**CALIFRONIA TOUR**

**David Bradford/Gerard Gorman/Robb Hamilton**

**February 16 – 29, 2000**

**Number in ( ) = number of days recorded**

1. Red-throated Loon (2) Good views of one winter plumaged bird at Morro Bay
2. Pacific Loon (1) three off Morro Bay rock
3. Common Loon (5) Quite common on wetlands throughout. Several very close views
4. Pied-billed Grebe (9) Common throughout
5. Horned Grebe (4) Good views in San Diego River mouth
6. Eared Grebe (8) Common throughout
7. Western Grebe (7) Particularly common on coast
8. Clark’s Grebe (5) Not as numerous as above but several side-by-side views had
9. Black-vented Shearwater (5) Numerous on ocean boat trip. Also seen from land.
10. American White Pelican (2) Flocks from Newport Pier and large numbers at the Salton Sea
11. Brown Pelican (8) Common on coast
12. Double-crested Cormorant (11) Common and widespread
13. Brandt’s Cormorant (4) Best views, of birds coming into breeding plumage, at Montana de Oro
14. Pelagic Cormorant (3) Particularly good views of nesting birds at Morro Bay rock
15. Great Blue Heron (11) Common and widespread
16. Great Egret (10) Common and widespread
17. Snowy Egret (10) Common throughout
18. Little Blue Heron (1) Just one bird in San Diego
19. Cattle Egret (1) One large feeding flock seen near Salton Sea
20. Green-backed Heron (1) Just one seen at the Salton Sea
21. Black-crowned Night-Heron (5) Not numerous but various first winter and adult birds seen
22. White-faced Ibis (1) Only at the Salton Sea, were quite common
23. Tundra Swan (1) Two birds at Lake Cachuma
24. Greater White-fronted Goose (2) One at Mile Square Park, some at the Salton Sea
25. Snow Goose (2) Spectacular flock of around 5,000 seen at Salton Sea
26. Ross's Goose (1) A few dozen seen with Snow Geese at Salton Sea
27. Brant (2) Close views of flocks at San Diego Bay and Morro Bay
28. Canada Goose (4) Not over common
29. Green-winged Teal (2) Surprisingly few seen
30. Mallard (11) Common and widespread
31. Northern Pintail (5) Quite common locally
32. Blue-winged Teal (4) Not numerous; good close views at Bolsa Chica
33. Cinnamon Teal (4) Not numerous but several good close views had
34. Northern Shoveler (10) Abundant, particularly at the Salton Sea
35. Gadwall (5) Locally common
36. Eurasian Wigeon (1) One amongst below species at Mile Square Park, Orange County
37. American Wigeon (7) Locally very common
38. Canvasback (2) Very few seen
39. Redhead (4) Only seen in San Diego area
40. Ring-necked Duck (6) Not numerous
41. Greater Scaup (1) Three at Morro Bay
42. Lesser Scaup (7) Quite common throughout
43. Harlequin Duck (1) One “vagrant” at Imperial Beach Pier
44. Long-tailed Duck (2) One at Lake Cachuma, one at Santa Monica Pier
45. Black Scoter (1) One “vagrant” seen
46. Surf Scoter (6) Common along the coast
47. White-winged Scoter (2) Two “vagrants” seen
48. Bufflehead (7) Common and widespread
49. Red-breasted Merganser (3) Less than 10 seen
50. Ruddy Duck (10) Common and widespread
51. Turkey Vulture (10) Not over abundant but widespread
52. Osprey (5) Several close views
53. White-tailed Kite (6) Around 10 birds seen including excellent views at Crystal Cove
54. Northern Harrier (7) About 30 seen all but one “ringtails”
55. Sharp-shinned Hawk (5) Around a dozen seen
56. Cooper’s Hawk (8) More widespread than above species
57. Harris’s Hawk (1) One seen well at Yaqui Wells
58. Red-shouldered Hawk (7) Some excellent views, including a pair mating
59. Red-tailed Hawk (11) Very common and widespread
60. Ferruginous Hawk (1) One close, low fly-over near Julian
61. American Kestrel (11) Common and widespread
62. Merlin (2) Two birds seen, one with prey at Refugio State Beach
63. Prairie Falcon (2) Two seen, including a perched bird at the Salton Sea
64. Peregrine (4) Several close views including a pair at Morro Bay Rock
65. Wild Turkey (3) Flocks seen well at Lake Henshaw and San Luis Obispo
66. Gambel’s Quail (1) Several seen close up under feeders at Argo Canyon
67. California Quail (2) Seen and heard on two days
68. Clapper Rail (H) Heard on two days
69. Virginia Rail (3) Several heard and up to five finally seen at Los Carneros Park
70. Sora (3) Several heard and two seen at Upper Newport Bay and Los Carneros
71. Common Moorhen (2) Rather elusive, only two seen
72. American Coot (11) Abundant and widespread
73. Black-bellied Plover (7) Quite common along coast
74. Semipalmated Plover (2) Seen on shore in Newport and San Diego areas
75. Killdeer (8) Quite common and widespread
76. Black Oystercatcher (2) Seen on Los Coronado Islands, Morro Bay and Montana de Oro
77. Black-necked Stilt (5) Common on suitable coast and at the Salton Sea
78. American Avocet (6) As above
79. Greater Yellowlegs (6) Around 20 seen
80. Lesser Yellowlegs (1) Just one seen
81. Willet (8) Common on coast and at the Salton Sea
82. Wandering Tattler (2) Seen on Los Coronado Islands and at La Jolla Cove
83. Spotted Sandpiper (6) Fairly common
84. Whimbrel (5) A few single birds seen
85. Long-billed Curlew (6) Fairly common on coast
86. Marbled Godwit (7) Common on coast and at Salton Sea
87. Ruddy Turnstone (1) Seen at La Jolla Cove
88. Black Turnstone (3) Several seen at La Jolla Cove, Stearn’s Wharf and Montano de Oro
89. Surfbird (2) A flock seen well at La Jolla Cove, also Montano de Oro
90. Sanderling (4) Common on sandy coastline
91. Red Knot (1) Flock at Silver Strand, San Diego Bay
92. Western Sandpiper (5) Very common along coast
93. Least Sandpiper (3) Surprisingly few seen
94. Dunlin (2) Seen in Newport area
95. Stilt Sandpiper (1) A few at the Salton Sea
96. Short-billed Dowitcher (1) Only confirmed at Upper Newport Bay
97. Long-billed Dowitcher (4) Common locally
98. Common Snipe (2) Single birds at San Joaquin Marsh and the Salton Sea
99. Pomarine Jaeger (3) Seen on boat-trip, and from Stearn’s Wharf and Santa Monica Pier
100. Parasitic Jaeger (2) Seen from Newport Pier and from boat in San Diego Harbor
101. Laughing Gull (1) One “vagrant” at Santa Monica Pier
102. Bonaparte’s Gull (6) Fairly common on coast
103. Heermann’s Gull (6) Common on coast
104. Mew Gull (2) A few seen amongst other gulls
105. Ring-billed Gull (12) Abundant and widespread
106. California Gull (10) Common and widespread
107. Herring Gull (4) A few amongst other gulls
108. Thayer’s Gull (1) One at Morro Bay
109. Yellow-footed Gull (1) One first-winter at the Salton Sea
110. Western Gull (8) Abundant and widespread
111. Glaucous-winged Gull (5) Around 8 birds seen
112. Caspian Tern (7) Fairly common locally
113. Royal Tern (4) Less common than above species
114. Forster’s Tern (6) Common on coast
115. Black Skimmer (3) Locally common on coast
116. Xantus’s Murrelet (2) Two seen from boat off San Diego
117. Rhinoceros Auklet (1) One seen from boat off San Diego
118. Rock Dove/Feral Pigeon (12) Abundant and widespread
119. Band-tailed Pigeon (4) Locally common
120. Eurasian Collared Dove (1) One suburban flock seen
121. Spotted Dove (1) Around 6 birds in El Dorado Park, Long Beach
122. White-winged Dove (1) Two birds near Tamarisk Grove
123. Mourning Dove (12) Very common and widespread
124. Common Ground-Dove (2) Seen at Borrego Springs and in Brawley area
125. Greater Roadrunner (1) Two at the Sonny Bono Preserve at Salton Sea
126. Great Horned Owl (1) One heard at Los Carneros Park
127. Burrowing Owl (1) Two at the Salton Sea
128. Lesser Nighthawk (1) Two seen at roost near Salton Sea
129. White-throated Swift (3) Seen at Lake Cachuma, Morro Bay and El Dorado Park
130. Anna’s Hummingbird (11) Fairly common and widespread
131. Costa's Hummingbird (1) Heard and briefly seen at Yaqui Wells
132. Allen’s Hummingbird (3) A few seen
133. Belted Kingfisher (3) Around 6 seen well
134. Lewis’s Woodpecker (1) Two seen at Zaca Station Road near Buelton
135. Acorn Woodpecker (3) Locally common and easy to observe
136. Gila Woodpecker (1) One outside our motel in Brawley
137. Red-naped Sapsucker (1) At least three at Big Morongo Canyon
138. Nuttall’s Woodpecker (7) Fairly common throughout
139. Downy Woodpecker (4) Around 6 birds seen
140. Hairy Woodpecker (1) One seen at Montana de Oro
141. Northern Flicker (7) Fairly common throughout. Around 20 birds seen.
142. Gray Flycatcher (1) One at Mile Square Park
143. Black Phoebe (12) Very common and widespread
144. Eastern Phoebe (1) One “vagrant” seen
145. Say’s Phoebe (10) Fairly common
146. Vermillion Flycatcher (1) A male seen in garden near the Salton Sea
147. Dusky-capped Flycatcher (1) One at Mile Square Park
148. Cassin’s Kingbird (2) Several in San Diego area
149. Tree Swallow (8) Common and widespread
150. Violet-green Swallow (2) A few early arrivers seen
151. Northern Rough-winged Swallow (5) As above species
152. Cliff Swallow (2) A few birds picked out amongst other hirundines
153. Barn Swallow (2) A few seen amongst other swallow species
154. Steller’s Jay (3) Particularly good views at Paso Picacho Park
155. Western Scrub Jay (9) Quite common throughout
156. Yellow-billed Magpie (1) Several at Zaca Station Road site
157. American Crow (12) Common and widespread
158. Common Raven (7) Fairly common locally
159. Mountain Chickadee (2) Seen at Lake Henshaw and Paso Picacho Park
160. Chestnut-backed Chickadee (1) Seen at Montano de Oro
161. Oak Titmouse (5) Locally common
162. Verdin (3) Seen at Yaqui Wells, Borrego Springs, Salton Sea and Big Morongo
163. Bushtit (8) Fairly common throughout
164. White-breasted Nuthatch (3) Single birds at Rancho Bernado, Paso Picacho & Zaca Station Road
165. Pygmy Nuthatch (1) Seen at Paso Picacho Park
166. Brown Creeper (1) One at Morro Bay campground
167. Cactus Wren (3) Excellent singing birds at Borrego Springs, Salton Sea & Joshua Tree
168. Canyon Wren (1) Close views of singing bird at Morro Bay rock
169. Bewick’s Wren (5) Fairly common
170. House Wren (3) Rather elusive, three birds seen
171. Marsh Wren (4) Several singing birds seen
172. Ruby-crowned Kinglet (10) Common and widespread
173. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (5) Quite common
174. California Gnatcatcher (1) About four birds seen at Crystal Cove State Park
175. Black-tailed Gnatcatcher (1) About three seen at Yaqui Wells
176. Western Bluebird (5) Several excellent views
177. Hermit Thrush (4) Best view arguably at Big Morongo Canyon
178. American Robin (6) Fairly common throughout
179. Wrentit (4) Particularly good views at Lake Cachuma
180. Northern Mockingbird (10) Common throughout
181. California Thrasher (5) Quite common in suitable habitat
182. Le Conte’s Thrasher (1) Two seen near Borrego Springs
183. American Pipit (4) Common locally
184. Cedar Waxwing (3) Several small mobile flocks heard and seen
185. Phainopepla (2) Seen well at Yaqui Wells and Big Morongo
186. Loggerhead Shrike (4) Seen on 4 days inland
187. European Starling (12) Very common and widespread
188. Plumbeous Vireo (1) One seen in El Dorado Park, Long Beach
189. Hutton’s Vireo (3) Seen at Canyon Park, Paso Picacho and near the Salton Sea
190. Orange-crowned Warbler (8) Quite common and widespread
191. Nashville Warbler (1) One in Recreation Park, Long Beach
192. Yellow-rumped Warbler (12) Abundant and widespread
193. Black-throated Gray Warbler (1) One seen in El Dorado Park, Long Beach
194. Townsend’s Warbler (5) Fairly common in parks and open woods
195. Common Yellowthroat (4) Locally common
196. Wilson’s Warbler (4) About 6 seen in various parks
197. Spotted Towhee (4) Around 10 seen, but probably much more common
198. California Towhee (6) Quite common and widespread
199. Abert’s Towhee (1) Seen only at the Salton Sea
200. Rufous-crowned Sparrow (1) Seen at Rancho Bernado
201. Lark Sparrow (3) Seen at Borrego Springs, Big Morongo and Zaca Station Road
202. Black-throated Sparrow (1) One near Borrego Springs
203. Sage Sparrow (1) One near Borrego Springs
204. (Belding’s) Savannah Sparrow (3) Common in coastal saltmarsh
205. Song Sparrow (8) Around 12 seen
206. Lincoln’s Sparrow (5) Common inland
207. Golden-crowned Sparrow (2) Seen at Crystal Cove and under feeders in Galida Hills
208. White-crowned Sparrow (10) Very common and widespread
209. Dark-eyed (Oregon) Junco (9) Very common and widespread
210. Red-winged Blackbird (8) Very common in and around wetlands
211. Tricolored Blackbird (1) Two seen in El Dorado Park
212. Western Meadowlark (7) Common and widespread
213. Yellow-headed Blackbird (1) About 4 seen amongst other blackbirds near Salton Sea
214. Brewer’s Blackbird (11) Abundant and widespread
215. Great-tailed Grackle (7) Surprisingly few seen
216. Brown-headed Cowbird (6) Fairly common throughout
217. Bullock’s Oriole (2) Two briefly seen
218. Scott’s Oriole (1) One male seen at Big Morongo Canyon
219. Purple Finch (2) Two seen, one near Morro Bay and one in Galida Hills
220. House Finch (12) Very common and widespread
221. Pine Siskin (2) Seen very well at feeders in Galida Hills
222. Lesser Goldfinch (7) Quite common and widespread
223. American Goldfinch (4) Surprisingly few seen
224. House Sparrow (12) Abundant and widespread