



Volume 42 Issue 1 Morro Coast Audubon Society

May 2007

Our mission: "To promote the appreciation, conservation and restoration of ecosystems, focusing on the biological diversity of birds, other wildlife, and their habitats, particularly in San Luis Obispo County"

UNLEASHING THE POWER OF MORRO COAST AUDUBON

Recently the Audubon leaders received an Email from John Flicker, President of National Audubon, entitled "Unleashing the Power of Audubon to Combat Global Warming." At the national level, Audubon is seeking full engagement from the Audubon network to enhance an ongoing organizational response to the threat of global warming to birds, wildlife, habitat, and humankind that may undermine all that Audubon has struggled for more than a century to accomplish.

John Flicker is calling for coordinated actions with key external organizations as well as every level of the Audubon network, using Audubon's "nationwide expertise in science, education, and policy to inform and mobilize our unique shared constituency of advocates, educators, scientists, and bird and nature lovers to take both personal and political action." Our own Julia Levin of Audubon California has agreed to take on the temporary post of global warming campaign director to help coordinate efforts across the network and other partner organizations.

While Morro Coast Audubon Society (MCAS) will certainly play a role in the national effort to stop global warming, we are simultaneously "unleashing the power of MCAS" to make Audubon "a household word" here in San Luis Obispo (SLO) County. This effort will strengthen our "voice" with regard to all local, state, and national conservation issues.

MCAS, like National Audubon, plans on using our network, along with external organizations, to reach our goals. Already we are working collaboratively with California Native Plant Society, Pacific Wildlife Care, California State Parks, Morro Bay Harbor Patrol and others on specific events and/or projects. The MCAS board members have expertise in various areas as well as enthusiasm and the motivation to move MCAS forward. Similarly, like National Audubon, MCAS plans to inform and mobilize our SLO County constituency to take both personal and political action.

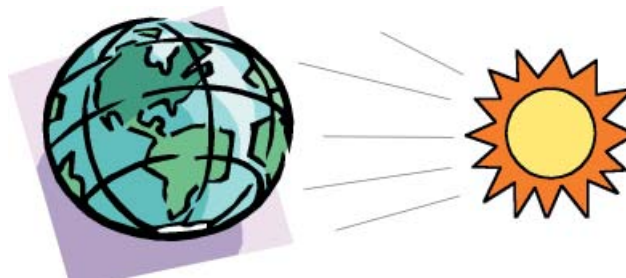
The MCAS board is now formulating a strategic plan to guide the organization during the next five years. Part of that plan encompasses producing a consistent visual and spoken message to give residents a clear idea of what MCAS does. We will create opportunities for businesses, organizations, and individuals to join us in our conservation efforts, ultimately "promoting the appreciation, conservation and restoration of ecosystems, focusing on the biological diversity of birds, other wildlife and their habitats, particularly in SLO County" (our MCAS mission statement).

I, like Julia Levin as the director of the global warming campaign, have agreed to take on the temporary post of MCAS President, directing MCAS activities in an effort to "unleash the MCAS power". With the help of our fabulous board, the citizens of SLO County (which include about 900 MCAS members), business and organizational partners, and the strength of our 40 year old organization, we can truly aim to accomplish our mission.

And, back to global warming, please join MCAS on May 21st at Los Osos Middle School for our monthly community program featuring Dr. Peter von Langen, local environmental scientist with the Central Coast Water Board, who will share his findings on ocean research and information "on global warming".

Looking forward to "unleashing the MCAS power" in as many of you as possible in the near future!

Jan Surbey, MCAS President



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ejagger@charter.net

RARE BIRD ALERTS

see Eureka column, page 7.

To report a sick or injured wild animal including birds:

Pacific Wildlife Care 543-WILD

Reporting Marine Mammal Problems:

To report a dead sea otter south of Cambria 772-1135

To report a dead sea otter north of Cambria 927-3893

To report a live stranded marine mammal (805) 771-8300

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Rosalie Valvo

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MCAS ALERT!

Get the latest Morro Coast Audubon news by joining our email announcement service. Members will receive timely notices of general meetings and programs, field trips, and other MCAS happenings.

To join, go to the website at <http://morrocoastaudubon.org> and click on the MCAS Alert! link. There you can sign up with an online form. You can also join by sending an email to Mike Stiles at mstiles@calpoly.edu and ask to join MCAS Alert

Our Website

www.morrocoastaudubon.org

Past issues of the *Flyway* are available at the website

e-mail:

mcas@morrocoastaudubon.org



General Meeting
Morro Coast Audubon Society
presents

MCAS Community Program
Global Climate Change
by Peter von Langen

Monday, May 21st at 7pm

Los Osos Middle School



Join Morro Coast Audubon for a FREE presentation by Peter von Langen on global climate change. Peter will provide us with a special presentation of his dissertation work including overviews of how climate history is reconstructed from records, his work to calibrate past records, and what models predict for future climates.

Peter von Langen has worked on a variety of projects at the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board for approximately the last 5 years including regional marine issues. Peter completed his Ph.D. in Marine Sciences in the Interdepartmental Graduate Program at the University of California, Santa Barbara where he served as a lecturer and instructor in oceanography, aqueous geochemistry, and thermodynamics courses in addition to working as a research assistant. Peter's dissertation involved calibrating marine sediment records with respect to climate change by culturing living foraminifera in geochemical experiments, a project that combined his interdisciplinary background in marine chemistry, biology and geology.

This month's program will begin with a special viewing of *Not Just Mine*, an animated short film about the Western Snowy Plover and its fragile beach habitat.

Everyone is welcome! Refreshments will be provided along with good company.

* *Los Osos Middle School is located at 1555 El Moro off South Bay Blvd in Los Osos*

MCAS BOARD MEETING

Monday May 7

6:45 PM

MCAS office, Marina Square Bldg. Morro Bay.
All interested members are invited to attend.

FIELD TRIPS

Trip Report: LOPEZ CANYON BOY SCOUT CAMP: (4-2-07) Eleven birders left the chilly fog of Arroyo Grande Village and regrouped at the Mabel French Boy Scout Camp behind Lopez Lake to listen to birds and discuss methods and tips for learning to bird by ear. We became more acquainted with the myriad calls of the Oak Titmouse and many of the resident and arriving Spring migrant birds found in an oak woodland habitat. We also birded the back of the Wittenberg arm of Lopez. Good birds were a somewhat late COMMON MERGANSER, 2 OSPREY, and 2 GREEN HERONS which I think may nest here. Watching Western and Clarke's Grebes perform their mating dance was a treat. Wildflowers and butterflies were a bonus. Thank you to everyone who came on the trip.

Maggie Smith, Arroyo Grande
FOR THOSE WHO NEVER GOT NOTICE
OF THIS FUN FIELD TRIP, AND WANT TO
HEAR OF FUTURE TRIPS, TELL MIKE AT
<mstiles@calpoly.edu> TO SIGN YOU UP FOR
THE "MCAS ALERT!" .

MAY 6th : (SUNDAY): SANTA MARGARITA LAKE: see page 5

MAY 12th-13th (Sat – Sun): MOJAVE DESERT: Join leader Tom Edell for two days of birding in eastern Kern County. The plan is to bird Butterbredt Springs, California City and the Silver Saddle Resort at Galileo Park. We will catch the height of western migration, and there is always potential for something unexpected in the desert during the spring. The group will meet in Mojave early Saturday morning. It is suggested that participants arrive in Mojave on Friday night. (For more information on this area, consult pages 74-79 of the ABA/Lane A Birder's Guide To Southern California , by Brad Schram.) This trip will be limited to 12 participants. Please call or email Tom at 805-995-1691 / tedell@aol.com, to reserve a space and/or for additional information on where to stay and meet.

JUNE 2nd : (SATURDAY): DE ANZA TRAIL / SALINAS RIVER: Meet Roger Zachary ("Birdman of Atascadero" and local Audubon field trip leader) at 7:30 AM at the Horse Arena on the North Ferro Carril Road. We will walk along the de Anza Trail section of the Atascadero Mutual Water Company's property. The walk is very easy, on a trail that borders the Salinas River and the distance is no longer than 2 miles round

trip. We will be birding in mixed oak woodland and riparian woodland along the Salinas River. We should be able to identify approximately 30 species or more. Suitable for younger birders. Check out the website www.amwc.us. **Space is limited; please RSVP via email at the address listed at website or call Jamie Lien 461-7217 ext. 17.**



BINOCULARS / BIRD GUIDES: For loan. MCAS now has 10 pairs of binoculars and 5 "small" Sibley bird guides for loan to young birders or others who may not have them available for a field trip. To reserve the use of these binoculars and books for activities, contact Emily Jagger at ejagger@charter.net. These binoculars have been purchased by MCAS, and are on-hand now. The binoculars were sponsored by: Wendi Craig, Cheryl Lesinski, Donna O, Laura Kass (2 pairs), Norma Wightman, Richard & Prisila Johnson, Dick Boyd, Nancy Anderson and Alan Schmierer. The books were sponsored by: Doug Stinson, Priscilla Aikin, Mike Stiles and Alan Schmierer. Thanks to all of you who have contributed in a small way to the future of our youth!!

ALAN SCHMIERER, FIELD TRIP CHAIRMAN

SUNDAY, MAY 6 MCAS / CNPS PICNIC AT SANTA MARGARITA LAKE

This second collaborative **Morro Coast Audubon Society and California Native Plant Society** picnic will include several field trips. Daily use fees will be waived for event participants; we welcome members of either organization as well as the general public.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS (tentative, more events may be added)

*8:00-11:00 AM BIRDING with Roger Zachary at RIVER ROAD: An easy 3 mile walk along the Salinas River before it flows into the lake. Appropriate for all experience levels.

*MEET AT RIVER ROAD ACCESS

STAGING area for ALL other activities will be WHITE OAK PICNIC area (handicap accessible)
(sign-up sheets available on day of event)

9:00 AM BIRDING with Mike Stiles

10:00 AM KAYAK / CANOE launch with Joe Dickerson for informal lake tour (bring PFDs, sunscreen, binoculars)

10:30-11:30 AM BEGINNER'S WATERFOWL WATCH with Stephanie Little (kids and beginning birders; learn to use binoculars and field guides which will be provided)

11:00-12:00 AM PLANT WALK with John Nowak

11:00-12:00 AM MOUNTAIN BIKING with Ken Klis (participants must be at least 10 years of age, helmets required)

11:00-1:30 PACIFIC WILDLIFE CARE on site with live birds giving informal 15-20 minute "visits" with feathered friends

12 NOON LUNCH BREAK Join us for an old fashioned new fangled PICNIC. Bring your own sandwich (or something to grill), a side dish, snack, or dessert to share and your own (preferably reusable) place setting and beverage container. Throw in your picnic tablecloth if possible. Assorted drinks provided by MCAS.

1:00-2:00 PM WATERCOLORING WILDFLOWERS with Janine Kirkpatrick (bring a "sit upon", materials provided)

2:00-4:00 PM DESTINATION HIKE with Ken Klis

ONGOING (throughout the day):

WATERFOWL AND WOODPECKER WATCH: Birdwatching around the picnic area

FISHING: Kid's Cove (for kid's only) and shore fishing around picnic area

HIKING: Grey Pine Trailhead located at picnic area

JUNIOR RANGER PROGRAM: Self-directed activities for school-age children

BRING any kayaks, canoes, spotting scopes, binoculars, cameras, field guides, bikes, fishing gear etc. for enjoying the day at the lake. (The marina store stocks supplies and rents boats.)

DIRECTIONS to Santa Margarita Lake White Oak Picnic area:

From Hwy. 101, take the Santa Margarita (Highway 58) exit and drive through the town of Santa Margarita. Turn right on Highway 58. At the junction with Pozo Road (in approximately 2 miles), stay on Pozo Road for approximately 7 miles and follow the signs to the Santa Margarita Lake turnoff. Turn left and drive one mile to the park entrance. Turn right after entering the gate and follow the road for one mile to the White Oak Picnic area. (Allow 30-40 minutes from the SLO area)

*DIRECTIONS to RIVER ROAD access

Follow the above directions until the Santa Margarita Lake turnoff. Instead of turning, continue driving straight on Pozo Road for approximately 7.8 miles. Immediately after the bridge, turn left on RIVER ROAD and continue another 2.2 miles to the staging area on the left side of the road. (Allow 45-50 minutes from the SLO area)

For additional information contact Al Schmierer aaschmierer@yahoo.com or 772-2026, MCAS Field trip chair, or Mardi Niles mlniles@slonet.org, or 489-9274, CNPS Field trip chair



Hi Mountain Lookout Project
Spring Picnic and Volunteer Training/Workday,
Saturday, May 12th

Join us for a morning of activities at Hi Mountain Lookout, participating in condor radiotelemetry tracking, recruiting and training of new volunteers, birdwatching, butterfly, and flower identification, touring the lookout facilities and interpretive center, and a picnic lunch at noon, with spectacular views from the Pacific coast to the snow-covered Sierras. Family and friends of MCAS members are invited to attend. Those who would also like to participate in the annual Pozo to Hi Mountain wildflower field trip will arrive at the lookout in time to join the rest of the group for lunch (see details and contact information in the message below).

Meet at Hi Mountain Lookout at 9am, or at the Pozo Ranger Station at 8:30am to arrange for car pooling up to the lookout. Driving directions, description of the lookout project, and photo archives can be viewed at www.condorlookout.org

Now in our 11th year of operation, the Hi Mountain Lookout Project is seeking new volunteers who would like to occasionally staff the lookout for day or overnight shifts. The staff living quarters are fully equipped with stove and oven, refrigerator, running water, solar power and heat. Scheduling is very flexible to accommodate your time and interests. Please contact **Steve Schubert** at s_schub@webtv.net or #805 528-6138 if you are interested in attending the annual spring event at Hi Mountain Lookout on May 12th, or becoming a volunteer for the project.

Field trip:

Saturday 12 May 2006

9:30 AM

LPNF and CNPS Pozo Wildflower Weekend, Pozo Fire Station:



As part of its seventh Annual Wildflower Weekends The Santa Lucia District, Los Padres National Forest (LPNF) will meet at the Pozo Fire Station on Pozo Road, south of SR 58 at 9:30 AM. This will be a “drive & stroll” tour of wildflowers in conjunction with the local California Native Plant Society Chapter, along Hi Mountain Road, including some serpentine areas, and the Lookout Station, now a focal point of the California Condor Recovery Program. Sturdy shoes, lunch and liquids, camera and binoculars are recommended.

Call Helen Tarbet at 925-9538 ext. 246 or Charles Blair 733-3189 for details.

Carrizo Plain Important Bird Area Needs Your Input

If you have stood on Overlook Hill and heard flocks of Long-billed Curlews wheeling by or imprinted in your memory the purple or gold hues of the hills in spring, you can imagine what the Central Valley historically encompassed. For decades, biologists have recognized the Carrizo Plain as the best remnant of San Joaquin Valley habitats for its grasslands, sage brush, and wetlands. The centerpiece of this Important Bird Area (IBA) is the Carrizo Plain National Monument (CPNM), owned and managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in close cooperation with The Nature Conservancy and CA Department of Fish & Game (DFG).

The plain, encompassing more than 300,000 acres along the San Andreas Fault midway between San Luis Obispo and Bakersfield along the San Luis Obispo and Kern county lines, is one the largest IBAs in the state. In winter, Carrizo Plain provides habitat for impressive numbers of many grassland-dependent species, such as Mountain Plovers, Long-billed Curlews, Golden Eagles, Ferruginous Hawks, and Short-eared Owls. Breeding Northern Harrier, Golden Eagle, Prairie Falcon, Burrowing Owl, and Le Conte's Thrasher - all of which have become localized - thrive at Carrizo. In spring after wet winters, Soda Lake is a haven for northbound waterfowl and shorebirds. Aside from birds, Carrizo Plain is notable for protecting numerous rare species endemic to San Joaquin Valley natural communities, such as the Giant Kangaroo Rat, San Joaquin Kit Fox, and Blunt-Nosed Leopard Lizard. Tule Elk and Pronghorn Antelope once again roam the valley floor and foothills, reintroduced by the DFG.

submitted by Andrea Jones Important Bird Areas Program Coordinator
Audubon California 601 Embarcadero, Suite 14
Morro Bay, CA 93442 Phone/fax: 805-772-1995

To guide the future management of CPNM, BLM is inviting the public to participate in a process that will result in a Resource Management Plan (link as shown below). This is a singular opportunity for Audubon chapters and members to voice their opinions and concerns on how the CPNM should be managed for the next 20 years.

We encourage interested members to write letters, with the information provided below. This is your opportunity to help ensure Carrizo Plain will retain its pristine imagery and remain a showpiece of California wildlife.

Questions to address are:

- 1) What is your vision for the CPNM?
- 2) What do you like most about CPNM?
- 3) What would you change about the current management?

Written comments should focus on specific issues such as habitat management (grazing, prescribed burning, restoration, etc.), recreation (birding, hunting, camping, use of ORVs, etc.), outreach and education, and infrastructure (roads, facilities, visitor buildings, trails, etc.).

Please send your comment letter by June 12, 2007 to the address below:

BLM Monument Manager
3801 Pegasus Drive





To Our Newest Members

Arroyo Grande

Scott McGuire
Carolyn Moniot
Constance Reynolds

Atascadero

Pat Kieselhorst

Avila Beach

K Park

Cambria

Les Frair
Ann Wride

Los Osos

Clay Marcus

Janice Rohn
Constance Snapp

Morro Bay

Kyoko Mitsuoka
Ronald Schow
Patricia Walthall

Nipomo

Richard Davis
N I London

Paso Robles

Jeanne Bruenecke
Margaret Simpson

Pismo Beach

Leslie Puccini

San Carlos

Mary Watt

San Luis Obispo

Norm Borin
Prof Sandra Lakeman

Templeton

Louisa Cardinali

Support Drive Postponed Until Fall

Who remembers the annual rummage sale? That was our spring ritual for a number of years. But it was a lot of work. So for the past many years, we have been coming directly to you, our membership, asking for your support. These letters have been mailed out in May, and the results have always been tremendous.

More changes are in the works. We are developing a new strategic plan, logo, and branding over the next few months. And we are postponing our annual appeal until the fall, perhaps November.

However, your monetary support is always welcome. Donations may be sent at any time to
MCAS Support
P O Box 1507
Morro Bay, CA 93443

A Nice Thank You for MCAS

My husband and I spent 3 weeks touring birding sites in California this February. We were delighted to meet a very helpful member of your society at Broadwood Bay. He gave us some local maps and information that made our stay in Morro Bay even more pleasurable. We saw 72 new species of bird for us, and the usual few that we couldn't identify. We fell in love with your area and hope to visit again sometime.

Once again many thanks

Derek and Valerie Jackson
Devon England



Dedication of Weir Memorial Bench at Sweet Springs

Photo: Standing are my brothers Bob Weir of Davis (on the left) and Jack Weir of Pleasanton. Seated left to right are Terry Hopkins (San Luis Obispo), Holly Weir (Vermont) and Alison Weir (Davis) - *Terry Hopkins*

About 35 years ago Douglas and newly retired Morley picked up bag, baggage, two boxers, one cat, a very vocal parrot and some canaries to move to Los Osos, knowing not a soul in this town. By the time they died (Dad in 2000 and Mom in 2005), it seemed like they knew everyone in town. It isn't always easy to make new friends and get to know a community at that age, but make new friends they did partly because they both enjoyed people and then in large part due to joining Audubon.

Audubon provided not only a circle of friends, but also activities to suit both of their exercise styles. Mom could go on the walks and hikes and bird counts with the energetic types. Dad would be waiting in the car at the parking lot, watching for the birds that happened to fly by him. This bench would have been just his style....not too far to walk from the car, and plenty of birds for him to spot.

Morley and Douglas were part of the bucket brigade that hand carried gallon jugs of water to establish many of the plants that you pass by as you walked to this bench today. I would go over to visit and their garage was filled with row after row of orange jugs or cardboard milk containers.

Many of you may know that both Mom and Dad chose to be cremated and scattered, which means there is no cemetery or crypt or specific place to go "visit" them. This bench gives us such a place. Just after it was installed, Allen and I brought a picnic lunch out here. It was a beautiful day and we looked out at stunning views and wished they were there with us to tell us the names of the birds we were seeing.

I am grateful to the Audubon for suggesting and providing this bench. In particular I want to mention John Perkins and say how sorry I am that he did not live to see this bench dedicated. He was the one to suggest it to us, who spearheaded the work, who chose the specific site to put it. Thank you, John. And then thanks to Dawn Williams who followed up when John could not. We are indebted to John and Dawn, to Henry Pontarelli, the president, and to all the local Audubon members
Terry Hopkins



SWEET SPRINGS TREE PLANTING IN MEMORY OF JOHN PERKINS

On Saturday the tenth of March a group of 30 people from the, Morro Coast Audubon, Los Osos Advisory Council and the community at large assembled at Audubon Sweet Springs Nature Preserve to plant a ten foot native California live oak tree in memory of John R. Perkins.

.John Nowak, our resident horticulturist, brought the tree and dug the hole for the planting, then introduced Dick Parker of the Audubon Lands Committee who summarized John Perkins career with the Morro Coast Audubon Society:

This biography of John Perkins was written on the occasion of his Outstanding Service Award from Audubon in 2002:

John, born in Colorado, raised in Los Angeles, entered the army at an early age and became a world traveler. He spent seven of his thirty nine military years in Germany. Always interested in nature, it was only natural for this man to be drawn to the Audubon Sweet Springs Preserve where he assisted in the early years with the watering, weeding and planting. Soon John was a member of the Lands Committee, and he became chairperson in 1995. Always moving forward, he improved the grounds and aesthetics at Sweet Springs by using his connections with the California Conservation Corps and other government agencies.

In 1995 and 1998 John served as President of the Morro Coast Audubon Society and served as Chairperson of the Lands Committee from 1995 until his passing in 2006. During his tenure as Lands Chair he has added a new boardwalk and viewing platform. Recently his last project was completed to install a bird identification chart at the viewing platform. John also helped out at all the Audubon functions and with Bill Moore used to man an Audubon information booth at various special event days around the SLO area. He received the Audubon Outstanding Service Award in September 2002. He was appointed to the Los Osos Advisory Council by Shirley Bianchi and served for three years from 2003 to 2006.

We all thanked John for his many contributions to Audubon and the community. John Nowak then planted the tree assisted by LOCAC member Alon Perlman. The tree is located on the left of the main trail near the entrance gate and will be identified by a permanent marker. Vivian Mc Neil, Yolanda Waddell and others contributed remembrances of working with John. Dawn Williams organized the ceremony and Cheryl Lish of Audubon provided the refreshments. John's daughter and grand daughter, Cindy and Kelli Christopherson attended the ceremony. --*Dick Parker*

Eureka!
THE BIRDS OF SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY – March 2007
Short Version

The following are the rarest birds reported during the month of March 2007. An expanded version of this column with additional sightings is available at: <http://www.morrocoastaudubon.org/eureka.htm> .

- Eurasian Wigeon – 9 Mar, a drake was at a pond on the west side of Foothill near Los Osos Valley Road (JSR)
Eurasian Green-winged Teal – 3-30 Mar, a male that was first found in Feb was in the tidal channel at Sweet Springs and later near the Cuesta Inlet area along the south side of Morro Bay in Los Osos (TME, photo at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/tedell/>)
White-winged Scoter – 24 Mar, a loose flock of 35 off the Morro Strand State Beach Campground provided a high count for the winter (TME)
Black Scoter – 1-9 Mar, the adult male continued off the Northpoint Natural Area (TME) and was joined by an immature male on 9 Mar (DML, photo at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/tedell/>)
Chukar – 28 Mar, a total of nine were seen in the southern Carrizo Plain National Monument along Blue Well Road, in the vicinity of Quail Springs, and in the Lawson Springs area (AFS)
Fork-tailed Storm Petrel – 22 Mar, a freshly dead specimen was collected on the Morro Bay Sandspit (RO)
Bald Eagle – 20 Mar, an adult at Lopez Lake could be one of last year's breeders (DML) while an adult at the Cholame Road wetland on 31 Mar was away from any known breeding sites (RHZ)
Swainson's Hawk – 28 Mar, seven seen flying over the Quail Springs area on the Carrizo Plain National Monument accounted for the highest single day count recorded in the county for at least the past 30 years (AFS-photo at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/tedell/>)
Rough-legged Hawk – 21 Mar, one continued along Cholame Road about 3.6 miles north of Hwy 46 (MLS)
Virginia Rail – 21 Mar, one was seen from the Bitterwater Road Bridge over Cholame Creek, which is a likely breeding location for this species (MLS)
Glaucous Gull – 15 Mar, a first-cycle bird with some gray on the mantle was found at Arroyo Laguna (AFS,MLS) and 19 Mar, a first-cycle bird was at the Baywood Pier in Los Osos (BLS)
Black-legged Kittiwake – 26-28 Mar, strong onshore winds accounted for up to three immatures on the beach in Cayucos (LT, TME) and an adult at the mouth of Morro Creek (TME)
Calliope Hummingbird – 29 Mar, a male at a feeder in Atascadero provided the county's first Mar record (RHZ)
Red-naped Sapsucker – 8 Mar, late date for the wintering male at the Cal Poly Library (MDS)
Eastern Phoebe – 8 Mar, late date for the bird wintering at Cal Poly (MDS)
Common Raven – 22 Mar, one west of this species expected range flew over Montana de Oro State Park (JLR)
Purple Martin – 23 Mar, early date, two males and two females were at potential nest sites near the intersection of Hwy 41 and San Gabriel in Atascadero (MLS)
Winter Wren – 14 Mar, twelve, many of which were singing, were along Coon Creek in Montana de Oro State Park (AFS)
Varied Thrush – 11 Mar, an individual lacking any orange plumage was seen at Cerro Alto (TME,AFS)
Sage Thrasher – 30 Mar, three were along Van Metre Ranch Road on the Carrizo Plain (AFS)
Le Conte's Thrasher – 30 Mar, three were along Van Metre Ranch Road, east side of the San Andreas scarp, near Elkhorn Road on the Carrizo Plain (AFS)
Northern Parula – 4-5 Mar, one at Pismo State Beach Oceano Campground was too early for a migrant and may have wintered in the area (RHZ)
Brewer's Sparrow – 28 Mar, a singing bird in the southern Carrizo Plain National Monument was about half-way between Quail Springs and Padronnes Springs (AFS)
Dark-eyed Junco – 28 Mar, a "slate-colored" race bird was in the vicinity of Quail Springs, in the southern Carrizo Plain National Monument (AFS)

OBSERVERS: Thanks to the many birders that report their sightings. The following people are cited above: Dick Barth, Tom M. Edell, Joanna Iwanicha, Dave M. Lawrence, Regena Orr, John L. Roser, Jim S. Royer, Alan F. Schmierer, Brad K. Schram, Steve C. Schubert, Kathy Sharum, Greg P. Smith, Maggie L. Smith, Bob W. Stafford, Mike D. Stiles, Brian L. Sullivan, Linda Tanner, Deb Villa, Roger H. Zachary, and mob = many observers. For information about birds mentioned in this report, consult the Morro Coast Audubon publication "The Birds of San Luis Obispo County, California" or contact Tom Edell at (805) 995-1691 or tedell@aol.com....
Tom Edell

Morro Coast Audubon Society Membership Application

Yes, I would like to join the Morro Coast Audubon Society and the National Audubon Society, and receive the Flyway and Audubon Magazine. Enclosed is a check payable to the NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY in the amount of:

\$15 Students/Seniors \$20 Introductory \$35 Basic(renewal) Other \$ _____

NAME _____ NEW MEMBER RENEWAL

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL(optional) _____

Mail check and coupon to: MORRO COAST AUDUBON SOCIETY, P.O. Box 1507, Morro Bay CA 93443-1507. To check the status of your subscription or request membership changes call 1-800-274-4201

Check box if you are interested in volunteering Check box if you wish to receive special MCAS announcements and alerts by e-mail

Morro Coast Audubon Society
P.O. Box 1507
Morro Bay CA 93443-1507
Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
U. S. Postage
PAID
San Luis Obispo CA
Permit No. 26
