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THE 47TH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE: 2021 RECORDS

RYAN S. TERRILL, Klamath Bird Observatory, 2425 Siskiyou Blvd, Ashland, Oregon 97520; ornithoterrill@gmail.com

THOMAS A. BENSON, California State University San Bernardino, 5500 University Parkway, San Bernardino, California 92407; secretary@californiabirds.org

ROB FOWLER, 1386 Fernwood Drive, McKinleyville, California 95519; migratoriusfwlr@gmail.com

DEBORAH J. HOUSE, 172 Summit Road, Bishop, California 93514; roadkill23@earthlink.net

ALEX M. RINKERT, 322 Seabright Avenue #1, Santa Cruz, California 95062; arinkert@gmail.com

ADAM J. SEARCY, P.O. Box 203, Camino, California 95709; serpophaga@gmail.com

ABSTRACT: From its last report through 2021, the California Bird Records Committee reached decisions on 177 records involving 184 individuals of 71 species and one species group, endorsing 151 records of 158 individuals. The first accepted records for California of the Mexican Duck (*Anas diazi*) are outlined in this report. The committee also voted to add naturalized populations of the Nanday Parakeet (*Aratinga nenday*), Mitred Parakeet (*Psittacara mitratus*), Red-masked Parakeet (*Psittacara erythrogenys*), and Lilac-crowned Parrot (*Amazona finschi*) to the state list. These additions bring California's total list of accepted species to 681, of which 17 represent established introductions. Other especially notable records detailed in this report include those of California's second through fifth Tundra Bean-Geese (*Anser serrirostris*), second Purple Sandpiper (*Calidris maritima*), third Ross's Gull (*Rhodostethia rosea*), fourth Eurasian Skylark (*Alauda arvensis*), and fourth Common Crane (*Grus grus*).

This 47th report of the California Bird Records Committee (CBRC), a committee of Western Field Ornithologists, summarizes evaluations of 177 records involving 184 individuals of 71 species and one species group. The committee accepted 151 records, involving 158 individuals of 63 species and one species group, for an acceptance rate of 86%. 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 considered eight records of eight individuals of four species to represent likely returning or continuing birds that had been accepted previously. Twenty-five

records, involving 25 individuals of 13 species, were not accepted because the identification was not considered to be substantiated. In one case, involving one individual of one species, we considered the species correctly identified but did not accept the record because we questioned the bird's natural occurrence. 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 2021, although a few are earlier.

Since the period covered by this report, the committee has accepted the first California records of the Ainley's Storm-Petrel (*Hydrobates cheimomnestes*), Small-billed Elaenia (*Elaenia parvirostris*), Willow Warbler (*Phylloscopus trochilus*), Wood Warbler (*Phylloscopus sibilatrix*), and Siberian Rubythroat (*Calliope calliope*), the details of which are covered in the CBRC's 48th report, and the White-tailed Eagle (*Haliaeetus albicilla*) and Blue Rock Thrush (*Monticola solitarius*), to be covered in the 49th. These additions bring the California list to 687 species.

At its January 2022 meeting, the committee revised its criteria for species included on the review list from an average of four occurrences per year over the most recent 10-year period to an average of two occurrences per year over the most recent 10-year period or 50 occurrences total. This change is intended to increase the amount of attention the committee can give to species with less well-established patterns of occurrence in California. As a result the CBRC deleted these 17 species from the review list as of January 2022: Ruddy Ground Dove (*Columbina talpacoti*), Bar-tailed Godwit (*Limosa lapponica*), Hudsonian Godwit (*Limosa haemastica*), Yellow-billed Loon (*Gavia adamsii*), Masked Booby (*Sula dactylatra*), Tricolored Heron (*Egretta tricolor*), White-eyed Vireo (*Vireo griseus*), Blue-headed Vireo (*Vireo solitarius*), Redpoll (*Acanthis flammea*), Snow Bunting (*Plectrophenax nivalis*), Common Grackle (*Quiscalus quiscula*), Worm-eating Warbler (*Helmitheros vermivorum*), Connecticut Warbler (*Oporornis agilis*), Mourning Warbler (*Geothlypis philadelphia*), Kentucky Warbler (*Geothlypis formosa*), Cape May Warbler (*Setophaga tigrina*), and Grace's Warbler (*Setophaga graciae*).

Species-account headings are organized with the English followed by the scientific name 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, 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 a restricted period, so the number of accepted individuals does not represent the total number known 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 he or she 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. Following the initials of the observer(s) is the identifying number assigned by the CBRC's secretary. A (#) precedes a

preserved specimen's catalog number; in this report we cite the collections of the California Academy of Sciences (CAS), Humboldt State University (HSU), Royal British Columbia Museum (RBCM), and San Diego Natural History Museum (SDNHM).

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). Age determinations largely follow the criteria of Pyle (2008, 2022). First-year birds are indicated as in juvenile, formative, or first alternate plumage. We refer to birds in definitive basic plumage as "adults," indicating definitive alternate plumage where appropriate. If, in the species accounts, we do not specify a bird's age or sex, those characteristics could not be assessed from the information available. Definitions of abbreviations and additional details regarding minutiae of formatting may be found in the CBRC's previous annual reports and in *Rare Birds of California* (CBRC 2007), both available via the CBRC's website, www.californiabirds.org. For a key to the abbreviations for California counties, see https://rarebirds.westernfieldornithologists.org/Appendix_C.html. Also available through https://www.californiabirds.org/ are the California bird list, the review list, an online form for submitting documentation of review species, committee news, 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) or via the website. Documentation of all records is archived at the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology (www.wfvz.org) and is available for public review by appointment or by contacting the CBRC's secretary.

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK *Dendrocygna autumnalis* (35, 0). NATURAL OCCURRENCE QUESTIONABLE: One photographed at the West Fulkerth Road wetlands near Turlock, STA, 6 Aug 2021 (2021-071) was near a property known to keep exotic waterfowl, and in a year without additional out-of-range records in California or Arizona. All but one member inferred that this bird was likely to be an escaped captive.

EMPEROR GOOSE *Anser canagicus* (102, 3). One in formative plumage was in Gerber, TEH, 4–10 Oct 2021 (LHub†; 2021-110), and two adults were at Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), HUM, 10 Dec 2021–1 Jan 2022 (*BH*†, EE†; 2021-158).

TUNDRA BEAN-GOOSE *Anser serrirostris* (5, 4). The four records detailed here are California's second through fifth of the Tundra Bean-Goose. Prior to 2021, the committee had reviewed only two records of the species pair Taiga/Tundra Bean-Goose (*A. fabalis/serrirostris*). California's first Taiga/Tundra Bean-Goose, at the Salton Sea NWR, IMP, 9 Nov 2010–12 Jan 2011 (2010-141; Nelson et al. 2013) was never identified beyond this species pair. A different bean-goose that showed up at the same location approximately three years later was accepted as the state's first Tundra Bean-Goose (2013-181; Rottenborn et al. 2016). Nelson et al. (2013) and Rottenborn et al. (2016) discussed previous records and identification criteria in detail.

Outside experts assisted with the assessment of all five bean-goose records considered in this report, including the four accepted as representing the Tundra. The identification of an adult shot by a hunter at the Arcata bottoms, HUM, 8 Nov 2015

(*TD*†, RFo†, HSU #9678; 2015-173) was corroborated by genetic analysis (James Maley pers. comm.). An adult was at the Cosumnes River Preserve, SAC, 14–15 Nov 2020 (*PG*†, DBr†, LK, CM†, EM†; 2020-172); one in formative plumage was at the Arcata and McKinleyville bottoms, HUM, 14 Oct–6 Nov 2021 (*JA*†, DH†, SH†, AL†, JT†; 2021-126; Figure 1); and one in formative plumage was shot by a hunter near Meridian, SUT, 27 Dec 2021 (CG†; 2021-176; specimen's disposition unknown).

TAIGA/TUNDRA BEAN-GOOSE *Anser fabalis/serrirostris* (2, 1). One in formative plumage shot by a hunter at Sutter NWR, SUT, 11 Jan 2020 (*JAd*†; 2020-011; specimen's disposition unknown), was clearly one of this species pair but could not be identified to species on the basis of the single photograph submitted.

BAIKAL TEAL *Sibirionetta formosa* (9, 1). California's ninth Baikal Teal was an adult male shot by a hunter at Delevan NWR, COL, 20 Jan 2021 (*IH*†; 2021-008; specimen's disposition unknown).

GARGANEY *Anas querquedula* (30, 0). The CBRC considered the adult female at the Salton Sea State Recreation Area, RIV, 24 Nov–15 Dec 2021 (*RLM*†; 2021-152) to be the same bird that was there the previous two winters (2019-174; Benson et al. 2021).

MEXICAN DUCK *Anas diazi* (9, 9). As a result of its re-elevation to species status (Chesser et al. 2020), the committee now reviews all reports of the Mexican Duck. These nine records, all of males, are the first of this taxon the CBRC has accepted. An adult was at Earp, SBE, 26 Oct 2011 (DVP†; 2011-285); one in formative plumage was in the Parker Strip, SBE, 17 April–9 May 2011 (TAB†, *DVP*†; 2011-286); one in formative plumage was near Blythe, RIV, 31 Mar 2015 (DG†; 2015-178); an adult was near Desert Center, RIV, 2 Jun 2015 (*CM*†; 2015-179); one in formative plumage was at Furnace Creek Ranch, INY, 25 Dec 2016–15 Jan 2017 (JLD†, CBH†; 2016-153; Figure 2); an adult was shot by a hunter at the San Luis NWR, MER, 5 Dec 2016 (DH†; 2016-154; specimen's disposition unknown); one was at the Whitewater River delta, RIV, 11 Aug 2018 (*CAM*; 2018-256); an adult was shot by a hunter at the Piute Ponds, LA, 18 Dec 2019 (DE†; 2019-214; specimen's disposition unknown); and an adult was at Desert Center, RIV, 14 Nov 2020 (*DS*, AH†, CL†, RW†; 2020-205).

Beginning with its original description in 1886, the Mexican Duck was, like the other North American "black ducks," the Mottled (*A. fulvigula*) and American Black (*A. rubripes*), treated as a species, until the AOU (1983) designated it a subspecies of the Mallard (*A. platyrhynchos*). The change was based primarily on work by Hubbard (1977), who concluded that hybridization was "extensive" and that most Mexican Ducks in both the United States and Mexico were of hybrid origin. Subsequent molecular studies (e.g., Lavretsky et al. 2015, 2019) have shown that, in spite of some hybridization, the mixed traits of most Mexican Ducks are a result of introgression and past hybridization rather than widespread current hybridization. Through the 20th century, the Mexican Duck's range in the United States was limited to the border region of southeastern Arizona, southwestern New Mexico, and central western Texas (Phillips et al. 1964, Aldrich and Baer 1970, Monson and Phillips 1981). Within Mexico, the Mexican Duck ranges throughout the central highlands, becoming less common farther north toward the border with the United States (Howell and Webb 1995, Drilling et al. 2020). In the 21st century it has spread within Mexico, west into the lowlands of Sonora and east along the Rio Grande (Drilling et al. 2020). It is now being reported with more regularity beyond the former northern and northwestern limits of its range, into Colorado, Utah, Nevada, and California (Frisch et al. 2019, Peterson and Leukering 2020, Martin Meyers pers. comm.). See Leukering and Mlodinow (2012) and Reeber (2015) for thorough analyses of the criteria for distinguishing the Mexican Duck from other "black ducks" and the male Mallard in eclipse plumage.

FIGURE 1. This Tundra Bean-Goose in formative plumage was photographed on 15 Oct 2021 along Jackson Ranch Road in Arcata, Humboldt County (2021-126), representing California's third record of this apparently increasing species.

Photo by Derek Hameister

FIGURE 2. This male Mexican Duck (background) at the Furnace Creek sewage ponds, Death Valley (2016-153), photographed here 25 Dec 2016 with a female Mallard, was the first recorded for Inyo County.

Photo by Jon L. Dunn

There are two California records from the early 1900s that have not been reviewed, of a female collected at Grafton, YOL, July 1900 (Phillips 1923), and a male collected at Alviso, SCL, 27 July 1927 (Patten et al. 2003). The provenance of the former was questioned by Grinnell and Miller (1944), and Hubbard (1977) treated the latter as a hybrid. IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: The committee concluded that the documentation of a male at the south end of the Salton Sea, IMP, 22 Aug 2018 (2018-257) and another male near Imperial Dam, IMP, 4 Feb 2019 (2019-213) did not rule out the possibility of hybrid Mallard × Mexican Duck.

KING EIDER *Somateria spectabilis* (47, 1). An adult female was at Humboldt Bay NWR, HUM, 5–8 Dec 2021 (*SMcA*†; 2021-156).

RUDDY GROUND DOVE *Columbina talpacoti* (120**, 0). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: The report of one from Palo Verde Ecological Reserve, RIV, 23 Oct 2020 (2020-196) lacked details sufficient for acceptance.

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD *Archilochus colubris* (23, 1). One in its first plumage cycle, photographed in Berkeley, ALA, 29 Aug 2020 (*JHa*†; 2020-080), was likely a male from its seemingly short tail and bill. First-cycle birds may be in formative or first alternate plumage, depending on the terminology used for first-cycle molts (Pyle 2008).

COMMON CRANE *Grus grus* (4, 1). An adult associated with Sandhill Cranes (*Antigone canadensis*) on Staten Island, SJ, 14–21 Dec 2021 (*LBW*†, DH†, LW†; 2021-174; Figure 3). It represents the southernmost record of the Common Crane in California and first for the Central Valley. California's previous three records are from the extreme northern end of the state with one in Del Norte County and two in Modoc County.

COMMON RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius hiaticula* (6, 1). A juvenile at Lake Tolowa, DN, 5–10 Sep 2021 (*LB*§, TK†; 2021-086), was the second for Del Norte County. A recording of the call was helpful in distinguishing this individual from the similar Semipalmated Plover (*C. semipalmatus*).

SIBERIAN SAND-PLOVER *Anarhynchus mongolus* (16, 1). A juvenile at Laguna Creek Beach, SCZ, 17–24 Sep 2021 (*WG*B†, MF†, EI†, AMR†, BT†; 2021-095; Figure 4) was the second for Santa Cruz County. Previously classified in the genus *Charadrius*, this species was also formerly grouped with *A. atrifrons* (dubbed the "Tibetan Sand-Plover") as the Mongolian Plover (*Charadrius mongolus*) before being split by Chesser et al. (2024; see also Wei et al. 2022). The Siberian Sand-Plover is a long-distance migrant along the eastern Asian flyway and the only of this pair of species to have been recorded in North America. See Schweizer and Liu (2023) for additional information on distribution and identification.

BAR-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa lapponica* (62, 3). An adult female, molting out of definitive alternate plumage, at the Napa-Sonoma Marshes Wildlife Area, SOL/NAP, 3 Jul–10 Oct 2021 (*EI*, EGM†, ZP†; 2021-056), was the first Bar-tailed Godwit recorded for Solano and Napa counties. A second female, in worn first alternate plumage, was at the Elk Creek mouth and Lake Tolowa, DN, 5–10 Sept 2021 (*LB*†, TK†; 2021-085). A juvenile was on the shore of Monterey Bay from Moss Landing, MTY, north to Seacliff State Beach, SCZ, 9 Sep–1 Oct 2021 (*AL*, AMR†, SBT†; 2021-088). The committee has discontinued reviewing reports of the Bar-tailed Godwit after 2021.

HUDSONIAN GODWIT *Limosa haemastica* (63, 1). A juvenile was at Lake Tolowa and the mouth of Elk Creek, DN, 29 Aug–27 Sep 2021 (*TK*†; 2021-080). The committee has discontinued reviewing reports of the Hudsonian Godwit after 2021.

CURLEW SANDPIPER *Calidris ferruginea* (57, 2). A juvenile was photographed

FIGURE 3. This adult Common Crane on Staten Island, San Joaquin County (2021-174), photographed here 16 Dec 2021, represented the first record of this Asian species for California's Central Valley.

Photo by Lynette B. Williams

at the Ventura County Game Preserve, VEN, 23 Sep 2021 (*LS*†; 2021-135; Figure 5). One in formative plumage at the Palo Alto Baylands, SCL, 20 Dec 2021–15 Mar 2022 (*MMR* †$, MLB†, MF, JM†, MR†, RWR†, SCR†, ANW†; 2021-165) was the first Curlew Sandpiper known to have wintered in California, though one in Kings County (2020-129; Benson et al. 2022) was recorded into November and may have overwintered as well.

FIGURE 4. This juvenile Siberian Sand-Plover was photographed 21 Sep 2021 at Laguna Creek Beach, Santa Cruz County (2021-095).

Photo by William G. Bousman

RED-NECKED STINT *Calidris ruficollis* (28, 2). One in alternate plumage was at the Elsie Roemer Bird Sanctuary, ALA, 15–20 Jul 2021 (EGM†, MR†, EI†, HG; 2021-059), and an adult in definitive alternate plumage was at Malibu Lagoon, LA, 22–29 Aug 2021 (DJB†; 2021-077).

PURPLE SANDPIPER *Calidris maritima* (2, 1). An adult at North Shore (of the Salton Sea), RIV, 30 Dec 2020–17 Feb 2021 (*RLM*†$, TAB†, MAG†, AH†, GM; 2020-199; Figure 6) was only the second for California, but also the second for Riverside County. The state's only previous Purple Sandpiper was just 12 km away at Salt Creek Beach, Salton Sea, RIV, 25 Mar–17 Apr 2016 (2016-028; McCaskie et al. 2018), then discovered again approximately 800 km north at Kehoe Beach on Pt. Reyes, MRN, 25 Apr 2016 (2016-029; McCaskie et al. 2018). The discrimination of the Purple from the Rock Sandpiper (*C. ptilocnemis*) in formative and basic plumages is difficult. The Purple Sandpiper is casual in the interior of North America away from the Great Lakes, and only one inland occurrence of the Rock Sandpiper is known, based on a specimen collected at Atlin, British Columbia, on 29 October 1932 (RBCM #5798, Campbell et al. 1990.).

LITTLE STINT *Calidris minuta* (36, 0). An adult in the south San Diego Bay saltworks, SD, 11 Aug 2021–25 Apr 2022 (*MS*†; 2021-073) was presumably returning for its fourth consecutive winter (2018-219; Benson et al. 2020). During its stay it molted from definitive alternate to definitive basic and back to definitive alternate plumage.

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER *Calidris fuscicollis* (35, 4). A flock of three in alternate plumage at the Baker sewage ponds, SBE, 6–7 Jun 2021 (*EI*†, TAB†, AEK†, TGM†; 2021-047) provided the second record of the White-rumped Sandpiper for San Bernardino County and were the largest group so far seen in California. One in alternate plumage was at the Salinas water-treatment plant, MTY, 29 May 2021 (*ST*†; 2021-069). As this species undergoes a complete preformative molt, first alternate and definitive alternate plumage cannot be distinguished (Pyle 2022).

BLACK-HEADED GULL *Chroicocephalus ridibundus* (34, 1). An adult was at the Modesto wastewater-treatment plant, STA, 21 Nov–11 Dec 2021 (*HMR*†; 2021-145). Another adult at Thermal, RIV, 8 Dec 2021–9 Mar 2022 (*RLM*†; 2021-175) was presumably a returnee, first seen in January 2014 (2014-003; Singer et al. 2016).

ROSS'S GULL *Rhodostethia rosea* (3, 1). An adult at Albany State Marine Reserve, ALA, 14 Dec 2021 (*DRL* †; 2021-162) was the third for California and a first for Alameda County. All records are of adults.

SLATY-BACKED GULL *Larus schistisagus* (84, 5). An adult was at Tiburon, MRN, 24–26 Jan 2021 (*LC*†; 2021-010). A bird in second alternate plumage along the San Leandro shoreline, ALA, 11 May 2021 (*NA*†; 2021-034) represents the first time this species has been recorded in California as late as May. One in third basic plumage was at Bodega Bay, SON, 23–25 Nov 2021 (*LH*†, RS ANW†; 2021-147). One in its first plumage cycle was at the Pilarcitos Creek mouth, SM, 11 Dec 2021–14 Feb 2022 (*AJ*†, MD†, CH†; 2021-160). The committee also re-evaluated the report of a first-cycle Slaty-backed Gull at Lower Otay Reservoir, SD, 16–21 Jan 2017 (*JP*†, NC†, GM, MS†; 2017-006A). In an earlier review it was not accepted on the basis that a hybrid could not be eliminated and identification criteria for first-cycle Slaty-backed Gulls were not well established (2017-006; Singer et al. 2020). Subsequently, birders' understanding of identification criteria for this plumage and age class have improved (Jaramillo 2020), and upon reconsideration the committee agreed that this bird was indeed a first cycle Slaty-backed Gull. IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: An adult photographed at Half Moon Bay State Beach, SM, 23 Dec 2021 (2021-166) appeared atypical for this species, having a relatively pale mantle and lacking a dark smudge around the eye. Although the plumage of second-cycle

FIGURE 5. This photo provides a nice comparison of a juvenile Curlew Sandpiper (left) in complete juvenile plumage with a Dunlin (*Calidris alpina*) in formative plumage at the Ventura County Game Preserve, Ventura County, 23 Sep 2021 (2021-135). Unlike North American populations of the Dunlin, the Curlew Sandpiper tends to begin its preformative molt in the winter.

Photo by Larry Sansone

Slaty-backed Gulls can be distinctive, several committee members concluded that the documentation for one described from the Marina landfill, MTY, 28 Nov 2020 (2020-182) was insufficient.

SANDWICH TERN *Thalasseus sandvicensis* (3, 0). IDENTIFICATION NOT

FIGURE 6. This Purple Sandpiper was photographed 30 Dec 2020 at North Shore, Salton Sea, Riverside County (2020-199). Although the Purple and Rock Sandpipers overlap in characteristics, the latter is eliminated by the lack of a pale supraloral spot and dull bare parts, as seen in this photo.

Photo by Matthew A. Grube

ESTABLISHED: Several committee members believed that a tern reported as the Sandwich at the San Diego River mouth, SD, 6 Oct 2021 (2021-169) may have been an Elegant Tern (*T. elegans*) × Sandwich Tern hybrid because the extent of yellow on the tip of the bill exceeded what is expected for a pure Sandwich Tern.

YELLOW-BILLED LOON *Gavia adamsii* (113, 8). One in formative plumage photographed along the South Mokelumne River, SJ, 14 Jan–2 Mar 2021 (*LBW*†, KD†, JM†; 2021-006; Figure 7) represented a first record for San Joaquin County and only the 11th inland California record of this species that typically winters along the coast. Fitting the more expected pattern of coastal occurrence were one in Humboldt Bay, HUM, 11 Jan 2021 (*AL*; 2021-005); one in formative plumage in Tomales Bay, MRN, 18 Jan–14 May 2021 (*LS*, LC†, EW†; 2021-007); and an adult 5.3 km west of Cypress Point, MTY, 9 Feb 2021 (JM†; 2021-018). The Yellow-billed Loon in formative or first alternate plumage off Rodeo Beach, MRN, 12 May 2021 (*WL*†; 2021-037) may have been the same individual as the one off Crissy Field, SF, 17 May 2021 (*CVV*†; 2021-065), though the committee treated them as different. One in second alternate plumage was at Limantour Beach, MRN, 21 Jul 2021 (DL †; 2021-066), and one in second basic plumage was in Crescent City harbor, DN, 23 Oct 2021 (AS†; 2021-099). The committee discontinued review of records of the Yellow-billed Loon after 2021.

SHORT-TAILED ALBATROSS *Phoebastria albatrus* (47, 5). Recent years have seen an uptick in records of the Short-tailed Albatross in California in tandem with continued population growth (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2020). One bird undergoing its second prebasic molt, 14 km southeast of Point Fermin, LA/ORA, 5–7 Jun 2021 (TAB†, CAD†, CJ†; 2021-046) had been banded as a nestling on Torishima Island, Japan, on 29 Feb 2020 (Yoshiya Odaya pers. comm.). This same individual was later observed off California's central coast on Monterey Bay, SCZ, 24 Jul 2021 (BSc†; 2021-060) and 14–15 Sep 2021 (AL†; 2021-093). Another Short-tailed Al-

FIGURE 7. This Yellow-billed Loon in formative plumage along the South Mokelumne River, San Joaquin County (2021-006), photographed here 14 Jan 2021, represents a first county record and only California's 11th inland record.

Photo by Konshau Duman

batross undergoing its second prebasic molt was 15 km west of Mussel Point, SON, 22 May 2021 (*MF*†; 2021-063), while first-cycle birds were 23 km south-southeast of Southeast Farallon Island, SF, 1 May 2021 (*MF*†; 2021-061), 16 km southwest of Davenport, SCZ 1 May 2021 (*MF*†; 2021-062), and on Monterey Bay, MTY, 8 Nov and 3 Dec 2021 (*JM*†; 2021-157).

WEDGE-RUMPED STORM-PETREL *Hydrobates tethys* (15, 1). One was photographed 250 km west-southwest of San Miguel Island, SBA, 31 Jul 2021 (*CW*†; 2021-067). The experienced observer also satisfactorily described the bird's bill shape and flight style to distinguish it from the very similar Townsend's (*H socorroensis*), Leach's (*H. leucorhous*), and Ainley's (*H. cheimomnestes*) Storm-Petrels.

WOOD STORK *Mycteria americana* (1**, 0). Following the precipitous decline of this once common post-breeding visitor to California, the committee began reviewing Wood Stork reports in 2020 (Benson et al. 2021). It inferred that reports of an adult at the San Diego Zoo's Safari Park at San Pasqual and at Lake Hodges, SD, 4 May–28 Jun 2021 (NC†, AN† 2021-032); Lake Elsinore, RIV, 1 Jul 2021 (*CH*†; 2021-055); Prado Basin, RIV, 15 Jul–8 Oct 2021 (*JEP*†; 2021-058); and back at the Safari Park, SD, 12 Oct 2021 (*KC*†; 2021-123) represented the same wandering individual that summered in San Diego and Riverside counties in 2020 (2020-043, Benson et al. 2022).

MASKED BOOBY *Sula dactylatra* (61, 7). One in second basic plumage was at the Los Angeles harbor, LA, 9–10 Oct 2021 (*MAS*†; 2021-121). One undergoing its third prebasic molt was at Point La Jolla, SD, 25–26 Jan 2021 (JB†, MS†; 2021-011). Adults were 16.9 km southeast of Cabrillo Beach, LA, 13 Jun 2021 (*AB*†, *NS*†; 2021-049); on Bird Rock at San Clemente Island, LA, 3 Jun 2021 (*JTS*†, *NJD*†; 2021-050); and 6.5 km west of Border Field State Park, SD, 31 Jul 2021 (*DP*; 2021-072). Masked Boobies in third basic plumage at Bolsa Chica State Beach, ORA, 28 Jan 2021 (DM†; 2021-014) and at Moonstone Beach, SLO, 22 Jun 2021 (*EB*†, TME†; 2021-052) were both taken to rehabilitation facilities. The CBRC has been unable to ascertain the ultimate disposition of the Bolsa Chica bird; the one from Moonstone Beach died in captivity, and the specimen was given to California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: The description of one 7 km northeast of Point San Pedro on Santa Cruz Island, SBA, 16 Jun 2021 (2021-078) did not adequately eliminate the Nazca Booby (*S. granti*). A booby in its third plumage cycle photographed 8 km west of Mission Bay, SD, 17 Aug 2021 (2021-076) showed some features suggesting the Nazca Booby. Committee members were unwilling to identify to species photos of three additional Masked/Nazca Boobies: one offshore from Newport Beach, ORA, 25 Jun 2020 (2020-067), another 15.6 km west of Point Loma, SD, 3 Oct 2021 (2021-109), and a third at the Thirty-Mile Bank, SD, 16 Oct 2021 (2021-127). The committee discontinued reviewing reports of the Masked Booby after 2021.

TRICOLORED HERON *Egretta tricolor* (97**, 7). In northern California, an adult at Younger Lagoon, SCZ, 31 Jul 2021 (*LG*†, AMR †; 2021-068) provided a first record for Santa Cruz County. California has few inland reports of this species away from the Salton Sea, so adults at Calipatria, IMP, 3 Apr 2021 (*GM*; 2021-026) and at Lower Otay Reservoir, SD, 31 Aug–15 Sep 2021 (*BC*†, PEL†; 2021-082) are notable. Others accepted from 2021 were along the coast of southern California, where more expected: an adult at the Tijuana Slough NWR, SD, 4–18 Sep 2021 (*MN*†; 2021-084); a juvenile at San Elijo Lagoon, SD, 13 Sep 2021 (*SB*†; 2021-091); a juvenile at Upper Newport Bay, ORA, 23 Sep 2021–4 May 2022 (*SMcA*†, CC†; 2021-102); and an adult at Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve and Seal Beach NWR, ORA, 6–8 Nov 2021 (*SO*†; 2021-139). An adult at Point Mugu Naval Air Station, VEN, 4 Nov 2019–24 Feb 2020 (*MR*†; 2019-216) and 8 Nov 2021–17 Mar 2022 (*MR*†; 2021-141) was consid-

ered a returnee that had wintered there 2018–2019 (2018-205; Benson et al. 2020). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: One bird photographed at a distance in Granite Bay, PLA, 30 Jun 2021 (2021-064) and another described at Torrey Pines State Beach, SD, 19 Sep 2021 (2021-100) could not be attributed to this species. The committee reviewed records of the Tricolored Heron only from 1990 to 2021.

GLOSSY IBIS *Plegadis falcinellus* (49, 7). Accepted as representing the Glossy Ibis were reports of adults in the Prado Basin, RIV, 7 Apr 2021 (*JEP*†; 2021-033); at Fort Bidwell, MOD, 29–30 May 2021 (KMcK†; 2021-042); along E. Catlett Road, PLA/SUT, 29 May–4 Jun 2021 (*ZVZ*†; 2021-043); and near Niland, IMP, 16 Aug 2021 (*CS*†; 2021-075). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: The committee considered several other reports to not represent phenotypes acceptable as the Glossy Ibis, of second-year birds in the Prado Basin, RIV, 13 Jul 2020 (2020-207), 27 Jul 2020 (2020-208), and 25 Mar 2021 (2021-024) and at the Fillmore Fish Hatchery, VEN, 11 Apr 2021 (2021-054), as well as adults at the San Diego Zoo's Safari Park, San Pasqual, SD, 7 Mar 2019 (2019-211), 22 Jun–11 Jul 2020 (2020-066), and 25 Mar–5 May 2021 (2021-025) and at the Cosumnes River Preserve, SAC, 5–7 May 2020 (2020-038).

ROSEATE SPOONBILL *Platalea ajaja* (152, 2). Two at the Cienaga Ecological Reserve, Fillmore, VEN, 15–30 Sep 2021 (*LH*, *DS*†; 2021-171; Figure 8) represented the first record of the Roseate Spoonbill in California north of Los Angeles County since the 1970s. Another was photographed at Sonny Bono Salton Sea NWR, IMP, 23 Sep 2021 (*SR*†; 2021-101).

BLACK VULTURE *Coragyps atratus* (13, 2). Reports of an adult from the vicinities of Point Reyes National Seashore and Mount Tamalpais, MRN, 10 Apr–15 Oct 2021 (PP†, DB†; 2021-028) as well as Bolinas, MRN, 13 Nov 2021–24 Feb 2022 (*EM*†; 2021-172) were considered to represent the same bird that has been frequenting this general area since 2014 (2014-027; Singer et al. 2016). Another adult in Klamath, DN, 14–17 Apr 2021 (*KR*†, RN†; 2021-029) was considered by a majority of committee members to likely represent the same Black Vulture observed at Andy McBeth Airport, Klamath Glen, DN, 10 Sep 2021 (*LB*; 2021-089). One undergoing its second prebasic molt was around Owens Lake and Lone Pine, INY, 13 Oct–21 Nov 2021 (*RK*†; 2021-124).

MISSISSIPPI KITE *Ictinia mississippiensis* (59, 2). One in formative plumage was at the Tijuana River Valley Regional Park, SD, 19 Jun 2021 (*DT*†, NC†, GM; 2021-051), and a juvenile was at the Sonny Bono Salton Sea NWR, IMP, 21 Sep 2021 (*JV*†; 2021-098).

GRAY HAWK *Buteo plagiatus* (2, 0). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: The report of one described from Cathedral City, RIV, 5 Nov 2021 (2021-143) received little support.

ELF OWL *Micrathene whitneyi* (14, 2). Two in formative plumage wintered in a residential area in Indio, RIV, 10 Dec 2020–5 Mar 2021 (*BD*†; 2020-195; Figure 9). This represents California's first December record of the Elf Owl, which has not been reported in December or January farther north than Lo de Campa (28.55° N, 109.74° W) in central Sonora (Russell and Monson 1998).

CRESTED CARACARA *Caracara plancus* (21, 1). One was photographed at Owens Lake, INY, 26 May 2015 (RR†; 2015-180).

GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER *Myiarchus crinitus* (72, 4). One in definitive alternate plumage photographed at the Imperial Irrigation District Wetlands in Niland, IMP, 23 Jun 2021 (*CAM*†, *TEW*†; 2021-057) was the first recorded in Imperial County and only the second in California in spring or summer. The primary coverts were of the basic plumage, indicating an adult, whereas the tertials had been replaced during the definitive prealternate molt. Nearly all other California records

FIGURE 8. These two Roseate Spoonbills near Fillmore, Ventura County, on 15 Sep 2021 (2021-171) represented the first record of this species in California north of Los Angeles County since the 1970s.

Photo by Devina Schneider

FIGURE 9. This Elf Owl photographed 10 Dec 2020 in a private yard in Indio, Riverside County (2020-195), was the first recorded wintering in California.

Photo by Brett Daniels

of the Great Crested Flycatcher are from September and October, so one in preformative molt along Atascadero Creek, SBA, 9–21 Nov 2021 (*MAH*†; 2021-140) and one in formative plumage wintering at John Baca Park, Huntington Beach, ORA, 10 Dec 2021–1 Jan 2022 (TAB†§, CC†, JH; 2021-167) were unusual. Rounding out an above-average year for this species was one at Corona Heights Park, SF, 19 Sep 2021 (*RM*†; 2021-177).

SULPHUR-BELLIED FLYCATCHER *Myiodynastes luteiventris* (23, 1). The black chin, yellow wash to the underparts, and high-pitched call helped distinguish a worn adult along Santa Rosa Creek, SON, 10–24 Aug 2021 (*LV*§, EI†§, ZP†§, MJR†, ANW†; 2021-074; this issue's front cover) from the similar Streaked Flycatcher (*M. maculatus*), which is still unrecorded north of Mexico. Only once before has the Sulphur-bellied Flycather been recorded farther north in California.

THICK-BILLED KINGBIRD *Tyrannus crassirostris* (28, 2). One in formative plumage at Flood Park in Menlo Park, SM, 29 Oct 2021 (*RF*†, MD†, CH†, JM†§, DP†§, RWR†, BT†; 2021-134) was the second recorded in San Mateo County and only the fourth recorded in northern California. An adult was in the Tijuana River valley, SD, 23 Nov–13 Dec 2021 (*JP*†§; 2021-148).

GREATER PEWEE *Contopus pertinax* (47, 1). Wintering individuals included one at Lacy Park, San Marino, LA, 8 Jan–26 Mar 2021 (*JW*†; 2021-004) and an adult at Balboa Park, San Diego, SD, 4 Oct 2021–13 Feb 2022 (*MHR*†; 2021-111) that returned for its fourth winter (2017-151; Singer et al. 2020).

EASTERN WOOD-PEWEE *Contopus virens* (18, 2). One at the Point Reyes Lighthouse, MRN, 16–19 Sep 2021 (*BA*§, *DS*, PBC†, EI§, AM, EGM, BT†§; 2021-094) and another at Furnace Creek Ranch, Death Valley, INY, 30 Sep–2 Oct 2021 (*EWH*†, *LK*§, MAG†, CBH†, RH†; 2021-106) were at well-known vagrant traps. Sound recordings of both individuals captured the upslurred, clear "puree" call, which is the vocalization the Eastern Wood-Pewee makes most often during fall and winter (J. L. Dunn pers. comm.) and unlike the flat or descending vocalization typically made by the Western Wood-Pewee (*C. sordidulus*).

ALDER FLYCATCHER *Empidonax alnorum* (11, 2). One was closely studied but silent at Primm Valley Golf Club, SBE, 29 May 2021 (*AH*†, *EI*†, *DS*; 2021-041). Another was calling and singing at Butterbredt Spring, KER, 6 Jun 2021 (*RST*†§, SBT, JCW; 2021-048). Eight of California's 11 Alder Flycatcher records come from the southeastern, desert region of the state.

WHITE-EYED VIREO *Vireo griseus* (95, 1). An adult at Antonelli Pond, SCZ, 25 Sep–7 Oct 2021 (AR†, SBT†, BT†; 2021-104) was the second recorded for Santa Cruz County. Only 17 (18%) of California's records represent fall migrants. Late spring migrants and summering birds, usually singing persistently, are more frequent—and easier to detect. The committee discontinued reviewing records of the White-eyed Vireo after 2021.

BLUE-HEADED VIREO *Vireo solitarius* (92, 2). The early spring date of a male in formative plumage at Carlsbad, SD, 7 Apr 2021 (*JM*†, DH†; 2021-027) suggests the bird may have been wintering. A male in formative plumage was at Doyle Community Park, San Diego, SD, 12–13 Sep 2021 (*JD*†; 2021-090). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: The plumage brightness and contrast of a vireo photographed at the Point Reyes Lighthouse, MRN, 17 Sep 2021 (2021-096) did not conclusively distinguish the bird from a Cassin's Vireo (*V. cassinii*). The indentation in the white fringe on the outermost tail feather (R6)—a field mark useful for distinguishing between some adult male Blue-headed and Cassin's Vireos (Buckley and Mitra 2003)—could not be confidently assessed from the one photo showing this characteristic. The committee discontinued reviewing records of the Blue-headed Vireo after 2021.

EURASIAN SKYLARK *Alauda arvensis* (4, 1). One in formative plumage at the Loleta bottoms, HUM, 3 Jan–14 Feb 2021 (*TK*§, RFo†, RN†; 2021-003), occasionally observed with Western Meadowlarks (*Sturnella neglecta*), was the third recorded in northwestern California since 2018. Like that of California's other skylarks (see Benson et al. 2022), the plumage of this individual was consistent with the boldly patterned and russet-colored Asian subspecies *A. a. pekinensis* (Vaurie 1951).

CAVE SWALLOW *Petrochelidon fulva* (15, 1). One was at Mystic Lake, RIV, 10 Feb 2021 (*DTR*; 2021-017). Twelve (80%) of California's 15 records of the Cave Swallow are from Riverside and Imperial counties, and seven of the 15 are during winter.

DUSKY WARBLER *Phylloscopus fuscatus* (23, 2). One in formative plumage at Corte Madera, MRN, 4–8 Oct 2021 (*AM*, LC†, EI†, EGM, MJR†, AMR†, DSS†, BT†, ANW†; 2021-112) and another in the Sepulveda Basin, LA, 9–16 Oct 2021 (*JF*†, TAB†, CBH, RH†, KR†; 2021-118) reinforced the Dusky Warbler's pattern of reaching California in October, the month of 20 of the state's 23 records.

WINTER WREN *Troglodytes hiemalis* (29, 2). One in formative plumage photographed and sound recorded at Olema Campground, MRN, 3 Jan–8 Mar 2021 (*LS*, *MS*†, DSS§; 2021-001) was the second recorded in Marin County, and another at Bolinas Lagoon, MRN, 25 Nov 2021–14 Mar 2022 (MM§, EC†§, MD†§, AM, LN†§; 2021-153) was the third.

CURVE-BILLED THRASHER *Toxostoma curvirostre* (42, 4). Four records of this species in 2021 were considerably more than the recent ten-year average of one per year. Individuals were at Palo Verde Ecological Reserve, RIV, 20 Jan 2021 (*BS*; 2021-009); at Needles, SBE, 14 Mar 2021 (*GZ*†; 2021-023) and 30 Dec 2021 (*KF*†; 2021-168); and at Fort Piute, SBE, 14 Apr 2021 (*KH*†; 2021-161). All appeared to be of the western subspecies *T. c. palmeri*. IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: A photo of a thrasher from Black Meadow Landing, SBE, present November 2019 through 30 Jan 2020 (2019-206), lacked detail sufficient to eliminate Bendire's Thrasher (*T. bendirei*).

RUFOUS-BACKED ROBIN *Turdus rufopalliatus* (28, 3). One in formative plumage at Point Loma, SD, 17 Nov 2021 (*SZ*†; 2021-150) was the second recorded for San Diego County and just the second along California's coast. An adult and an immature in formative plumage at the Lake Tamarisk Golf Club, Desert Center, RIV, 19 Nov 2021–25 Mar 2022 (*BW*†, LW†; 2021-151) represented only the third record of multiple individuals at one location.

WHITE WAGTAIL *Motacilla alba* (51, 7). On the heels of a good showing in 2020 (Benson et al. 2022), a record seven White Wagtails were found in California in 2021. Five showed characteristics of the subspecies *M. a. lugens*: a female in definitive alternate molt along the Los Angeles River in Los Angeles, LA, 27 Feb–21 Mar 2021 (*BR*†; 2021-021); a female in definitive alternate plumage at Crissy Field, SF, 14–15 May 2021 (HC†, PP†, PS†; 2021-036), inferred to be the same as the one found a few days later at the Redwood Creek mouth, HUM, 18 May 2021 (*KMS*†; 2021-038); and a female in definitive basic plumage at Southeast Farallon Island, SF, 17–22 Oct 2021 (*JG*†, JRT†; 2021-131). Striking males of *M. a. lugens* in definitive alternate plumage at South Lake Tahoe, ED, 17 Apr 2021 (*JS*†; 2021-030) and at the north end of the Salton Sea, RIV, 2 Jun 2021 (*RLM*†, TAB†, MAC†, GM; 2021-044; Figure 10) were the first recorded for El Dorado and Riverside counties, respectively, and the latter was also the first recorded for the Salton Sink. Through 2021, all four White Wagtails accepted from the interior of the California have been males of *M. a. lugens* during spring migration. A formative-plumaged female evidently of the subspecies *M. a. ocularis* was at Swanton Pond, SCZ, 17 Oct 2021 (*GM*†; 2021-128), and another, possibly of *ocularis*, was at the Elk Creek mouth, DN, 9 Oct 2021 (*ZH*†;

FIGURE 10. This male White Wagtail of the black-backed subspecies *Motacilla alba lugens* in definitive alternate plumage was at the north end of the Salton Sea, Riverside County (2021-044). Photographed here on 2 Jun 2021, it represents the first record of the White Wagtail for the Salton Sink.

Photo by Mark A. Chappell

2021-122). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: A cell-phone video of one reported at Pudding Creek Beach, MEN, 2 Nov 2020 (2020-165) was of low quality, leading four members to not endorse the record after four rounds of voting.

BRAMBLING *Fringilla montifringilla* (9, 1). A male in formative plumage discovered on the Quincy Christmas Bird Count was at a residential feeder in Quincy, PLU, 18 Dec 2021–18 March 2022 (JLD, MF†, DL†, MM†, NO†, AP†, MR†, SBT†; 2021-163; Figure 11). This was the first Brambling for Plumas County and the first for California since 2015.

REDPOLL *Acanthis flammea* (184, 4). A male in formative plumage was found along lower Rock Creek, MNO, 2–7 Dec 2021 (JLD†, DJH†, RH†, NJO†; 2021-154), and two males (in formative and definitive basic plumage) were in Chester, PLU, 19 December 2021–8 Jan 2022 (DH†; 2021-164). A record of a Common Redpoll that the CBRC did not accept because it may have represented a Hoary Redpoll (*A. hornemanni*) (2013-011A; Rottenborn et al. 2016) is now accepted following the lumping of those two species by the American Ornithological Society (Chesser et al. 2024). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: Reports of one near Honey Lake, LAS, 21 Nov 2021 (2021-155) and another in Bishop, INY, 10 Dec 2021 (2021-159) failed to garner acceptance with a majority of members. In both cases the observation was brief and no photos or audio recordings were submitted to support the identification. The CBRC discontinued reviewing records of the Redpoll after 2021.

SNOW BUNTING *Plectrophenax nivalis* (155, 3). Two were found in inland: an adult male near Los Banos Reservoir, MER, 3 Feb 2021 (*JT*†; 2021-016) and a male in formative plumage near Lake Almanor, PLU, 7 Feb 2021 (*LC*†; 2021-015). A female in formative plumage was found along the coast at Limantour Beach, MRN, 26 Oct 2021 (*LN*†; 2021-132). 2021 was the first year since 2017 when none were reported

FIGURE 11. This male Brambling in formative plumage, here photographed 18 Feb 2022, overwintered in a yard in Quincy, Plumas County (2021-163), representing a first county record.

Photo by Mark J. Rauzon

from northwestern California. The committee discontinued reviewing records of the Snow Bunting after 2021.

CASSIN'S SPARROW *Peucaea cassinii* (100, 1). A female in formative plumage was found dead and somewhat damaged in a swimming pool in the neighborhood of Allied Gardens, San Diego, SD, 22 Oct 2021 (PU†, SDNHM #56893; 2021-133).

COMMON GRACKLE *Quiscalus quiscula* (106, 2). A male in formative plumage wintered in Crescent City, DN, 4 Jan–19 Mar 2021 (*TK*†, TAB†, RN†; 2021-002). Another male (age unknown) was at the Point Reyes Lighthouse, MRN, 14 Oct 2021 (*RM*†; 2021-125). The committee reviews records of the Common Grackle only through 2021. All accepted records in California have pertained to the western and northern subspecies *Q. q. versicolor*.

WORM-EATING WARBLER *Helmitheros vermivorum* (144, 2). One in formative plumage was in Blythe, RIV, 29 Apr 2021 (*BW*†, JJS†; 2021-031), and another was in Encinitas, SD, 7–16 Oct 2021 (*KAA*†; 2021-137). The committee discontinued its review of records of the Worm-eating Warbler after 2021.

LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH *Parkesia motacilla* (23, 1). One at Struve Slough, SCZ, 28 Sep 2021 (*NU*†; 2021-107; Figure 12) was the first recorded for Santa Cruz County.

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER *Vermivora chrysoptera* (86, 2). Two males in formative plumage were found in the fall: one in Thousand Oaks, VEN, 24 Sep 2021 (*CB*†; 2021-103), the other at Meadow Park, SLO, 5–10 Oct 2021 (*NB*†, TAB†, MS†; 2021-113).

CONNECTICUT WARBLER *Oporornis agilis* (128, 0). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: The committee did not accept the description of one from Southeast Farallon Island, SF, 7 Oct 2020 (2020-125). It discontinued review of records of the Connecticut Warbler after 2021.

FIGURE 12. This Louisiana Waterthrush at Struve Slough, Santa Cruz County, on 28 Sep 2021 (2021-107) represented a first county record and only the fifth record of the species for northern California.

Photo by Norman Uyeda

MOURNING WARBLER *Geothlypis philadelphia* (171, 2). One in formative plumage was on Southeast Farallon Island, SF, 2 Sep 2021 (*KH,* JRT; 2021-083), and another was at the Mal Paso Creek mouth, MTY, 8–9 Nov 2021 (DR†; 2021-173). The committee reviews records of the Mourning Warbler through 2021 only.

KENTUCKY WARBLER *Geothlypis formosa* (123**, 2). The two accepted in 2021, both in formative plumage, were a female in willows along Pecho Road, Los Osos, SLO, 26–28 Sep 2021 (*CM*§, PC†; 2021-105) and a male at Ventura High School, VEN, 10 Oct 2021 (TE†; 2021-130). The committee reviewed records of the Kentucky Warbler up through 1994 and from 2019 to 2021.

CAPE MAY WARBLER *Setophaga tigrina* (57**, 3). One male at Furnace Creek, INY, 31 May–4 Jun 2021 (*EI*†, *EM*†, *DS*, RST†; 2021-040) was joined by a second male on 4 Jun 2021 (*RST*†; 2021-045); both were in first alternate plumage. An adult female was at Lake Elizabeth, ALA, 26–29 Aug 2021 (*BC*†, VR†; 2021-079). IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED: A report from Garden Grove, ORA, 12 May 2021 (2021-039) received no support. The committee reviewed records of the Cape May Warbler from 1972 to 1974 and 2011 through 2021.

GRACE'S WARBLER *Setophaga graciae* (90, 5). An adult male at Struve Slough, SCZ, 18 Sep 2021 (*AR*†§, SBT†, BT†; 2021-097) was the first recorded for Santa Cruz County. An adult female at Mentone Basin Park, SLO, 8 Oct 2021–18 Jan 2022 (*OH*†; 2021-117A) was joined by a second bird of unknown age and sex 25 Dec 2021 (*MLB*; 2021-117B). The rest of the accepted records came from San Diego County. A female in formative plumage in residential Point Loma, 20 Jan–28 Feb 2021 (*SBM,* JP†; 2021-019) returned the following fall, 28–29 Oct 2021 (*SBM*; 2021-136). Likewise, one at Vacation Isle, Mission Bay, 6 Mar–12 Apr 2021 (*JB*†, MHR†; 2021-022) returned the following winter, 17 Oct 2021–2 Feb 2022 (*JP*†; 2021-129). Three additional returning wintering birds were a female at La Jolla Colony Park, 3 Feb–1 Apr 2021 (*JDe*, JDu†; 2021-013; same bird as 2019-148; Benson et al. 2021); an adult male at Encinitas, 11 Oct 2021–13 Mar 2022 (ML†; 2021-120; same bird as 2018-223; Benson et al. 2020), and an adult male at Del Mar, 20 Nov 2021–26 Mar

2022 (TH†; 2021-142; same bird as 2018-019; Benson et al. 2020). The committee discontinued its review of records of the Grace's Warbler after 2021.

RED-FACED WARBLER *Cardellina rubrifrons* (28, 2). One in formative plumage was in the Tijuana River valley, SD, 6–9 Sep 2021 (DWA†, DH†, KR†; 2021-087), and one was at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery, Point Loma, SD, 9 Oct 2021 (*GN*†; 2021-119).

PYRRHULOXIA *Cardinalis sinuatus* (32, 2). California's first Pyrrhuloxias since 2013 were a male in formative plumage at Palm Springs, RIV, 19 Mar–8 Jun 2021 (*SME*†, BM†; 2021-035) and another male (possibly adult) at Indio Hills, RIV, 11 Aug 2021 (*SBR*†; 2021-081).

POPULATIONS ACCEPTED

In addition to evaluating and archiving records of birds that rarely occur in California, the CBRC also maintains the California bird list, which includes introduced species considered to be established in the state. For a species to be added to the list, its identification must be established and its population in California must be considered "viable." The committee's criteria for viability are (1) that the species has bred in the state for 15 consecutive years, (2) that the population is increasing or stabilized after an initial period of increase, (3) that the species occupies enough geographically contiguous suitable habitat that the population is unlikely to diminish significantly, and (4) that the occupied environment is ecologically similar enough to the species' native habitat, or to that of other successful introductions, that permanent establishment seems likely. Populations maintained primarily by continued releases or requiring intensive management are not considered viable. The CBRC's Introduced Birds Subcommittee (T. A. Benson, J. S. Feenstra, J. F. Garrett, K. L. Garrett, K. N. Nelson, and A. J. Searcy) gathered evidence that naturalized population of the following four species have met the criteria for addition the California list, and the voting members of the committee accepted all four proposals.

NANDAY PARAKEET *Aratinga nenday* (2021-149; Figure 13). The monotypic Nanday Parakeet is native to central South America from southwestern Brazil and southeastern Bolivia to southern Paraguay and northeastern Argentina. Thousands of birds were imported for the pet trade in the 1960s and 1970s (Clapp and Banks 1973), allowing for the establishment of introduced populations in southern California. The core range of this species in California is defined by the Santa Monica Mountains, but occurrences are scattered throughout the coastal slope of Los Angeles and Ventura counties. This species was first noted in California in the late 1960s near San Bernardino, but that family of two adults and four young did not persist (Fisk and Crabtree 1974). Nanday Parakeets first appeared in single-digit numbers in the Santa Monica Mountains in the 1980s, increased and expanded throughout the late 1990s to approximately 200 by the turn of the century (Garrett and Mabb 2002, Pranty and Garrett 2002), and now number several hundred (Garrett 2018). Unlike other psittacids in California, Nanday Parakeets make extensive use of native habitats; the majority of confirmed and suspected nest sites are in western sycamore (*Platanus racemosa*) cavities (Garrett and Mabb 2002, Allen et al. 2016, Searcy unpubl. data). The species forages in native sycamore and oak (*Quercus agrifolia*) woodlands as well as in the urban landscape (Garrett and Mabb 2002, Pranty and Garrett 2011, Searcy unpubl. data).

FIGURE 13. Nanday Parakeets, photographed here 19 Sep 2019 (2021-149), feeding on fruits of the native laurel sumac (*Malosma laurina*) in Sycamore Canyon, Ventura County.

Photo by Adam J. Searcy

MITRED PARAKEET *Psittacara mitratus* (2021-115). During the 1980s, over 140,000 Mitred Parakeets were exported from Bolivia and Argentina to the United States (Collar et al. 2020). Through subsequent escape or intentional release, free-flying populations became established in the greater Los Angeles area in the 1980s (Garrett 1997). This population increased steadily over the next three decades, growing to an estimated 1000 (or more) individuals (Pranty and Garrett 2011, Garrett 2018). A smaller population in Sunnyvale, Santa Clara County, has been present since at least the mid-1990s (Bousman 2007) and now numbers around 70–80 individuals. In California, Mitred Parakeets inhabit urban areas where they forage on the fruits, seeds, and flowers of mostly non-native trees (Garrett et al. 1997). The species has been observed nesting in Canary Island date palms (*Phoenix canariensis*) and cavities in buildings (Bousman 2007, Allen et al. 2016, Garrett 2018). The subspecific taxonomy of the Mitred Parakeet is unresolved and in need of rigorous study (South American Checklist Committee 2010).

RED-MASKED PARAKEET *Psittacara erythrogenys* (2021-116). Over 42,000 Red-masked Parakeets were imported to the United States from Peru and Ecuador between 1981 and 1990 (Traffic 1987, Collar 1997). By the 1990s these birds had established free-flying populations in San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Diego. The total statewide population is currently estimated at over 500 individuals, with 250–300 in San Francisco and "hundreds" in the greater Los Angeles area (Garrett 2018), as well as in San Diego. Like the Mitred Parakeet, the Red-masked Parakeet inhabits urban landscapes. Identification of this monotypic species from others of *Psittacara* can be difficult, especially in young birds in which the red face has not fully developed, and in southern California might be complicated by hybridization with the Mitred Parakeet (Kalodimos 2020). Careful study is still needed to clarify the ranges and status of the species of *Psittacara* in southern California.

LILAC-CROWNED PARROT *Amazona finschi* (2021-114). Native populations of the Lilac-crowned Parrot are endemic to the forested foothills and lowlands of the

Pacific slope of western mainland Mexico (Renton and Iñigo-Elias 2003). Naturalized populations are widespread in southern California where they utilize urban and suburban areas with large, mostly non-native, fruiting and flowering trees, though they have been recorded breeding in native habitats. The Lilac-crowned Parrot was first recorded in California in the 1970s when Froke (1981) estimated 22 birds in the San Gabriel Valley, Los Angeles County. Since then it has steadily spread and increased in abundance and geographical distribution. The greater Los Angeles area remains the area of core abundance with 400–500 birds, but populations exceeding 100 individuals also occur in San Diego, Orange, and San Bernardino counties, while much smaller numbers occur in Ventura and Santa Barbara counties. Lilac-crowned Parrots co-occur with Red-crowned Parrots (*A. viridigenalis*) in southern California and occasionally hybridize with them. Most authorities consider this species to be monotypic (Renton 2020).

RE-EVALUATION OF MASKED AND NAZCA BOOBY RECORDS

In an attempt to establish identification criteria for predefinitive plumages of the Masked and Nazca Boobies, Peter Pyle re-examined the CBRC's records of them through 2019. After evaluating records of 134 photographed boobies, Pyle (2020) published provisional identification criteria for subadults based on bill color: "Masked Boobies have bluish-green bill bases with greenish-yellow tips, and these colors appear to be relatively consistent while becoming brighter with age, from juvenile to definitive plumage," whereas "Nazca Boobies … have horn-colored bill bases (mixed dusky or occasionally bluish) that become mixed horn and orange, then orangish or pinkish-orange, with brighter orangish-yellow or golden bill tips, a combination of colors not shown by Masked Boobies at any age." As a result of this analysis, at the CBRC's annual meeting in 2021 he recommended that 28 records be re-evaluated by these criteria, and the committee voted to re-evaluate 20 of them. The results of these re-evaluations are summarized in Table 1. In cases where the committee reversed itself, the record was first re-evaluated as the same taxon so it could be "not accepted" before being reviewed and accepted as the other taxon or as a Masked/Nazca Booby. Including these re-evaluations, the total numbers of accepted records of the Masked Booby is 52, of the Nazca Booby is 73, and of the Masked/Nazca Booby is 56.

MISCELLANEOUS

The long-staying Northern Gannet (*Morus bassanus*) first seen at Southeast Farallon Island, SF, 25 Apr 2012 (2012-058; Pike et al. 2014) was still present at the time of the preparation of this report in September 2024 (J. R. Tietz pers. comm.).

CORRIGENDA

Two incorrect dates were published in the CBRC's 46th report (Benson et al. 2022): the correct date span for the Thick-billed Kingbird at Horsethief Canyon Park, LA, is 7 Feb–*28* Mar 2020 (2020-012), and the correct date range for the Northern Wheatear at the Loleta bottoms, HUM, is 18–*19* Sep 2020 (2020-093). The committee reviewed additional documentation for two

Table 1 Results of the CBRC's Re-evaluation[a] of Records of Subadult Masked and Nazca Boobies

Date	Location	Previously accepted identification	Record[b]	Re-evaluated identification	Record
16 Feb 1998	San Miguel I., SBA	Masked	1998-063[25]	Masked/Nazca	1998-063B
5–24 Jun 2000	San Nicolas I., VEN	Masked	2000-113[26]	Masked/Nazca	2000-113B
17 Jan–29 Mar 2003	San Clemente I., LA	Masked	2003-065[29]	Masked/Nazca	2003-065B
1 Nov 2007	25 km nw of San Clemente I., LA	Masked/Nazca	2008-070[35]	unchanged	
17 Nov 2012	San Lorenzo River mouth, SCZ	Masked	2012-187[38]	Masked/Nazca	2012-187B
6–27 Oct 2013	Entrance to Long Beach harbor, LA	Masked/Nazca	2013-287[39]	Nazca	2013-287A
1 Sep 2015	11 km wsw of Point Loma, SD	Masked/Nazca	2015-088[42]	Nazca	2015-088B
26 Oct 2015	Santa Barbara I., SBA	Masked	2015-126[44]	Masked/Nazca	2015-126C
31 Aug 2015	offshore from San Diego, SD	Masked/Nazca	2015-163[42]	Nazca	2015-163A
6 Aug 2017	5 km w of Seal Rocks, SF	Masked	2017-068[43]	Nazca	2017-068D
22 Sep 2017	La Jolla Cove, SD	Masked	2017-112[43]	Masked/Nazca	2017-112B
1 May 2018	San Diego harbor, SD	Masked	2018-040[44]	Masked/Nazca	2018-040B
31 May 2018	9 km wsw of Dana Point, ORA	Masked	2018-052[44]	Nazca	2018-052B
10 Jun 2018	27 km w of Point Loma, SD	Masked	2018-059[44]	Nazca	2018-059B
11 Jun 2018	Santa Catalina I., LA	Masked	2018-063[44]	Masked/Nazca	2018-063B
1 Jul 2018	12 km sw of Bolsa Chica, ORA	Masked	2018-071[44]	Masked/Nazca	2018-071B
17 Aug 2018	43 km w of Point Loma, SD	Masked/Nazca	2018-098A[44]	Nazca	2018-098B
19 Aug 2018	Thirtymile Bank, SD	Masked	2018-099[44]	Masked/Nazca	2018-099C
22 Aug 2018	4 km s of Point Fermin, LA	Masked/Nazca	2018-106[44]	Masked	2018-106A
31 Aug 2018	Santa Monica Bay, LA	Masked/Nazca	2018-117[44]	Masked	2018-117A

[a]Based on criteria in Pyle (2020).

[b]Records were originally published in the following CBRC reports: [25]Rogers and Jaramillo (2002), [26]McKee and Erickson (2002), [29]San Miguel and McGrath (2005), [35]Pyle et al. (2011), [38]Pike et al. (2014), [39]Rottenborn et al. (2016), [42]McCaskie et al. (2018), [43]Singer et al. (2020), and [44]Benson et al. (2020). In cases where the committee re-evaluated a previously accepted Masked Booby, the record was first re-evaluated as a Masked Booby so it could be "not accepted" before being reviewed and accepted as a Nazca Booby or as a Masked/Nazca Booby; these re-evaluations reversing acceptance as a Masked Booby are not shown in the table. Three records (2008-070A, 2015-126B, 2018-099B) were also re-evaluated as representing prospective Nazca Boobies but not accepted.

records at its meeting in January 2022 and voted to extend the date ranges for both records. The date span for the Tricolored Heron at Point Mugu Naval Air Station, VEN, is corrected to 5–*16* Oct 2017 (2017-102; Singer et al. 2020), and the date range of a Crested Caracara on Santa Catalina Island, LA, is amended to 6 Apr 2014–*13 Feb 2016* (2014-031; Singer et al. 2016). Paul Lehman provided documentation for date corrections to a number of

Table 2 Corrections to Dates of Certain San Diego County Records

Record	Species	Location	Date range[a]	CBRC report[b]
2013-008	Curlew Sandpiper	Imperial Beach	22–*27 Jan* 2013	39
2006-095	Tricolored Heron	San Diego River mouth	1 Aug 2006–*4 Apr* 2007	32
2006-152	Tricolored Heron	San Elijo Lagoon	16–*19 Oct* 2006	32
2006-154	Tricolored Heron	Imperial Beach	8 Oct 2006–*10 May* 2007	32
2007-261	Tricolored Heron	San Diego River mouth	15 Nov 2007–*3 May* 2008	33
2008-026[c]	Harris's Hawk	Pauma Valley	7 Feb–*4 Mar* 2008	34
2008-086[c]	Harris's Hawk	Bonita	27 Jun–*7 Jul* 2008	34
2010-124	Harris's Hawk	Borrego Springs	6–*24 Oct* 2010	36
2011-184	Thick-billed Kingbird	Chula Vista	25 Oct 2011–*9 Apr* 2012	37
2013-193	Thick-billed Kingbird	Chula Vista	18 Oct 2013–*7 Apr* 2014	39
2017-151	Greater Pewee	Balboa Park	5 Dec 2017–*26 Apr* 2018	43
2013-213	Blue-headed Vireo	Point Loma	16 Nov 2013–*12 Mar* 2014	39
2008-218	Pine Warbler	Chula Vista	7 Dec 2008–*5 Apr* 2009	34
2010-167	Pine Warbler	Bonita	11 Dec 2010–*6 Feb* 2011	36
2013-222	Pine Warbler	Greenwood Cemetery	16 Nov 2013–*11 Mar* 2014	39
2011-216	Grace's Warbler	San Diego	16 Dec 2011–*20 Feb* 2012	37
2013-163	Grace's Warbler	San Diego	6 Oct 2013–*15 Mar* 2014	39
2004-177	Scarlet Tanager	Tijuana River valley	31 Oct–*2 Nov* 2004	30
2007-262	Scarlet Tanager	Point Loma	15–*20 Nov* 2007	33

[a]Corrected dates in italics.

[b]Records were originally published in the following CBRC reports: 30 (Cole et al. 2006), 32 (Heindel and Garrett 2008), 33 (Singer and Terrill 2009), 34 (Pike and Compton 2010), 36 (Johnson et al. 2012), 37 (Nelson et al. 2013), 39 (Rottenborn et al. 2016), and 43 (Singer et al. 2020).
[c]Record not accepted as natural occurrence questionable.

San Diego County records that the committee approved at its meeting in January 2021 (Table 2).

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