

# Wise Birding Holidays

Bird and mammal watching tours



## NORTHERN CALIFORNIA: Grey Whales, Condors, Bobcats & Snow Geese

Wednesday 5th - Saturday 15th February 2020

### 5 Wise Birding Clients

**Leaders:** Chris Townend & Steve Blain with local guides at Monterey Bay, Año Nuevo SP and Point Reyes

### HIGHLIGHTS OF TRIP

**Bobcat:** Wonderful views and 10 different encounters over three days at Point Reyes.

**Snow & Ross's Geese:** Witnessing both the sight and the sound of thousands of birds at Colusa National Wildlife Refuge was a top class wildlife experience.

**Northern Right Whale Dolphin:** Fantastic to be amongst a megapod of these scarce cetaceans during our Monterey Bay boat trip.

**Grey Whale:** Up to 25 animals seen during our boat trip in Monterey Bay.

**California Condor:** Two adult birds spring above us on the Big Sur coast.

**Northern Elephant Seal:** A visit to Año Nuevo State Park allowed some fantastic views of males, females and youngsters all interacting just meters away from us.

**Ridgway's Rail:** This San Francisco Bay speciality was seen very well during our first full morning birding the bay!

**Varied Thrush:** Up to four of these stunning thrushes were seen during our time at the Point Reyes National Seashore



**California Condor and Bobcat were just two of the tour highlights**

## CALIFORNIA: Grey Whales, Bobcats and Snow Geese

Northern California is more typically known as a late summer destination for its seabirds and cetaceans. However, during the less visited winter months there are some equally impressive wildlife spectacles to see. These include the Grey Whale migration, thousands of migrating Snow Geese, one of the largest mainland Elephant Seal colonies in the world as well as a great time of the year to see Bobcat!

The coastline around Monterey Bay is great for waders too with specialities such as Surfbird and Black Turnstone and the nearby impressive Big Sur coastline has a good population of the mighty California Condor!

**We saw a total of 171 species of bird and recorded 25 mammals on this tour.**

DAY	DATE	ITINERARY
1	Wed 5th Feb	Arrival and birding around Coyote Point. <b>Overnight San Mateo</b>
2	Thur 6th Feb	Morning visit to Bay Front Park SFO and Coyote Point. Afternoon visit to Lucy Evans Baylands Reserve and Moss Landing. <b>Overnight Pacific Grove, Monterey</b>
3	Fri 7th Feb	Morning whale watching trip Monterey Bay. Afternoon birding around Asilomar Beach and George Washington Park <b>Overnight Pacific Grove, Monterey</b>
4	Sat 8th Feb	Asilomar and Monterey coast. Andrew Molera and Pfeiffer Burns State Parks. <b>Overnight Pacific Grove, Monterey</b>
5	Sun 9th Feb	Morning visit to Pacific Grove Butterfly Reserve and high tide at Moss Landing. Moonglow Dairy and Elkhorn Slough Reserve during the afternoon. <b>Overnight Santa Cruz</b>
6	Mon 10th Feb	Morning visit to Año Nuevo State Park Elephant Seal Colony. Drive the Cabrillo Highway Coast and over the Golden Gate Bridge. First attempt for Bobcat Point Reyes National Seashore. <b>Overnight Point Reyes</b>
7 & 8	Tue / Wed 11th / 12th Feb	Two full days exploring the Point Reyes National Seashore focused on Bobcat and Birding. <b>Overnight Point Reyes</b>
9	Thur 13th Feb	Final morning birding and searching for Bobcat around Point Reyes Drive to the Sacramento Valley. <b>Overnight Williams</b>
10	Fri 14th Feb	A full day birding the Coulsa National Wildlife Refuge and wildfowl rich areas near Pennington and Gray Lodge. <b>Overnight Williams</b>
11	Sat 15th Feb	A final morning birding Colusa NWR and then drive south to San Francisco for early evening flight back to the UK.

### TOUR SUMMARY

#### Days 1 - 2: San Francisco Bay area

After the group's arrival into San Francisco blue skies and sunshine welcomed everyone and it was weather that was to last the entire tour! After just a few minutes drive to our hotel we checked-in and then enjoyed a relaxing afternoon exploring San Francisco Bay. Our accommodation was ideally placed to explore this Important Bird

Area where thousands of wintering waders and wildfowl gather to roost and feed. Highlights over the next 24 hour period included hugely impressive and very close views of tightly packed roosting waders with Marbled Godwits, Long-billed Curlews, American Avocets, Willets, Short-billed Dowitchers and Western Sandpipers. The duck numbers were equally impressive as numerous American Wigeon, Greater and Lesser Scaup, Bufflehead and Canvasback fed close inshore. However, two birds clearly stood out as the highlights. A Ridgway's Rail that basked in the morning sunshine just metres away from us on our first morning birding the bay and an exquisite summer plumaged drake Harlequin Duck at nearby Coyote Point! We then travelled south



making a stop at the Lucy Evans Baylands Reserve where more waders and wildfowl awaited us. Gareth felt somewhat frustrated being surrounded by so much suitable habitat for Salt Marsh Harvest Mouse, but our first California Ground Squirrel had to suffice! We continued further south to the coast where Moss Landing produced our first views of Sea Otter and we arrived at Monterey Bay. The very smart Pacific Grove area was our base for the next three nights.

### **Days 3 - 5: Monterey Bay and Big Sur Coast**

Three days exploring Monterey Bay produced some excellent birding as well as a number of high quality mammals. Our boat trip in Monterey Bay was a clear highlight as we enjoyed wonderful encounters with the expected, but nonetheless impressive Grey Whales. Dolphins were also well represented with small groups of Risso's and Pacific White-sided Dolphins. However, it was the megapod of Northern Right Whale Dolphins that really raised excitement levels as they came to bow ride just below us!



The birding was top class too! Despite the quieter time of year for seabirds we still saw numerous flocks of Rhinoceros Auklets, Northern "Blue" Fulmars, a surprise Sooty Shearwater and a fabulous Black-footed Albatross which glided right past us! Of course, not forgetting the Brown Booby before we had even left the harbour! Back on land the rocky coastline revealed great views of the stunning Heerman's Gull, numerous Brandt's and Pelagic Cormorants, Black Turnstone and a lone Surfbird.

A trip south down the Big Sur coast along famous Highway 1 not only revealed stunning scenery but California Condors too! We enjoyed fabulous views of two adults as they soared above us whilst a bonus immature Bald Eagle glided by and Grey Whale blows were clearly visible out to sea. Nearby, on the Big Sur River we watched two American Dippers building a nest and a visit to Andrew Molera State Park produced great views of the west coast speciality, Wrentit. Some of the group also enjoyed a refreshing paddle in the Big Sur River! A final morning in Monterey Bay concluded with a visit to the Monarch Butterfly Reserve. Once again, very low numbers this year, but we were pleased to see small numbers gliding around in the morning sunshine. We finally left Monterey Bay and headed north where a visit to the Elkhorn Slough Reserve and nearby Moonglow Dairy gave more west coast specialities with Tricoloured Blackbird and a superb "Black" Merlin of the subspecies *suckleyi*.

### **Days 6 - 8: Point Reyes National Seashore**

After a night at Santa Cruz, we were up early and headed north to Año Nuevo State Park along the beautiful coastal road, the Cabrillo Highway. Año Nuevo is home to one of the largest mainland Northern Elephant Seal breeding colonies in the world. Our visit was timed specifically for the best activity, when bull seals engage in battles and females nurse their pups before mating and returning to the sea. We were entertained for a good hour or two with the sight and amusing sounds of these huge mammals. Birding was impressive too with incredibly close views of Northern Harriers and our only Hooded Merganser of the tour. We continued our journey north along the coast and over the iconic Golden Gate Bridge and into Bobcat country and the impressive Point Reyes National Seashore where we spent three nights. Our time here was packed full of Bobcat sightings as well as many other quality birds and mammals. We enjoyed Bobcat sightings every day with an incredible 10 different encounters, amounting to over 90 minutes of viewing time! Of course, Bobcats were not the only mammal highlight of this very scenic area. During our three days we had some wonderful encounters with Coyotes, including one hunting Gophers right beside our vehicles, impressive Striped Skunks by day and night, Northern Raccoons, a beautiful Grey Fox and small groups of the distinctive Wapiti, also known as Tule Elk.



The diverse habitats of estuaries, salt marsh, beaches, coastal scrub, grasslands and coniferous forests produced top notch birding too. Surf Scoters surfing the waves, incredibly approachable Least Sandpipers and Western Sandpipers side by side on the beach, Western Bluebirds, Western Meadowlarks, a vagrant American Black Vulture, Great Horned Owl, Great White Pelicans, White-winged Scoters, Snowy Plovers and the stunning Varied Thrush were just some of the highlights. Birding from our very

comfortable accommodation near Point Reyes was also memorable as Golden-crowned and White-crowned Sparrows, Band-tailed Pigeons, Purple Finches, House Finches, Red-winged Blackbirds and two Hummingbird species were a daily distraction from the breakfast table!

### **Days 9 - 11: Sacramento Valley**

Everyone was sad to leave Point Reyes and a final check for Bobcat on our last morning proved fruitless, but it seemed we were to save the best Bobcat sighting to last! Shortly after departing our accommodation, Steve spotted a Bobcat beside the road and after a somewhat abrupt stop, we enjoyed excellent views of this large male for 30 minutes. We even managed to approach the animal on foot and watch as it used its incredible camouflage to avoid being seen by numerous nearby dog walkers! Our final two days were spent in the Sacramento Valley famous for its citrus fruit and nut orchards, but also as a hugely important wildfowl refuge area for thousands of wintering wildfowl, particularly Snow and Ross's Geese. We had one evening, a full day and a morning to explore this impressive area and its numerous National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) areas. We spent most of our time exploring the Colusa NWR where the highlight by far was watching the incredible spectacle of thousands of Snow and Ross's Geese gathering in one small corner of the refuge. The sight was impressive, literally like a snow storm, but the noise from the calling birds was equally impressive! We were truly in amongst the incredible scene as we scanned through never ending mixed goose flocks. Blue phase Snow Geese were regularly picked out from the flock and one of the Ross's Geese showed characteristics of the rare blue morph. Greater White-



fronted Geese were common and small numbers of tiny Aleutian Cackling Geese were also a special highlight in with the flock. Aside from the geese other highlights here included Nuttall's Woodpecker, Great Horned Owl, Cinnamon Teal, hundreds of roosting Black-crowned Night Herons and a number of very showy Marsh Wrens! We spent afternoon exploring the agricultural areas near Pennington where enjoyed great views of up to nine Yellow-billed Magpies; a Californian endemic. Nearby, hundreds of Sandhill Cranes entertained us and the number of ducks was incredible. Large flocks of Ring-necked Ducks and literally thousands of Northern Pintail.

Our final morning was spent with a return visit to Colusa NWR where, once again, we simply immersed ourselves in the sheer spectacle of Snow and Ross's Geese. The sight of an immature Bald Eagle causing havoc amongst the flock was simply spectacular! It was then time to head back south and we soon crossed the Oakland Bay Bridge and neared San Francisco. A final birding stop with views across San Francisco Bay allowed us to reflect on the highlights of a wonderful trip before returning to the airport where the tour concluded.



**The impressive shorebird roost at SFO Bay (above)  
and the range restricted Ridgway's Rail (below)**





**SFO Bay wader roost looking to SF Airport (above)  
Anna's Hummingbird is resident in California (below)**





**Immature Brown Booby, Fisherman's Wharf (above)  
and the striking blue phase Northern Fulmar (below)**





**Our boat trip in Monterey Bay produced numerous Grey Whales (above) and a megapod of Northern Right Whale Dolphins (below) taken by tour participant Doug**





Sea Otters were seen on numerous days around the coast





Three species of Loon! Red-throated (top) Common (middle) and Pacific (bottom)





**One of two critically endangered California Condors seen on the Big Sur Coast (above) and the very common Turkey Vulture (below)**





**The rocky coastline of Monetary Bay was a perfect place to see Surfbird and Black Turnstone**





**Sooty Fox Sparrow (above) and Golden-crowned Sparrow (below)  
were both seen very well around Monterey**





**Steller's Jay (above) and immature Red-shouldered Hawk (below)**





**California Ground Squirrel (above)  
and Western Grey Squirrel(below) were seen on a few occasions**





One of two American Dippers seen on the Big Sur River (above) and a “Black” Merlin of the subsp *suckleyi* at Moonglow Dairy (below)





**A flock of Bonaparte's Gulls at Elkhorn Slough (above) and a 2nd Cal year Thayer's Gull with Western Gulls at Monterey (below)**





**Año Nuevo Island and the Northern Elephant Seal colony**





**WISE BIRDING HOLIDAYS LTD - CALIFORNIA:** Whales, Condors, Bobcats & Snow Geese Feb 2020



**Golden Gate Bridge (above) and male Northern Harrier (below)**





**Buffleheads (above) and a drake Surf Scoter (below)**





**Coyotes were seen very well, particularly whilst exploring the Point Reyes National Seashore**





**Bobcat Country!**





**The Point Reyes National Seashore has to be one of the most reliable places in the United States to see Bobcat. We had 10 different Bobcat encounters in just three days!**





**More Bobcats!**





**Limantour Beach near Point Reyes gave us some excellent views of waders including Western Sandpipers and Dunlin**





**Western Sandpiper (top), Least Sandpiper (middle) Snowy Plover (below)**





**A stunning Varied Thrush in the forest above  
Bear Valley Visitor Centre (above)  
Savannah Sparrows were common in the grasslands (below)**



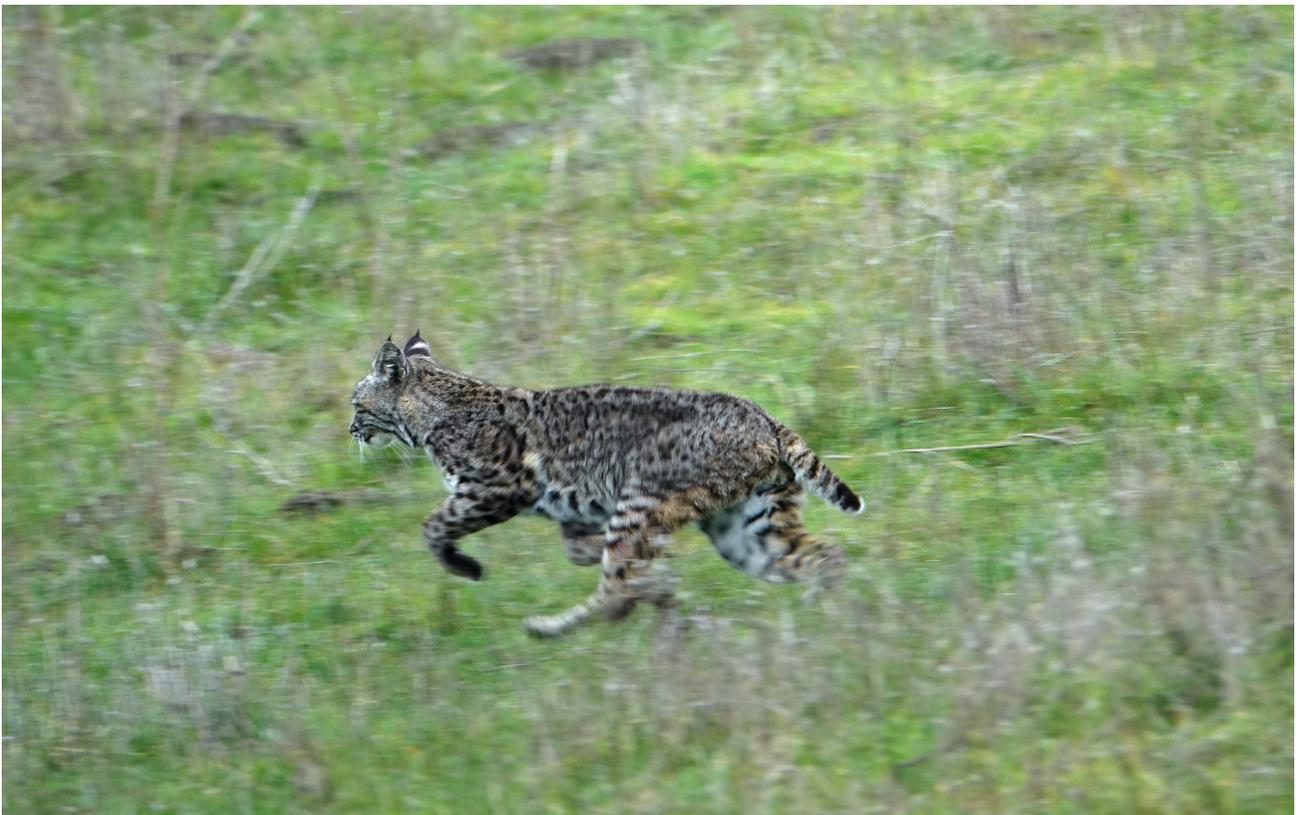


**Wapiti also known as Tule Elk were seen daily around Point Reyes (above)  
Frank's hummingbird feeders were a daily distraction during breakfast! (below)**





**Our final Bobcat sighting was one of the most memorable  
Photo below by tour participant Jeremy Aldred**





**Our final Bobcat sighting!  
Photo below by tour participant Doug Yelland**





**Myrtle Warbler (above) breeds in the northern States and is a winter visitor to California. Audubon's Warbler is a resident breeder in California (below)**





**Snow Goose (above) and Ross's Geese (below)**





**The Snow Goose spectacle at Colusa NWR was quite incredible with thousands of birds seen and heard!**





**Greater White-fronted Geese of the subspecies *sponsa* were seen in the low thousands at Colusa NWR whereas the tiny Aleutian Cackling Goose (below) totalled just 12-15 birds**



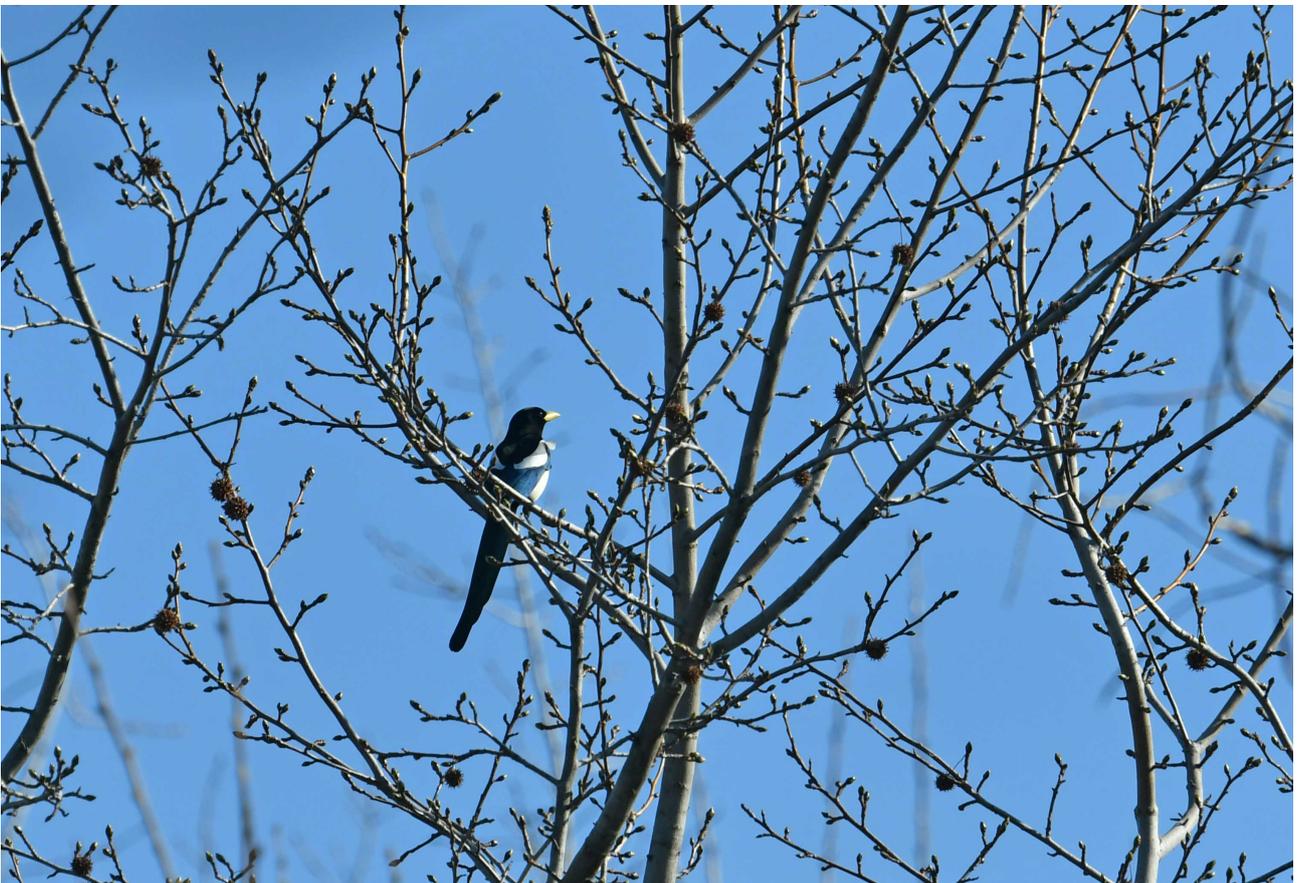


**This American Bittern posed for us at Colusa NWR (above) and Sandhill Cranes (below) were seen in their hundreds near Gray Lodge Wildlife Area**





**Ring-necked Ducks (above and Yellow-billed Magpie (below)**





**A Great Horned Owl playing hide and seek (above)  
and a hunting male Northern Harrier (below)**





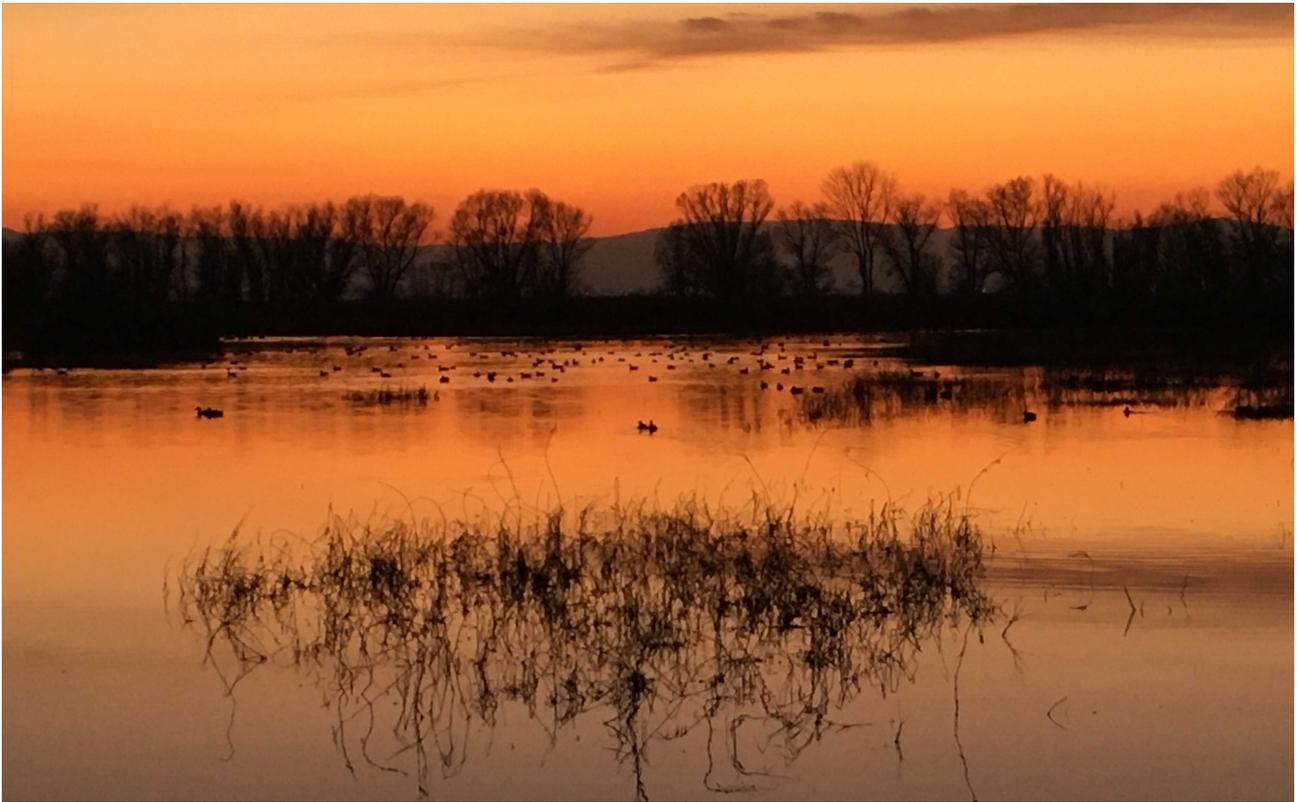
**A dark Ross's Goose showed characteristics of the rare blue morph (above) and neck collared "Lesser" Snow Geese (below)**





**Juvenile Northern Harrier and our group shortly after having seen a Bobcat!**





Some Videos from this tour, including Bobcat and Northern Right Whale Dolphin can be seen here: <https://vimeo.com/christownend>

## Wise Birding Holidays Ltd

3, Moormead, Budleigh Salterton, DEVON, EX9 6QA

Website: [www.wisebirding.co.uk](http://www.wisebirding.co.uk)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/wisebirdingholidays](https://www.facebook.com/wisebirdingholidays)

Email: [chris@wisebirding.co.uk](mailto:chris@wisebirding.co.uk)

Telephone: 07973 483227

**Conservation Donation** – Following this tour to California 200 USD was donated to the Conservation Kids fund. This fund connects the next generation of young adults in California with the environment through the use of photography.

**More on this project here:** [www.conservationkids.org/what-we-do](http://www.conservationkids.org/what-we-do)

Wise Birding Holidays supports a number of small conservation projects and we are also building donations from most of our tours into one central fund. Once a target amount has been reached this money will be used to support one single project in the hope of achieving more for species conservation. Currently this amounts to around £8,000. Some tours continue to support some of the smaller projects that we feel will still benefit from smaller donations. Please visit our [Conservation News](#) to find out more.

# Wise Birding Holidays

Bird and mammal watching tours



## CALIFORNIA CHECKLIST: Wednesday 5th - Saturday 15th January 2020

**Bird Taxonomy:** IOC International Ornithological Congress  
**Mammal Taxonomy:** IUCN International Union for Conservation of Nature  
**Bird Total:** 171 species seen, plus 6 heard.  
**Mammal Total:** 23 species seen.

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[www.wisebirding.co.uk](http://www.wisebirding.co.uk)



#	Species Name	Scientific Name	Notes
1	California Quail	<i>Callipepla californica</i>	This classic Californian iconic species was recorded in the Point Reyes area on three days.
2	Wild Turkey	<i>Meleagris gallopavo</i>	Groups of 12 and 15 birds seen at Colusa NWR over two days.
3	Common Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	Counts of 1-2 birds of this introduced species at Colusa NWR on two days.
4	Canada Goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>	Recorded on eight days from San Francisco to Point Reyes, all of the larger Common Canada Goose group. There are now considered to be at least 7 named subspecies from three different groups differing in size and colour. These consist of the larger Common Canada Goose group, the Dusky Canada Goose group and the Lesser Canada group which include the Cackling Geese.
5	Cackling Goose	<i>Branta hutchinsii</i>	These tiny geese were seen well on two days at Colusa NWR. The birds were associating with the Greater White-fronted Geese and included some of the distinctive Aleutian birds with distinct white neck collars. Counts of 12 and 15 on each day.
6	Ross's Goose	<i>Anser rossii</i>	Fabulous views of thousands of birds in with the Snow Geese at Colusa NWR, including a bird on the 14th showing characteristics of the rare blue phase.
7	Snow Goose	<i>Anser caerulescens</i>	Fabulous views of thousands of birds on three days whilst exploring Colusa NWR including numerous blue phase birds as well as both Greater & Lesser subsp. Certainly a tour highlight both by sight and sound.
8	Greater White-fronted Goose	<i>Anser albifrons</i>	Estimates of 1,000 and 3,000 birds on three days. Most birds were presumed to be of the <i>sponsa</i> subspecies though a couple of the <i>elgasi</i> subspecies were also recorded, known as the Tule Goose.
9	Cinnamon Teal	<i>Spatula cyanoptera</i>	This very attractive Duck was seen very well at Elkhorn Slough Reserve and Colusa NWR with counts of up to 10 birds including both drakes and females.
10	Blue-winged Teal	<i>Spatula discors</i>	A minimum of 10 birds, including drakes, were seen very well at Elkhorn Slough Reserve on the evening of the 9th.
11	Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>	Small numbers recorded on four days with most birds recorded at Colusa NWR.
12	Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>	Good numbers recorded on four days around San Francisco Bay and Colusa NWR.
13	Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Mareca penelope</i>	A single vagrant drake at Colusa NWR.

14	American Wigeon	<i>Mareca americana</i>	Excellent views of this attractive duck recorded on six days.
15	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	A relatively common duck species recorded on nine days.
16	Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>	A count of 50+ birds at Elkhorn Slough Reserve was superseded by hugely impressive counts of thousands in the Sacramento Valley nr Gray Lodge Wildlife Area.
17	Green-winged Teal	<i>Anas carolinensis</i>	Recorded on four days with low thousands recorded in the Sacramento Valley.
18	Canvasback	<i>Aythya valisineria</i>	Great views of 200+ birds in San Francisco Bay on our first morning was the only sighting.
19	Ring-necked Duck	<i>Aythya collaris</i>	A small flock of 7 birds including 3 drakes at Point Reyes on two days were followed by counts of 150+ birds in the Sacramento Valley.
20	Greater Scaup	<i>Aythya marila</i>	Small flocks recorded around San Francisco Bay on three days.
21	Lesser Scaup	<i>Aythya affinis</i>	At least 2 birds were seen well on our first day in close association with the Greater Scaup, allowing time to compare the distinctive head shape, less bulky body and subtle plumage details of these two similar species.
22	Harlequin Duck	<i>Histrionicus histrionicus</i>	A superb breeding plumaged male at Coyote Point, San Mateo was a special bird to see for the tour.
23	Surf Scoter	<i>Melanitta perspicillata</i>	Numerous flocks recorded on seven days with counts of 200+ birds including many birds enjoying the surf close to the beaches.
24	White-winged Scoter	<i>Melanitta deglandi</i>	Excellent scope views of a drake and two females off Limantour Beach.
25	Bufflehead	<i>Bucephala albeola</i>	A common duck species recorded on all but one of the days.
26	Common Goldeneye	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>	One of the less common ducks recorded on five days.
27	Hooded Merganser	<i>Lophodytes cucullatus</i>	A single female at Año Nuevo State Park was the only sighting.
28	Common Merganser	<i>Mergus merganser</i>	A single drake was seen by Jeremy & Jill at Andrew Molera State Park on the 8th and 2 more drakes seen whilst travelling along the Cabrillo Highway on the 10th.
29	Red-breasted Merganser	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	Counts of up to 6 birds recorded on four days during the first half of the tour.
30	Ruddy Duck	<i>Oxyura jamaicensis</i>	Recorded at suitable wetland sites on seven days with counts of 15-20 birds.
31	White-throated Swift	<i>Aeronautes saxatalis</i>	A single bird whilst travelling on the 13th was the only sighting.
32	Anna's Hummingbird	<i>Calypte anna</i>	California's only true resident hummingbird and always a joy to watch with birds recorded on eight days.
33	Rufous / Allen's Hummingbird	<i>Selasphorus sasin</i>	An adult female at Frank's feeders near Point Reyes on the 13th had to remain unidentified to species. Identification of female or imm. male Allen's / Rufous are not considered safe to identify in the field without photos showing the tail shape of individual splayed tail feathers!
34	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	Recorded on at least five days mostly around habitation.
35	Band-tailed Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas fasciata</i>	Counts of up to 40 birds and seen on four days with the best views at Frank's feeders near Point Reyes.
36	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	This introduced species was recorded on seven days with most sightings during the second half of the tour.

37	Mourning Dove	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	Recorded on three days all of single birds except for a count of 5 birds on the 9th.
38	Ridgway's Rail	<i>Rallus obsoletus</i>	Fantastic views of a bird posing in the sunshine on our first morning whilst birding San Francisco Bay. This species was previously considered a subspecies of Clapper Rail.
39	Virginia Rail	<i>Rallus limicola</i>	Birds were heard only at Colusa NWR on two days.
40	Common Gallinule	<i>Gallinula galeata</i>	A single bird at Colusa NWR on the evening of the 14th.
41	American Coot	<i>Fulica americana</i>	A very common species recorded on nine days.
42	Sandhill Crane	<i>Antigone canadensis</i>	Excellent views of numerous flocks in the Sacramento Valley totalling up to 200 birds.
43	Pied-billed Grebe	<i>Podilymbus podiceps</i>	Counts of 2-3 birds at suitable wetland areas on seven days.
44	Red-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>	Great views at Fisherman's Wharf Harbour after our whale watching boat trip on the afternoon of the 7th.
45	Horned Grebe	<i>Podiceps auritus</i>	Recorded on five days mostly around the San Francisco Bay Area with some very close views enjoyed often side by side with Black-necked Grebes.
46	Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	Recorded on seven days and certainly larger numbers than the above species.
47	Western Grebe	<i>Aechmophorus occidentalis</i>	Recorded on at least one day at Coyote Point in close proximity to the more numerous Clark's Grebe.
48	Clark's Grebe	<i>Aechmophorus clarkii</i>	Recorded on the first two days and certainly more common than Western Grebe though not all were identified to species.
49	Black Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus bachmani</i>	Counts of 5 birds at Monterey Bay on the 8th and at least 20 birds on the 10th whilst travelling along the Cabrillo Highway coast road.
50	Black-necked Stilt	<i>Himantopus mexicanus</i>	Small numbers in SFO Bay and on the 5th and 6th and then at least 100 birds at Elkhorn Slough Reserve during the early evening of the 9th.
51	American Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra americana</i>	Small numbers in SFO Bay and on the 5th and 6th and then at least 80 birds at Elkhorn Slough Reserve during the early evening of the 9th.
52	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	Small numbers in SFO Bay on the 5th and 6th.
53	Semipalmated Plover	<i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>	Two bird on Limantour Beach on the 12th was the only sighting.
54	Killdeer	<i>Charadrius vociferus</i>	This attractive wader was seen well and also heard on four days. Counts of 4-5 birds at SFO Bay and others at Point Reyes National Seashore and Colusa NWR.
55	Snowy Plover	<i>Charadrius nivosus</i>	A roosting flock of at least 30 birds allowed very close views at Limantour Beach on the 12th.
56	Hudsonian Whimbrel	<i>Numenius hudsonicus</i>	Recorded on two days at SFO Bay and Monterey Bay with a max. count of 12 birds at Monterey on the 8th.
57	Long-billed Curlew	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	This aptly named species was seen well in SFO Bay and Monterey Bay with counts of 50+ birds and a single bird was seen near Coulsa NWR on the 14th.
58	Marbled Godwit	<i>Limosa fedoa</i>	Excellent views of this lovely buffy coloured Godwit on two days whilst exploring SFO Bay and Moss Landing.
59	Black Turnstone	<i>Arenaria melanocephala</i>	This west coast speciality was recorded on four days around SFO, Monterey Bay and the coast north of Año Nuevo State Park with a max. day count of 30 birds.

60	Surfbird	<i>Calidris virgata</i>	Great views of this west coast speciality as a single bird showed very well near Asilomar Beach on the 8th.
61	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>	Recorded on five days with max. day counts of 50 and 70 birds.
62	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>	Recorded on two days at SFO Bay and Limantour Beach, Point Reyes.
63	Least Sandpiper	<i>Calidris minutilla</i>	Recorded on four days with an impressive count of 200+ birds at Limantour Beach, Point Reyes on the 12th.
64	Western Sandpiper	<i>Calidris mauri</i>	Recorded on two days at SFO Bay and Limantour Beach, Point Reyes.
65	Long-billed Dowitcher	<i>Limnodromus scolopaceus</i>	Birds were seen well enough to identify to species on two days. At Elkhorn Slough on the evening of the 9th and Colusa NWR on the last morning.
66	Short-billed Dowitcher	<i>Limnodromus griseus</i>	Some very close views of birds at SFO Bay on our first morning and again at Moss Landing / Elkhorn Slough with some LBDs.
67	Spotted Sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularius</i>	Counts of 1-3 birds seen on three days.
68	Willet	<i>Tringa semipalmata</i>	Recorded on two days with impressive numbers in SFO Bay and Moss Landing.
69	Greater Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>	Counts of 2-3 birds seen well on three days at Lucy Evans Baylands Reserve, Elkhorn Slough Reserve and Colusa NWR.
70	Black-legged Kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	An unusually high count for the time of year with hundreds of distant feeding flocks during our whale watching boat trip in Monterey Bay on the morning of the 7th.
71	Bonaparte's Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus philadelphia</i>	A flock of 44 birds showed very well at Elkhorn Slough during the early evening of the 9th.
72	Heermann's Gull	<i>Larus heermanni</i>	Just 1-2 birds recorded on two days including both adult and 2nd Cal Year birds. A stunning adult at Fisherman's Wharf on the morning of the 7th was memorable.
73	Mew Gull	<i>Larus canus</i>	Small numbers recorded on three days around the coast.
74	Ring-billed Gull	<i>Larus delawarensis</i>	A relatively common species with birds recorded on at least five days.
75	California Gull	<i>Larus californicus</i>	A common species along the coast seen on four days.
76	Glaucous-winged Gull	<i>Larus glaucescens</i>	This distinctive gull was recorded on four days. Most were immature birds though a number of adults were also recorded.
77	Western Gull	<i>Larus occidentalis</i>	The commonest gull species recorded on nine days.
78	Iceland Gull	<i>Larus glaucoides</i>	Single birds of the <i>thayeri</i> subsp. were seen very well on two days around the greater Monterey Bay area. Both birds were 2nd Cal Year birds.
79	American Herring Gull	<i>Larus smithsonianus</i>	A relatively common species with birds recorded on at least five days.
80	Forster's Tern	<i>Sterna forsteri</i>	Counts of 2-4 birds during the first two days around SFO Bay.
81	Common Murre	<i>Uria aalge</i>	Numerous birds seen well during our whale watching boat trip in Monterey Bay on the morning of the 7th, including a full albino bird thanks to Gavin's sharp eyes.
82	Rhinoceros Auklet	<i>Cerorhinca monocerata</i>	Numerous small flocks of 2-15 birds amounting to 100+ birds during our whale watching boat trip in Monterey Bay on the 7th.
83	Red-throated Loon	<i>Gavia stellata</i>	Single birds were recorded in Monterey Bay on the 7th and Limantour Beach on the 12th.

84	Pacific Loon	<i>Gavia pacifica</i>	Seen on the sea and in flight during our whale watching boat trip in Monterey Bay on the 7th with 10-12 birds seen.
85	Common Loon	<i>Gavia immer</i>	The most regularly recorded Loon species with birds recorded on five days and a max. count of 6 birds in Monterey Bay on the 7th.
86	Black-footed Albatross	<i>Phoebastria nigripes</i>	A highlight of the whale watching boat trip in Monterey Bay on the 7th as this very distinctive all dark albatross glided over the waves. Two different sightings of what was assumed to be the same bird.
87	Northern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	Up to 50 birds seen very well during the whale watching boat trip in Monterey Bay. All birds were of the very distinctive Pacific “blue” form, varying in colour shades.
88	Sooty Shearwater	<i>Ardenna grisea</i>	A single bird in obvious wing moult was a surprise during the Monterey Bay whale watching boat trip on the 7th.
89	Brown Booby	<i>Sula leucogaster</i>	A single juvenile was seen very well on the rocks of Fisherman’s Wharf harbour as we headed out on our whale watching trip. This rarity for California had been present for a number of weeks.
90	Brandt's Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax penicillatus</i>	Many good views whilst around the coast of Monterey Bay and at Año Nuevo State Park over five days.
91	Pelagic Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax pelagicus</i>	Some excellent comparisons with Brandt’s Cormorants in the Monterey Bay area on two days. The white breeding flank patch and skinny neck were seen well.
92	Double-crested Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax auritus</i>	The commonest cormorant species recorded on eight days.
93	White-faced Ibis	<i>Plegadis chihi</i>	Recorded at Colusa NWR and the surrounding area on two days with counts into the low hundreds.
94	American Bittern	<i>Botaurus lentiginosus</i>	A bird gave very close views on a small pond at Colusa NWR on the 14th.
95	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	A single bird at Coyote Point Marina on the 6th was followed by an impressive day roost of at least 100+ birds at Colusa NWR on two separate days.
96	Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>	A common species with counts of up to 3 birds recorded on seven days.
97	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	A very common Egret species recorded on 10 days.
98	Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	Less common than Great Egret but still recorded on six days.
99	American White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i>	A group of 5 birds flew overhead whilst looking for Bobcats around the Point Reyes National Seashore.
100	Brown Pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>	Less common during the winter months with counts of 3 - 15 birds recorded on five days around the coast.
101	Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	We enjoyed many views of this very common species which was seen every day except one.
102	Black Vulture	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>	A surprise sighting thanks to Steve who picked out a bird whilst scanning from a viewpoint along the Limantour Road on the 11th. This very scarce but increasing species for California had been present in the area for a number of weeks.

103	California Condor	<i>Gymnogyps californianus</i>	Two wing-tagged adults showed very well as they soared above us along the Big Sur coast on the morning of the 8th.
104	Western Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Single birds seen well on three days. Presumably the same bird at Coyote Point on two consecutive days and a different bird carrying a fish at Limantour Beach.
105	White-tailed Kite	<i>Elanus leucurus</i>	Counts of 1-2 birds of this beautiful raptor were seen over four days.
106	Sharp-shinned Hawk	<i>Accipiter striatus</i>	Single birds seen on three days.
107	Cooper's Hawk	<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>	This larger cousin of the above species was seen on four days from Monterey Bay to Coulsa NWR.
108	Northern Harrier	<i>Circus hudsonius</i>	Superb views of this stunning raptor over eight days including both adult male, female and 2nd Cal Year birds. Max. day counts regularly reached 6 birds.
109	Bald Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Good to see this impressive eagle increasing in number in Northern California. Birds were recorded on six days with counts of 1-2 birds including an immature bird causing havoc amongst the wildfowl on our last morning at Coulsa NWR.
110	Red-shouldered Hawk	<i>Buteo lineatus</i>	This very striking <i>Buteo</i> was recorded daily from the 8th onwards often seen whilst travelling through suitable habitat.
111	Red-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>	By far the commonest larger raptor seen daily and often perched on telegraph poles and fence posts by the roadside from rural to urban edge areas.
112	American Barn Owl	<i>Tyto furcata</i>	A bird was heard only by Gareth. It was calling from our accommodation near Point Reyes on the evening of the 10th.
113	Western Screech Owl	<i>Megascops kennicottii</i>	A bird was heard only near the Bear Valley Visitor Centre on the evening of the 10th.
114	Great Horned Owl	<i>Bubo virginianus</i>	A bird seen in torchlight on the evening of the 11th from our accommodation near Point Reyes and then two birds on the 14th at Colusa NWR, one during the day and another at dusk.
115	Belted Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle alcyon</i>	Recorded on three days, the first being a female at Coyote Point on our first full day and a max. day count of 3 birds on the 13th.
116	Acorn Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes formicivorus</i>	This noisy and highly gregarious species was seen very well on at least three days with the best sightings around the Monterey Bay and Big Sur areas.
117	Nuttall's Woodpecker	<i>Dryobates nuttallii</i>	Good views of birds at Coulsa NWR on two days including both male and female birds.
118	Hairy Woodpecker	<i>Leuconotopicus villosus</i>	A bird was heard only in the forest along the Limantour Road early on the 13th whilst watching Varied Thrush!
119	Northern Flicker	<i>Colaptes auratus</i>	A fairly common species recorded during the last six days of the tour and heard on two days around Monterey Bay. This subspecies show very distinctive red underwings in flight. Birds further east have yellow underwings and are considered a separate species by some taxonomy.
120	American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>	This very beautiful falcon was recorded on eight days.

121	Merlin	<i>Falco columbarius</i>	A bird of the <i>suckleyi</i> subsp. gave superb views at Moonglow Dairy on the 9th. Also known as "Black" Merlin, this is the darkest Merlin in the world. Another bird seen on the 12th was not seen well enough to exclude "Taiga/Boreal" Merlin ( <i>columbarius</i> ) which also occurs in CA.
122	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Counts of 1-2 birds over five days, the first being a bird at the Lucy Evans Baylands Reserve on the 6th and regular daily sightings at Colusa NWR.
123	Black Phoebe	<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>	A very common species, recorded daily. Often seen by water and heard singing their cheerful song!
124	Say's Phoebe	<i>Sayornis saya</i>	Regular sightings of birds at their coastal wintering sites with counts of 1-3 birds on seven days.
125	Loggerhead Shrike	<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>	Recorded on the 10th only whilst driving along the Cabrillo Highway to Año Nuevo State Park.
126	Hutton's Vireo	<i>Vireo huttoni</i>	Single birds recorded on two days whilst birding Elkhorn Slough Reserve and the Limantour Road, Point Reyes.
127	Steller's Jay	<i>Cyanocitta stelleri</i>	Excellent views of this stunning Jay on two days around the Monterey Bay and Big Sur area.
128	California Scrub Jay	<i>Aphelocoma californica</i>	A common species recorded on nine days and of the <i>californica</i> subsp.
129	Yellow-billed Magpie	<i>Pica nuttalli</i>	This Californian endemic was seen very well on the 14th whilst exploring the fruit/nut farming areas near Pennington where we saw a total of 9 birds.
130	American Crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	A very common species seen on all but one day.
131	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	Recorded on eight days with an impressive max. day count of 90+ birds on the 12th.
132	Oak Titmouse	<i>Baeolophus inornatus</i>	This striking tufted oak specialist was seen well on four days at various sites including George Washington Park, Elkhorn Slough Reserve and Point Reyes area.
133	Chestnut-backed Chickadee	<i>Poecile rufescens</i>	This attractive Chickadee was seen well on four days in suitable habitat.
134	Violet-green Swallow	<i>Tachycineta thalassina</i>	Small numbers seen on four days with counts of 1-7 birds on three days and a max. day count of 40+ birds feeding over Año Nuevo State Park on the 10th.
135	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	A surprise sighting of the tour was of a single bird on the 9th.
136	American Bushtit	<i>Psaltriparus minimus</i>	Small flocks seen on six days including urban areas near San Francisco.
137	Wrentit	<i>Chamaea fasciata</i>	This west coast speciality of chaparral and dense brush habitat was typically heard more than seen. Recorded on five days but seen well on the 8th at Andrew Molera State Park and whilst looking for Bobcat near Point Reyes on the 12th.
138	Golden-crowned Kinglet	<i>Regulus satrapa</i>	Doug saw a bird on the 8th at Andrew Molera State Park.
139	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	<i>Regulus calendula</i>	Recorded on seven days.
140	Marsh Wren	<i>Cistothorus palustris</i>	This skulking wren with an incredible mechanical song was recorded on five days and seen very well at Colusa NWR.

141	Bewick's Wren	<i>Thryomanes bewickii</i>	Recorded on jut two days and seen well on the 10th at Año Nuevo State Park.
142	Pacific Wren	<i>Troglodytes pacificus</i>	Heard only during the morning of the 13th whilst watching Varied Thrush along the Limantour Road.
143	House Wren	<i>Troglodytes aedon</i>	Only recorded on the 6th by some of the group.
144	Pygmy Nuthatch	<i>Sitta pygmaea</i>	Three birds showed very well in George Washington Park on the afternoon of the 7th.
145	Brown Creeper	<i>Certhia americana</i>	A single bird in George Washington Park on the afternoon of the 7th was the only sighting.
146	Northern Mockingbird	<i>Mimus polyglottos</i>	Recorded on the last two days in Williams and at Colusa NWR.
147	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	This introduced species was recorded on nine days.
148	Varied Thrush	<i>Ixoreus naevius</i>	This stunning thrush was seen on the morning of the 13th along the Limantour Road where we saw a total of four birds including two real posers!
149	Western Bluebird	<i>Sialia mexicana</i>	Another very impressive species with birds recorded on four days mostly around Point Reyes National Seashore.
150	Hermit Thrush	<i>Catharus guttatus</i>	A single bird seen by Chris and Steve in the garden of our accommodation near Point Reyes on the 11th.
151	American Robin	<i>Turdus migratorius</i>	Small numbers of this unmistakeable thrush were seen during the last five days of the tour.
152	American Dipper	<i>Cinclus mexicanus</i>	Two birds gave excellent views as we watched them nest building on the Big Sur River on the afternoon of the 8th.
153	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	This introduced species was recorded on seven days.
154	Buff-bellied Pipit	<i>Anthus rubescens</i>	A total of six birds gave excellent views at the Monnglow Dairy on the 9th.
155	Purple Finch	<i>Haemorhous purpureus</i>	A single male was seen on two days at Frank's feeders near Point Reyes.
156	House Finch	<i>Haemorhous mexicanus</i>	The commonest finch recorded on seven days.
157	Red Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>	Heard only whilst watching Varied Thrush along the Limantour Road on the morning of the 13th.
158	American Goldfinch	<i>Spinus tristis</i>	A single bird seen near Coyote Point on our first evening.
159	Lesser Goldfinch	<i>Spinus psaltria</i>	Small groups recorded on at least two days with particularly good views at Coyote Point and Colusa NWR.
160	Pine Siskin	<i>Spinus pinus</i>	Small numbers coming to Frank's feeders at our accommodation near Point Reyes on three days.
161	Sooty Fox Sparrow	<i>Passerella unalaschcensis</i>	Two birds showed very well near George Washington Park on the afternoon of the 7th.
162	Song Sparrow	<i>Melospiza melodia</i>	Recorded on nine days and seen very well. The distinctive and tuneful song was also heard on a number of occasions.
163	White-crowned Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia leucophrys</i>	A very common species recorded on ten days.
164	Golden-crowned Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia atricapilla</i>	Very easily seen during the winter months compared to Summer. We recorded very obliging small groups on nine days.

165	Dark-eyed Junco	<i>Junco hyemalis</i>	The highly attractive and distinct subsp. of the west "Oregon Junco" was recorded on five days with some excellent views.
166	Savannah Sparrow	<i>Passerculus sandwichensis</i>	First recorded on the 9th near Moss Landing and then seen on the last three days.
167	Spotted Towhee	<i>Pipilo maculatus</i>	This very distinctive but shy species was seen well on four days.
168	California Towhee	<i>Melospiza crissalis</i>	This somewhat underwhelming west coast speciality was seen well on at least five days.
169	Western Meadowlark	<i>Sturnella neglecta</i>	Some good views of this attractive species, particularly around the Point Reyes Cattle Ranches. Recorded on seven days in total.
170	Tricoloured Blackbird	<i>Agelaius tricolor</i>	This west coast speciality was seen well with Red-winged Blackbirds at the Moon Glow Dairy on the 2nd and gave opportunities to see the subtle differences.
171	Red-winged Blackbird	<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>	Recorded in large flocks on six days and including the very distinctive "Bi-coloured" <i>californicus</i> race at the Moon Glow Dairy on the 9th.
172	Brown-headed Cowbird	<i>Molothrus ater</i>	Recorded on three days. Particularly numerous at Moon Glow Dairy and the Point Reyes Cattle Ranches.
173	Brewer's Blackbird	<i>Euphagus cyanocephalus</i>	These characterful Blackbirds were recorded on nine days and were often very tame and close to habitation.
174	Common Yellowthroat	<i>Geothlypis trichas</i>	Seen mostly in damp habitats with some excellent views on four days.
175	Myrtle Warbler	<i>Setophaga coronata</i>	These Taiga breeding species winter across N America with small numbers wintering in California with the more common resident Audubon's Warbler and therefore allowing good opportunities to compare the two species. Birds were seen very well at Andrew Molera State Park and Elkhorn Slough Reserve. Myrtle Warblers have a distinctive paler throat and more streaked breast compared to the Audubon's Warbler in winter plumage.
176	Audubon's Warbler	<i>Setophaga auduboni</i>	Now considered a separate species to Myrtle Warbler. Birds were recorded on at least five days often giving very close views allowing the distinctive yellow throat to be seen compared to the white throat of Myrtle Warbler.
177	Townsend's Warbler	<i>Setophaga townsendi</i>	This stunning warbler was seen exceptionally well on two days with up to 6 birds recorded on one day. The best views were at George Washington Park.

## # Mammals, Reptiles & Butterflies

1	Virginia Opossum	<i>Didelphis virginiana</i>	Recorded dead on the road near Gray Lodge Wildlife Area on the 14th.
2	Black-tailed Jackrabbit	<i>Lepus californicus</i>	Single animals seen at Coyote Point on our very first evening and again on farmland near Williams on the 14th.
3	Brush Rabbit	<i>Sylvilagus bachmani</i>	Recorded dead on two days.
4	Botta's Pocket Gopher	<i>Thomomys bottae</i>	Many signs were seen on a number of days, but sadly the animal was only seen by Chris on our last morning at Colusa NWR.

5	Western Gray Squirrel	<i>Sciurus griseus</i>	A single animal on the 12th in forest along Limantour Road, Point Reyes and at least 2 animals near Pennington whilst looking for Yellow-billed Magpies.
6	Fox Squirrel	<i>Sciurus niger</i>	This introduced, but nonetheless attractive squirrel showed well in Pacific Grove on the 7th during lunch.
7	California Ground Squirrel	<i>Spermophilus beecheyi</i>	Some warm weather produced a number of sightings with at least 5 animals seen at Lucy Evans Baylands Reserve on the 6th, plus 1-2 animals on the 8th and 9th.
8	Bobcat	<i>Lynx rufus</i>	Fabulous daily sightings involving 10 different encounters with prolonged viewing totalling over 90 minutes whilst in the Point Reyes National Seashore. Three different animals seen on the morning of the 11th and 3 during the afternoon that were considered likely to be the same individuals from the morning. On the 12th, 2 animals were seen in the morning including an animal with a dead California Ground Squirrel in its mouth. A single animal was seen during the late afternoon. The final encounter was one of the most memorable as Steve spotted an animal whilst we were leaving the Point Reyes area on the afternoon of the 13th. We watched this male crouch to the ground and use its camouflage to avoid being seen by a number of walkers on a nearby public footpath, just metres away!
9	Coyote	<i>Canus latrans</i>	Fabulous views with animals seen on five days. The most memorable was an animal hunting Gophers right by the roadside on the Point Reyes National Seashore.
10	Grey Fox	<i>Urocyon cinereoargenteus</i>	A single animal was seen very well in our vehicle's headlights on the evening of the 11th near the Bear Valley Visitor Centre.
11	Striped Skunk	<i>Mephitis mephitis</i>	We enjoyed two separate sightings on the 10th, one during the day thanks to Jeremy and the other at night very close to our vehicles near Bear Valley Visitor Centre. We also recorded animals dead on the road on the last two days.
12	Sea Otter	<i>Enhydra lutris</i>	These special mammals were enjoyed in Monterey Bay, Moss Landing and Año Nuevo State Park over five days. Our max. day count was 20+ animals on the 7th in Monterey Bay.
13	American Badger	<i>Taxidea taxus</i>	Frustratingly, an animal was seen only briefly by Steve on the evening of the 10th near the Bear Valley Visitor Centre.
14	Northern Raccoon	<i>Procyon lotor</i>	Single animals were seen during a night drive on the 11th and the 12th around the Point Reyes area and some of the group enjoyed a daytime encounter at Colusa NWR on our final morning.
15	Californian Sea Lion	<i>Zalophus californianus</i>	Recorded in large numbers on at least two days in Monterey Bay and Año Nuevo State Park.
16	Northern Elephant Seal	<i>Mirounga angustirostris</i>	Fabulous encounters of adult males, females and youngsters at Año Nuevo State Park on our visit on tea morning of the 10th.
17	Common Seal	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>	Regular sightings over six days with a max. day count of 20+ animals on the 8th.
18	Risso's Dolphin	<i>Grampus griseus</i>	A group of 5 animals were seen very well during our whale watching boat trip in Monterey Bay on the morning of the 7th.

19	Pacific White-sided Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus obliquidens</i>	At least 4 animals were seen during a very exciting return journey to Fisherman's Wharf after having just seen thousands of NRW Dolphins!
20	Northern Right Whale Dolphin	<i>Lissodelphis borealis</i>	One of the mammal highlights of the tour was being amongst a megapod of these amazing cetaceans and watching some of them bow riding below us during our whale watching boat trip in Monterey Bay.
21	Gray Whale	<i>Eschrichtius robustus</i>	A minimum of 25 animals seen during our whale watching boat trip in Monterey Bay including some impressive tail flukes! We also recorded numerous Grey Whale blows from land whilst waiting for California Condors to appear along the Big Sur coast on the 8th.
22	Wapiti	<i>Cervus albirostris</i>	Also known as Tule Elk, this species gave great views with small groups of up to 10+ animals around the Point Reyes Peninsula on four days.
23	Mule Deer	<i>Odocoileus hemionus</i>	A commonly encountered species recorded on nine days.
24	Hoary Bat	<i>Lasiurus cinereus</i>	Gareth recorded this species on his bat detector during the nights of the 10th and the 11th near our accomodation.
25	Myotis Sp.	-	Gareth recorded this species on his bat detector during the nights of the 10th and the 11th near our accomodation.
1	Western Fence Lizard	<i>Sceloporus occidentalis</i>	Recorded on at least two days with counts in excess of 30 individuals on the 7th and 9th.
2	Monarch Butterfly	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>	For the second year running, worryingly low numbers this year at the Monarch Butterfly Reserve Pacific Grove.

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