



El Tecolote

BULLETIN OF THE SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

Vol. 9 No. 8 *Sheet 9*
November & December 1971

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825 N. Soledad Ave.
Santa Barbara
California 93103

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

- Sun. GOLETA SALT MARSH SURVEY: This monthly bird survey under the auspices
Nov. 14 of the U.C.S.B. Museum of Zoology will be continuing indefinitely at
8:00 AM on the second Sunday of each month. Our assistance on this
project is greatly appreciated. We meet at the old bridge at the
southeast edge of the airport for instructions and assignment. It
takes about 2 hours. For more information call Alice Richardson,
687-4981. NOTE: Time change from 7:00 to 8:00 AM.
- Sat.-Sun. Morro Bay-Montana de Oro: Meet at the Museum at Morro Bay State Park
Nov. 20-21 at 10:00 AM Saturday. Allow two hours driving time. Either camp at the
park or make your own reservations at one of the local motels. This is
a fine chance to observe a variety of wintering shore birds and some
inland species. Take lunch for two days. Driver donation \$4.00.
Leaders: The Gardners.
- Fri. ~~Nov/Dec~~ NOVEMBER MEETING: 8:00 P.M. Fleischmann Auditorium, Museum of Natural
Dec. 3 History. MEMBERS' SLIDES NIGHT. Audubon members and friends who have
slides which they would like to show with others, please call Desmond
Jones, 962-2407.
- Sat.-Sund. CARRIZO PLAIN: Information not available at time of publication. Call
Dec. 4-5- Bob Prickett, 687-2173 or Tomi Sollen, 966-4836.
- Sun. SANTA BARBARA AREA CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT: If you have not already
Dec. 19 registered and would like to participate, call Bill Ure, 966-5350.
- Sun. SESPE AREA CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT: Call Bill Ure, 966-5350 if you would
Jan. 2 like to participate.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

- Sat.-Sun. Seminar on Environmental Law at U.C.S.B. Public invited to the Sat.
Nov. 20-21 afternoon session in Campbell Hall beginning at 1:30 PM. Program: a
dialogue between environmentalists and environmental attorneys. Particip-
pants will include Dr. James Pitts, Fred Eissler, John McCarthy, Edwin
Z'berg. Program Chairman is James Vanyo of UCSB. This is certainly a
topic of great interest: with the passage of time it has become in-
creasingly apparent that we must have good laws well enforced if the
environment is to be protected, for little is done voluntarily by in-
dividuals, businesses, or government agencies.

Sun. BIKETHON !! (Dec. 5 if bad weather on first date.) By taking part you
Nov. 21 help to raise funds for Bikeecology and the People's Lobby. All bicycle
shops, the Ecology Center, and Friends for Bikeecology, 1035 E. De La
Guerra (966-5698), have the leaflets that give you complete information
on this event.

Contest for art students: entries must pertain to the ecological bene-
fits of recycling, especially as related to paper. Deadline: Dec. 10,
for works in graphics, painting, sculpture, photography, and crafts.
For further information write the Simpson Lee Paper Co., 1600 Crocker
Plaza, San Francisco, CA. 94104.

Tues. Two experts will discuss "Pests and Pesticides: the Good Guys and the
Dec. 9 Bad Guys," at the lecture meeting of a Continuing (Adult) Education
Series at the Alhecama Theater. They are Helga and William Olkowski
who are faculty members at UC Berkeley and Antioch College West at
San Francisco. William is a biological control specialist and Helga is
author of the popular pamphlet, "Common Sense Pest Control." Their
illustrated lecture begins at 7:30 PM.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Presumably by the time this reaches you the much discussed bill (AB 660) to
establish ahmoratorium on the killing of mountain lions in California will have
reached Governor Reagan's desk. While not as far-reaching as earlier proposals
which would have given complete protection this one would allow time for a fuller
study of the factors bearing on this animal and its future. As some information
indicates that Governor Reagan will be under continuing pressure to veto this bill
it is imperative that we all urge him to sign it into law.

The full transcripts of the Department of Interior's hearings into the U.S.
Bypsum proposals for open-pit mining in Los Padres National Forest are now avail-
able in the Government Publications section of the USSB library (7th floor).

On our local scene, if you have yet to respond to Dr. Bill Ure's invitation
to participate in either or both of this year's Christmas bird counts (Dec. 19-
Santa Barbara; Jan. 2- Sespe), please do so soon.

Particularly for those of you who do not consider yourselves birders--which
may define the majority of our membership, now well in excess of 700 members--it
is not so important to be able to identify the birds you can see as it is to find
them for the experienced birders assigned to each group to identify. So please
volunteer as spotters. Take it from one of your own that such help is useful.
Besides, with the after-count dinner this event has become on a par with our May
barbecue as a social event -- a good chance to meet your fellow members.

Don't fail to notice--combined November & December meeting on first Friday,
of December. See you then.

Jim Mills

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FIELD TRIP REPORT

On October 16 a good number of birders turned out for the trip up Paradise
Canyon despite threatening weather that produced snow on the mountain tops. They
were rewarded by sightings of 41 species, including some close-upslooks at several
snipe along the river.

Bob Prickett

CONSERVATION

GOLETA SLOUGH IS NOT AN ECOLOGICAL RESERVE even though the original recommendation was made almost two years ago by EQAB.

On January 6, 1970 the Santa Barbara Environmental Quality Advisory Board set forth the recommendation: "In view of the importance of the Goleta Slough in terms of its ecological system and its corollary educational, recreational and aesthetic values, it is recommended that the Slough be declared an Ecological Reserve." Because of the Slough's proximity with the airport, the City Council referred the question to a coalition of EQAB and Airport Commission for consideration. It took until December 8, 1970 for their positive recommendation.

Meanwhile the State of California Department of Fish and Game published a forty-two page report, "The Natural Resources of Goleta Slough and Recommendations for Use and Development - August 1970."

At that time it appeared that Fish and Game was the most likely candidate for managing the Slough under the title of "Ecological Reserve," in which the state would acquire the ownership of slough property. A letter was sent to Fish and Game from former City Attorney Tomlinson, March 10, 1971, explaining the city's ownership over the airport property which includes the Slough.

The city's ownership comes from a quitclaim deed from the Federal Government February 24, 1949 and any change in ownership would have to go through the Civil Aeronautics Administrator in Washington. Tomlinson goes on to state that if the Fish and Game can set up a management program over the slough that could meet with approval of Federal authorities and "...not interfere with the present and continued operation of all phases of aviation activities of the airport, there might be areas of negotiation opened up which would result in a mutually satisfactory solution."

Six months time passed. EQAB prompted by an Airport Commission statement concerning the future "aviation-related use" of the slough, reissued a recommendation to the City Council to declare their positive intentions. City Council's intent was approved by all, but the slough was still not an "Ecological Reserve."

Finally Larry Brundall of EQAB found the crux of the delay. The letter from Tomlinson, addressed to Mr. Robert D. Montgomery, regional manager for Fish and Game district five, was lost. There was some mix up in moving the offices of Fish and Game last spring.

So now Fish and Game have at last the letter in their hand and Mr. Montgomery will attend the next EQAB meeting November 15 at 7:30 PM in the meeting room past the Mayor's desk, to discuss the issue. There is hope that Allen Eschenroeder, City Councilman, will also appear as he has done with other EQAB meetings concerning the Slough.

Phillip Archenbromm

FROM YOUR LIBRARIAN

Added to our library: ADVENTURE LIT THEIR STAR by Kenneth Allsop, a gift of Alice Kladnik "the factual record of a ringed plover and his mate in their struggle to establish themselves, following their long and hazardous flight north, in an environment wholly new to them, on the outskirts of a large industrial city."

Books of interest: CALIFORNIA WATER, A STUDY IN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, ed. D. Seckler, Univ. of California Press, \$15.00 ... (reviewed in NEWS PRESS Oct. 31). THE CONTINENT IN OUR HANDS by C. Ogburn. W. Morrow & Co., \$7.95. A new book by the author of THE WINTER BEACH which was excellent.... as must be EARTHKEEPING by G. Harrison, judging from his article excerpted from the book in SATURDAY REVIEW, Nov. 6, 1971, p. 77-85.

Helen Peteler, after her ordeal by fire, called to tell me that the NEW YORKER recently has had parts of Barry Commoner's new work, THE CLOSING CIRCLE, and it appears to be a "must read" kind of book.

Fifi Webster

OCTOBER BIRD OBSERVATIONS

October is always our most interesting birding month. Our most active birders --Richard Webster, Kevin Aanerud and Louis Bevier - have reported a remarkable number of unusual birds.

FULMAR on the harbor sandspit Oct. 25, KA. EUROPEAN WIDGEON at the Bird Refuge Oct. 13 to 23, when it was found dead, probably a victim of botulism, KA, RW, LB. OLD SWUAW and FEMALE HOODED MERGANSER, Goleta Slough, Oct. 31, KA et al. OSPREY at the Bird Refuge Oct. 24, KA, LB. BALD EAGLE, Lake Cachuma, Oct. 31, RW. PEREGRINE FALCON an immature at Ventura, Oct. 17, RW. PIGEON HAWK at the Child's Estate Oct. 12 and 19, KA, and one along Atascadero Creek, Oct 19 and 24, Les Cook et al. SANDHILL CRANE, Lake Cachuma Oct. 31, RW. AMERICAN GOLDEN PLOVER, four or five at Goleta and Devereux Slough since Oct. 2, KA, RW, LB. PECTORAL SANDPIPER, about eleven sightings Oct. 1 to 24, RW et al. BAIRD'S SANDPIPER at the Goleta Sewage Plant, RW. WHITE-WINGED DOVE, two on Patterson Avenue, Oct. 24, 25, RW. SPOTTED DOVES seem to be increasing in numbers; now quite common on More Mesa and along portions of Atascadero Creek, Les Cook et al. EASTERN KINGBIRD at the Goleta Sewage Plant Oct. 20, 23, RW, KA. TROPICAL KINGBIRD, at least five in the area much of the month at the Santa Barbara and Goleta Sewage Plants, Atascadero Creek and on the beach at Goleta. WESTERN KINGBIRD, a very late one Oct. 26/ GRAY FLYCATCHER at Devereux Point Oct. 24, RW. BROWN THRASHER west of Patterson Avenue near Atascadero Creek Oct. 13, KA. TENNESSEE WARBLER, More Mesa, Oct. 2, KA, RW, LB; Storke Road, Oct. 3, RW. MAGNOLIA WARBLER, UCSB Golf Course Oct. 24, RW. NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH, Goleta, Oct. 8, KA. AMERICAN REDSTART, Storke Road tamarisks Oct. 1, KA. PALM WARBLER, Goleta Oct. 10, Joy Parkinson; Goleta Slough Oct. 26, LB, and Oct. 30, KA, LB. BLACKPOLL WARBLER, Goleta Sewage Plant Oct. 25, RW; 26, LB. BALTIMORE ORIOLE near Atascadero Creek, west of Patterson Oct. 13, KA. ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK, male at Goleta Sewage Plant Oct. 25, RW. LAPLAND and CHESTNUT-COLLARED LONGSPUR, first coastal records in this area Oct. 24-30, cornfield west of Patterson Ave., RW, Jon Atwood.

CORRECTION: Last month Kevin Aanerud reported a Northern Waterthrush. In the October El Tecolote it was inadvertently called a Louisiana Waterthrush. My error.

Nelson Metcalf

BIRD-OF-THE-MONTH EXHIBIT COMMITTEE

About two years ago, a group, spearheaded by Jewel Kriger, Margaret "Maggie" Millar, Dot Gildersleeve, Ethel Lyans, Alice Richardson, Alice Kladnik, Ruth Holbrook and perhaps some others I can't recall or don't know about, got together in the exhibits laboratory of the Museum of Natural History to plan a program of "Bird-of-the-Month" exhibits to be placed in the Music and Art Department of the City Library. This committee evolved from a long-standing custom of the Society to present a display at the Spring and Fall Flower Shows when they were held at the Court House or Historical Society Courtyard, or the Home Show at Earl Warren Park, or any time it is appropriate for us to acquaint the general public with the aims and purposes of the Audubon Society.

Jewel's husband, Russell, constructed a handsome three-panelled folding display board and some stands for lettering our identity, "Santa Barbara Audubon Society." Each volunteer took a turn in assuming the responsibility of selecting the specimen from the collection in the Youth Education Workshop, researching appropriate information for the poster, and deciding on color combinations for the poster and lettering to accompany each display. As an Exhibit Committee they were called upon to assemble a couple of large displays for special occasions. The BROWN PELICAN and the BALD EAGLE were each set up in educational displays and appropriate posters were made with the generous assistance of June Hopkins, Jacque Rogers, Mabel Rett, and, of course, Waldo Abbott from the Museum staff.

Before the first year was over, Margaret Bolduan, Alden Johnson and Paula Carter came along to add to the zealous and faithful volunteers. Arrangements were made with the City Schools to have the birds and posters used on a regular basis through the Museum's Youth Program and the Director of the Elementary Schools Librarians. More recently Dorothy Martone has contributed her artistic talent by painting silhouette cut-outs of birds very realistically for which we have no real specimen. Our most recent volunteer has been Ruth Stronach.

The Museum allotted storage space to us in the laboratory and working space each Monday morning. The laboratory door is always open on Monday mornings for anyone interested in helping with this phase of our Society's programs. We have a lot of fun! We have an "inventory" of at least 15 posters available, and adding about one a month. These are always available, and of course, we would like to see them used, and used, and used!

A note of thanks to the Santa Barbara News Press for their excellent photos and coverage of our "Bird-of-the-Month" exhibits.

Margaret Bolduan

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Conservationists who wish to contribute to increasing our knowledge about effects of volatile air-pollutants (auto exhaust, for example) can help by volunteering (at \$4 an hour) as subjects for physiological observations now being made at the Institute of Environmental Stress at UCSB. Treadmill exertion to stressful levels during minimal exposure to air pollutants provides data on heart rate, respiratory function, and blood chemical analysis.

Details on this volunteer activity can be obtained by contacting Dr. Peter Raven or Dr. Barbara Drinkwater at the Institute of Environmental Stress (961-2363).

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FEATHERS FROM FIFI'S DESK

SEEN A BLUE HERON? As part of a graduate research project, a Great Blue Heron has been turned loose in the area of the UCSB campus. This bird has been raised from a chick and is now carrying a radio transmitter on her back and a "flag" consisting of white and green streamers on her left leg. The purpose of the equipment is to facilitate tracking and observation. If anyone sees this bird or knows her whereabouts, please note the date, time and location of the observation and call Ashley J. Owen, 968-2253, or the Biology Dept. Any assistance would be greatly appreciated.

S.B. Area Bird Checklist. Did you know that there is a new one? The mother of the author proudly recommends it. Available at the Museum of Natural History (and Botanic Garden), 25¢.

Help to buy a redwood! 10 acres in the Prairie Creek area. Deposit your aluminum cans in a special box at the Monroe school entrance, 431 Flora Vista. Part of a statewide PTA project.

SBAS Badges. Scarcely had the last issue of EL TECOLOTE been put in their mailbox when the Rasmussens called to ask if they might come by to get the new badge, and I was delighted to see them! Some members like to sew their badge to one special garment that they usually wear out in the field. Others express an interest in the kind of armband that I have made, and have asked me to make them some. Then the band can be worn over a light shirt or a heavy jacket, whatever(NOTE: it is possible, of course, to lose such a band; I suggest putting name, address and phone number inside it.) I'll have a couple made up for the next meeting; all proceeds from my efforts will go to SBAS Conservation Fund.

Feathers continued

Years of living with enthusiastic sports fans has not made one of me, but I still scan the sports pages as I have discovered that there is often an item of interest concerning our fauna, from the point of view of the hunter. In the NEWS PRESS I look for Bill Downey's column, "Gone Fishin'", and cheered to read the one about point-system for duck hunters on Nov. 2. The cheers were elicited by a concluding remark of his: "All we have to do is get the dern airport off that Goleta marsh, the finest along the coast, and identifying ducks will be a minor problem." And speaking of marshes, have you seen the wonderful ad the Sierra Club has had in some magazines (NAT. HIST., NEWSWEEK): "Don't muddg up the googol."

As I approached the feeder, to take it down for dleaning and filling, the hummer perched thereon fell to the ground! I picked him up and went for a recovery box ...thinking how there is always something especially thrilling about holding in one's hand that weightless bit of irridescent fluff. Its tiny feet seemed to try to cling to my huge finger as I offeredd it some syrup; soon it revived and flew to a tree (was it a migrant that arrived at our feeder weak with hunger?) where I placed a special feeder for it, as the resident hummers are so very possessive, and I doubted that our visitor had the strength yet to fight for its food.

Re sick and/or injured birds: Desmond Jones (962-2407) will try to help "the smaller birds;" Jacque Rogers (964-3208) home; Museum Nat. History most days) has an aviary that is designed for larger birds (small birds would escape through the large mesh); Wolf Lauter (962-2049) expresses an interest in helping but says that he can be hard to reach. (This last month brought me one call, concerning an injured woodpecker.....)

ECO-TIPS...I recommend the down-to-earth offereings of CONCERN, INC. 2233 Wisconsin Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20007. A small contribution will put you on their mailing list. See also GOOD HOUSEKEEPING, Sept. 1971 for "75 ways you can help clean up the environment now," p. 199. Ecology Action in Isla Vista can take out glass, aluminum and newspapers at Embarcadero del Norte & Pardall across the street from Taco Bell. Remove all metal from glass and sort by color.

Re recycling tin cans: a craftsman has need of them, if you can leave them at 315 Carrillo or at leather goods store on Anapamu (next to Atkins). Lawrence Stolley says he needs small ones especially, but will appreciate our contributions of any and all sizes. (Please do not flatten them.)

Fifi Websters

NONPROFIT ORG.
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SANTA BARBARA, CALIF.
Permit No. 125

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SANTA BARBARA CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1971

Common Loon	8	Turkey*	2	Bl-ch Hummingbird*	1
Artic Loon	1	Virginia Rail	9	Costa's Hummingbird	1
Red-throated Loon	7	Sora	13	Anna's Hummingbird	952
Horned Grebe	26	Common Gallinule	5	Allen's Hummingbird	13
Eared Grebe	59	American Coot	2212	Belted Kingfisher	16
Western Grebe	108	Semipalmated Plover	24	Yellow-sh Flicker	3
Pied-billed Grebe	136	Piping Plover**	1	Red-shafted Flicker	372
Fulmar	3	Snowy Plover	115	Acorn Woodpecker	548
Brown Pelican	33	Killdeer	570	Yellow-b Sapsucker	19
Db-cr Cormorant	320	American Golden Plover	2	Hairy Woodpecker	12
Brandt's Cormorant	8	Black-bellied Plover	115	Downy Woodpecker	28
Great Blue Heron	35	Ruddy Turnstone	2	Nuttall's Woodpecker	35
Green Heron	10	Black Turnstone	13	Tropical Kingbird	3
Cattle Egret	1	Common Snipe	50	Cassin's Kingbird	4
Common Egret	28	Whimbrel	47	Black Phoebe	101
Snowy Egret	39	Spotted Sandpiper	26	Say's Phoebe	68
Bl-crnl Night Heron	54	Willet	227	Horned Lark	75
American Bittern	8	Greater Yellowlegs	42	Swallow, species ?	3
Whistling Swan	2	Lesser Yellowlegs	1	Scrub Jay	977
Canada Goose	2	Least Sandpiper	53	Yellow-b Magpie	1
Black Brant	2	Dunlin	27	Common Raven	3
Mallard	273	Short-billed Dowitcher	7	Common Crow	761
Gadwall	4	Long-billed Dowitcher	41	Plain Titmouse	285
Pintail	363	Dowitcher, species ?	55	Common Bushtit	1501
Green-winged Teal	142	Western Sandpiper	23	White-br Nuthatch	34
Blue-winged Teal*	2	Marbled Godwit	76	Red-br Nuthatch	5
Cinnamon Teal	44	Sanderling	624	Brown Creeper	2
American Widgeon	500	American Avocet	1	Wrentit	351
Shoveler	268	Black-necked Stilt	5	House Wren	14
Wood Duck	2	Parasitic Jaeger*	3	Bewick's Wren	102
Redhead	43	Glaucous-winged Gull	6	Long-b Marsh Wren	31
Ring-necked Duck	2	Western Gull (low)	358	Canyon Wren	8
Canvasback	113	Herring Gull	9	Rock Wren	19
Greater Scaup	1	California Gull	337	Mockingbird	313
Lesser Scaup	124	Ring-billed Gull	746	California Thrasher	102
Bufflehead	21	Mew Gull	393	Robin	1259
Oldsquaw	1	Bonaparte's Gull	168	Varied Thrush	19
White-winged Scoter	51	Heermann's Gull	235	Hermit Thrush	142
Surf Scoter	162	Gull, species ?	63	Western Bluebird	81
Ruddy Duck	507	Forster's Tern	85	Townsend's Solitaire	9
Hooded Merganser	4	Common Tern	1	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	57
Common Merganser	67	Royal Tern	17	Golden-crnl Kinglet	4
Red-br Merganser	25	Elegant Tern	2	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	601
Turkey Vulture	5	Cassin's Auklet	25	Water Pipit	82
White-tailed Kite	40	Band-tailed Pigeon	773	Cedar Waxwing	458
Sharp-shinned Hawk	8	White-winged Dove	3	Phainopepla	4
Cooper's Hawk	17	Mourning Dove	619	Loggerhead Shrike	60
Red-tailed Hawk	96	Spotted Dove	12	Starling	2049
Red-shouldered Hawk	8	Ringed Turtle Dove	3	Hutton's Vireo	34
Golden Eagle	4	Roadrunner	1	Tennessee Warbler*	1
Marsh Hawk	6	Barn Owl	8	Orange-crnl Warbler	56
Osprey*	1	Screech Owl	3	Nashville Warbler*	1
Prairie Falcon	1	Great Horned Owl	14	Myrtle Warbler	33
Pigeon Hawk	4	Pygmy Owl	2	Audubon's Warbler	2230
Sparrow Hawk	125	Burrowing Owl	2	Black-th Gray Warbler	1
California Quail	375	Short-eared Owl	2	Townsend's Warbler	34
Mountain Quail	6	White-throated Swift	6	Palm Warbler	2

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT CONTINUED

Yellowthroat	<u>107</u>	Lawrence's Goldfinch	12
Wilson's Warbler	<u>2</u>	Rufous-sided Towhee	<u>399</u>
House Sparrow	330	Brown Towhee	<u>804</u>
Western Meadowlark	601	Savannah Sparrow	<u>236</u>
Red-winged Blackbird	3138	Lark Sparrow	90
Tricolored Blackbird	1000	Rufous-crn Sparrow	2
Hooded Oriole	<u>4</u>	Sage Sparrow	<u>4</u>
Bullock's Oriole	<u>11</u>	Slate-colored Junco	<u>113</u>
Baltimore Oriole	<u>2</u>	Oregon Junco	838
Brewer's Blackbird	1047	Chipping Sparrow	9
Brown-headed Cowbird	189	White-crn Sparrow	3775
Western Tanager	1	Golden-crn Sparrow	<u>446</u>
<u>Bl-headed Grosbeak</u>	<u>1</u>	White-th Sparrow	<u>4</u>
Purple Finch	58	Fox Sparrow	<u>81</u>
House Finch	3216	Lincoln's Sparrow	<u>63</u>
American Goldfinch	148	Song Sparrow	<u>308</u>
Lesser Goldfinch	333		

TOTAL 202 Species About 43,800 individuals

Underlined numbers - equals or is greater than previous Santa Barbara high for that species

Underlining denotes especially rare Christmas Count birds

* first time on count

** first California record

Seen in count period but not on count day: Pelagic Cormorant, White-fronted Goose, European Widgeon, Violet-green Swallow, Tree Swallow, American Redstart and Yellow-headed Blackbird.

Richard Webster