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ARIZONA BIRD COMMITTEE REPORT, 2000–2004 RECORDS

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ABSTRACT: This sixth report of the Arizona Bird Committee updates previous reports of birds unusual in Arizona through 2004. The 279 accepted reports include eight species new to Arizona, bringing the state' bird list to 530 species.

BREEDING AVIFAUNAL CHANGES IN THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA 1927–2005

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ABSTRACT: I compare the breeding avifauna of the San Francisco Bay area prior to 1927 with the current breeding avifauna. There were 172 breeding species known in the San Francisco Bay area prior to 1927, whereas today there are 215. Four species have been extirpated, whereas 47 are new. Most of the species added to the breeding avifauna are casual, irregular, or accidental, but 17 of these now breed regularly. The reasons for these avifaunal changes are diverse but in many cases are related to range expansions or contractions. Factors contributing to expansions include rebound of populations following cessation of commercial harvesting, conversion of salt marshes to salt-evaporation ponds, maturation of second-growth forests, urban adaptation, exploitation of artificial reservoirs, and habitat protection.

Grinnell and Wythe (1927) summarized the status of birds of the nine counties bordering on San Francisco and San Pablo bays, California, one of the major historical benchmarks in the description of western North America's avifauna. In the 80 years since 1927, the San Francisco Bay region has undergone vast changes, and its avifauna has changed in proportion. Thus a comparison of current conditions with those reported by Grinnell and Wythe is of value.

NOTES:

A ROSS'S GULL REACHES SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

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THE BRANDT'S CORMORANT IN ALASKA

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FIRST RECORD OF A NORTHERN LAPWING IN ALASKA AND WESTERN NORTH AMERICA

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A SABINE'S GULL IN COAHUILA: FIRST RECORD FROM THE INTERIOR OF MÉXICO

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BOOK REVIEWS:

Tanagers, Cardinals, and Finches of the United States and Canada: The Photographic Guide, by David Beadle and J. D. Rising. 2006. Princeton University Press, Princeton, NJ. 196 pages, 200 photographs, 30 range maps. Paperback, \$29.95. ISBN-13: 978-0-691-11858-1.

Important Bird Areas of Nevada by D. E. McIvor. 2005. Lahontan Audubon Society. 160 pages, numerous color photographs and maps. Softback. \$19.95. ISBN: 0970343825.

FEATURED PHOTO:

WILSON'S AND COMMON SNIPES

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