

# Whales & Dolphins of Monterey Bay

Naturetrek Tour Report

23 - 31 August 2014



Humpback Whale breaching



Orcas



Hawaiian Petrel off Point Pinos



Watching a Humpback from the bow

Report & images compiled by Peter Dunn



Naturetrek Cheriton Mill Cheriton Alresford Hampshire SO24 0NG England

T: +44 (0)1962 733051

F: +44 (0)1962 736426

E: [info@naturetrek.co.uk](mailto:info@naturetrek.co.uk)

W: [www.naturetrek.co.uk](http://www.naturetrek.co.uk)

Tour Leader: Peter Dunn

Participants: Di Edwards  
Dave Millmore  
Ross Millmore  
Ted Clements  
Jenny Clements  
Harri Nott  
Caroline Hucklesby  
Wendy Mattingley  
John Mattingley  
Janet Young  
Irene Gulch

## Day 1

Saturday 23rd August

### London to San Francisco

The British Airways flight from London arrived and the group members appeared in the arrivals hall in good time to be met by Irene, who had spent a few days in San Francisco, and Peter. The minibus was waiting and Jesus and Miguel were also there to assist with the bags. We soon loaded up and were on our route south on Highway 101. The journey was good with no holdups and we saw a few birds before it got dark, including Red-tailed Hawks, American Crow and Mourning Dove.

As we travelled along the highway out away from Silicon Valley and the suburbs of San Francisco we had excellent views of the mountains and hills of the Diablo Range to our left. In the afternoon sunshine, the dry grassy scrub known as Chaparral was golden-coloured. We approached Monterey in the dark and the vast size of the conurbation was realised as the lights of the adjoining towns of Marina, Seaside and Sand City went on forever. Arriving at the Carmel Valley Lodge at around 21.15 hrs., rooms were quickly allocated and those who could keep their eyes open, were treated to a first rate cold deli dinner in the dining room before retiring to bed with promises of a fine day tomorrow and our first whale watching trip

## Day 2

Sunday 24th August

### Monterey Bay and headland

We gathered in the breakfast room at 7am with some early risers already having recorded Anna's Hummingbird and California Towhee in the hotel grounds and we left after breakfast to drive to the Fisherman Wharf car park for our first trip out on the Sea Wolf II. The morning vessel was captained by Nancy Black, one of the foremost authorities on Pacific Orca. With all the paperwork organised prior to our arrival, we picked up our boarding passes and waited for our captain, Nancy, to invite us aboard the Sea Wolf II. Boarding the boat we started to record Sea Otters in the harbour and as we left the berth we could hear the raucous calls of the California Sea Lions hauled out on the breakwater, along with hundreds of Brandt's Cormorants.

Passing close by the outer pier we saw our first Black Turnstones and a single Surfbird before we headed north to Moss Landing canyon, where we spent most of the morning over the deep water. Over the water we had a few Black-vented Shearwaters, unseasonably early and the first to be recorded on Naturetrek trips. The water had been unusually warm which had encouraged large numbers of anchovy in the bay, followed by these types of birds. There were the regular and common Sooty Shearwaters and a few large Pink-footed Shearwaters. On reaching the canyon we started to follow a pod of Orca, consisting of an adult female and three younger ones, they were curiously friendly swimming around and even under the boat. We spent some time with this pod and were told about their biology and behaviour by our expert captain and scientist Greg. During the morning an old male and a younger one joined this pod and we eventually ended up with seven animals.

We had to drag ourselves away to look at some of the many Humpbacks that were feeding in the area. We were treated to some excellent flukes (diving and raising the tail into the air) and some tail slapping from at least eight animals in the immediate area, we had probably another ten or more in the distance. We then had to make tracks back to shore and passing more Common Guillemots and Elegant Terns, we arrived back in harbour around 1:15pm, followed by a lunch of clam chowder, sandwiches or salad on the wharf.

The afternoon was spent driving the 17 Mile Drive, a toll road around the famous Pebble Beach and Spyglass Hill golf courses,, but also some nice woodland and shoreline habitat where we saw 'piping' Black Oystercatchers, Black Turnstones, Whimbrel, Western Gulls and Heermann's Gulls. On the golf courses Black-tailed Deer grazed the short grass. The large rocks along the coastline held large numbers of resting Brandt's Cormorants and vast number of rock-climbing sea lions! We stopped to see the famous Lone Cypress tree which has stood on its rocky perch for over 250 years. Offshore, here we counted at least 17 Humpbacks feeding in a tight group in Carmel Canyon. We left the drive at the Carmel gate and drove back to the lodge via the supermarket and there was even time for some to use the heated outdoor pool before a delicious lasagne dinner followed by our daily checklist and review of our most enjoyable day in the warm sunshine.

## Day 3

Monday 25th August

### Monterey Bay.

One or two rose early to visit the old airfield where Western Bluebirds were seen and we all met for breakfast at 7am. Today we were spending both the morning and afternoon on the Sea Wolf and we arrived at Fisherman's Wharf in good time to board the vessel. Today the captain was John Mayer, an old friend of Naturetrek groups and today he aimed to sail south towards Carmel Canyon where we had seen animals feeding from 17 Mile Drive yesterday.

Leaving the harbour we sailed close by the outer wall where we had excellent views of Sea Otters next to the boat and two Surfbirds. As we approached the buoy off Cannery Row, we saw a larger paler sea lion amongst the California Sea Lions. This turned out to be a female Steller's or Northern Sea Lion. Continuing on, we had a visit from some fast Dall's Porpoises who briefly tried to bow ride, and around us numbers of Sooty and Black-vented Shearwaters began to increase indicating a gathering of anchovies. Very soon we were surrounded by some very active hunting sea lions and amongst them were feeding Humpback Whales. We witnessed cooperative feeding action by these whales before we continued towards Carmel Canyon.

On the edge of the canyon we passed a 'sleeping' group of Risso's Dolphins, these large pale animals were covered in scars from battles and squabbles amongst themselves. The canyon itself was quiet so we returned north to join the feeding humpbacks we had seen earlier. Amongst the shearwaters and gulls we found a few Rhinoceros Auklets and a couple of Cassin's Auklets. The morning was an enjoyable journey and we headed back into Fisherman's Wharf to eat our sandwiches overlooking the harbour before boarding for the afternoon trip (three decided to explore the water front).

As normal the wind had increased in the afternoon but this brought more activity amongst the cetaceans and seabirds. We witnessed some spectacular breaches of Humpback Whales and feeding frenzies of California Sea Lions. One whale spent a little time waving its huge pectoral fin in the air, and while this was happening, the birders on the boat spotted a strange *pterodroma* petrel, which they could not immediately identify. It was not in Sibley's Guide but some good photos were obtained so we texted them back to shore for identification. News came back that it was a Hawaiian Petrel, a scarce bird for the area and new for all, even John the captain!! We also had good views of a Black-footed Albatross passing the boat. Egg Yolk Jellyfish, *Velevella velevella* (By-the-wind-sailors) and Purple Striped Jellies were seen today as was two more Ocean Sunfish – a great day all round.

We arrived back to shore around 5pm and heading back to the lodge arriving around 6pm and greeted by a small flock of American Bushtits in the car park. We enjoyed a nice chicken pot pie dinner and completed our checklist and review of the day before retiring to bed.

## Day 4

Tuesday 26th August

### Big Sur

Wendy and John's pre-breakfast walk to the airfield paid dividends today with a calling Great Horned Owl, also seen in flight! After we had eaten breakfast and fuelled the vehicle, the sun began to shine on Highway 1 as we travelled south to do the Big Sur. Our first scheduled stop was at Bixby Bridge, with great views down the Big Sur. We continued down to Andrew Molera State Park where we had a short walk through some woodland and open grassland in hot sunshine. A few Steller's Jays were busy screeching in the trees near the vehicles. We spent about 90 minutes or so enjoying the butterflies, dragonflies and mixed flocks of birds in the woods. The mixed flocks generated an exciting energy and every other bird was a new, often very colourful species! In one part of the woodland we encountered a Townsend's, Wilson's, Yellow Warblers, Black-throated Grey and an Orange-crowned Warbler together with Hutton's Vireos and a few Chestnut-backed Chickadees. We also had good views of a White-tailed Kite as it mobbed a Red-tailed Hawk overhead and down near the eucalyptus grove we found Willow and Olive-sided Flycatchers, Lesser Goldfinch and at least a dozen Acorn Woodpeckers flew over into the wood

Walking back towards the car park, John and Wendy spotted a large raptor over the far hills and this proved to be our first California Condor – a long way off but with a telescope the white 'arms' could be seen showing it was an adult. David and Ros found a small covey of California Quails here also.

We then travelled through the redwood forests of Big Sur Station, pausing to buy our sandwich lunches at the bakery and onto a view point next to an apex house at Grimes Point, a regular spot for Condors. True enough the first two were seen at a distance north and south from here and then an adult flew over quite close, allowing good views of the white 'arms' on the underwing.

This bird had the wing tag number white 70 and was hatched on Big Sur in April 2008 from an egg laid at Los Angeles Zoo. Just as we were getting into the minibus, a bird was seen on a rock right at the top of the hillside and through a telescope proved to be an adult Golden Eagle.

Next stop was for lunch at a view point overlooking the sea where yet another condor appeared over the hillside (7<sup>th</sup> of the day). After lunch we boarded the vehicles for the 50 mile drive to San Simeon to look for Northern Elephant Seals. We arrived at the large lay-by (turnout) next to the Northern Elephant Seal haul-out. In the hot sunshine, tens of Turkey Vultures were in the air – soaring over the nearby fields and hills and American Kestrels were perched on pylons or telephone poles. We watched approximately 84 seals sleeping and basking on the sandy beach. With some careful observation we could see the huge male on the further beach and many young males and females

Heading back north we stopped briefly at Ragged Point for ice cream and a comfort stop entertained by Anna's Hummingbirds and Red-winged Blackbirds. We then settled back in our seats for the two hour journey back to the hotel passing lots of Turkey Vultures. The landscape was breathtaking and we had incredible views of the mountains and the glistening Pacific Ocean and even saw a whale breach and a few Humpbacks blowing. That evening we dined again at the lodge on steak and vegetables, washed down with wine and finished off with cheese & biscuits or chocolate brownies.

## Day 5

Wednesday 27th August

### Monterey Bay and Carmel Valley

We woke to a bright morning but a little cooler, however that was not going to last for long. John & Wendy's early morning quest produced American Robin as a new bird today. After our usual breakfast at the lodge we headed down to the wharf for a morning on the Sea Wolf II skippered again by John. We headed out west passing a few Elegant Terns and saw our first Humpback Whales before finding a school of Risso's Dolphins, one of which was 'head-slapping'. We had good views of at least 60, many with very white heads and were often visible before they surfaced. They gracefully emerged from the waves, their tall dorsal fins slowly moving through the water as they took in a big breath before going under again. They were swimming between some large Humpbacks who responded with some 'trumpet blows and the occasional lunge or breach. We also briefly saw three or four Pacific White-sided Dolphin, their characteristic rounded, curved dorsal darting through the water between the Risso's, with which they often associated.

As we left them we headed more south west, encountering a small group of Dall's Porpoises – they looked like mini Orcas as their black bodies with white markings were revealed when they surfaced. They stayed with us for a few minutes, coming closer and appearing with a splash at the bow. Seabirds started off quiet but it wasn't long before we were seeing lots of Sooty Shearwaters around the boat, and slightly less Black-vented Shearwaters and a few Pink-footed. We encountered many Common Guillemots and a few Rhinoceros Auklets, with a huge Black-footed Albatross passing the boat as we reached deeper water. For the final part of the morning cruise we joined a few other ships with at least 12 feeding Humpbacks and their attendant swarm of seals. We witnessed the occasional lunge feeding and lots of trumpet blowing before it was time to make our way back to the harbour. Passing the Point Pinos buoy there were now two Steller's Sea Lions hauled out!

Back on land we ate our lunch on the marina side before heading out to the Carmel Valley which was basking in hot sunshine. We dropped two off at the lodge and continued past Carmel Village into the dry chaparral. The first stop near Rana Ranch was productive with a few seeing a close Golden Eagle as it glided over the valley and then a good number of Western Bluebirds a few nice males plus females and juveniles. We also spotted an American Kestrel, House Finches, California Towhee, Lesser Goldfinch and a nice Black-headed Grosbeak.. A little further down the road we stopped at a dead tree, good for woodpeckers. Sure enough a few Acorn Woodpeckers came and went from the tree, the tell holes drilled in and filled with acorns indicating their presence. We also heard Nuttall's Woodpecker calling here but could not find it. Another short journey and Peter spoke of a good site for California Thrasher and one passed us as we left the minibus, later showing well in the scrub – and again a calling Nuttall's refused to show itself. The final stop was at Tassajarra Road, a place where Yellow-billed Magpies had been seen in past years, alas not this year. However we did add Lark Sparrow and Wild Turkey to the list. We returned back to the lodge in good time for some to relax by the pool, swim or go for a walk before another splendid dinner and completing our checklist.

## Day 6

Thursday 28th August

### Moss Landing area

Following breakfast with partly cloudy skies we headed north for a day's visit to the wetlands around Moss Landing. Our first port of call was Zmudowski's State Park, where there is a small freshwater lagoon alongside the sand dunes. As we passed through all the manicured strawberry and artichoke fields we saw our first Ring-billed Gulls and approaching the lagoon we saw four immaculate American White Pelicans. After parking we walked back to check the lagoon and surrounding habitats. The first bird to show itself was a nice Wrenit, one we had heard many times on this trip but the first one we had seen. On the mud we found Least and Western Sandpipers and three nice American Avocets with the peach flush to their head and necks. We got brief views of a Western Marsh Wren in the edges of the lagoon but the rushes had all died back because of the drought and we could not find any tree frogs.

Most of the activity centred on the lagoon with Mallard, Gadwall, Ruddy Ducks and a single Greater Scaup. A Northern Marsh Hawk flew over and battled with a pair of White-tailed Kite, resulting in panic amongst the water birds. However this brought into view both Lesser and Greater Yellowlegs, a few Marbled Godwits, Long-billed Curlew and American Whimbrel. Checking back in the reedy fringes, American Goldfinches feeding on seed heads, a couple of Common Yellowthroats showed themselves, and strangely a Downy Woodpecker was attacking a dried umbrellifer!! Next stop was Jetty Road leading to the Moss Landing State Park. The tide was coming in and hundreds of waders were gathering, including Long-billed Curlews, Marbled Godwits, Willets, and many Least Sandpipers. Amongst these we found a few Short-billed Dowitchers a Grey Plover (Black-bellied Plover) and some Whimbrel.

A little further along on the beach we saw two of the specially protected Snowy Plovers stood on the shingle and huge flocks of Elegant Terns flew from Elkhorn Slough to the sea, with a huge Caspian Gull sat on the beach with the gulls. Offshore fluking Humpbacks could be seen quite close to the Moss Landing buoy and more further out. In the harbour there was no raft of Sea Otters, but a few individuals lazily floating on their backs. However one was fairly close for photographing and it was eventually joined by a further four.

Everyone was enjoying their antics, photographing them as they rolled round in the water and took small paddle strokes with their rear paws to move, floating along on their backs. Common (Harbour) Seals meanwhile were sleeping on the sand banks. Lunch was taken at Phil's Snack Shack where we made use of his picnic tables overlooking a pool. In the trees a Snowy Egret stood out and a number Black-crowned Night Herons remained cryptic.

The last birding stop of the afternoon was to Moonglow Dairy near to the Moss Landing power station where we managed to see the locally scarce Tricolored Blackbird and Brown-headed Cowbirds with the dairy herd. These were numerous and part of large flocks of Common Starlings, Brewer's Blackbirds and Red-winged Blackbirds feeding below the feet of the cows in the open, dusty fields. As the birds took off, the scarlet red of the Red-winged and Tricoloured Blackbirds flashed out from their wings. We walked round the settling pools from the dairy and compared Western & Least Sandpipers stood together, and had good views of two Killdeer. Out on Elkhorn Slough a sleeping Clark's Grebe provided minutes of entertainment as Peter explained the plumage differences of this and Western Grebe and quite a few Sea Otters lazily swam in the water, being monitored by a group of scientists with radio telemetry. On the dusty walkways we could see the footprints of Racoons that had been here previously and saw a number of new butterflies including Mylitta Crescent, Western Pygmy Blue and White Checkered Skipper.

We finished off the afternoon with a visit to the local Wild Bird Centre where souvenirs and presents were bought before an early finish at the hotel for some to check the gardens or swim before dinner. Our final dinner at the lodge was spaghetti bolognaise and we retraced our day and sighting for the checklist.

## Day 7

Friday 29th August

### Monterey Bay area

Our last full day in Monterey started with the overnight mist and stayed present all morning. We headed down to Fisherman's Wharf after breakfast for our final morning on the Sea Wolf II. The sea was generally very quiet for the first 45 minutes then we found some feeding Humpback and with them their usual entourage of shearwaters, pelican and sea lion. This remained the pattern of the morning, finding small groups of feeding whales and birds. At one point a pod of Long-beaked Common Dolphins came into feed and some rode the bow wave. The only new species for the week were two Arctic Skuas (known as Parasitic Jaegers in the states) and we had another Black-footed Albatross fly past. Before heading back to land we came across a group of 12 Humpbacks, which was exciting to watch and one or two breached and lunge fed.

Arriving back a little late we headed straight to the mini bus to eat our sandwiches en route to the Monterey Aquarium where most of the group spent the afternoon enjoying the seahorses, jellyfish and shorebirds. We returned to the hotel to sort our bookings for our return flight and. We finished the evening with a splendid meal at the Fish Wife restaurant.

## Day 8

## Saturday 30th August

### Leave from San Francisco Airport

As the flight home was not until almost 4pm, we decided to take a quick trip north of the airport to the Golden Gate Bridge and a view over San Francisco.

After breakfast we packed and set off from our delightfully comfortable hotel. Our first port of call was the domestic airport at Monterey as Wendy and John were continuing their holiday with a hire car from here, and the rest of the group continued on into the city on Highway 101, passing the undulating streets we knew from movies and TV programmes. We crossed the bridge and drove up a hillside on the north side to a good viewpoint. Here we could look at San Francisco through the bridge. Although there was no fog, it was a little hazy but still a good view. Having taken the photos and admired the view of the bay, we re-joined the traffic on the bridge, this time going south and made our way to the airport, where we were reunited with our luggage from the hotel and checked in for the flight home. Peter bid farewell to the group as they went for their BA flight back to the UK.

The camaraderie within the group made this trip memorable and we saw a good selection of the habitat and wildlife to boot. Hopefully we will all meet up again on another tour!

## Day 9

## Sunday 31st August

Arrived London

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## Species Lists

Mammals (✓ = recorded but not counted)

	Common name	Scientific name	August							
			23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
1	Western Grey Squirrel	<i>Sciurus griseus</i>			1					
2	California Ground Squirrel	<i>Spermophilus beecheyi</i>		3	✓		✓	✓	✓	
3	European Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>				1				
4	Steller Sea Lion	<i>Eumetopias jubatus</i>				1		2		
5	California Sea Lion	<i>Zalophus californianus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
6	Northern Elephant Seal	<i>Mirounga angustirostris</i>					84			
7	Harbour Seal	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
8	Sea Otter	<i>Enhydra lutris</i>		✓	4	10		✓	20	10
9	Mule Deer	<i>Odocoileus hemionus</i>		3	✓		10	✓	3	
10	Minke Whale	<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>			1					
11	Humpback Whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>			35	30	4	40	6	40
12	Grey Whale	<i>Eschrichtius robustus</i>				1				
13	Long-beaked Common Dolphin	<i>Delphinus capensis</i>			12					50
14	Risso's Dolphin	<i>Grampus griseus</i>				40		500		
15	Pacific White-sided Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus obliquidens</i>						2		
16	Killer Whale	<i>Orcinus orca</i>			7					
17	Harbour Porpoise	<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>			4					
18	Dall's Porpoise	<i>Phocoenoides dalli</i>				12		6		

Birds (H = heard only)

1	Canada Goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓		
2	Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>						✓		
3	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>		1	✓		✓	✓		
4	Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>						11		
5	Greater Scaup	<i>Aythya marila</i>						1		
6	Surf Scoter	<i>Melanitta perspicillata</i>			1					
7	Ruddy Duck	<i>Oxyura jamaicensis</i>						5		
8	California Quail	<i>Callipepla californica</i>				✓	2			
9	Wild Turkey	<i>Meleagris gallopavo</i>					20			
10	Black-footed Albatross	<i>Phoebastria nigripes</i>			2		1		1	
11	Northern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>		1			1			
12	Hawaiian Petrel	<i>Pterodroma sandwichensis</i>			1					
13	Sooty Shearwater	<i>Puffinus griseus</i>		✓	✓	✓	500		✓	
14	Pink-footed Shearwater	<i>Puffinus creatopus</i>		4	6		6		8	
15	Black-vented Shearwater	<i>Puffinus opisthomelas</i>		5	100		100		100	
16	Pied-billed Grebe	<i>Podilymbus podiceps</i>						2		
17	Clark's Grebe	<i>Aechmophorus clarkii</i>						1		
18	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>						5		
19	Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>						4		
20	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>		1			2	✓	2	
21	Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>		1				2		
22	American White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i>						18		
23	Brown Pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
24	Brandt's Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax penicillatus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
25	Pelagic Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax pelagicus</i>		1	1		2		✓	
26	Double-crested Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax auritus</i>	✓				1	✓		
27	Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	5	✓	7	✓	✓	✓	✓	2

	Common name	Scientific name	August							
			23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
28	California Condor	<i>Gymnogyps californianus</i>				7				
29	Western Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>				1		1		
30	White-tailed Kite	<i>Elanus leucurus</i>				1		2		
31	Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>				1	1			
32	Cooper's Hawk	<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>								1
33	Northern Harrier	<i>Circus hudsonius</i>						1		
34	Red-shouldered Hawk	<i>Buteo lineatus</i>	1			2	1	1		1
35	Broad-winged Hawk	<i>Buteo platypterus</i>				8				
36	Red-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>	4		1			3	1	
37	American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>				10	1			
38	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>				1		1		
39	American Coot	<i>Fulica americana</i>			1					
40	Black Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus bachmani</i>		5	2					
41	Black-necked Stilt	<i>Himantopus mexicanus</i>								
42	American Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra americana</i>						3		
43	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>						1		
44	Semipalmated Plover	<i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>						3		
45	Killdeer	<i>Charadrius vociferus</i>						3		
46	Snowy Plover	<i>Charadrius nivosus</i>						4		
47	Short-billed Dowitcher	<i>Limnodromus griseus</i>						11		
48	Marbled Godwit	<i>Limosa fedoa</i>						✓		
49	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>		4			1	20		
50	Long-billed Curlew	<i>Numenius americanus</i>					1	✓		
51	Greater Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>						5		
52	Lesser Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa flavipes</i>						1		
53	Wandering Tattler	<i>Tringa incana</i>		1						
54	Willet	<i>Tringa semipalmata</i>		1				✓		
55	Black Turnstone	<i>Arenaria melanocephala</i>		✓		2	6			
56	Surfbird	<i>Aphriza virgata</i>		2	2					
57	Western Sandpiper	<i>Calidris mauri</i>						✓		
58	Least Sandpiper	<i>Calidris minutilla</i>						✓		
59	Red-necked Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>		✓	✓		✓		✓	
60	Heermann's Gull	<i>Larus heermanni</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	H	
61	Ring-billed Gull	<i>Larus delawarensis</i>						9		
62	California Gull	<i>Larus californicus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	H	
63	Western Gull	<i>Larus occidentalis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	H	
64	Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>					2	1		
65	Elegant Tern	<i>Thalasseus elegans</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
66	Forster's Tern	<i>Sterna forsteri</i>						6		
67	Arctic Skua	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>								2
68	Common Guillemot	<i>Uria aalge</i>		✓	✓		✓		✓	
69	Pigeon Guillemot	<i>Cepphus columba</i>					1			
70	Cassin's Auklet	<i>Ptychoramphus aleuticus</i>		2	3					
71	Rhinoceros Auklet	<i>Cerorhinca monocerata</i>			6		12		✓	
72	Rock Dove (Feral)	<i>Columba livia 'feral'</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
73	Band-tailed Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas fasciata</i>			2					
74	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓		
75	Mourning Dove	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
76	Great Horned Owl	<i>Bubo virginianus</i>				1				
77	Vaux's Swift	<i>Chaetura vauxi</i>				✓				
78	Anna's Hummingbird	<i>Calypte anna</i>		2	2	4		✓	✓	

	Common name	Scientific name	August							
			23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
79	Belted Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle alcyon</i>					1			
80	Acorn Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes formicivorus</i>		1		12	12			
81	Nuttall's Woodpecker	<i>Picoides nuttallii</i>					H			
82	Downy Woodpecker	<i>Picoides pubescens</i>						1		
83	Black Phoebe	<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>					1	5		
84	Olive-sided Flycatcher	<i>Contopus cooperi</i>				1				
85	Willow Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax traillii</i>				1				
86	Hutton's Vireo	<i>Vireo huttoni</i>				2			2	
87	Steller's Jay	<i>Cyanocitta stelleri</i>				✓	2			
88	California Scrub Jay	<i>Aphelocoma californica</i>	✓	1	2	✓	✓	✓	✓	
89	American Crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
90	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>				8				
91	Oak Titmouse	<i>Baeolophus inornatus</i>				1		✓	1	
92	Chestnut-backed Chickadee	<i>Poecile rufescens</i>				✓	✓	✓	2	
93	Violet-green Swallow	<i>Tachycineta thalassina</i>				1				
94	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
95	American Cliff Swallow	<i>Petrochelidon pyrrhonota</i>						2		
96	American Bushtit	<i>Psaltriparus minimus</i>			5	12	✓	✓		
97	Wrentit	<i>Chamaea fasciata</i>				H	2	1		
98	Marsh Wren	<i>Cistothorus palustris</i>						3		
99	Bewick's Wren	<i>Thryomanes bewickii</i>				1		1		1
100	California Thrasher	<i>Toxostoma redivivum</i>					1		1	
101	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
102	Western Bluebird	<i>Sialia mexicana</i>			4		30			
103	American Robin	<i>Turdus migratorius</i>					3	1		
104	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>			✓					
105	House Finch	<i>Haemorhous mexicanus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
106	American Goldfinch	<i>Spinus tristis</i>						✓		
107	Lesser Goldfinch	<i>Spinus psaltria</i>		30	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
108	Orange-crowned Warbler	<i>Leiothlypis celata</i>				1				
109	Common Yellowthroat	<i>Geothlypis trichas</i>						2		
110	American Yellow Warbler	<i>Setophaga aestiva</i>				1				
111	Black-throated Grey Warbler	<i>Setophaga nigrescens</i>				1				
112	Townsend's Warbler	<i>Setophaga townsendi</i>				1				
113	Wilson's Warbler	<i>Cardellina pusilla</i>				3				
114	Tricolored Blackbird	<i>Agelaius tricolor</i>						✓		
115	Red-winged Blackbird	<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>		✓		✓		✓		
116	Brown-headed Cowbird	<i>Molothrus ater</i>						✓		
117	Brewer's Blackbird	<i>Euphagus cyanocephalus</i>			✓	H	✓	✓		
118	Song Sparrow	<i>Melospiza melodia</i>				2		✓		
119	White-crowned Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia leucophrys</i>						✓		
120	Dark-eyed Junco	<i>Junco hyemalis</i>		3						
121	Savannah Sparrow	<i>Passerculus sandwichensis</i>						✓		
122	California Towhee	<i>Melospiza crissalis</i>		2	✓	✓		✓		
123	Black-headed Grosbeak	<i>Pheucticus melanocephalus</i>					1			

## Other fauna

American Lady, Red Admiral, Mylitta Crescent, Lorquin's Admiral, Cabbage White; Western-tailed Blue, Western Swallowtail, Anise Swallowtail, Cloudless Sulphur, Hoary Comma, Common Buckeye, White Checkered Skipper, Western Pygmy Blue and Sandhill Skipper

Blue-eyed Darner, Striped Meadowhawk.

Western Fence Lizard, Ocean Sunfish (*Mola mola*); Egg-yolk Jelly; Moon Jelly, Purple-striped Jelly, *Velevella velevella* (By-the-wind-sailors).

## Map of whale watching tracks

