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### **FIRST RECORD OF THE LANCEOLATED WARBLER BREEDING IN NORTH AMERICA**

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**ABSTRACT:** The Lanceolated Warbler (*Locustella lanceolata*) is a Eurasian species whose breeding range reaches east to include northern Japan, the Kuril Islands, and the Kamchatka Peninsula. It has been recorded three times previously in North America—twice in the western Aleutian Islands, Alaska, once in California. During our work at Buldir Island, western Aleutian Islands, in 2007, we documented the fourth occurrence of the species and the first nesting record within the political limits of North America.

### **EXTIRPATION OF THE WILLOW FLYCATCHER FROM YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK**

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**ABSTRACT:** The Willow Flycatcher has been declining throughout the Sierra Nevada and within Yosemite National Park since at least the middle of the 20th century. More recently, the number of Willow Flycatchers captured at a bird-banding station in Yosemite declined during the 1990s, with none captured since 2002. We used historical records and digital maps based on remote sensing to identify and survey Yosemite's most likely breeding habitat for the species. Over the 2006 and 2007 breeding seasons we visited 71 sites, which accommodated 1709 call stations. We detected no territorial Willow Flycatchers, and we conclude that the species no longer breeds in Yosemite National Park. The extirpation of this species from Yosemite, where so much protected, apparently high-quality habitat remains, suggests that causes in addition to direct effects of recent land-management practices have contributed substantially to the decline of the species across the Sierra Nevada.

### **BREEDING RECORDS OF THE SURFBIRD, WANDERING TATTLER, AMERICAN GOLDEN-PLOVER, AND UPLAND SANDPIPER IN THE SOUTHWEST YUKON TERRITORY**

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**ABSTRACT:** Knowledge of the breeding behavior and habitat selection of arctic–alpine shorebirds is limited because of these species’ remote habitats, low population densities, and cryptic behavior. We report nests and other observations of definitive breeding of the Surfbird (*Aphriza virgata*), Wandering Tattler (*Tringa incana*), American Golden-Plover (*Pluvialis dominica*), and Upland Sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*) in the Ruby Range of the southwest Yukon between 2002 and 2007. In most years, there were at least two breeding pairs of the Surfbird, one of the Wandering Tattler, three of the American Golden-Plover, and one of the Upland Sandpiper at our alpine study site covering 9 km<sup>2</sup>. These are the first confirmed breeding records of the Surfbird in the southern Yukon, and they mark the second and third Surfbird and third and fourth Wandering Tattler nests documented in Canada. Despite the lack of previous records for all species, particularly the Surfbird, their consistent recurrence at the site suggests they breed regularly in the region

**NOTES:**

**BLACK SKIMMER OCCURRENCES IN NEW MEXICO, INCLUDING A HIGH ELEVATION RECORD**

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**TERRESTRIAL FOOT-PADDLING BY GLAUCOUS-WINGED GULL**

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**FIRST RECORD OF THE CASSIN’S VIREO NESTING IN ALASKA**

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**CURRENT STATUS OF THE CACTUS WREN NORTHWESTERN BAJA CALIFORNIA**

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### **BOOK REVIEWS:**

**Rare Birds of California**, by Robert A. Hamilton, Michael A. Patten, and Richard Erickson (editors). 2007. Western Field Ornithologists, Camarillo, CA (order from Allen Press by e-mail at [orders@allenpress.com](mailto:orders@allenpress.com) or by phone at 800-627-0326. 504 pp., numerous photos, sketches, and 71 color plates. Hardback, \$54.00 for WFO members, \$59.95 for nonmembers. ISBN 978-0-9790585-0-9.

**Gulls of the Americas**, by Steve N. G. Howell and Jon Dunn. 2007. Houghton Mifflin, Boston. 516 pp., 1160 color photographs. Hardcover \$35.00 (ISBN-10: 0618726411).

**Bird Voices of Northern California: An Audio Guide to Bird Identification**, by Ron LeValley and David Fix. 2007. Mad River Biologists, Arcata, California (ordering information at [www.madriverbio.com](http://www.madriverbio.com)). Double CD set, \$27.95.

**Atlas of the Breeding Birds of Nevada**, by Ted Floyd, Chris S. Elphick, Graham Chisholm, Kevin Mack, Robert G. Elston, Elisabeth M. Ammon, and John D. Boone. 2007. University of Nevada Press, Reno and Las Vegas. Forewords by Sen. Harry Reid and by C. Richard Tracy. 581 pages, numerous color maps and habitat photographs. Hardcover, \$60. ISBN-13:978-0-87417-695-7.

### **FEATURED PHOTO:**

#### **ATTEMPTED KLEPTOPARASITISM BY A SOUTH POLAR SKUA ON LAYSAN ALBATROSS**

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