

# Whales & Dolphins of Monterey Bay

Naturetrek Tour Report

26 August – 3 September 2019



'Casper' the albino Risso's Dolphin



Pacific (Sierran) Tree Frog



Elegant & Caspian Terns



Pacific White-sided Dolphin

Report and images by Peter Dunn



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Tour participants: Peter Dunn & Ian Nicholson (leaders) with 10 Naturetrek Clients

## Summary

The beautiful 'Big Sur coast' of California is an ideal setting for this wildlife tour which, in addition to whale-watching excursions, included such highlights as Sea Otters, Elephant Seals, California Condor and a great selection of seabirds, all amid a setting that is strangely familiar from countless depictions on film and TV.

## Day 1

**Monday 26th August**

### London to San Francisco

Peter and Ian were already in San Francisco along with two clients, awaiting the arrival of the British Airways flight from London. All passengers arrived; alas, their bags didn't, but arrangements were made to have them delivered to the Contenta Inn the next day and we were soon heading south in our pre-hired vehicles on the US 101. We travelled along the highway and away from the suburbs of San Francisco, passing Moffatt Airbase, through Silicon Valley and we had excellent views of the mountains and hills of the Diablo Range to our left. The late-afternoon sunshine highlighted the dry grassy scrub known as chaparral and small flocks of Canada Geese crossed the road heading for roost. Because of the later flight and it getting dark, we decided to take a more direct route to Carmel Valley, via Salinas and over Laureless Grade into the valley, with a bonus for the front-seat passengers of a Great Horned Owl flying from the top of a telegraph pole.

We arrived at our accommodation in Carmel Valley Lodge about 8.20pm local time where, after accessing our rooms, some partook in the cold deli supper made for us by chef Jerome, before retiring to bed after a long, long day.

## Day 2

**Tuesday 27th August**

### Monterey Bay and Monterey Headland

The morning started bright and clear in Carmel Valley and we sat down to a fine breakfast of bacon, scrambled eggs, toast and cereals, all very welcome. We saw Anna's Hummingbird feeding in the flower beds outside the dining-room window and a Black Phoebe was flycatching around the pool.

We set off for Fisherman's Wharf in the bright sunshine but soon came into overcast conditions as the marine layer had moved into the coastal strip. As we walked along Fisherman's Wharf, we had our first good sightings of the large Western Gulls and Harbour (Common) Seal and Red-necked Phalaropes. The coarse barking of California Sea Lions echoed across the harbour while the smell of fish from the fishing boats and the sea lions was ever present!

With all the paperwork organised prior to our arrival, we strolled over to Discovery Whale Watch and they supplied us with some warm clothing to compensate for the late luggage arrival, after which we listened to the safety briefing and climbed aboard the Pacifica – a new vessel commissioned especially for whale watching. Captain Rod was tasked in taking us out and our naturalist was Eric, ably assisted by deckhand (and naturalist) Pete.

With only 40 passengers there was plenty of room on the deck and we slowly headed out of the harbour past the coastguard pier where the smell and sight of over 200 California Sea Lions was memorable. There was also a good selection of Brandt's Cormorants and Heermann's and Western Gulls

With the fog remaining fairly thick, Captain Rod decided to head west towards the canyon edge in search of whales. Initially it was hard to see or envisage seeing anything in the fog but as with most days, it became patchy and visibility continuously increased and decreased so when suddenly out of the fog another whale-watch boat appeared, we had a feeling something was about. We then came across a feeding group of around 10 Humpback Whales, six of which were feeding together. We spent some time watching them surface with their entourage of California Sea Lions and then deep dive when their tails (flukes) were lifted high out for the water. At one point they all surfaced together in what is called a lunge feed, as their gaping mouths and extended throats came straight out of the water, before slowly sinking back. A fantastic sight. All the time there were Sooty Shearwaters and various gulls flying about looking for scraps.

After spending 40 minutes watching these huge animals moving around the boat, we pressed on north-west in search of more wildlife sightings. It was difficult to find any whales in the fog, but birds species kept flying past the boat, including a huge Black-footed Albatross, Caspian Tern and surprisingly a Peregrine Falcon which rocketed past, flying south.

Turning and following the canyon edge, we eventually came across the feeding group of Humpbacks again and this time as well as the behaviours we saw before, we saw one 'slapping' its huge wing-like pectoral fin on the sea's surface and another animal launched itself out of the water for two breaches. What a way to finish the morning's boat trip and a great introduction to the bay.

We arrived back at Fisherman's Wharf just after 1pm and adjourned to the nearby Ablonetti's Restaurant where we sampled various fish dishes including clam chowder in a bread bowl or crispy fish sandwiches.

Having satisfied our hunger, we returned to our vehicle where Peter and Ian took us on a coastal journey around Monterey headland and 17 Mile Drive, pointing out various landmarks and wildlife which included White-tailed Kite, Mule Deer, Sea Otters, Black Oystercatchers and Turnstones. Photos were taken of many of these but one of the important ones was the Lone Cypress, which is a famous advertising landmark of the area and around 250 years old.

Having done all this, it was time to make our way back towards the Contenta Inn via Carmel-by-the-Sea, stopping for supplies at the local Safeways on the way.

With body clocks still out of sync, it was appreciated to have a bit of down time before our first 'Jerome' dinner and completing our checklist. The baggage from London also arrived at the Inn that evening.

## Day 3

Wednesday 28th August

### Monterey Bay

The morning was overcast as the marine layer had penetrated far up the valley overnight and after breakfast we headed down to Monterey where it appeared initially thicker but as we approached the coast it became evident

that it was high and the sea looked relatively clear. We had our packed lunches supplied by Jerome and headed for the boat. This morning we were on the Pacifica again, this time captained by Danny, with Katlyn as the naturalist and Kevin the deckhand. We slowly left the harbour, cruising along the outer wall where large numbers of California Sea Lions haul out and this hit all our senses of sight, sound and smell!! One or two grey-backed, red-billed Heermann's Gulls mingled with the numerous Western Gulls and Brandt's Cormorants and some Black Turnstone feed amongst the rocks. We then headed out north west in search of whales. As we proceeded, huge rafts of Sooty Shearwaters were encountered and an occasional larger Pink-footed Shearwater was seen. We continued searching and then eventually came across a feeding group of Humpback Whales. We stayed with these animals for nearly 40 minutes as they fed around the boat affording excellent views. Again, all the above senses were treated, which included the veggie smell of whale breath!! Cameras went into overdrive as some of the animals came quite close as our boat sat motionless on the sea.

We reluctantly left this spectacle in search of more animals and about 25 minutes later the tell-tale tall fins and white bodies of Risso's Dolphins were sighted. We passed by a number of Ocean Sunfish as we caught up to the dolphins and then suddenly, we were surrounded with a huge spread out pod, estimated at over 100 animals. As we enjoyed this sighting, we spotted other species amongst them. A few smaller Pacific White-sided Dolphins mingled with this large pod and a small group of about six to eight Northern Right Whale Dolphins swam past. The latter are strange-looking creatures with no dorsal fins and a black shiny body tapering to a small fluked tail.

Again, we had to drag ourselves away and continue our search, this time heading south. This did not produce any more whales, but some new bird sightings included a nice Buller's Shearwater and an Arctic Skua (Parasitic Jaeger). As we headed back towards Monterey for lunch, we found two nice Steller Sea Lions basking on the Point Pinos buoy.

We ate our sandwiches on the dock of the whale-watch centre and then boarded the Chubasco for an afternoon visit to the bay. Katlyn and Kevin were with us again and this time it was captain JJ steering the boat. We initially headed south past the buoy, with the Steller Sea Lions still resting and, this time, came across the 100-strong pod of Risso's Dolphins in a different place. We spent some time observing them again before turning north in search of more whales.

We came across an even larger group of feeding Humpbacks together with their escorting sea lions and gulls. There must have been around 17-18 animals here and we had some incredibly close views (sound and smell also) as they fed in packs. Unfortunately, they were not lunge feeding, but one did occasionally lift its head clean out of the water. Other sightings included a few more Arctic Skuas and a nice sizeable flock of Elegant Terns with their clean orange bills and two diminutive Harbour Porpoise. The afternoon trip is always a little shorter than the morning and these sightings had brought us to the end of our session in the bay and we headed back to the dock, thanking all the crew for the great day on the water.

We returned to the Contenta Inn which was again basking in sunshine and rested/cleaned up for our evening meal, once again prepared by Jerome and also completing out checklist. We retired for a good night's sleep ready for our long day travelling the Big Sur, the next day.

## Day 4

Thursday 29th August

### Big Sur to San Simeon

We woke to a cloudy sky and misty dampness in the air but after our breakfast and as we headed along Carmel Valley towards the coast, the cloud started to break up to blue sky. For the rest of the day we had wall-to-wall blue sky and warm temperatures.

We headed south along the famous California Highway 1, passing through Carmel Highlands and our first stop was to photograph Bixby Bridge, a local landmark and recently made famous by an American series called 'Big Little Lies'. We continued on towards Andrew Molera State Park but before we reached there, Peter spotted a California Condor over some nearby hills. We quickly pulled off the road and we soon watching not one but two adults soaring above the hills, a great sighting and much relief for the leaders, as one box was ticked! We drove on to Andrew Molera SP where we had a short walk down the road alongside the river. Initially it seemed quiet but soon a band of Chestnut-backed Chickadees appeared and with them we found a number of striking Townsend Warblers, a Pacific Coast Flycatcher, Hutton's Vireo and a male Wilson's Warbler. Walking back to the cars we saw numerous Turkey Vultures and a Red-tailed Hawk hovering over the chaparral.

We continued onto a site on the road known locally as seven pines (now only six) to look for more raptors. Although a little distant, we found yet another California Condor, a few American Kestrels and one or two White-throated Swifts. Below us California Sea Lions called and played in the kelp.

Once more on the road we moved to our lunch spot at Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park. Almost immediately Peter picked up a distant condor then Ian found two more – a six-condor day so far! While eating lunch, we were attended by a family party of Steller's Jays and over the hills Cliff Swallows hawked insects. Once lunch was finished and rest rooms used, it was time to head south to San Simeon to visit the elephant seal haul-out.

We drove the scenic road, watching the hills and sea as we went and a party of distant Humpback Whales blows were spotted, and everyone marvelled at the rugged coastal views in perfect light.

At around 1:30pm, after 92 miles, we arrived on the 'pull-out' above a small number of Northern Elephant Seal, some larger males reared up, staking their claim while we watched, but all the others just slept or flicked sand over their backs to act as a sun screen. Other sightings here included a group of Harbour Seals hauled out on rocks, two Black Oystercatchers and the usual Turkey Vultures. Having read the notices and taken our photos, it was time to head back north.

We had the customary stop at Ragged Point for a comfort stop and ice creams, the only wildlife here being Anna's Hummingbird and Red-winged Blackbirds. Driving north we stopped near Lucia to watch an active feeding group of Humpback Whales with some lunging, spy-hopping and chin-slapping and also at a pull-out with great photographic views of the coast.

Our final stop near Big Sur Station brought us our seventh and final condor over the hills and a photogenic Anna's Hummingbird.

We arrive back out our Inn just after 6pm, where we rested and changed as we ate at the local pub called the Running Iron, with some true American hospitality.

## Day 5

Friday 30th August

### Monterey Bay & free time in Monterey/Aquarium

The morning dawned bright and clear but decidedly cooler, as we finished breakfast and headed down to Monterey for our morning's sailing. As we approached the coast, we could see that there was a fog out in the bay but it was patchy and gradually lifting. We were on board the new boat Pacifica again, with Captain Rod, naturalist Katelyn and deckhand Andrew. Captain Rod had some information about another species of whale, so we started to head out west at great speed, pausing to look for some Risso's Dolphins which appeared and disappeared in the fog. It took us an hour and half to reach the centre of the canyon where we started seeing birds which included Pink-footed Shearwaters and a nice Black-footed Albatross. Suddenly there was a call of Blue Whale and a lucky few in the front of the boat saw the tall spout and grey back, characteristics of this species. Unfortunately, it quickly hoisted its tail fluke into the air and did a deep dive. We waited around for as long as we dared, but these dives can last over 20 minutes; when it did surface it had travelled well over a mile which put it out of our reach because of timings. It was a gamble that had paid off for a lucky few, but we reluctantly had to turn back towards Monterey.

This gave us time to join some other boats nearer to the town to watch a feeding group of Humpback Whales which exhibited some 'tail lobbing' or 'tail slapping'. This was a nice bonus for the aborted whale hunt out west and so everyone got to see some whale activity.

Back at shore we headed to the vehicles where we got out lunches and cameras sorted as Peter and Ian delivered us to the Monterey Aquarium, where we spent three hours exploring the exhibits like the amazing jelly-fish displays, the *Mola mola* and kelp-forest tanks and the rehabilitation of injured Sea Otters. After a fact-filled afternoon Peter and Ian returned to pick the group up at 5pm and we made our way back to our accommodation in Carmel Valley to prepare for our evening meal and complete our checklists.

## Day 6

Saturday 31st August

### Moss Landing Area

The morning in Carmel was bright sunny but chilly as we went for breakfast but changed as we drove north towards Moss Landing. We started our journey by crossing Laureles Grade and past Laguna Seca racetrack onto Highway 1 North. The fog closed in for a while then thinned as we passed all the artichoke fields at the approach to Moss Landing. Peter called into the café to order our lunch whilst Ian headed straight to Zmudowski's State Beach where we all then regrouped. This site is quiet and off the beaten track and has a nice reed/rush-surrounded pond. Immediately we had American Goldfinches feeding on thistles and then Common Yellowthroats. Peter and Ian challenged the group to find the tiny Pacific (Sierran) Tree Frogs and as soon as we got our eyes accustomed to what to look for, there were many of these tiny amphibians clinging to the vegetation. Some were bright green, some bronze brown and some a mixture – great for photography. We continued checking the vegetation and pond, adding American Avocet, Gadwall, Pied-billed Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant and Western Marsh Wrens. Malcolm photographed a White-tailed Kite and a Red-tailed

Hawk sat on a fence post. Loud croaky calls alerted us to two huge Caspian Terns checking the pond out and an American White Pelican flew over (adding to the six seen by Peter's car as we delivered our lunch order). An unusual sight was a Virginia Rail which stood motionless in the middle of the road, the reason then becoming clear as some saw a Long-tailed Weasel cross the road, obviously hunting the numerous Brush Rabbits we had seen earlier.

It was time to move onto Jetty Road at Moss Landing and we had just caught the tide right, as it was rising and pushing the waders into feeding flocks. We identified many Least and a few Western Sandpipers, Grey and Semi-palmated Plovers, Marbled Godwits, Long-billed Curlew, Willet and one or two Short-billed Dowitchers. Most of the group walked the roadway as the vehicle leap-frogged them. In the slough, huge flocks of Elegant Terns had gathered close to the road with a few huge Caspian Terns with them. One of the latter was colour-ringed with white-over-blue and metal on the left leg and red or orange on the right with white A450 etched. We checked the beach here and found quite a number of the protected Snowy Plovers mingled with Sanderling and also an adult Glaucous-winged Gull.

Walking further, we came to the car park which at first only had one Sea Otter offshore; spending some time checking, we found at least five in the area, but this was an unusually low count. Peter checked with a local friend who told us over the last week the weather and sea conditions had been so calm most of the otters were spending their time outside the mouth of the slough in the sea. However, here we also added Black-necked (Eared) Grebe, Red-throated Diver and a female Surf Scoter.

Lunch called and we ate out substantial pre-ordered sandwiches at Phil's Snack Shack, overlooking part of the water that flows through the area. Here we had good comparisons of Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs, Black-necked Stilts and a single Pectoral Sandpiper. As usual, high in the eucalyptus tree were two Black-crowned Night Herons.

Once rested, fed and watered, we headed to Moonglow Dairy where we walked down to the banks of the Slough. The slurry pits were alive with Red-necked Phalaropes and along the paths we found American Yellow Warbler and Song Sparrows, Western Pygmy Blue and Painted Lady butterflies and a hairy red fly, *Adejeania vexatrix*. Leaving the site, we saw Red-winged and Tri-coloured Blackbirds and Brown-headed Cowbirds.

Our last stop was at Kirby Road on the side of Elkhorn Slough where the high tide had pushed the waders on to the shallow pools. There was nothing new here, but we had good views of phalaropes, sandpipers and stilts.

We set off back towards Carmel at 3pm and arrived back after 4.30 where some relaxed and others went for an ice cream. We then regrouped at 6.45pm to complete our checklist before our last Jerome dinner of tasty lasagne.

## Day 7

Sunday 1st September

### Monterey Bay and Carmel Valley Road

We set off after breakfast in bright sunshine and although there was fog around the harbour, it soon cleared as we headed west on board the Pacifica with Captain Rod, naturalist Eric and deckhand Kevin. It was Labour Day holiday weekend in Monterey, and it would be busy, so it was nice to escape out into the bay! With clear visibility

after 20 minutes, we headed towards Moss Landing canyon where there was reported whale activity. Our first sighting were two or three Humpbacks lazily moving along and, after some time with them, we continued north.

Arriving over the deep water of the canyon with Moss Landing power station 'twin towers' visible on shore, we found ourselves surrounded by Risso's Dolphins, milling about in small groups and in amongst them was an albino animal which had been nicknamed 'Casper'. Other animals were partially leaping from the water performing 'head-slapping' displays. In amongst the Risso's were a few Pacific White-sided Dolphins and all the time Sooty Shearwaters were winging past. We continued on to a bird-feeding frenzy as a Brown Booby had been reported earlier in the day, but this particular group was made of Sooty Shearwaters, gulls and Brown Pelicans.

We started to make our way back south towards Monterey, stopping to watch small feeding groups of Humpback Whales and being passed by the occasional small group of Risso's Dolphins, and arrived back into Monterey Harbour just before 1pm to be greeted by hot sunshine and bank-holiday crowds. As this was the last boat tour for this group, client Ian gave a vote of thanks to the captain and crew and passed an envelope of appreciation to be shared amongst the people we had dealt with during our week's stay.

Some delayed their return to the motel to catch up with last-minute shopping, whilst others went straight back for a siesta in the hot afternoon sun, with a plan to all meet up again at 4.30pm for a short trip up into the hills east of the village. Only four opted for the trip and we drove all the way to Tassajara Road where it was hot. However, we managed to see many Lark Sparrows, Western Bluebirds and California Towhee. We moved back down the road toward Carmel and looked over a large field bordered by trees. It was starting to cool down and we watched an American Kestrel catching prey and a Red-tailed Hawk soaring over the hills. Suddenly some bird calls alerted us to a flock of Bushtits – the American equivalent to European Long-tailed Tits, as they fed around a berry tree. In amongst them, we identified a juvenile Spotted Towhee, Dark-eyed Junco and a surprise Red-eyed Vireo.

With time ticking on, we returned to the Contenta Inn to get ready for our last meal together at the Running Iron pub.

## Day 8

**Monday 2nd September**

### Leave from San Francisco Airport

With the group's return flight being around 4.30pm, and this being Labour Day and heavy holiday traffic expected, at 10.30am we loaded the bags into Miriam's pickup truck and started to make the journey to San Francisco International Airport the flight home.

## Day 9

**Tuesday 3rd September**

### Arrive London

The plane arrived safely, and the members of the group said their goodbyes in the baggage reclaim.

## Species Lists

### Mammals (✓=recorded but not counted)

	Common name	Scientific name	August/September								
			26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	
1	Eastern Grey Squirrel	<i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>							1		
2	California Ground Squirrel	<i>Spermophilus beecheyi</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3	Brush Rabbit	<i>Sylvilagus bachmani</i>							4		
4	Big Brown Bat	<i>Eptesicus fuscus</i>			1						
5	Steller Sea Lion	<i>Eumetopias jubatus</i>			2						
6	California Sea Lion	<i>Zalophus californianus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
7	Harbour Seal	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	20	✓		
8	Sea Otter	<i>Enhydra lutris</i>	1	25	2		5	6	6		
9	Long-tailed Weasel	<i>Mustela frenata</i>						1			
10	Mule Deer	<i>Odocoileus hemionus</i>		5		3	2				
11	Blue Whale	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>					1				
12	Humpback Whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>		10	17	10	9		14		
13	Risso's Dolphin	<i>Grampus griseus</i>			100		2		60		
14	Pacific White-sided Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus obliquidens</i>			5				5		
15	Northern Right Whale Dolphin	<i>Lissodelphis borealis</i>			6						
16	Harbour Porpoise	<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>			2						

### Birds

1	California Quail	<i>Callipepla californica</i>							30	40
2	Wild Turkey	<i>Meleagris gallopavo</i>								35
3	Canada Goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	2	35	1	10
4	Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>						1		
5	Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>						2		
6	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>		3				✓		
7	Surf Scoter	<i>Melanitta perspicillata</i>						1		
8	White-collared Swift	<i>Streptoprocne zonaris</i>				2				
9	Anna's Hummingbird	<i>Calypte anna</i>		2	2	4	1	2	3	4
10	Rock Dove (Feral)	<i>Columba livia 'feral'</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
11	Band-tailed Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas fasciata</i>				3			1	
12	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>		✓		1	✓	✓	✓	✓
13	Mourning Dove	<i>Zenaidura macroura</i>							✓	✓
14	Virginia Rail	<i>Rallus limicola</i>						1		
15	Pied-billed Grebe	<i>Podilymbus podiceps</i>						4		
16	Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>						1		
17	Black Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus bachmani</i>		4		2	6			
18	Black-necked Stilt	<i>Himantopus mexicanus</i>						✓		
19	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>						2		
20	Semipalmated Plover	<i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>						✓		
21	Killdeer	<i>Charadrius vociferus</i>						6		
22	Snowy Plover	<i>Charadrius nivosus</i>						6		
23	Whimbrel (American)	<i>Numenius phaeopus hudsonicus</i>					2	1		
24	Long-billed Curlew	<i>Numenius americanus</i>						10		
25	Marbled Godwit	<i>Limosa fedoa</i>			4		6	✓		
26	Black Turnstone	<i>Arenaria melanocephala</i>		4	2		8	1		
27	Surfbird	<i>Calidris virgata</i>		1						
28	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>						25		
29	Least Sandpiper	<i>Calidris minutilla</i>						✓		

	Common name	Scientific name	August/September								
			26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	
30	Pectoral Sandpiper	<i>Calidris melanotos</i>							1		
31	Western Sandpiper	<i>Calidris mauri</i>							6		
32	Short-billed Dowitcher	<i>Limnodromus griseus</i>							3		
33	Red-necked Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	
34	Spotted Sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularius</i>						1	1		
35	Wandering Tattler	<i>Tringa incana</i>		1				2			
36	Lesser Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa flavipes</i>							10		
37	Willet	<i>Tringa semipalmata</i>									
38	Greater Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>							12		
39	Heermann's Gull	<i>Larus heermanni</i>		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	
40	Ring-billed Gull	<i>Larus delawarensis</i>							✓		
41	California Gull	<i>Larus californicus</i>		✓	✓			✓	2	✓	
42	Glaucous-winged Gull	<i>Larus glaucescens</i>							1		
43	Western Gull	<i>Larus occidentalis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
44	Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>		1					13	5	
45	Elegant Tern	<i>Thalasseus elegans</i>			60		20	200		✓	
46	Parasitic Jaeger (Arctic Skua)	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>			4		1			2	
47	Common Murre (Guillemot)	<i>Uria aalge</i>		✓	✓			✓		✓	
48	Pigeon Guillemot	<i>Cephus columba</i>		1							
49	Cassin's Auklet	<i>Ptychoramphus aleuticus</i>									1
50	Rhinoceros Auklet	<i>Cerorhinca monocerata</i>		6	5			4			4
51	Red-throated Loon (Diver)	<i>Gavia stellata</i>							1		
52	Black-footed Albatross	<i>Phoebastria nigripes</i>		1				1			
53	Buller's Shearwater	<i>Ardenna bulleri</i>			1						
54	Sooty Shearwater	<i>Ardenna grisea</i>		300	600			300		500	
55	Pink-footed Shearwater	<i>Ardenna creatopus</i>			5			3			
56	Brandt's Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax penicillatus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
57	Pelagic Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax pelagicus</i>			1			1			
58	Double-crested Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax auritus</i>	1						12		
59	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>							2		
60	Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>						2	2		1
61	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>						8	10		
62	Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>		1					5		
63	American White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i>							7		
64	Brown Pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	
65	Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	✓	✓	3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
66	California Condor	<i>Gymnogyps californianus</i>				7					
67	White-tailed Kite	<i>Elanus leucurus</i>							1		
68	Cooper's Hawk	<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>									1
69	Red-shouldered Hawk	<i>Buteo lineatus</i>					2		1		
70	Red-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>	2				2		8	4	4
71	Great Horned Owl	<i>Bubo virginianus</i>	1		1						
72	Belted Kingfisher	<i>Megasceryle alcyon</i>						1			
73	Acorn Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes formicivorus</i>					4	1	4	5	5
74	Nuttall's Woodpecker	<i>Dryobates nuttallii</i>									2
75	Hairy Woodpecker	<i>Leuconotopicus villosus</i>								1	1
76	American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>					3			2	3
77	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>		1	1		2				
78	Black Phoebe	<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>		2	1		1	1	3	2	1
79	Pacific-slope Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax difficilis</i>					1				
80	Hutton's Vireo	<i>Vireo huttoni</i>					1				

	Common name	Scientific name	August/September								
			26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	
81	Red-eyed Vireo	<i>Vireo olivaceus</i>								1	
82	Steller's Jay	<i>Cyanocitta stelleri</i>				10				2	
83	California Scrub Jay	<i>Aphelocoma californica</i>			1	3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
84	American Crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
85	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>				1					
86	Chestnut-backed Chickadee	<i>Poecile rufescens</i>				6					
87	Violet-green Swallow	<i>Tachycineta thalassina</i>									2
88	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>		✓	✓	2		✓	✓	4	
89	American Cliff Swallow	<i>Petrochelidon pyrrhonota</i>				20					15
90	American Bushtit	<i>Psaltriparus minimus</i>			15					15	30
91	Wren	<i>Chamaea fasciata</i>				2					
92	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	<i>Regulus calendula</i>									1
93	Marsh Wren	<i>Cistothorus palustris</i>						10			
94	Bewick's Wren	<i>Thryomanes bewickii</i>		1		1		1			
95	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>			1	✓					
96	Western Bluebird	<i>Sialia mexicana</i>				1			✓	10	
97	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>						1			
98	House Finch	<i>Haemorhous mexicanus</i>						✓	✓		
99	American Goldfinch	<i>Spinus tristis</i>						8			5
100	Song Sparrow	<i>Melospiza melodia</i>		2				✓			
101	Lincoln's Sparrow	<i>Melospiza lincolni</i>		1						1	
102	White-crowned Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia leucophrys</i>									
103	Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon)	<i>Junco hyemalis</i>				10		1	1	1	
104	Lark Sparrow	<i>Chondestes grammacus</i>							20	5	
105	Spotted Towhee	<i>Pipilo maculatus</i>							1		
106	California Towhee	<i>Melospiza crissalis</i>		1		1			2		
107	Tricolored Blackbird	<i>Agelaius tricolor</i>						10			
108	Red-winged Blackbird	<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>	✓		2	✓		✓			
109	Brown-headed Cowbird	<i>Molothrus ater</i>						✓			
110	Brewer's Blackbird	<i>Euphagus cyanocephalus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
111	Great-tailed Grackle	<i>Quiscalus mexicanus</i>						6			
112	Common Yellowthroat	<i>Geothlypis trichas</i>						10			
113	American Yellow Warbler	<i>Setophaga aestiva</i>				1		1			
114	Townsend's Warbler	<i>Setophaga townsendi</i>				4					
115	Wilson's Warbler	<i>Cardellina pusilla</i>				1					

## Other Taxa

Western Tiger Swallowtail, *Papilio rutulus*

Fiery Skipper, *Hylephila phyleus*

Red Admiral, *Vanessa atalanta*

Monarch, *Danaus plexippus*

Blue-eyed Darner, *Rhionaeschna multicolor*

Western Fence Lizard, *Sceloporus occidentalis*

Sea Nettle Jelly, *Chrysaora fuscescens*

Ocean Sunfish, *Mola mola*

Anise Swallowtail, *Papilio zelicaon*

Cabbage White, *Pieris rapae*

Lorquin's Admiral, *Limenitis lorquini*

Black Saddlebags, *Tramea lacerata*

Pacific (Sierran) Tree Frog, *Pseudacris regilla*

hairy red fly, *Adejeania vexatrix*

Moon Jelly, *Aurelia aurita*

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## Map of some of the boat days

