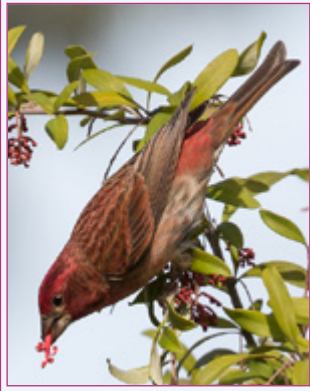


# INSIDE

## 2022 CBC RESULTS



Purple Finch - Lee Jaffe

### Hawk Rescue

### Santa Cruz Birds



Purple Finch - Lee Jaffe

### Birder's Notebook

### PARTING SHOT



# Albatross

PHOEBASTRIA NIGRIPES

## Bohemian Waxwings are Winter Stars A Report from Colorado

- By David Suddjian, Santa Cruz expat

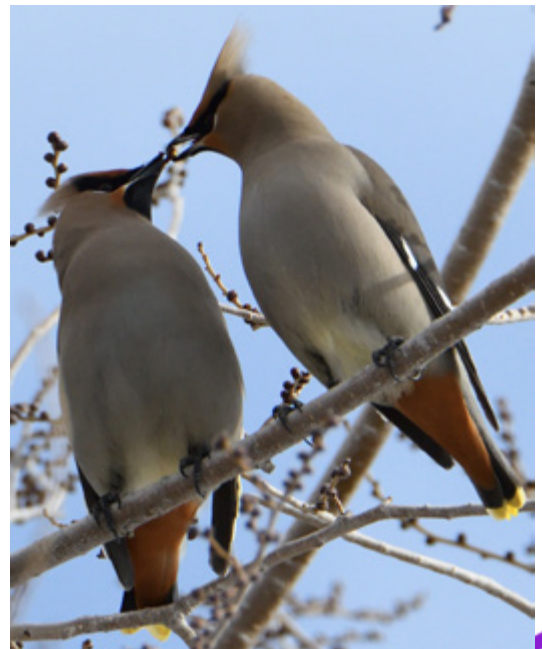
**O**n December 23 I was out on the driveway at 4:15 pm and the sun had dropped behind the nearby foothills. It was late enough on that short winter day that my yard birds had departed for the evening; just Mountain Chickadees were still making last dashes to the feeders. Looking west I spotted a flock of about 25 birds coming my way fast. They were small but not too small, reminding me in the split moment of discovery of a tight flock of starlings. But in that super split moment my brain was saying, "it's too late in the day for a flock of anything, and I don't get flocks of starlings anyway, and these are not the right color." The flock came near and turned to the south, and I saw long pointed triangular wings, recalling starlings, but the flock was tightly arrayed, and the birds were pale gray, and while stout as a starling they seemed a tad small. When they banked, I heard down-slurred trilled whistles, like a finger moving across the teeth of a small plastic comb. In that moment - some 3 seconds after initially spotting

the flock -- it clicked:

Bohemian Waxwings! A couple weeks earlier a few Bohemians had begun to turn up in Colorado. I had only found them once in Colorado in nine years, and they were only vaguely on my radar. I was not expecting a flock to fly over my driveway!

By early January a large irruption of Bohemian Waxwings had moved into parts of Colorado. Flocks were appearing in many places along the Front Range edge, and some birders saw super-sized waxwing flocks with

Bohemian Waxwings - Ken Fail





*David (right) leading a bird walk - Chen*

300 to over 1000 Bohemians. These are spectacles to see as hungry hordes came down to feast on berries and other fruits and gather in crowds high in the crowns of deciduous trees. Flocks rove from one feeding area to another in big clouds of waxwing magic. Along with the Bohemians came higher than normal numbers of Cedar Waxwings and American Robins, roaming around seeking food, too.

Colorado birders got waxwing fever and went looking in many parks, greenbelts, neighborhoods, and even commercial areas, trying to encounter waxwings. And while most of us have had success, the waxwings can play hard to get for birders who just aren't in the right place at the right time. For many here the Bohemian was a new species, or one seldom seen, and maybe never like this. For veteran Colorado birders, such irruptions had happened before, but it had been 15 years since the last large invasion, back in 2007-2008. As I write this, I have enjoyed about 12 encounters with Bohemians this season, including helping folks on my Denver Field Ornithologists field trips to enjoy hundreds. I may never experience this Bohemian bounty ever again in my life.

The Bohemian Waxwing is a more northerly species than the Cedar. Most years none or just a few venture south to Colorado, appearing

from late fall to early spring. But every so often, something causes very large numbers of Bohemians to move south into Colorado, perhaps in the tens of thousands were we somehow able to count. This winter's waxwing fiesta is an infrequent spectacle, but we can expect it to happen now and again. And nor is the scale unprecedented. It is what the Bohemian does. Presumably this season's huge numbers in Colorado reflect a lack of food farther north where they are more regular in winter, such as in western and southcentral Canada. And maybe our high numbers of Cedars and Robins are due to the same shortage of fruit or berry crops elsewhere. So, they came here.

Here in Colorado they find several plants that provide abundant food during winter, but interestingly most of these are not native. Perhaps the one-seeded juniper is the only native fruit-bearing plant that the waxwings might feed on now. But several non-native species are important for them. Common buckthorn (an invasive exotic) grows in large thickets with millions of berries. Lovely flowering crabapples are planted widely in the Denver Metro Area and other centers of development along the Front Range. Some of these trees are draped in fruit now. And there are planted junipers, hawthorne, and many others. It is interesting to note that were we to venture back before the area was settled and planted, say back to 1850, none of these fruit resources existed at all along the Front Range, but for the native juniper, then



*Bohemian Waxwing (left), Cedar Waxwing (right) - Norm Lewis*



mostly limited to some areas in the foothills. Back before the dawn of Colorado bird records, waxwings would have found next to no reason to visit Denver. Yet this year we have a waxwing fiesta of thousands, and they are spicing up Google news feeds and making everyone get out to look.

Bohemian Waxwings are infrequent visitors to California, but follow the same irruptive pattern there, where most have occurred in the northeastern segment of the state and in the northern Sierra Nevada. They are rare near the central California coast, and Santa Cruz County has

but one record. But Santa Cruz enjoys other irruptive species that arrive in large numbers at intervals. In the Santa Cruz Mountains, there may be irruptions of Red Crossbill, Pine Siskin, Evening Grosbeak, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Varied Thrush, American Robin, Band-tailed Pigeon, and others. And this is not to consider how numbers of some coastal and ocean birds occasionally rise to impressive heights. Barring weather events that might drive ocean birds, most of the irruptive species that flock to Santa Cruz County do so for the same reason as our Bohemians visiting now near Denver: food. Food is lacking somewhere, and they go to find it somewhere else. When conditions align, we birders revel in the rare bounty.



*Bohemian Waxwing Feeding Frenzy - Ken\_Fail*



*Bohemian Waxwing flocks - Gregg Goodrich*



# THE 66TH ANNUAL SANTA CRUZ CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

*December 17, 2022*

The 66th Santa Cruz CBC was held on Saturday, December 17, 2022. Another year of pleasant weather on count day was welcomed. Temperatures were cold (low 30s to low 60s) with little wind and clear skies throughout the day.

After several years of average to below-average counts, this year we tallied 170 species on count day, which is several above the recent (10-year) average of 167 species. The 38,752 total birds and 141.5 birds counted per hour this year were considerably lower than the recent averages of 41,012 total birds and 162 birds/hour, respectively. While we know that in general, the total number of birds on this count are declining, participants—especially in the mountains—reported that this was an especially “quiet” count day. Participation in the count, however, continues to soar. The 109 birders that participated this year and collectively logged 274 hours in the field were pushing all-time highs.



The undisputed highlight on count day was an adult Yellow-footed Gull at the Santa Cruz landfill (1st record for Santa Cruz County!), but close behind was a continuing Sage Thrasher (1st count record). Great-tailed Grackles were found for the second year in a row (2nd record) and a “Red” Fox Sparrow was a nice surprise (4th record). Other rarities on count day included Tennessee and Nashville Warbler,

Rose-breasted

Grosbeak, Red-naped Sapsucker, Glaucous Gull, and Redhead. It was also nice to pick up Burrowing Owl, which had been missed since 2018.

Birds that were more abundant than usual included the second-highest count ever of Bonaparte’s Gull (4,235!) and large numbers of Forster’s Terns (374% above recent average). Both Canada Goose (289%), Western Bluebird (197%, record count), and Wild Turkey (178%) continued their upward trajectory in abundance throughout the count

circle. The 20 White-throated Sparrows was

the highest ever count, and reflective of then record-breaking winter this species is having in the county.



All winter irruptives were notably scarce or absent. American Robins (650) and American Goldfinches (91) were 64% and 53% below their recent averages, respectively. Just 16 Pine Siskins and 2 Varied Thrushes were found, and most other irruptive species were absent. Seabird totals were low for the second consecutive year, and those noticeably scarcer than their recent averages included Pacific Loon (-88%), Common Loon (-50%), Northern Fulmar (-88%), Common Murre (-71%), and Western (-65%) and California Gulls (-56%).

Just one (!) White-tailed Kite was the lowest total in 38 years—where were they? Perhaps the biggest miss on count day was White-throated Swift.



*Photos from top:  
Sage Thrasher - Lisa Larson  
Burrowing Owl - Lisa Larson  
Pacific Loon - Beth Hamel*



Section leaders once again provided critical support in organizing coverage within their areas, and the count could not have functioned without the work of my co-compilers Nick Levendosky and Phil Brown in making the initial section assignments and handling logistics leading up to count day. Thanks to everyone for participating, and hope to have you back for next year's count!

*Alex Rinkert*



**PARTICIPANTS** (section leaders in **bold**):

Robin Abu-Shumays, **R.J. Adams**, David Apgar, **Kumaran Arul**, Emma Arul, Erika Arul, Jeremy Arul, Julian Arul, Patricia Bacchetti, Carolyn Bailey, Jasper Barnes, **Bonnie Bedzin**, Mike Bolte, Ron Bourret, Linda Brodman, **Phil Brown**, Martha Brown, Cathy Burgess, Jennifer Castillo, Vijay Char, Matthew Coale, Barbara Cordes, Kat Crichton, George Cummins, Kathy DeVoy, Judy Donaldson, Kate Edwards, **David Ekdahl**, Steven Fanucchi, David Fickel,

Abram Fleishman, Christina Floyd, Alexander Gaguine, Karin Gallagher, Kathryn Michelle Glowa, **Lois Goldfrank**, Richard Griffith, Elizabeth Hammack, Paul Heady, Diane Heckman, Thomas Helman, Howard Higley, **Sharon Hull**, Lee Jaffe, Kent Johnson, Kevin Kaos, Alex Keitt, Brad Keitt, Surrey Kent, Norman Kikuchi, Melody Kistner, Larry Kistner, Gary Kittleson, Storey LaMontagne, Beth Landry, June Langhoff, **Lisa Larson**, Dave Lavorando, Margaret A. Leonard, **Nicholas Levendosky**, Lynda Lewit, Joan Ling-Zwissler, Stephanie Martin, Gary Martindale, Bobbie Mayer, Katherine McCamant, Matthew McKown, Elias McKown, Juniper McKown, Barry McLaughlin, Sebastian Melrose, Greg Meyer, **Paul Miller**, Jane Orbuch, Vivienne Orgel, Sylvia Patience, Peter Pearsall, Margaret Perham, Erica Perloff, Shantanu Phukan, **Steven Pousty**, **Bernadette Ramer**, **Bob Ramer**, Alex Rinkert, Tanya Rogers, Ally Romanow, Lola Ross, Darrell Sales, Nicolas Schnack, Brian Schnack, Elena Scott, Suzie Shook, **David Sidle**, Stephanie Singer, **Jeff Smith**, Cooper Smith, David Somerton, Jane Sooby, Louisa Squires, Linda St. John, **Kitty Stein**, Glen Tepke, Matthew Timmer, Jac Tolchin, **Breck Tyler**, Norman Uyeda, Jonny Wahl, Laura Wood, Conor Wuertz

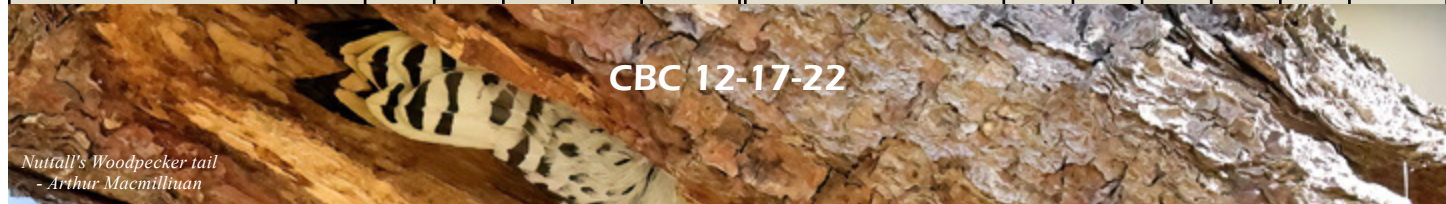


*Photos from top:  
American Goldfinches - John Fox  
White-tailed Kite - Gail West  
Nashville Warbler - David Sidle  
Glaucous Gull - Alex Rinkert*

## The 66th Annual Santa Cruz Christmas Bird Count December 17, 2022

Species	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	10-Year Avg	Species	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	10-Year Avg
Snow Goose	0	0	1	0	0	0.2	Rock Pigeon	1197	1095	876	556	885	1,370.8
Greater White-fronted Goose	0	0	1	1	72	7.9	Band-tailed Pigeon	575	531	152	325	841	1,056.2
Brant	0	1	0	0	0	0.2	Eurasian Collared-Dove	46	30	48	28	60	61.1
Cackling Goose	3	2	50	13	0	7.5	Mourning Dove	141	150	157	190	202	191.3
Canada Goose	63	48	82	87	148	51.8	White-throated Swift	0	0	CW	69	CW	14.5
goose sp.	0	0	0	5	0	0.6	Anna's Hummingbird	437	345	590	437	584	423.9
Wood Duck	21	55	26	36	26	34.8	Virginia Rail	6	4	3	2	2	4.3
Blue-winged Teal	0	0	0	2	0	1.5	Sora	2	0	1	1	4	1.8
Cinnamon Teal	0	0	CW	4	1	1.2	Common Gallinule	CW	0		0	1	0.3
Northern Shoveler	25	3	20	6	8	14.3	American Coot	549	262	0	566	529	766.6
Eurasian Wigeon	0	0	0	1	0	0.1	Black Oystercatcher	28	18	849	32	26	23.6
American Wigeon	50	0	0	43	28	23.4	Black-bellied Plover	63	CW	28	3	52	30.2
Mallard	604	1	34	715	625	549.9	Snowy Plover	0	0	12	21	39	70.4
Mallard (Domestic)	0	469	493	0	8	8.0	Killdeer	77	3	0	7	104	75.1
Northern Pintail	1	21	0	50	10	46.3	Whimbrel	152	1	CW	5	44	41.8
Green-winged Teal	8	2	9	7	31	13.3	Long-billed Curlew	29	13	137	0	18	10.1
Canvasback	1	4	0	0	0	0.8	Marbled Godwit	12	0	75	0	32	14.2
Redhead	CW	0	0	1	1	0.2	Black Turnstone	23	4	26	69	35	102.2
Ring-necked Duck	142	55	44	65	34	74.7	Surfbird	225	70	13	23	32	57.1
Greater Scaup	0	0	4	0	0	2.3	Sanderling	52	16	82	380	668	523.7
Lesser Scaup	0	0	1	2	1	2.9	Least Sandpiper	513	263	57	0	7	3.8
Greater/Lesser Scaup	CW	0	9	0	0	1.0	Western Sandpiper	5	1	590	0	CW	0.0
Surf Scoter	464	277	854	685	453	838.6	Long-billed Dowitcher	1	1	5	0	1	0.1
White-winged Scoter	0	0	1	1	0	0.4	Wilson's Snipe	4	0	2	2	50	7.8
Black Scoter	0	0	CW	0	0	0.2	Red Phalarope	7	4	6	0	7	3.8
Bufflehead	47	44	97	65	60	82.1	Spotted Sandpiper	0	0	7	8	5	7.2
Common Goldeneye	40	24	65	71	38	55.0	Greater Yellowlegs	0	0	1	0	1	0.8
Hooded Merganser	14	2	11	10	18	10.5	Pomarine Jaeger	1	1	0	0	0	0.6
Common Merganser	8	32	11	28	13	19.2	Parasitic Jaeger	0	0	0	1	0	0.2
Red-breasted Merganser	11	7	27	8	16	17.0	Common Murre	196	357	0	198	192	607.6
Ruddy Duck	65	36	110	82	69	69.4	Pigeon Guillemot	0	0	371	0	0	0.2
duck sp.	0	1	0	0	0	0.1	Marbled Murrelet	5	7	1	21	9	7.2
California Quail	188	68	183	167	207	212.6	Ancient Murrelet	10	3	6	2	0	4.2
Wild Turkey	127	96	184	270	250	113.5	murrelet sp.	0	5	0	1	0	0.6
Pied-billed Grebe	48	32	44	42	60	57.0	Cassin's Auklet	1	0	0	0	0	4.9
Horned Grebe	5	7	7	4	36	13.8	Rhinoceros Auklet	85	114	0	69	99	63.3
Red-necked Grebe	1	CW	8	6	3	3.9	Bonaparte's Gull	3	116	110	2	4,235	440.0
Eared Grebe	13	12	62	26	56	47.8	Heermann's Gull	109	202	7	270	491	289.3
Western Grebe	393	367	571	273	1133	491.3	Short-billed Gull	111	167	132	81	134	170.6
Clark's Grebe	2	6	10	1	11	10.6	Ring-billed Gull	44	18	26	9	52	28.8
Western/Clark's Grebe	638	45	339	68	71	353.1	Western Gull	1547	1737	31	1470	871	2,230.4
							Yellow-footed Gull	0	0	0	0	1	1.0

Species	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	10-Year Avg	Species	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	10-Year Avg
California Gull	1085	1219	886	838	718	1549.9	Red-naped Sapsucker	0	0	0	0	1	0.3
Herring Gull	85	120	118	8	66	77.0	Red-breasted Sapsucker	16	11	6	10	15	10.4
Iceland Gull	14	18	23	3	14	11.6	sapsucker sp.	1	1	0	0	0	0.2
Glaucous-winged Gull	441	644	764	387	709	869.4	Acorn Woodpecker	418	320	462	501	571	395.0
Glaucous Gull	0	0	1	0	1	0.5	Downy Woodpecker	39	16	34	34	41	31.7
Western x Glaucous-winged Gull	21	5	6	4	14	43.9	Nuttall's Woodpecker	34	18	26	25	20	22.9
Herring x Glaucous-winged Gull	6	52	25	2	21	14.6	Hairy Woodpecker	54	27	80	39	49	47.4
Glaucous-winged x Glaucous Gull	0	0	1	0	0	0.1	Downy/Hairy Woodpecker	3	3	0	0	0	0.6
gull sp.	1272	2765	2198	3268	685	2951.6	Pileated Woodpecker	8	3	9	6	8	6.1
Forster's Tern	0	60	0	6	55	17.0	Northern Flicker	110	64	100	68	135	95.5
Red-throated Loon	106	121	294	177	218	146.1	Red-shafted	39	8	18	21	20	28.6
Pacific Loon	133	267	191	206	124	238.3	intergrade	0	1	0	2	1	1.0
Common Loon	35	46	54	45	20	37.5	American Kestrel	46	19	42	36	28	33.3
loon sp.	133	837	424	232	99	291.1	Merlin	12	9	8	6	9	7.8
Northern Fulmar	0	3	35	237	4	31.3	Peregrine Falcon	9	5	3	6	8	6.6
Sooty Shearwater	0	0	0	1	0	0.1	"Western" Flycatcher	0	1	0	0	0	0.1
Black-vented Shearwater	2	0	0	135	0	569.4	Black Phoebe	285	205	333	274	310	266.8
shearwater sp.	0	0	0	1	0	2.6	Say's Phoebe	49	23	41	36	54	37.9
Brandt's Cormorant	762	305	570	1163	1187	1141.6	Tropical Kingbird	1	1	CW	0	CW	0.4
Pelagic Cormorant	60	23	73	54	46	63.6	Hutton's Vireo	81	33	55	25	14	43.3
Double-crested Cormorant	386	168	220	331	411	301.6	Loggerhead Shrike	3	1	2	0	1	1.3
cormorant sp.	0	0	43	0	0	34.8	Stellar's Jay	223	213	266	210	254	248.6
Brown Pelican	843	429	379	679	1317	824.8	California Scrub-Jay	383	207	440	333	402	348.3
Great Blue Heron	26	16	25	19	26	21.3	American Crow	968	1012	1427	1314	1227	1124.8
Great Egret	27	20	15	28	14	22.7	Common Raven	484	374	725	380	514	439.9
Snowy Egret	104	57	68	96	15	62.3	Chestnut-backed Chickadee	640	521	955	742	754	728.1
Green Heron	5	1	4	5	4	4.4	Oak Titmouse	89	85	175	113	119	97.4
Black-crowned Night-Heron	39	15	24	23	27	24.2	Tree Swallow	0	0	0	1	0	0.6
Turkey Vulture	23	82	79	49	61	41.9	Violet-green Swallow	23	0	0	6	1	3.7
Osprey	6	2	2	1	3	3.7	Barn Swallow	1	3	0	1	0	0.7
White-tailed Kite	26	16	22	9	1	12.2	swallow sp.	0	0	0	5	5	1.4
Golden Eagle	1	2	2	1	3	1.4	Bushtit	1004	578	1192	666	783	841.9
Northern Harrier	42	12	35	27	17	19.6	Wren Tit	91	50	95	87	77	74.7
Sharp-shinned Hawk	5	8	11	3	3	8.9	Golden-crowned Kinglet	25	8	9	0	1	8.5
Cooper's Hawk	19	17	23	18	14	14.8	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	429	282	515	282	198	338.1
Cooper's/Sharp-shinned Hawk	4	1	5	7	1	3.0	Red-breasted Nuthatch	0	36	3	0	0	4.5
Bald Eagle	1	66	0	2	2	1.3	White-breasted Nuthatch	0	1	2	CW	6	1.3
Red-shouldered Hawk	90	120	84	93	76	69.8	Pygmy Nuthatch	179	141	292	219	177	197.1
Red-tailed Hawk	112	1	137	150	117	107.4	Brown Creeper	80	50	99	35	58	71.6
Ferruginous Hawk	1	1	2	0	0	0.6	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	13	14	9	7	4	8.4
hawk sp.	0	1	1	0	0	0.2	House Wren	13	12	6	4	7	8.8
Barn Owl	2	1	3	4	2	2.0	Pacific Wren	14	11	19	7	9	10.7
Western Screech-Owl	4	9	1	1	4	4.3	Marsh Wren	19	15	15	11	11	14.8
Great Horned Owl	20	0	64	27	22	18.8	Bewick's Wren	163	136	139	135	128	135.3
Northern Pygmy-Owl	2	0	3	1	1	1.7	American Dipper	1	1	1	0	0	0.8
Burrowing Owl	2	0	0	CW	1	3.1	European Starling	1044	385	653	655	1818	1051.1
Northern Saw-whet Owl	3	12	6	2	1	0.8	California Thrasher	29	11	21	12	32	16.4
Belted Kingfisher	16	0	16	15	20	12.9	Sage Thrasher	0	0	0	0	1	1.0
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1		0	0	0	0.2	Northern Mockingbird	19	23	31	25	19	28.5





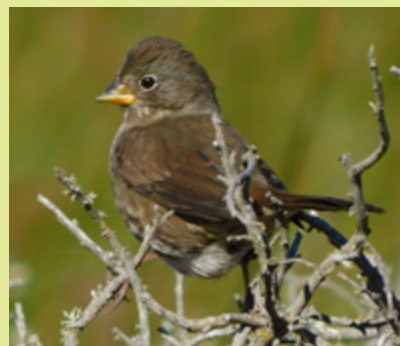


**CBC 12-17-22**

Species	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	10-Year Avg
Western Bluebird	113	80	202	148	247	104.9
Varied Thrush	25	56	58	2	2	148.9
Hermit Thrush	146	129	235	119	256	164.0
American Robin	2515	850	648	945	650	1312.4
Cedar Waxwing	909	446	388	369	458	446.8
Scaly-breasted Munia	0	0	0	2	0	0.2
House Sparrow	18	22	26	29	146	57.5
White Wagtail	0	0	1	0	0	0.1
American Pipit	527	148	372	62	72	150.0
House Finch	603	375	1015	615	659	627.4
Purple Finch	143	38	89	91	52	85.2
Red Crossbill	0	44	0	4	0	16.2
Pine Siskin	2	293	3085	198	16	690.9
Lesser Goldfinch	165	63	542	509	316	280.2
American Goldfinch	147	54	97	185	91	179.5
Chipping Sparrow	0	1	0	0	0	0.1
Fox Sparrow	70	58	112	33	59	81.3
Slate-colored	0	0	1	0	0	0.1
Red	0	0	0	1	1	0.2
Dark-eyed Junco	904	662	1050	597	1536	992.8
Slate-colored	0	0	1	0	0	0.8
White-crowned Sparrow	745	586	1783	737	856	953.9
Puget Sound	0	13	60	0	0	7.3
Nuttalli	0	1	0	0	0	0.1
Gambel's	0	2	7	0	0	0.9
Golden-crowned Sparrow	741	539	2240	979	1257	1227.2
Zonotrichia sp.	0	5	0	40	0	4.5
White-throated Sparrow	3	1	9	8	20	7.1
Savannah Sparrow	28	18	60	35	34	42.3
Song Sparrow	270	218	301	318	303	247.5
Lincoln's Sparrow	52	38	42	40	15	64.7
Swamp Sparrow	2	1	1	1	CW	1.3
California Towhee	270	215	285	231	296	288.1
Spotted Towhee	174	118	174	152	182	149.2
Western Meadowlark	197	75	500	102	353	241.1
Bullock's Oriole	0	0	0	0	CW	0.0
Red-winged Blackbird	382	175	410	981	328	449.9
Tricolored Blackbird	153	158	184	76	97	295.8
Brown-headed Cowbird	35	1	17	48	72	22.0
Brewer's Blackbird	333	178	334	286	389	387.5

Species	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	10-Year Avg
Great-tailed Grackle	0	0	0	1	1	0.2
blackbird sp.	35	0	280	123	529	164.3
Black-and-white Warbler	1	1	0	0	CW	0.5
Tennessee Warbler	0	0	0	0	1	0.1
Orange-crowned Warbler	14	4	5	8	9	6.5
Lucy's Warbler	0	0	0	1	0	0.1
Nashville Warbler	0	0	CW	0	1	0.1
Common Yellowthroat	41	42	49	46	34	31.7
Palm Warbler	0	0	2	0	CW	1.2
Yellow-rumped Warbler	337	237	643	695	413	447.7
Audubon's	213	131	231	194	199	225.4
Myrtle	21	12	15	34	76	59.8
Black-throated Gray Warbler	0	0	2	0	0	0.3
Townsend's Warbler	152	158	173	131	193	166.0
Hermit Warbler	0	0	1	1	0	0.4
Summer Tanager	0	2	1	0	CW	0.4
Western Tanager	0	0	0	0	CW	0.0
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	0	0	0	0	1	0.1

# Individuals	32,831	25,984	39,934	31,570	38,752	39,283.8
# Species	165	162	167	168	170	167.5
# Participants	98	92	100	109	109	91.7
# Field Hours	343.6	250.2	221.7	304.5	273.8	273.5



*Fox Sparrow - Sol Katzman*



# Main Street Hawk Rescue

By Lynda Lewit

On January 21st, a Hawk was observed standing under a Walnut tree on Main Street in Soquel for a lengthy time. We realized this was unusual behavior so [Santa Cruz Native Animal Rescue \(NAR\)](#) was called. We saw it was a Red-Tailed Hawk, (*Buteo jamaicensis*) because it had a dark belly band and a dark head. We assumed it was juvenile because of its light eyes and thin banded tail.



Just 30 minutes later Mark, a NAR volunteer arrived. When he approached the Hawk with a large hoop net, it flew up on the roof of a shade greenhouse located in the Soquel Nursery property.



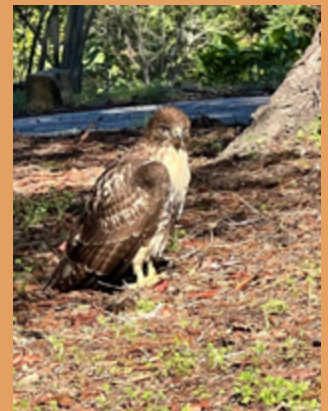
One of the Nursery employees, joined us and brought a tall metal ladder. When Mark climbed the ladder and approached the Hawk, it extended its wings in a protective posture but did not fly away. We realized he was probably very weak.

Mark was eventually able to retrieve the bird and bring it down.

Just then we heard the familiar high pitched descending scream and looked up and saw three Red-Tailed Hawks circling right over the Nursery grounds where we were. We wondered if the bird being rescued was part of their family.

Mark made the decision that our “Main Street Hawk” was probably in need of treatment so he put it in a carrier box and brought him to NAR.

The next day our neighbor went to Native Animal Rescue center on 17th Avenue and was told he had Bumblefoot (a common bacterial infection and inflammatory reaction that occurs on the feet of birds), was malnourished, weak and had been sprayed by a skunk. They said he was not eating.



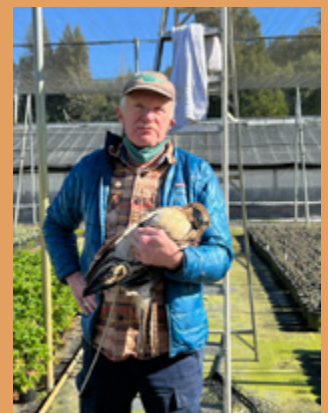
I went to NAR to check on its status a few days later and was told that unfortunately, it died after 3 days in care.

They told me In accordance with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 and the American Indian Freedom of Religion Act of 1978 which indicates that only Native American persons with permits may carry Eagle and Hawk feathers, the Hawk will go to a local Native American Indian Tribe.



I tried to find out if the Hawk was a male or female but no one would say for sure. After some research I discovered that Red-Tailed Hawks cannot be sexed visually by plumage. It may be possible by taking measurements. I did find out that female adult Red-Tailed Hawks can be up to a third larger than the males.

Please take a look at the Santa Cruz Native Animal Rescue website. I found it easy to learn what to do if a native animal is in need. They are an important local non-profit. One can make a donation through [nativeanimalrescue.org](http://nativeanimalrescue.org).



# Santa Cruz Birds

By Alex Rinkert

*Including reports from November 1 to December 31, 2022*



While writing this article, I was struck by a number of recent changes to our local avifauna that have happened just in the past few years. Bald Eagles are now so widely seen around the county that it is difficult and sometimes impossible to distinguish the resident pairs and their young from the rare transients that pass through during migration. White-breasted Nuthatches, quite rare throughout

most of the county just a few years ago, are now reported frequently in all seasons across the county. Great-tailed Grackles now have a small but regular presence in Santa Cruz, and Scaly-breasted Munias seem to have a strong foothold in the county despite there still being no evidence of them breeding. The “Santa Cruz Birds” article series that appears in each issue of the Albatross helps track, and sometimes attempts to make sense of, these changes as they are happening so that there is a concise record of how our local avifauna is changing.

Late fall and early winter were dry except for the latter half of December, during which time some much needed rain soaked the ground. All winter irruptive species remained in low abundance or were absent entirely. However, there was plenty of excitement with a Red-footed Booby allowing close approach at the Santa Cruz Municipal Wharf, one of two Sage Thrashers and a Scarlet Tanager were enjoyed by many, and two completely unexpected first county records—Red-flanked Bluetail and Yellow-footed Gull—brought the total number of species seen in Santa Cruz County to 466.

A **Snow Goose** at Scotts Valley from December 4–7 was noteworthy in the mountains (EH). The fields and marsh at Laguna Beach hosted unusually large flocks of 183 **Cackling Geese** (AR, ES, v.ob.) through November, and 102 **Greater White-fronted Geese** (BT, v.ob.) through December. Also unusual here were counts of up to 16 **Wood Ducks** between November 11–27 (AF, PB); this species is rarely seen on the north coast, especially in such high numbers. Two male **Eurasian Wigeons** were reported in the Pajaro Valley this period (NU, v.ob.). A male **Redhead** visiting various waterbodies around Santa Cruz from November 18–December 20 was rare away from the Pajaro Valley (AR, v.ob.). A **Long-**



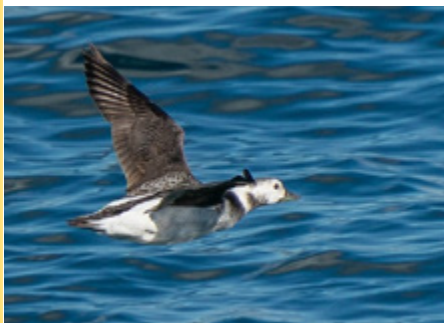
November 12–13 (LL, VY).

The male **Allen’s Hummingbird** at Bethany Curve lingered through November 2 (JB).

**Common Gallinules** at Rancho del Oso, Kalkar Quarry, and Neary Lagoon were noteworthy away from the Pajaro Valley (NL, AR, LJ, GT, RW, NW).

Two **American Avocets** at the San Lorenzo River mouth and then perhaps the same two later in the day at the Aptos Creek mouth were rare to see in winter on the mid-county coast (AR, ES, GM, SB).

A **Pacific Golden-Plover** flocked with **Killdeer** at Swanton Pond from November 20–December 2 (GM, PH). A **Western Sandpiper** at Laguna Beach from November 4–December 19 was exceptional for the north coast in early winter (ST, v.ob.), as this species is only



**Long-tailed Duck** was seen at the Santa Cruz Municipal Wharf from



*Photos from top:  
Yellow-footed Gull - Paul Heady  
Allen's Hummingbird - Alice Church  
Left: Long-tailed Duck - L. Lang  
American Avocets - Gary Martindale*



occasionally seen in small numbers in the Pajaro Valley in winter.

Two pelagic trips this period found **Ancient Murrelets** to be abundant on the Monterey Bay; about 600 were seen on November 30, and they were still in good numbers (286) a week later on December 7 (AR, AF, GM, NU, JW, PH, PB, DU). Interestingly, this species nearly went unreported from land this period, and no large numbers were seen during the continuous seawatch at Point Pinos in Monterey. A massive flock of at least 2,200 **Bonaparte's Gulls** on the Monterey Bay and nearshore waters off Santa Cruz from December 7 through at least December 21 was unusually many for winter (v.ob.). A second-cycle **Glaucous Gull** was at Wilder Ranch State Park on December 17 (AR, ES).

A surprising find this winter was an adult **Yellow-footed Gull** that was nicely photographed at the Santa Cruz landfill on the Christmas Bird Count, December 17 (LG, PH). This represented the 1st record of this species in the county, and possibly the first in northern California. Away from their core range in the Gulf of California, Yellow-footed Gulls regularly occur at the Salton Sea in southern California and occasionally stray to southern Nevada and coastal southern California as far north as Los Angeles. While they have also been found in northern Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico, this occurrence in Santa Cruz was still quite

unexpected considering they rarely venture this far north and away from desert regions. Numerous attempts to relocate this bird in the following week were unsuccessful, however, it is possible if not likely that it is wintering in the area.

A pelagic trip on December 7 found a dead whale floating in the Monterey Bay that had attracted a gregarious flock of over 300 **Northern Fulmars** (NU, DU, AF, GM, JW, AR)! Another pelagic on November 7 scored a late **Buller's Shearwater** and a rare **Manx Shearwater** (AR, DU, AF, PB, PH, GM). Only a handful of **Black-vented Shearwaters** were found this period, none of which were seen from land (CD, v.ob.).

A light-morph immature **Red-footed Booby**, the same that had been seen riding boats on the Monterey Bay earlier in fall, was found roosting on the Santa Cruz Municipal Wharf beginning November 3 (SL, v.ob.). As was noted earlier in fall, this bird had little fear of humans but was otherwise behaving normally and appeared healthy. Some of its favored morning and evening perches on the wharf railing made it easily approachable, and unfortunately, once this rare bird made the local news, it was quickly snatched away by Native Animal Rescue on November 17. A **Cattle Egret** was at Pajaro Dunes from November 26–27 (NS, DF).

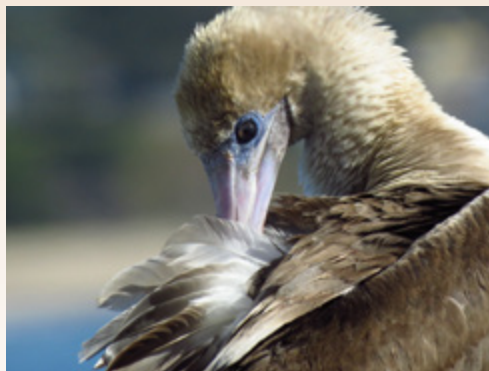
**Bald Eagles** are now being widely reported around the county, to the extent that it is now difficult



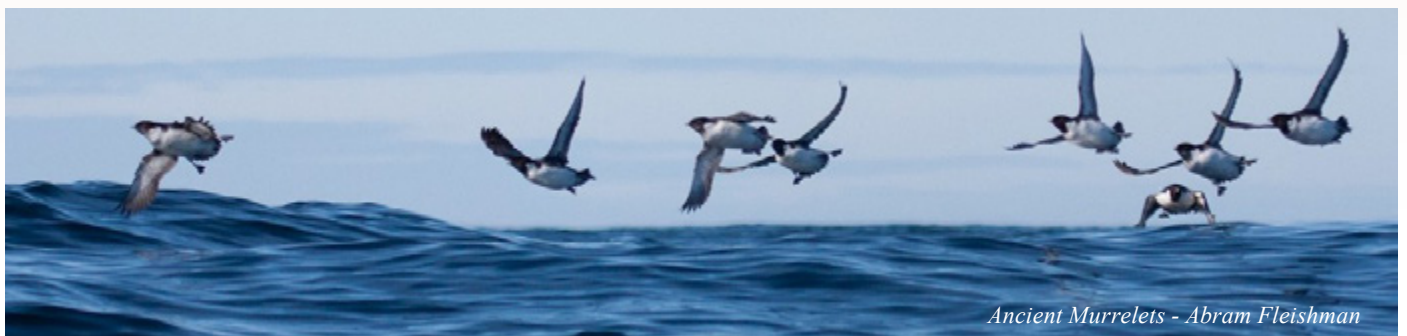
*Manx Shearwater - Abram Fleishman*



*Yellow-footed Gull - Paul Heady*



*Red-footed Booby - Lisa Larson*



*Ancient Murrelets - Abram Fleishman*





*Red-naped Sapsucker - Lisa Larson*

Valley may also pertain to a pair that has been rumored to breed near Loch Lomond in previous years. A pair of adults lingering near Soda Lake this period may be different than the Watsonville pair, and may be breeding nearby as well.

No **Ferruginous Hawks** were reported in late fall and early winter for the first time in many years. **Burrowing Owls** were once again absent at UC Santa Cruz, but a few were found elsewhere in the county at Wilder Ranch State Park (KA et al., AG), near San Andreas Road (GK), and one continued at Pajaro Dunes (v.ob.). A **Short-eared Owl** was near the confluence of Watsonville and Harkins sloughs on November 16 (MT et al.).

Rare sapsuckers included an adult female **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** near Aptos on December 15 (PH), an adult

to distinguish transients and overwintering birds from the resident pairs in Watsonville and on the mid-county coast. Sightings at Loch Lomond and the middle San Lorenzo

male **Red-naped Sapsucker** at Meder Street beginning December 17 (RR, BR, v.ob.), a **Yellow-bellied/Red-naped Sapsucker** near Aptos on December 8 (PH), and an apparent **Red-naped x Red-breasted Sapsucker** hybrid returning for its second winter at Bethany Curve by November 5 (AR, ES, v.ob.). Rare falcons included a **“Black” Merlin** at the San Lorenzo River mouth on November 28, which may have been present since October 5 (AR), and a **Prairie Falcon** was at coastal Wilder Ranch State Park on December 28 (PB et al.).

A **Western Wood-Pewee** at Lighthouse Field State Beach on November 1–2 was quite late for a fall

migrant (AF). At least 12 **Tropical Kingbirds** were reported this period, with at least six continuing to be attracted to fruiting Peruvian peppertrees in a parking lot near Struve Slough (BK, v.ob.). **White-breasted Nuthatches** had another good showing with at least fifteen reported around the county this period (v.ob.). A **Rock Wren** was on the precipitous rocky bluffs between Scott Creek mouth and Greyhound Rock on November 23 (SM). At least three **Townsend’s Solitaires** continued at Castle

Rock State Park through late November (v.ob.), and another was seen in a backyard further down Highway 35 on December 9 (KM).



*Red-flanked Bluetail - Andrew Kenny  
Andrew has the first (that I could find) successful photos this elusive bird on a dark, rainy day. Congratulations to Matt Brady for finding this bird!*

The rarest bird found this period was a female or immature **Red-flanked Bluetail** seen in the central willow patch at Lighthouse Field State Beach (MB), which represented the 1st record in the county of this Old World flycatcher and just the 6th record for California. Four of the other records in the state have come from offshore islands (Southeast Farallon and San Clemente islands) while the other was seen at a garden park in Los Angeles County. The Santa Cruz bird was first seen in the late afternoon on December 28, and was refound the following morning and most days through the end of December. The incredibly furtive behavior of this bird and frequent rain made seeing the bluetail quite

*Sage Thrasher. Homeless Garden - Jasper Barnes*





challenging, with only about fifty birders successfully locating it before the end of the year. Although, as its daily circuit became better understood and drier weather allowed more field forays, many hundreds more birders would later get to see this special bird in the New Year.

A **Sage Thrasher** at the Homeless Garden on November 28 proved to be an elusive one-day-wonder (AG, JB, v.ob.), but another found at the San Lorenzo River mouth on December 13 was enjoyed by many as it feasted on pyracantha berries through the end of December (JB, v.ob.). These two Sage Thrashers were the first fall and winter records in the county since 2013.

A **Lapland Longspur** flew over Swanton Pond on November 20 (BT, PC, EE). A **Chipping Sparrow** at Salsipuedes Creek was rare away from irregular wintering locations at UC Santa Cruz and Corralitos (DS). Rare “**Red**” **Fox Sparrows** were at the Farm Project at UC Santa Cruz on December 17 (GT, LJ)



and one returned to a backyard in Soquel for a second winter, first seen in October (LS). Also rare in the county was a “**Slate-colored**” **Fox Sparrow** at Lighthouse Field State Beach on December 29 (RT).



A staggering 84 **White-throated Sparrows** was the highest total ever for this period!

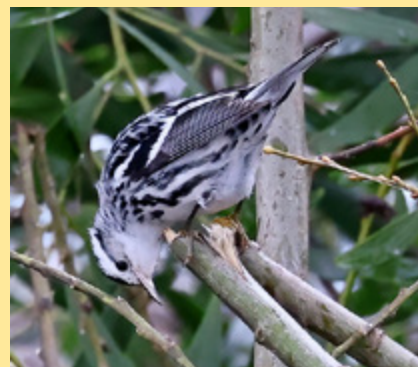
Recent winters have had roughly 10–30 individuals during this period, but historically there have been totals of up to 52 individuals at this time of year. Perhaps this was the result of a good breeding season for them

further north, or this is a continuation of the exceptional fall migration we had in the county this year. Twelve **Swamp Sparrows** this period was also a good total, especially compared to recent years when only a handful were reported.

Late migrant or wintering **Bullock’s Orioles** included two at lower westside Santa Cruz from November 2–8 (AF, v.ob.) and beginning December 6 (AK, BK), and one in La Selva on December 3 (CR). At least three **Great-tailed Grackles** at the Santa Cruz Municipal Wharf and one at Westlake Pond are now becoming expected (v.ob.). An adult male frequenting Skypark and nearby shopping centers at Scotts Valley beginning November 2 was still unusual as there are very few records for the montane region of the county, and these were the first of those few records to stay multiple days (AD, JS, v.ob.).

A female **Hooded Warbler** at Sunset State Beach on December 12 was quite rare, and the first fall or winter record in the county since 2018 (LL). Other rare warblers this period included **Black-and-white Warblers** at Neary Lagoon beginning November 3 (CSm) and at Seacliff on November 11 (NW). A **Tennessee Warbler** continued at Bethany Curve through November 11 (v.ob.), and additional individuals were at Tyrrell Park on December 9–11 (AR, v.ob.) and the confluence of Branciforte and Carbonera creeks from November 21–December 17 (AR, v.ob.). Totals of 5 **Nashville Warblers**, 8 **Palm Warblers**, and 6 **Hermit Warblers** rounded out the scarce but regular warblers found in winter (v.ob.).

A female **Scarlet Tanager** visiting a fruiting persimmon from November 16–22 was just the 5th record for the county (BVE, v.ob.). A **Western Tanager** was also attracted to this tree from November



*Counter-clockwise from top:*  
*Black-and-white Warbler - Arthur Macmillian*  
*Hooded Warbler - Lisa Larson*  
*Summer Tanager (eating persimmon),*  
*Western Tanager, and*  
*Swamp Sparrow - Pete Solé*



*Rose-breasted Grosbeak - Christian Schwarz*

18–December 18, and then two were seen on December 28 (BVE)! This tree also attracted one of the Tennessee Warblers found this period. Last but not least in the tanager department, three **Summer**

**Tanagers** found this period was a good showing;

an adult male was at Salsipuedes Creek on December 26 (DS), an immature male was at the Farm Project at UC Santa Cruz from November 9–10 (SBB) and then presumably refound nearby on December 16 (LJ), and a female was at Antonelli Pond from November 22–December 25 (CC, v.ob.).

Single **Rose-breasted Grosbeaks** were in backyards at Scotts Valley on November 11 (WS) and westside Santa Cruz on December 17 (CS), while a **Black-headed Grosbeak** visited a backyard in Interlaken and nearby Salsipuedes Creek beginning December 8 (NU, DS). Small numbers of **Scaly-breasted Munias** were reported from the mid-county coast and Pajaro Valley, and one at a feeder about 3.5 miles inland on North Rodeo Gulch Road was the furthest into the mountains they have been reported since this species arrived in the county in 2018 (MP).

#### **Cited Observers:**

Kumaran Arul, Jasper Barnes, Sam Baxter-Bray, Scott Bentall, Matt Brady, Phil Brown, Cindy Cummings, Phil Chaon, Andrea Devlin, Erik Enbody, David Fickel, Abram Fleishman, Alexander Gaguine, Lois Goldfrank, Elaine Hander, Paul Heady, Lee Jaffe, Alex Keitt, Brad Keitt, Bryan Kett, Gary Kittleson, L. Lang, Lisa Larson, Nick Levendosky, Sheldon Logan, Stephanie Martin, Gary

Martindale, Karen Moody, Martha Pallin, Bernadette Ramer, Robert Ramer, Alex Rinkert, Chris Rummel, Nico Schnack, Christian Schwarz, Elena Scott, David Sidle, Lisa Sheridan, Cooper Smith (CSm), Jonah Svensson, Glen Tepke, Ryan Terrill, Simon Thornhill, Matthew Timmer, Breck Tyler, Darrell Uyeda, Norman Uyeda, Bob von Elgg, Jonny Wahl, Nat Weber, Wren Sassy, Ray Witbeck, Vivi Y, “v.ob.” means various observers. *Please enter interesting observations into eBird or report them to Alex Rinkert at [arinkert12@comcast.net](mailto:arinkert12@comcast.net).*

#### **Matt Brady – On finding the Red-flanked Bluetail**

My initial sighting of the bird was the best. The bird was perched in the open, in good light, only about 8 meters away. This sighting was short, but I saw all of the relevant field marks. I was initially drawn to the bird’s wing and tail flicking behavior, which I think was likely in response to my mob track. When I looked at the bird through binoculars I noted that it was not especially large, but was very rotund. The first field mark I noticed was the white throat contrasting with a light gray breast. The head was slightly darker gray, and I noted a teardrop-shaped half eye ring, broken at the front of the “ring”. The head was round, the bill short, rather thin, and generally thrush-like. I did not concentrate on observing the back, but I think it was grayish. I was distracted by the light orangy-red flanks, which I had somehow missed at first glance as it wasn’t until the bird flicked its wings that the orangy flanks became apparent. I did not note the color of the bird’s legs. The tail, which I saw best when the bird took flight, was bright blue, similar to that of a Western Bluebird.

During my second observation, I saw the bird pop up from dense understory, and faced me. Once again I noted the gray head and body and contrasting white throat and broad orange-red flanks.

I arrived at Lighthouse Field at about 14:20, and immediately set about searching for the Gray Catbird reported earlier in the day. The only other birder on the scene was just departing having spent some time searching unsuccessfully, but she told me the general area to search on her way out. I



*Sage Thrasher, San Lorenzo River overlook  
- Jasper Barnes*



spent about 20 minutes searching unsuccessfully when I decided to try playing some chickadee mob tracks that have brought in Gray Catbirds in the past. After about 5 minutes of mob track playback a nice assortment of typical coastal riparian birds had assembled. A sudden movement out of the corner of my eye caught my attention, and I turned my focus to what I thought, naked eye, might be an Empidonax flycatcher based on the tail flicking behavior. I put my binoculars on the bird, which was about 8 meters away, perched on a low branch at the edge of a dense willow thicket, in plain view. The white throat immediately caught my attention, and then as the bird flicked its wings, I noted that the flanks were reddish. I knew immediately what this bird was, but my identification was further corroborated



when, about three seconds after I put my binoculars on the bird, it flew low and out of sight, and I could see the blue tail. I was in shock, but there was no doubt that I had just seen a Red-flanked Bluetail. I spent a few minutes furiously sending



text messages to friends, asking them to get the word out as I am no longer really tuned in to the local Santa Cruz birding community. I then concentrated on trying to refind the bird so that I could attempt to digibin it (I no longer own an SLR). The local birds were slowly losing interest in the mob track, so I cut it and walked around a little bit, trying to see if I could blunder into the bird by (more) sheer dumb luck. About twenty minutes had passed since my initial sighting, so I tried the mob track again. A few birds responded, and after a minute or two, the Bluetail once again popped up. This was a relief as it confirmed that I had not hallucinated the bird. During my second observation, the bird was a little farther back in the willow thicket, partially obscured. I attempted to digibin it, but failed, and then it disappeared. I spent the next two or so hours searching for the bird as other birders slowly started to filter in, but had no further luck nor did any other birders. I eventually left once it was rather too dark to realistically see any birds.

*Despite inclement weather and increasing boggy conditions, many birders flocked to Lighthouse Field State Beach to try to get a glimpse or miraculous photo in the first days after the sighting. Doves of birders have since followed to see this mega rarity.*

*Top photo - Michael Bolte*

*Middle photo - Lisa Larson*

*Bottom photo - Selfie assist by Dave Lavorando*



# Birder's Notebook

## Recent Works by John Perry

<https://corvidsketcher.com/tag/santa-cruz-county/>



It's always nice to the start the new year of with a life bird. So much better if the bird is a mega rarity!

This was the Eurasian chat - the **Red-flanked Bluetail** (*Tarsiger cyanurus*).

The bird was the sixth California record and only the second chasible bird (that is if you have an ocean going vessel), the other four records are from the Farallon Islands. It was found on December 28, 2022.



The first **Red-footed Booby** (*Sula sula*) I had ever seen in Santa Cruz County was perched on the pier out to the Concrete Ship at Seaciff Beach. But the booby that has recently been hanging around Santa Cruz Wharf was a much more incredible and close bird.

The booby was first seen towards the end of the wharf on November 3. At the time, local birders assumed the booby was sick because it appeared very lethargic and allowed a very close approach from viewers, including some selfies seeking tourists. A local birder had to put up yellow caution tape to keep the booby admirers at bay.

The Red-footed Booby is a bird of the tropics and not the foggy coast of Northern California. The common name comes from the Spanish "bobo", meaning buffoon. This refers to the ease in catching the bird and it's awkward gait on land. Many of these seabirds experience "island





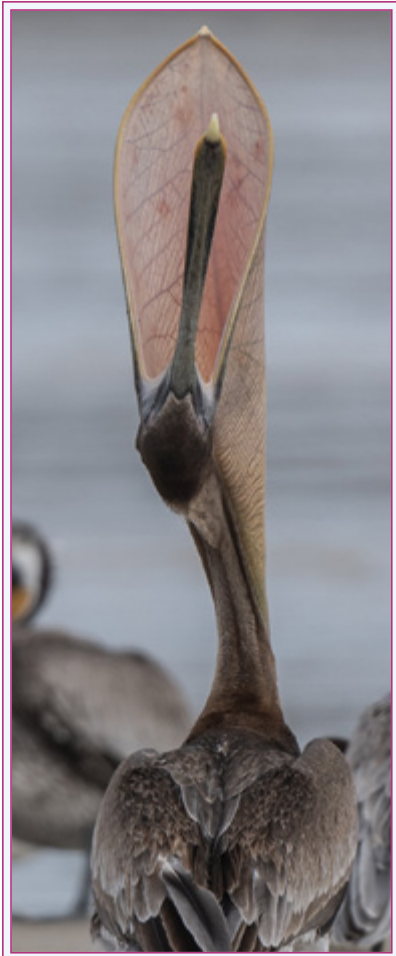
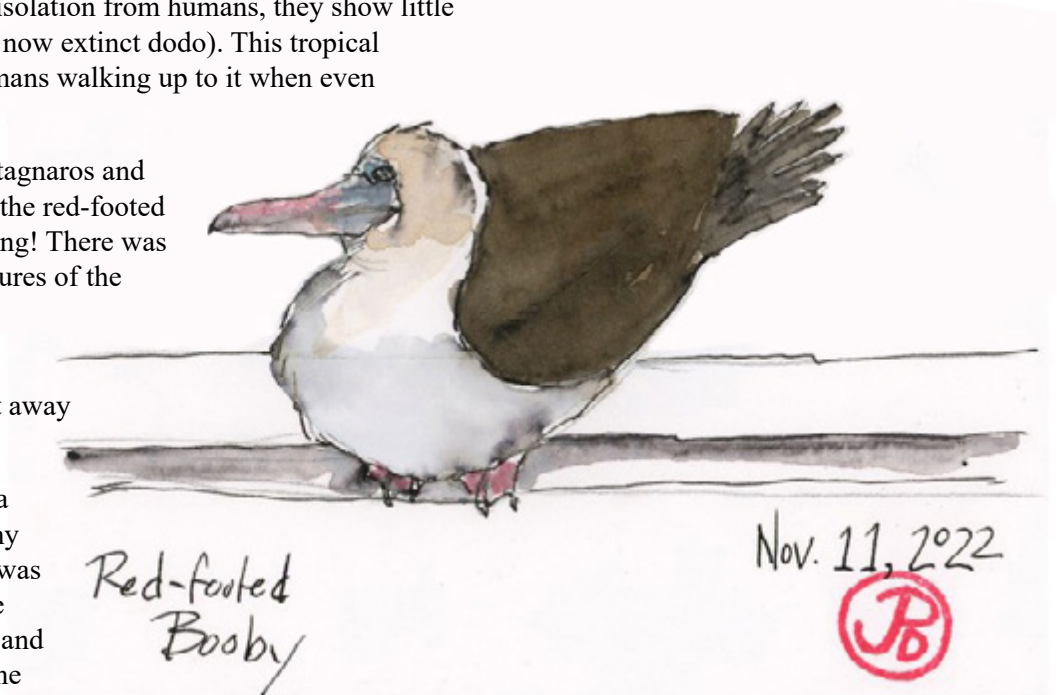
syndrome” and because of their isolation from humans, they show little to no fear of them. (Think of the now extinct dodo). This tropical visitor showed no fear to the humans walking up to it when even a gull would fly away.

I parked across the street from Stagnaros and looked up and 20 feet away was the red-footed booby perched on the wharf railing! There was also a small audience taking pictures of the wayward rarity.

The red-booby with a few of it’s admirers. They are about six feet away from the booby.

I got out of my car and snapped a few photos and then I took out my sketchbook to get a sketch in. It was easy to sketch the booby because the bird was about six feet away and seemed completely unfazed by the birder paparazzi.

It was great to observe the booby up close with the naked eye. It was a little challenging to sketch as it was in constant motion, preening or tucking it bill into it’s feathers for a quick nap or keeping a western gull at bay.



Brown Pelican - Michael Bolte

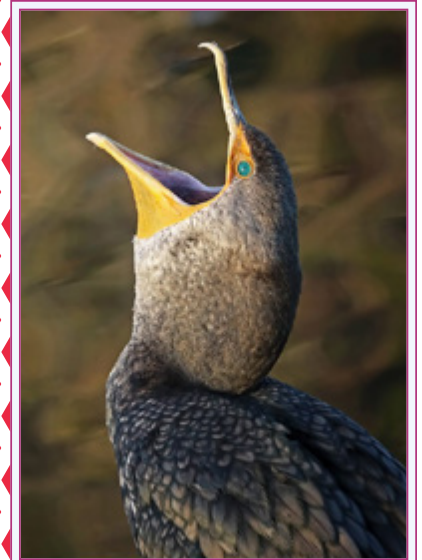
## ATTENTION Bird Photographers!

A large number of your Alby Editor's photograph resources have migrated from Flickr to other habitats. Please let me know if you are willing to have your work be added to my resource library and send me the internet url of your bodies of work. You will be credited, of course, and famed throughout the land!

*Thank you!*

*Lisa Fay Larson*  
[scbirdclubeditor@gmail.com](mailto:scbirdclubeditor@gmail.com)

*Double-crested Cormorant - Tony Britton*



## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

The Melanie and Glen Barnett Family	Dec 2022
Jo Doyle	Dec 2022
Ciara Wanket	Dec 2022
Kathleen Edwards	Dec 2022
The Bridget Solve Family	Dec 2022
Jan Keith	Dec 2022
The Helena Fox-Beaudoin and Mark Beaudoin Family	Jan 2023
Mary Anne McKittrick	Jan 2023
The Michael and Frances Bolte Family	Jan 2023
Welcome back to Kathy Kuyper	Jan 2023
Natasha Bruckner	Jan 2023
Erica Stanojevic	Jan 2023
Vin Clover	Jan 2023
Catherine Cuddihy	Jan 2023
Kris Kifer	Jan 2023
Barbara Novelli	Jan 2023
Todd Bennett	Jan 2023
Megan Albano	Jan 2023
The Louise Mintun Family	Jan 2023
The Alexandra Fisher Family	Jan 2023
The David and Penny Chesluk Family	Jan 2023
Ted Asocks	Jan 2023
Barbara Smith	Jan 2023
Laurie Hayko	Jan 2023
The Barbara Perman Family	Jan 2023
Katherine McMillen	Jan 2023



*California Towhee - Lisa Larson*

## Santa Cruz Bird Club

**OFFICER POSITION NEEDED:**

## Conservation Director

PLEASE SEE  
[santacruzbirdclub.org/club-information/club-officers-2/](http://santacruzbirdclub.org/club-information/club-officers-2/)  
for a description of officer duties.

CONTACT: [scbirdclubeditor@gmail.com](mailto:scbirdclubeditor@gmail.com)



*Turkey Vultures - Margaret Perham*



# DEADLINE

submissions for  
**MAY/AUG**  
**APR 1, 2023**

## ALBATROSS DEADLINES

- AUG 1 for SEP/OCT issue
- OCT 1 for NOV/DEC issue
- DEC 1 for JAN/FEB issue
- FEB 1 for MAR/APR issue
- APR 1 for JUNE/AUG issue



*Angry Peregrine Falcon - Beth Hamel*

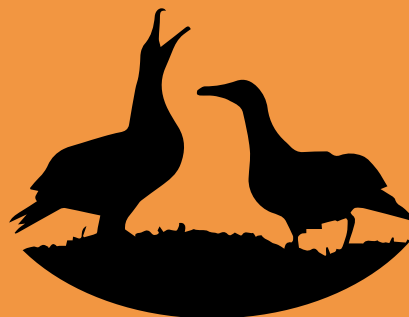
*American Robin - Lisa Larson*



## Submission to the *ALBATROSS* Guidelines

In addition to "Alby" regular features—*Photos for Santa Cruz Birds*, *Birders Notebook* and *Parting Shot*—the newsletter can include almost anything related to birding in general and to local birding in particular. Submissions of any of the following are **needed**:

- **Feature articles**
- Birding event announcements
- **Stories about birds, birding, or birders**
- Reviews of birding literature or guides
- Conservation & outreach reports/stories
- Birding tips, descriptions of local sites
- Poetry, quotes, field sketches, artwork or photos
- Photos of BIRDS or SCBC MEMBERS (jpg, tif)



If you wish to submit an article, please contact the editor about it  
**AT LEAST 2 weeks before the submission deadline!**

I accept plain text, Word, or PDF files. Send items by email to: [scbirdclubeditor@gmail.com](mailto:scbirdclubeditor@gmail.com)

~ Lisa Fay Larson, Editor

# SCBC OFFICERS

## **President**

Lisa Sheridan:  
trotrider@aol.com

## **Bird Records Keeper**

Alex Rinkert  
arinkert12@comcast.net

## **Field Trips**

Nick Levendosky  
n.levendosky@gmail.com

## **Treasurer**

Stephanie Singer  
singersa@aol.com

## **Secretary**

Larry Corridan  
larry961357@sbcglobal.net

## **Editor**

Lisa Fay Larson  
sclubeditor@gmail.com

## **Webmaster**

Phil Brown  
pdpbrown@gmail.com

## **Program Director**

Reef Comer  
reefcomer@gmail.com

## **Conservation Director**

Jennifer Parkin  
J.parkin127@gmail.com

## **Membership Director**

Brian Schnack  
theschnack@gmail.com

## **Hospitality Director**

Nickie Zavinsky  
nickiezee0111@gmail.com

## **Historian**

Elisabeth Foster  
elisabethif@gmail.com

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*Bushitit - Tony Britton*

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