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## **2013 EASTERN SIERRA & CALIFORNIA COAST Tours Bird List**

Canada Goose – Scattered around Lake Tahoe in family groups  
Mallard – Seen in mostly freshwater throughout the trip  
Northern Pintail – On Mono Lake  
Gadwall – Lots on Mono Lake  
American Wigeon – A few scattered throughout the trip  
Surf Scoter – Seen off of Half Moon Bay on the pelagic trip  
Ruddy Duck – Lots on Mono Lake  
California Quail – Common in fields along the coast  
Wild Turkey – Seen on Panoche Valley Road  
Red-throated Loon – Seen on Half Moon Bay during the pelagic trip  
Common Loon - Seen on Half Moon Bay during the pelagic trip  
Pied-billed Grebe – Seen on Mono Lake  
Eared Grebe – Lots on Mono Lake  
Clark's Grebe – A few individuals on Santa Margarita Lake  
Western Grebe – Seen on the ocean and on Santa Margarita Lake  
Northern Fulmar – Seen on Half Moon Bay during the pelagic trip  
Buller's Shearwater – On Half Moon Bay during the pelagic trip  
Pink-footed Shearwater – On Half Moon Bay during the pelagic trip  
Black-vented Shearwater – Seen in the Santa Barbara Channel  
Flesh-footed Shearwater – On Half Moon Bay pelagic trip  
Short-tailed Shearwater – On Half Moon Bay pelagic trip  
Sooty Shearwater – Seen during our crossing to the Channel Islands  
Brown Booby – A lone bird on a marker at the Ventura Harbor  
Blue-footed Booby – Seventeen on Anacapa Island  
Double-crested Cormorant – The common cormorant for the trip  
Brandt's Cormorant – Piled up on the rocks adjacent to Morro Rock  
Pelagic Cormorant – A few in the channel along Morro Rock  
CA Brown Pelican – Everywhere on the coast  
American White Pelican – Seen on Lake Crowley  
Great Blue Heron – All along the coast

Great Egret – On the coastal estuaries  
Snowy Egret – A few in Moss Landing and Morro Bay  
Cattle Egret – A solo bird in the fields on the Oxnard Plain  
Black-crowned Night-Heron – On the docks as we left the Galley  
White-faced Ibis – A flock flew along side in the Central Valley  
Turkey Vulture – Everywhere along the coast  
California Condor – We saw an adult and a sub-adult in Big Sur  
Osprey – One in Half Moon Bay and one in Ventura  
White-tailed Kite – A few hunting ranch fields on the coast  
Bald Eagle – A gorgeous adult in the morning sun at Santa Margarita Lake  
Northern Harrier – Seen criss-crossing fields in the Central Valley  
Golden Eagle – A few were on the coastal side of the Central Valley  
Sharp-shinned Hawk – Two, one in Panoche Valley and the other in Ventura  
Cooper’s Hawk – Only one at Morro Bay State Park  
N. Goshawk – A gorgeous adult sitting in the top of a tree in Tahoe  
Ferruginous Hawk – One adult seen in the Carizzo Plains  
Red-shouldered Hawk – Numerous along the coast in appropriate habitat  
Red-tailed Hawk – Everywhere  
American Coot – If it was a man-made reservoir, it had coots  
Black-necked Stilt – A few in the Great Central Valley  
Black Oystercatcher – Seen on the rocks at the Ventura Harbor  
Black-bellied Plover – Also seen on the rocks at the Ventura Harbor  
American Golden Plover – With a group of BBPI in Ventura Harbor  
Semi-palmated Plover – On the beaches along Ventura  
Killdeer – On the sod fields of the Oxnard Plain  
Spotted Sandpiper – Seen on the rocks at Prisoners in Santa Cruz Island  
Wandering Tattler – On the rocks at the Ventura Harbor  
Greater Yellowlegs – A few seen along the shore of Santa Margarita Lake  
Willet – Common along the coast  
Whimbrel – Seen on the beaches and rocks of Ventura Harbor  
Long-billed Curlew – On most beaches along the coast  
Marbled Godwit - Usually with the Willets on the coast  
Ruddy Turnstone – A group of four at the Ventura Harbor  
Black Turnstone – On the jetty at the Ventura Harbor  
Surfbird – With the Black Turnstones  
Sanderling – On the beaches by Ventura  
Dunlin – Hanging out with the Sanderlings  
Least Sandpiper – Different locations along the coast  
Pectoral Sandpiper – One individual at Cayucos Creek mouth  
Western Sandpiper – At Cayucos Creek mouth

Dowitcher sp. – Also at Cayucos Creek mouth  
Red-necked Phalarope – On both pelagic trips  
Red Phalarope – Only seen on the Half Moon Bay pelagic trip  
South Polar Skua – On both pelagic trips  
Pomeraine Jaeger – Best looks were on the Channel Island’s pelagic trip  
Parasitic Jaeger – Good looks on both pelagic trips  
Common Murre – Very close looks on the Half Moon Bay trip  
Marbled Murrelet – A number of pairs close in on the Half Moon Bay trip  
Cassin’s Auklet – Seen on both pelagic trips  
Rhinoceros Auklet – Seen on both pelagic trips  
Tufted Puffin – Great looks at winter-plumaged individuals  
Sabine’s Gull – Seen on the Half Moon Bay trip  
Bonapartes Gull – Scattered along the coast  
Heerman’s Gull – If there were Brown Pelicans, there were Heermann’s Gull  
Mew Gull – An early individual in Morro Bay  
Ring-billed Gull – Seen well at Mono Lake  
Western Gull – All along the coast  
California Gull – Where else but Mono Lake, their largest nesting colony  
Glaucous-winged Gull – An individual on the Oxnard Plain  
Caspian Tern – Seen hunting at Santa Margarita Lake  
Elegant Tern – A number were roosting on the Ventura Harbor jetty  
Royal Tern – A few were seen foraging on the Santa Cruz Island crossing  
Rock Pigeon – Pretty common wherever there were pier or barns  
Band-tailed Pigeon – Seen on the west side of the Sierra  
Eurasian Collared Dove – Isolated building always seemed to have a pair  
Mourning Dove – Common bird in varying habitats  
Barn Owl – Two were seen in a barn on Kelly’s ranch  
Great Horned Owl – Seen roosting in a tree by Mono Lake  
Belted Kingfisher – Half Moon Bay harbor gave us our best looks  
Vaux’s Swift – A single individual flying over the Tahoe area  
Anna’s Hummingbird – Ubiquitous along the coast  
Allen’s Hummingbird – Two were seen feeding in guava trees in Ventura  
Acorn Woodpecker – Common in the eastern parts of coastal counties  
Red-breasted Sapsucker – Three were seen at Santa Margarita Lake  
Nuttall’s Woodpecker – Two were seen at Santa Margarita Lake  
Downy Woodpecker – One in the tamarisks on Laguna Road, Oxnard  
Hairy Woodpecker – Seen in the Big Sur area looking for condors  
N. Flicker – Seen sporadically on both sides of the Sierra  
American Kestrel – Common in ranch areas  
Peregrine Falcon – A pair was seen perched on Morro Rock

Prairie Falcon – Two different birds seen in the Carizzo Plains  
Western Wood Pewee – One individual in the Laguna Road tamarisks  
Willow Flycatcher - One individual in the Laguna Road tamarisks  
Pacific-slope Flycatcher – Lots in the Laguna Road tamarisks  
Black Phoebe – Common on the coast near water  
Say's Phoebe – A few were seen in the more arid parts of the trip  
Loggerhead Shrike – Plenty in the Carizzo Plains  
Cassin's Vireo – Two, with the best look at Santa Margarita Lake  
Hutton's Vireo – Seen in Morro Bay  
Warbling Vireo – Lots in the Laguna Road tamarisks  
Steller's Jay – An easy bird in the Sierra  
Island Scrub Jay – On Santa Cruz Island, of course  
Western Scrub Jay – Everywhere on the west side of the Sierra  
Clark's Nutcracker – Seen sporadically in the Sierra  
Black-billed Magpie – All over the eastern Sierra  
Yellow-billed Magpie – Best looks at this CA endemic were in Santa Marg  
American Crow – An easy bird on the west side of the Sierra  
Common Raven – Wide-open spaces always had a group buzzing around  
Horned Lark – On the Carizzo Plains in small groups  
Tree Swallow – Flying along the beaches of Ventura  
Violet-green Swallow – With the Tree Swallows  
Barn Swallow – Two birds skimming flies at Cayucos Creek mouth  
Chestnut-backed Chickadee – In coastal riparian zones  
Oak Titmouse – A number were out at Santa Margarita Lake  
Bushtit – Observed at various locations along the coast  
Red-breasted Nuthatch – In Tahoe area trees  
White-breasted Nuthatch – Good looks out at Santa Margarita Lake  
Pygmy Nuthatch – In our face at Mammoth Lakes  
Brown Creeper – Two individuals at Santa Margarita Lake  
Rock Wren – One on Kelly's ranch and another on Panoche Valley Road  
Canyon Wren – Heard but not seen on Morro Rock  
House Wren – One individual in the Laguna Road tamarisks  
Bewick's Wren – Various locations along the coast  
Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher – Only one on Morro Rock  
American Dipper – Seen on the Emerald Lake hike  
Ruby-crowned Kinglet – This mountain resident was also seen on the coast  
Wrentit – Very brief looks at a secretive bird In Big Sur  
Western Bluebird – Seen out a Santa Margarita Lake  
Mountain Bluebird – Best looks were out a Bodie SHP  
Hermit Thrush – Early migrants were making their way down the Sierra

American Robin – Scattered, by the migrants were moving south  
California Thrasher – Excellent views of a bird in Big Sur  
N. Mockingbird – Seen sporadically in the Carizzo and in neighborhoods  
European Starling – Fortunately only on the west side of the Sierra  
American Pipit – Just a couple in Ventura and the Carizzo  
Northern Waterthrush – One well seen individual at  
Prothonotary Warbler - One individual in the Laguna Road tamarisks  
Orange-crowned Warbler – Lots of individuals in the Laguna Rd tamarisks  
Common Yellowthroat – Best look was at Mono Lake  
Nashville Warbler – One individual in the Laguna Road tamarisks  
Yellow Warbler – Lots of individuals in the Laguna Road tamarisks  
Palm Warbler – One seen in Mammoth Lakes  
Yellow-rumped Warbler – All over the Sierra  
Townsend’s Warbler – Lots individuals in the Laguna Road tamarisks  
Black-throated Gray Warbler - One individual in the Laguna Rd tamarisks  
Hermit Warbler – One individual in the Laguna Road tamarisks  
Wilson’s Warbler - Lots of individuals in the Laguna Road tamarisks  
Spotted Towhee – First one was on the Hot Springs Road  
California Towhee – Everywhere on the coast  
Chipping Sparrow – A few mixed in with some of the Zonotrichia flocks  
Brewer’s Sparrow – On Hot Springs Road south of Mono Lake  
Vesper Sparrow – One individual in the Carizzo Plains  
Lark Sparrow – A number of these stunning sparrows in the Carizzo  
Bell’s Sparrow – Three individuals seen at Wallace Creek in the Caizzo  
Savannah Sparrow – Scattered in grassy fields throughout the trip  
Fox Sparrow – Scattered in the Sierra foothills  
Song Sparrow – Common in wet, weedy fields  
Lincoln’s Sparrow – Seen at a couple of stops on the east side  
White-crowned Sparrow – The winter residents had returned in force  
Golden-crowned Sparrow – A few mixed in with the White-crowns  
Dark-eyed Junco – Flocks in the Sierra and Tahoe  
Western Tanager – A gorgeous male and female in a tree in Panoche Valley  
Black-headed Grosbeak – One at Santa Margarita & one at Point Lobos  
Bobolink – A bright immature bird at Cayucos Creek mouth  
Red-winged Blackbird – Scattered throughout the trip  
Western Meadowlark – Fields west of the Sierra had lots of these birds  
Brewer’s Blackbird – All over Mono Lake and a few other areas too  
Common Grackle – A young male mixed in with the Brewer’s at Mono Lake  
Great-tailed Grackle – Around San Luis Obispo County  
Brown-headed Cowbird – Small flocks on Hot Springs Road

House Finch – Pretty much all over the west  
Purple Finch – A few on the Big Sur coast were all we saw  
Cassin’s Finch – Pretty common in Tahoe and the Sierra  
Red Crossbill – Not as common as Cassin’s Finch, but in the same locations  
Pine Siskin – Three were seen in Yosemite Valley  
Lesser Goldfinch – More common in the Panoche Valley than other areas  
American Goldfinch – A few individuals at Point Lobos and Big Sur  
House Sparrow – Ubiquitous wherever cars were parked

**Total = 221 Species**