

Audubon Watch List—2007

San Diego County

The National Audubon Society has recently released their most recent watch list of birds considered seriously declining or rare. Of the 177 species listed for the Continental United States, 51 are found in San Diego County. North County lagoons, adjacent riparian and uplands, and near-shore ocean waters provide critical habitat for many of the watch list species listed for San Diego County. Those species marked with an asterisk (*) are considered to be of greatest concern. At least 40 of the species listed below are known to occur at Buena Vista Lagoon, others areas within Oceanside, or in Oceanside's near off-shore waters.

Pink-footed Shearwater*	Mountain Plover*	White-headed Woodpecker
Black-vented Shearwater*	Snowy Plover	Costa's Hummingbird
Buller's Shearwater	Redknot	Allen's Hummingbird
Sooty Shearwater	Sanderling	Varied Thrush
Ashy Storm-petrel*	Western Sandpiper	Olive-sided Flycatcher
Black Storm-petrel*	Heermann's Gull	Willow Flycatcher
Least Storm-petrel*	Thayer's Gull	California Thrasher
Craveri's Murrelet*	Least Tern*	Le Conte's Thrasher
Marbled Murrelet	Elegant Tern	California Gnatcatcher
Ancient Murrelet	Black Skimmer	Bell's Vireo*
Xantus's Murrelet*	Clapper Rail	Wrentit
Clark's Grebe	Mountain Quail	Oak Titmouse
Wandering Tattler	Short-eared Owl	Hermit Warbler
Long-billed Curlew	Spotted Owl*	Black-chinned Sparrow*
Marbled Godwit	Lewis' Woodpecker*	Brewer's Sparrow
		Sage Sparrow

One-third of imperiled birds on Audubon WatchList are native to California

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More than 70 bird species native to California appear on the latest Audubon WatchList of 217 imperiled birds in the continental United States and Hawaii. The WatchList is a joint effort of Audubon and American Bird Conservancy, and reflects a comprehensive analysis of population trends, distribution and threats for 700 bird species in the continental U.S.

The WatchList is intended to show those bird species that are in the greatest need of immediate conservation help to simply survive amid a number of environmental challenges, including habitat loss, invasive species and global warming.

"To see a complete list of the California WatchList birds, please visit www.ca.audubon.org. To view the entire Audubon list, visit www.audubon.org or www.abcbirds.org.

Unlike those on Audubon's recent survey of Common Birds in Decline, the species on WatchList are often rare and limited in range. In combination with population declines and new threats, these factors make many of them acutely vulnerable to extinction.

All of the birds on the list are considered important conservation priorities. The list is based on the latest available research and assessment from the bird conservation community along with data from the Christmas Bird Count and the annual Breeding Bird Survey. The data were analyzed and weighted according to methods developed through extensive peer review and revision, yielding an improved assessment of actual peril that can be used to determine bird conservation priorities and funding.