

Central Valley and Foothills Bird Highlights: June through July 2013

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Tulare WTP hosted a **Brant** from 13-18 July (DF+). There are few summer records in the region of this arctic breeding goose. The four **Brown Pelicans** continued at San Luis Res. in Merced County to at least 28 June (KVV). After a flurry of reports of **Glossy Ibis** a few years ago, there have been few since. One adult at the Yolo Bypass WA on 29-31 July (TEa) was the third Yolo County record. A **Snowy Plover** visited a flooded field at Cosumnes River Preserve on 18-20 July (CG+). An adult **Little Stint** in southern Kings County on 27-30 July (MSy) was a county first and the second record for the region of this Eurasian sandpiper. Almost as surprising was the **Black Skimmer** at the Jersey Ave Ponds in Kings County on 22-23 July (MSy). Four adult **Least Terns** appeared at the Sacramento Regional WTP on 28 June. It was the sixth consecutive year and the first time more than two adults were seen (CCo).

The **Inca Dove** in Tulare remained through the season (DF). Stanislaus County's first documented **Allen's Hummingbird** was an adult male well photographed near Oakdale from 29 June–2 July (JH+). Another adult male was reported near Lodi on 29 June (DGY) in San Joaquin County. **Costa's Hummingbirds** always make the news with one in Sacramento County on 23 June–6 July (KGu), and another in Chico on 20 June (RD). One of the **Cassin's Kingbirds** at Basalt Campground in Merced County remained to 28 June (KVV). The **Chestnut-backed Chickadee** found in May was seen again on 3 June (JW) at Frank Raines Memorial Park in Del Puerto Canyon, Stanislaus County.

A highly unseasonal **Varied Thrush** visited the Basalt Campground near San Luis Res. in Merced County on 3 June (RB). The best landbird of the season was a **Gray Catbird** found singing along Putah Creek near Pedrick Road bridge on 9 June (MStr, JCS). It provided a first record for Solano County and the second for Yolo County. A **Phainopepla** at Liberty Farms in Kings County on 2 June was clearly lost (MSy). Butte County hosted two singing male **Black-and-white Warblers** with one at Pine Creek West on 11 June, and another near Big Chico Creek confluence with the Sacramento River from 19 July–3 August (both MD+). A male **Indigo Bunting** on 11 June (FS) near Redding in Shasta County was the only report this season.

Thanks to Chris Conard (CCo), Steve Hampton (SCH) and Bruce Deuel (BED) for summaries of several county records and to the following observers

who reported their significant findings to the Club's listserv; Ralph Baker, Mark Dettling, Rob Doster, Todd Easterla (ToE), Dane Fagundes, Cory Gregory, Kevin Guse, John Harris, Frank Sanderson, Mark Stacy (MSy), John Sterling (JCS), Michael Strom (MStr), Kent Van Vuren, Jackie Weller, and David Yee (DGY).

Abbreviations used; WA=State Wildlife Area; WTP=Wastewater Treatment Ponds; NWR=National Wildlife Refuge; Res.=Reservoir.

SAVE THE DATE!

The Central Valley Bird Club will be hosting the Eighteenth Annual Central Valley Birding Symposium November 20-23, 2014 at the Stockton Hilton Hotel in Stockton, CA. Please come and help us kick off this year's CVBS! Thursday Night's Keynote speaker is Ed Harper presenting a program on "*Appreciating the Birds of the Central Valley*". Come sit back and watch as Ed takes us on a photographic journey to catch a glimpse of the avian world of the Central Valley.

Friday Night's keynote program is Nat Seavy presenting a program on: *From Flood to Drought: A Bird's-Eye View of Water Management in the Central Valley*. Nathaniel E. Seavy, Ph.D. is the Research Director of the Pacific Coast and CV Group at Point Blue Conservation Science (formerly PRBO). His research is focused on the ecology and conservation of riparian ecosystems, bird migration, the ecological effects of climate change, and applying science to conservation decision making and public policy.

Saturday Night's keynote program is by Joel Greenburg presenting a program; "*The Echoes of their Wings: The Life and Legacy of the Passenger Pigeon*."

Other workshops include: "*Subspecies for Birders*" by Joe Morlan, "*What Birders Should Know about Taxonomy in Flux*" by Jon Dunn & Kimball Garrett, and other special CV workshops on Tricolored Blackbirds, Bird-friendly farms, and Collaborative Cooperation by local speakers.

Our field trips always turn up exciting birds. Add in the always entertaining and educational Bird ID Panel, the wonderful display of art and gifts for yourself or others at the Birder's Market and the camaraderie of hundreds of like-minded folks, and you know you'll have a good time! There's something for everyone interested in birds. Come and join us to bird, learn, and just have fun!

To look over the line-up of speakers, workshops, and fieldtrips. Check out our website at: www.2013cvbs.org/