

CALIFORNIA SPECIALTIES

APRIL 16 - 23 , 2005

LEADERS:

**BRAD SCHRAM
BRIAN GIBBONS**

COMPILED BY: BRAD SCHRAM

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Itinerary

- 16 April Meet in the evening at hotel in San Diego, get-acquainted dinner.
- 17 April Bird San Dieguito Regional Park at Lake Hodges; J Street Basin, San Diego Bay; San Diego River mouth, and a short stop at Famosa Slough.
- 18 April Drive to Kitchen Creek Road east of San Diego, then to Mission Santa Ysabel and Julian by way of the Laguna Mountains. We drove to Anza Borrego Desert via Banner Grade, birding Tamarisk Grove Campground before driving to the Salton Sea. We birded Lack Road south of the Sea for Burrowing Owls before checking in at the Brawley Inn.
- 19 April Birding for the day in the vicinity of the south end of the Salton Sea. Finney and Ramer lakes proved productive, with a cooperative Crissal Thrasher near Finney and a Least Bittern at Ramer the highlights. We then drove to a small pig farm near Calipatria for ground doves. Our next stop was Red Hill Marina followed by the Sonny Bono monument headquarters where we Picnicked and birded. Obsidian Buttes weren't productive and we drove to Brawley where we birded a residential area before returning to the motel followed by dinner and Lesser Nighthawks over town.
- 20 April Travel to Taft with morning birding stops at Covington Park and Big Morongo Preserve. Birding at the reserve produced breeding birds but only a few western migrants, although late afternoon birding near Maricopa produced Le Conte's Thrasher and Sage Sparrow in wonderful light.
- 21 April Birding along Cerro Noroeste road, Mil Potrero Campground, and the Mount Pinos region with snow at low levels was productive. We then traveled through the Cuyama Valley to the coast and Morro Bay in San Luis Obispo County.
- 22 April Morning birding Morro Bay, Turri Rd., Laguna Lake, and south coastal San Luis Obispo County at Shell Beach Cliffs, Pismo Creek mouth, and Oceano. After lunch we left for Santa Barbara, stopping to bird in Los Alamos County Park, where the selection of oak savanna birds gave us a fine afternoon's birding.
- 23 April Our boat trip to Santa Cruz Island on smooth seas gave us wonderful looks at *four* species of shearwaters—including a *Manx(!)*, a rarity in California—Xantus's Murrelets, and other pelagic birds; an unusually productive crossing in both directions! Landing at Prisoner's Harbor on the island easily produced the Island Scrub Jay, which perched hopefully on Brad's 'scope during lunch. Amazingly, our arrival coincided with a visit to the cove by a Baja California form of *American Oystercatcher (frazari)*. Although undoubtedly harboring some Black Oystercatcher genes, the bird is predominantly "American". Another true rarity in California! Our best channel/island trip for this tour to date!

24 April Departure for home.

California Specialties Birdlist 2005 Page 3

Code: 4/9 = this species has been seen on four of nine California Specialties tours

LH = San Dieguito Regional Park, Lake Hodges

J = J Street, San Diego Bay

K = Kitchen Creek Rd., SD county

MB = Morro Bay

MPCG = Mil Potrero Camp Ground below Mt. Pinos

MSY = Mission Santa Ysabel

MV = Morongo Valley

SDRM = San Diego River Mouth

SB = Santa Barbara

ShB = Shell Beach

SS = Salton Sea Region (includes Ramer and Finney lakes)

TG = Tamarisk Grove Cpgrd., Anza-Borrego State Park

BIRDS

SWANS, GEESE & DUCKS: ANATIDAE

Greater White-fronted Goose 2/9 one at Laguna Lake; only the 2nd time for this tour

Canada Goose (*Branta Canadensis*) 4/9 a small flock at Laguna Lake; 1 at Ventura

Cackling Goose (*B. minima*) 1/9 a wintering bird lingering at Pismo Cr. mouth appears to be of the Aleutian subspecies *leucopareia*—another tour first!

Brant (*Branta bernicla*) 9/9 1 at SS a surprise; those still at MB not a surprise

Gadwall (*Anas strepera*) 9/9 a few where expected: SDRM, SS, MB

American Wigeon (*Anas americana*) 4/9 a few late individuals around SD

Mallard (*A. platyrhynchos*) 9/9 wherever there's fresh water

Blue-winged Teal (*A. discors*) 9/9 SDRM and SS

Cinnamon Teal (*A. cyanoptera*) 9/9 fewer than usual—SS

Northern Shoveler (*A. clypeata*) 9/9 fewer venues than usual, but more at SS than usual

Greater Scaup (*Aythya marila*) 1/9 a big surprise at Oceano Lagoon!

Lesser Scaup (*A. affinis*) 9/9 a few at SS and MB

Surf Scoter (*Melanitta perspicillata*) 9/9 a few at MB & Ventura; large flock off Prisoner's

White-winged Scoter (*M. fusca*) 1/9 1 in the scoter flock off Prisoner's; a tour first

Bufflehead (*Bucephala albeola*) 5/9 lingering birds at SS & MB

Red-breasted Merganser (*Mergus serrator*) 7/9 1 at J, a couple at MB

Ruddy Duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) 9/9 SS and most fresh water venues

PHEASANTS, GROUSE, and TURKEY: PHASIANIDAE

Ring-necked Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*) 2/9 a cock at SS; gorgeous critter

Wild Turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*) a flock in the Laguna Mtns.; impressive

NEW WORLD QUAIL: ODONTOPHORIDAE

Mountain Quail (*Oreortyx pictus*) 8/9 this trip's jinx bird, alas: numerous close calls at K, Mt. Pinos, & MPCG—but, frustratingly, heard only!

California Quail (*Callipepla californica*) 9/9 seen and heard often in the chaparral

Gambel's Quail (*C. gambelii*) 9/9 good study near the Brawley Inn

LOONS: GAVIIDAE

Red-throated Loon (*Gavia stellata*) 7/9 off Shell Beach

Pacific Loon (*G. pacifica*) 9/9 ShB & wonderful looks at breeding-plumage birds flying by in flocks up the SB Channel

Common Loon (*G. immer*) 9/9 SS, MB, and SB Channel

GREBES: PODICIPEDIDAE

Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*) 9/9 here and there where it's wet

Eared Grebe (*P. nigricollis*) 9/9 small numbers at SS by historic comparison

Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*) 9/9 LH, ShB, and SS

Clark's Grebe (*A. clarkii*) 9/9 LH & SS

SHEARWATERS & PETRELS: PROCELLARIDAE

Pink-footed Shearwater (*Puffinus creatopus*)

Sooty Shearwater (*P. griseus*) 7/8 only one on the channel!

Manx Shearwater (*P. puffinus*) 1/9 a truly rare bird in California—seeing this bird flying in front of us was shocking; amazing tour luck!

Black-vented Shearwater (*P. opisthomelas*) 2/9 lingering birds in the channel were a pleasant surprise

PELICANS: PELECANIDAE

American White Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchus*) 9/9 MB and few at SS

Brown Pelican (*P. occidentalis*) 9/9 all along the coast

CORMORANTS: PHALACROCORACIDAE

Double-crested Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) 9/9

Brandt's Cormorant (*P. penicillatus*) 8/8 MB, ShB & offshore

Pelagic Cormorant (*P. pelagicus*) 9/9 MB, ShB & offshore

BITTERNS AND HERONS: ARDEIDAE

American Bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*) 1/9 although resident, difficult—a tour first!

Least Bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*) 2/9 a bird at water's edge at Ramer Lake gave all fine 'scope looks

Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*) 9/9

Great Egret (*A. albus*) 9/9

Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*) 9/9

Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*) 9/9 common near the Salton Sea

Green Heron (*Butorides virescens*) 9/9 a few near SS & MB

Black-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) 9/9 LH, SS, MB, & Ventura

IBISES & SPOONBILLS: *THRESKIORNITHIDAE*

White-faced Ibis (*Plegadis chihi*) 8/9 flocks in fields near SS & large flocks overhead SS

AMERICAN VULTURES: *CATHARTIDAE*

Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*) 9/9 daily

HAWKS, EAGLES, & KITES: *ACCIPITRIDAE*

Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) 7/9 LH & MB

White-tailed Kite (*Elanus leucurus*) 9/9 Wonderful looks at this elegant bird at Lake Hodges

Northern Harrier (*Circus cyaneus*) 6/9 LH, SS

Cooper's Hawk (*A. cooperii*) 9/9 MV & Mount Pinos

Red-shouldered Hawk (*Buteo lineatus*) 9/9 SDCo, MB & SBCo

Red-tailed Hawk (*B. jamaicensis*) 9/9 commonly seen

Swainson's Hawk (*B. swainsoni*) 3/9 a sub-adult in a field near Finney Lake surprised us

Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) 7/9 LH, MSY & Cerro Noroeste

FALCONS & CARACARAS: *FALCONIDAE*

American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) 9/9 commonly seen while driving

Merlin (*F. columbarius*) 5/9 LH & Ramer Lake—'scope looks at the latter bird: late

Peregrine Falcon (*F. peregrinus*) 7/9 an imm. at SS and a lone adult at MB

RAILS, GALLINULES & COOTS: *RALLIDAE*

Virginia Rail (*Rallus limicola*) 2/9 heard only at MV

Sora (*Porzana carolina*) 6/9 seen at Finney and Ramer lakes

Common Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*) 8/9 SS

American Coot (*Fulica americana*) 9/9 ubiquitous where damp

PLOVERS & LAPWINGS: *CHARADRIIDAE*

Black-bellied Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*) 9/9 SDRM, SS

Snowy Plover (*Charadrius alexandrinus*) 6/9 SS

Semipalmated Plover (*C. semipalmatus*) 9/9 SDRM & SS

Killdeer (*C. vociferus*) 9/9

OYSTERCATCHERS: *HEMATOPODIDAE*

Black Oystercatcher (*Haematopus bachmani*) 9/9 MB, ShB, and Santa Cruz Island

American Oystercatcher (*H. palliatus frazari*) 1/9 Sta. Cruz Isl.—true rarity in CA

STILTS AND AVOCETS: *RECURVIROSTRIDAE*

Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*) 9/9 SDRM & SS
American Avocet (*Recurvirostra americana*) 9/9 SS

SANDPIPERS, PHALAROPES & ALLIES: *SCOLOPACIDAE*

Greater Yellowlegs (*Tringa melanoleuca*) 8/9 SDRM
Lesser Yellowlegs (*T. flavipes*) 2/9 uncommon at SS, where seen
Willet (*Catoptrophorus semipalmatus*) 9/9 all sea shores, incl. SS
Wandering Tattler (*Heteroscelus incanus*) 4/9 Prisoner's Harbor; amazing 'scope view☺
Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularia*) 9/9 ShB & Ventura
Long-billed Curlew (*Numenius americanus*) 6/9 J, SDRM, & MB
Whimbrel (*N. phaeopus*) 9/9 ocean and salt marsh edges, incl. SS
Marbled Godwit (*Limosa fedoa*) 9/9 common at SDRM, MB
Black Turnstone (*A. melanocephala*) 9/9 ShB, Ventura Harbor
Sanderling (*Calidris alba*) 9/9 SDRM, Ventura
Western Sandpiper (*C. mauri*) 9/9 J, SDRM, SS, MB
Least Sandpiper (*C. minutilla*) 9/9J, SDRM, SS, MB
Dunlin (*C. alpina*) 7/9 SDRM
Short-billed Dowitcher (*Limnodromus griseus*) 9/9 J, SDRM, a few at SS
Long-billed Dowitcher (*L. scolopaceus*) 9/9 common at SS
Wilson's Phalarope (*Phalaropus tricolor*) 7/9 small numbers at SS
Red-necked Phalarope (*P. lobatus*) 9/9 SS and SB Channel where in flocks

SKUAS, GULLS, TERNS & SKIMMERS: *LARIDAE*

Pomarine Jaeger (*Stercorarius pomarinus*) 3/9 SB Channel—one a close range ad.
Parasitic Jaeger (*S. parasiticus*) 3/9 SB Channel, a few fly-bys
Laughing Gull (*Larus atricilla*) 3/9 a couple overhead at SS
Bonaparte's Gull (*L. philadelphia*) 9/9 J, SDRM, SS, MB, SB Channel
Heerman's Gull (*L. heermanni*) 7/9 MB & SB Channel
Ring-billed Gull (*L. delawarensis*) 9/9 SDRM, SS, MB, Ventura
California Gull (*L. californicus*) 9/9 all salt water—although few gulls at SS by historic standards
Western Gull (*L. occidentalis*) 9/9 ubiquitous along coast and SB Channel
Glaucous-winged Gull (*L. glaucescens*) 9/9 J & ShB
Gull-billed Tern (*Sterna nilotica*) 4/9 J, SS more common than usual this trip
Caspian Tern (*Sterna caspia*) 9/9 common at salt water incl. SS
Royal Tern (*S. maxima*) 5/9 J only
Elegant Tern (*S. elegans*) 8/9 SDRM & SB Channel fewer than usual at SD, unusual numbers at SB channel
Forster's Tern (*S. forsteri*) 9/9 J, SDRM, SS, SB Channel
Black Tern (*Chlidonias niger*) 6/9 a small flock at Ramer Lake the only ones
Black Skimmer (*Rynchops niger*) 9/9 a couple disappearing at SS seen by some

AUKS, MURRES & PUFFINS: *ALCIDAE*

Common Murre (*Uria aalge*) 8/9 SB Channel, a few
Pigeon Guillemot (*Cepphus columba*) 9/9 Shell Beach, MB, and Santa Cruz Island
Xantus's Murrelet (*Synthliboramphus hypoleucus*) 8/9 a few pairs in SB Channel
Cassin's Auklet (*Ptychoramphus aleuticus*) 7/9 a few pairs
Rhino-cerous Auklet (*Cerorhinca monocerata*) 7/9 a couple fleeting looks on SB Channel

PIGEONS AND DOVES: COLUMBIDAE

Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*) 9/9 daily
Band-tailed Pigeon (*C. fasciata*) 8/9 Laguna Mtns., Mt. Pinos, Arroyo Grande (Deer Cyn)
White-winged Dove (*Zenaida asiatica*) 7/9 a few in the desert
Mourning Dove (*Z. macroura*) 9/9 daily
Inca Dove (*Columbina inca*) 8/9 Brawley, Ramer Lake, Calipatria
Common-Ground Dove (*C. passerina*) 8/9 Lack Rd, Calipatria, SS
Ruddy Ground Dove (*C. talpacoti*) 3/9 extremely rare in CA, two at pig farm
near Calipatria where now breeding!
Eurasian Collared Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*) 8/9 now countable in
California, this bird is rapidly extending its range here

CUCKOOS, ROADRUNNERS AND ANIS: CUCULIDAE

Greater Roadrunner (*Geococcyx californianus*) 9/9 LH & SS

OWLS: STRIGIDAE

Burrowing Owl (*Athene cunicularia*) 9/9 well-seen on roadside dikes along Lack Rd.
south of the Salton Sea
Long-eared Owl (*Asio otus*) 1/9 one at Tamarisk Grove CG, Anza-Borrego Desert
SP—late nesting here this year allowed us to see a roosting bird up close!

NIGHTJARS: CAPRIMULGIDAE

Lesser Nighthawk (*Chordeiles acutipennis*) 8/9 Brawley

SWIFTS: APODIDAE

Vaux's Swift (*Chaetura vauxi*) 7/9 migrants near SS
White-throated Swift (*Aeronautes saxatilis*) 9/9 LH, K, MV

HUMMINGBIRDS: TROCHILIDAE

Black-chinned Hummingbird (*Archilocus alexandri*) 9/9 MSY & at close range at MV
Anna's Hummingbird (*Calypte anna*) 9/9 common
Costa's Hummingbird (*C. costae*) 8/9 at Lake Hodges, in desert
Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus*) 4/9 Brian-only, SS
Allen's Hummingbird (*Selasphorus sasin*) 9/9 Oceano & Santa Cruz Isl. *sedentarius*
California Specialties Birdlist 2005 Page 8

KINGFISHERS: ALCENINIDAE

Belted Kingfisher (*Ceryle alcyon*) 3/9 uncommon in spring here: at LH & SS

WOODPECKERS & ALLIES: PICIDAE

Acorn Woodpecker (*Melanerpes formicivorus*) 9/9 common among oaks

Gila Woodpecker (*M. uropygialis*) 9/9 Brawley

Red-breasted Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus ruber*) 4/9 fine 'scope views at MPCG

Ladder-backed Woodpecker (*Picoides scalaris*) 4/9 one at Anza-Borrego SP

Nuttall's Woodpecker (*P. nuttallii*) 9/9 seen many places in appropriate habitat

Downy Woodpecker (*P. pubescens*) 9/9 one at Los Alamos

White-headed Woodpecker (*P. albolarvatus*) 6/9 excellent close-ups at Mt. Pinos!

Northern Flicker (*Colaptes auratus*) 9/9 a few only

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS: TYRANNIDAE

Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*) 6/9 a migrant at Kitchen Creek

Western Wood Pewee (*Contopus sordidulus*) 6/9 migrant spots in desert; 1 on SC Isl.

Hammond's Flycatcher (*Empidonax hammondii*) 4/9 a migrant at TG

Pacific-slope Flycatcher (*E. difficilis*) 9/9 TG, MV, Oceano, SC Island

Black Phoebe (*Sayornis nigricans*) 9/9 seen wherever there was water

Say's Phoebe (*S. saya*) 9/9 LH only

Vermilion Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*) 8/9 fine looks in Morongo

Ash-throated Flycatcher (*Myiarchus cinerascens*) 7/9 K, Cerro Noroeste Rd., Los Alamos, SC Island

Cassin's Kingbird (*Tyrannus vociferans*) 9/9 Lake Hodges and Los Alamos

Western Kingbird (*T. verticalis*) 9/9 every day but the SC Island trip

SHRIKES: LANIIDAE

Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*) 7/9 MSY, Maricopa, Cerro Noroeste Rd.

VIREOS: VIREONIDAE

Gray Vireo (*Vireo vicinior*) 9/9 K: this very local, hard to see species cooperated nicely

Cassin's Vireo (*V. cassinii*) 6/9 MV only—fine looks, finally, for everyone

Hutton's Vireo (*V. huttoni*) 8/9 Oceano, Los Alamos, & SC Island

Warbling Vireo (*V. gilvus*) 9/9 desert migrant spots; common

JAYS, MAGPIES & CROWS: CORVIDAE

Steller's Jay (*Cyanocitta stelleri*) 9/9 Mt. Pinos

Western Scrub-Jay (*Aphelocoma coerulescens*) 9/9 in appropriate habitat everywhere

Island Scrub-Jay (*A. insularis*) 8/9 up close for everyone!

Yellow-billed Magpie (*Pica nuttallii*) 9/9 outstanding up-close looks: Los Alamos

American Crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) 9/9 common on coastal plain and irrigated farm land, except Imperial Valley

California Specialties Birdlist 2005 Page 9

Common Raven (*C. corax*) 9/9 interior and mountains

LARKS: ALAUDIDAE

Horned Lark (*Eremophila alpestris*) SDRM, desert, Cerro Noroeste Rd.

SWALLOWS: *HIRUNDINIDAE*

Tree Swallow (*Tachycineta bicolor*) 9/9 a few migrants

Violet-green Swallow (*T. thalassina*) 9/9 migrant at K; common on, near Mt Pinos

Northern Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) 8/9 migrants almost daily

Bank Swallow (*Riparia riparia*) 3/9 SS by a few

Cliff Swallow (*Hirundo pyrrhonota*) 9/9 very common

Barn Swallow (*H. rustica*) 9/9 every day but Mt. Pinos drive

CHICKADEES & TITMICE: *PARIDAE*

Mountain Chickadee (*Parus gambeli*) 9/9 common in the mountains; 1 at MV

Chestnut-backed Chickadee (*P. rufescens*) 8/9 riparian along SLO coast

Oak Titmouse (*Baeolophus inornatus*) 9/9 Los Alamos

VERDIN: *REMIZIDAE*

Verdin (*Auriparus flaviceps*) 9/9 desert, where common

BUSHTIT: *AEGITHALIDAE*

Bushtit (*Psaltriparus minimus*) 9/9 common in chaparral and oaks

NUTHATCHES: *SITTIDAE*

White-breasted Nuthatch (*S. carolinensis*) 9/9 heard only at MB & Los Alamos!

Pygmy Nuthatch (*S. pygmaea*) 9/9 a nesting pair at MPCG

CREEPERS: *CERTHIIDAE*

Brown Creeper (*Certhia americana*) 3/9 a responsive pair at Mt. Pinos

WRENS: *TROGLODYTIDAE*

Cactus Wren (*Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus*) 9/9 Brawley

Rock Wren (*Salpinctes obsoletus*) 8/9 Heard only (!) at Kitchen Creek Rd

Canyon Wren (*Catherpes mexicanus*) 6/9 fine 'scope views at K

Bewick's Wren (*Thryomanes bewickii*) 9/9 often heard, less often seen

House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*) 9/9 often seen

Marsh Wren (*Cistothorus palustris*) 9/9 at Ramer Lake

California Specialties Birdlist 2005 Page 10

OLD WORLD WARBLERS: *MUSCICAPIDAE* (*Sylviinae*)

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila caerulea*) 7/9 TG

Black-tailed Gnatcatcher (*P. melanura*) 9/9 excellent looks near Ramer Lake

California Gnatcatcher (*P. californica*) 9/9 close birds at Lake Hodges

THRUSHES & ALLIES: *MUSCICAPIDAE* (*Turdinae*)

Western Bluebird (*Sialis mexicana*) 9/9 well seen many places

Hermit Thrush (*Catharus guttatus*) 2/9 a late wintering bird at K

American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) 9/9 only a few

BABLERS: *MUSCICAPIDAE* (*Timaliinae*)

Wrentit (*Chamaea fasciata*) 9/9 the voice of the chaparral: LH, K, MB, Oceano

MOCKINGBIRDS, THRASHERS & ALLIES: *MIMIDAE*

Northern Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*) 9/9 daily

California Thrasher (*Toxostoma redivivum*) 9/9 common in chaparral

Crissal Thrasher (*T. crissale*) 9/9 a single bird near Finney Lake

Le Conte's Thrasher (*T. lecontei*) 9/9 fine looks for all, a definite trip highlight!

STARLINGS: *STURNIDAE*

European Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) 9/9

WAGTAILS & PIPITS: *MOTACILLIDAE*

American Pipit (*Anthus rubescens*) 3/9 a few lingering near SS

WAXWINGS: *BOMBYCILLIDAE*

Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) 9/9 only a few

SILKY-FLYCATCHERS: *PTILOGONATIDAE*

Phainopepla (*Phainopepla nitens*) 8/9 desert shrubs and at Lake Hodges

WOOD-WARBLERS: *EMBERIZIDAE* (*Parulinae*)

Orange-crowned Warbler (*Vermivora celata*) 9/9 a few here and there; common on SCI

Nashville Warbler (*V. ruficapilla*) 9/9 surprisingly few, reflecting lack of migrants

Yellow Warbler (*Dendroica petechia*) 9/9 Morongo and Oceano

Yellow-rumped Warbler (*D. coronata*) 9/9 a few migrants

Black-throated Gray Warbler (*D. nigrescens*) 7/9 excellent looks at TG

Townsend's Warbler (*D. townsendi*) 9/9 hard to find this year, few migrants overall

Hermit Warbler (*D. occidentalis*) 7/9 SS hdqtrs., MV

California Specialties Birdlist 2005 Page 11

MacGillivray's Warbler (*Oporornis tolmiei*) 6/9 one seen by a few at TG

Common Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*) 9/9 near water usually

Wilson's Warbler (*Wilsonia pusilla*) 9/9 at all migrant spots in desert & at Oceano

Yellow-breasted Chat (*Icteria virens*) 6/9 heard only at LH & MV

TANAGERS: *EMBERIZIDAE* (*Thraupinae*)

Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*) 9/9 at Morongo, very local CA breeders
Western Tanager (*P. ludoviciana*) 8/9 not many this year; migrant numbers low

SPARROWS: *EMBERIZIDAE* (*Emberizinae*)

Green-tailed Towhee (*Pipilo chlorurus*) 7/9 outstanding looks on Mt. Pinos!
Spotted Towhee (*P. maculatus*) 9/9 common in chaparral and mtn. slopes
California Towhee (*P. crissalis*) 9/9 one of the commonest birds of the tour
Abert's Towhee (*P. aberti*) 9/9 seen by all near the Salton Sea
Rufous-crowned Sparrow (*Aimophila ruficeps*) 8/9 LH & K
Chipping Sparrow (*Spizella passerina*) 7/9 along Kitchen Crk. Rd.
Black-chinned Sparrow (*S. atrogularis*) 8/9 nice looks at Kitchen Creek Rd
Lark Sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus*) 9/9 K and Cerro Noroeste Rd.
Black-throated Sparrow (*Amphispiza bilineata*) 5/9 wonderful looks by all of a responsive bird in Anza-Borrego SP
Sage Sparrow (*Amphispiza belli canescens*) 9/9 the inland *canescens* race was seen by all at Maricopa
Savannah Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) 7/9 "Belding's" subspecies SD Bay
Grasshopper Sparrow (*Ammodramus savannarum*) 3/9 heard only on Turri Rd.
Fox Sparrow (*Passerella iliaca*) 8/9 "thick-billed" *stephensi* race on Mt. Pinos—future split
Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*) 9/9 common, incl. Sta. Cruz Island race
Lincoln's Sparrow (*M. lincolni*) 2/9 LH, a lingering winter bird—only 2nd on this tour
White-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*) 9/9 the resident *nutalli* race was also seen, along the coast at MB
Golden-crowned Sparrow (*Z. atricapilla*) 6/9 lingering birds at K & Los Alamos
Dark-eyed Junco (*Junco hyemalis*) 9/9 a few

CARDINALS, GROSBEAKS & BUNTINGS: *CARDINALIDAE*

Black-headed Grosbeak (*Pheucticus melanocephalus*) 8/9 fairly common
Blue Grosbeak (*Guiraca caerulea*) 7/9 common at Lake Hodges; also seen at SS, MV
Lazuli Bunting (*Passerina amoena*) 7/9 a few migrants at Kitchen Creek Rd.

BLACKBIRDS and ALLIES: *ICTERIDAE*

Red-winged Blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) 9/9
Tricolored Blackbird (*A. tricolor*) 9/9 at MSY and along Cerro Noroeste Rd.
Western Meadowlark (*Sternella neglecta*) 9/9
Yellow-headed Blackbird (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) 9/9 large nos. Ramer Lake
Brewer's Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) 9/9

California Specialties Birdlist 2005 Page 12

Great-tailed Grackle (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) 9/9 abundant near SS, spreading fast in CA
Brown-headed Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) 9/9
Hooded Oriole (*Icterus cucullatus*) 9/9 common at hotel in Mission Valley, a few elsewhere
Bullock's Oriole (*I. bullockii*) 9/9 relatively few, again reflecting lack of migrants this tour

FINCHES: *FRINGILLIDAE*

Cassin's Finch (*Carpodacus cassinii*) 9/9 only a couple at MPCG

House Finch (*C. mexicanus*) 9/9

Pine Siskin (*Carduelis pinus*) 6/9 MV only

Lesser Goldfinch (*C. psaltria*) 9/9

Lawrence's Goldfinch (*C. lawrenci*) 9/9 seen well by all at MSY, walk-away looks!

American Goldfinch (*C. tristis*) 8/9 a few

OLD WORLD SPARROWS: *PASSERIDAE*

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) 9/9

242 Species...a new tour record!

1174 Tour miles

MAMMALS

Sea Otter

Coyote

Mule Deer

California Sea Lion

Harbor Seal

California Ground Squirrel

(nearly ubiquitous)

Gray Squirrel

Brush Rabbit

Desert Cottontail

Cottontail

Black-tailed Jackrabbit

Risso's Dolphin

Common Dolphin

Sara Orangetip

Common Buckeye

ECHINODERMS

Tennessee Starfish (*PMS 151*)

REPTILES

Western Fence Lizard

Common Side-blotched Lizard

Western (Great Basin) Whiptail

BUTTERFLIES

Western Tiger Swallowtail

Pale Swallowtail

Monarch

Morning Cloak

Painted Lady

Cabbage Butterfly

California Sister