

## 2014 Central Valley Photo Highlights

*Compiled by Dan Brown and Frances Oliver*

We had many great birds in the Central Valley in 2014. Here are photos of some of the rare bird highlights from the past year. Please, all Central Valley bird photographers, submit your photos of rarities encountered in 2015 for possible publication in 2016. Please send photographs to photo editor Dan Brown at [Naturestoc@aol.com](mailto:Naturestoc@aol.com).



On 9 Apr 14, Roger Muskat photographed California's second but first chase-able Marsh Sandpiper (*Tringa stagnatilis*) on Liberty Island Road in eastern Solano Co.

This Eurasian species attracted hundreds of birders from California and beyond during its multi-day stay.

*Photo © Ed Harper*

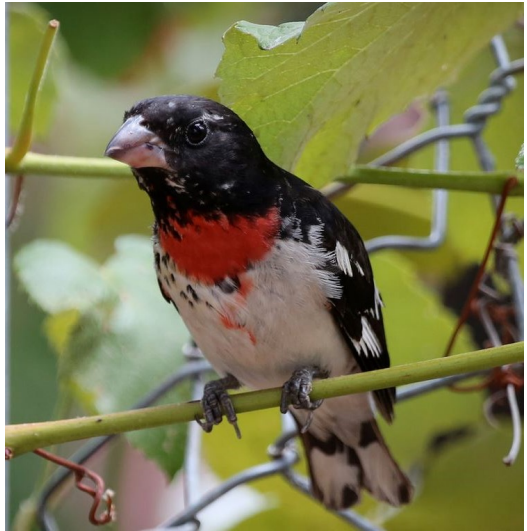
On 22 Jun 14 Susie Nishio found an adult Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*) at a heron rookery in Natomas, Sacramento Co. This was probably the same bird seen three weeks earlier in the Yolo Basin.

*Photo © Bob Ellis*



On 27 Jul 14 Fritz Steurer found a Rose-breasted Grosbeak (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*) in Rancho Cordova, along the American River Parkway in Sacramento Co.

*Photo © Gil Ewing*



A female Rusty Blackbird (*Euphagus carolinus carolinus*) was found by Virginia and Kathy Bonham, Joanne Katanic, and Sue Murphy on 13 Nov 14 along Santa Fe Grade Rd., Merced Co. This is a rare bird for the Central Valley, and a first county record for Merced of this declining species.

*Photo © Patricia Bacchetti*



A Sabine's Gull (*Xema sabini*) was found on 24 Sept 14 by Gary Woods at the Fresno WTP, Fresno Co. Sabine's Gulls are a rare fall visitor to the inland counties of the Central Valley.

Photo © Gary Woods



A Gull-billed Tern (*Gelochelidon nilotica*) was found by Susan Steele at a private wetland south of Corcoran, Kings Co. on 2 May 14. The tern was both a first county and Central Valley record. It was seen off-and-on through May.

Photo © Mark Stacy



A hatch year Canada Warbler (*Cardellina canadensis*) was found at Ancil Hoffman Park along the American River Parkway in Sacramento, Sacramento Co. on 11 Sep 14 by Mark Sawyer. Photo © Mark Sawyer



A singing Ovenbird (*Seiurus aurocapilla*) was found by Lyann Comrack on 7 Jun 14 at Land Park Zoo, Sacramento, CA. Photo © Izabella Davin