

Field Notes
By Stan Harris
25 October-29 November 1997

The major bird event of this period was a spill of 4,500 gallons of fuel oil from a ship in the Humboldt Bay Harbor on 5 Nov. To date, just over 500 dead and 485 live birds have been delivered to the Marine Wildlife Care Center at HSU. Only about half of the live birds were expected to survive to be released. The major species involved were murrelets, scoters, shorebirds, scaup, grebes, loons, and gulls. More normally, the mid fall migration seemed to progress as expected. Raptors Abound

Dave Fix had an outstanding day on Arcata Bottoms on 28 Oct when he tallied a total of 50 (!) individual raptors from a single location (corner of Jackson Ranch and Foster Roads) during a one hour watch with telescope. This is surely some kind of local record. He saw 11 (!) White-tailed Kites, 10 Northern Harriers, 8 Red-tailed Hawks, 1 Rough-legged Hawk, 3 Red-shouldered Hawks, "10-12" American Kestrels, 3 Peregrine Falcons, and 4 Merlins! The local mice must have been shaking in their booties!

The following are the abbreviations used in the following field notes: AB = Arcata Bottoms; AMP = Arcata Marsh Project; AOP= Arcata Oxidation Pond; EL = Expected Location; EM = Expected Migrant; ERWA = Eel River Wildlife Area; FR = Few Reports; GW = Gee Whiz Report; HBNWR = Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge; ID = Interesting Date; IL = Interesting Location; IN = Interesting Numbers; mo = Many Observers; MS = Monitored Species; NC = Not Confirmed; x = numbers not reported.

HIGHLIGHTS: BLACK-VENTED (type) SHEARWATER : (mostly NC, GW): 5, off South Jetty, 5 Nov (JH); 2 (NC), off Table Bluff, 6 Nov (TL); 3, 1500-5000 meters off South Jetty, 6 Nov (JH,EE,JD); 1 "probable", 1+ mile off Lanphere Beach, 12 Nov (DF,JJ); 1 "closely observed", 1 mile NW Humboldt Bay, 18 Nov (DF); 5, off Table Bluff, 27 Nov (RS): TAVERNER'S CANADA GOOSE (FR): 12, AB, 11 Nov (PS); 1, HBNWR, 13 Nov (SMc): BLUE-WINGED TEAL (FR): 1-2 males, AMP, 28 Oct-25 Nov (SMc, SH, KI, et. al); 1-2 females, AMP, 22-25 Nov (SH): HARLEQUIN DUCK (FR): 1 male, North Jetty, 26 Oct, 2 Nov (MW); 2 males, 1 female, False Klamath Cove, 26 Oct (DG); x, Pt. St. George, 28 Nov (RS): OLDSQUAW (FR): 1 female, Crescent City Harbor, 12 Nov (PS); 1, Mad River Boat Ramp, 16-19 Nov (KI, BC); x, Pt. St. George, 28 Nov (RS): PACIFIC GOLDEN PLOVER (FR): 1-2, AB, 3-5 Nov (SMc GH, KI); 2, ERWA, 12 Nov (SMc); 1, North Spit, 13 Nov (GH, RH); 1, Big Lagoon, 15 Nov (KI); 1, Mad River Beach, 15 Nov (RH); 1, ERWA, 27 Nov (RS): MOUNTAIN PLOVER (FR): 1, Clam Beach, 25-26 Oct (MF, G&LL, TL, GK&SS): FRANKLIN'S GULL (FR): 1, Smith River Bottoms, 20 Nov (AB): BURROWING OWL (FR): 1, AB, 28 Oct-5 Nov (DF,MV); 1, ERWA, 14 Nov (SMc, SL): WESTERN WOOD PEWEE (ID): 1, heard only, McKinleyville, 31 Oct (DG); 1, Mt. Trashmore, 2 Nov (CO): YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER (FR): 1, Manila, 7 Nov (GH): BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER (FR): 1, AMP, 12 Nov (MV); 1, AMP, 29 Nov (KS): NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH (FR): 1, AMP, 22 Nov (SH, et al.): AMERICAN TREE SPARROW (FR): 1, Lanphere Road, 29 Oct (KI): GRASSHOPPER SPARROW (FR): 1, Ferndale OP, 26 Oct (SMc, KN): SWAMP SPARROW (FR): 1, AMP, 3 Nov (GH): HARRIS' SPARROW (FR): 1, Copenhagen Road, 14 Nov (KI): LAPLAND LONGSPUR (FR): 1, Crescent City, 26 Oct (DG); 1-3, AB, 28 Oct-7 Nov (DF,SMc, RJA, KI, GB); 1, North Spit, 13 Nov (GH): CHESTNUT-COLLARED LONGSPUR (FR): 2, AB, 29 Oct (DF): SNOW BUNTING (FR): 1, mouth Lake Talawa, 17 Nov (AB): COMMON GRACKLE (FR; GW): 1, Smith River Bottoms, 14-18 Nov (AB, et al.).

OTHER, MORE ORDINARY EYEBROW-RAISERS! (These all add to our understanding of bird status and distribution locally): PACIFIC LOON (EM): 150-200 migrating past Table Bluff in 2 hours, 7 Nov (SH): PIED-BILLED GREBE (IL): 1, Willow Creek, 13 Nov (TL): RED-NECKED GREBE (EM,IL): 1-3, King Salmon, 1-25 Nov (SMc, DG); 1, Little River Estuary, 3 Nov (TL); 2, mouth Lake Talawa, 22 Nov (DS,MFi): EARED GREBE

(IN): many more than in the recent past; 8-23 seen regularly on AOP, 26 Oct-28 Nov (DF,SH, et al.), including tight flocks of 13-18 plus at least 12 other scattered birds resulting in a total of at least 30 birds at AMP/AOP on 15 Nov (SH): WESTERN GREBE (EL, EM): 100, offshore, Table Bluff, 7 Nov (SH); 200, offshore, North Jetty to Little River, 9 Nov (DF,JH,JD); 150, Entrance Bay, 22 Nov (SH): CLARK'S GREBE (EM): 1, Humboldt Bay, 9 Nov (CO): NORTHERN FULMAR (EM): "few" off Table Bluff, 6 Nov (JH,EE,JD); "numerous oiled", 5 km off Humboldt Bay, 9 Nov (CO): PINK-FOOTED SHEARWATER (ID): 1, off Table Bluff, 6 Nov (JH, EE,JD): SOOTY SHEARWATER: 1, off Table Bluff, 6 Nov (JH,EE,JD): BROWN PELICAN (IN): 1000 (!), nearshore, Crescent City, 12 Nov (CS): DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT (IL): 1, Willow Creek, 13 Nov (TL): AMERICAN BITTERN (EL): 1, AMP, 8-28 Nov (SH, et al.): CATTLE EGRET (EM): 2, Smith River Bottoms, 12 Nov (PS): GREAT EGRET (IL): 1, mouth Willow Creek, 24 Nov (TL); 1, Lewiston Lake, 27 Nov (GH): GREEN HERON (EM): 1, AMP, 25 Oct (DA): TUNDRA SWAN (EM): 4, HBNWR, 13 Nov (SMc); 1, Humboldt Bay, 9 Nov (SMc) 1, AB (cripple); 10-22 Nov (GL,SH); 5, Copenhagen Rd, 22 Nov (DD): GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE (EM): 1 ad., 7 juv., AB, 9-11 Nov (PS); 1, McKinleyville Sewage Ponds, 23 Nov (KI); 1, Trinity Center, 27 Nov (GH)1, AB, 26 Nov (DA): LESSER SNOW GOOSE (EM): 1 imm., AB, 29 Oct-18 Nov (DF,PS,GH); 5, AB, 5 Nov (KI); 1, HBNWR, 20 Nov (MW): ROSS' GOOSE (EM): 1 ad., 1 imm., AB, 25 Oct-18 Nov (DF,JP,RJA,PS,KR,GH); 4-7, Smith River Bottoms, 15-28 Nov (JH,TL,AB, RS): "WESTERN" CANADA GOOSE (IL): 25, Trinity Center, 27 Nov (GH): "ALEUTIAN" CANADA GOOSE (EM): 115, Arcata, 27 Oct (BW); 125-150, AMP flyover, 1-3 Nov (SH); 250-300, AB, 10 Nov (PS reported that 10-20 had oil on them); 180, AB, 11-17 Nov (PS, SH); 3300, Smith River Bottoms, 12 Nov (CS,PS): "CACKLING" CANADA GOOSE (EM): 1, Ferndale OP, 26 Oct (SMc, KN); 20, AB, 11 Nov (PS); 6,AB, 26 Nov (DA): WOOD DUCK (EM): 8, Brannon Mtn Road Pond, 25 Oct (TL); 11, Marshall Pond, 26 Oct (DG); 1-3, Allen Marsh, 28 Oct-1 Nov (SMc, SH, DD, et al.): "EURASIAN" GREEN-WINGED TEAL (EM): 1 male, No Name Pond, 25-28 Nov (SH): GADWALL (IL): 5, Marshall Pond, 26 Oct (DG): EURASIAN WIGEON (EM): 1-2, AB, 25 Oct-17 Nov (DA, MW, DF, SH); 1, AMP, 31 Oct-2 Nov (MW, SH, DG, CO); 5 males, 1 female, Tompkin's Hill Road/Beatrice Flat, 1 Nov (SMc); 1, HBNWR, 9-13 Nov (JP,SMc); 1, McKinleyville Sewage Ponds, 23 Nov (KI); 1, Smith River Bottoms, 28 Nov (RS): CANVASBACK (EM): 1-2, Klopp Lake, 8-25 Nov (SH): REDHEAD (FR, EM): 1 female, HBNWR, 27 Oct (DF,JP); 1 male, AMP, 31 Oct-1 Nov (MW,SH, et al.); 12 males, King Salmon, 25 Nov (DG): RING-NECKED DUCK (IL): 6, Eureka Sewage Marshes, 1 Nov (SMc): BLACK SCOTER (EM, EL): 3 females, HBNWR, 27 Oct (JP,DF); 1 male, Lower Mad River, 2 Nov (SMc, KN); 1, Humboldt Bay Channel, 8 Nov (JP); 1, South Jetty, 10 Nov (SMc); 1 female, King Salmon, 25 Nov (DG): WHITE-WINGED SCOTER (IN): 60, flying over Moonstone Beach, 8 Nov (JO); "100's, far out numbering Surf Scoters", nearshore from North Jetty to Little River, 9 Nov (DF, JH, JD); 30-40, seawatch from Table Bluff, 7 Nov (SH): COMMON GOLDENEYE (FR): 2 males, 1 female, Field's Landing, 20 Nov (DG); 1 male, Mad River Boat Ramp, 22 Nov (SH, et al.); 1 male, King Salmon, 25 Nov (DG): HOODED MERGANSER (EM): 1 female, Klopp Lake, 1-3 Nov (SH, RJA); 2 females, McKinleyville, 7 Nov (TL); 1, Davison Road, 11 Nov (TL); 1, Gold Bluff Beach, 11 Nov (TL); 1 pair, Willow Creek, 13 Nov (TL); 1 male, North Bay, 15 Nov (DF, et al.); 5 pair, Bear River Ridge, 24 Nov (DD); 1 pair, Eel River at Fortuna, 25 Nov (RuC): OSPREY (ID): 1, Clam Beach/Little River, 6-8 Nov (TL, JO): WHITE-TAILED KITE (MS): Many thanks for the regular reports (too many to list separately), but the accumulating reports show that our population still occupies most of its lowland historic range: BALD EAGLE (FR): 1 imm., Mad River at Blue Lake, 3 Nov (MM); 1 ad., HBNWR, 13 Nov (SMc); 1 ad., Willow Creek, 13 Nov (TL); 1 imm., Willow Creek, 19 Nov (TL); 1 ad., I imm., mouth Redwood Creek, 21 Nov (KI); 1 ad., Elk Head, 22 Nov (JA): RED-SHOULDERED HAWK (IL): 1, Bull Creek, 14 Nov (JG): FERRUGINOUS HAWK (EM): 1, AB/Azalea Hill, 25 Oct-24 Nov (DF,JP,RJA,GL,KI); 1, Kneeland, 9 Nov (GL); 1-2, Smith River Bottoms, 15-28 Nov (JH, TL, DF, JP,RS): ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK (EM): 1, AB, 25 Oct-24 Nov (DF, JP, RJA, SMc, KN, KI); 1, HBNWR, 4-9 Nov (SL,JP); 1 dark phase, Moonstone Beach, 8 Nov (JO); 1 light morph, AB, 13 Nov (DF); 1, Smith River Bottoms, 15 Nov (JH,TL); 1, South Bay, 15 Nov (SMc); 1 dark morph, Bear River Ridge, 24 Nov (DD); : GOLDEN EAGLE (EL): 1, Bear River Ridge, 26 Oct (SMc, KN): MERLIN (EM): 1, near South Jetty, 6 Nov (JH,EE,JD); 1, Table Bluff, 6 Nov (TL); 1, Eel River Bottoms, 25 Oct (P&VS); 1, AMP, 14-28 Nov (SH); 1, mouth Redwood Creek, 21 Nov (KI) 1, King Salmon, 25 Nov (DG); 1, Manila, 28 Nov (JO): PEREGRINE FALCON (MS): 22 reports of 1-4 individuals nearly daily from

Smith River Bottoms, AB, AMP, HBNWR, Big Lagoon, and Table Bluff (mo); 1, Hayfork, 27 Nov (GH): PRAIRIE FALCON (FR): 1, Table Bluff, 15 Nov (SMc): 1 imm., Smith River Bottoms, 22 Nov (JP,DF); 1, Trinity Center, 27 Nov (GH): RUFFED GROUSE (EL): 1 "drumming" (they are known to drum in the fall), "Interior" Humboldt County, 24 Oct (EE): WILD TURKEY (IN): 27, Mail Ridge, 11 Nov (JG): MOUNTAIN QUAIL (IL): 3, 4, at 2 locations in Humboldt Redwoods State Park, 7, 14 Nov (JG): SNOWY PLOVER (EM): 34-45, Clam Beach, 25 Oct-3 Nov (TL, GL): LESSER YELLOWLEGS (EM): 1, AB, 28 Oct-13 Nov (DF,SH,RH); 6, ERWA, 13 Nov (SMc); 2, Loleta, 27 Nov (RS): WANDERING TATTLER (ID): 1, South Jetty, 10 Nov (SMc): RUDDY TURNSTONE (EM): 2, Fields Landing, 28 Nov (JO): SPOTTED SANDPIPER (ID): 1, Willow Creek, 13 Nov (TL): MARBLED GODWIT (IL): 2 (only), Crescent City Harbor, 12 Nov (PS): PECTORAL SANDPIPER (EM): 2, Bear River Ridge Pond, 26 Oct (SMc, KN); 4, AB, 28 Oct (DF); 1, Tompkins Hill Road/Beatrice Flat, 7 Nov (RM): ROCK SANDPIPER (EL, EM): 1-2, South Jetty, 10-12 Nov (none on 14 Nov) (SMc): RED PHALAROPE (EM): 1-9, Humboldt Bay spits, 8-16 Nov (SMc, RH, KS, SL); 3, Fields Landing, 28 Nov (JO): POMARINE JAEGER (ID): 2, off North Bay 8 KM, 9 Nov (JJ,CO); 1, off Table Bluff, 27 Nov (RS): PARASITIC JAEGER (ID): 1 chasing Forster's Terns, AOP, 2 Nov (CO); 1 (sick?), Mad River Beach, 12 Nov (RH); 1, Clam Beach, 12 Nov (KS): HEERMANN'S GULL (IN): 600 (!) in a tight flock, Crescent Beach, 17 Nov (RH, GH); 6, mouth Redwood Creek, 21 Nov (KI); 38, Big Lagoon spit, 26 Nov (TL); 4, mouth Mad River, 26 Nov (TL): HERRING GULL (IN): more than usual reported on shore; examples: "100", (?) mouth Mad River, 12 Nov (RH); 6, Big Lagoon, 15 Nov (KI); 1 ad., Northcoast Quality Compost, Arcata, 16 Nov (RJA); "quite a few", Freshwater Corners, 18 Nov (GH); 3 ad., Northcoast Quality Compost, Arcata; 19 Nov (RJA); 3, Wedding Rock, 21 Nov (KI); 4, mouth Redwood Creek, 21 Nov (KI): THAYER'S GULL (EM): 1 imm., Arcata Plaza, 27 Oct (RJA), 1 imm., AOP, 29 Oct (SMc); 1 imm., South Jetty, 9 Nov (SMc); 9 first-winter, 1 second-winter, Freshwater Corners, 18 Nov (DF); 2, Wedding Rock, 21 Nov (KI); 1, mouth Redwood Creek, 21 Nov (KI): BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE (EM): 2, offshore, Humboldt Bay, 9 Nov (CO, DF, JH, JD); 2, Table Bluff seawatch, 9 Nov (JP); 15, Table Bluff seawatch, 27 Nov (RS); 1, mouth Redwood Creek, 21 Nov (KI): CASPIAN TERN (ID): 1, Tyee City, 29 Oct (KI); 3, mouth Mad River, 26 Nov (TL): FORSTER'S TERN (EM): 15-24, AOP, 31 Oct-28 Nov (SH, et al.): MARBLED MURRELET (MS): 11, North Jetty, 8 Nov (JP); "dozens" (at least 2 oiled seen), North Jetty to Little River and out to 8 KM, 9 Nov (JJ, CO, DF, JH, JD); x, Pt. St. George, 28 Nov (RS): BAND-TAILED PIGEON (ID): 20-30, Benbow Inn, 2 Nov (JS); "few", Humboldt Redwoods State Park, 27 Nov (JG): WESTERN SCREECH-OWL (FR): 1, Big Lagoon, 15 Nov (KI): NORTHERN PYGMY OWL (FR): 1, Orick Dump, 11 Nov (TL): SHORT-EARED OWL (EM): 1, HBNWR, 27 Oct (DF, JP); 1, ERWA, 14 Nov (SMc, SL); 2, Fay Slough Wildlife Area, 14 Nov (TL); 1, Smith River Bottoms, 15 Nov (JH, TL); 4, Cannibal Island Road, 27 Nov (RS): YELLOW-SHAFTED FLICKER (EM): 1, Azalea Hill, 19 Nov (DG): PILEATED WOODPECKER (IL): 1, Stone Lagoon, 11 Nov (TL): SAY'S PHOEBE (FR): 1, Smith River Bottoms, 15 Nov (JH, TL); 1, Azalea Hill, 16 Nov (GL): TROPICAL KINGBIRD (EM): 1, Cock Robin Island, 26 Oct (SP); 1, HBNWR, 4 Nov (SL); 1, AMP, 9 Nov (MMo); 1, Loleta, 14 Nov (KI); 1, Smith River Bottoms, 21-22 Nov (AB,CD,DS,MFi): HORNED LARK (IL): 1, Stone Lagoon spit, 11 Nov (TL); 1, Big Lagoon spit, 26 Nov (GB); "flock", Trinity Center, 27 Nov (GH): GRAY JAY (EL): 2 "family groups", Gold Bluff Beach, 11 Nov (TL): WESTERN BLUEBIRD (EL): 2, McKinleyville (Forest Service Nursery), 27 Oct (DG); "some", Garberville, 2 Nov (JS); 31, Tompkin's Hill, 20 Nov (MW): AMERICAN ROBIN (IN): "thousands" invaded Trinity River Valley, Willow Creek to South Fork, responding to a big madrone crop, mid Nov (TL): NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD (EM): 1, McKinleyville, 29 Oct-19 Nov (DG,TL); 1, west Arcata, 2-3 Nov (GB,GH); 1, Mad River Road, 12-14 Nov (RH,GH,GB,PH); 1, Fortuna, 18 Nov (RuC); 1, HBNWR, 20 Nov (MW): NORTHERN SHRIKE (FR): 1 imm., 1 mile north of Klamath River/101, 28 Nov (RS): ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER (ID): 1-2, Manila, 31 Oct-21 Nov (GH): NASHVILLE WARBLER (ID): 1, Salt River, 1 Nov (SMc); 1, Manila, 10 Nov (GH); 1, Arcata, 26 Nov (GB): YELLOW WARBLER (ID): 1, Manila, 10 Nov (GH): PALM WARBLER (EM): reports of 13 birds from Ferndale OP, Eel River at Fortuna, AB, Salt River, AMP, McKinleyville, Smith River Bottoms, Manila, and AOP (mo); about normal numbers for this time of year: CALIFORNIA TOWHEE (IL): 1, Trinidad Quarry, 6 Nov (KI): CHIPPING SPARROW (ID): 1, Azalea Hill, 15-16 Nov (GL): LARK SPARROW (IL): 1, AB, 9 Nov (PS): BULLOCK'S ORIOLE (ID): 1, Blue Lake/Mad River, 3 Nov (MM): RED CROSSBILL (IL): 4, 1 mile north of Klamath River/101, 28 Nov (RS):

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Field Notes
By Stan Harris
24 August-25 September 1997

Fall migration is in full swing and many good birds and some really startling reports have been received. Keep up the good work. Editorial comments are abbreviated as follows: BR: Breeding record. EF: Early fall record (this year only). EL: Expected location. EM: Expected migrant. ES: Early spring record (this year only). FR: Few records. GW: Gee-Whiz report! IL: Interesting location. IL: Interesting numbers. LF: Late fall record (this year only). MN: Monitored species. NC: Not confirmed. SR: Summer residue.

HIGHLIGHTS

CLARK'S GREBE: (IL): 1, offshore, mouth Usal Creek, 16 Sept (DT, SH, et al.); "several," Trinity Lake, 21 Sep (JH, GH); BLACK-VENTED (TYPE) SHEARWATER: (FR;GW): 1 seen from shore at Wedding Rock, 14 Sep (DF,GH); 3, seen from shore off Crescent City, 15 Sep (AB); FRIGATEBIRD, (PROBABLY MAGNIFICENT) (FR; GW; NC): 1, Trinidad Harbor, 19 Sep (KI); BLUE-WINGED TEAL (FR): 1, Eel River Wildlife Area (ERWA), 2 Sep (BC); HARLEQUIN DUCK (EF): 1 female, Glass Beach, 31 Aug-4 Sep (DT); RUFFED GROUSE (FR): 3, northeast of Willow Creek, 8 Sep (DG); AMERICAN GOLDEN PLOVER (FR): 1 juv, Vigo Street Marsh, 4 Sep (DF); 1, Arcata Bottoms (AB), 17 Sep (KN, SMc); PACIFIC GOLDEN PLOVER (FR): 4, ocean beach at ERWA, 5 Sep (GH); 12, ERWA, 13 Sep (TE,FD); WOOD SANDPIPER (GW!; NC): 1 reported and described, ERWA, 9 Sep (KI); HUDSONIAN GODWIT (GW!; FR): 1, ERWA, 9-10 Sep (SMc, TL, GH, SH, RJA, CO); BAR-TAILED GODWIT (GW!; FR): 1 juv, ERWA, 4-12 Sep (KI, SMc, TL, GH, BC, EE, TE, FD) (1, then 2 reported on 12 Sep by TE & FD, no description, not confirmed); LONG-TOED STINT (GW!; NC): 1, ERWA, 22 Sep (KI); SHARP-TAILED SANDPIPER (FR): 1, ERWA, 9 Sep (EE, BC); BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER (FR,NC): 1, Lake Talawa, 12 Sep (TE, FD); RUFF (FR): 1, Glass Beach, 30 Aug-4 Sep (DT); 1-3, ERWA, 1-13 Sep (SMc, BC, KI, et al.) (3 reported by SMc on 4 Sep); 1, Smith River Bottoms, 7 Sep (AB,JG,JH, GH); 1, ERWA, 22 Sep (KI); WILSON'S PHALAROPE (FR): 1, ERWA, 30 Aug-1 Sep (SMc, KI); LONG-TAILED JAEGER (IL): 1, off North Jetty, 18 Sep (GH); ANCIENT MURRELET (EF): 1, off Patrick's Point, 24 Aug (EE); BROAD-BILLED HUMMINGBIRD (GW!, FR, PHOTO!): 1, Centerville Road, 14 Sep (SMc); SAY'S PHOEBE: (IN): 1, Willow Creek, 15 Sep (TL); 8 (!), near Hayfork, 21 Sep (JH,GH); 11 (!), near Hyampom, 21 Sep (JH,GH); 1, Table Bluff, 25 Sep (KI); CLARK'S NUTCRACKER (IL): 1, Redwood Science Lab, Arcata, 4 Sep (CO); 1 flyby (silent), Grouse Mtn, 24 Sep (TL).

Little Birds

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER (FR): 2, Titus Gap, 28 Aug (JH); SAGE THRASHER (FR): 1, AB, 17 Sep (RLeV); PLUMBEOUS VIREO (FR): 1, Fairhaven (Horse Pasture), 7 Sep (DS); RED-EYED VIREO (FR): 1, Horse Pasture, 7 Sep (DS); TENNESSEE WARBLER (FR): 1, Fairhaven (Airport willows), 8 Sep (BC); 1, Elk Head, 21 Sep (TL); 1, Orick Dump, 24 Sep (KI); NORTHERN PARULA (FR): 1, Mad River County Park (MRCP), 9 Sep (TL); 1, King Salmon, 12 Sep (GH, et al.); 1, MRCP, 26 Sep (TL); CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER (FR): 1, Ft. Bragg, 10 Sep (DT); 1, Elk Head, 11 Sep (TL); 1, vic. Wedding Rock, 14 Sep (JP,DF); 1, Centerville Road, 14-15 Sep (GH); 1 Mad River & 299, 20 Sep (GH); 1, Orick Dump, 27 Sep (K); MAGNOLIA WARBLER (FR): 1, Bayshore Mall willows, 22 Sep (JH,GS, SMc); BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER (FR): 1, Patrick's Point State Park,

13 Sep (KI): PRAIRIE WARBLER (FR): 1, MRCP, 9 Sep (TL); 1, base of North Jetty, 12 Sep (KN): PALM WARBLER: (EM): 1, Cape Mendocino, 20 Sep (KI); 1, Elk Head, 23 Sep (TL); 1, McKinleyville, 26 Sep (TL): BLACKPOLL WARBLER (FR): 1, Trinidad, 19 Sep (KI); 1-3, base of South Jetty, 24-25 Sep (MM,GH,BC): AMERICAN REDSTART: (EM): 1 male, MRCP, 1-11 Sep (TL,DG,CO); 1 imm. male, Eel River at Fernbridge, 4 Sep (GH): NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH (FR): 1, Bayshore Mall willows, 4 Sep (JH); 1, Pacific Shores, 7 Sep (AB, JG, JH, GH); 1, Arcata Oxidation Pond (AOP), 15-16 Sep (KN,MV,CW): CONNECTICUT WARBLER (GW!, NC, FR): 1, Little River and Crannel Road, 28 Sep (KI): LARK BUNTING (FR): 1, west edge of Arcata along Samoa Blvd, 2 Sep (RLeV,KN): BOBOLINK (FR): 1, Pt. St. George, 7 Sep (GH, JH): YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD (FR): 1, Smith River Bottoms, 7 Sep (AB, et al.); 1 imm male, Loleta Bottoms, 13 Sep (SMc): ORCHARD ORIOLE (GW,NC,FR): 1, Table Bluff, 25 Sep (KI): HOODED ORIOLE (BR): Only 3 nests were recorded, all in Arcata, during a tree by tree census of all Palm Trees in Arcata and Eureka this summer (AD,SF).

Notes From The Status And Travel Desk

RED-THROATED LOON (EF): 10+, off Usal Creek mouth, 16 Sep (SH,DT, et al.); COMMON LOON (IL): 1, Trinity Lake, 21 Sep (JH,GH): PACIFIC LOON (EF): 10-20, offshore, mouth Usal Creek, 16 Sep (DT, SH, et al.): RED-NECKED GREBE (EM): 1, King Salmon, 23 Sep (DG); 4, King Salmon, 28 Sep (DF, JP): EARED GREBE (EF): 1, AOP, 17 Sep (DF,JP): WESTERN GREBE (IL): 50 + offshore, mouth Usal Ck., 16 Sep (DT, SH, et al.): BLACK-FOOTED ALBATROSS: 5-10 seen offshore, Ft. Bragg, 28 Sep (mo): NORTHERN FULMAR: 100 seen 10-14 miles offshore, Ft. Bragg, 28 Sep (mo): PINK-FOOTED SHEARWATER (IL): 5-30 seen from shore off Wedding Rock, 14-15 Sep (DF,GL,GH,JP, et al.); 2 seen from shore, Crescent City, 15 Sep (AB); 2, seen on a cruise 1400 meters offshore, Trinidad to mouth Redwood Ck, 23 Sep (DF); 100 seen offshore at Ft. Bragg, 28 Sep (mo): BULLER'S SHEARWATER (IL): (GW!): 2-5 seen from shore off Wedding Rock, 14 Sep (DF, GL,GH,JP), very rare this close to shore!; 2, seen from North Jetty, 21 Sep (MW); 1(?), seen from shore off McKinleyville, 21 Sep (RLeV); 100 seen offshore, Ft. Bragg, 28 Sep (mo): SOOTY SHEARWATER (IL; IN): massive numbers seen from shore in several locations, mid Sep; Examples: 9 Sep, 50 off Patrick's Point (EE), 110 off Elk Head (TL); 14-15 Sep, 1000-1500+ off Wedding Rock (many observers), but only 2 seen there on 27 Sep (DF,JP); "massive numbers," off Crescent City and Pt. St. George (AB); 17 Sep, "many" off Patrick's Point (KI): 23 Sep, 2000 seen 1400 meters offshore between Trinidad and mouth of Redwood Creek (DF); only 2 seen off Usal Creek Mouth, 16 Sep (SH); 75 seen offshore, Ft. Bragg, 28 Sep (mo).

AMERICAN BITTERN (EL): 1 imm, AMP, 17 Sep (DG): CATTLE EGRET: (SR:) 4, AMP, 25 Aug-25 Sep (mo); 10-12, near AMP in a field, 16 Sep (MV): BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON (IL): 1 imm., Hayfork, 21 Sep (JH,GH): TUNDRA SWAN: (SR?): 1, mouth Jacoby Creek, 16-17 Sep (DK,DF,JP): WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE: (EF?): 1, ERWA, 19 Sep (KN): CANADA GOOSE (WESTERN) (IL): "Several," Lewiston Lake, 21 Sep (JH,GH): BRANT: (SR): 3, 10-mile river, 9-23 Aug (DT): GREEN-WINGED TEAL (EF): 500, AMP/AOP, 22 Sep (SH): BLUE-WINGED TEAL (FR): 1 female, AMP, 25 Sep (RJA): CINNAMON TEAL (IL, EF): 2, Trinity Lake, 1 Sep (JH,GH); 1, Hayfork, 21 Sep (JH,GH); 15, AMP, 22 Sep (SH): NORTHERN SHOVELER (EF): 15-20, 1-2 Sep; 100, 17 Sep; 300, 22 Sep, all AOP (SH); 3, Trinity Lake, 20 Sep (JH,GH): AMERICAN WIGEON (EF): 7, AMP, 29 Aug (SH): GREATER SCAUP (EF): 1, 10-mile river, 10 Aug (DT); 15+ migrating past Wedding Rock, 15 Sep (SH): BUFFLEHEAD (EF?): 1, offshore, Ft. Bragg, 28 Sep (RLeV): HARLEQUIN DUCK (EL; EF): 1 female, Crescent City Harbor, 25 Sep (RJA); 1, Laguna Point, 28 Sep (CO): RED-BREASTED MERGANSER (SR?): 1 female, MacKerricher State Park, 15 Aug (DT): OSPREY: (SR?): 1, carrying fish upstream at Usal Creek, 16 Sep (DT, SH, et al.); 1, North Spit, 19 Sep (SH, B&GP); 1-2, carrying fish upstream, mouth Noyo River, 28 Sep (RK, et al.): WHITE-TAILED KITE: (MS): 1, near Mad River Fish Hatchery, mid Jul (MV); 3, Willow Creek Valley, Aug/early Sep (BB); 1, near Blue Lake, 8 Aug (MV); 1-3, AB, 29 Aug-17 Sep (SH,SG, DG, MV,et al.): 2 ad and 1 juv, near Blue Lake, 14 Sep (SG); 1, ERWA, 20 Sep (SH); 1, Hookton Slough, 21 Sep (MM); 1-2, MRCP, 20-22 Sep (PH, DG); 1, near Bayshore Mall, 23 Sep (DG); 3, near Westport, 28 Sep (SH, BC, KN).

National Emblem

BALD EAGLE (IL): 1 imm., 21 Aug; 1 ad, 24 Aug, both Trinity Alps (RLeV, et al.): NORTHERN HARRIER (IL): 1, Grouse Mtn, 18 Sep (TL); 1, Trinity Lake, 21 Sep (JH,GH): RED-SHOULDERED HAWK (IL): 1, Hayfork, 21 Sep (JH,GH): GOLDEN EAGLE: (EL): 1, Grouse Mtn., 18 Sep (TL): MERLIN (EF): 1, ERWA, 13 Sep (DF,JP); 1, Orick Dump, 27 Sep (KI): PEREGRINE FALCON: (MS): 1-2, ERWA, 1-16 Sep (mo); 2, mouth Little River, 16 Sep (TL); 1, off Wedding Rock, 18 Sep (BC); 2, Trinidad Harbor, 19 Sep (TL,JH); 1, AMP, 20 Sep (BW); 1, Hookton Slough, 21 Sep (MM); 2 ad (prey exchange), Houda Point, 23 Sep (MM): RUFFED GROUSE (EL,FR): 1, Happy Camp Campground,, 10 miles north of Willow Creek, 25 Sep (TL): VIRGINIA RAIL: (IN): 5,x, Lewiston Lake, 1, 21 Sep (JH,GH); 1-4, No Name Pond, 1-25 Sep (RLeV,SH, et al.); 2-5+, AMP/AOP, 1-25 Sep (SH, et al.): SORA: (IN,IL): 3-7 in view at one time, No Name Pond, 25 Aug-12 Sep (SH,RLeV, et al.); x, Lewiston Lake, 21 Sep (JH,GH): AMERICAN COOT: (EM): Population at AMP/AOP increased from summer 4-5 birds (no evidence of nesting) to 20-30 by 10 Sep and to 175 by 22 Sep (SH): AMERICAN AVOCET: (IL, EM): 1, winter plumage, MacKerricher State Park, 5 Sep (DT); 75, 17 Sep; 150, 20 Sep; 250, 25 Sep; all AMP (SH): LESSER YELLOWLEGS: (EM): 2-10, ERWA, 30 Aug-20 Sep (mo); 1-2, MacKerricher S.P., 15-16 Sep (DT); 1, AOP, 23 Sep (SH): SPOTTED SANDPIPER: x, ERWA, 19 Sep (KN): RUDDY TURNSTONE: (EM): 4, MRCP, 5 Sep (DG); 1, North Jetty, 19 Sep (SH, G&BP); 1, Field's Landing, 20 Sep (SH, G&BP): RED KNOT: (EM): 1, ERWA, 10-13 Sep (SH, et al); 2-6, MacKerricher S.P. 12-26 Aug (DT): BAIRD'S SANDPIPER: (EM): 1-4, vic Ft. Bragg, 14 Aug-mid Sep (DT); 2-4, ERWA, 4-11 Sep (SMc, BC); 2-9, MRCP, 9-21 Sep (TL,KN,RLeV): PECTORAL SANDPIPER: (EM): 3, vic. Ft. Bragg, 5-10 Sep (DT); 2-13, ERWA, 4-22 Sep (mo); 3, mouth Redwood Creek, 24 Sep (KI); 2, Fairhaven, 26 Sep (KI): DUNLIN (EF): 2-50 ERWA, 9-13 Sep (SMc, DF, JP): COMMON SNIBE: (EF): 1-3, ERWA, 1-4 Sep (KI, SMc): RED-NECKED PHALAROPE: (IN): 500+, ERWA, 30 Aug-mid Sep (SMc, et al.), down to 100 , 20 Sep (SH); 650, AOP, 1-17 Sep, down to 0-30, 22-24 Sep (SH); 20, Trinity Lake, 1 Sep, down to 3, 20 Sep (JH, GH): RED PHALAROPE (IN): 2-4 (only), offshore, Ft. Bragg, 28 Sep (mo).

Jaegers

POMARINE JAEGER: (EM): 1, off Wedding Rock, 15 Sep (SH); 1-2 (only), offshore, Ft. Bragg, 28 Sep (mo); 1 seen from Laguna Point, 28 Sep (CO): PARASITIC JAEGER: (EM): 1-2, near Ft. Bragg, 13-15 Aug (DT); 1, off Big Lagoon, 24 Aug (EE); 1, Trinidad Bay, 24 Aug (EE); 1, North Jetty, 18 Sep (GH); 6-8, North Jetty, 19 Sep (DF,JP); 1, North Jetty, 20 Sep (BW); 1, off McKinleyville, 21 Sep (RLeV); 4, Trinidad to off mouth of Redwood Creek, 23 Sep (DF): Besides these identified jaegers, many P/P jaegers were seen just off local waters in mid-Sep. RING-BILLED GULL (IL): 1, Trinity Lake, 21 Sep (JH, GH): CALIFORNIA GULL: (EL?): "several," Trinity Lake, 21 Sep (JH,GH): BONAPARTE'S GULL: (EF): 1, ERWA, 10-19 Sep (RLeV,KN): SABINE'S GULL (IL): 1, North Jetty, 21 Sep (MW); 1 off McKinleyville, 21 Sep (RLeV): ELEGANT TERN: (IN) (low): Up to 25, coastal northern Mendocino Co., 13-16 Aug (DT); 21, Mouth Elk River, 11 Sep (DG); 50, Trinidad Harbor, 13-14 Sep (TL,KI,MM); 75-100, off Wedding Rock, 15 Sep (SH); 12, Trinidad to off mouth of Redwood Creek, 23 Sep (DF); 9, mouth of Redwood Creek, 24 Sep (KI); 2 (only), off Ft. Bragg, 28 Sep (RLeV,SH): ARCTIC TERN: (FR; EM): 4, off Ft. Bragg, 28 Sep (mo): COMMON TERN: (EM): 1, North Jetty, 23, 29 Aug (EE,SH); 5, mouth of Redwood Creek, 24 Sep (KI): FORSTER'S TERN: (EM): 2, mouth Redwood Creek, 24 Sep (KI); 2, AMP, 26 Sep (GL): ANCIENT MURRELET (EM): 6-7, seen from Wedding Rock, 27 Sep (DF,JP): MARBLED MURRELET: (EL): 50, Trinidad to Patrick's Point, 24 Aug (EE); 2 ad, 1 juv, off MacKerricher S.P., 16 Aug (DT); 6, off Westport, 22 Aug (DT); 4, off North Jetty, 20 Sep (BW,CO); 1, Trinidad Harbor, 19 Sep (MH): PIGEON GUILLEMOT: (SR): 1, North Jetty, 20 Sep (SH): CASSIN'S AUKLET: (IL): 2, off MacKerricher S.P., 9 Aug (DT); 10, off Patrick's Point S.P., 24 Aug (EE): RHINOCEROS AUKLET: 7, Trinidad to Patrick's Point, 24 Aug (EE); 1, North Jetty, 29 Aug (SH,CB, et al.): BARN OWL (IL): 1, MRCP, 9 Sep (TL): GREAT HORNED OWL (IL): 1, ERWA, 11 Sep (BC): VAUX'S SWIFT: (EM, IN): 5, Titus Gap, 27 Aug (JH); 25-50, Elk Head, 2 Sep (TL); 50-60 at nest colony in a chimney in north McKinleyville, 13-25 Sep (SH,DK); 6, migrating past Grouse Mtn., 20 Sep (TL).

Woodpeckers

WHITE-HEADED WOODPECKER (FR): 1, Forest Route 1, 1 Sep (TL): PILEATED WOODPECKER (IL): 1, nw corner of Arcata, 26-30 Aug (AA, KN); 1, Redwood Science Lab (Arcata), 3 Sep (CO); 1, Elk Head, 4 Sep (TL); 1, Westhaven, 28 Sep (TL): YELLOW-SHAFTED FLICKER (EM): 1, Fairhaven, 26 Sep (KI): WILLOW FLYCATCHER: (IN, EM): 5, mouth Willow Creek, 27 Aug (TL); 3, Klamath River/Dillon Creek, 27 Aug (JH); 1-2, AOP, 1-2 Sep (KN); 1, MRCP, 3 Sep (TL); 1, Willow Creek, 15 Sep (TL); 5, Ft. Bragg and vic, 6 Aug-15 Sep (DT); 1, AOP, 17 Sep (DG); 1, AB, 17 Sep (KN,SMc); 1, Arcata, 19 Aug (RJA); 15(!), Hayfork Creek, 21 Sep (JH,GH); 1, Bayshore Mall, 22 Sep (JH,GS,SMc): ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER: (EL): 1, Dillon Creek/Klamath River, 27 Aug (JH): WESTERN KINGBIRD: (EM): 1, base of North Jetty, 3 Sep (MC, et al.). SWALLOW SPP: (EM): Mostly gone by mid Sep except for a few lingering Barn, Violet-green and Tree swallows: GRAY JAY: (EL): x, Patrick's Point, 6-8 Sep (EE): BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE: (EL): x, Orick Dump, 16 Sep (KI); 2, AOP, 23 Sep (SH): BUSHTIT: (EL): "Mob," Fairhaven, 3 Sep (MM): RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET (EF): 1, Azalea Hill, 19 Sep (GL); 1, Fairhaven, 23 Sep (GH): SWAINSON'S THRUSH: (GW): "Many" migrating at night ; 50-60 calls per minute past McKinleyville, night of 31 Aug-1 Sep (JH): HERMIT THRUSH (EM): 1, Azalea Hill, 27 Sep (GL): NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD: (FR): 1, Fairhaven, 15 Sep (KI).

Loney Vireo?

"SOLITARY VIREO" (CASSIN'S ?): (EM): 1, Bayshore Mall, 22 Sep (JH,GS,SMc): WARBLING VIREO: (EM): 2-3, mouth Usal Creek, 16 Sep (DT, et al.): ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER: (EM): 1, Coffee Creek, 21 Sep (JH,GH): MYRTLE WARBLER (EM): x, Bayshore Mall, 22 Sep (SMc): AUDUBON'S WARBLER (EM): 1, MRCP, 23 Sep (TL): BLACK-THROATED GRAY WARBLER: (EM): 1, Elk Head, 12 Sep (TL); 1, MRCP, 22 Sep (DG); 1-2, base of North Jetty, 23-24 Sep (GH,MM); 1, Elk Head, 25 Sep (TL): TOWNSEND'S WARBLER (EM, EF): 1, Grasshopper Mtn, 27 Aug (JG); 1, Titus Gap, 27 Aug (JH); 3, Elk Head, 1 Sep (TL); 5-10, mouth Usal Creek, 16 Sep (DT, et al.): HERMIT WARBLER: (EM): 1 male, mouth Usal Creek, 16 Sep (DT, et al.): MACGILLVRAV'S WARBLER: (EM): 1, Ft. Bragg, 7 Sep (DT); 1, Salt River, 13 Sep (SMc): WESTERN TANAGER: (EM): 1, mouth Usal Creek, 16 Sep (SH); 1, Arcata, 19 Sep (B&GP): BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK: (SR): 1, Sunny Brae, 23 Sep (SH): SPOTTED TOWHEE (EM): 1, Azalea Hill, 27 Sep (GL): CALIFORNIA TOWHEE (EL?): 1, Sandy Bar (present all summer), 28 Sep (GL): LARK SPARROW: (FR): 1, Willow Creek, 27 Aug (TL); 1, AB, 16 Sep (GH); 1, AB, 20 Sep (PH): SAVANNAH SPARROW: (EM): Numbers at AMP increased from the summer 1-2 birds to 10-30 about 30 Aug-1 Sep and to 50-100 at AMP/AOP by mid Sep (SH): 3, Trinity Center, 1 Sep to 100's in Trinity County, generally by 21 Sep (JH,GH): LINCOLN'S SPARROW: (EM): 1, AOP, 23 Sep (SH); "good numbers," AMP, 24 Sep (KN): FOX SPARROW (EM): 2, mouth Usal Creek, 16 Sep (SH); 1+, Elk Head, AMP, 19 Sep (TL,JH, SH); 4-5, MRCP, AMP, 20 Sep (PH,BW): GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROW: (EM): 1, Azalea Hill, 11 Sep (LL): x, Ft. Bragg, 15 Sep (DT); first seen at MRCP, north Arcata, and Cape Mendocino, all on 20 Sep (PH,GH,KI): LAPLAND LONGSPUR: (EF): 2, near Lake Talawa, 12 Sep (TE,FD): RED CROSSBILL: (EL): x, Patrick's Point, 5-8 Sep (EE): EVENING GROSBEAK: (EL): 1, Patrick's Point State Park, 17 Sep (KI): MINKE WHALE: (GW): 1 seen 1 mile off Patrick's Point State Park, 23 Sep (DF): BLUE WHALE (GW): 2, seen offshore, Ft. Bragg, 28 Sep (mo).

Many thanks to the following who shared their observations for this month's report: R.J. Adams, Andy Alm, Louise Bacon-Ogden, Alan Barron, Bob Botley, Chuck Buechele, Bryon Cariss, Mark Colwell, Anthony Desch, Fritz Durer (sp?), Todd Easterle, Elias Elias, Sam Fitton, David Fix, John Gaffin, Dan Garrison, Joe Gartland, Sam Giannandrea (my apologies for misspelling your name last time, Sam), Stan Harris, Gjon Hazard, Pablo Herrera (sp?); Matt Hinton, John Hunter, Ken Irwin, Robert Keiffer, David Kitchen, Don Kudrna, Tom Leskiw, Gary and Lauren Lester, Ron LeValley, Sean McAllister, Michael Morris, Kristie Nelson, Chet Ogan, Gloria and Bob

Privette, Jude Power, Greg Schmidt, Doug Shaw, Dorothy Tobkin, Margaret Varga, Catharine Walling, Bud Widdowson, Matt Wachs.

Errata: Tom Leskiw called to tell me the owl reported last month as a Short-eared from near Honeydew actually was a Long-eared Owl! Also, last month's report of the Red-naped Sapsucker should have carried John Hunter's initials as the original finder. Paul Springer called to report additional summer records from Shower's Pass road for Lawrence's Goldfinches. Anyone interested in details should contact either Paul or me. I have much trouble deciphering the mumbles on the bird box tape, especially in getting your names correctly spelled, so if I fracture the spelling of your name, I'd greatly appreciate a call.

Field Notes
By Stan Harris
28 April-24 August 1997

With 4 months' observations, this will be a long report. My apologies to observers whose reports had to be left out for lack of space. Don't forget the pelagic trip on 28 Sep out of Ft. Bragg (cost \$65). For sign ups, contact Bob Keiffer (707) 744-1160 (home) or (707) 744-1424 (work). Throughout this report the following abbreviations stand for my editorial comments. BR: Breeding record. EF: Early fall record (this year only). EL: Expected location. ES: Early spring record (this year only). FR: Few previous records. GW: Gee-Whiz report! IL: Interesting location. IS: Interesting flock size. LF: Late fall record (this year only). LS: Late spring record (this year only). NC: Not confirmed. OS: Over summered. PE: Probable Escape.

HIGHLIGHTS

Yellow-billed Loon (FR,NC): 1, Pt. St. George, 2 Jul (AB): Leach's Storm Petrel (IL): 1, flying along Eel River near Loleta, 10 Jun (RLeV,RH): Blue-winged Teal (FR): 1 male, Mouth Little River, 8 May (TL); 1 male, Lake Earl, 30 May (BW); 1 pair, Arcata Marsh Project (AMP), 21 Jun (JP): OLD SQUAW (LS): 1, lower Eel River, 20 Apr (BS): Goshawk (FR): 1, west of Highway 101 at Redway, 5 May (DF); 1, Hayfork, 10 May (JH,et al.); 1, Hettenshaw Valley, 22 Jun (JH,GH); 1, Trinity Lake, 17 Aug (JH,TL): Prairie Falcon (FR): 1, Trinity Lake, 17 Aug (JH,TL): Ruffed Grouse (IL, FR): 1, Mail Ridge (Alderpoint side, 2000 feet elevation), 2 May (JG); 1, 15 miles N. Somes Bar, 5 Jun (JHe); Up to 10 in singles, NE of Weitchpec, summer (EE): Pacific Golden Plover (EF): 1, lower Eel River, 30 Jul (SMc).

Plovers on the River

Snowy Plover (BR, IL): 9+ nests, Eel River from Van Duzen to below Fernbridge, 28 May-12 Jun (RLeV,et al.); 3 nests on Centerville Beach, 28 May-12 Jun (RLeV, et al.): Black-necked Stilt (FR): 2, Lower Eel River, 11 Jun (RLeV): Solitary Sandpiper (LS): 1, flyover, Azalea Hill, 2 May (GL); 1, Lanphere Road, 19 May (BC): Bar-tailed Godwit (FR): 1 male, breeding plumage, ocean beach north of Pt. St. George, 29 Jun-5 Jul (AB, et al.): Semipalmated Sandpiper (EF,FR): 1 juv, Manila, 28 Jul (GH); 1 juv, Butcher Slough, 28 Jul (RJA); 1 juv, Trinity Lake (Trinity Center--first Trinity County Record?), 1-2 Aug (GH,JH); 2, mouth of Elk River, 31 Jul (KI); 1 ad, Butcher Slough, 11 Aug (RJA): Wilson's Phalarope (EF,FR): 1, McKinleyville Golf Course, 3 Jul (LU): Arctic Tern (IL, FR): 1, Mad River County Park, 20 Aug (BC): Horned Puffin (FR): 1, MacKerricher State Park, 25 May (SS, et al.): White-winged Dove (FR): 1, west end, Lanphere Road, 2 Aug (CJR): Flammulated Owl (FR): 2-3 calling, Black Lassic (Humboldt Co.), 16 May (GH); 2 calling, Black Lassic (Humboldt Co.), 11 Jul (TL,SP): Black Swift (FR): 17, migrating N past Manila, 4 Jun (GH); 4 (flyby), Bald Hills Road (Lyons Creek trailhead), 7 Jun (TL): White-throated Swift (BR, FR,GW): first known breeding (?) record for the Northcoast region, 1-2 birds going in and out of crevice in a rock face, 1.4 miles east of Trinity/Humboldt County Line on Alderpoint to Zenia road, 5-6 May, 16 May, 6 Jul (CS, et al.): Costa's Hummingbird (FR): 1 male, Willits feeder, 10-31 Jul (DT, et al.): Red-naped Sapsucker (BR, FR): 1 male, paired with a Red-breasted Sapsucker at nest hole, Ship Mountain (Del Norte Co.), 2-7Jul (RH, et al.): Rock Wren (FR): x, Dyerville/Alderpoint road, 5 May (DF); 1, milepost 11, Snow Camp Road, 10 May (RJA, KN,EE,GB); 1 Alderpoint, 15 Jun (RJA,DA): Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (FR): 3 pair, trail to Red Mountain, 17 May (GH); 1, acting territorial, 1 mile below Kneeland School, 5 Jul (SF,AD): Mountain Bluebird (IL,FR): 1, Mail Ridge, 2 May (JG).

Thrashers

Sage Thrasher (FR,EF): 1, Salmon Creek/Hookton Road, 28 Jul (MW): Tennessee Warbler (LS): 1, Gasquet Ranger Station, 8 Jun (KS,RH): Parula Warbler (LS): 1 singing, Trinidad Beach State Park, 30 May (TL,KI); 2, Patrick's Point State Park, 4 Jun (KI); 1 singing S of Trinidad on Scenic Drive-Luffenholtz Creek, 10 Jun, 5-6 Jul (KI,TL): 1 singing, Skunk RR tracks, near Pudding Ck. Ft. Bragg, 22 Jun (JW et al.); 1 singing, McKinleyville, 2-7 Jul (GS, et al.): Chestnut-sided Warbler (LS): 1 singing, Davison Road, 8 Jun (KI); 1 singing, Skunk RR. Tracks, near Pudding Ck. Ft. Bragg, 22-23 Jun (JW,DT, et al.); 1 Elk Head, 27 Jun (CL): Magnolia Warbler (LS): 1 singing, Trinidad Beach State Park, 29 May-10 Jun (TL); 1 singing, Big Lagoon, 2-8 Jun (DF,KI); 1 male, Skunk RR. Tracks, 18 Jun (DT): Palm Warbler (LS): 1, Fernbridge, 2 May (KS,PH); 1 singing, Patrick's Point State Park, 25 Jun (KI): Blackpoll Warbler (LS): 1 adult female, Pt. St. George, 8 Jul (AB): Black-and-white Warbler (LS): 1 male singing, Elk Head, 20-21 Jun (KI,GL): American Redstart (OS?): 1, male singing, Mad River County Park, 23 May-19 Jun (GH, et al.); 1, Fieldbrook Road/299, 7-19 Jun (KI); 1 singing yellowstart, Manila, 19 Jun (KI); 1 singing yellowstart, Bayshore Mall, 25-26 Jun (TL,JH); 1 female, Clam Beach, 24 Jun (TL); 1 second year male caught and banded near Mad River Fish Hatchery, 6 Jul (CH): Ovenbird (FR): 1 singing, Elk Head, 27 May (TL, JH, et al.): Northern Waterthrush (LS,EF): 1 singing, Lower Westhaven hill, 24 Jun-5 Jul (KI, et al.); 1, Manila, 13 Aug (GH): Rose-breasted Grosbeak (OS?): 1, Stagecoach Road, 6 Jun (KI); 1 male singing, Elk Head, 27 Jun (TL); 1 male singing, Glendale, 27-28 Jul (LP); 1 male, Irish Beach, 6 Jul (ET): Indigo Bunting (FR): 1, Arcata Bottoms along Mad River Road, 10 Jun (KI): Black-chinned Sparrow (FR): 6 along Red Mountain Trail, 17 May (GH); "numerous," False Ant Pt. Trail, 22 Jun (GH, JH): Sage Sparrow (FR): 1, Trail to False Ant Point, 21-22 Jun (BW, JH, GH, et al.): Vesper Sparrow (LS): 3, Fortuna, 23 Apr (MW): Lark Bunting (FR): 1 male, Lanphere Road, 3 Aug (CJR): LeConte's Sparrow (FR): 1, Lake Earl shoreline, 21-26 May (DJ-S,JGa., AB, et al.): Yellow-headed Blackbird (FR): 1 male, mouth Jacoby Creek, 2 May (JF); 4, AMP, 19 Aug (BC): Lawrence's Goldfinch (FR): 4, Hayfork, 10 May (JH, et al.); 1, town of Mad River, 17 May (GH); 1, trail to Red Mountain, 17 May (GH); 4 males, 1 female, Shower's Pass Road, 1-7 Jun (PS, G&LL); 1 pair, Shower's Pass Road, 2 Jun (JH,TL):

NOTES FROM THE STATUS BOARD, TRAVEL DESK, AND MATERNITY WARD

Pacific Loon (IS): 250 (one flock), King Salmon, 31 Jul (SMc): Pied-billed Grebe (BR,IL): 1-2 chicks, 3/4 grown, no other evidence of breeding!, AMP, 23 Jun-23 Jul (SH); 1, Lewiston Lake, 30 Jul-2 Aug (JH,GH): Red-necked Grebe (LS,EF): 1 breeding plumage, N of Westport, 17 May (DT); 1 breeding plumage, MacKerricher St. Park, 24 May (DT); 1, breeding plumage, King Salmon 2, 31 Jul-17 Aug (KN, EE, SMc, BD): Clark's Grebe (FR): 2, North Jetty, 9 May (DF); 2, Lake Earl, 20 May (AB); 1 Trinity Lake, 17 Aug (JH, TL): Brown Pelican (EF): 5, Trinidad Harbor, 30 Apr (SH); 6, Crescent City Harbor, 1 May (SH); 13, mouth Mad River, 2 May (TL,SP), 12, South Jetty, 12 May (DF): American Bittern (FR): 1, AB, 20 May (DA); 1, Lake Earl, 24-26 May (JP,SH, et al.); 1, MacKerricher St. Park, 12 May (DT); 1 juv, AMP, 21 Jul (SH); 1, Eureka sewage marshes, 9 Aug (LH,SH,VW): Great Egret (IL): 1 pair apparently nesting in Great Blue Heron colony, Lake Earl, 6 Jun (SH, DJ-S): Snowy Egret (BR): 15-20, nesting, Prince Island, 6 Jun (SH,DJ-S): Tundra Swan: 1 near AMP, 4 May (RJA): Black Brant (OS): 1-4, South Hum. Bay, 14-17 Aug (KI, AA, BD): Western Canada Goose (BR): up to 7 broods on AOP/AMP daily, 23 May-30 Jun (SH); 5 broods, Indian Island, 27 May (SH, RR); 200 (molting?), Lake Earl, 6 Jun (SH, DJ-S); 140 (one flock), AOP, 18 Jul (SH): Wood Duck (BR): at least 10 broods at AOP/AMP, 16 May-2 Jul (SH); flying young and adults, Trinity Lake, 30 Jul-2 Aug (GH,JH): Pintail (EF): 1 female, Trinity Lake, 30 Jul-2 Aug (JH, GH); 1-2 females, AMP, 9-11 Aug (SH); 17, AMP, 16 Aug (SH, et al.): Lesser Scaup (LS,EF,OS?): 1, ocean (!) off Mad River, 29 Apr (DF): Black Scoter (LS,OS?,EF): 9, North Jetty, 9 May (DF); 1, MacKerricher St. Park, 26 May (DT); 2 females, Endert's Beach, 7 Jun (RH); 1 male, North Jetty, 16 Aug (BD,SH): Hooded Merganser (EF,OS?): 2 in female plumage, AMP, 18 Jul (SH); 1 female plumage, AMP, 11 Aug (DF).

Missing Kites

White-tailed Kite (?????): Do other people have the impression this species has undergone a recent drastic decline locally? I only saw 1 at AMP on 20 and 26 May and again on 30 Jun all summer! Please report these so we can get a feeling for any population changes that may be taking place: Bald Eagle (IL): 2, Galbreath Ranch, 26 Apr (KHg); 1 ad over HSU, 6 May (RM); 1 adult, Trinity Dam, 10 May (JH, et al.); 1 imm, mouth Mad River, 4 May (HG); 1 adult, Korbelt, 23 Jun (JHe); "sev", Trinity Lake, 30 Jul-2 Aug (JH,GH): Cooper's Hawk (IL): 1, Fruitland Ridge, 7 May (JG); 1, downtown Eureka, 15 Jul (JG): Golden Eagle (EL): 1, near Miranda, 5 May (DF); 2 ad, Redwood Valley, 6 May (RLeV); 2 adults, Honeydew, 1 Jun (JH); 1 subadult, Hurdy Gurdy drainage, Del Norte, 17 Jun (KS): Peregrine Falcon (GW, EL): 1, AB, 27 Apr (DA); 1, Forest Glen to Route 3, 10 May (JH); 1 ad stooped on a Marbled Murrelet (unsuccessfully), Boye's Prairie, 2 Jun (DF), 1 ad, AOP, 24 Jun (SH); 1 eating a juv Bonaparte's Gull, Lower Mad River, 27 Jun (RLeV); 1 Drake Hill Road, 27 Jun (SF), 1 North Bay, 30 Jun (GH); 1 AOP, 9-18 Jul (SH,KN); 1, Manila, 27 Jul (GH); 1, AMP, 2-11 Aug (SH,DF); 1, mouth Elk River, 9 Aug (SH,VW): Wild Turkey (FR): 1, near Blocksberg, 6 May (JH,TL,SH); 25 incl. young, Bull Creek, 16-18 Aug (GB): Virginia Rail (BR,IL): 4, mill pond, Hayfork, 10 May (JH, et al.); 1, Skunk Cabbage Trail, 11 May (TL); 1 ad with 2 downy chicks, AMP, 13 Jun (SH); 2, Three Creek drainage west of Willow Creek, 5 Jun (TL,SP); 1 No Name Pond, 4 Jul (SH); 1 juv seen +3 heard, AMP/AOP, mostly No Name Pond, 21 Aug (SH): Sora (EF): 4, includ. 1 flying juv only 2/3 as large as nearby adults, AMP/AOP, mostly No Name Pond, 16-24 Aug (SH): Semipalmated Plover (EF): 20, lower Mad River, 18 Jul (BC); 3-7, Trinity Lake, 16-17 Aug (JH,TL): Lesser Yellowlegs (LS,EF): 1, AB, 27 Apr (DA); 4, Eureka Sewage Ponds, 9 Aug (SH,VW), 3 lower Mad River, 16 Aug (BD,SH); 1, Trinity Lake, 16 Aug (JH,TL): Ruddy Turnstone (EF): 1, Klopp Lake, 16 Jul (MW); 12, Lower Mad River, 11 Aug (BC): Surf-bird (EF): 1, North Jetty, 9 Jul (SH, KN); 60, North Jetty, 9 Aug (SH, VW): Red Knot (OS?): 2, breeding plumage, AMP, 3 May (MM); 1, Klopp Lake, 4 May (RJA); 7, Humboldt Bay, 12 Jun (GH); 1 winter plumage, 1 breeding plumage, North Bay, 9 Jul (SH,KN); 1, Klopp Lake, 22 Jul (SH, RJA,BC): 2, Klopp Lake, 16 Aug (BD, et al.): Baird's Sandpiper (EF, IL): 2 ad., Trinity Center, 30 Jul-2 Aug (JH,GH); 4, South Spit, 31 Jul (KI); 2-4, lower Mad River, 11-16 Aug (BC,SH,BD); 1, South Bay, 14 Aug (KI,AA); 2, mouth Elk River, 14 Aug (KI, AA); 1-2, Trinity Lake, 16-17 Aug (JH,TL); 2, Big Lagoon, 23 Aug (GL, LL): Pectoral Sandpiper (EF): 6, lower Mad River, 9 Aug (SH); 1, Trinity Lake, 17 Aug (JH,TL): Dunlin (LS): 1 breeding plumage, 12 May, MacKerricher St. Park (DT): Common Snipe (LS,EF): 1 winnowing, Eureka, 5 May (DF); 1, Eureka Sewage ponds, 9 Aug (SH,VW): Red-necked Phalarope (EF): 1 breeding plumage, Pudding Ck, 14 Jun (DT); 4, North Bay, 30 Jun (GH); 1, Trinidad Head, 1 Jul (MH); 66, AOP/AMP, 12 Jul (SH); 200, Loleta Bottoms, 19 Aug (DD): Pomarine Jaeger (EF): 3, offshore, Baker Beach, 11 Aug (KI): Parasitic Jaeger (EF): 1 juv, Pt. St. George, 17 Jul (DF,CS,MF); 5, North Jetty, 20 Jul (KS,ER); 2, Freshwater Lagoon, 30 Jul (KI); 4, South Spit, 31 Jul (KI); 4, North Jetty, 8 Aug (GH): Heermann's Gull (EF): 2, South Jetty, 27 May (RR, SH): Ring-billed Gull (IL): 2, Trinity Center, 30 Jul-2 Aug (GH, JH): Herring Gull (LS): 4, North Jetty, 9 May (DF).

Terns from the South

Elegant Tern (EF): 1, MacKerricher St. Park, 15 Jun (DT); 450, North Bay, 25 Jun (DF, JP); 3, MacKerricher St. Park, 13 Jul (DT); 200, Klopp Lake, 16 Jul (MW); 11, Crescent City Harbor, 17 Jul (DF,CS,MF); 150, Trinidad to Gold Bluff Beach, 30 Jul (KI); 600, South Bay, 31 Jul (KI): Common Tern (EF): 3, Klopp L., 16 Jul (MW); 1, North Jetty, 8 Aug (GH): Marbled Murrelet (IS): 2-4, Hum. Bay jetties, 9-27 May (DF,SH,RR); 4-6, off Endert's Beach, 7 Jun (RH); 2, North Jetty, 8 Aug (GH); 47 off Baker Beach incl. 14 in juv plumage, 11 Aug (KI): Rhinoceros Auklet (EL): 1, North Jetty, 9 May (DF); 1, Elk Head, 24 May (TL); 1, Pt. St. George, 2 Jul (JH); 2, Elk Head, 15 Jul (KI); 1, Baker Beach, 15 Jul (KI): Tufted Puffin (FR): x, Green Rock, 12 May, 21 May (TL): Barn Owl (IL): 1, Hayfork, 10 May (JH, et al.): Pygmy Owl (IL): 1 heard, Redway 23 Apr (EJH); 1 seen, Blue Lake, late Apr (KHu); 1, Mail Ridge, 13 Jun (JG): Spotted Owl (GW): 1, dead, partly eaten with talon marks in back (Barred Owl perched nearby with barred feathers on talons), Skunk Cabbage Trail, 11 May (TL,SP); 1, Richardson Grove St. Park, 13 Jun (DS): MH reports that they failed to nest on Hoopa Res. this summer. Barred Owl (FR): 2, Skunk Cabbage Trail, 11 May (see above under Spotted Owl) (TL,SP); 1 heard and seen near Big Bar, 1 May (KY,JS); 1, Richardson Grove St. Park, 13 May (DS): Short-eared Owl (IL): 1, calling, Smith Etter Road near Honeydew, 2 May (TL,SP); 1, near

Blue Lake, 8 May (BW): Common Nighthawk (IL): 1, Wilson Creek, Del Norte, 5 Jun (BW); 2, Big Lagoon, 7 Jun (CO); 1, Prairie Creek St. Park, 9 Jun (DF); 1, Bayside, 9 Jun (JP); 1, west of Willow Creek, 15 Jun (TL,SP); 4, near Willow Creek, 17 Jun (TL); 1, Azalea Hill, 18 Jun (DG); 1, Horse Mtn., 11-12 Aug (TL); 3, Trinity Lake, 16 Aug (JH,TL): Vaux's Swift (IS,IL): 5, Hayfork, 10 May (JH, et al.): All White Hummingbird Sp. (GW): 1, Irish Beach, 5 Jul (ET): White-headed Woodpecker (FR): 1, Black Lassic, 29 Jun (L&DB-O); 2, Dry Lake south of Red Lassic, Hum. Co., 13 Jul (TL,SP,M&BW).

Neotropical Flycatchers

Willow Flycatcher (IL): 1 singing, Weaverville, 12 May (LB-O); 1, Trinidad Beach St. Park, 30 May (KI); 1, 11.1 miles up Forest Service road 16 from Highway 199, 18 Jun-2 Jul (KS,JH); 1, east side of Freshwater Lagoon, 25 Jun-8 Jul (KI,DF, et al); 1 singing, Klamath River/101, 26-29 Jun (KS,CO); 1, Redwood Creek estuary, 8 Jul (DF,JP, RJA); 5, Lewiston Lake, 17 Aug (JH,TL); 1 AMP, 24 AUG (SH): Dusky Flycatcher (ES,EL): 4, Titlow Hill Road, 4 May (KS); 4, Snow Camp Road, 10 May (KN,EE, RJA, GB): Hammond's Flycatcher (BR,EL): 1 carrying food, Grizzly Camp near Grove's Prairie, 12 Jul (JH, et al.): Purple Martin (BR): 12, AMP, 3 May (MM); x, Lake Earl, 26 May (JH, et al.); 2 pair at nest holes, Caspar Creek Snag, 30 May (DT); 1-2 AMP/AOP, 11 Jun-11 Jul (SH); 1 singing, east of Fortuna, 18 Jun (SMc); "pairs," near Fortuna, mid Jun (DG): Bank Swallow (IL,FR): x in flight, east to end of road on south side of 101 bridge at Klamath River, 29 Jun (CO). Gray Jay (BR,EL): 1, Westhaven, 20 May (TL); 1, came to catfood at feeder, Essex, spring to mid Jun (3 including new juv came to same feeder in summer 1996) (B&CP); 1, Bayside, 25 Jun (DF,JP); 1 new juv, Lanphere Dunes, early Jul (CJR); "family," Humboldt/Trinity Co. Line, 2 miles south of Grizzly Camp, 12 Jul (JH); 2 ad and 2 juv, Trinidad Quarry, 15 Jul (KI): Common Raven (BR): 1 nest with young, Azalea Hill, 19 May (G&LL): Plain Titmouse (FR): 1, near Alderpoint, 6 May, (JH,TL,SH); x, Hettenshaw Valley, 22 Jun (JH,GH): Red-breasted Nuthatch (EF,IL); 1, AMP, 7 Jul (SH); 1-2, Sunny Brae, 15 Jul-9 Aug (SH): Dipper (BR): nest, Tall Trees Trail, 28 Jul (CG): Ruby-crowned Kinglet (LS): 1, trail to Red Mountain, (JH, et al.): Mockingbird (IL): 1 singing, Fortuna, 29 May-13 Jun (RLeV, et al.); 1, Clam Beach, 13 Jun (TL): California Thrasher (FR,EL): x, near Shelter Cove, 5 May (DF); 2, trail to Red Mtn, 10-17 May (JH,GH, et al.): Townsend's Warbler (LS): 1, Snow Camp, 10 May (KN,EE,RJA,GB); 1, trail to Red Mtn., 10 May (JH, et al.); 1, Azalea Hill, 16 May (GL); 1, trail to Red Mtn, 17 May (GH).

Towhees

Green-tailed Towhee (FR): 2, Grouse Mtn., 5 Jul (BF): California Towhee (IL): 1, mouth Van Duzen River, 2 May (KS,PH); 5-6, vic. Blocksberg, 6 May (JH, TL, SH); 1, near Carlotta, 11 Aug (BW): Chipping Sparrow (IL): 1, McKinleyville, 3 May (RLeV); 1, carrying food, Kneeland Airport, 18 Jun (RLeV): Lark Sparrow (IL): 1 singing, Fortuna, 2 May (KS,PH); 1, Hettenshaw Valley, 29 Jun (LB-O): Grasshopper Sparrow (FR): 1, Mail Ridge, 5 May (DF); 2, Snow Camp Road (12 mile post), 10 May (KN,EE,RJA,GB); 1, Bear River Ridge, 19 May (CO); 3 singing, east of Kneeland Airport, 18 Jun (RLeV); 1 singing, Bald Mtn. (3 mile south Lord Ellis Summit), 26 Jun (CO): Lincoln's Sparrow (BR): 1, carrying food, Grove's Prairie, 12 Jul (JH): White-crowned Sparrow (IL): 2 singing, 5000 feet elevation, Horse Mtn, 11 Jun (TL): Golden-crowned Sparrow (LS): 1, trail to Red Mtn, 10 May (JH, et al.): Tricolored Blackbird (GW): Uncertain if nesting was successful at Drake Hill Colony this year--14 males and 17 females seen there on 28 Apr. copulating and nest materials being carried (B&MW), but none seen there on 24 May (PS), or 4 Jun (BW). 70 were seen there on 12 Jun (SMc) (no young seen), but none on 30 Jun (SH): 8, flying along Eel River near Fortuna, 28 May (RLeV): Hooded Oriole (BR): 1, Arcata, 30 Apr (DW); 1, Arcata Plaza, 13-19 May (RB,DF); 1 singing, 14th and I street, Arcata, 5-23 May (RJA); 1 pair with a new fledgling, Spear Ave, Arcata, 17 Jun (RJA,RB); 1 male, 1 female reported, Butcher Slough Pond, 8 Aug (Anon): Cassin's Finch (FR): 1, South Fork Mtn, 10 May (JH, et al.): Red Crossbill (BR): Many reports of small (2-8) groups from throughout the lowlands including the following evidence of nesting: 2 with nest material, Azalea Hill, 21 Jun (GL); 1 pair feeding a fledgling, Glendale, 28 Jul (LP); 1 male and 1 juv, Azalea Hill, early Aug (GL); 1 juv with adults, Arcata, 2 Aug

(GB): Evening Grosbeak (BR): 2-40, Azalea Hill, 29 Apr-28 May (G&LL); 5, Dow's Prairie, 14 Apr (DKH); 2, trail to Red Mtn, 17 May (GH); x, Redwood Science Lab, Arcata, 13 May (CO); x, Rio Dell, 19 May (CO); x, Sunny Brae, 14-17 May (SH); 1 female feeding young, Miranda, 11 Jul (JG).

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Field Notes
By Stan Harris
23 March-27 April 1997

It was pretty busy month; spring migration in full swing, with wintering birds nearly all gone and many regular summer birds already here. Good weather, but rain for part of the Godwit Days fields trips!

HIGHLIGHTS

EURASIAN GREEN-WINGED TEAL: 1 male, paired with a female of unknown genetic background, No Name Pond, 30 Mar-19 Apr (RJA, SMcA): EURASIAN WIGEON: 1-4 males, 1-2 females, Arcata Bottoms (V St. Loop), 6-14 Apr (CO, RJA, J,K&LH,GH); 2 males, Hookton Slough, 13 Apr (DF,JP): OLDSQUAW: 1, MacKerricher State Park, 30 Mar (DT); 1 imm male, Crescent City Harbor, 10 Apr (MF, fide PS); 1, Big Lagoon, 12 Apr (TA, CdeS); 1, Lower Eel River, 20 Apr (SMcA); 1 male, ocean at Castle Rock, 27 Apr (JH,KH): HARLEQUIN DUCK: 4 males, 1 female, Crescent City Harbor, 5-30 Mar (MF, fide PS)--1 female, banded, was from the Straits of Georgia (British Columbia): PRAIRIE FALCON: 1, Eel River Wildlife Area (ERWA), 27 Mar (SP, RW); 1, AB, 20 Apr (BW): RUFFED GROUSE: 1, Elk Head (!), 29 Mar (MW); 1, ½ mile east of Kneeland, 18 Apr (SB); 2 seen, 1 other heard drumming, Lyons Ranch Trail, 17 miles east of Highway 101, Bald Hills Road, 26 Apr (DS).

Stilt!

BLACK-NECKED STILT: 1, AMP, 27 Apr (MW, RJA, SMcA): CURLEW SANDPIPER?: 1, MacKerricher State Park, 30 Mar (DT, description submitted, not confirmed): NIGHTHAWK SP! (A STARTLING REPORT TO SAY THE LEAST): 1, AMP, 14 Apr (EE): COSTA'S HUMMINGBIRD: 1, College of the Redwoods, 23 Apr (BH): EASTERN KINGBIRD: 1 reported at Hayden Flat Campground on Trinity River, 25 Apr (BFÖ we need description and details on this report, Brad): SAY'S PHOEBE: 1, Pt. St. George, 25 Mar (MF, fide PS): LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE: 1 road kill brought in to HSU, Clam Beach, 26 Mar (Anon); 1, Manila, 5 Apr (JHo, need a description): SHRIKE SP.: 1, AB, 6 Apr (JH, KH, LH); 1, Highway 299 and Blue Lake Exit, 6 Apr (BW, RH): CANYON WREN: 1, below Burnt Ranch, 26 Apr (JH): KENTUCKY WARBLER: 1 heard singing, poorly seen, AMP, 23 Apr (SMcA, the earliest ever report and only the 5th ever regional record): VESPER SPARROW: 1, AB, 12 Apr (RJA).

NOTES FROM THE TRAVEL DESK AND OTHER INTERESTING STUFF

RED-THROATED LOON: Steady migration past North Jetty, 6 Apr (DF,JP): COMMON LOON: 1, Lewiston Lake, 13 Apr; 1, Trinity Lake, 13 Apr (both reports, JH,GH, B&MW): RED-NECKED GREBE: 17, King Salmon, 27 Mar (DF); 1, North Jetty, 7 Apr (M&BW): CLARK'S GREBE: 1, ERWA, 27 Mar (SP,RW); 1, Ruth Lake, 5 Apr (JH,DF,JP); 2, North Jetty, 6 Apr (DF,JP); 1, Mouth of Elk River, 19 Apr (SMcA): BROWN PELICAN: 3, Crescent City Harbor, 5 Mar (MF, fide PS): BRANDT'S CORMORANT: 3, North Jetty, 20 Apr (TA, CdeS): AMERICAN BITTERN: 1, AMP, 23-24 Apr (SH): GREEN HERON: 1, Blue Lake Fish Hatchery, 27 Mar (MM); 1, Highway 299 and Blue Lake, 20 Apr (BW); 1, Salt River, 20 Apr (SMcA): CATTLE EGRET: 1, Butcher Slough Pond, 30 Mar (D&LO); 8, AB, 13 Apr (PS): MUTE SWAN (!): 1 fly over, Klopp Lake, 11 Apr (RH): TUNDRA SWAN: 1 (cripple present for 3+ years), AB, 11 Apr (DA): GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE: 5, Hyampom, 13 Apr (JH,GH,B&MW); 1, near Willow Creek, 22 Apr (TL): ROSSÍ GOOSE: 3, Smith River Bottoms, 7-25 Mar (MF, fide PS); 4, AB, 4 Apr (EE, JS): WESTERN CANADA GOOSE: 10, Willow Creek, 22 Apr (TL); 4, Hyampom, 13 Apr (JH,GH,B&MW); first brood in vic Humboldt Bay, 11 Apr (DA, et al)--several broods seen subsequently: ALEUTIAN CANADA GOOSE: Peak count in Smith River Bottoms of 24,000 ± 1500, 15 Mar, decline began on 4 Apr, only 16,000 left by 8 Apr; roosted at night on Castle Rock (15,000), Prince Island (5500) and Goat Island near Brookings (MF, fide, PS): "SMALL" CANADA GOOSE: 500, AB, 4 Apr (EE): WOOD DUCK: pairs, Freshwater

Lagoon, 25 Mar (MH); 1, Freshwater Creek, late March, occupied nest box within 3 days of its erection (TR); several males and occupied nests in many locations where boxes have been put up, Mar-early Apr (RH, PMcN); 1 pair, AOP, 16-24 Apr (SH): BLUE-WINGED TEAL: 1, AMP, 5 Apr (anon): BLUE-WINGED X CINNAMON TEAL HYBRID: 1, No Name Pond, 20 Apr (TA, CdeS): RING-NECKED DUCK: 10, ERWA, 27 Mar (SP,RW); 2, Butcher Slough Pond, 30 Mar (L&DO); 1 pair, Butcher Slough Pond, 13 Apr (MM): BLACK SCOTER: 1, ERWA, 27 Mar (SP,RW); 1, North Jetty, 7 Apr (B&MW); 3 pair, mouth of Redwood Creek, 13 Apr (RH).

Another Chicken

BLUE GROUSE: 1 seen, 3 others heard, Lyons Ranch Road, Bald Hills, 26 Apr (DS): OSPREY: many now present, possible nest site, Redway Exit/101, 8 Apr (EH). BALD EAGLE: 1 juv, Blue Lake, 15 Mar (SbdV); 1 imm, Blue Lake, 25 Mar (DG); 2 ad, mouth of Willow Creek, 31 Mar (DF); 1 ad, southeast of Sandy Bar, 31 Mar (DF); 1 ad, Tish Tang Campground, 3 Apr (BP): 1 ad, "Mad River" (where?), 7 Apr (DP); 1 imm., Blue Lake, 17 Apr (GH): GOLDEN EAGLE: 1 Smith River Bottoms, 27 Apr (JH,KH): RED-SHOULDERED HAWK: 2 at nest, Hyampom, 13 Apr (JH,GH,M&BW): PEREGRINE FALCON: 1, Hammond Trail, 1 Apr (DG); 1 imm, Hookton Slough, 13 Apr (JP,DF): MERLIN: 1, AMP, 4, 10 Apr (RF,RH): SNOWY PLOVER: 3, Virgin Creek Beach, Ft. Bragg, 21 Mar (RH): LESSER YELLOW LEGS: 1-3, AB, 4-9 Apr (EE,JS,DA,BW): WANDERING TATTLER: 1, North Jetty, 20 Apr (TA, CdeS): RED KNOT: 1, AOP, 4 Apr (BP); 1, AMP, 19 Apr (TL,SMcA); 1, Salt River, 20 Apr (SMcA): ROCK SANDPIPER: 1, North Jetty, 24 Mar (DF,JP); 1, MacKerricher State Park, 30 Mar (DT); 2 (1 in molt), North Jetty, 6 Apr (DF,JP); 5, North Jetty, 7 Apr (B&MW): COMMON SNIBE: 1, Arcata, 4 Apr (JF); 5, AB, 5 Apr (DA). HERRING GULL: 1 ad, mouth Redwood Creek, 13 Apr (RH): THAYER'S GULL: 1, first winter, Arcata Plaza, 7 Apr (DF): CASPIAN TERN: 125, mouth Redwood Creek, 13 Apr (RH): MARBLED MURRELET: x (how many Rob?), Lost Man Creek, 13 Apr (RH): PIGEON GUILLEMOT: "few," Elk Head, (5 Apr), Patricks Point (6 Apr) (both GL): RHINOCEROS AUKLET: 1 at nest hole, Green Rock, 26 Apr (TL): TUFTED PUFFIN: 3, Green Rock, 13 Apr (GL); 8-12, Castle Rock, mid Apr (anon); 1, Green Rock, 16 Apr (LL); 1-2, Green Rock, 26 Apr (GL,TL); 1, Castle Rock, 27 Apr (JH,KH).

Cooo, coooo

MOURNING DOVE: 3, end of Lanphere Road, 26 Apr (KN): BARRED OWL: 1, Prairie Creek State Park, 19 Apr, 27 Apr (JH,DS): SHORT-EARED OWL: 1, Mad River Wildlife Area, 31 Mar (JB): VAUX SWIFT: x, Trinity County, 13 Apr (JH,GH,B&MW); x, Sunny Brae, 23 Apr (PS); 5, AMP, 24 Apr (SH); 50, Redway, 23 Apr (EH): RUFOUS HUMMINGBIRD: 1, Arcata, 3 Apr (KN); 1, Sunny Brae, 6-7 Apr (SH): "HYBRID" FLICKER: 1 female, Fieldbrook, 30 Mar (SF); 1 female, Sunny Brae, 31 Mar-1 Apr (SH): YELLOW-SHAFTED FLICKER ("pure"): 1 female, Sunny Brae, 13 Apr (SH): OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER: x, Trinity County, 13 Apr (JH,GH,M&BW): WESTERN WOOD PEWEE: 1, Arcata Community Forest, 9 Apr (CO): PACIFIC SLOPE FLYCATCHER: 1, Particks Point, 6 Apr (GL): ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER: x, Willow Creek, 21 Apr (TL): WESTERN KINGBIRD: x, Trinity County, 13 Apr (JH,GH,B&MW); 1, AMP, 25 Apr (SH); 1 Smith River Bottoms, 27 Apr (JH,KH): PURPLE MARTIN: 1 male, AMP, 4 Apr (GB); 5, AB, 19 Apr (TL); 7, Loleta Bottoms, 19 Apr (SMcA); 1, Salt River, 20 Apr (SMcA); 2, Azalea Hill, 20 Apr (DG); 4-7, AMP, 23-24 Apr (SH): NORTHERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW: x, AB, 2 Apr (MMM): HORNED LARK: 1, Snow Camp Road, 22 Mar (JH,KH,LH): SCRUB JAY: 1, Fieldbrook, 4 Apr (TC): BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE: 6, Freshwater Lagoon, 25 Mar (MH); 1, Freshwater Creek, 18 Apr (RH); 1, Butcher Slough Pond, 26 Apr (SH,LH): NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD: 1, Eureka, 20 Mar (PeS): CALIFORNIA THRASHER: 1 east of Hayfork, 13 Apr (JH,GH,B&MW): SOLITARY VIREO: 1 singing, Azalea Hill, 10 Apr (GL); x, Trinity County, 13 Apr (JH,GH,M&BW); 2 pair, Hayden Flat Campground, 25 Apr (BF); x, Blue Lake, 13-27 Apr (MM): WARBLING VIREO: x, Blue Lake, 27 Apr (MM).

Western Warblers Return

ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER: 2 singing, Blue Lake, 23 Mar (MM); 12 singing, Willow Creek, 25 Mar (TL); x, Hiller Park, 25 Mar (MMM); x, Fortuna, 26 Mar (PM): NASHVILLE WARBLER: x, Trinity County, 13 Apr (JH,GH,B&MW); x, Willow Creek, 21 Apr (TL): BLACK-THROATED GRAY WARBLER: x, Aldergrove Pond, 2 Apr (GIL,RHu); x, Trinity County, 13 Apr (JH,GH,B&MW); x, Willow Creek, 21 Apr (TL); x, Hayden Flat Campground, 25 Apr (BF): HERMIT WARBLER: 1 singing, Mad River Fish Hatchery (I.D.? Seen or just heard?), 5 Apr (DG): PALM WARBLER: 1, AMP, 23 Apr (LG): MYRTLE WARBLER: 5 (with Audubonís), Trinity County, 13 Apr (JH,GH,B&MW); 4-5, AMP, 25 Apr (SH): MACGILLVRAÝS WARBLER: 1, Willow Creek, 21 Apr (TL); x, Hayden Flat, 25 Apr (BF): COMMON YELLOWTHROAT: 4, Willow Creek, 26 Mar (TL); 1, Blue Lake Fish Hatchery, 27 Mar (MM); 1, AMP, 27 Mar (MM); x, AMP, 29 Mar (RF); 6, Bayshore Mall, 12 Apr (MW); 20, Trinity County, 13 Apr (JH,GH,M&BW): YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT: x, Willow Creek, 21 Apr (TL): WILSONís WARBLER: 1, Patricks Point, 6 Apr (GL); 1, Sunny Brae, 21 Apr (PS); x, Willow Creek, 21 Apr (TL): WESTERN TANAGER: 1, Eureka, 29 Mar (CO): BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK: x, Willow Creek, 21 Apr (TL).

Blackbirds with Three Colors

TRICOLORED BLACKBIRD: 1 male, Trinidad, 26 Apr (GL): BULLOCKís ORIOLE: 1, Arcata, 1 Apr (GB): HOODED ORIOLE: 1 male, east Arcata, 21 Mar-11 Apr, nearly daily (EL, RN, fide PS); 1 male, Smith River, 20 Apr (MF, fide PS): LARK SPARROW: 10, Hettenshaw Valley, 5 Apr (JH,DF,JP): CHIPPING SPARROW: 1, Hettenshaw Valley, 5 Apr (JH,DF,JP); 1, Trinidad, 6 Apr (GK): WHITE-THROATED SPARROW: 1, Azalea Hill, 20 Apr (DG); 1, Sunny Brae, 21 Apr (SH): RED CROSSBILL: 24, Arcata, 24 Mar (GB); 20, Fieldbrook, 6 Apr (SC): EVENING GROSBEAK: 12-20 at feeders, Azalea Hill, 25 Mar through 25 Apr (GL,DG).

Many thanks to the following who submitted observations for this month's report: R. J. Adams, David Anderson, Todd Arnold, Louise Bacon-Odgen, J. Bisson, Gary Bloomfield, Sherri Cappel, Tom Cockle, Kacy Cook, Christina de Sobriho, Elias Elias, Mark Fisher, Scott Fisher, David Fix, Brad Freeman, Joe Freeman, R. Frey, Liz Gainer, Dan Garrison, Lorie Harris, Stan Harris, Ben Hawkins, Gjon Hazard, Poppy Heiser, E. J. Hendrix, Rob Hewitt, Matt Hinton, J. Holley, Emily Hoyt, Rachelle Huddleston, John Hunter, Kim Hunter, Liberty Hunter, Gail Kenny, Tom Leskiw, Gary Lester, Glenn Lorton, Elizabeth Lund, Pat McNeil, Paul Morey, Mark Morrissette, "MMM", Kristie Nelson, Ros Novick, Chet Ogan, Dave Ogden, Bruce Page, Steve Pagliughi, D. Perry, Jude Power, Terry Roelofs, Doug Shaw, Jay Sooter, Paul Springer, Pete Spruance, Toby, Matt Wachs, J. Ward, Bud Widdowson, Margaret Widdowson, Ron Wood.

Field Notes
By Stan Harris
16 February-22 March 1997

March is always a rather slow month; the winter birds gradually leave us and only a few early spring birds arrive: But look out early next month for an avalanche of new spring migrants! I sure do hope all you birders are taking advantage of the lifetime opportunity to study the brightest comet of the century. Hale-Bopp (not Hey Bob!) has been putting on a spectacular show each clear early evening and early morning all month!

HIGHLIGHTS

BLUE-WINGED TEAL: 1 male, Arcata Marsh Project (AMP), 15-16 Mar (RJA, et al.); EURASIAN GREEN-WINGED TEAL: 1 male, AMP 11-21 Mar (DF, SH, JP); this bird was paired with a female of unknown genetic background on 21 Mar (SH); EURASIAN WIGEON: 2-7 males, 1 female, Arcata Bottoms (AB), 20 Feb-15 Mar (DD, JH, R& KG, SH, TL, SP, RJA, DA, SF, AD, Orn 1 class, et al.); 1 male, Hookton Slough, 23 Feb-9 Mar (CO, JP); 1 male, Vance Ave (North Bay), 23 Feb (RH); HARLEQUIN DUCK: 1-3, Ft. Bragg, 12 Feb-15 Mar (TL, SP, DT, et al.); 3-4, Crescent City Harbor, 2-4 Mar (RH, DG); OLDSQUAW: 1, mouth of Smith River, 2 Mar (RH); 2, Big Lagoon, 4 Mar (DG); NORTHERN GOSHAWK: 2, north of Covelo on Minah Road, 21 Feb (DG, BL); 1 adult (!) at a feeder (!), near Blue Lake, 2 Mar (LP); FERRUGINOUS HAWK: 1, Round Valley, 16 Feb (JH, TL); PRAIRIE FALCON: 1, AB, 26 Feb (TL,SP); WANDERING TATTLER: 16 in one flock (!), Ft. Bragg, 8 Mar (PS); THAYER'S GULL: 1 (first year--very difficult identification!), AB, 28 Feb (GH & Orny 1 class); ICELAND GULL: 1 (third winter of Kumliens race--no details, also a very difficult identification!), Ft. Bragg, 17 Feb (RS, DT, et al., fide BK) (Only the second ever report for this species in the northcoast region); GLAUCOUS GULL: 1 adult !, Ft. Bragg, 17 Feb (DT); another adult !, Eureka, 4 Mar (GL) (These are only the fifth and sixth ever records for an adult Glaucous Gull for the northcoast region!--and one of the other 4 was from this winter also!); 1 (second winter); Crescent City Harbor, 2 Mar (RH); 1 (first winter), 10 Mile River north of Ft. Bragg, 7 Mar (PS): (A note of caution: There are many faded, nearly derelict first winter Glaucous-winged Gulls present now that seem to have white wing tips and easily can be misidentified as Glaucous Gulls--I saw 5-6 at Klopp Lake 18-21 Mar--be sure to check the bill to see if it is pale for the basal half to two thirds before calling these Glaucous Gulls; the faded Glaucous-winged Gulls with white wing tips have all black bills--SH); HORNED PUFFIN: (update): 1 flying by Ft. Bragg with 3 Surf Scoters, 13 Dec 1996 (DT); BURROWING OWL: an injured bird was delivered to Wildlife Care Center folks from the Clam Beach Parking Lot, 8 Mar and released into Arcata Bottoms 13 Mar (KP, fide JH); (UPDATE); KP also told JH of several second-hand (unconfirmed) reports of a Burrowing Owl standing beside a hole in AB during the summer of 1996 (Jun to Aug) that spread its wings in a territorial defense posture when approached. If this third-hand report is true, it is very significant because we have no other records of over summering, possibly nesting, birds in the northcoast region--if anyone has more details on this, please contact me. WHITE-HEADED WOODPECKER: 1 male, wintering on Azalea Hill, 20 Feb-21 Mar (GL, RJA) (one of only 2 ever lowland records); LEWIS' WOODPECKER: 1, Blue Lake Fish Hatchery, 17 Mar (MS); SAY'S PHOEBE: 1, Willow Creek, 3-13 Mar (TL); RUFOUS-CROWNED SPARROW: 1, Dos Rios, 16 Feb (JH,TL).

**INTERESTING REGULAR REPORTS, NOTES FROM THE TRAVEL DESK, ARRIVALS,
DEPARTURES, ETC**

BLACK-FOOTED ALBATROSS: 21 (a rather high number for mid winter close to shore), seen following a fishing boat just offshore at Ft. Bragg, 17 Feb (LL, fide BK); RED-NECKED GREBE: 2, offshore at Westport, 2 Mar (TL,SP); 1, Woodley Isl. Channel, 9 Mar (RJA, DA); 4, King Salmon, 9 Mar (BD); EARED GREBE: 1, Hookton

Slough, 9 Mar (JP); 1-2, AMP, 13-21 Mar (SH): CLARK'S GREBE: 1, North Jetty, Humboldt Bay, 8-12 Mar (SP, GH, Orn 1 class): BROWN PELICAN: 2, Crescent City Harbor, 4 Mar (DG): DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT: 1-3, Willow Creek, 13 Feb-13 Mar (TL--not many inland records in our region for this species!): AMERICAN BITTERN: 1, AMP, 15 Mar (Maggie--sorry, Maggie, I didn't get your last name down!): GREAT BLUE HERON: 2, Willow Creek, 13= Mar (TL--our inland correspondent strikes again!): CATTLE EGRET: 1, AB, 27 Feb (Orn 1 class); 8, at AMP roost in evening, 11 Mar (SH): GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE: 140 (!), Smith River Bottoms, 22 Feb (MF); 1, Willow Creek Golf Course, 24 Feb (TL): ROSS' GOOSE: 1, Smith River Bottoms, 18-22 Feb (MF): ALEUTIAN CANADA GOOSE: High count of 21,000 on Smith River Bottoms, 22 Feb (MF, who reports them roosting at night on Castle Rock, Prince and Goat Islands): WOOD DUCK: 1, MacKerricher SP, 16 Feb (Anon); 2 females, Arcata Oxidation Pond, 20 Feb (SH); 1 pair, Big Lake (north of Willow Creek), 24 Feb (TL); 15, near Bayside, 3 Mar (MW); x, Clam Beach Lagoons, early Mar (PR); 1 pair, AOP/AMP, 19 Mar (SH): GADWALL: our usual resident pairs have arrived at AMP again, 2-8 seen there, 10-21 Mar (GG, SH, et al.): BLACK SCOTER: 1 female, North Jetty, 23 Feb-12 Mar (RH, Orny I); 1 female, mouth of Smith River, 2 Mar (RH) 1 female, North Jetty, 16 Mar (MM, SMc): COMMON GOLDENEYE: 1, Eel River Wildlife Area, 23 Feb (CO): BUFFLEHEAD: 1, Big Lake, 24 Feb (TL, there goes our inland correspondent again!): HOODED MERGANSER: 8, Big Lake, 24 Feb (TL); 1 male, 4 females, Clam Beach Lagoons, 11 Mar (PR); 1 male, Clam Beach Lagoons, 17 Mar (AA): COMMON MERGANSER: 8, Willow Creek, 13 Mar (TL):

RAPTORS

OSPREY: 1, Arcata, 2 Mar (JB); 1, Elk River, 9 Mar (JB, ER); 2, Woodley Island Channel, 9 Mar (RJA,DA); 2, building a nest, near Redwood Acres, 9 Mar (CK): BALD EAGLE: 2, 6 miles east of Weaverville, 15 Feb (JHo); 1, McKinleyville, 18 Feb (SS); 1 adult, Mad River and Highway 299, 20 Feb (DG); 1, AMP, 24 Feb (RHu); 1 immature, Lower Mad River, 27 Feb (Orn 1 class); 1 immature, mouth of Klamath River, 27 Feb (SB): 2 adults, Kneeland, 1 Mar (SB); 1 adult, McKinleyville, 2 Mar (CF); 1, mouth of Smith River, 2 Mar (RH); 1 imm, Big French Creek and highway 299, 3 Mar (RHu); 1 ad., Willow Creek, 5 Mar (TL); 1 ad, 1 imm, Tompkins Hill Road, 12 Mar (MW); 1 ad., Freshwater Lagoon, 14 Mar (DF): GOLDEN EAGLE: 2, Kneeland, 1 Mar (SB); 2, Bald Hills, 8 Mar (BF); 2, Mail Ridge, 14 Mar (JG): MERLIN: 1, Manila, 16 Feb (JHo): 1, north of Covelo on Minah Road, 21 Feb (DG, BL); 1, Big Lagoon, 22 Feb (RHu); 1, AMP, 26 Feb-21 Mar (many observers); 1, Bald Hills, 8 Mar (BF); 1, AB, 13 Mar (PRa); 1, McKinleyville, 20 Mar (TL): PEREGRINE FALCON: 1, Ocean House, 8 Feb (TL); 1, Redwood NP visitor center, 14 Feb (TL); 1, Loleta Bottoms, 23 Feb (LB-O): WILD TURKEY: 1, 5 miles south of Garberville, 2 Mar (TL,SP): VIRGINIA RAIL: 2, Skunk Cabbage Trail Pond, 8 Mar (TL,SP): AMERICAN COOT: 1, Big Lake, 24 Feb (TL): SNOWY PLOVER: 8-25, Clam Beach, 10-12 Mar (SH); 3, north spit of Eel River, 15 Mar (CO): BLACK OYSTERCATCHER: 1, North Jetty, 23 Feb-14 Mar (RH, SH, Orn 1 class): SPOTTED SANDPIPER: 1 (here since at least mid Dec), Butcher Slough, AMP, 3-16 Mar (GG, SH, et al.): WHIMBREL: 2, AB, 22 Mar (DF, JP): RUDDY TURNSTONE: 2, Elk Head, 22 Feb (GL): ROCK SANDPIPER: 1, Ft. Bragg, 20 Feb (DT); 1, Elk Head, 22 Feb (GL); 3-5, North Jetty, 10-14 Mar (SH, Orn 1 class--the 5 seen together on 14 Mar by the Orn 1 class is the largest concentration there in many years): CASPIAN TERN: 2-7, AMP, 20 Mar (SH, RB); 12, mouth of Mad River, 21 Mar (TL) Spring Migration strikes again!: FORSTER'S TERN: 1-3, AMP, 16-20 Mar (SH): MARBLED MURRELET: +2, North Jetty, 16 Mar (SMc, MM), 2, Westport, 2 Mar (TL,SP); 2, Ft. Bragg, 2 Mar (TL,SP); 4-6, North Jetty, 12 Mar (Orn 1 class): BAND-TAILED PIGEON: 23, Azalea Hill, 10-20 Feb (DG); This species now common throughout area at food sources: NORTHERN PYGMYOWL: 1, Skunk Cabbage Trail, 8 Mar (TL,SP):

ALLEN/RUFOUS TYPES

x, College of Redwoods, 18 Feb (DG); 1-2, Sunnybrae, 20-22 Feb (SH,PS); 1, Bayside, 21 Feb (DF): RUFOUS HUMMINGBIRD: 1 male, McKinleyville, 21 Feb (TL); 1 male, Arcata, 22 Feb (DA); 1 male, Ferndale, 23 Feb

(DA, RJA); 1 male, Elk Head, 8 Mar (M&PZ): 1 male, Sunnybrae, 11-20 Mar (SH): ALLEN'S HUMMINGBIRD: 1 male, 23 Feb, Azalea Hill (GL); 1 male, Sunnybrae, 24 Feb (SH), now common: YELLOW-SHAFTED FLICKER: 1, Ft. Bragg, 18 Feb (DT); 1 female, Sunnybrae, 15 Mar (SH): Red-Shafted Flicker (melanistic) 1 female, Mad River Fish Hatchery, 6 Mar (MM< SMc): PILEATED WOODPECKER: 1, Azalea Hill, 19 Feb (DG); 2, Skunk Cabbage Trail, 8 Mar (TL,SP): TREE SWALLOW: 100, Ocean Ranch, 25 Feb (PM); 50, AMP, 26 Feb (SH); 1, AB, 26 Feb (GH); 2, AB, 27 Feb (Orn 1 class); 100's, AMP, 11 Mar (DF,JP); 2, Friday Ridge Road and Highway 299, 12 Mar (TL): VIOLET-GREEN SWALLOW: 4, AMP, 26 Feb (SH); x, Arcata, 2 Mar (DF); 100's, AMP, 11 Mar (DF,JP); 4, HSU, 12 Mar (MMM): ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW: 2, AMP, 26 Feb (earliest ever spring record) (SH): BARN SWALLOW: 1, AMP, 20 Mar (SH): GRAY JAY: 1, Poole Road, 23 Feb (DA, RJA); 1, Arcata Community Forest, 24 Feb (BC): BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE: 1, AMP, 13 Mar (SH): PLAIN TITMOUSE: 7, near Covelo along Minah Road, 23 Feb (DG): WESTERN BLUEBIRD: 6-10, McKinleyville, 3 Mar (BQ): NORTHERN SHRIKE: 1, AB, 10 Mar (DA); 1 ad, AMP, 16 Mar (SH): PALM WARBLER: 1, AB, 15 Mar (KS); 1, AB, 28 Feb (Orn 1 class): NASHVILLE WARBLER: 1, Ft. Bragg, through Feb (DT): LARK SPARROW: 30, Round Valley, 16 Feb (JH, TL): SLATE-COLORED JUNCO: 1, Azalea Hill, 10-20 Feb (DG); 1, Arcata, 16 Mar (BR); 1, Azalea Hill, 14-17 Mar (GL): TRICOLORED BLACKBIRD: 30, Round Valley, 16 Feb (JH,TL); 13 males, 7 Mar (PS), 4 males, 5 females, 12 Mar (TL,SP), these last 2 reports both at the Drake Hill Road nesting site south of Fortuna: RED CROSSBILL: 40, Bayside, 26 Feb (DF); x, Arcata, 22 Mar (GB): EVENING GROSBEAK: 20-40, Azalea Hill, 10 Feb-19 Mar (DG, GL); 6, Bayside, 26 Feb= (DF):

Many thanks to the following who submitted observations for this month's report.. R. J. Adams, David Anderson, Anthony Alstart, Louise Bacon-Ogden, Roger Bert, J. Bisson, Gary Bloomfield, Seth Bunnell, Bryon Cariss, Bruce Deuel, Anthony Desch, Duke Diehl, Cindy Farn, Mark Fisher, Sam Fitton, David Fix, Brad Freeman, John Gaffin, Dan Garrison, George Green, R. and K. Gutierrez, R. Harmon, Stan Harris, Gjon Hazard, Rob Hewitt, J. Holley, Matt Horns, R. Huddleston, John, Kim, & Liberty Hunter, Bob Kieffer, Chris Kiel, Tom Leskiw, Gary Lester, Bret Lovelace, Sean McAllister, Paul Morey, Mark Morrisette, Chet Ogan, Steve Pagliughi (many thanks to Steve for sending me the proper spelling of his name--my apologies for fracturing it last month!), Linda Parkinson, Marion Perry, Susan Petersen, Kathy Pollard, Jude Power, Bob Quinsey, P. Ransdell, Bill Rodstrom, E. Rose, Paul Rouch, Mike Shultz, Sarah Singer, Keith Slauson, Paul Springer, Rich Stallcup, Dorothy Tobkin, Matt Wachs, Michele & Pat Zwartyes.

Field Notes
By Stan Harris
11 January-15 February 1997

This month was marked by rather "normal" winter weather, with a few light showers interspersed with many periods of clear, nice days. Birding was rather slow:

HIGHLIGHTS

REDHEAD: 4 females, Hookton Slough Pond, 9 Feb (JP et al.): HARLEQUIN DUCK: 1 male, North Jetty, 17 Feb (CVW): HARLAN'S HAWK: 1, Hayfork, 2 Feb (GH, JH, RH): FERRUGINOUS HAWK: 1, West End Road, 18 Jan (JW); 1-2, Azalea Hill, 1-2 Feb (GL, PM, JK); 1, Hayfork, 2 Feb (GH, JH, RH); 1 Ferndale Bottoms, 8 Feb (KS, SP): HEERMANN'S GULL: 1, Woodley Island, 14 Jan (SH, W&BT): WHITE-HEADED WOODPECKER: 1 male, Azalea Hill, 27 Jan (G&LL): SCRUB JAY: 1, Sunny Brae, 10 Feb (GHe): LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE: 1, Willits, 28 Dec (TL): SOLITARY VIREO: 1, Eureka, 1-8 Feb (LB-O): , YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER: 1, Ferndale, 1-8 Feb (BB, KS, SP): RUSTY "EASTERN TYPE" FOX SPARROW: 1, Manila, 5 Jan (GH): CHIPPING SPARROW: 2, Manila feeder, 5 Jan (GH):

ARRIVALS, DEPARTURES, LINGERERS, OTHER INTERESTING REPORTS

PACIFIC LOON: 1, Trinity Lake, 27 Jan (JH): RED-NECKED GREBE: 2, Patricks Point, 25 Jan (KS, SP): EARED GREBE: 1, North Bay, 5 Feb (SH): CLARK'S GREBE: 1, North Jetty, 14 Feb (EE);, 1, Hookton Slough, 9 Feb (JP et al.): GREAT EGRET: 3, Willow Creek, 15 Jan (TL): CATTLE EGRET: 1, Ferndale Bottoms, 5 Jan (LB-O); 8-10, Butcher Slough Pond, 1 Feb (PS); 2, Arcata Bottoms (AB), 2 Feb (SH): WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE: 1, McKinleyville Golf Course, 12 Feb (TL): BLACK BRANT: 1, Arcata Bottoms, 19 Jan (MM): ALEUTIAN CANADA GOOSE: 35, North Jetty (flyby), 2 Feb (SH); 58, flyby along Cape Mendocino Beach, 8 Feb (TL, SPe): 125, AB, 8 Feb (BR); 1000+, Alexandre Dairy, 8 Feb (fide, PS); 300, Eel River Bottoms, 13 Feb (SH); 300, Arcata Bottoms, 13 Feb (SH); 1500, Smith River Bottoms, 13 Feb (SH)

HYBRID TEAL BLUE-WINGED TEAL: 1, AMP, 13 Jan (SH): BLUE-WINGED TEAL X SHOVELER HYBRID: 1, AOP, 23-24 Jan (RJA, EE, DF): EURASIAN GREEN-WINGED TEAL: 1 male, No Name Pond and Vic, 12 Jan-9 Feb (RJA, S&LH, GH, MW, BR,PS); 1, AB, 12 Jan (RJA): EURASIAN WIGEON: 1-6 males, AB, 2-9 Feb (SH, DG, SS, RJA); 1 male, AOP, 13 Jan (GB), this bird reported as a hybrid Eurasian x American Wigeon on 23-24 Jan (EE, SH); 1 male, Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge, 5 Feb (GH, MH, et al.): RING-NECKED DUCK: 4, Cape Ranch Pond, 8 Feb (TL, SPe): BLACK SCOTER: 5, off Big Lagoon, 28 Jan (TL); 1 female, North Jetty, 8-14 Feb (SH, JT, EE): OLDSQUAW: 1, Wedding Rock (offshore), 1 Feb (GH); 1, King Salmon, 1 Feb (MM-Z): HOODED MERGANSER: 1 female, AB, 12 Jan (RJA); 2, near Ammon Ranch, 27 Jan (TL, HT); 2 female types, North Bay at Manila, 30 Jan (GH); 1, Clam Beach Ponds, 2 Feb (KN); 1 male, North Bay, 2 Feb (DG); 1 pair, HBNWR, 8 Feb (KS, SP); 8, Bear River Ridge Pond, 8 Feb (TL, SPe):

RAPTORS: OSPREY: 1, Stone Lagoon, 10-25 Jan (TR, KS, SP); 1, Freshwater Lagoon, 25 Jan (KS, SP); 1 North Bay, 31 Jan (BR): BALD EAGLE: 2 ad, 2 imm, Willow Creek, 14-15 Jan (TL): 2 ad, Mad River Estuary, 18 Jan (RLV); 1 adult, 3 miles east on West End Road, 18 Jan (JW); 1, Blue Lake, 29 Jan (SB); 1 ad, HBNWR, 8 Feb (KS, SP): NORTHERN GOSHAWK: 1, Arcata Community Forest, 3 Feb (KSu): ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK: 1, AB, 19 Jan (MM); 1, Cape Mendocino Beach, 8 Feb (TL, SPe): WHITE-TAILED KITE: 4, Ferndale Bottoms, 5 Jan (LB-O); 10, AB, 19 Jan (MM): GOLDEN EAGLE: 1, Cape Mendocino Beach, 8 Feb (TL, SPe): PEREGRINE FALCON: 3, AB, 10 Jan (BC); 1 AB, 19 Jan (MM); 1, Ft Bragg, 21 Jan (SH, DT, et al.); 1, Ferndale Bottoms, 23

Jan (DG); 1, AB, 26 Jan (PS); 1, AMP, 1 Feb (BR); 1, Arcata, 1 Feb (KSu); 1, Cape Mendocino Beach, 8 Feb (TL, SPe); 1, AB, 8 Feb (BR): MERLIN: 1, Samoa Spit, 19 Jan (MM); 1-3, AB, 2 Feb (KN, PM, JK); 1, AB, 14 Feb (TL): PRAIRIE FALCON: 1, AMP, 25 Jan (MW); 1, Manila, 30 Jan (BF): CHUKAR (ESCAPE): 1, Bayside, 10-11 Jan (JE)

SHOREBIRDS: SNOWY PLOVER: 29-37 (includes 8-9 banded birds); Clam Beach, 1-7 Feb (GL,RLeV): SPOTTED SANDPIPER: 1 Butcher Slough, 21 Dec-8 Feb (many observers): LESSER YELLOWLEGS: 1, AB, 19-26 Jan (MM, PS): WHIMBREL: 2, North Bay, 2 Feb (L&DB-O): LONG-BILLED CURLEW: 30+, AB, 2 Feb (KN, MC): MARBLED GODWIT: 2 with red (at least) leg bands, Klopp Lake, 8 Feb (PS, MC): RED KNOT: 2, Klopp Lake, 23 Jan (GH); 24, AB, 28 Jan (RM); 20+, 2 Feb (MC): RUDDY TURNSTONE: 4, Elk Head, 29 Jan (DG): ROCK SANDPIPER: 1-4, North Jetty, 14 Jan-14 Feb (SH, DN, JA, JT, EE, JO); 1-2 Elk Head, 28 Jan-6 Feb (DG, EE); 1, Ft. Bragg, 17-20 Jan (DT, RJK, et al.)

HERRING GULL: 1, King Salmon, 6 Feb (GH, et al.): THAYER'S GULL: 1 imm. AOP, 24 Jan (DF); 1, King Salmon, 6 Feb (GH, et al.): GLAUCOUS GULL: 1 ad (!), AOP, 22 Jan (KN); 1 imm, AMP, 24 Jan (EE); 1, Lower Mad River, 25 Jan (RLV); 1 imm, AMP, 9 Feb (SMC): BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE: 2, Patricks Point, 25 Jan (KS, SP); 4, Mouth Redwood Creek, 25 Jan (KS, SP): FORSTER'S TERN: 13, AOP, 5 Feb (SH): CASPIAN TERN: 1-3, HBNWR, 8-9 Feb (KS, SP, JP, et al.): MARBLED MURRELET: 7, off Patricks Point, 25 Jan (KS, SP): BAND-TAILED PIGEON: 3-4, Azalea Hill, 6-19 Jan (GL): 5-12, Sunny Brae, 23 Jan-15 Feb (SH)

HOO-HOO: SHORT-EARED OWL: 1, AB, 18 Jan (DN, JA); 4-5, AB, 19 Jan (MM): NORTHERN PYGMY OWL: 1, Trinidad, 14 Feb (PaS): NORTHERN SAWWHET OWL: 1 roadkill, Azalea Hill, 13 Jan (G&KL); 1, AMP, 15 Jan (RB): YELLOW-SHAFTED FLICKER: 1, Humboldt Hill, 23 Jan (PeS); 1, McKinleyville, 29 Jan (GS): PILEATED WOODPECKER: 1, Azalea Hill, 23 Jan-6 Feb (GA): TREE SWALLOW: 3-20, AMP, 24 Jan-12 Feb (SH, EE, RJA); 8 Lewiston Lake, 27 Jan (JH): BARN SWALLOW: 1, AMP, 24 Jan (EE): GRAY JAY: 5, Fieldbrook, 10 Feb (SS): BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE: 1, Aldergrove Marsh, 1 Feb (KN, SH); 2, AMP, 2 Feb (D&LB-O): MOCKINGBIRD: 1, Arcata, 19 Jan (MM): NASHVILLE WARBLER: 1, Ferndale, 19 Jan (TL, SPe): PALM WARBLER: 1, AMP, 23 Jan-2 Feb (GH, DG); 1, McKinleyville, 1 Feb (GH): YELLOW WARBLER: 1, Arcata, 12 Feb (EE): RED CROSSBILL: 35, Azalea Hill, 26 Jan (BF); 15, McKinleyville, 30 Jan (DG): EVENING GROSBEAK: 1-2, McKinleyville/Azalea Hill, 17-20 Jan (DG, GL):

Many thanks to the following who submitted observations for this month's report. Jim Abernathy, R. J. Adams, Terry Allaway, George Allen, Louise Bacon-Ogden, Susan Barnsein, Roger Bert, Gary Bloomfield, Bob Branris, Richard Candis, Bryon Cariss, Mark Colwell, Elias Elias, Joan Elk, David Fix, Brad Freeman, Stan and Lorie Harris, Gjon Hazard, Gisela Hennessy, Rob Hewitt, M. Hostetter, John Hunter, Robert Keiffer, Jeff Kidd, Tom Leskiw, Gary, Kelsey, and Lauren Lester, Ron LeValley, R. Mathis, Sean McAllister, M. Merola-Zwartyes, Paul Morey, Michael Morris, Kristy Nelson, Dick Norton, D. Ogden, J. Osburn, Steve Pelugi, Susan Petersen, Jude Power, Bill Rodstrom, Terry Roelofs, Greg Schmidt, Patty Sennott, Keith Slauson, S. Smith, Paul Springer, Pete Spruance, K. Sundeen, Holly Taylor, W&B Taylor, Jim Tietz, Dorothy Tobkin, Christine Van Wert, Matt Wachs, J. Ward.

Field Notes
By Stan Harris
30 November 1996-10 January 1997

This period was marked by two major storms, one in early December and one during the main Christmas Count period. In spite of the worst counting weather on record for the Arcata, Del Norte, and Centerville counts, respectable totals were achieved by intrepid souls who braved winds up to 70 mph and sideways rain to dig the birds out. Arcata and Del Norte each recorded totals in the **mid 160's** while the Centerville crew achieved an amazing **171**. The only local counts with decent weather were the two inland counts, Willow Creek and Lewiston.

HIGHLIGHTS: Red-throated Loon: Lewiston CBC, 5 Jan (DF et al.): Emperor Goose: 1, 3-12 Dec, MacKerricher State Park (DT, et al.); 2, South Humboldt Bay, 20 Dec (JS, RLeV): Ross' Goose: 2, Lewiston School (RHw, JHLewiston CBC, 5 Jan: Ferruginous Hawk: 1, Hettenshaw Valley, 14 Dec (JH); 1, Hydesville, 14 Dec (GL); 1, Azalea Hill/Clam Beach vic, 20 Dec-1 Jan (GL, MH); 1, vic Loleta, 28-29 Dec (SMC): Wandering Tattler: 1, Fields Landing, 29 Dec (SH, D&DP): Heermann's Gull: 1, Eureka Waterfront, 17 Dec-8 Jan (GL, et al.): Long-eared Owl: 1, Eel River Bottoms, 29 Dec (GH): Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 1 female, Ferndale, 29 Dec (L&GL): Nuttall's Woodpecker: 1, Rush Creek, Lewiston CBC (RHw,JH), 5 Jan: White-headed Woodpecker: 1, Azalea Hill (!), 21 Dec (GL): Say's Phoebe: 1, Eel River Bottoms, 29 Dec (RH); 1, Willow Creek CBC, 4 Jan: Northern Shrike: 1, Orick, 7 Jan (BF); 1, Eel River Bottoms, 8 Jan (BC, AD): Solitary Vireo: 1, Arcata CBC, 21 Dec.

Warblers in Winter

Yellow Warbler: 2, Cannibal Island Road, 16 Dec (DF,JP); 1, Arcata CBC, 21 Dec: Cape May Warbler: 1, Eel River Bottoms, 29 Dec-3 Jan (RLeV, SMC, BD, G&LL): Yellow-throated Warbler: 1, Ferndale, 29 Dec-6 Jan. (GL, BD, GH, MM): Black-and-white Warbler: 2, Del Norte CBC, 22 Dec: Common Yellowthroat: 2, Del Norte CBC, 22 Dec; 1, Eel River Bottoms, 29 Dec (RLeV): Wilson's Warbler: 1 female, Samoa, 19 Dec (GL); 1 male, Ferndale, 29 Dec (L&GL): Chipping Sparrow: 1, Arcata Marsh Project (AMP), 4 Jan (KS): Clay-colored Sparrow: 1, McKinleyville, 14 Dec (RLeV); 1, Arcata, 21 Dec-6 Jan (RJA, GS, GH, CD, SH, et al.); 1, Eel River Bottoms, 29 Dec (RH): Lapland Longspur: 1, AB, 27 Dec (GH); 1, Eel River Bottoms, 29 Dec, Centerville CBC: Chestnut-collared Longspur: 1, Eel River Bottoms, 29 Dec (RLeV): Tricolored Blackbird: 1, Eel River Bottoms, 29 Dec (CDu): Bullock's Oriole: 1 female, Loleta, 6 Dec (SMC); 1 male, Arcata, 21 Dec (LG); 1, Eel River Bottoms, 29 Dec (GH): Cassin's Finch: 1 male (singing), northeast of Salyer, 2 Dec (TL).

NOTABLE REPORTS OF MORE USUAL SPECIES

Red-throated Loon: 60 (!), Stone Lagoon, 6 Dec (DF); 1, Pacific Loon: 20 (!), Stone Lagoon, 6 Dec (DF): Clark's Grebe: 8 (!), Stone Lagoon, 6 Dec (DF); 8, Centerville CBC, 29 Dec: Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel: 2, offshore, Crescent City, 22 Dec (CD): Brown Pelican: 1, Crescent City, 22 Dec (AB); 3-4, Eureka, 17-19 Dec (GL); 2, South Humboldt Bay, 29 Dec (mo): Cattle Egret: 16, AB, 5 Dec (DF); 8, Arcata CBC, 21 Dec; 12, AB, 22 Dec (GH); 1, Eel River Bottoms, 28 Dec (SMC); 13, Centerville CBC, 29 Dec; 14, AB, 9 Jan (GH): Tundra Swan: 1, Blue Lake (!), 2 Dec (TL): Greater White-fronted Goose: 3, Weaverville, 1 Dec (JH); 1, Arcata Bottoms, 13 Dec (KS); 3, Redwood Creek Est., 17 Dec (DG); 2, Humboldt Bay Natl. Wild. Refuge, 29 Dec (D&DP; SH, MW); 1, Willow Creek Golf Course, 4 Jan (RR, SH): Snow Goose: 1, Arcata Bottoms (AB), 3 & 21 Dec (GH, mo): Ross' Goose: 1-5, AB, 1-21 Dec (DG, GH, DF, SH et al.): Black Brant: 1, AB (!), 15 Dec (RJA): Aleutian Canada Goose: 50, AB, 12 Dec (SH); 2, AB, 15 Dec (PS); 8, HBNWR, 29 Dec (D&DP, SH, MW): Cackling Canada Goose: 3, Willow Creek Golf Course, 4 Jan (SH, RR): Taverner's Canada Goose: 2, HBNWR, 29 Dec (SH, D&DP, MW): Dusky Canada Goose: 1, HBNWR, 29 Dec (SH, D&DP, MW): Wood Duck: 25 (!); Willow Creek CBC, 29 Dec (SH, RR): Eurasian Wigeon: 1-3, AB, 12 Dec-3 Jan (mo); 1, South Humboldt Bay, 29 Dec (T&LH-H): Eurasian Green-winged Teal: 1,

No Name Pond, 2-4 Jan (SH, DC, KS): Blue-winged Teal: 1, Marsh A, AMP, 9 Jan (SH): Redhead: 2, AMP, 3 Dec (EE, GG); 6, South Bay, 29 Dec (Centerville CBC): Canvasback: 4, Stone Lagoon, 6 Dec (DF); 4, HBNWR, 29 Dec (SH); 6-10, Klopp Lake, 30 Nov-10 Jan (mo): Common Goldeneye: 6, McKinleyville, 21 Dec (DG): Black Scoter: 10, ocean off Freshwater Lagoon, 18 Dec (MH): Hooded Merganser: 15 (!), Ferndale Bottoms, 10 Dec (MD); 2, AOP, 17 Dec (PL); 1, HBNWR, 29 Dec (D&DP); 1, AOP, 29 Dec-2 Jan (KMCC, CD,SH); 8, Willow Creek CBC, 4 Jan.

Raptors

Osprey: 1, mouth Redwood Creek, 6 Dec (DF); 1, Big Lagoon, 17 Dec (DG); 1, Arcata CBC, 21 Dec; 1, Lake Earl, 10 Jan (SH): White-tailed Kite: 1, vic. Willow Creek, 4-8 Jan (RR, SH, TL): Bald Eagle: 1, Highway 299 & MP 4, 10 Dec (RF); 1 imm., HBNWR, 10-Dec (KF); 1 imm, Willow Creek, 16 Dec (TL); 1, near Loleta, 21 Dec (MW); 2 ad, Centerville CBC, 29 Dec; x, Willow Creek CBC, 4 Jan; 3 ad, 1 imm, HBNWR, 2-3 Jan (KF); 1 imm, Willow Creek, 8 Jan (TL); 1 imm, So. Fork Trinity River, 9 Jan (TL): Rough-legged Hawk: 1, Mad River Campground (Trinity Co.), 14 Dec (JH): Merlin: 1, Fairhaven 29 Nov (TL, CO, RP); 1, Arcata Bottoms, 30 Nov (KS); 1-3 AMP, 17 Dec-3 Jan (DF, MH): x, Willow Creek CBC, 4 Jan; 5, Centerville CBC, 29 Dec.

Peregrine Falcon: 1, McKinleyville, 25 Nov-9 Dec (TL); 1, AB, 1 Dec (DG); 1, AB, 16 Dec (KS); 2, Big Lagoon Spit, 9 Dec (TL); 1, Gold Bluff Beach, 18 Dec (MH); 8, Centerville CBC, 29 Dec; x, Willow Creek CBC, 4 Jan: Prairie Falcon: 1, Elk River Road & Highway 101, 14 Dec (SMC): Chukar (escape): 1, Eureka, 17 Dec (LW): Ruffed Grouse: 1, vic Willow Creek, 17 Dec (TL): Pacific Golden-Plover: 1, AB, 3 Jan (MM): Snowy Plover: 15, Clam Beach, 18 Dec (TL); 6, Centerville CBC, 29 Dec: Black Oystercatcher: 5, North Jetty, 12 Dec (DF, EE); 4, South Jetty, 29 Dec (T&L H-H): Avocet: 8, Hookton Slough, 29 Dec (TR): Greater Yellowlegs: 175 (!), 12 Dec (DF, EE): Lesser Yellowlegs: 1, AB, 5-15 Dec (DF, EE, PS); 1, Loleta Bottoms, 16 Dec (DF, JP); 1, Centerville CBC, 29 Dec: Whimbrel: 5, AB, 15 Dec (RJA, DA); 3, Centerville CBC, 29 Dec: Long-billed Curlew: 82 (!), AB, 15 Dec (RJA, DA); 120 (!), HBNWR, 25, Table Bluff, 450 (!), near Loleta, all 29 Dec (SH, MW, RW, DW, DF, JP): Ruddy Turnstone: 1, Fields Landing, 16-29 Dec (DF, JP, SH, et al.): Red Knot: 1-3, AB, 10 Dec-3 Jan (DF, MM): Rock Sandpiper: 1, Glass Beach (Ft. Bragg), 6 Dec (DT); 1, North Jetty, 29 Dec (KMCC); 1, South Jetty, 29 Dec (T&LH-H): Herring Gull: 1, Lewiston, 1 Dec (JH); 1, Del Norte CBC, 22 Dec; 68 (!), Centerville CBC, 29 Dec: Thayer's Gull: 1, Arcata, 11 Dec (DF); 7 (!), Centerville CBC, 29 Dec: Glaucous Gull (all imm. or second winter plumage): 1, Klopp Lake, 3-5 Dec (EE); 1, Smith River Bottoms, 29 Dec (AB); 1, Eel River Bottoms, 28 Dec (SMC); 1, AB, 29 Dec (KMCC); 2, Centerville CBC, 29 Dec, 1, Klopp Lake, 2 Jan (CD): Black-legged Kittiwake: 2, mouth Redwood Creek, 6 Dec (DF); 1, mouth Eel River, 28 Dec (SMC): Caspian Tern: 4, HBNWR, 29 Dec (MW, D&DP, SH): Band-tailed Pigeon: 1, McKinleyville, 28 Dec (G,L, & KL); 5, Sunny Brae, 8 Jan (SH): Diamond Dove (escape): 1, Sunny Brae, 3 Jan (A&CD, SH, et al.): Northern Pygmy-Owl: 1, Patricks Point Road, 16 Dec (JK); 1, Stone/Dry Lagoon, 5 Jan (TL, SP); 1, Weaverville (RHw, JH), Lewiston CBC, 5 Jan: Saw-whet Owl: 1, Eureka, 5 Dec (DFU); 1, Elk Head, 19 Dec (TL); 1 fresh road kill, Willow Creek CBC, 4 Jan

Hummingbirds

Rufous/Allen's Hummingbird: 1 female, Bayside, 20 Dec (DF); 1 female, Azalea Hill, 20 Dec (RR): Yellow-shafted Flicker: 1, Azalea Hill, 12 Dec (PZ); 1, McKinleyville, 28-31 Dec (KS): Pileated Woodpecker: 1, Willow Creek, 21 Dec (TL); 1, Elk Head, 3 Jan (DG): Tree Swallow: 2, Del Norte CBC, 22 Dec; 1 Table Bluff, 29 Dec (DW): Violet-green Swallow: 1, Del Norte CBC, 22 Dec: Barn Swallow: 1, Freshwater Lagoon, 20 Dec (JS); 1, AMP, 4 Jan (KS): Mountain Chickadee: 1, Bayside, 2 Dec (CR); 1, Bayside, 19 Dec (DF); 1-2, Azalea Hill, 15-21 Dec (RR, GL,DG): Pygmy Nuthatch: 1, Weaverville (DFx, JP), Lewiston CBC, 5 Jan: Rock Wren: 1, Lewiston, 1 Dec (JH): Western Bluebird: 5, Azalea Hill, 13-21 Dec (GL, DG); 4, Tompkins Hill, 10-18 Dec (MW); 23, Centerville CBC, 29 Dec; x, Willow Creek CBC, 4 Jan; 2, Bayside, 8 Jan (DF); 6, So. Fork Trinity River, 9 Jan (TL): Northern Mockingbird: 1,

AB, 5 Dec (SG); 1, Willow Creek, 17 Dec (TL); 1, Loleta, 30 Dec (JP); 1, Arcata, 7 Jan (GB): Nashville Warbler: 1, singing, Arcata, 9 Dec (KN); x, Arcata and Centerville CBCs, 21 & 29 Dec: Palm Warbler: 1, AMP, 3 Dec (EE); 1, AB, 15-16 Dec (KS); 1, Fortuna, 19 Dec (RC, IC), x, Arcata and Centerville CBCs, 21 & 29 Dec: Swamp Sparrow: 1, AOP/AMP, 10-21 Dec (BC, et al.): Slate-colored Junco: 1, Willow Creek, 11 Dec (TL); 1, McKinleyville, 21 Dec (DG); 1, McKinleyville, 31 Dec (GL); 1, AMP, 4 Jan (KS); 1 (with small white dots along wing bars), Arcata, 7 Jan (JH); 1, Willow Creek, 8 Jan (TL): Red Crossbill: 8, HSU, 9 Dec (DJ, KD); 13, McKinleyville, 21 Dec, Arcata CBC: Evening Grosbeak: 1, Azalea Hill, 13-20 Dec (GL, RR); 1, Trinidad, 6 Jan (MH):

Many thanks to all the bold, wet, and bedraggled observers who stuck it out for the coastal Christmas Bird Counts this year--you deserve medals for duty above and beyond the call! The following persons submitted observations for this report: R. J. Adams, David Anderson, Alan Barron, Gary Bloomfield, Bryon Cariss, Irene Crane, Ruth Crane, Angie and Colin Dillingham, Anthony Desch, Bruce Deuel, Kathleen Dickson, Carol and Michael Dunning, Elias Elias, David Fix, Brad Freeman, R. Frey, David Fuller, Kevin Foerster, Dan Garrison, Luke George, Sam Giannandrea, George Green, Stan Harris, Tonna and Larry Harris-Haller, Gjon Hazard, Rob Hewitt, John Hewston, Matt Hinton, Richard Hoyer, John Hunter, Dave Juliano, J. Kidd, Tom Leskiw, Gary, Lauren and Kelsey Lester, Ron LeValley, Paul Lucy, Sean McAllister, K. McCarrigan, Claudia Meyers, Michael Morris, Kristy Nelson, Chet Ogan, Susan Petersen, Doug and Donna Pomeroy, Jude Power, C. Reynolds, Richard Ridenhour, Terry Roelofs, Kristin and Greg Schmidt, Jay Seegar, Keith Slauson, Paul Springer, Pete Spruance, John Sterling, Dorothy Tobkin, Matt Wachs, Leon Warriner, Roger and David Weiss, Pat Zwartyes.