

# **CAMP YOSEMITE**

**JULY 26 – AUGUST 7, 2008**

**LEADERS:**

**VICTOR EMANUEL AND BARRY LYON**

**CAMP COUNSELOR:**

**REBEKAH RYLANDER**

**COMPILED BY: BARRY LYON**

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*Victor Emanuel Nature Tours, Inc.*

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*The first time I laid eyes on Yosemite National Park, I was a 14-year-old kid from Southern California traveling on a family vacation. Looking out at the Yosemite Valley from the park's famed viewpoint below the Wawona tunnel, I stared spellbound at the monumental rock formations and waterfalls that form one of the world's most instantly recognizable landscapes. On the left rose El Capitán, a larger-than-life 5,000-foot block of granite; on the right, Bridalveil Fall gushed over the valley's south rim, quickly culminating in a 900-foot vertical drop; and in the background soared Half Dome, the signature feature that for many is Yosemite. I have returned to Yosemite perhaps half-a-dozen times since that first epochal visit, yet every time I come back I still experience those same evocative feelings of inspiration and wonder I felt as a teenage boy.*

*The 14 kids in attendance for Camp Yosemite formed a remarkable group. Talented and inquisitive, all of our campers demonstrated an array of skills and interests that marked this group as among the best-rounded we've ever assembled for a summer camp. So when our excited band of young birders arrived in Sacramento for the start of our first-ever California-based camp, the stage was set for something special.*

*With binoculars unpacked before clothing, and the prospect of life birds nearby, precious little time was lost tallying the camp's first birds. An afternoon walk along the American River in east Sacramento provided an excellent introduction to western birding, with Nuttall's Woodpecker, California Quail, and Western Scrub-Jay easily found. Toward sundown, the surprise discovery of a group of Yellow-billed Magpies on its way to roost was an ideal grand finale to our first day.*

*With more hiking planned than on any previous VENT youth camp, the thrust of Camp Yosemite was experiencing as much time outdoors in the best way possible: on foot. Over a 10-day period, based out of three major regions of the park, we birded, hiked, and camped our brains out! And with the natural splendor of Yosemite's famous landmarks serving as our personal playground, we experienced the best parts of the park in full. In all, we logged 40 miles on foot, hiking the best trails through all types of terrain from shaded forest to granite outcrops, and to high altitude lakes and meadows.*

*On the rim south of Yosemite Valley we absorbed the park's grandeur from above. At Glacier Point, the arresting view of Half Dome dominated an otherwise spectacular landscape of polished granite domes, forests of red fir and lodgepole pine, plunging waterfalls, and vast vertical drop-offs. Hiking from the point to the Yosemite Valley offered as epic a journey as is possible in Yosemite—a top-down view of awesome vistas, giant rock walls, and the amazing dual waterfall system of Nevada and Vernal falls. Scores of Steller's Jays and White-headed Woodpeckers made for excellent travel*

*companions while the songs of Olive-sided Flycatchers and Fox Sparrows serenaded us on our long “downhill” journey.*

*Our shorter hike through the Mariposa Grove of giant sequoias brought us to the foot of some of the earth’s biggest trees. Some of the largest specimens were over 2,000 years old and over 200 feet tall. Of course, our attempts to behold the distant treetops stretched the limits to how much strain a person’s neck can endure! Thankfully we did not have to look so high to note such western specialties as Pacific-Slope Flycatcher, Red-breasted Sapsucker, and MacGillivray’s Warbler.*

*From Sentinel Dome to Taft Point, another unforgettable hike brought us through more towering stands of red and white firs, and sugar, Jeffrey, and lodgepole pines. Throughout our journey, ancient trees, hundreds of years old, formed a living cathedral of red, orange, and white-barked giants. Mountain Quail, Sooty Grouse, Black-backed Woodpecker, and Williamson’s Sapsucker were the spoils of our time on the trail, as were the astounding views of Yosemite Valley from Taft Point, three thousand feet straight down.*

*Since no trip to the park would be complete without visiting the Yosemite Valley, we relocated to Crane Flat, near the park’s northwest entrance, for closer access. A 6-mile hike on the Valley’s west loop brought us directly under the sheer face of El Capitán, where the North American Wall, famed among rock climbers, was visible. Meandering further along, the gently tumbling water of the Merced River sparkled under the morning sun. An obliging American Dipper rounded out the scene before we moved on to admire the tremendous height of Bridalveil Fall. A morning outing to the Merced grove of giant sequoias was memorable for more of the big trees, but especially for the Northern Pygmy-Owl discovered by Alex and the Hammond’s Flycatcher found by Victor.*

*In moving to the Yosemite high country, we entered a world of storm-battered peaks, treeless granite domes, sapphire lakes, and sublime meadows a patchwork of green and gold. Here, we spent the remainder of the trip, between 8,000 and 10,500 feet. For many, this part of the camp represented a first time visiting the highest life zone, where only the most stubborn of trees hang on before surrendering to the bare rock that crowns Yosemite’s highest reaches. A hike to May Lake was a terrific introduction to this part of the park, with ample birds, scenery, and wildflowers.*

*A full morning around Tioga Pass brought further immersion into the high country, where the rarified air and great birding made for an invigorating morning afield. An afternoon water taxi across Saddlebag Lake into the Hoover Wilderness revealed the majestic beauty of the alpine country. Ragged peaks, crystalline lakes, remnant snowdrifts, and a summer bloom of tundra wildflowers created a setting of incredible beauty. A side-trip into the glacial cirque behind Steelhead Lake was our high country high point. Surrounded by glorious scenery, we studied families of Gray-crowned Rosy-Finches feeding amid glacial moraines and ephemeral summer flowers.*

*With the arrival of day twelve, we journeyed out of the mountains to the eastern front of the Sierra Nevada. We spent a full day in this Great Basin country birding our way from the ghost town at Bodie to the alkali shores of Mono Lake. Among the highlights around Bodie, we followed to within feet of groups of Greater Sage Grouse and noted multiple Sage Thrashers, Brewer’s Sparrows, and Mountain Bluebirds. Mono Lake, as famous as the epicenter of past water wars as for its incredible birdlife, provided as amazing a spectacle as ever. The thousands of phalaropes and other shorebirds clustered along the shoreline, beside emergent tufa towers and clouds of brine flies, formed an utterly bizarre sight.*

*In retrospect, this trip had it all, or at least nearly so. Despite early concerns over a large new forest fire, we ultimately enjoyed Yosemite to the utmost—intimately and thoroughly, inclusive of the “typical” tourist attractions as well as the less-traveled trails. And that’s the way it should be because Yosemite is an American treasure. Its scoured mountaintops, thundering waterfalls, and flower-spangled mountain meadows are testimony to its rightful place as one of America’s premier national parks.*

## **ITINERARY:**

**July 26; Day 1** – All campers arrived in Sacramento today by train and by plane for the start of Camp Yosemite. Everybody was assembled by early afternoon and the entire group was checked into the hotel by 3:00 p.m. Hardly anybody could wait for the late afternoon birding outing, so most of the campers spent time looking for birds on the hotel grounds. Among the early spoils were the first Brewer’s Blackbirds and Western Kingbirds of the trip. At 4:00 we departed the hotel for a birding excursion on the campus of California State University Sacramento. Walking along the elevated bank of the American River, we noted a nice diversity of birds, including Common Mergansers, Bushtits, and Western Scrub-Jays. We also noted some of our first California specialty birds: California Quail, Nuttall’s Woodpecker, and California Towhee. We enjoyed a tasty dinner at a nearby restaurant before starting back to the hotel. A late and wonderful finale to the day was a surprise find of a group of Yellow-billed Magpies on its way to roost. Though most of the magpies chose not to linger where we were, one exceptional bird remained perched atop a power pole directly overhead for all to enjoy.

**July 27; Day 2** – Awakening early this morning, our objective was to head straight for Yosemite National Park. The printed itinerary listed a morning visit to the Cosumnes River Preserve as our first activity, but our desire to get to the park sooner than later necessitated a change of plans. Leaving Sacramento, we traveled south through the Central Valley toward the town of Modesto before heading east. Our route saw us passing through plenty of beautiful grassland and foothill landscapes. Rolling hills covered with towering valley oaks and golden grass provided a glimpse of the state’s scenic interior. Unfortunately a large new wildfire had erupted outside the park’s western boundary, so our greatly anticipated arrival was largely tempered by the vast pall of smoke that hung over the entire western side of Yosemite. We entered the park through the northwestern gate at Big Oak Flat, made our way toward the Yosemite Valley while paralleling the Merced River, and then rose out of the Valley farther southwest, eventually emerging onto the Glacier Point Road, and ultimately arriving at Bridalveil Creek Campground around midday. The early afternoon was dedicated to setting up the campsite and having lunch. The remainder of the afternoon was spent exploring the campground and nearby forest. A late afternoon walk around Perego Meadow netted us Red-breasted Sapsuckers, Northern Flickers, Western Tanagers, and other common forest species. At 7,200 feet elevation, we found the smoke from the forest fire much easier to deal with, however, visibility was still badly obstructed at times and the smell of wood smoke hung in the air. In sum, we were all glad to finally be there, but the forest fire had us all wondering how the days ahead would play out.

**July 28; Day 3** – We awoke this morning under a clear sky without any evidence of wood smoke in the area. As we would soon learn, this would be part of the pattern that we became accustomed to during our time in the Glacier Point area: clear, smoke-free mornings followed by warmer, smokier afternoons with reduced visibility. As this morning was only our first in the field, we hadn’t yet figured this out, and in an attempt to get away from the fire, we decided to head south to the park’s southern boundary at Wawona for a hike in the Mariposa Grove of giant sequoias. Departing the campground immediately after breakfast, we spent the entire morning hiking and birding our way through Yosemite’s largest grove of sequoias. The birding was excellent, with many Red-breasted Sapsuckers, White-headed Woodpeckers, and MacGillivray’s Warblers to show for our efforts. The sequoias were amazing in their grandeur of course, but the entire experience of hiking in this beautiful forest was equally memorable. In the afternoon we made our first visit to the end of the road at Glacier Point. The highlight, unquestionably, was the group of Sooty Grouse simply hanging around the trailside despite the presence of dozens of people. As we figured, the arresting views of Half Dome and the Yosemite Valley from

Glacier Point were essentially non-existent, thanks to the fire. Following dinner we made our first attempt at Gray Gray Owl (no dice) with a late hike out to McGurk Meadow.

**Distances hiked: Mariposa Grove – 2.1 miles; Glacier Point - .4 miles; McGurk Meadow – 2.2 miles. Total = 4.7 miles**

**July 29; Day 4** – Waking again to a beautiful, clear morning, we chose to spend half the day hiking the south rim of the Yosemite Valley from Sentinel Dome (near Glacier Point) to Taft Point. From the Sentinel Dome parking area we quickly covered the distance to the top of the dome, from which we had fantastic views in all directions of the dramatic granite domes that crown the Yosemite high country as well as the Yosemite Valley below. From Sentinel Dome we hiked and birded our way along the rim all the way out to Taft Point. The birding was truly outstanding on this hike as we recorded Mountain Quail, Williamson's Sapsucker, White-headed and Black-backed woodpeckers, and Black-throated Gray Warbler, among many others. The views from Taft Point were simply incredible, but not for the faint of heart. By the time we completed the loop hike we were all tired, but satisfied. After some down time and dinner at the campground, we set out for Westfall Meadow and our second attempt at Great Gray Owl. After spending considerable time surveying the main part of the meadow, Victor went off to explore a "hidden" western arm, where, of course, he found an owl. Unfortunately only a few of us got to see the bird and even then the looks people had should be described as fleeting.

**Distances hiked: Loop from Sentinel Dome to the valley rim to Taft Point and back – 6.5 miles; Westfall Meadow – 2 miles. Total = 8.5 miles.**

**July 30; Day 5** – Today was dedicated entirely to experiencing one of Yosemite's most epic hikes: Glacier Point to Yosemite Valley via the Panorama and Mist trails. We began the hike at 8:30 a.m. and ultimately reached the Valley floor around 3:30 p.m. In between we lost about 4,000 feet as we descended from the rim down a long series of switchbacks to Illilouette Fall, back up a long series of switchbacks to Panorama Point (unofficially named), and eventually ending up atop towering Nevada Fall. We lingered here for some time, taking in the impressive spectacle from above, before connecting with the Mist trail and continuing on downhill. The seemingly endless series of granite staircases that compose this trail made for a steep and cautious descent. Eventually we made our way down to Vernal Falls, another of Yosemite's famous landmarks, for more sightseeing and photographs. We were all hot and tired by this time and didn't waste any time covering the final mile and a quarter of the trail leading down to the Valley. Today was the first day that the adverse conditions stemming from the forest fire began to change for the better. The clear viewing conditions we experienced that morning held up longer into the afternoon, allowing for excellent visibility from start to finish. Though three-fourths of the hike was downhill, this was not an easy journey. So we rewarded ourselves with ice cream and cold drinks in Curry Village before returning to the campground.

**Total distance hiked: Glacier Point to Yosemite Valley – 8.2 miles.**

**July 31; Day 6** – With time running out on our stay in the Glacier Point area, we headed to Westfall Meadow early this morning for our third attempt at Great Gray Owl. Despite a gorgeous morning around a flower-filled mountain meadow, we did not succeed in finding the owl. So we headed back to camp, packed our gear, and made a run for civilization. Unfortunately our camp stove had failed the previous evening and we soon found out that the only recourse was drive back out the park's south entrance to the town of Oakhurst for a new one. I don't think any of us were sorry to spend a little time in town. Sandwiches day after day were beginning to wear on some of us. I'll never know if the lunch we had in the restaurant that day was so delicious because of the food or because we weren't eating sliced lunch meat again! With full bellies and full ice chests and a brand new stove to boot, we headed back into Yosemite. Once inside the park we made a lengthy final stop at Wawona for badly needed showers. Leaving Wawona, we drove all the way back to the main part of the park, passing the Glacier Point road for the last time, through the Yosemite Valley, and finally to Crane Flat. We arrived in the late afternoon, in time to set up camp and prepare dinner. After dinner we visited Crane Flat Meadow for our fourth attempt at Great Gray Owl, which was ultimately unsuccessful. We joined up with a park ranger tonight at 9:00 for a star-gazing session entitled "Starry, Starry Night" atop the Crane Flat Fire Lookout.

**Total distance hiked: Westfall Meadow – 2.0 miles.**

**August 1; Day 7** – This camp would not have received proper justice without including an extended visit to the Yosemite Valley. As the face of Yosemite, we simply had to explore this portion of the park despite the numbers of people. Following breakfast we headed down to the Valley for a lengthy, but easy half day hike on the surprisingly people-less West Loop trail that stretches from the valley's mid-point west to the Pohono bridge. Save for Cassin's Vireo and American Dipper, the hike was not as bird-filled as others we made, yet the scenery was tremendous from start to finish. The easy trail skirted the foot of El Capitán, ran alongside expansive meadows and the Merced River, and up to the base of Bridalveil Fall, before continuing back to the center of the Valley and our starting point near El Capitán bridge. We spent much of the remainder of the afternoon in Yosemite Village, checking out the park visitor center, Ansel Adams gallery, and gift shop. The fire had knocked out power to the Valley, which was an interesting sidenote to a generally enjoyable day. After dinner we made our fifth attempt at Great Gray Owl, again to no avail.

**Total distance hiked: West Loop of Yosemite Valley – 6.5 miles.**

**August 2; Day 8** – There are three groves of giant sequoias within the boundaries of Yosemite National Park. We visited the largest grove at Wawona on July 27, so today we decided to visit the smallest grove, the Merced Grove, near the park's northwest entrance. The distance to the grove was not far, involving only a three-mile roundtrip hike, but an easy morning was something we all needed. Taking our time getting started, we made our way to the trailhead after a slightly later breakfast. The state of California had stationed a lot of fire fighting equipment here and it was with some interest with which we viewed all the heavy machinery. Dusky Flycatchers were easily found along the first part of the trail. Alex represented himself well by locating a silent Northern Pygmy-Owl as it sat patiently in a white fir while being mobbed by a band of upset small birds. I think we all concluded that this sighting was a trip highlight. We had lunch at the feet of the sequoias before starting out. Victor found a rough-looking Hammond's Flycatcher that turned out to be a lifer for most. We arrived back in camp in early afternoon and spent most of the rest of the day relaxing. Following dinner we made our sixth and final attempt to see the Great Gray Ghost. After splitting the group in two, Victor and his gang managed to see an owl flying through the forest shortly before last light, however, while definitive for some, the sighting could again be called fleeting at best.

**Total distance hiked: Merced Grove of giant sequoias – 3 miles.**

**August 3; Day 9** – We broke camp after breakfast this morning in preparation for relocation to the high country. After buying gas and supplies, we headed up over the Tioga Road, gaining elevation almost immediately. For our first taste of the high country, we made the 1.2 mile hike to May Lake, at nearly 9,000 feet elevation. The difference in the altitude was readily apparent, although everybody was in fine physical shape. The walk to the lake was short—only 1.2 miles—but we had a great time en route observing wildflowers, birds, trees, and terrific mountain scenery. Sitting in a glacial cirque, May Lake is a spectacular alpine lake lying in the shadow of 10,850 foot Mt. Hoffman. We lunched by the lakeside and noted our first Belding's Ground-Squirrels and Cassin's Finches. On the way out, the people in Victor's van saw a gorgeous male Pine Grosbeak. Back on the road, we made a brief stop at Olmstead Point to watch for marmots and pikas before continuing on to our campsite at Tuolumne Meadows. After checking into the campground, we spent the rest of the day setting up the camp and preparing for the next day's activities. After dinner, a sunset walk along the Tuolumne River amid the expansive Tuolumne Meadow provided a relaxed ending to the day.

**Total distances hiked: May Lake – 2.4 miles; Tuolumne Meadow – 1.5 miles. Total = 3.9 miles.**

**August 4; Day 10** – High country birding was the theme of this day. At 8,600 feet, our camp at Tuolumne Meadows was the day's elevational low point while the majority of time was spent at 10,500 feet in the Hoover Wilderness. We started early, birding roadside pullouts east from camp toward the Tioga Pass. Stops to view the Dana Meadows produced our first Mountain Bluebirds, Clark's Nutcrackers, and a host of other common high

country species. Outside the park boundary we spent considerable time birding around Tioga and Ellery lakes. From the Ellery Lake dam we had outstanding views of Lee Vining Canyon directly below us and the Great Basin desert way off to the east. From the pass we headed north on the Forest Service road toward Saddlebag Lake, stopping briefly for a soaring pair of Golden Eagles. At road's end we found Clark's Nutcrackers numerous in the whitebark pines. At midday we boarded water taxis for the quick trip across Saddlebag Lake. Dumping off at the north end of the lake, we found ourselves on the edge of the Hoover Wilderness, an alpine wonderland of crystalline lakes, permanent snow patches, and flower-studded tundra. Our route took us back about a mile and a half to the edge of lovely Steelhead Lake. At this elevation we took our time getting from point A to point B, but we certainly never lacked for outstanding scenery. Looking around in any direction, we found ourselves surrounded by mountains towering well above treeline, while back to the south we noted a picture-perfect descending chain of lakes. The birding was always good and at times was incredible. Without question the bird of the day was Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch. Perhaps people felt this way because this is such a beautiful bird, or perhaps it was because we had to work so hard to get it, or maybe it was the breathtaking surroundings. Whatever your opinion may be, hiking back toward that glacial cirque to see families of Rosy-Finches feeding young in the shadow of Mount Conness was a spiritually uplifting experience. Many of you declared this day of the camp your favorite.

**Total distance hiked: Hoover Wilderness – 3 miles.**

**August 5; Day 11** – Our final full day of birding was filled with memorable sightings. Leaving the camp especially early, we headed out of the mountains, down Lee Vining Canyon, and out into the Great Basin for a full day afield at the foot of the Eastern Sierras. Our first destination was Bodie, a historic ghost town dating from the California Gold Rush. Sitting amid miles of unbroken sage country, Bodie proved spectacular for its easy-to-see population of Greater Sage-Grouse. We initially found several groups of grouse along the main road, but once we got to “town,” we located a large group of birds so tame that we were able to follow to within a few feet. The whole experience was utterly improbable as one does not think of this species as “tame” by any degree of imagination. Once we left Bodie, we returned to the main highway and headed to Mono Lake County Park for birding and a little natural history education. Walking the boardwalk down to the shoreline, we noted a number of interesting birds, but none was more impressive than the scene of thousands of Wilson's Phalaropes clustered along the lake edge feeding on brine shrimp. Long known as a major staging area, we enjoyed prolonged views of this species as well as a few Red-necked Phalaropes mixed in. Careful searching turned up a number of other shorebird species. Mono Lake's famous tufa towers were on full display and we talked at length about them as well as the lake's unique communities of brine shrimp and alkali flies. After a memorable lunch at the “Whoa Nellie Deli” we headed to the lake's south shore for another walk amid the tufa towers. An afternoon downpour kept us off the trail for a while, but after the rain relented we enjoyed great looks at Green-tailed Towhee and a couple Sage Thrashers. Part of the group was fortunate enough to have seen a Gray Flycatcher amid the tufa formations. A mid-afternoon drive to Sagehen Summit was very scenic, but light on birds. We outlasted another heavy rain and, on the return trip, found a roving group of Pinyon Jays. We returned to camp by about 5:00.

**August 6; Day 12** – We were a tired bunch breaking camp this morning. After 10 consecutive nights of camping, lots of miles on foot, and lots of early departures, it seemed we were all ready for a relaxed day ahead. We began the long drive back to Sacramento around 9:00, but didn't push too hard getting back. Stops at Olmstead Point and Crane Flat allowed for some leg stretching and last looks at Yosemite National Park. By late morning we were well out of the park and ready for lunch. A stop at Moccasin Point on the shore of Don Pedro Reservoir was as good as place to eat as any, although it was pretty hot away from the shade. A quick walk around after lunch turned up a few new birds, notably Oak Titmouse and California Towhee. Back on the road by about 1:00, we headed west toward the interstate that would eventually return us to Sacramento. A final birding stop at the Cosumnes River Preserve was interesting, but not spectacular. A road construction delay didn't help. A walk along the river did reveal a pair of Wrentits that turned out to be the final new bird of the trip. We arrived in Sacramento around 3:30. A late afternoon outing to VENT leader Jeri Langham's house was an unexpected bonus. Jeri gave us lots of homegrown fruit and vegetables to enjoy while we birded from his backyard. A covey of California Quail toward sundown was an exciting way to end what was a great trip.

**August 7; Day 13** – All campers were escorted to the airport, or train station in some cases, for departures from Sacramento, marking the official end of the camp.

## **BIRDLIST:**

The A.O.U. Checklist of North American Birds is the official authority on the taxonomy of birds found in North and Middle America. This birdlist is taxonomically organized in accordance with the Seventh Edition of the A.O.U. checklist through the 48<sup>th</sup> supplement.

### **Ducks, Geese & Swans (*Anatidae*)**

Canada Goose (*Branta Canadensis*) – American River, Sacramento

Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) – American River

Northern Pintail (*Anas acuta*) – A few in basic plumage on Mono Lake

Common Merganser (*Mergus mergansor*) – Many along the American River in Sacramento; somewhat surprising

### **Grouse & Allies (*Phasianidae*)**

Greater Sage-Grouse (*Centrocercus urophasianus*) – Great views of an otherwise challenging-to-find species in the sage flats north of Mono Lake. Even more extraordinary views of other groups of birds right in the middle of “downtown” Bodie! At least two sizable groups were present, affording spectacular viewing and photographic opportunities as we followed to within feet of the birds.

Sooty Grouse (*Dendragapus fuliginosus*) – Incredible looks at a number of ridiculously close birds along the paved path to Glacier Point.

### **New World Quails (*Odontophoridae*)**

Mountain Quail (*Oreortyx pictus*) – Three family groups of birds were seen in different parts of Yosemite, allowing everybody to get excellent views of this elusive species. The first group was spotted by Caity along the Pohono Trail between Sentinel Dome and Taft Point; the second group was seen by about two-thirds of us along the Panorama Trail between Glacier Point and Illilouette Fall; and the third group, perhaps most remarkably, was seen crossing the road in Yosemite Valley through the heart of a construction zone.

California Quail (*Callipepla californica*) – Great looks at a couple pair the first afternoon along the American River; another covey in Jeri Langham’s backyard on the final afternoon.

### **Grebes (*Podicipedidae*)**

Eared Grebe (*Podiceps nigricollis*) – Dozens at Mono Lake, with several alternate birds in alternate plumage. Mono Lake annually hosts thousands and thousands of grebes each year during fall migration.

### **Cormorants (*Phalacrocoracidae*)**

Double-crested Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) - A few over the American River in Sacramento.

### **Hérons & Egrets (*Ardeidae*)**

Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*) – A few in the Central Valley lowlands west of the Sierras.

Great Egret (*Ardea alba*) – Same.

Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*) – Several in the American River in Sacramento.  
Green Heron (*Butorides virescens*) – American River

**Ibises (*Threskiornithidae*)**

White-faced Ibis (*Plegadis chihi*) – A couple large flocks noted over fields between the airport and hotel in Sacramento.

**New World Vultures (*Cathartidae*)**

Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*)

**Hawks, Eagles & Kites (*Accipitridae*)**

White-tailed Kite (*Elanus leucurus*) – Several in the Central Valley, but best were the individuals flying over the fields south of Sacramento on the final afternoon while we were looking for Tricolored Blackbirds.

Northern Harrier (*Circus cyaneus*) – 1 or 2 cruising the sage flats while en route to Bodie.

Cooper's Hawk (*Accipter cooperii*)

Red-shouldered Hawk (*Buteo lineatus*) – A couple seen along the highway south of Sacramento while we were in transit to Yosemite.

Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) – Several seen very well in the grasslands between Sacramento and Yosemite.

Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*)

Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) – A soaring pair seen well by most in the Yosemite high country over the road to Saddlebag Lake.

Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) – A single bird over Tioga Lake was almost certainly a dispersing individual from Mono Lake off to the east. We were treated to a beautiful site as the bird coursed back and forth over the lake, looking for its next meal. An aggressive Red-tailed Hawk soon entered the scene, clearly unhappy with the Osprey's presence, and tried to drive it away. Eventually it gave up and moved on to the north.

**Falcons & Caracaras (*Falconidae*)**

American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) – Surprisingly scarce; only 1 or 2 seen.

Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) – Quick looks at pair along the highway north of Mono Lake.

**Plovers & Lapwings (*Charadriidae*)**

Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*)

Semipalmated Plover (*Charadrius semipalmatus*) – A single bird with all the other shorebirds at Mono Lake; an uncommon but regular fall migrant.

**Avocets & Stilts (*Recurvirostridae*)**

Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*) – Several along the shore at Mono Lake.

American Avocet (*Recurvirostra Americana*) – 1 or 2 at Mono Lake among the stilts.

**Sandpipers & Allies (*Scolopacidae*)**

Greater Yellowlegs (*Tringa melanoleuca*) – A single bird with the other shorebirds at Mono Lake.

Willet (*Tringa semipalmatus*) – An individual along the shore at Mono Lake was an interesting and somewhat unexpected find.

Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularius*) – A couple seen in the high country around the various small lakes and streams.

Western Sandpiper (*Calidris mauri*) – Several on the shore at Mono Lake.

Least Sandpiper (*Calidris minutilla*) – A few among the Westerns.

Wilson's Snipe (*Gallinago delicata*) – A single bird feeding among the other shorebirds at Mono Lake.  
A nice surprise and great looks for all.

Wilson's Phalarope (*Phalaropus tricolor*) – Seeing the phalaropes at Mono Lake was definitely one of the trip's more memorable birding highlights. Mono Lake is an important staging area for this species, as evidenced by the thousands that gather there every year in the late summer and early fall. We were treated to the sight of hundreds of birds feeding and resting along the shoreline and offshore waters, as well as startled flocks swirling in great numbers over the lake.

Red-necked Phalarope (*Phalaropus lobatus*) – Perhaps a dozen mixed in with the Wilson's. Scope views for all and nice comparative studies.

### **Gulls & Terns (*Laridae*)**

California Gull (*Larus californicus*) – Hundreds flying around Mono Lake, and not surprising since the lake is a major nesting area for this species. Post-breeding wanderers noted on the lakes at Tioga Pass and also along the American River in Sacramento.

### **Doves & Pigeons (*Columbidae*)**

Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*)

Band-tailed Pigeon (*Patagioenas fasciata*) – Seen only a few times in Yosemite, and never exceptionally well. Best was the flock over Westfall Meadow on our final morning in the Glacier Point area.

Mourning Dove (*Zenaidura macroura*)

Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*) – The range expansion of this species has been remarkable. It is now found across nearly the entire country. We discovered this bird around Sacramento and also over in Lee Vining in the Eastern Sierras. Until a few years ago, this bird was not known from these areas.

### **Typical Owls (*Strigidae*)**

Great Horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus*) – Heard only at Bridalveil Creek Campground.

Northern Pygmy-Owl (*Glaucidium gnoma*) – A tremendous find by Alex along the trail to the Merced Grove of giant sequoias; after locating an excited and upset gang of small birds, the little gnome sat quietly in a white fir while we gazed from a respectable distance. The *californicum* subspecies.

Great Gray Owl (*Strix nebulosa*) – In living up to its appropriately named epithet, Great Gray Ghost, this bird proved too elusive for us. Despite 5 vigorous attempts, we had little more to show for our efforts than some fleeting glimpses of a couple birds flying through the trees toward last light.

### **Nightjars & Allies (*Caprimulgidae*)**

Common Nighthawk (*Chordeiles minor*) – A localized breeding bird in California, we noted perhaps half a dozen early one morning en route to Bodie.

### **Swifts (*Apodidae*)**

White-throated Swift (*Aeronautes saxatalis*) – Fairly common around cliffs, promontories, and waterfalls throughout Yosemite's west slope.

### **Hummingbirds (*Trochilidae*)**

Black-chinned Hummingbird (*Archilochus alexandri*) – A few immature/female types noted in different places, but an adult male at the Cosumnes River Preserve the last afternoon was most memorable.

Anna's Hummingbird (*Calypte anna*) - At least one buzzing around Jeri's yard the final afternoon.

Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus*) – We actually saw many individuals around meadows and other clearings throughout our stay in Yosemite. The problem is that the majority of the birds were not seen well. Females and immatures only.

### **Kingfishers (*Alcedinidae*)**

Belted Kingfisher (*Megaceryle alcyon*) – A pair along the American River were the only ones seen.

### **Woodpeckers & Allies (*Picidae*)**

Acorn Woodpecker (*Melanerpes formicivorus*) – Seen easily and well in two places: Yosemite Valley and at our lunch stop at Moccasin Point on Don Pedro Reservoir en route back to Sacramento.

Williamson's Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus thyroideus*) – Amazing looks at least two males and a female, but others were probably seen. The first male was found along the Panorama Trail between Glacier Point and Taft Point; the very different female was seen on the way back to the parking area on the same hike. The second male was located in a tree at our campground at Tuolumne Meadows.

Red-breasted Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus ruber*) – This is actually a fairly common bird in the middle and upper-middle elevations of Yosemite National Park. We had very good luck with this bird at the Mariposa Grove of giant sequoias as well as in the forest around Bridalveil Creek Campground.

Nuttall's Woodpecker (*Picoides nuttallii*) – A single female the first afternoon along the American River in Sacramento was the only one seen.

Hairy Woodpecker (*Picoides villosus*) – Seen nearly every day; a common and conspicuous bird.

White-headed Woodpecker (*Picoides albolarvatus*) – Lots of excellent views of this very distinctive bird throughout our time on Yosemite's west slope. Many were noted in the forest at the Mariposa Grove; others were around the campground at Bridalveil Creek; and plenty more were seen on the Pohono Trail between Glacier Point and Taft Point.

Black-backed Woodpecker (*Picoides arcticus*) – This species is one of Yosemite's most Sought-after. With perseverance, we turned up 3 individuals. The first was a male along the trail to Taft Point. This bird proved difficult at first. Though distinctive enough to i.d., it was perched atop a dead tree high overhead, making observation difficult. With patience on our part, the bird eventually relocated to a place where it was enjoyed at length by all. A pair was located that same evening on the trail to Westfall Meadow for pretty good looks for most.

Northern Flicker (*Colaptes auratus*)

Pileated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus pileatus*) – An exciting find was the pair along the road to the campground at Crane Flat. We observed these birds for 30 minutes as they picked apart a rotting red fir. Outstanding looks for all and a really memorable sight.

### **Tyrant Flycatchers (*Tyrannidae*)**

Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*) – Several good looks at calling birds on the Pohono Trail west of Sentinel Dome.

Western Wood-Pewee (*Contopus sordidulus*) – Individuals here and there; nice looks.

Hammond's Flycatcher (*Empidonax hammondi*) – The vocalization of this bird was actually heard fairly commonly in the forest around McGurk and Westfall meadows, however, we didn't see any there. The one we did get well and at length was the one found by Victor on the trail to the Merced Grove.

Gray Flycatcher (*Empidonax wrightii*) – Nice looks for about half the group at a single bird around the tufa towers at Mono Lake immediately in the wake of a heavy rainstorm. Unfortunately it didn't stick around long enough for all of us to see it.

Dusky Flycatcher (*Empidonax oberholseri*) – A common Yosemite bird in appropriate habitat. Several were seen well in the drier forest along the Pohono Trail

Pacific-slope Flycatcher (*Empidonax difficilis*) – Only one seen; an individual in the forest at the Mariposa Grove.

Black Phoebe (*Sayornis nigricans*) – Along the American River in Sacramento and another along the Merced River in Yosemite.

Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*) – Nice looks at an individual at the breakfast site at Bodie.

Ash-throated Flycatcher (*Myiarchus cinerascens*) – 1 or 2 seen very briefly from the levee along the American River the first afternoon.

Western Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*) – Several around the hotel in Sacramento.

### **Vireos & Allies (*Vireonidae*)**

Cassin's Vireo (*Vireo cassinii*) – A nice find by Spencer one morning in Yosemite Valley near the start of the West Valley Loop trail.

Warbling Vireo (*Vireo gilvus*) - A couple individuals seen in a small group of feeding birds in Yosemite Village at the end of the same day.

### **Crows, Jays & Magpies (*Corvidae*)**

Steller's Jay (*Cyanocitta stelleri*) – Common throughout

Western Scrub-Jay (*Aphelocoma californica*) – Common around Sacramento

Pinyon Jay (*Gymnorhinus cyanocephalus*) – A roving flock found along the highway south of Mono Lake was a very exciting find. Good looks for all at this unpredictable wide-ranging species.

Clark's Nutcracker (*Nucifraga columbiana*) – A common bird in the high country around Tioga Pass and Saddlebag Lake. Especially numerous in stands of whitebark pine with maturing cones.

Black-billed Magpie (*Pica pica*) – Only 1, and seen only by Saraya, while en route to Bodie.

Yellow-billed Magpie (*Pica nuttalli*) – Seen well at the beginning and end of the trip. The first evening ended with a flourish when we unexpectedly sighted a group of birds heading to roost in east Sacramento. Better looks were had the following morning near the hotel and again en route to Yosemite. More outstanding looks were had the final day in the fields south of Sacramento.

American Crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*)

Common Raven (*Corvus corax*)

### **Larks (*Alaudidae*)**

Horned Lark (*Eremophila alpestris*) – One bird in the glacial cirque behind Steelhead Lake in the Hoover Wilderness was seen only by Tim.

### **Swallows (*Hirundinidae*)**

Purple Martin (*Progne subis*) – A localized bird in California and almost never easy to see; we had a couple birds over the American River the first afternoon out.

Tree Swallow (*Tachycineta bicolor*)

Violet-green Swallow (*Tachycineta thalassina*) – Not common, and usually seen high overhead; however, one on a perch along the Panorama Trail was easily the best.

Northern Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*)  
Cliff Swallow (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*)  
Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*)

### **Chickadees & Tits (*Paridae*)**

Mountain Chickadee (*Poecile gambeli*) – Common throughout the mountain forests.  
Chestnut-backed Chickadee (*Poecile rufescens*) – A pair around Yosemite Village was elusive at first, but was eventually seen well by most; interestingly, the birds that occur in Yosemite belong to the northern subspecies, not the more southerly coastal population.  
Oak Titmouse (*Baeolophus inornatus*) – Great looks at this California specialty bird in the picnic ground at Moccasin Point, Don Pedro Reservoir.

### **Long-tailed Tits (*Aegithalidae*)**

Bushtit (*Psaltriparus minimus*) – A small group along the American River the first afternoon; a few others elsewhere.

### **Nuthatches (*Sittidae*)**

Red-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta canadensis*) – One of the most common birds in the forest.  
White-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta carolinensis*) – A couple at the Mariposa Grove; several several more along the Pohono Trail between Glacier Point and Taft Point.

### **Creepers (*Certhiidae*)**

Brown Creeper (*Certhia americana*) – Common and seen daily in the forests of Yosemite's west slope.

### **Wrens (*Troglodytidae*)**

Rock Wren (*Salpinctes obsoletus*) – Nice looks at a curious bird near the summit of Sentinel Dome.  
Canyon Wren (*Catherpes mexicanus*) – Surprisingly scarce; in fact, the only one seen was an individual creeping around the rocks below the geology exhibit near Glacier Point; not seen by all.  
House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*)  
Winter Wren (*Troglodytes troglodytes*) – Great looks at a fairly conspicuous pair along the Merced River in the Yosemite Valley.

### **Dippers (*Cinclidae*)**

American Dipper (*Cinclus mexicanus*) – Wonderful views of an individual posing on the rocks along the Merced River in the Valley.

### **Kinglets (*Regulidae*)**

Golden-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus satrapa*) – Fairly common, but not easily seen.

### **Thrushes & Allies (*Turdidae*)**

Western Bluebird (*Sialia mexicana*) – 1 in Sacramento and others flying over Westfall Meadow in Yosemite; others seen well and, even bathing, at Moccasin Point.  
Mountain Bluebird (*Sialia currucoides*) – Several bright males seen well in the Yosemite high country and also in the sage flats around Bodie.  
Townsend's Solitaire (*Myadestes ustulatus*) – Fantastic studies of a foraging bird on the Panorama Trail above Illilouette Fall.  
Hermit Thrush (*Catharus guttatus*) – Seen in two places: Yosemite Valley and Crane Flat Campground.  
American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*)

### **Babblers (*Timalidae*)**

Wrentit (*Chamaea fasciata*) – Despite the broiling temperatures, our trip to the Cosumnes River Preserve was a huge success if for no other reason than we saw a pair of Wrentits at really close range; the last new bird for the trip.

### **Mockingbirds & Thrashers (*Mimidae*)**

Northern Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*)

Sage Thrasher (*Oreoscoptes montanus*) – Outstanding studies of birds along the road to Bodie and, especially, amid the tufa towers on the south shore of Mono Lake.

### **Starlings (*Sturnidae*)**

European Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*)

### **Pipits (*Motacillidae*)**

American Pipit (*Anthus rubescens*) – This high country nester was essentially missed, save for Spencer and maybe one or two others who found one foraging in a stream behind Steelhead Lake.

### **New World Warblers (*Parulidae*)**

Orange-crowned Warbler (*Vermivora celata*) – Seen fairly commonly in the forest around our campground at Bridalveil Creek.

Nashville Warbler (*Vermivora ruficapilla*) Also fairly common, and in the same places.

Yellow Warbler (*Dendroica petechia*) – A couple in the riparian growth around Mono Lake were not a surprise, but the singing male in the scrub along the Panorama Trail below Glacier Point, at 7,000 feet, was.

Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Dendroica coronata*) – The “yellow-rumped” form; abundant

Black-throated Gray Warbler (*Dendroica nigrescens*) – Not more than 1 or 2 seen; a female in the first along the Pohono Trail was the first; apparently 1 or more were seen in mixed species flocks around the campground at Bridalveil Creek.

Hermit Warbler (*Dendroica occidentalis*) – Fairly common in the forest around Bridalveil Creek campground. Close inspection of the numerous mixed species flocks invariably turned up a few individuals. Most were immatures, but a few adults were seen as well. More Hermits were seen, including several adults, in the vicinity of our campground at Tuolumne Meadows in the high country.

MacGillivray’s Warbler (*Oporornis tolmiei*) – Several in the forest at the Mariposa Grove, and a few others at other locations throughout.

### **Tanagers & Allies (*Thraupidae*)**

Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*) – Common and conspicuous throughout the west slope of the Sierras, with lots of colorful males, paler females, and less distinct immatures.

### **Buntings, Sparrows & Allies (*Emberizidae*)**

Green-tailed Towhee (*Pipilo chlorurus*) – Fantastic looks at an adult and juvenile in the sage brush around the tufa towers along the south shore of Mono Lake.

Spotted Towhee (*Pipilo maculatus*) – Seen best the first afternoon along the American River in Sacramento.

California Towhee (*Pipilo crissalis*) – Seen easily on the last day of the trip at Moccasin Point on Don Pedro Reservoir while returning to Sacramento.

Chipping Sparrow (*Spizella passerina*) – Common in the mountain meadows off the Glacier Point road.

Brewer's Sparrow (*Spizella breweri*) – Very abundant, and seen well, in the sage brush en route to, and around, Bodie.

Savannah Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) – A single individual among the shorebirds on the north shore of Mono Lake.

Fox Sparrow (*Passerella iliaca*) – We initially found this bird in two places: along the trail to Sentinel Dome and along the trail to Glacier Point. While the birds were seen by everybody, we didn't have the classic look you'd hope for with any new bird. But on the morning we hiked from Glacier Point down to the Yosemite Valley, we more than made up for our earlier less than desirable sightings. The downhill trail took us through a couple of miles of burned over habitat in various stages of regeneration, and Fox Sparrows were everywhere. No matter which direction we looked, we could see territorial males singing from exposed rocks and tree stumps. From the start of the trail down 2.5 miles to Illilouette Fall, it seemed like we were serenaded by the greeting song of these conspicuous little birds every step of the way. The subspecies *megarhyncha*, or "Thick-billed" Fox Sparrow.

Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*) – Common in wet mountain meadows.

Lincoln's Sparrow (*Melospiza lincolnii*) – Common, but inconspicuous, in wet mountain meadows.

White-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*) – Common in the higher elevations of Yosemite on the east side of the park; the dark-lored *Oriantha* subspecies.

Dark-eyed Junco (*Junco hyemalis*) – One of the most commonly encountered birds throughout our time in Yosemite; the "Oregon" variety.

### **Cardinals & Allies (*Cardinalidae*)**

Black-headed Grosbeak (*Pheucticus melanocephalus*) – Post-breeding wanderers were noted in a variety of locations on the west slope of the park; mostly immatures and females, with at least one adult male seen by some.

Lazuli Bunting (*Passerina amoena*) – A couple noted on the Panorama Trail below Glacier Point were not seen by all. A female/immature type was noted by some while a singing male was more distant and flew away before most of us located it. Another singing male was seen on a treetop at Mono Lake County Park. The views of this bird were not great as the bird was at considerable distance.

### **Blackbirds & Allies (*Icteridae*)**

Red-winged Blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) – Abundant in the Central Valley, including many "bicolored" blackbirds.

Western Meadowlark (*Sturnella neglecta*) – A few seen around Sacramento and in the grasslands of the Sierra foothills.

Yellow-headed Blackbird (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) – Two young males were found along the shore of Mono Lake. What made these birds so interesting was the bizarre coloration of the birds—a mixture of a tan brown body with a whitish-yellow head.

Brewer's Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) – Abundant in the Central Valley lowlands and in the mountain meadows in the highlands.

Brown-headed Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*)

### **Siskins, Crossbills & Allies (*Fringillidae*)**

Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch (*Leucosticte tephrocotis*) – Our successful search for this bird was unquestionably one of the trip's top experiences. To see this bird we journeyed up to Saddlebag Lake at 10,500 feet, crossed the lake on a water taxi, and then hiked 1.5 miles back into the Hoover Wilderness. Once on the other side of the lake, we made our way past a small chain of lakes, eventually arriving at picturesque Steelhead Lake. Exploring a side trail to the southwest

of the lake, we wound up amid a glacial moraine and spectacular glacial cirque in the shadow of towering Mount Conness. To make a long story short, an organized exploration of the cirque quickly turned up a gorgeous adult male finch, and though we were initially concerned that the bird might vacate the area, our patience eventually revealed at least two families of finches feeding in the well-watered tundra, both in the cirque and the other side of the moraine. The group, divided in two, was eventually reunited in the general area, where everybody had wonderful views. I couldn't imagine a more gorgeous, or rewarding setting, to view such a neat bird—glorious mountain scenery, verdant tundra filled with summertime wildflowers, remnant snow patches, rushing streams, and crystalline alpine lakes.

Pine Grosbeak (*Pinicola enucleator*) – Another of Yosemite's high country specialty species, we heard this bird more often than we saw it. In fact, we saw it well on two occasions. The first was a fortuitous discovery of a male and female directly behind our campsite when we were getting ready to head out for part of the day! With a little patience and neck-straining, everybody eventually got to see this elegant bird and his mate as they quietly fed amid the grasses and shrubs in the empty campsite across the road at Bridalveil Creek Campground. The second encounter was mainly by half the group. Following our hike back from May Lake, Victor and the people in his van, came across a stunning male grosbeak in the bushes along the side of the road.

Cassin's Finch (*Carpodacus cassinii*) – Fairly common in the high country. Nice looks for all.

House Finch (*Carpodacus mexicanus*)

Red Crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra*) – Mostly fly-overs only.

Pine Siskin (*Carduelis pinus*)

Lesser Goldfinch (*Carduelis psaltria*)

American Goldfinch (*Carduelis tristis*)

Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*) – Excellent looks at a stunning pair along the Panorama Trail below Glacier Point. The discovery of these birds was quite a surprise as they shot out of the bushes and up into a bare tree right in front of us. Their continual calling and hesitancy to fly far strongly suggested a nest nearby. A life bird for many of us and certainly a great looking bird to boot!

**Old World Sparrows (*Passeridae*)**

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*)

**TOTAL = 147**

## MAMMAL LIST:

### **Pikas (*Ochotonidae*)**

American Pika (*Ochotona princeps*)

### **Hares & Rabbits (*Leporidae*)**

Mountain Cottontail (*Sylvilagus nuttalli*)

Black-tailed Jackrabbit (*Lepus californicus*)

White-tailed Jackrabbit (*Lepus townsendii*)

### **Squirrels & Chipmunks (*Sciuridae*)**

Yellow-bellied Marmot (*Marmota flaviventris*)

Western Gray Squirrel (*Sciurus griseus*)

Douglas's Squirrel (*Tamiasciurus douglasii*)

California Ground Squirrel (*Spermophilus  
beecheyi*)

Belding's Ground Squirrel (*Spermophilus beldingi*)

Piute Ground Squirrel (*Spermophilus mollis*)

White-tailed Antelope Squirrel (*Ammospermophilus  
leucurus*)

Golden-mantled Ground Squirrel (*Spermophilus  
lateralis*)

Least Chipmunk (*Tamias minimus*)

Yellow-pine Chipmunk (*Tamias amoenus*)

Lodgepole Chipmunk (*Tamias speciosus*)

Shadow Chipmunk (*Tamias senex*)

Alpine Chipmunk (*Tamias alpinus*)

Long-eared Chipmunk (*Tamias quadrimaculatus*)

### **Dogs (*Canidae*)**

Coyote (*Canis latrans*)

### **Bears (*Ursidae*)**

Black Bear (*Ursus americanus*)

### **Deer (*Cervidae*)**

Mule Deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*)

**TOTAL = 21**

## BUTTERFLY LIST:

Western Tiger Swallowtail (*Papilio rutulus*)

Pine White (*Neophasia menapia*)

Tailed Copper (*Lycanena arota*)

Acmon Blue (*Plebejus acmon*)

Northern Blue (*Lycaeides idas*)

Great Spangled Fritillary (*Speyeria cybele*)

Mormon Fritillary (*Speyeria mormonia*)

Northern Checkerspot (*Chlosyne palla*)

California Tortoiseshell (*Nymphalis californica*)

Painted Lady (*Vanessa cardui*)

Lorquin's Admiral (*Limenitis lorquini*)

California Sister (*Adelpha bredowii*)

Monarch (*Danaus plexippus*)

Common Branded Skipper (*Hesperia comma*)

Sandhill Skipper (*Polites sabuleti*)

Woodland Skipper (*Ochlodes sylvanoides*)

**TOTAL = 16**