

Baja California & Sea of Cortez

Naturetrek Tour Report

21st February – 5th March 2023



Humpback Whale



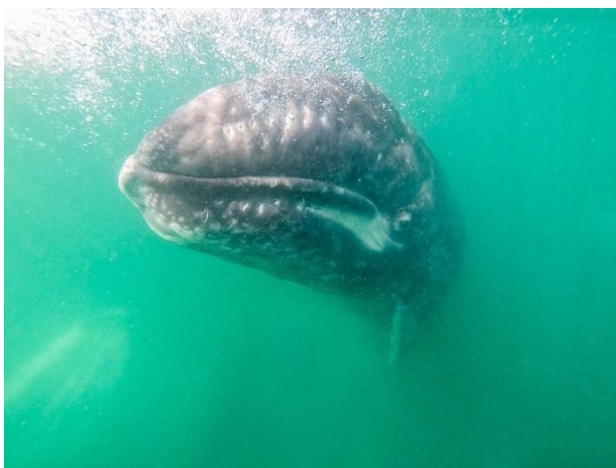
Grey Whale breaching



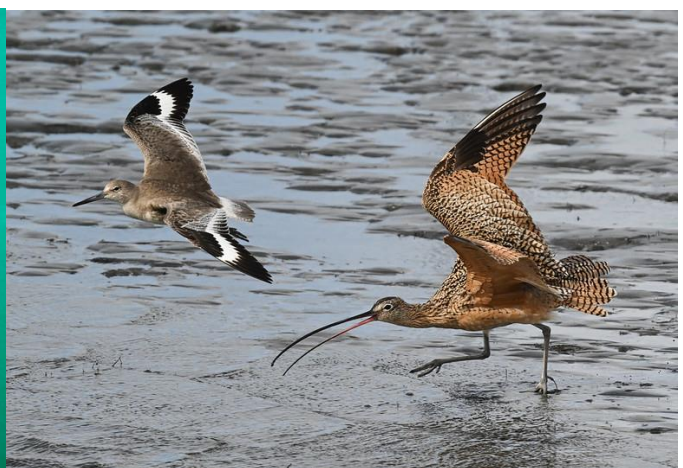
Laysan Albatross



Blue Whale lunge-feeding



Baby Grey Whale



Willet and Long-billed Curlew

Tour report and images by Tim Melling



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Introduction

Every client had booked on this holiday with the dream of seeing whales, and our two weeks in the iconic Baja Peninsula delivered again and again. The experience of being face to face with the Grey Whales of San Ignacio Lagoon, touching them and being immersed in their world, was unforgettable. We also enjoyed a full day watching Humpback Whales at Gorda Bank, a great encounter with a large pod of Pilot Whales, an incredible day watching several lunge-feeding 15 Blue Whales and an equally incredible encounter with a superpod of about 3,000 Dolphins.

Visiting mangroves by boat revealed Mangrove Warblers, plus many waders and herons, whilst exploring arid, desert habitats on foot found Verdins, Black-throated Sparrow, Mockingbirds and Costa's Hummingbird to name a few highlights. On-shore walks also provided close-up views of Guadalupe Fur Seal and Northern Elephant Seal colonies. Several days provided snorkelling opportunities, and we enjoyed marvelling at the tropical fish on view over the rocky or coral reefs, as well as swimming with a group of frisky Sealion youngsters. Combine these daily wildlife experiences with the warm camaraderie of the group, our laughter over wine and beer every evening, and it's safe to say we had an incredibly memorable holiday to a very special wildlife destination, to which many of the group will likely return, and several were indeed returning.

Day 1

Tuesday 21st February

London to San Diego

We met at Heathrow and boarded our flight to San Diego, going straight to our hotel upon arrival, just a 10 minute taxi ride away. Some went for a drink in the bar, while others went straight to bed.

Day 2

Wednesday 22nd February

Birding San Diego

Today most of the group were heading out with the Audobon Society for a day's birding. We were picked up at 9am with a coach and our local guide Autumn Turner who was an excellent and knowledgeable guide.

We first visited Lindo Lake where we immediately saw numerous birds. Huge numbers of American Coots and Ruddy Ducks with a good few Wood Ducks too plus Hooded Merganser and Pied-billed Grebes. There were Black-crowned Night Herons perched in the trees and a Green Heron flew in and landed on a nearby stone, while a Black-throated Gray Warbler performed in a nearby tree alongside a Black Phoebe with Phainopepla nearby. We started to circumnavigate the pond and were distracted by California Ground Squirrels and Red-shouldered Hawks. As we wandered around the lake, we also saw House Finches, Great-tailed Grackles, Red-winged Blackbirds, Western Bluebirds, Cedar Waxwings, Yellowthroats and a Belted Kingfisher. There were also Great Blue Herons, Snowy and Great Egrets, White-fronted Geese and two White-throated Swifts overhead.

Then, we drove up into mountains to Silverwood, an Audobon Reserve, set amidst the oak chaparral-covered hills to the north of the city, where we sat and had lunch on some benches next to some feeders where Anna's

Hummingbirds were flitting around. At the nearby feeders there were California Towhee, House Finches and Oregon Juncos. We went for a walk on the Chipmunk Trail because we heard California Thrasher and Wrentits calling, but the breeze kept them low and out of sight. We did see a Scrub Jay, Hermit Thrush and Spotted Towhee though. Then we made our final stop along the San Diego river estuary where waders and herons were abundant. We saw Killdeer, Semi-palmated Plover, Grey Plovers, Hudsonian Whimbrel (split a couple of years ago from the European Whimbrel), Long-billed Curlews, Willets, Marbled Godwits, Greater Yellowlegs and the three “peeps”; Least, Semipalmated and Western Sandpipers. We added Reddish Egret, American Wigeon, Pintail, Black Brants, Blue-wing Teal, Red-breasted Mergansers plus about 40 American Pipits. We also saw some other landbirds here such as Black Phoebe, White-crowned Sparrows and Anna’s Hummingbirds.

We headed back to the hotel at 3pm to collect our luggage and board the Searcher which was just a two minute walk away. A few people went with Tim to Coronado Island where we saw Brown Pelicans, Buffleheads and Surf Scoters. Then most people went for something to eat, with Mitch’s takeaway fish and chips proving very popular.

Day 3

Thursday 23rd February

Ensenada and the Pacific Ocean

We left San Diego at 2am and headed south towards Ensenada, arriving at 10am. But at 7am we saw our first acrobatic Short-billed Common Dolphins that came to bow-ride. During the next few hours several more small groups came to bow-ride and were joined by two Pacific White-sided Dolphins. From first light we started to see birds, mainly Black-vented Shearwaters, plus a few Rhinoceros Auklets, Scripps’ Murrelets and Cassin’s Auklets. Unusual birds were Peregrine, Brown Booby and about five Grey Phalaropes. We were kept in Ensenada for more than two hours but fortunately there were plenty of birds and Sea-lions to keep us occupied. We saw Vermilion Flycatcher, Say’s and Black Phoebes, Greater Scaup, Kingfishers, Surf Scoters and both Red-throated and Great Northern Divers. As we neared Todos Santos island a large pod of Common Dolphins (short-beaked) appeared from all around and rode the bow for ages. Soon after we saw our first whale; a Humpback. Then a group of four or five Grey Whales migrating north. We continued south until dark enjoying numerous views of shearwaters and auks.

Tim did the checklist after dinner and then Robb gave a presentation about San Benitos and its pinnipeds.

Day 4

Friday 24th February

San Benitos Islands

Dawn broke and we were still four hours from San Benitos. The morning was pretty quiet apart from albatrosses. There were two Black-footed Albatrosses soon after dawn, then during the course of the morning we had close visits from five Laysan Albatrosses. The sea was very quiet apart from very occasional Scripps’ Murrelets and Cassin’s Auklets. We arrived at San Benitos about 11:30 and had an early lunch before getting across to the island by noon. We were greeted by a welcoming party of Elephant Seals on the beach and Heermann’s Gulls and Ospreys seemed to be everywhere. We walked across a boardwalk to reduce damage to the many seabird burrows in the ground. We passed several beaches full of Elephant Seals until we reached the Guadalupe Fur Seal colony and there seemed to be several hundred animals, a real conservation success story for these rare animals that were both

once hunted close to extinction. We saw a few good birds including the endemic San Benitos Sparrow, plus Black Turnstone, Black Oystercatcher, American Oystercatcher, Reddish Egret and several Ospreys and Ravens.

We had a tight schedule so we set straight off towards San Ignacio but came across a super pod of about 3,000 Long-beaked Common Dolphins. The surface was fizzing with Dolphins for about half an hour with them completely surrounding the boat. Then while we were watching the Dolphins we spotted a number of Fin Whales, including a cow calf pair. We saw one animal lunge twice at the surface then rolling to show its pectoral fin. We continued south and soon encountered a large group of Pilot Whales which potted about on the surface for over half an hour. We even saw breaching, spyhopping and tail lobbing, all against a beautiful sunset sky. After no cetaceans at all in the morning the afternoon certainly made up for that.

Day 5

Saturday 25th February

San Ignacio Lagoon

This morning we were still heading towards San Ignacio lagoon at dawn. As we approached we saw many Grey Whales and Common Dolphins, plus a raft of thousands of Brandt's Cormorants. We were a little late arriving so only had time for one panga boat trip before lunch. The weather was still and sunny and the Grey Whales performed allowing a few people to touch them. They also breached and spyhopped and showed tail flukes on diving. There were also many Bottlenose Dolphins plus a number of Pacific and Great Northern Divers. Not seen by everyone but at least three turtles were seen in the lagoon. We had two more panga trips in the afternoon and by then we had observed whales fluking, breaching and spy-hopping, and many had managed to actually touch a Grey Whale. It's difficult to find the words to describe what a moving experience this is. Reaching a hand out to feel the cold, rubbery faces of the Grey Whales as they actually approached our boats to investigate us was incredible, and an experience like none of us had ever encountered.

Day 6

Sunday 26th February

San Ignacio Lagoon

This morning we woke up to another morning in San Ignacio lagoon. The tide was low and rising so we all went whale watching first thing. One young whale was investigating the pangas tied up to the back of the Searcher and almost seemed disappointed that there were no people to fuss it. But as soon as we got out on the water this really friendly calf with its mother came repeatedly to every boat allowing every single person to stroke them. It moved many people to tears that these once-persecuted animals were so confiding. Later in the morning the tide was high enough for mangroves so two groups opted for a visit, whilst one group went to see the friendly whales again. Once in the sheltered channels of the mangroves, we had a wonderful time spotting birds such as Clapper Rails, White Ibis, Great Blue Heron, Little Blue Heron, Reddish Egret, Tricoloured Heron and Black-crowned Night Herons plus Great and Snowy Egrets. In addition, we saw Marbled Godwit, Willet, Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs, Long-billed Curlew plus Northern Harrier and Osprey. A couple of Mangrove Warblers showed incredibly well for this normally secretive species. But not every yellow bird in the mangroves was a Mangrove Warbler as we also saw several Common Yellowthroats. Caspian Terns and Brown Pelicans were common and a couple of American Herring Gulls were new.

After lunch we all watched whales again and saw lots of mating activity. Some even managed to catch a glimpse of the legendary “pink Floyd”. One presumably frustrated male appeared near one boat and seemed to deliberately splash his tail, soaking everyone at the back of the boat. After this some opted to go to the beach for a walk where there was an amazing variety of colourful shells and bones of different marine animals. The wildlife here was also interesting as some saw a Coyote and a Jackrabbit. We also added Vesper Sparrow and Savannah Sparrow, plus Yellow-crowned Night-Heron, and yet more views of Mangrove Warblers. In the lagoon there were a few Western Grebes and a Pomarine Skua which were both new for the trip.

We set off from the lagoon at 4:15pm, watching the blows of the Grey Whales in the lagoon fade into the distance and we sailed through the night.

Day 7

Monday 27th February

Sea Day – Sailing south to the Bay of Magdalena

Today was a ‘sea day’, and after breakfast we went on deck to look for wildlife. Early on we had two Black-footed Albatrosses, Red-billed Tropicbird and Brown and Masked Boobies but then things went a little quiet. Our first Magnificent Frigatebirds appeared today and became more frequent as we progressed southwards. Then mid-morning the crew spotted a Blue Whale but it did not cooperate as it was heading fast north (the wrong way for us) and was only taking occasional blows. But we also saw a few Humpbacks, but again they were uncooperative. So we continued south and started to see several breaching Humpbacks a long way ahead. But amazingly the action continued until we arrived and we saw two Humpbacks breaching and flipper flopping. At one point a whale breached about 20m from the boat and the sound was like a thunderclap! It was too close for most of the long lens photographers but an amazing experience. A group of maybe 30 California Sealions came porpoising towards us then rafted in the sea nearby. At least two Green Turtles also passed the boat at close range during the day, and a few saw a Sabine’s Gull. Then another superpod of Common Dolphins made its way to the boat and stayed with us for ages, although maybe just under a thousand animals this time. At the same time, we had another breaching Humpback and more Masked Boobies. One Booby photographed proved to be the rarer Nazca Booby with an orange bill and white tail. At times we didn’t know where to look. After that things went a bit quiet but the sun set into a cloudless horizon and we managed to see the green flash.

Day 8

Tuesday 28th February

Gorda Bank (AKA: The Day of the Humpback Whales!)

Today we arrived into Gorda Bank, an area known for being frequented by Humpback Whales. We saw several groups of them, including several cow calf pairs and several showing mating behaviour. We saw spyhopping, tail lobbing and flipper flopping. But best of all were a cow calf pair that repeatedly breached really close to the boat. There were also a number of other breaching Humpbacks too providing great photo-opportunities. A group of three Marlins were seen near the boat, plus a leaping Mobula and a flying fish. Birds were scarce but we saw the first Blue-footed Booby and two more Masked Boobies.

The afternoon was spent sailing north up the east coast of the peninsula – it got windy and quite rough, but we didn’t care, for we’d just spent two hours watching Humpback Whales! Once we’d anchored, we got the group in

the water to do a practise snorkel. Instead of snorkelling a number went for a walk to the beach and nearby scrub where we saw Gilded Flicker, American Kestrel, Verdin, Grey Thrashers, Black-throated Sparrow, Northern Mockingbird, Loggerhead Shrike and Snowy Plovers.

Day 9

Wednesday 1st March

San Jose

This morning we arrived at Punta Colorado for dawn to enjoy the sunrise illumination of the red sandstone cliffs. Soon after breakfast we were shuttled ashore and walked up the dry riverbed for about a mile. We saw Mockingbirds, Loggerhead Shrikes, Grey Flycatcher, Blue-grey Gnatcatcher, Verdin, Black-throated Sparrows, White-throated Swifts and Costa's Hummingbirds. A lucky few even managed to see a baby Speckled Rattlesnake among numerous Striped and Side-blotched Lizards plus a single Chuckwalla. We then took a look at the fossilised Turtle Shell and whale bones on the nearby point. Then it was back to the boat and straight out for a snorkel under the cliffs of Punta Colorado where we enjoyed a variety of reef fish. Around the boat we saw our first large raft of Black-necked Grebes, plus Brown and Blue-footed Boobies and Yellow-footed Gulls.

After lunch we headed north and soon came across an amazing pod of two or three hundred Bottlenose Dolphins feeding among large groups of Sealions. After this we continued north but saw very little apart from many Black Storm Petrels and several Craveri's Murrelets. A few leaping Mobulas kept the interest alive when the birds and cetaceans were quiet. The afternoon was quiet until about 4pm when a large whale was spotted. As it dived we saw the huge tail stock and tiny dorsal fin of a Blue Whale. At last we had found one! But as we headed towards it another appeared much closer, then another, then another. In total we had probably eight different Blue Whales all surfacing around us. Then as the sun started to lower in the sky, they started to lunge feed at the surface. This happened repeatedly but a couple of times it was within a few metres of the boat. There were gasps of astonishment each time it happened. Most of the crew said they had not witnessed this before. What an amazing way to finish off the day.

Day 10

Thursday 2nd March

Tambabichi

We set anchor overnight off the beach at Tambabichi where we had two hours post breakfast desert walk. On the beach were Heermann's Gulls, Yellow-footed Gulls, Brown Pelicans and large rafts of Black-necked Grebes in the bay. On a small rocky area were a few waders including Least Sandpipers, Marbled Godwit, Greater Yellowlegs, Hudsonian Whimbrel and Semi-palmated Plovers. A small area of Mangroves held a Yellow-crowned and several Black-crowned Night Herons, Reddish Egret, Great White Egret, Ospreys and Kingfishers. We continued to the desert area and spotted a few Cactus Wrens, California Gnatcatcher, California Quails, Ash-throated Flycatchers, Grey Flycatchers, Gilded Flicker, Verdins, Black-throated Sparrows and a Crested Caracara. We all saw Costa's Hummingbirds but one lucky person had close views of a Xantu's Hummingbird. Later we headed to a nearby cove called El Gato where some opted for a snorkel in choppy conditions. Tim took the rest on an excellent nature walk where the stars of the show were several Tarantula Hawk Wasps with bright orange wings and an iridescent blue body. The place was also good for birds with White-crowned Sparrow, Cardinal, Pyrrhuloxias, White-winged Doves, Blue-grey Gnatcatchers and lots of butterflies.

We had lunch here then set off in the choppy sea towards San Jose but failed to see a single sea mammal and very few birds. But every day cannot be as good as our previous few days.

Day 11

Friday 3rd March

San Jose and San Francisco

This morning we were anchored in a sheltered spot on the west side of San Jose but it was still very blowy from the night before. We headed south and saw a single Humpback close to the boat plus some distant breaching Humpbacks. Very few birds were seen apart from more Craveri's Murrelets en route to the Mangroves. But when we arrived the entrance had been blocked by a gravel bar so we had to opt for second choice; a beach walk. We managed to see a distant Yellow-crowned Night Heron and the usual Egrets, plus a glimpse of a Mangrove Warbler. After this we spent some time over lunch watching a Humpback, then we arrived on San Francisco for a walk along Rob's knife-edge ridge. On the island we found two dead Green Turtles but fortunately lots of live things too; Costa's Hummingbirds, Black-throated Sparrow, Loggerhead Shrike, Hudsonian Whimbrels, American Oystercatcher and Several Ospreys. After this a few went snorkelling then we had a deck barbecue with Margueritas

Day 12

Saturday 4th March

Los Islotes and the Cerralvo Channel

This morning at 4am we left San Francisco and headed to Los Islotes for a sunrise swim with Sealions. As we anchored a group of about fifty young Sealions came to greet us. A few minutes later we were getting in the water with them and several times we were caught up in a swirling mass of them, inquisitive and playful. These are youngsters still dependent of their mothers, but left in a crèche while the mums went off to find fish. We then did a slow circuit of the islets and saw Blue-footed and Brown Boobies, Frigatebirds, Brandt's Cormorants and the ever-present Yellow-footed Gulls. We then headed south through the Cerralvo Channel but the sea was very quiet, though at least it was calm and sunny. Bird highlight was a Tropicbird but only one distant Humpback plus a few leaping Mobulas. After lunch we came across three more Humpbacks and stayed with two of them for about an hour as we drifted south. We passed several Striped Marlins alongside the boat and two more Red-billed Tropicbirds together on the sea that allowed close approach.

We then retired indoors for dinner, and Captain Mike thanked us all for a good trip and we went round the group to each list our highlights from the trip. Sara gave a few final notices for the end of the evening, and then we finished off packing and went to bed, sailing our way back to Cabo San Lucas.

Day 13

Sunday 5th March

Cabo San Lucas – London

This morning we arrived in the harbour of Cabo San Lucas at 4am and rose for an early breakfast at 5am. By 7am we were on our way to the airport via the scenic town of San Jose del Cabo where we had a couple of hours to walk the estuary. Here we saw a variety of waterbirds and a large variety of songbirds including Tropical Kingbird, Cinnamon-rumped Seedaters, Wilson's Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Common Ground Dove, Cactus Wren, Lazuli

Bunting, Gila Woodpeckers and Cardinals. But best of all, everyone managed to get good views of Belding's Yellowthroat which is endemic to Baja and has a population of just 1,600 individuals. The estuarine wetlands at San Jose del Cabo hold about a third of the global population but they are not always easy to see. After a walk around the pleasant town, we headed for the airport and caught our flights home via Los Angeles.



Long-beaked Dolphin



Black-throated Gray Warbler

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Species lists

Birds (C = Common)

E=Endemic, N=Near-endemic I=Introduced			February-March 2023												
	Common name	Scientific name	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Brant Goose	<i>Branta bernicla</i>	50			5									
2	Canada Goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>	20												
3	White-fronted Goose	<i>Anser albifrons</i>	4												
4	Wood Duck	<i>Aix sponsa</i>	8												
5	Blue-winged Teal	<i>Spatula discors</i>	4											15	
6	Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>	12												
7	American Wigeon	<i>Mareca americana</i>	2												
8	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	C	2											
9	Surf Scoter	<i>Melanitta perspicillata</i>	2	C		40	2								
10	Greater Scaup	<i>Aythya marila</i>		5											
11	Bufflehead	<i>Bucephala albeola</i>	6	1											
12	Red-breasted Merganser	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	2				3								
13	Common Merganser	<i>Mergus merganser</i>		3											
14	Hooded Merganser	<i>Mergus cucullatus</i>	1												
15	Ruddy Duck	<i>Oxyura jamaicensis</i>	30												
16	California Quail	<i>Callipepla californica</i>									4				
17	White-throated Swift	<i>Aeronautes saxatalis</i>	2							C					
18	Anna's Hummingbird	<i>Calypte anna</i>	30												
19	Costa's Hummingbird	<i>Calypte costae</i>								4	5	6			
20	Xantus's Hummingbird - E	<i>Basilinna xantusii</i>									1				
21	Allen's Hummingbird	<i>Selasphorus sasin</i>	2												
22	Eurasian Collared Dove - I	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	4												
23	Mourning Dove	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	2	2											
24	White-winged Dove	<i>Zenaida asiatica</i>									3			C	
25	Common Ground Dove	<i>Columbina passerina</i>												2	
26	American Coot	<i>Fulica americana</i>	C											C	
27	American Moorhen	<i>Gallinula galeata</i>													

E=Endemic, N=Near-endemic I=Introduced			February-March 2023												
	Common name	Scientific name	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	1	2	3	4	5	6
28	Clapper Rail	<i>Rallus longirostris</i>					3								
29	Pied-billed Grebe	<i>Podilymbus podiceps</i>	2											3	
30	Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	1				1			150	200	200			
31	Western Grebe	<i>Aechmophorus occidentalis</i>					5								
32	Black Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus bachmani</i>		2	1				10						
33	American Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus palliatus</i>			2							3			
34	Killdeer	<i>Charadrius vociferous</i>	C	2											
35	Semipalmated Plover	<i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>	10								7				
36	Snowy Plover	<i>Charadrius nivosus</i>							10						
37	Black-bellied Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	30				C								
38	Hudsonian Whimbrel	<i>Numenius hudsonicus</i>	1	2			C				3	2			
39	Long-billed Curlew	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	20			10	C								
40	Marbled Godwit	<i>Limosa fedoa</i>	20	C			C				10				
41	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>							1						
42	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>	5												
43	Least Sandpiper	<i>Calidris minutilla</i>	40	5			50		20		10	2			
44	Western Sandpiper	<i>Calidris mauri</i>	20			30	50								
45	Semi-palmated Sandpiper	<i>Calidris pusilla</i>	5												
46	Short-billed Dowitcher	<i>Limnodromus griseus</i>					30								
47	Red Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus fulicarius</i>		5	3	5		1							
48	Black Turnstone	<i>Arenaria melanocephala</i>			1										
49	Spotted Sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularius</i>	2	2			1							2	
50	Lesser Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa flavipes</i>				1	C								
51	Willet	<i>Tringa semipalmata</i>	20	C			C								
52	Greater Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>	1				C				1				
53	Sabine's Gull	<i>Xema sabini</i>						1							
54	Bonaparte's Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus philadelphia</i>		1											
55	Heermann's Gull - N	<i>Larus heermanni</i>	1	10	C	20	C	20	5	1	20	2	2		
56	Ring-billed Gull	<i>Larus delawarensis</i>	C	C			C								
57	Short-billed Gull	<i>Larus brachyrhynchus</i>		1											
58	California Gull	<i>Larus californicus</i>	C	C	C	C	C	C	C					C	
59	Western Gull	<i>Larus occidentalis</i>	C	C	C	C	C	C	C					C	

E=Endemic, N=Near-endemic I=Introduced			February-March 2023												
	Common name	Scientific name	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	1	2	3	4	5	6
60	Yellow-footed Gull - N	<i>Larus livens</i>								10	C	C	C		
61	American Herring Gull	<i>Larus smithsonianus</i>					2								
62	Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>	1				30								
63	Royal Tern	<i>Thalasseus maximus</i>	20	5	1	C	C				30	50			
64	Elegant Tern	<i>Thalasseus elegans</i>				20	30				10				
65	Pomarine Jaeger	<i>Stercorarius pomarinus</i>					1								
66	Craveri's Murrelet - N	<i>Synthliboramphus craveri</i>								20	10	10	1		
67	Scripp's Murrelet	<i>Synthliboramphus scrippsi</i>		20	12										
68	Cassin's Auklet	<i>Ptychoramphus aleuticus</i>		30	C										
69	Rhinoceros Auklet	<i>Cerorhinca monocerata</i>		12											
70	Red-billed Tropicbird	<i>Phaethon aethereus</i>						1					3		
71	Pacific Loon	<i>Gavia pacifica</i>				3	3								
72	Common Loon	<i>Gavia immer</i>		2		5	3								
73	Red-throated Loon	<i>Gavia stellate</i>		1											
74	Laysan Albatross	<i>Phoebastria immutabilis</i>			5										
75	Black-footed Albatross	<i>Phoebastria nigripes</i>			2			1							
76	Black Storm Petrel	<i>Hydrobates melania</i>								50					
77	Northern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>		3	3			2							
78	Sooty Shearwater	<i>Ardenna grisea</i>		10	2	2		5							
79	Pink-footed Shearwater	<i>Ardenna creatopus</i>			1			20		1			1		
80	Black-vented Shearwater - N	<i>Puffinus opisthomelas</i>		C	20	10		5					1		
81	Magnificent Frigatebird	<i>Fregata magnificens</i>						40	30	C	C	C	20	10	
82	Blue-footed Booby	<i>Sula nebouxii</i>							3	30	40	10	20		
83	Masked Booby	<i>Sula dactylatra</i>						4							
84	Nazca Booby	<i>Sula granti</i>						1							
85	Brown Booby	<i>Sula leucogaster</i>		1				1		5	5	5	5		
86	Brandt's Cormorant	<i>Urile penicillatus</i>	2	C	15	C	C		20	30	20	20	20		
87	Double-crested Cormorant	<i>Nannopterum auritum</i>	C	20		10	C			10	30	20		20	
88	American White Ibis	<i>Eudocimus albus</i>					20								
89	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	20				10				5			4	
90	Yellow-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>					1				1	1			
91	Green Heron	<i>Butorides virescens</i>	1				3								

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	Common name	Scientific name	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	1	2	3	4	5	6
92	Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>	20	20			10				3	3		1	
93	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	20	1			10				4	4		8	
94	Reddish Egret	<i>Egretta rufescens</i>	1		1		15				1	2			
95	Tricolored Heron	<i>Egretta tricolor</i>					5								
96	Little Blue Heron	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>					1								
97	Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	20				5				20	20		4	
98	Cattle Egret	<i>Bulbulcus ibis</i>												1	
99	American White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i>	2												
100	Brown Pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>	20	C	20	30	C	C	C	C	C	C	20	C	
101	Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	5	2		2	2		2	12	30	20	6	C	
102	Western Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	2		5		1				3	3		2	
103	Cooper's Hawk	<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>	1	1										2	
104	Northern Harrier	<i>Circus hudsonius</i>					1								
105	Red-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>	12	1					1		1				
106	Red-shouldered Hawk	<i>Buteo lineatus</i>	2												
107	American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>	1	3					1						
108	Belted Kingfisher	<i>Megasceryle alcyon</i>	1	2			3				2			2	
109	Gila Woodpecker - N	<i>Melanerpes uropygialis</i>												10	
110	Nuttall's Woodpecker - N	<i>Dryobates nuttallii</i>	1												
111	Gilded Flicker - N	<i>Colaptes chrysoides</i>							1		1				
112	Crested Caracara	<i>Caracara plancus</i>									1				
113	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	1	1			1								
114	Black Phoebe	<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>	5	1											
115	Say's Phoebe	<i>Sayornis saya</i>		1											
116	Vermilion Flycatcher	<i>Pyrocephalus rubinus</i>		1											
117	American Grey Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax wrightii</i>								2	4				
118	Ash-throated Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus cinerascens</i>									8	1		1	
119	Tropical Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i>												1	
120	Loggerhead Shrike	<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>							10	2	2	1			
121	California Scrub Jay	<i>Aphelocoma californica</i>	1								3			1	
122	American Crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	C	C											
123	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	20		20					1	2	2		2	

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	Common name	Scientific name	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	1	2	3	4	5	6
124	Phainopepla – N	<i>Phainopepla nitens</i>	1												
125	Cedar Waxwing	<i>Bombicilla cedrorum</i>	40												
126	Buff-bellied Pipit	<i>Anthus rubescens</i>	40												
127	Verdin – N	<i>Auriparus flaviceps</i>							2	2	2	2		2	
128	Tree Swallow	<i>Tachycineta bicolor</i>	8												
129	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	2												
130	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	<i>Corthylio calendula</i>	1												
131	Cactus Wren – N	<i>Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus</i>									8			5	
132	Blue-grey Gnatcatcher	<i>Poliophtila caerulea</i>								1	10			4	
133	California Gnatcatcher - N	<i>Poliophtila californica</i>									1				
134	White-breasted Nuthatch	<i>Sitta carolinensis</i>	1												
135	Northern Mockingbird	<i>Mimus polyglottos</i>							20	6	8			4	
136	Grey Thrasher – E	<i>Toxostoma cinereum</i>							4						
137	Common Starling – I	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	C	C										C	
138	Western Bluebird	<i>Sialia mexicana</i>	3												
139	American Robin	<i>Turdus migratorius</i>	C												
140	Hermit Thrush	<i>Catharus guttatus</i>	1												
141	House Sparrow – I	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	C											C	
142	House Finch	<i>Haemorhous mexicanus</i>	C	C										C	
143	Lesser Goldfinch	<i>Spinus psaltria</i>	1												
144	Black-throated Sparrow - N	<i>Amphispiza bilineata</i>							1	2	10	20			
145	Dark-eyed Junco	<i>Junco hyemalis</i>	10												
146	White-crowned Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia leucophrys</i>	10								2				
147	Savannah Sparrow	<i>Passerculus sandwichensis</i>					2				4				
148	San Benitos Sparrow	<i>Passerculus sanctorum</i>			C										
149	Song Sparrow	<i>Melospiza melodia</i>	2												
150	Vesper Sparrow	<i>Poocetes gramineus</i>					1								
151	California Towhee – N	<i>Melozona crissalis</i>	1												
152	Spotted Towhee	<i>Pipilo maculatus</i>	1												
153	Lazuli Bunting	<i>Passerina amoena</i>												1	
154	Cinnamon-rumped Seed eater	<i>Sporophila torqueola</i>												2	
155	Hooded Oriole	<i>Icterus cucullatus</i>												15	

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	Common name	Scientific name	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	1	2	3	4	5	6
156	Red-winged Blackbird	<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>	20												
157	Great-tailed Grackle	<i>Quiscalus mexicanus</i>	30	10											
158	Brewer's Blackbird	<i>Euphagus cyanocephalus</i>	2												
159	Orange-crowned Warbler	<i>Leiothlypis celata</i>												2	
160	American Yellow Warbler	<i>Setophaga aestiva</i>												2	
161	Audubon's Warbler	<i>Setophaga auduboni</i>	20	5										1	
162	Mangrove Warbler	<i>Setophaga petechia erithachorides</i>					5					1			
163	Yellow Warbler	<i>Setophaga petechia</i>												2	
164	Townsend's Warbler	<i>Setophaga townsendi</i>												1	
165	Black-throated Gray Warbler	<i>Setophaga nigrescens</i>	1												
166	Wilson's Warbler	<i>Cardellina pusilla</i>												3	
167	Common Yellowthroat	<i>Geothlypis trichas</i>	3				3								
168	Belding's Yellowthroat	<i>Geothlypis beldingi</i>												3	
169	Northern Cardinal	<i>Cardinalis cardinalis</i>									1			3	
170	Pyrrhuloxia	<i>Cardinalis sinuatus</i>									2				

Others

			February-March 2023												
	Common name	Scientific name	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	1	2	3	4	5
	Mammals														
1	Coyote	<i>Canis latrans</i>						1							
2	Guadalupe Fur Seal	<i>Arctocephalus townsendi</i>			150										
3	Californian Sea Lion	<i>Zalophus californianus</i>		C	c			1	30		C		10	C	5
4	Northern Elephant Seal	<i>Mirounga angustirostris</i>			c										
5	Gray Whale	<i>Eschrichtius robustus</i>		4		C		C							
6	Blue Whale	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>							1		8				
7	Fin Whale	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>			6										
8	Humpback Whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>		1					15	25			5	4	
9	Long-beaked Common Dolphin	<i>Delphinus capensis</i>			3000	30			1000						

	Common name	Scientific name	February-March 2023												
			21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	1	2	3	4	5
10	Short-beaked Common Dolphin	<i>Delphinus delphis</i>		50											
11	Pacific White-sided Dolphin	<i>Sagmatias obliquidens</i>													
12	Bottlenose Dolphin	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>				30	30	30			250				
13	Short-finned Pilot Whale				40										
14	California Ground Squirrel	<i>Otospermophilus beecheyi</i>	15												
	Reptiles														
1	Green Turtle	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>				3			2	1					
2	Common Side-blotched Lizard	<i>Uta stansburiana</i>			C						1				
3	Speckled Rattlesnake										1				
	Fish														
1	Long-spine Porcupinefish	<i>Diodon holocanthus</i>													
2	Ocean Sunfish	<i>Mola mola</i>													
3	Yellow Boxfish	<i>Ostracion cubicus</i>													
4	Guineafowl Pufferfish	<i>Arothron meleagris</i>													
5	Spotted Sharpnosed Puffer	<i>Canthigaster punctatissima</i>													
6	King Angelfish	<i>Holacanthus passer</i>													
7	Yellowtail Surgeonfish	<i>Prionurus punctatus</i>													
8	Cortez Rainbow Wrasse	<i>Thalassoma lucasanum</i>													
9	Panamic Sergeant Major	<i>Abudefduf troschelii</i>													
10	Striped Marlin	<i>Kajikia audax</i>							1	3					
11	Common Remora	<i>Remora remora</i>													
12	Blue-spotted Cornetfish	<i>Fistularia commersonii</i>													
13	Smoothtail Mobula	<i>Mobula thurstoni</i>								30					