

***Western Birds* abstracts Vol. 42. No. 3.**

THE 35TH REPORT OF THE CALIFORNIA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE: 2009 RECORDS

PETER PYLE, The Institute for Bird Populations, P. O. Box 1346, Point Reyes Station, California, 94956; ppyle@birdpop.org

JIM TIETZ, P. O. Box 373, Shaver Lake, California, 93664; jimtietz@yahoo.com

GUY McCASKIE, P. O. Box 275, Imperial Beach, California 91933; secretary@californiabirds.org

ABSTRACT: Since its 34th report (Pike and Compton 2010), the California Bird Records Committee (CBRC) has accepted records of 176 individuals of 58 species, 2 species pairs, and 1 hybrid, most of which were of birds observed in 2009. Two species, the White-chinned Petrel (*Procellaria aequinoctialis*) and the recently split Winter Wren (*Troglodytes hiemalis*), are added to the California state list, bringing the total to 643 accepted species. We introduce a new tabular format to present CBRC records, similar to that found at the CBRC's webpage *Update to Rare Birds of California* (www.californiabirds.org/cbrc_book/update.pdf). In 2011, the CBRC added two species to its review list, the Fulvous Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna bicolor*) and Cape May Warbler (*Dendroica tigrina*).

PURPLE MARTIN SURVEY RESULTS AT TEJON RANCH IN THE TEHACHAPI MOUNTAINS OF CALIFORNIA

MICHAEL D. WHITE, Tejon Ranch Conservancy, P. O. Box 216, Frazier Park, California 93225; mwhite@tejonconservancy.org

EDWARD R. PANDOLFINO, 5530 Delrose Court, Carmichael, California 95608

ANDREA JONES, Audubon California, 601 Embarcadero, Suite 14, Morro Bay, California 93442

ABSTRACT: The Purple Martin (*Progne subis*), a species of significant conservation concern in California, once nested widely in oak, sycamore, and coniferous woodlands throughout the state. Currently, the Tehachapi Mountains of southern California are the only area where significant numbers of Purple Martins are known to still nest in oaks. We surveyed for the Purple Martin and other cavity-nesting birds on a portion of Tejon Ranch in the Tehachapi Mountains during summer 2010. We found 23 nesting pairs of Purple Martins, all using cavities in large Valley Oaks (*Quercus lobata*) at or near the tops of ridges in open savanna settings. The Acorn Woodpecker (*Melanerpes formicivorus*) was the most abundant other cavity nester in the area and likely creates the cavities used by Purple Martins. The European Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*), considered a serious competitor of the Purple Martin for nest sites in most of the Purple Martin's range, was rarely encountered near these nest sites.

RECENT ADDITIONS TO THE AVIFAUNA OF SAN CLEMENTE ISLAND, INCLUDING THE FIRST RECORD OF THE BLUETHROAT IN CALIFORNIA

JAMES E. BRADLEY, Institute for Wildlife Studies, 2515 Camino del Rio South, Suite 334, San Diego, California 92108 (current address: 4557 Martin Rd., Prince George, British Columbia V2K 2J9, Canada); james_bradley@ymail.com

JUSTYN T. STAHL, Institute for Wildlife Studies, 2515 Camino del Rio South, Suite 334, San Diego, California 92108; justyn.stahl@gmail.com

JASON C. FIDORRA, Institute for Wildlife Studies, 2515 Camino del Rio South, Suite 334, San Diego, California 92108 (current address: 4221 Lake Pleasant Rd., Erie, Pennsylvania 16504); jfidorra@hotmail.com

ABSTRACT: Since Sullivan and Kershner (2005) last summarized the birds of San Clemente Island, California, 13 additional species have been recorded on the island, bringing the total number of species documented there to 330. Most notable was the first Bluethroat (*Luscinia svecica*) recorded in North America outside of its limited known range in Alaska. Additionally, we document a first record of the Black-chinned Sparrow (*Spizella atrogularis*) breeding on the California Channel Islands.

NOTES

FIRST RECORDS OF THE SHORT-TAILED HAWK AND GRAY HAWK FOR THE BAJA CALIFORNIA PENINSULA

STEVEN G. MLODINOW, 1522 Venice Lane, Longmont, Colorado 80503; SGMlod@aol.com

BOOK REVIEWS

Kaufman Field Guide to Advanced Birding: Understanding What You See and Hear, by Kenn Kaufman. 2011. Houghton Mifflin, New York. 448 pages, over 700 photographs, 43 line drawings. Softback, \$21.00. ISBN 978-0-547-24832-5.

On Her Own Terms: Annie Montague Alexander and the Rise of Science in the American West, by Barbara Stein. 2001. University of California Press. 380 pages, photographs. Cloth, \$55.00. ISBN 0-520-22726-3.

FEATURED PHOTO

HAS THE BLACK-CAPPED GNATCATCHER OCCURRED IN BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR?

STEVEN G. MLODINOW, 1522 Venice Lane, Longmont, Colorado 80503;
SGMlod@aol.com