

## Californian Coasts and Mountains Region Chapter BCRs 32, 39, and 63

David Krueper, Eduardo Palacios-Castro, and Horacio de la Cueva

### Location:

For purposes of this Plan, the Californian Coasts and Mountains Region includes the following Bird Conservation Regions: California Coasts (BCR 32), Sierras de Baja California (BCR 39), and Isla Guadalupe (BCR 63). This Plan will address only the southern portion of BCR 32 from Point Conception in California to near Puerto San Isidro, Baja California. The northern portion of BCR 32, north of Point Conception, the Central Valley, and the Sierra Nevada mountains, is not included. In southern California, the coastal mountain ranges, the off-shore islands, and inland areas east to the Sonoran-Mojave Desert (BCR 33) are included for the U.S. In Mexico, all of BCRs 32 and 39 are included (Figure 3). Isla Guadalupe (BCR 63) is included because its characteristics and plant communities closely resemble those of the Pacific islands to the north (i.e., BCR 32). This combination of BCR 32, 39, and 63 was used in the regional Species Assessment for Northwest Mexico.



Figure 3. Map of the Californian Coast and Mountains Region.

### Description:

The Californian Coasts and Mountains Region on both sides of the international border consists of low mountains, intervening valleys, lower slopes descending to the Pacific Ocean, and several island groups. A Mediterranean climate of hot, dry summers and cool, moist winter creates conditions for vegetation that includes coastal sage scrub, chaparral, pinyon-juniper, live oak woodlands, and pine as elevation increases. These habitats support such birds as California Gnatcatcher, California Quail, Mountain Quail, Wrentit, California Thrasher, Nuttall's Woodpecker, Oak Titmouse, Bell's "Least" Vireo, and California Condor. The coastal areas provide habitat for several waterfowl and shorebird species and is an important wintering area for Brant, Marbled Godwit, American Avocet, and Surfbird. The Channel Islands offer breeding sites for 14 species of seabirds such as Ashy, Leach's, and Black storm-petrels, Black

Oystercatcher, Cassin's Auklet, and formerly Tufted Puffin and Common Murre. Most of the world's populations of Ashy Storm-Petrel and Xantus's Murrelet nest on a small number of offshore islands within this Region. A sizable proportion of the Elegant Tern and Heermann's Gull populations spend the non-breeding season here. Millions of Sooty Shearwaters gather in pelagic waters each fall, joined by large numbers of other shearwaters, storm-petrels, and alcid.

The Sierras de Baja California (BCR 39) comprises the Sierra de Juárez and the Sierra de San Pedro Mártir, two similar mountain ranges located in northern Baja California. The mountains range up to 3,200 m in elevation. Vegetation types change with elevation from Mediterranean chaparral to pine-oak and pine forests. The dominant tree species are pine, white fir, juniper, and oak in addition to cypress. High priority birds include California Condor (re-established), Oak Titmouse, California Thrasher, Gray Vireo, Pinyon Jay, California Quail, and Mountain Quail. These mountains represent the southernmost extension of the ranges of several western bird species.

Isla Guadalupe (BCR 63) is part of a volcanic archipelago located off the western coast of Baja California. It is marked by steep slopes and mountainous topography, with elevations up to 1,400 m. Vegetation is xerophytic scrubland (matorral) and forests of an endemic cypress associated with pine-oak. This island is noted as an important breeding ground for pelagic species and also harbors several endemic species and subspecies. Isla Guadalupe once had nine strongly differentiated endemic taxa of birds, six of which are now thought to be extinct (Barton et al. 2004) including the Guadalupe Storm-Petrel and Guadalupe Caracara. Laysan Albatrosses have recently (1980s) begun breeding on the island.

#### **Avifaunal Analysis—Species Assessment and Prioritization:**

In order to guide the expenditure of resources, the SJV and its partners have assessed the vulnerability of the bird species and responsibility of the SJV to conserve bird species found in the SJV area. Priority species for the Californian Coasts and Mountains Region are presented in three different lists: (1) Continental Concern Species (Table 2); (2) Regional Concern Species (Table 3); and (3) Stewardship Species (Table 4). Species assessments were done using the Partners in Flight methodology (<http://www.rmbo.org/pubs/downloads/Handbook.pdf>). Entry onto the Continental Concern list uses the same criteria that the North American PIF Landbird Plan used for landbirds breeding in the U.S./Canada (PIF Watch List). These same criteria, as adopted by the Mexican North American Bird Conservation Initiative, were used to determine the Continental Concern species for species breeding entirely in Mexico. Also used were the U.S. Shorebird Conservation Plan (Imperiled and High Concern North American populations), the North American Waterbird Plan (Imperiled), and the North American Waterfowl Management Plan (2005) (see Appendix C for a decision matrix for waterfowl entry to the lists and a comparison of designations).

The following table lists the Continental Concern Species found in the Californian Coasts and Mountains Region (Table 2). These species are recognized as vulnerable in either the breeding or nonbreeding season by at least one of the National or International Bird Conservation Initiatives. This analysis was done for the entire BCR 32 within the Californian Coasts and Mountains Region of California, including portions that are outside of the SJV. Conservationists working in those locations may find this information helpful in their work. The highest priority species tend to have distributions restricted or nearly restricted to the combination of BCRs represented in Arid Borderlands and they tend to face similar threats.

The “Plan” column in the tables below indicates which species assessment process or which bird initiative(s) was used to include the species on the Concern Species Lists. The North American Waterfowl Management Plan’s (NAWMP) “Combined Prioritization of Breeding and Nonbreeding Ducks” meeting the criteria in Appendix C appear in the Concern Species Lists below. The U. S. Shorebird Conservation Plan’s (USSCP) highly imperiled and high concern species appear in the Concern Species Lists (see Appendix D. for a comparison of designations). The North American Waterbird Conservation Plan’s (NAWCP) imperiled and high concern species appear on Concern Species List (see Appendix E. for a comparison of designations). Partners in Flight (PIF; US/Canada landbirds and gamebirds) and Mexican Species Assessment Process (MX-PIF; all birds) denote the species assessment process that was used. An “SJV” designation indicates that the species or subspecies was scored by the SJV Technical Committee because the species was not scored by the above bird initiatives. For example, subspecies are not scored by most initiatives.

The “Season of Occurrence” column lists the season in which the species occurs in the SJV area (R= Resident, B=Breeding, W=Nonbreeding). A resident score ® is given for species that are essentially nonmigratory in Region. Breeding and nonbreeding (B/W) scores are given for species that are migratory but have individuals that are present during both seasons or may be considered resident but have various numbers of individuals moving in or out of the area seasonally. “B” or “W” scores are given for species that breed or winter only respectively.

The “RD” (Relative Density) column shows this value in the season of occurrence. Relative Density scores reflect the mean density of a species within a given BCR relative to the density in the single BCR in which the species occurs in its highest density (5 being the highest value, indicated by bold type). Scores relate to the season of occurrence given in the previous column (e.g., 5/3 signifies an RD of 5 in the breeding season and 3 in the nonbreeding season). Species with an RD score of 1 are not presented because they occur peripherally and/or in such low densities that it is wise to conserve them in other locations.

The “Habitat” column shows the primary habitat(s) that the species uses in this Region. In some cases, there is a designation for the season in which the species uses the listed habitat (B=Breeding, NB=Nonbreeding). The reader can use the habitats listed here for each species to find more information in the Habitat Discussion Sections. Habitats are not listed in order of importance. The habitat nomenclature is the same as Table 1, with the following exceptions: Chaparral=California Chaparral; Pine-Oak=Pine Oak Forest; Off-Shore=Off-Shore/Pelagic.

The species in each of the following tables are sorted by RD score first and then arranged in taxonomic order. This order reflects the magnitude of “Stewardship Responsibility” for species in the SJV area (most Responsibility (5) to the least Responsibility (2)). In other words, the SJV has large numbers of the entire world’s population of these RD=5 species and those species have high vulnerability scores. However, one should remember that all species on these tables meet the combined score criteria for vulnerability either continentally or regionally and are worthy of conservation attention. There are two ways that the Continental and Regional Concern Species tables can be used. First if the SJV or a partner is initiating a conservation project they should consider the higher RD species first. The tables can also be used to determine what Concern Species are in a particular habitat so project can be designed for their benefit.

Table 6. Continental Concern Species in the Californian Coasts and Mountains.

Scientific Name	Common English Name	Plan	Season of Occurrence	RD (B/W)	Habitat
<i>Branta bernicla</i>	Brant - Pacific	NAWMP	W	5	Coastal Wetlands
<i>Oreortyx pictus</i>	Mountain Quail	PIF	R	5	Pine-Oak, Chaparral
<i>Oceanodroma macrodactyla</i>	Guadalupe Storm-Petrel	SJV	R	5	Islands
<i>Caracara lutosa</i>	Guadalupe Caracara	SJV	R	5	Islands
<i>Synthliboramphus hypoleucus</i>	Xantus’s Murrelet	MX-PIF, PIF NAWCP	B/W	5/5	Islands
<i>Aphelocoma insularis</i>	Island Scrub-Jay	PIF	R	5	Islands*
<i>Polioptila californica</i>	California Gnatcatcher	MX-PIF, PIF	R	5	Chaparral, Coastal Scrub
<i>Chamaea fasciata</i>	Wrentit	PIF, MX-PIF	R	5	Chaparral, Coastal Scrub, Riparian
<i>Toxostoma redivivum</i>	California Thrasher	PIF	R	5	<b>Chaparral, Coastal Scrub, Riparian, Urban</b>
<i>Melanitta perspicillata</i>	Surf Scoter	NAWMP, PIF	W	4	Off-Shore
<i>Puffinus griseus</i>	Sooty Shearwater	PIF	W	4	Off-Shore
<i>Puffinus opisthomelas</i>	Black-vented Shearwater	MX-PIF	B/W	¾	Off-Shore
<i>Oceanodroma homochroa</i>	Ashy Storm-Petrel	NAWCP, PIF, MX-PIF	B/W	4/2	Islands
<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	Snowy Plover	USSCP, PIF	B/W	4/4	Coastal Wetlands
<i>Recurvirostra americana</i>	American Avocet	PIF	B/W	2/4	Coastal Wetlands, Freshwater Wetlands
<i>Limosa fedoa</i>	Marbled Godwit	USSCP, PIF	W	4	Coastal Wetlands

Scientific Name	Common English Name	Plan	Season of Occurrence	RD (B/W)	Habitat
<i>Calidris alba</i>	Sanderling	USSCP, PIF	W	4	Coastal Wetlands
<i>Calidris mauri</i>	Western Sandpiper	USSCP, PIF	W	4	Coastal Wetlands
<i>Larus heermanni</i>	Heermann's Gull	MX-PIF, PIF	W	4	Coastal Wetlands, Islands
<i>Aeronautes saxatalis</i>	White-throated Swift	PIF	B/W	3/4	Pine-Oak, Cliff/Rock
<i>Calypte costae</i>	Costa's Hummingbird	PIF	B/W	4/2	Chaparral, Urban, Coastal Scrub
<i>Picoides nuttallii</i>	Nuttall's Woodpecker	PIF	R	4	Pine-Oak, Riparian
<i>Baeolophus inornatus</i>	Oak Titmouse	MX-PIF, PIF	R	4	Pine-Oak
<i>Spizella atrogularis</i>	Black-chinned Sparrow	PIF	B	4	Chaparral, Coastal Scrub
<i>Agelaius tricolor</i>	Tricolored Blackbird	PIF	R	4	Freshwater Wetlands, Agriculture
<i>Aythya affinis</i>	Lesser Scaup	NAWMP, PIF	W	3	Coastal Wetlands
<i>Podiceps auritus</i>	Horned Grebe	PIF	W	3	Coastal Wetlands
<i>Phoebastria nigripes</i>	Black-footed Albatross	PIF	W	3	Off-Shore
<i>Oceanodroma melania</i>	Black Storm-Petrel	MX-PIF, PIF, NAWCP	B/W	2/3	Islands, Off-Shore
<i>Phalacrocorax penicillatus</i>	Brandt's Cormorant	NAWCP, PIF	B/W	3/3	Islands, Off-Shore
<i>Gymnogyps californianus</i>	California Condor	PIF, MX-PIF	R	3	Pine-Oak, Chaparral, Coastal Scrub, Cliff/Rock
<i>Numenius americanus</i>	Long-billed Curlew	USSCP, PIF	W	3	Freshwater Wetlands, Agriculture, Coastal Wetlands
<i>Arenaria melanocephala</i>	Black Turnstone	USSCP, PIF	W	3	Islands, Coastal Wetlands
<i>Calidris alpina</i>	Dunlin	USSCP, PIF	W	3	Coastal Wetlands
<i>Sterna elegans</i>	Elegant Tern	MX-PIF, PIF	B/W	3/2	Coastal Wetlands
<i>Cepphus columba</i>	Pigeon Guillemot	PIF	B/W	3/2	Coastal Wetlands, Islands, Coastal Scrub

Scientific Name	Common English Name	Plan	Season of Occurrence	RD (B/W)	Habitat
<i>Limnodromus griseus</i>	Short-billed Dowitcher	USSCP-HC, PIF	W	3	Freshwater Wetlands, Coastal Wetlands
<i>Patagioenas fasciata</i>	Band-tailed Pigeon	PIF	B/W	3/3	Pine-Oak
<i>Otus flammeolus</i>	Flammulated Owl	PIF	B	3	Pine-Oak
<i>Asio flammeus</i>	Short-eared Owl	PIF	B/W	2/3	Coastal Wetlands, Agriculture
<i>Picoides albolarvatus</i>	White-headed Woodpecker	PIF	R	3	Pine-Oak
<i>Vireo bellii</i>	Bell's Vireo	PIF	B	3	Riparian
<i>Gymnorhinus cyanocephalus</i>	Pinyon Jay	PIF	R	3	Pine-Oak
<i>Carduelis lawrencei</i>	Lawrence's Goldfinch	PIF	R	3	Chaparral, Riparian, Pine-Oak
<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	Mallard	NAWMP	R	2	Freshwater Wetlands
<i>Anas acuta</i>	Northern Pintail	NAWMP	B/W	2/2	Coastal Wetlands
<i>Melanitta fusca</i>	White-winged Scoter	NAWMP, PIF	W	2	Off-Shore
<i>Melanitta nigra</i>	Black Scoter	NAWMP, PIF	W	2	Off-Shore
<i>Aechmophorus clarkia</i>	Clark's Grebe	PIF	B/W	2/2	Freshwater Wetlands
<i>Phoebastria immutabilis</i>	Laysan Albatross	PIF	B/W	2/2	Islands, Off-Shore
<i>Puffinus creatopus</i>	Pink-footed Shearwater	PIF	W	2	Off-Shore
<i>Puffinus carneipes</i>	Flesh-footed Shearwater	PIF	W	2	Off-Shore
<i>Puffinus bulleri</i>	Buller's Shearwater	PIF	W	2	Off-Shore
<i>Puffinus tenuirostris</i>	Short-tailed Shearwater	PIF	W	2	Off-Shore
<i>Oceanodroma microsoma</i>	Least Storm-Petrel	MX-PIF	W	2	Off-Shore, Islands
<i>Sula dactylatra</i>	Masked Booby	MX-PIF	W	2	Off-Shore, Islands
<i>Sula nebouxii</i>	Blue-footed Booby	PIF	W	2	Off-Shore, Islands
<i>Sula leucogaster</i>	Brown Booby	PIF	W	2	Off-Shore, Islands
<i>Sula sula</i>	Red-footed Booby	PIF	W	2	Off-Shore, Islands
<i>Phalacrocorax pelagicus</i>	Pelagic Cormorant	PIF	B/W	1/2	Off-Shore, Islands
<i>Egretta caerulea</i>	Little Blue Heron	NAWCP, PIF	W	2	Freshwater Wetlands
<i>Egretta rufescens</i>	Reddish Egret	MX-PIF, PIF	B/W	2/2	Coastal Wetlands

Scientific Name	Common English Name	Plan	Season of Occurrence	RD (B/W)	Habitat
<i>Laterallus jamaicensis</i>	Black Rail	PIF	B/W	2/2	Coastal Wetlands
<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	Mountain Plover	USSCP, PIF	W	2	Agriculture
<i>Haematopus bachmani</i>	Black Oystercatcher	USSCP, PIF	R	2	Islands, Coastal Wetlands
<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	Whimbrel	USSCP, PIF	W	2	Coastal Wetlands
<i>Aphriza virgata</i>	Surfbird	USSCP, PIF	W	2	Islands, Coastal Wetlands
<i>Calidris canutus</i>	Red Knot	USSCP	W	2	Coastal Wetlands
<i>Limnodromus griseus</i>	Short-billed Dowitcher	USSCP	W	3	Coastal Wetlands, Freshwater Wetlands
<i>Phalaropus tricolor</i>	Wilson's Phalarope	USSCP, PIF	W	2	Coastal Wetlands
<i>Sterna nilotica</i>	Gull-billed Tern	PIF	B/W	2/2	Coastal Wetlands
<i>Rynchops niger</i>	Black Skimmer	NAWCP, PIF	R	2	Coastal Wetlands
<i>Synthliboramphus craveri</i>	Craveri's Murrelet	MX-PIF, PIF	W	2	Off-Shore
<i>Strix occidentalis</i>	Spotted Owl	PIF, MX-PIF	R	2	Pine-Oak
<i>Cypseloides niger</i>	Black Swift	PIF	B	2	Pine-Oak, Cliff/Rock
<i>Selasphorus rufus</i>	Rufous Hummingbird	PIF	W	2	Pine-Oak, Urban, Riparian
<i>Selasphorus sasin</i>	Allen's Hummingbird	PIF	B/W	2/2	Coastal Scrub, Riparian
<i>Melanerpes lewis</i>	Lewis's Woodpecker	PIF	W	2	Pine-Oak
<i>Contopus cooperi</i>	Olive-sided Flycatcher	PIF	B	2	Pine-Oak, Riparian
<i>Empidonax traillii</i>	Willow Flycatcher	PIF	B	2	Riparian
<i>Vireo vicinior</i>	Gray Vireo	PIF	B/W	2	Chaparral, Coastal Scrub, Pine-Oak
<i>Pica nuttalli</i>	Yellow-billed Magpie	PIF	R	2	Pine-Oak

\* this species occurs in chaparral and oak habitats but only on Santa Cruz Island; it is placed in the Island habitat only.

Species of Regional Concern (Table 7) are species that have a combination of moderately high vulnerability, high regional threats, and declining regional population trends. High scoring subspecies (from the Species Assessment Process) are included in the Species of Regional Concern table. These species have not been scored by a national or international bird initiative but were scored by the SJV Technical Committee. There are a few full species that the SJV Technical Committee has scored higher than either the Mexican or the US/Canada Species Assessment Process (denoted “SJV” in the Plan column). This situation resulted from combining the two sets of scores and the combination resulted in a higher score. In the future, there will not be two sets of scores; they will be reconciled into one set by NABCI, SJV Technical Committee, and other experts.

Table 7. Regional Concern Species in the Californian Coasts and Mountains.

Scientific Name	Common English Name	Plan	Season of Occurrence	RD B/W	Habitat
<i>Rallus longirostris levipes</i>	Clapper “Light-footed” Rail	MX-PIF, SJV	R	5	Coastal Wetlands
<i>Sterna antillarum browni</i>	Least “California” Tern	SJV	B	5	Coastal Wetlands
<i>Lanius ludovicianus mearnsi</i>	Loggerhead “San Clemente” Shrike	SJV	R	5	Islands*
<i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i>	Bell’s “Least” Vireo	SJV	B	5	Riparian
<i>Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus sandiegensis</i>	Cactus “San Diego” Wren	SJV	R	5	Chaparral
<i>Aimophila ruficeps sanctorum</i>	Rufous-crowned “Todos Santos” Sparrow	SJV	R	5	Islands
<i>Passerculus sandwichensis beldingi</i>	Savannah “Belding’s” Sparrow	SJV	R	5	Coastal Wetlands
<i>Junco hyemalis insularis</i>	Dark-eyed “Guadalupe” Junco	SJV	R	5	Islands
<b><i>Oceanodroma leucorhoa</i></b>	<b>Leach’s Storm-Petrel (Islas Los Coronados)</b>	<b>PIF, MX-PIF</b>	<b>B/W</b>	<b>¾</b>	<b>Islands</b>
<b><i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i></b>	<b>Brown “California” Pelican</b>	<b>MX-PIF, SJV</b>	<b>B/W</b>	<b>4/4</b>	<b>Islands</b>
<b><i>Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus</i></b>	<b>Black “California” Rail</b>	<b>PIF, SJV</b>	<b>B/W</b>	<b>4/4</b>	<b>Coastal Wetlands</b>
<b><i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i></b>	<b>Willow “Southwestern” Flycatcher</b>	<b>SJV</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Riparian</b>
<b><i>Lanius ludovicianus</i></b>	<b>Loggerhead Shrike</b>	<b>MX-PIF, PIF</b>	<b>B/W</b>	<b>¾</b>	<b>Chaparral, Riparian, Agriculture, Coastal Scrub</b>
<b><i>Amphispiza belli</i></b>	<b>Sage Sparrow</b>	<b>MX-PIF</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Chaparral, Coastal Scrub</b>
<b><i>Amphispiza belli belli</i></b>	<b>Sage “Bell’s” Sparrow</b>	<b>SJV</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Chaparral, Coastal Scrub</b>
<b><i>Passerculus</i></b>	<b>Savannah Sparrow</b>	<b>MX-PIF</b>	<b>B/W</b>	<b>4/4</b>	<b>Agriculture</b>

Scientific Name	Common English Name	Plan	Season of Occurrence	RD B/W	Habitat
<i>sandwichensis</i> <i>Sturnella neglecta</i>	<b>Western Meadowlark</b>	<b>PIF</b>	<b>B/W</b>	<b>¾</b>	<b>Agriculture</b>
<i>Anas cyanoptera</i>		<b>PIF</b>	<b>B/W</b>	<b>2/3</b>	<b>Freshwater Wetlands</b>
<i>Anas clypeata</i>	<b>Cinnamon Teal</b> <b>Northern Shoveler</b>	<b>NAWMP</b>	<b>B/W</b>	<b>1/3</b>	<b>Freshwater Wetlands, Coastal Wetlands</b>
<i>Bucephala albeola</i>	<b>Bufflehead</b>	<b>NAWMP</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Freshwater Wetlands, Coastal Wetlands</b>
<i>Ixobrychus exilis</i>	<b>Least Bittern</b>	<b>MX-PIF</b>	<b>B/W</b>	<b>2/3</b>	<b>Coastal Wetlands, Freshwater Wetlands</b>
<i>Egretta thula</i>	<b>Snowy Egret</b>	<b>NAWCP</b>	<b>B/W</b>	<b>3/2</b>	<b>Coastal Wetlands, Freshwater Wetlands</b>
<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	<b>Northern Harrier</b>	<b>PIF</b>	<b>B/W</b>	<b>2/3</b>	<b>Chaparral, Coastal Wetlands, Coastal Scrub</b>
<i>Rallus longirostris</i>	<b>Clapper Rail</b>	<b>MX-PIF</b>	<b>B/W</b>	<b>3/3</b>	<b>Coastal Wetlands</b>
<i>Rallus limicola</i>	<b>Virginia Rail</b>	<b>MX-PIF</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Freshwater Wetlands, Riparian, Coastal Wetlands</b>
<i>Porzana carolina</i>	<b>Sora</b>	<b>MX-PIF</b>	<b>B/W</b>	<b>2/3</b>	<b>Freshwater Wetlands, Riparian, Coastal Wetlands</b>
<i>Sterna forsteri</i>	<b>Forster's Tern</b>	<b>MX-PIF</b>	<b>B/W</b>	<b>2/3</b>	<b>Coastal Wetlands</b>
<i>Columbina passerine</i>	<b>Common Ground-Dove</b>	<b>PIF</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Agricultural, Riparian</b>
<i>Athene cunicularia</i>	<b>Burrowing Owl</b>	<b>PIF</b>	<b>B/W</b>	<b>2/3</b>	<b>Agriculture</b>
<i>Anas americana</i>	<b>American Wigeon</b>	<b>NAWMP</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Freshwater Wetlands, Coastal Wetlands, Agricultural</b>
<i>Aythya marila</i>	<b>Greater Scaup</b>	<b>NAWMP</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Coastal Wetlands</b>
<i>Botaurus lentiginosus</i>	<b>American Bittern</b>	<b>PIF, MX-PIF</b>	<b>B/W</b>	<b>2/3</b>	<b>Coastal Wetlands,</b>

Scientific Name	Common English Name	Plan	Season of Occurrence	RD B/W	Habitat
<i>Egretta tricolor</i>	Tricolored Heron	NAWCP	W	2	Freshwater Wetlands Coastal Wetlands
<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	Golden Eagle	MX-PIF	R	2	Chaparral, Pine-Oak
<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	Ruddy Turnstone	USSCP	W	2	Coastal Wetlands
<i>Fratercula cirrhata</i>	Tufted Puffin	SJV	B/W	2/2	Islands
<i>Coccyzus americanus occidentalis</i>	Yellow-billed "Western" Cuckoo	SJV	B	2	Riparian
<i>Asio otus</i>	Long-eared Owl	MX-PIF, PIF	B/W	2/2	Riparian, Pine-Oak
<i>Psaltriparus minimus</i>	Bushtit	MX-PIF, PIF	R	2	Chaparral, Riparian, Pine-Oak, Coastal Scrub
<i>rhynchus brunneicapillus</i>	Cactus Wren	MX-PIF	R	2	Chaparral, Urban, Agriculture, Coastal Scrub
<i>Cistothorus palustris</i>	Marsh Wren	PIF	R	2	Riparian, Coastal Wetlands, Freshwater Wetlands
<i>Aimophila ruficeps</i>	Rufous-crowned Sparrow	MX-PIF	R	2	Chaparral, Coastal Scrub
<i>Ammodramus savannarum</i>	Grasshopper Sparrow	MX-PIF, PIF	B/W	2/2	Agricultural, Chaparral

\* this species occurs in chaparral and oak habitats but only on Santa Cruz Island; it is placed in the Island habitat only.

The following Stewardship Responsibility Species for the California Coasts and Mountains (Table 8) are those species that have an RD of 5 in either the U.S. or Mexican database that are in addition to those RD=5 species on the Continental Concern or Regional Concern Species lists above. RD is being used as a substitute for percent of population until these can be calculated for all species. These are species for which the SJV has "stewardship responsibility". They are species in which a large percentage of the population inhabits this Region during either the breeding or nonbreeding portion of their annual cycle. Concern level (due to threats, population declines, etc.) for them is not high at present, but it is the SJV's responsibility to ensure that they do not slip into the "concern" category. This usually means that monitoring is an action and these species and their habitats need to be maintained and considered in long-term planning.

Table 8. Additional Stewardship Responsibility Species in the Californian Coasts and Mountains Region.

Scientific Name	Common English Name	Season of Occurrence	RD (B/W)	Habitat
<i>Callipepla californica</i>	California Quail	R	5	Chaparral, Pine-Oak, Riparian

<i>Butorides striatus</i>	Green Heron	B/W	4/5	Freshwater Wetlands, Riparian
<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	Black-crowned Night-Heron	B/W	5/5	Freshwater Wetlands, Coastal Wetlands
<i>Elanus leucurus</i>	White-tailed Kite	R	5	Freshwater Wetlands, Agriculture, Pine-Oak
<i>Melanerpes formicivorus</i>	Acorn Woodpecker	R	5	Pine-Oak
<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>	Black Phoebe	R	5	Freshwater Wetlands, Riparian
<i>Vireo cassinii</i>	Cassin's Vireo	B	5	Pine-Oak
<i>Aphelocoma californica</i>	Western Scrub-Jay	R	5	Pine-Oak
<i>Salpinctes obsoletus</i>	Rock Wren	R	5	Cliff-Rock
<i>Thryomanes bewickii</i>	Bewick's Wren	R	5	Chaparral, Riparian
<i>Regulus calendula</i>	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	W	5	Pine-Oak, Urban
<i>Pipilo crissalis</i>	California Towhee	R	5	Chaparral, Urban, Riparian

The total number of Continental (82) and Regional (41) Concern species (Table 9) is lower than the Arid Borderlands Region. However, the planning area for the Californian Coasts and Mountains is much smaller than Arid Borderlands. The ratio of Continental Concern Species to regularly occurring species, however, is higher than other Regions. Considering the high level of endemism along the California coast, this is not surprising.

Table 9. Total and percentage of Concern Species and Stewardship Responsibility Species in the SJV and Californian Coasts and Mountains Region.

Concern Category	Total Number of Concern Species in the Category	Concern Species as a % of the regularly occurring SJV (667) species	Concern Species as a % of the regularly occurring Californian Coasts and Mountains (340) species
Continental Concern Species (Table 6)	82	12.3	24.1%
Continental Concern Species also with RD = 5	9	1.3	2.6%
Regional Concern Species (Table 7)	41	6.1	12.1%
Regional Concern Species also with RD =5	7	1.0	2.1%
Stewardship-Only * (Table 8)	12	1.8	3.5%
Total Stewardship species **	28	4.2	8.2%

\* Species with RD =5 that are not included as Continental or Region Concern Species.

\*\* A total of all Stewardship Species from Continental and Regional Concern, and Stewardship Lists.

## Californian Coasts and Mountains Habitat Sections

### Habitat Discussions:

The following sections describe the major habitats found in the Californian Coasts and Mountains Region. Land managers, landowners, conservationists, and others can use this feature of the plan to focus on the habitats in their area and thus the birds and recommendations of interest. The habitat descriptions given are intended to be a general picture of the landscape. Detailed habitat descriptions of these major habitat types can be found in many other sources (see Literature Cited for references). Bird species from the Californian Coasts and Mountains Continental and Regional Concern Tables are sorted into their habitat(s) of primary use and are shown in the following habitat tables. Some birds use more than one primary habitat and thus will appear in more than one habitat section. Continental (CC) and Regional (RC) Concern categories are explained above. If a species is included in the habitat table as needing attention, all subspecies present in the Region are included by listing the full species. However, if a subspecies or population is of Concern, the full species may also be listed in the Habitat Tables if there are other possible subspecies or populations needing attention in the Region.

The habitat tables that follow also include, Conservation Action, Habitat Needs, and Population Objectives. The “Conservation Action” category column (Cons. Action) indicates the urgency and level of need for conservation efforts for that species. The SJV Technical Committee assigned each species to a Conservation Action category based on their knowledge and expertise. The Immediate Action (IM) category indicates that action is urgently needed to reverse or stabilize significant, long-term population declines of species with small populations or to protect species with small populations for which trends are poorly known. Populations of these species are at risk of extirpation over portions of their range and immediate and focused attention to their needs represent the highest conservation priority. Management Attention (MA) indicates that recommended management is needed to reverse significant long-term population declines or sustain vulnerable populations. Although many of these species are still relatively widespread, actions are necessary to prevent these species from becoming in danger of regional or range-wide extirpation in the future. Planning and Responsibility (PR) indicates species with relatively stable populations, regardless of population size or relatively abundant species for which population trends are poorly known. Many species in this category are also Stewardship Responsibility species. Often the action needed is long term planning and monitoring. Although this is considered a lower conservation category, action is still needed to protect vulnerable species while they have relatively healthy populations.

Conservation Actions categories are an important aspect of the Plan for land managers and conservation planners. The “IM” category provides a quick look at the species in the most need (usually critical need) of conservation action. As projects are planned in the various habitats, the “IM” species should be the first to be considered for beneficial habitat and population actions followed by the “MA” species. “PR” species are often species with less exacting habitat requirements than “IM” or “MA” species and will be benefited by actions for “IM” and “MA” species. If “PR” species are present in a project area their populations should be maintained. Concern categories are also a feature of the Plan that will direct research and monitoring projects. “IM” species often need intense, immediate research to determine the cause(s) of their declines. “MA” species usually need work on habitat relationships in order to better manage their habitat. All three categories must have long-term population trend monitoring.

Specific “Habitat Needs” are given for species that have habitat requirements or characteristics that define where they successfully breed or winter. This information can be used to find suitable habitat in order to manage it or to survey for the species of interest. The information may also be used to restore or enhance those habitat components necessary for a species to breed or winter successfully. If a species generally uses the habitat described in the habitat section and has no specific habitat needs other than well-developed habitat, then “generalist” is shown in this column. In addition, if the habitat needs for a species are not well known, then “specifics unknown (?)” is shown.

Species population objectives fall into one of four possible categories: Maintain, Maintain/Determine Status, Increase by 50%, or Double. For breeding or resident species, the objectives, described above under “Format of Plan” section, are based on regional population trend or expert opinion of trend when actual trend has not been measured reliably. Population objectives given for species only present during the nonbreeding seasons are based on the continental population trend. They should be interpreted as “a nonbreeding population that supports the breeding population objective of (whichever objective is given) the current population”. Population objectives may relate directly to habitat objectives (for instance, a doubling of a population may only be accomplished by a doubling of habitat area). However, increasing the population may be accomplished by other actions, such as improving the condition of existing habitat, preventing capture for the pet trade, or a combination of several actions.

Habitat tables are sorted first by Conservation Action (Immediate Action, Management Attention, and Planning and Responsibility), then by Population Objective (Double, Increase by 50%, Maintain/Determine Status, Maintain), and finally by taxonomic order. Species that are high responsibility due to a large portion of their population (RD=5) residing in this Region are shown in bold.

For further descriptions and reading regarding the following habitats, the reader may refer to: Brown 1994, RHJV (Riparian Habitat Joint Venture) 2004 (California), Mills et al. 2005 (Pacific Coast), CalPIF (California Partners in Flight) 2002 (oak woodlands), and CalPIF (California Partners in Flight) 2004 (coastal scrub and chaparral).

Abbreviations for sources for Habitat Needs are as follows:  
Howell and Webb (1995) = (H&W)

Small (1994) = (Small)

Californian Coasts and Mountains chapter authors = (CCM)

**Habitat: Pine-Oak Forest**

**Location:** Sierra San Pedro Martir and Sierra Juárez, and the coastal mountain ranges of southern California including the San Gabriel, San Bernardino, San Jacinto, Santa Rosa, Palomar, and Cuyamaca mountains.

**Dominant plant species:** Ponderosa Pine (*Pinus ponderosa*), California Black Oak (*Quercus kelloggii*), White Fir (*Abies concolor*), Sugar Pine (*Pinus lambertiana*), Coast Live Oak (*Quercus agrifolia*), Canyon Live Oak (*Q. chrysolepis*), Jeffrey Pine (*Pinus jeffreyi*), Incense Cedar (*Libocedrus decurrens*), and Western Juniper (*Juniperus occidentalis*).

**Physical/biological descriptions:** Pine-oak habitats of Baja California and southern California, and oak woodlands of southern California; also includes pine and mixed conifer forests and pinyon-juniper, which is characterized by a well-defined zone above chaparral in the California Biotic Province. Often found above 1,500 m elevation and isolated from each other (Brown 1994).

**Threats:** Urbanization (suburban sprawl) and wildfire in California; unsustainable grazing, fires, and timber cutting in Baja California.

**Opportunities for cooperation on conservation actions:** Work with CONANP, U.S. Forest Service, California Condor re-establishment program, and watershed protection groups.

**Primary Conservation Needs/Actions:** Work with CONANP and Forest Service to conserve bird habitat; work with landowners and ejidos for conservation easements and habitat management; promote sustainable grazing practices, logging, and development; promote conservation of habitat for hunting.

**Priority Species for Pine-Oak Forest**

• Species	• Concern Category*	• Conservation**	• Habitat Need	• 30-Year Population Objective
• California Condor	• CC	• IM	• Undisturbed, patchy landscapes (CCM), large mammalian carrion, remote rocky cliffs for nesting and roosting	• Double
• Golden Eagle	• RC	• MA	• Undisturbed open terrain in foothill chaparral and mountains; steep cliffs and tall trees for breeding (Small)	• Increase by 50%
• Long-eared Owl	• RC	• MA	• Dense stands of trees adjacent to open country for hunting small mammals, also oaks near stream terraces (Small)	• Increase by 50%
• Mountain Quail	• CC	• MA	• Grass and scattered shrub understory, low to no	• Maintain/Determine Status

• Species	• Concern Category*	• Conservation**	• Habitat Need	• 30-Year Population Objective
• Flammulated Owl	• CC	• MA	• <b>grazing, proper fire regime</b> • Open mixed oak and conifer forest and open or broken conifer forest with some understory (Small)	• Maintain/Determine Status
• Black Swift	• CC	• MA	• Waterfalls and cliffs for nesting and roosting, undisturbed canyons and steep valleys	• Maintain/Determine Status
• White-headed Woodpecker	• CC	• MA	• Mixed pine forest, 1,290-2420m, and some lower in oaks in winter (Small)	• Maintain/Determine Status
• Nuttall's Woodpecker	• CC	• MA	• Oak woodlands and coastal live oaks, also oaks in association with riparian (Small)	• Maintain
• Gray Vireo	• CC	• MA	• Manzanita and oak; pinyon-juniper with shrubs (Small)	• Increase by 50%
• Pinyon Jay	• CC	• MA	• Manzanita and pine; pinyon-juniper pygmy forests, 4,000-7,500 ft (Small)	• Increase by 50%
•	•	•	•	•
• Rufous Hummingbird	• CC	• PR	• Especially penstemon, paintbrush, and cardinal flowers (Small)	• Double
• Band-tailed Pigeon	• CC	• PR	• Mast crop, large expanses of oak woodlands and pine-oak forests	• Increase by 50%
• Spotted Owl	• CC	• PR	• Canyon Live Oak in deep, well-shaded canyons, mature and multi-layered; up to 7,000 ft. (Small)	• Increase by 50%
• Olive-sided Flycatcher	• CC	• PR	• Wooded canyons of mixed deciduous and conifers, pine forests, and mixed conifers; 4,000-9,000 ft (Small)	• Increase by 50%
• Oak Titmouse	• CC	• PR	• Oak woodlands (large tracts)	• Increase by 50%
• Bushtit	• RC	• PR	• Open oak woodlands, oak savannah (Small)	• Increase by 50%
• White-throated Swift	• CC	• PR	• Cliff habitat for breeding	• Maintain/Determine Status
• Lewis's Woodpecker	• CC	• PR	• Oak savannahs, pine-oak woodlands, and mixed conifers with abundant acorns and conifer seeds, tall decaying trees for nest cavities (Small)	• Maintain/Determine Status
• Lawrence's Goldfinch	• CC	• PR	• Pine-oak woodlands, oak woodlands, adjacent to some type of available water	• Maintain/Determine Status

• Species	• Concern Category*	• Conservation**	• Habitat Need	• 30-Year Population Objective
• Yellow-billed Magpie	• CC	• PR	(Small) • Oak savannahs interspersed with open grass or agricultural fields (Small)	• Maintain

\* CC=Continental Concern Species; RC=Regional Concern Species

\*\*IM=Immediate Action; MA=Management Attention; PR=Long-term Planning and Responsibility

**Habitat: Coastal Scrub Shrubland (Matorral Costero)**

**Location:** From Santa Barbara south to San Quintín, primarily from sea level to 300 m elevation and possibly only 10 km inland (very narrow zone).

**Dominant plant species:** Lemonade Sumac (*Rhus integrifolia*), California Sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*), sages (*Salvia* spp.), Agave (*Agave* spp.), *Euphorbia misera*, Parry Buckeye (*Aesculus parryi*).

**Physical/biological descriptions:** Matorral Costero is a discontinuous habitat along the Pacific Coast; considered a transitional habitat between desert and chaparral and includes shrubs adapted to wind and saline moisture from the Pacific Ocean; is found on low hills, foothills, and valleys from sea level to the lower edge of chaparral, and on interior coastal valleys and foothills.

**Threats:** Unsustainable grazing, urban sprawl, habitat fragmentation, and wildfires.

**Opportunities for cooperation on conservation actions:** Private and social (ejidos) land conservation; Centro de Investigación Científica y de Educación (CISESE), Grupo Proesteros, public outreach and education; participation in local development plans, various legal instruments for conservation.

**Primary Conservation Needs/Actions:** Decree of NPA (Natural Protected Areas–state, Federal or municipal level protection); work with landowners to initiate conservation easements; protect habitats from destruction, fragmentation, urban encroachment, and human disturbance (primarily through recreational impacts); and support non-toxic shot programs in the range of the California Condor.

**Priority Species for Coastal Scrub Shrubland (Matorral Costero)**

• Species	• Concer n Catego ry*	• Cons. • Actio n**	• Habitat • Need	• 30-Year Population Objective
• California Condor	• CC	• IM	• Undisturbed, patchy landscapes with sufficient mammalian carrion such as cattle, deer, marine mammals; remote rocky cliffs for nesting and roosting (CCM)	• Double
• California Gnatcatcher	• CC	• MA	• Large expanses with coastal sage-scrub with tall subcanopy (for shade and nesting substrates)	• Double
• Gray Vireo	• CC	• MA	• Coastal sage and scrublands, manzanita and oak scrublands often with juniper	• Increase by 50%
•	•	•	•	•

• Species	• Concern Category*	• Conservation**	• Habitat Need	• 30-Year Population Objective
• Cactus Wren including (San Diego subspecies)	• RC	• PR	• Undisturbed coastal scrub with spiny cactus such as prickly pear and cholla	• Double
• Loggerhead Shrike	• RC	• PR	• Perch sites adjacent to open oak woodland habitats, peninsular scrublands, and agricultural edge	• Increase by 50%
• Bushtit	• RC	• PR	• Midstory vegetation and some larger trees for nesting substrate	• Increase by 50%
• <b>California Thrasher</b>	• CC	• PR	• <b>Undisturbed, dense chaparral and woodlands</b>	• <b>Increase by 50%</b>
• Rufous-crowned Sparrow	• RC	• PR	• Rocky slopes, steep hillsides with varied vegetative structure	• Increase by 50%
• Black-chinned Sparrow	• CC	• PR	• Vegetated rocky hillsides	• Increase by 50%
• Sage “Bell’s” Sparrow	• RC	• PR	• Large expanses of <i>Lycium</i>	• Increase by 50%
• Northern Harrier	• RC	• PR	• Wide variety of open habitats especially adjacent to salt marshes with small rodent prey	• Maintain/Determine Status
• Allen’s Hummingbird	• CC	• PR	• Undisturbed riparian areas adjacent to chaparral	• Maintain/Determine Status
• Costa’s Hummingbird	• CC	• PR	• Arid shrublands with flowering shrubs and trees	• Maintain/Determine Status
• <b>Wrentit</b>	• CC	• PR	• <b>Dense stands of chaparral, undisturbed open terrain</b>	• <b>Maintain</b>

\* CC=Continental Concern Species; RC=Regional Concern Species

\*\*IM=Immediate Action; MA=Management Attention; PR=Long-term Planning and Responsibility

**Habitat: Chaparral Shrubland**

**Location:** From Point Conception, California south to San Telmo, Baja California primarily from the coastal zone to 800 m elevation and up to 60 km inland and between the coast and the Sonoran-Mojave Desert.

**Dominant plant species:** Manzanita (*Arctostaphylos* spp.), Chamisa-Chamiso de Vera Prieta (*Ademostoma fasciculatum*), sumac (*Rhus* spp.), agave (*Agave* spp.), ash (*Fraxinus* spp.), ceanothus (*Ceanothus* spp.), and various annual grasses.

**Physical/biological descriptions:** Chaparral covers mountains, hillsides, and foothills; characterized by evergreen, sclerophytic shrubs with deep roots, and small tough leaves that tolerate the periods of extreme drought that is typical of Mediterranean climate; well adapted to drought and fire and after burning chaparral species regenerate easily (Brown 1994).

**Threats:** Habitat destruction, wildfire, deforestation, fragmentation, erosion, and human disturbance (including recreational impacts); urban development, agriculture, and unsustainable grazing.

**Opportunities for cooperation on conservation actions:** Private land conservation efforts are possible (such as between Tecate and Tijuana); active habitat management options for select species (e.g., planting of riparian vegetation to benefit several bird species); working with NGOs such as Terra Peninsular, Pronatura, CISESE, and The Nature Conservancy in their existing conservation projects.

**Primary Conservation Needs/Actions:** Protect habitats from destruction, fragmentation, urban encroachment, and human disturbance (primarily through recreational impacts); work with landowners to develop conservation easements; and support non-toxic shot programs in the range of the California Condor.

**Priority Species for Chaparral Shrubland**

• Species	• Concer n Catego ry*	• Cons . • Actio n*	• Habitat • Need	• 30-Year Population Objective
• California Condor	• CC	• IM	• Undisturbed, patchy landscapes with sufficient mammalian carrion such as cattle, deer, marine mammals; remote rocky cliffs for nesting and roosting (CCM)	• Double
• Golden Eagle	• RC	• MA	• Undisturbed open chaparral in the foothills and mountains	• Increase by 50%
• Sage “Bell’s”	• RC	• MA	• Large expanses of <i>Lycium</i>	• Increase by 50%

• Species	• Concern Category*	• Conservation*	• Habitat Need	• 30-Year Population Objective
• Sparrow			appear to be very important	
• Mountain Quail	• CC	• MA	• Grass and scattered shrub understory	• Maintain/Determine Status
•	•	•	•	•
• Cactus “San Diego” Wren	• RC	• PR	• Spiny cactus such as prickly pear and cholla	• Double
• California Thrasher	• CC	• PR	• Dense stands of chaparral	• Double
• Grasshopper Sparrow	• RC	• PR	• In grasslands within chaparral, rolling hills and plains, variety of grass types and mixed with low shrubs (Small)	• Double
• Gray Vireo	• CC	• PR	• Manzanita and oak scrublands often with juniper	• Increase by 50%
• Loggerhead Shrike	• RC	• PR	• Perch sites adjacent to open oak woodland habitats, peninsular scrublands	• Increase by 50%
• Bushtit	• RC	• PR	• Midstory vegetation and some larger trees for nesting substrate	• Increase by 50%
• Rufous-crowned Sparrow	• RC	• PR	• Rocky slopes, steep hillsides with varied vegetative structure	• Increase by 50%
• Black-chinned Sparrow	• CC	• PR	• Rocky hillsides	• Increase by 50%
• Northern Harrier	• RC	• PR	• Wide variety of open habitats with small rodent prey	• Maintain/Determine Status
• Costa’s Hummingbird	• CC	• PR	• Arid shrublands with flowering shrubs and trees	• Maintain/Determine Status
• Lawrence’s Goldfinch	• CC	• PR	• Riparian edges	• Maintain/Determine Status
• Wrentit	• CC	• PR	• Dense stands of chaparral	• Maintain

\* CC=Continental Concern Species; RC=Regional Concern Species

\*\*IM=Immediate Action; MA=Management Attention; PR=Long-term Planning and Responsibility

## Habitat: Riparian Wetlands

**Location:** Stringers of riparian habitat exist throughout the entire coastline from Point Conception south to St. Telmo, primarily perpendicular to the coastline; most of these riparian stringers are highly fragmented, channelized, and/or rip-rapped and have some degree of flood control measures that impact the natural flood regimes and prevent natural regeneration of native riparian vegetation; riparian habitat also exists in the mountainous areas.

**Dominant plant species:** Sycamore (*Plantanus racemosa*), White Alder (*Alnus rhombifolia*), Fremont Cottonwood (*Populus fremontii*), Velvet Ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica* var. *velutina*), Goodding Willow (*Salix gooddingii*), Black Willow (*Salix nigra*), Canyon Live Oak (*Quercus chrysolepis*), Poison Oak (*Rhus toxicodendron*), and California Blackberry (*Rubus vitifolius*).

**Physical/biological descriptions:** Riparian deciduous forest, usually taller than surrounding coastal scrub or chaparral, where stream flows are well-developed, gallery forest can occur, dependent on periodic spring floods.

**Threats:** Probably the most heavily impacted and altered habitat in the Region, this habitat has seen nearly the entire spectrum of human use, including firewood collection, unsustainable grazing, conversion to agriculture, suburban/urban development, dewatering, water diversion, modification of the hydrological regime, and introduction of nonnative invasive species.

**Opportunities for cooperation on conservation actions:** Conservation easements offer an opportunity for immediate habitat improvements through promotion of natural hydrologic regimes and reduction of livestock grazing.

**Primary Conservation Needs/Actions:** Protect existing riparian habitat and begin reconstruction of natural riparian processes and habitat, and water conservation education.

### Priority Species for Riparian Wetlands

• Species	• Concer n Catego ry*	• Cons. • Actio n**	• Habitat • Need	• 30-Year Population Objective
• Yellow-billed “Western” Cuckoo	• RC	• IM	• Dense midstory and upper canopy of native riparian vegetation (cottonwood, willow, etc.)	• Double
• Bell’s “Least” Vireo	• RC	• IM	• Dense midstory-layer of native willow preferably with flowing water (Small)	• Double
• Willow “Southwestern” Flycatcher	• RC	• IM	• Midstory-layer of well- developed native willow with flowing water	• Double
•	•	•	•	•
• Allen’s Hummingbird	• CC	• MA	• Riparian watercourses with flowers nearby (Small)	• Maintain/Determi ne Status

• Species	• Concern Category*	• Conservation**	• Habitat Need	• 30-Year Population Objective
• Rufous Hummingbird	• CC	• PR	• Abundant nectar sources	• Double
• Virginia Rail	• RC	• PR	• Flooded riparian woodlands (Small)	• Increase by 50%
• Long-eared Owl	• RC	• PR	• Riparian bottomlands, and streamside terraces with dense stands of live oaks (Small)	• Increase by 50%
• Olive-sided Flycatcher	• CC	• PR	• Higher elevation streams, snags or trees with dead tops	• Increase by 50%
• Loggerhead Shrike	• RC	• PR	• Riparian woodlands (Small)	• Increase by 50%
• Marsh Wren	• RC	• PR	• Flooded willow thickets (Small)	• Increase by 50%
• Bushtit	• RC	• PR	• Midstory vegetation and some larger trees for nesting substrate; willows dominate (Small)	• Increase by 50%
• <b>Wrentit</b>	• <b>CC</b>	• <b>PR</b>	• <b>Undisturbed, willow, and <i>Baccharis</i> along riparian (Small)</b>	• <b>Increase by 50%</b>
• <b>California Thrasher</b>	• <b>CC</b>	• <b>PR</b>	• <b>Dense thickets in riparian (Small)</b>	• <b>Increase by 50%</b>
• Sora	• RC	• PR	• Marshy stream borders (Small)	• Maintain/Determine Status
• Common Ground-Dove	• RC	• PR	• Riparian woodlands, expanding into this area (Small)	• Maintain/Determine Status
• <b>Lawrence's Goldfinch</b>	• <b>CC</b>	• <b>PR</b>	• <b>Riparian woodlands with substantial shrub understory (Small)</b>	• <b>Maintain/Determine Status</b>
• Nuttall's Woodpecker	• CC	• PR	• Riparian edge adjacent to oak woodlands, especially in s. California prefers riparian forests (Small)	• Maintain

\* CC=Continental Concern Species; RC=Regional Concern Species

\*\*IM=Immediate Action; MA=Management Attention; PR=Long-term Planning and Responsibility

**Habitat: Freshwater Wetlands**

**Location:** Interior freshwater lakes, ponds, and marshes throughout the Region occurring inland from the maritime zone (salt and brackish water).

**Dominant plant species:** Mixture of aquatic emergent vegetation, dominated by cattail (*Typha domingensis*) and rushes (*Scirpus* spp.); may include cottonwoods (*Populus* spp.), willows (*Salix* spp.), and other riparian wetlands vegetation in backwaters and along edges of wetlands.

**Physical/biological descriptions:** Freshwater wetlands, backwaters, river oxbows, and undrained land; variable in size from small spring/seeps (<1 ha) to large marshes and reservoirs.

**Threats:** Groundwater pumping, draining, water diversions/water extraction, land conversion/urban and agricultural development; nonnative/invasive species (fish, bullfrogs, crayfish, aquatic plants); unsustainable grazing.

**Opportunities for cooperation on conservation actions:** Work with partners on North American Wetland Conservation Act and Lower Colorado River Multi Species Conservation Plan projects; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s Refuge System.

**Primary Conservation Needs/Actions:** Promote no net loss, protect existing wetlands, encourage restoration of destroyed or degraded sites, restore water flows, awareness; protection of breeding bird colony, prevention of human disturbance, prevention of human development in breeding areas.

**Priority Species for Freshwater Wetlands**

• Species	• Concern Category*	• Conservation Action**	• Habitat Need	• 30-Year Population Objective
• Tricolored Blackbird	• CC	• IM	• Freshwater marshes with dense cattails/bulrushes (Small)	• Double
• Little Blue Heron	• CC	• MA	• Marshes	• Double
• Marsh Wren	• RC	• MA	• Freshwater marsh (Small)	• Increase by 50%
• Cinnamon Teal	• RC	• MA	• Freshwater lakes, ponds, streams and flooded grassy fields (Small)	• Maintain/Determine Status
• American Bittern	• RC	• MA	• Wetlands with dense stands of reeds (Small)	• Maintain/Determine Status
• Least Bittern	• RC	• MA	• Wetland with dense stands of emergent vegetation, with tules and cattails (Small)	• Maintain/Determine Status
• Snowy Egret	• RC	• MA	• Irrigation channels, marshes, rivers (Small)	•

• Species	• Concern Category*	• Conservation**	• Habitat Need	• 30-Year Population Objective
• Mallard	• CC	• MA	• Freshwater lakes, ponds, flooded grassy fields (Small)	• Maintain
•	•	•	•	•
• Clark's Grebe	• CC	• PR	• Marshes (Small)	• Double
• Short-billed Dowitcher	• CC	• PR	• Lakes and ponds (Small)	• Double
• Virginia Rail	• RC	• PR	• Freshwater marshes (Small)	• Increase by 50%
• Sora	• RC	• PR	• Freshwater marshes (Small)	• Maintain/Determine Status
• American Avocet	• CC	• PR	• Shallow freshwater ponds and sloughs (Small)	• Maintain/Determine Status
• American Wigeon	• RC	• PR	• Rivers, marshes, lakes, ponds, especially near grassy fields (Small)	• Maintain
• Northern Shoveler	• RC	• PR	• Lakes and marshes (Small)	• Maintain
• Bufflehead	• RC	• PR	• Lakes, ponds, and large rivers (Small)	• Maintain

\* CC=Continental Concern Species; RC=Regional Concern Species

\*\*IM=Immediate Action; MA=Management Attention; PR=Long-term Planning and Responsibility

**Habitat: Coastal Wetlands**

**Location:** Once much more extensive, remaining examples extend along the coastline throughout the Region; representative locations include, Los Angeles Bay, San Diego Bay, and Estero Punta Banda near Ensenada, Baja California.

**Dominant plant species:** Glassworts (*Salicornia* spp.), saltgrasses (*Distichlis* spp.), Cordgrass (*Spartina foliosa*), Pickleweed (*Allenrolfea occidentalis*), and eelgrasses (*Zostera* spp.).

**Physical/biological descriptions:** Tidal marsh, estuaries, protected lagoons, sheltered bays; mangroves and other tropic-subtropic species are lacking or poorly represented; salt water or brackish; including the intertidal zone of mudflats, sand, shell, or rocky strand that are flushed by tidal action.

**Threats:** Much has been destroyed; some of the best remaining examples are in Baja California; threats include dredging, habitat destruction and alteration, encroachment of urban interface and agricultural development, mining of the beach and barrier sand and rock (from the beach and river interface) which threaten the integrity of estuaries; human disturbance particularly during nesting season; fishing, housing, and tourist developments, recreation, oyster aquaculture, and agricultural adjacent to the marshes.

**Opportunities for cooperation on conservation actions:** Conservation easements; develop local groups to protect nesting colonies; use nesting colonies as an educational opportunity.

**Primary Conservation Needs/Actions:** Protect remaining habitat; protect eelgrass beds from pollution, dredging, and other damage; protect nesting colonies; develop education programs; promote sustainable fisheries.

**Priority Species for Coastal Wetlands**

• Species	• Concer n Catego ry*	• Cons. • Actio n**	• Habitat • Need	• 30-Year Population Objective
• Black Rail (including “California” subspecies)	• CC	• IM	• Saltmarsh and estuarine habitats with <i>Salicornia</i> and saltgrass; may be extirpated; (Small, H&W)	• Double
• Clapper “Light- footed” Rail	• RC	• IM	• Saltwater tidal marshes of pickleweed and cordgrass, tidal channels (Small)	• Double
• Savannah “Belding’s” Sparrow	• RC	• IM	• Salt marshes, with pickleweed and cordgrass (Small)	• Double
• Gull-billed Tern	• CC	• IM	• Undisturbed open, sandy substrate, (dikes, beaches) (CCM); salt works in San Diego (Small)	• Increase by 50%

• Species	• Concern Category*	• Conservation**	• Habitat Need	• 30-Year Population Objective
• Least “California” Tern	• RC	• IM	• Undisturbed open, sandy substrate, (dikes, beaches); estuaries (CCM)	• Increase by 50%
• Brant	• CC	• MA	• Requires eelgrass and seagrass (nonbreeding)	• Double
• Lesser Scaup	• CC	• MA	• Deep, unpolluted water	• Double
• Red Knot	• CC	• MA	• Estuaries, marshes with tidal channels, tidal mudflats (Small)	• Double
• Northern Pintail	• CC	• MA	• Brackish water	• Increase by 50%
• Snowy Plover	• CC	• MA	• Undisturbed barrier beaches (CCM); sand flats, sandy dune-backed beaches, sand spits, etc. (Small)	• Increase by 50%
• Long-billed Curlew	• CC	• MA	• Tidal mudflats, estuaries, saltwater marshes with tidal channels (nonbreeding) (Small)	• Increase by 50%
• Black Skimmer	• CC	• MA	• Undisturbed open, sandy substrate (dikes, beaches) (CCM); coastal wetlands, estuaries, tidal mudflats (Small)	• Increase by 50%
• American Bittern	• RC	• MA	• Wetland with dense stands of emergent vegetation	• Maintain/Determine Status
• Least Bittern	• RC	• MA	• Wetland with dense stands of emergent vegetation	• Maintain/Determine Status
• Snowy Egret	• RC	• MA	• Estuaries	• Maintain/Determine Status
• Tricolored Heron	• RC	• MA	• Coastal lagoons, tidal channels, marshes, estuaries (Small)	• Maintain
• Black Oystercatcher	• CC	• MA	• Rocky shores and breakwaters (Small)	• Maintain/Determine Status
• Elegant Tern	• CC	• MA	• Undisturbed open, sandy substrate, (dikes, beaches); estuaries, bays and harbors (Small)	• Maintain/Determine Status
• Horned Grebe	• CC	• PR	• Bays, lagoons, estuaries (nonbreeding) (Small)	• Double
• Whimbrel	• CC	• PR	• Estuaries, tidal mudflats, beaches, rocky shores (nonbreeding) (Small)	• Double
• Sanderling	• CC	• PR	• Sandy beaches, rocky shores, mudflats, reefs,	• Double

• Species	• Concern Category*	• Conservation**	• Habitat Need	• 30-Year Population Objective
			estuaries, undisturbed shoreline (nonbreeding) (Small)	
• Dunlin	• CC	• PR	• Estuaries, salt marsh, lagoons, tidal mudflats (nonbreeding) (Small)	• Double
• Short-billed Dowitcher	• CC	• PR	• Estuaries, saltwater marshes, tidal mudflats (nonbreeding) (Small)	• Double
• Virginia Rail	• RC	• PR	• Brackish marshes, saltwater marshes (Small)	• Increase by 50%
• Marbled Godwit	• CC	• PR	• Estuaries, salt marshes, large expanses of exposed mudflats, low disturbance, isolated roosting sites (Small), low disturbance, isolated roosting sites (CCM)(nonbreeding)	• Increase by 50%
• Ruddy Turnstone	• RC	• PR	• Tidal mudflats, beaches, rocky shores, and breakwaters (Small)	• Increase by 50%
• Surfbird	• CC	• PR	• Rocky shores and breakwaters (Small)	• Increase by 50%
• Wilson's Phalarope	• CC	• PR	• Lagoons, estuaries, salt bays, and ponds (Small)	• Increase by 50%
• Forster's Tern	• RC	• PR	• Estuaries, lagoons, bays and harbors; salt works San Diego Bay (Small)	• Increase by 50%
• Marsh Wren	• RC	• PR	• Brackish marshes, tidal saltwater marshes (Small)	• Increase by 50%
• Reddish Egret	• CC	• PR	• Coastal lagoons, mudflats (Small)	• Maintain/Determine Status
• Northern Harrier	• RC	• PR	• Wide variety of open habitats including saltwater marshes (Small)	• Maintain/Determine Status
• Sora	• RC	• PR	• Salt and brackish water marshes in winter (Small)	• Maintain/Determine Status
• American Avocet	• CC	• PR	• Shallow exposed mudflats and wetlands; estuaries, lagoons (Small)	• Maintain/Determine Status
• Black Turnstone	• CC	• PR	• Rocky shores (Small)	• Maintain/Determine Status
• Western Sandpiper	• CC	• PR	• Exposed mudflats, estuaries, salt marshes, tidal channels, lagoons, tidal mudflats, sandy beaches; undisturbed roosting sites (Small)	• Maintain/Determine Status
• Heermann's Gull	• CC	• PR	• Sloughs, estuaries, beaches, lagoons, bays and	• Maintain/Determine Status

• Species	• Concern Category*	• Conservation**	• Habitat Need	• 30-Year Population Objective
			harbors (nonbreeding) (Small)	
• Pigeon Guillemot	• CC	• PR	• Bays and harbors (Small)	• Maintain/Determine Status
• Short-eared Owl	• CC	• PR	• Marshes adjacent to grasslands or agricultural fields	• Maintain/Determine Status
• American Wigeon	• RC	• PR	• Lagoons, estuaries, bays (Small)	• Maintain
• Northern Shoveler	• RC	• PR	• Bays, lagoons, estuaries, tidal marshes and channels (Small)	• Maintain
• Greater Scaup	• RC	• PR	• Deep bays	• Maintain
• Bufflehead	• RC	• PR	• Bays, lagoons, estuaries, salt evaporative ponds where forage on brine shrimp and brinefly larvae (Small)	• Maintain

\* CC=Continental Concern Species; RC=Regional Concern Species. \*\*IM=Immediate Action; MA=Management Attention; PR=Long-term Planning and Responsibility.

**Habitat: Islands**

**Location:** Off the southern coast of California and northern coast of Baja California, includes the Channel Islands, Islas de los Coronados, and Isla Guadalupe.

**Dominant plant species:** Various vegetation that is associated with mainland desert scrub, chaparral, and coastal scrub; includes some forest species.

**Physical/biological descriptions:** Often desertic and predominantly rocky, however some of the larger islands have well-developed forest; cliffs, rocky crevices, rock piles.

**Threats:** Human recreational disturbance; non-native species especially rats, cats, and mice that prey on young at nests; disturbance by fishermen, boatmen, and lighthouse keepers at colonies during breeding; agriculture, urban development; over use of resources; egg collection; disease outbreaks; pollution events; unsustainable fishing of prey species.

**Opportunities for cooperation on conservation actions:** Work with the Secretaria de Marina, California Current Joint Venture, Channel Islands National Park, GECI, CONANP, and INE.

**Primary Conservation Needs/Actions:** Protect bird habitat/colonies from human disturbance, remove introduced mammalian predators; reduce threats from pollution, oil spills, overfishing of food sources, and entanglement in fish nets and lines.

<b>Priority Species for Islands</b>				
<b>• Species</b>	<b>• Concern Category*</b>	<b>• Cons. Action**</b>	<b>• Habitat Need</b>	<b>• 30-Year Population Objective</b>
• Guadalupe Storm-Petrel	• CC	• IM	• Burrows in soft soil of pine/oak/cypress forest, free of disturbance and introduced mammals (endemic, extinct?)	• Double/Survey for extant individuals
• Guadalupe Caracara	• CC	• IM	• Open, scattered shrubs and trees (endemic, extinct?)	• Double/Survey for extant individuals
• Dark-eyed “Guadalupe” Junco	• RC	• IM	• Undisturbed (ungrazed) cypress forest (endemic)	• Double
• Black-vented Shearwater	• CC	• IM	• Soft soil for burrows, free of introduced mammals (Small)	• Double
• Ashy Storm-Petrel	• CC	• IM	• Free of mammalian predators; undisturbed breeding areas; rocky crevices and burrows	• Double
• Xantus’s Murrelet	• CC	• IM	• Free of mammalian predators; undisturbed breeding areas; rocky crevices and burrows	• Double

• Species	• Concern Category*	• Conservation**	• Habitat Need	• 30-Year Population Objective
			<b>required immediately adjacent to the ocean for dispersal of young</b>	
• Loggerhead “San Clemente” Shrike	• RC	• IM	• Dense shrubs for nesting (Small)	• Double
• Least Storm-Petrel	• CC	• IM	• Free of mammalian predators; undisturbed breeding areas; rocky cliff crevices and rock piles (Audubon WatchList website 2005)	• Increase by 50%
• Black Storm-Petrel	• CC	• IM	• Free of mammalian predators; undisturbed breeding areas; rocky crevices and burrows	• Maintain/Determine Status
• Rufous-crowned “Todos Santos” Sparrow	• RC	• IM	• Scrubland (possibly extinct) (BNA - Collins 1999)	• Maintain/Determine Status
• Brown “California” Pelican	• RC	• MA	• Undisturbed breeding areas; rocky islands for roosting and nesting, and estuaries for feeding	• Double
• Brandt’s Cormorant	• CC	• MA	• Rocky islands for roosting and nesting and estuaries for feeding	• Increase by 50%
• Island Scrub-Jay	• CC	• MA	• Coastal live oak woodland or chaparral dominated by scrub oak only on Santa Cruz Island; free of mammalian predators; sensitive to disturbance	• Increase by 50%
• Leach’s Storm-Petrel	• RC	• MA	• Free of mammalian predators; undisturbed breeding areas; rocky crevices and burrows required immediately adjacent to the ocean for dispersal of young	• Maintain/Determine Status
• Pigeon Guillemot	• CC	• MA	• Sea cliffs with holes, caves, crevices (Small)	• Maintain/Determine Status
• Surfbird	• CC	• PR	• Remote rocky beaches and cliffs, free of mammalian predators	• Double
• Pelagic	• CC	• PR	• Rocky islands with cliffs and	• Increase by 50%

• Species	• Concern Category*	• Conservation**	• Habitat Need	• 30-Year Population Objective
Cormorant			ledges for roosting and nesting and estuaries for feeding	
• Blue-footed Booby	• CC	• PR	• Beaches, shores (nonbreeding)	• Increase by 50%
• Brown Booby	• CC	• PR	• Beaches, shores (nonbreeding)	• Increase by 50%
• Masked Booby	• CC	• PR	• Beaches, shores (nonbreeding)	• Increase by 50%
• Laysan Albatross	• CC	• PR	• Breeding areas free of disturbance, rocky or grassy topped islands	• Maintain
• Tufted Puffin	• RC	• PR	• Sufficient soil to construct burrows, California sardines (extirpated in our area) (Small)	• Protection to allow natural recolonization
• Black Oystercatcher	• CC	• PR	• Undisturbed breeding areas; remote rocky beaches and cliffs, free of mammalian predators	• Maintain/Determine Status
• Black Turnstone	• CC	• PR	• Rocky shores (similar to above)	• Maintain/Determine Status
• Heermann's Gull	• CC	• PR	• Beaches, shores (nonbreeding)	• Maintain/Determine Status

\* CC=Continental Concern Species; RC=Regional Concern Species

\*\*IM=Immediate Action; MA=Management Attention; PR=Long-term Planning and Responsibility

**Habitat: Off-Shore/Pelagic**

**Location:** Off the coast of southern California and northern Baja California; Pacific Ocean waters from the coast west 200 nautical miles or 230 statute miles.

**Dominant plant species:** None.

**Physical/biological descriptions:** Open water, enriched by the up-welling of nutrient rich deep cold water.

**Threats:** Depletion of sardine and other fish stocks, fishing lines, pollution, oil spills.

**Opportunities for cooperation on conservation actions:** California Current Joint Venture.

**Primary Conservation Needs/Actions:** A large number of species use the open ocean within maritime territorial boundaries, especially at times other than the breeding months. Needs are protection from entanglement in fishing lines and nets and protection of fish stocks. The “Objective” given is based on global population trend. The objective is given to indicate the trend and the magnitude of the losses both on the breeding and wintering areas and provide a target for the restoration of these species. This habitat type, more than others, can only be conserved by wide-scale, national and international policy and cultural shifts that are, for the most part, beyond the capacity of the SJV. However, SJV partners working off-shore can use this information to increase awareness and devise solutions to entanglement problems and over-fishing of certain stocks. This information is provided to show a complete picture of the diversity of the SJV.

<b>Priority Species for Off-Shore/Pelagic Habitat</b>				
<b>Species</b>	<b>Concer n Catego ry*</b>	<b>Cons. Actio n**</b>	<b>Habitat Need</b>	<b>30-Year Population Objective</b>
• Black-vented Shearwater	• CC	• IM	• Open sea, free from entanglement in fishing lines and nets, and with adequate fish stocks	• Increase by 50%
• Least Storm-Petrel	• CC	• IM	• “	• Increase by 50%
• Craveri’s Murrelet	• CC	• IM	• “	• Increase by 50%
• Black Storm-Petrel	• CC	• IM	• “	• Maintain/Determine Status
•	•	•	•	•
• Brandt’s Cormorant	• CC	• MA	• “	• Increase by 50%
•	•	•	•	•
• Surf Scoter	• CC	• PR	• “	• Double
• White-winged Scoter	• CC	• PR	• “	• Double

• Species	• Concern Category*	• Conservation**	• Habitat Need	• 30-Year Population Objective
• Black Scoter	• CC	• PR	• “	• Double
• Black-footed Albatross	• CC	• PR	• “	• Increase by 50%
• Pink-footed Shearwater	• CC	• PR	• “	• Increase by 50%
• Sooty Shearwater	• CC	• PR	• “	• Increase by 50%
• Masked Booby	• CC	• PR	• “	• Increase by 50%
• Blue-footed Booby	• CC	• PR	• “	• Increase by 50%
• Brown Booby	• CC	• PR	• “	• Increase by 50%
• Red-footed Booby	• CC	• PR	• “	• Increase by 50%
• Pelagic Cormorant	• CC	• PR	• “	• Increase by 50%
• Flesh-footed Shearwater	• CC	• PR	• “	• Maintain/Determine Status
• Buller’s Shearwater	• CC	• PR	• “	• Maintain/Determine Status
• Short-tailed Shearwater	• CC	• PR	• “	• Maintain/Determine Status

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**Habitat: Cliff/Rock**

**Location:** Throughout the Region, especially in the mountain ranges of southern California and the Sierra San Pedro Martir and Sierra Juárez in Baja California, and along the coast where rock formations provide avian habitat.

**Dominant plant species:** Various species depending on the surrounding habitat.

**Physical/biological descriptions:** Sparse vegetation, sheer cliffs, flat rocky areas, outcrops, and rocky slopes.

**Threats:** Recreational disturbance at nesting sites.

**Opportunities for cooperation on conservation actions:** Work with U.S. Forest Service and Biosphere Reserves to monitor and protect nesting areas.

**Primary Conservation Needs/Actions:** Education and awareness; identify important nesting areas; monitor and protect nesting areas.

Priority Species for Cliff/Rock				
• Species	• Concern Category*	• Conservation**	• Habitat Need	• 30-Year Population Objective
• California Condor	• CC	• IM	• Undisturbed, patchy landscapes with sufficient mammalian carrion such as cattle, deer, marine mammals; remote rocky cliffs for nesting and roosting (CCM)	• Double
• Pigeon Guillemot	• CC	• MA	• Sea cliffs with holes, caves, ledges, or crevices (Small)	• Maintain/Determine Status
• Black Swift	• CC	• MA	• Steep cliffs or ocean bluffs with ledges, cavities, or cracks for nest sites, almost always behind waterfalls (Small)	• Maintain/Determine Status
• White-throated Swift	• CC	• PR	• Crevices in cliffs, bluffs, canyon walls, and large rocks, from sea level to 7000 ft (Small)	• Maintain/Determine Status

\* CC=Continental Concern Species; RC=Regional Concern Species

\*\*IM=Immediate Action; MA=Management Attention; PR=Long-term Planning and Responsibility

**Habitat: Urban**

**Location:** Cities and towns throughout the entire length of this Region from Pt. Conception south to St. Telmo.

**Dominant plant species:** A diversity of native and nonnative species primarily nonnative landscape species including Eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus* spp.), palms (*Washingtonia* spp. and *Phoenix* spp.), Olive Trees (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*).

**Physical/biological descriptions:** Heavily altered, paved, urban/suburban/commercial/industrial development, non-natural food sources, and sources of water.

**Threats:** Pollution, pesticides, wildlife diseases, domestic and feral animals (cats) preying on birds, general threats due to urban infrastructure (i.e. electrocutions, windows, and collisions), invasive/nonnative plants.

**Opportunities for cooperation on conservation actions:** Most environmental organizations are located in urban areas; opportunity for environmental education and citizen science projects; working with planners to create wildlife-friendly development, habitat restoration, and tourism.

**Primary Conservation Needs/Actions:** Increase awareness, planned development, water conservation, urban/suburban planning to control urban sprawl, greenbelts, raptor-friendly power poles, public outreach/education, native landscaping, initiate programs such as “Cats Indoors!”, pollution control.

**Priority Species for Urban Habitat**

• Species	• Concern Category*	• Conservation**	• Habitat Need	• 30-Year Population Objective
• Rufous Hummingbird	• CC	• PR	• Urban/suburban areas with flowers, winter	• Double
• Cactus Wren	• RC	• PR	• Arid scrublands adjacent to urban and agricultural habitats	• Double
• California Thrasher	• CC	• PR	• <b>Wide variety of habitats, urban near chaparral and woodlands</b>	• <b>Increase by 50%</b>
• Costa’s Hummingbird	• CC	• PR	• Urban/suburban areas with flowers	• Maintain/Determine Status

\* CC=Continental Concern Species; RC=Regional Concern Species

\*\*IM=Immediate Action; MA=Management Attention; PR=Long-term Planning and Responsibility

**Habitat: Agriculture**

**Location:** Throughout the entire length of this Region from Pt. Conception south to St. Telmo.

**Dominant plant species:** Various pasture grasses, alfalfa, seasonal and perennial crops including lettuce, wildflowers, avocado, olive, citrus, tomatoes and other truck crops.

**Physical/biological descriptions:** Monocultures, disturbed fields, fallow fields, waste grain, sod farms, natural edges/hedgerows.

**Threats:** Pesticides, urban encroachment, development, water scarcity, abandonment (economic pressures), and wildlife conflicts with farmers.

**Opportunities for cooperation on conservation actions:** Cooperating with ranchers/farmers on various projects (wildlife-friendly, added value projects); working on shorebird, waterfowl, and winter raptor habitats; increase collaborative efforts; reduce pesticide use; promote organic farming; and water conservation.

**Primary Conservation Needs/Actions:** Education of needs of priority birds, finding common objectives.

**Priority Species for Agricultural Habitats**

• Species	• Concern Category*	• Conservation Action**	• Habitat Need	• 30-Year Population Objective
• Tricolored Blackbird	• CC	• MA	• Agriculture drains, ditches, wetlands	• Double
• Long-billed Curlew	• CC	• MA	• Grasslands, and agriculture fields with short grass (Small)	• Increase by 50%
• Mountain Plover	• CC	• MA	• Short grass fields or early alfalfa fields	• Maintain/Determine Status
•	•	•	•	•
• Cactus Wren	• RC	• PR	• Arid scrublands adjacent to urban and agricultural habitats	• Double
• Grasshopper Sparrow	• RC	• PR	• Native grasslands, also agricultural fields.	• Double
• Loggerhead Shrike	• RC	• PR	• Suburban near open oak woodland habitats, peninsular scrublands, and agricultural edge	• Increase by 50%
• Common Ground-Dove	• RC	• PR	• Orchards, edges of agricultural fields with thick shrubs (Small)	• Maintain/Determine Status
• Burrowing Owl	• RC	• PR	• Field edges, grass and hay fields with usually mammal burrows	• Maintain/Determine Status

• Species	• Concern Category*	• Conservation**	• Habitat Need	• 30-Year Population Objective
• Short-eared Owl	• CC	• PR	• Adjacent to marshes	• Maintain/Determine Status
• Savannah Sparrow	• RC	• PR	• Hay meadows and alfalfa fields (Small)	• Maintain/Determine Status
• Western Meadowlark	• RC	• PR	• Pastures, agricultural fields (Small)	• Maintain/Determine Status
• American Wigeon	• RC	• PR	• Pastures, farm fields, and other grassy areas often some distance from water (Small)	• Maintain

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## **Focus Areas for the Californian Coasts and Mountains Region**

Focus Areas are considered important tools for conserving species of concern. A Focus Area is a location that has been identified as having significant bird populations and habitat values, and/or the potential to be restored to a condition that supports bird populations. These places on the landscape can be used to concentrate conservation activities and mobilize action. Conservation activities such as acquisition, restoration, and education can be supported and encouraged, and accomplishments can be showcased.

The Focus Area list is dynamic and will be changed based on objectives of Concern Species and their habitat needs. These lists will be augmented with areas that might not currently have priority birds but have high restoration potential. Additional Focus Areas will undoubtedly be needed because the habitat contained in all the listed Focus Areas will not likely meet the population objectives of all of the priority species.

The following is a list of the 36 Focus Areas in the Californian Coasts and Mountains Region. They are a combination of the Important Bird Areas as designated by the California IBA program and the Áreas de Importancia para la Conservación de las Aves en México. Descriptions of Focus Areas can be found at <http://ca.audubon.org/IBA.htm> for California and <http://conabioweb.conabio.gob.mx/aicas/doctos/aicas.html> for Mexico. A map of the combined SJV Focus Areas will be produced at a later date and included on the SJV website and subsequent versions of this Plan.

### **Focus Areas in California:**

- CCM-Ca-1 Aguanga Area
- CCM-Ca-2 Baldwin Lake
- CCM-Ca-3 Ballona Valley
- CCM-Ca-4 Bautista Creek
- CCM-Ca-5 Camp Pendleton
- CCM-Ca-6 Channel Islands Lake Casitas Area
- CCM-Ca-7 Lake Elsinore
- CCM-Ca-8 Lake Mathews/Estelle Mountain
- CCM-Ca-9 Los Angeles Flood Control Basin
- CCM-Ca-10 Lower Los Angeles River
- CCM-Ca-11 Mission Bay
- CCM-Ca-12 North San Diego Lagoons
- CCM-Ca-13 Orange Coast Wetlands
- CCM-Ca-14 Orange County Wilderness Parks
- CCM-Ca-15 Pamo Valley
- CCM-Ca-16 Pt. Mugu
- CCM-Ca-17 Puente-Chino Hills
- CCM-Ca-18 San Diego Bay
- CCM-Ca-19 San Clemente Island
- CCM-Ca-20 San Diego NWR - east
- CCM-Ca-21 San Diego Peaks
- CCM-Ca-22 San Jacinto Valley

CCM-Ca-23 San Joaquin Hills  
CCM-Ca-24 San Luis Rey River  
CCM-Ca-25 San Pasqual Valley  
CCM-Ca-26 Santa Ana River - upper  
CCM-Ca-27 Santa Ana River Valley  
CCM-Ca-28 Santa Clara River Valley  
CCM-Ca-29 Skinner Reservoir Area  
CCM-Ca-30 Southern Orange County  
CCM-Ca-31 Terminal Island Tern Colony  
CCM-Ca-32 Tijuana River Reserve

**Focus Areas in Baja California:**

CCM-BC-1 Bahía Todos Santos - AICA103  
CCM-BC-2 Islas Los Coronados - AICA219  
CCM-BC-3 Sierra San Pedro Martir - AICA104  
CCM-BC-4 Sierra Juárez - AICA105

The AICA number following some of the Mexican Focus Areas refers to the numbering system found in the book *Áreas de Importancia para la Conservación de las Aves en México*.

