

# Central Valley and Foothills Bird Highlights: June through July 2014

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An adult **Little Blue Heron** found on the Conaway Ranch in Yolo County on 30 May (BL+) was undoubtedly the same one found nearby at a heron rookery in Natomas, Sacramento County on 22 June (SN). A **Glossy Ibis** was at the Davis Wetlands on 27 June (MStr).

**Golden-Plovers** were reported, with an **American** at the Woodland WTP in Yolo County on 24 June (SCH), and a **Pacific** at Desmond Road at Cosumnes River Preserve, Sacramento County on 21 July (AK). Once again, a **Snowy Plover** was found at the Yolo Bypass WA during the breeding season with one on 15 June (JMce, EMce) and a juvenile was there on 20 July (SCH).

Other rare shorebirds reported there include a **Ruddy Turnstone** on 27 July (TCO) and a **Stilt Sandpiper** on 23 and 30 July (EG, TCO). A **Marbled Godwit** at the Tracy WTP on 1 June (TR) was the first June record for San Joaquin County and **Willet** was there on 7 June (TR). Two **Willet**s were at the Cosumnes River Preserve on 26 July (AS).

The **Least Tern** is rare in the Central Valley, so up to two at the Chico WTP on 2-9 July (MRg+) was one of few ever found in Butte County. A first year **Franklin's Gull** was at Corcoran Res. in Kings County from 13-20 July (MSy).

One or two **Common Nighthawks** were seen and heard calling near Bird Road south of Tracy on 3 June (DGY). This species is exceptionally rare as a migrant, but small pockets of breeding populations have been found in the valley floor from Sacramento County north to Shasta County.

A singing **Ovenbird** was at Land Park Zoo in Sacramento on 7 June (LC) for one of very few county records of this eastern warbler. Two male **Summer Tanagers** were counter-singing at the Cosumnes River Preserve in Sacramento County on 21-22 June with one continuing to at least 17 July (JTr). A female **Summer Tanager** was at the Tuolumne River Regional Park in Modesto on 26 June (HMR). It is likely that this species will be confirmed breeding in the Central Valley in the near future. A **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** was in Rancho Cordova, Sacramento County on 27 July (FSt).

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Stacy (MSy), Fritz Steurer, Michael Strom (MStr), and David Yee (DGY).

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



Black-and-white Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*) 1 Jan 15. Babel Slough, Yolo, CA.

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