Santa Margarita River mouth, SD, in May 2009 (2008-063) seemed pale on the back, suggesting the possibility of the Gray-backed Tern (*O. lunatus*). But it also showed a slight brown wash to the upperwing

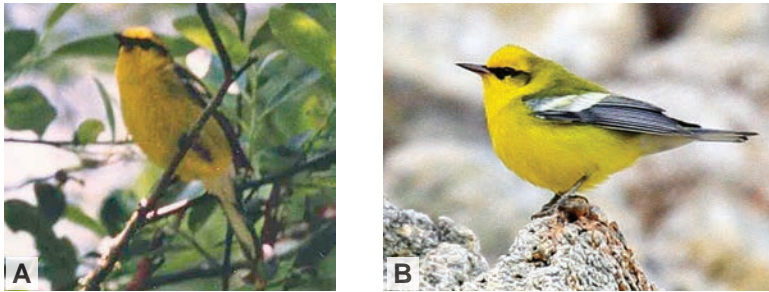


Figure 11. The committee reconsidered the identification of the bird reported as a Blue-winged Warbler (*Vermivora cyanoptera*) from Santa Rosa, Sonoma Co., 2 Jun 1999 (A; 1999-131A), after it decided that record 2008-157 from Southeast Farallon Island, San Francisco Co. (B) represented a hybrid (see species account).

Photos by Dan Nelson (A) and Matt Brady (B)

coverts and a thick dark trailing edge to the underwing (Figure 7), features supporting the Bridled over the Gray-backed (K. L. Garrett pers. comm., Pyle 2008). That it was likely the same bird noted here in 2007 also helped with the record's acceptance. Bridled Terns in California should be *O. a. nelsoni* of southwestern Mexico, but the CBRC hesitates ascribing them to subspecies on the basis of the submitted documentation.

SANDWICH TERN. Two terns photographed near Zuñiga Point, SD, 4 Aug 2007 (2007-157A) and at the San Diego River mouth, SD, 11 May 2009 (2009-086) resembled Sandwich Terns (Figure 8) but appeared to be larger and to have more yellow on the bills than is typical of that species, generating concern that they may have been introgressed with the Elegant Tern (*T. elegans*). In 1993 Sandwich and Elegant terns produced F1 hybrids (Collins 1997) that were apparently observed in California in 1995 (CBRC 2007), but some committee members believe it more likely that the birds in San Diego in 2007 and 2009 were F2 back-crosses with the Sandwich Tern. The question of where such back-crossed hybrids may have been produced (probably outside of California), the possibility that they were intergrades with the larger and yellow-billed Cayenne subspecies of the Sandwich Tern (*T. s. eurygnatha*), and varying philosophies about accepting F2 and later backcrosses (see Blue-winged × Golden-winged Warbler) resulted in both of these individuals being endorsed as Sandwich Terns by some committee members, but not enough for the records to be accepted.

THICK-BILLED MURRE. Record 2009-015 involves a specimen that was reportedly collected during recovery of oiled birds during the "Point Reyes tarball incident" of Nov 1997–Mar 1998 (Carter and Golightly 2003), but it was discovered in a bag of frozen carcasses with no indication of date, location, or origin. The specimen is of an adult (at least three years old) in full alternate plumage, nearly if not completely unprecedented for California, and would be unusual for a bird collected between November and March. These factors, plus the unknown date and location, led to non-acceptance.

LUCIFER HUMMINGBIRD. Record 2009-068 from Oakland, ALA, would have represented a first of this species for California. The report was accompanied by a sketch that could have fit a young male or female Lucifer Hummingbird, but several

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committee members thought that it might have been of another hummingbird species with a deformed bill.

ACADIAN FLYCATCHER. The Acadian Flycatcher has yet to be documented from California. Photographs of an *Empidonax* flycatcher at Galileo Hill, KER, 17 May 2009 (2009-087), perhaps of an individual other than that described, are consistent with a Western Flycatcher (*E. difficilis/occidentalis*) in features such as a teardrop-shaped eyering, yellow throat, and short primary projection.

GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER. The total of four accepted records in 2009, including California's first for spring, from Pt. Loma, SD, 20 May 2009 (2009-089), tied that of 1983 for the most in one year.

BROWN SHRIKE. California's third accepted Brown Shrike was captured and banded 24–25 Sep 2009 on Southeast Farallon Island, SF (2009-187; Figure 9), the same location as the state's first record in Sep 1984 (CBRC 2007). The extensively black mask, entirely black bill, relatively bright upperparts, and molt pattern identified it as an adult. The Brown Shrike is one of the few passerines reported to undergo two complete molts per year as an adult (Stresemann and Stresemann 1971, Svensson 1992, Cramp and Perrins 1993), but details require confirmation. It is also unusual in that prebasic primary molt begins with p5–p7 and proceeds "strictly descendently and irregularly ascendently from this center, or simultaneously from 10th p" (Svensson 1992). This individual had replaced p5 symmetrically but no other flight feathers except for the tertials and the inner and outer rectrices, apparently having arrested its molt prior to migration, as reported for subspecies *L. c. cristatus* (Cramp and Perrins 1993, Worfolk 2000). The bird was a female by the barring on the upper sides; adult males lack barring. As an adult, it was distinguished from other species of Asian shrikes by the combination of mostly rufous upperparts, black lores, and no white at the base of the primaries.

Three or four subspecies of the Brown Shrike occur in eastern Asia (Svensson 1992, Cramp and Perrins 1993, Worfolk 2000). The brown back contrasting with the brighter rufous crown and rump and the suspended molt suggest this bird was the highly migratory *cristatus* of northeastern Asia. The subspecies *lucionensis* occurs in Korea and China and is easily differentiated by its gray crown and brown back. The subspecies of Sakhalin and Japan, *superciliosus*, resembles *cristatus* but has a more reddish mantle that does not contrast with the rump or crown and a broad white supercilium that extends across the forehead. The final subspecies, *confusus*, occurs in northern Manchuria, perhaps in a zone of intergradation between the other three groups.

WHITE-EYED VIREO. Nine accepted records in 2009 were the most in a year since 12 were accepted in 1992. The record for the lower Colorado River at Picacho State Recreation Area, IMP, 9–19 Jan 2009 (2009-006) is California's first for winter. The bird initially found on 2 Jul 2009 in DeForest Park, LA (2009-130), most likely oversummered and was rediscovered 22 Sep (2010-026).

YELLOW-GREEN VIREO. A singing bird found on 22 Jul 2009 at San Elijo Lagoon, SD (2009-119), was first reported as a worn Red-eyed Vireo (*Vireo olivaceus*). Initial photographs were poor but seemed to support this identification by showing a dull vireo with yellow limited to the undertail coverts and lower flanks. After concerns were raised about the bird's large bill and indistinct face pattern, better photos were taken that showed more extensive yellow on the sides that extended onto the neck, yellow-green upperparts, yellow inner edging to the outer rectrices, a pale gray eye-line, and an indistinct lateral crown stripe, indicating a Yellow-green Vireo in worn plumage. Previously, all Yellow-green Vireos accepted from California had occurred during September and October, and nearly all were in their first fall (CBRC 2007). However, there are several records of Yellow-green Vireos summering from Arizona to

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Texas, the closest ~160 km east of the California border at Paloma Ranch in Arizona on 13 Jul 1980 (NAB 34:920).

CAVE SWALLOW. California's first Cave Swallow accepted for January or February stayed at the headquarters of Salton Sea NWR, IMP, from 31 Jan to 8 Feb 2009 (2009-039). The buff-colored throat and rump indicated the southwestern subspecies *pallida*; the nominate Caribbean subspecies has darker cinnamon on the throat and rump, though it varies somewhat from island to island (Pyle 1997). Although spring overshoots of *pallida* to the interior of North America typically do not occur until April and May (McNair and Post 2001), Cave Swallows begin arriving at Carlsbad Caverns, New Mexico, as early as late January (West 1995). Hence this bird could have been wintering in the area or an early spring overshoot.

WINTER WREN. The Winter Wren at Montecito, SBA, 3–21 Jan 2009 (2010-078; Figure 10A) represents California's first accepted record of this recently split species. Following research by Drovetski et al. (2004) and Toews and Irwin (2008), the AOU (Chesser et al. 2010) split the Old World Eurasian Wren (*Troglodytes troglodytes*) from its New World relatives and among the latter elevated the western Pacific Wren (*T. pacificus*; Figure 10B) and eastern Winter Wren to species status. The two North American species differ subtly in both voice and plumage. In the field, the quality of the doubled call note may be the most reliable distinguishing character, with the Winter Wren making a flatter "kelp" reminiscent of a Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*), the Pacific Wren making a sharper "chimp" similar to that of a Wilson's Warbler (*Wilsonia pusilla*). Plumage differences may be less obvious, but the most consistent of these appear to be the whiter throat, wing-covert spotting, and primary barring on the Winter Wren, whereas on the Pacific Wren these pale areas tend to be a richer buff color (Figure 10). Variation within the Pacific Wren, though, is considerable. The CBRC is considering several Winter Wren records from previous years.

WOOD THRUSH. One in its first fall was found freshly dead along the west shore of Mono Lake, MNO (2009-219), after it had presumably crashed into a house (LACM 115150). The collector could not recall the exact date that she found it but thought that it was during late November. Although the Wood Thrush's skull can be fully pneumatized by mid-October (Pyle 1997), this bird's skull was <5% pneumatized, suggesting it may have been collected earlier in the fall.

CURVE-BILLED THRASHER. The six new birds found during 2009 exceeded the highest previous annual total for the state by two, and the two September records from Montebello, LA (2009-149), and Cactus City, RIV (2009-152), were the first for that month and presumably represented early fall dispersal. The Montebello bird was also unusual in being just the second recorded on the state's coastal slope and a first for Los Angeles County. All six records appeared to be of the westernmost subspecies *palmeri*, distinguished from the more eastern *curvirostre* by indistinct wing bars and vague chest spots.

SNOW BUNTING. The one found at Ocean Beach, SD, 2 May 2009 (2009-083) was a first for San Diego County and the southernmost for California. After it was last observed there on 7 May, it was relocated 16 days later and 605 km to the north in Pacific Grove, MTY, 23–26 May (2009-091) representing the latest spring record for California by 15 days. From the unusual dates and locations for this first-spring female, the committee suspected that the same bird might be involved, and considered this to be the case after a comparison of feather-wear patterns in close-up photos from both locations confirmed it (Pyle and Sullivan 2010).

BLUE-WINGED WARBLER × GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER. The committee reconsidered a record of the Blue-winged Warbler from Santa Rosa, SON, 2 Jun 1999 (1999-131A; Figure 11A), after it decided that a record from Southeast Farallon Island, SF, 17 Sep 2008 (2008-157; Figure 11B), of a bird with a similar facial

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pattern, represented a Blue-winged Warbler introgressed with Golden-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) genes (Pike and Compton 2010). To be consistent with 2008-157, the committee decided that 1999-131A should also be classified as a hybrid. This decision recognized evidence from the zone of hybridization that a black postocular eyeline curling down around the auriculars is typical of F3 or F4 hybrids. Thus many accepted sight records from California of Blue-winged or Golden-winged Warblers not explicitly ruling out hybridism may be suspect, and records of the two species may need to be pooled for analyses of occurrence in the state. For these reasons, acceptance “to species” of F3 or F4 hybrids showing >75% of the characters of one species was proposed, but this proposal was not accepted by the committee. See also the account of the Sandwich Tern (Figure 8).

For the past 45 years, the population of the Golden-winged Warbler has been declining rapidly because of habitat loss, cowbird parasitism, and hybridization with the Blue-winged Warbler (Confer 1992, Buehler et al. 2007). As the Blue-winged expands north and west into the range of the Golden-winged, hybridization leads to genetic swamping and local extinction of Golden-winged genes (Gill 2004, Dabrowski et al. 2005, Vallender and Robertson 2007). Directional introgression of Blue-winged genes into Golden-winged Warbler populations appears to be driven by sexual selection (Confer 2006, Leichty and Grier 2006). Until recently, accepted California records of the Golden-winged outnumbered those of the Blue-winged (CBRC 2007), but, starting in the 2000s, their rate slowed dramatically (Figure 12), despite expansion of the Golden-winged to the west in Canada in recent clearcuts (Burton 2007 and pers. comm.). The rate of California occurrences of the Blue-winged Warbler, on the other hand, appears to have leveled off and now exceeds that of the Golden-winged (Figure 12).

PINE WARBLER. This species seldom reaches California in fall until mid-October (CBRC 2007); the well-described female found on 25 Sep 2009 at Pismo Beach, SLO (2009-197), is the earliest accepted by five days.

FIELD SPARROW. The committee reconsidered a record from Furnace Creek

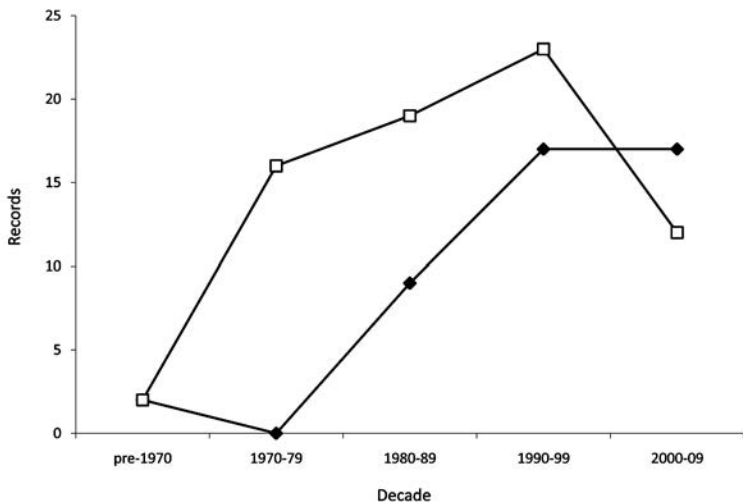


Figure 12. Accepted records by decade of the Blue-winged (*Vermivora cyanoptera*; black diamonds) and Golden-winged (*V. chrysoptera*; white squares) warblers in California. See species account.

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Ranch, INY, 5 Oct 2000 (2001-013A), after it became clear from published literature (Leberman 1976, Stevenson and Anderson 1994, Seyffert 2001), banding data, and observations compiled at www.eBird.org (reviewed 30 April 2010) that the species' peak migration does not begin until mid-October. Without a photo, this record failed to meet the rigorous standards required to extend by 11 days the earliest fall date of this species, which is exceptionally scarce in California.

BAIRD'S SPARROW. The juvenile found at Desert Center, RIV (2009-153), was a first for inland California.

YELLOW-BREASTED BUNTING. A bird seen briefly by a single observer on Southeast Farallon I., SF, 10 Oct 2009 (2009-234) was well described; although certain features were not noted because of the brevity of the sighting, the description eliminated all possibilities other than the Yellow-breasted Bunting. However, the committee was unwilling to endorse a potential first state record without a specimen, photograph, or corroborating descriptions. Several committee members suggested that this record could be recirculated once a future record of this species, with more tangible documentation, has been accepted. Previously, a poor photograph from Mission Hills, LA, 5-6 Mar 2000, was submitted as a Yellow-breasted Bunting, but the record failed on the basis of identification and would have in any case failed on the basis of natural origin. Currently, only the White-collared Swift (*Streptoprocne zonaris*) and White-winged Crossbill (*Loxia leucoptera*) are on the California list without a supporting specimen or photograph.

COMMON REDPOLL. A well-photographed Common Redpoll at a feeder in Fresno, FRE, 12 Mar 2009 (2009-062), is the southernmost of that species for California. Other southerly records include one found dead in southern Nevada 21 May 2000 (NAB 54:309, 2000) and several wintering birds and spring migrants from Texas and the southeastern United States (CBRC 2007).

CORRIGENDA

In the 33rd report (Singer and Terrill 2009), the Manx Shearwater reported on 22 Oct 2006 should have referred to record 2006-164. In the 34th report (Pike and Compton 2010), "SWW" in several seabird accounts indicates Sophie Webb, Roseate Spoonbill record 2008-219 should have referred to WFVZ 19595, Mississippi Kite record 2008-168 is for 25 Oct 2008, Jose Calvo submitted a photograph of the American Golden-Plover, "TH" for the Sharp-tailed Sandpiper indicates Tom Harvey, and Iceland Gull record 2007-299 should have referred to 22 Dec 2007.

ADDENDUM

At the 2011 meeting the CBRC voted to extend the last date for the only record of Demoiselle Crane (*Anthropoides virgo*) in California (2001-173), currently on the supplemental list (CBRC 2007), from 18 Feb 2002 to 19 Feb 2002 on the basis of documentation for the latter date by William C. Drummond.

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