
**Guthrie, D.A., "Bird Surveys along the Santa Clara River and Its Tributaries
near Valencia, California, 1997" (June 23, 1997; 1997A)**

Original in Matt Carpenter's
Office

1997

BIRD SURVEYS ALONG THE SANTA CLARA RIVER AND ITS TRIBUTARIES

NEAR VALENCIA, CALIFORNIA, 1997

in town full
6/27 - 28/97

list to Eric S.
entB. JH
Frge
Ross

nesting Vireos in Castaic San Luis river (see map)

Prepared for:

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Lib: Annual Vireo Survey
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June 23, 1997

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**Bird Surveys along the Santa Clara River and its Tributaries
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Nature and Scope of Surveys

During the spring and early summer of 1997 surveys were conducted along a section of the Santa Clara River and its tributaries in the vicinity of Valencia, California to determine presence or absence of Least Bell's Vireo and other Species of Concern. Numbers of all species observed were noted, and special attention was placed on locating species considered rare and endangered.

Each survey was conducted on foot by observers well acquainted with both visual and auditory patterns of southern California birds. All surveys occurred between 6 and 10 a.m. If no vireos were found during the first two surveys, calls of Least Bell's Vireo were played during subsequent censuses to elicit response from territorial males. Survey routes were designed to cover all areas of each section of the river, with emphasis placed on wetter habitats where Least Bell's Vireos and other sensitive riparian species are most likely to occur. Personnel for all surveys were Daniel A. Guthrie, Richard F. Clements, and Judith A. Sugden.

To facilitate surveys, the area was divided into eight sections (Figure 1). Delineation of the eight areas and comments on each follow. Surveys of the normally dry sections of the river system (Areas 6-8) where Least Bell's Vireos have not been observed in the past were conducted twice during the nesting season. The second survey was delayed until June to insure that late arriving species such as Yellow-billed Cuckoo and Willow Flycatcher would not be missed. Surveys of the remaining sections of the Santa Clara River (Areas 1-5) were conducted according to the protocol outlined by the Fish and Wildlife Service (Appendix 1), except that surveys were limited to 6 in number.

Habitat Condition and Bird Observations.

Rainfall during 1997 was good during the early winter, but there was little rainfall during the spring, resulting in fairly dry conditions away from the river and little runoff. The result was generally dry conditions in intermittent sections of streams, such as Castaic Creek and San Francisquito Creek. However, lack of spring flooding resulted in luxuriant growth along the main section of the Santa Clara river below Boquet Canyon Road. Above Boquet Canyon, the river was dry throughout the study period.

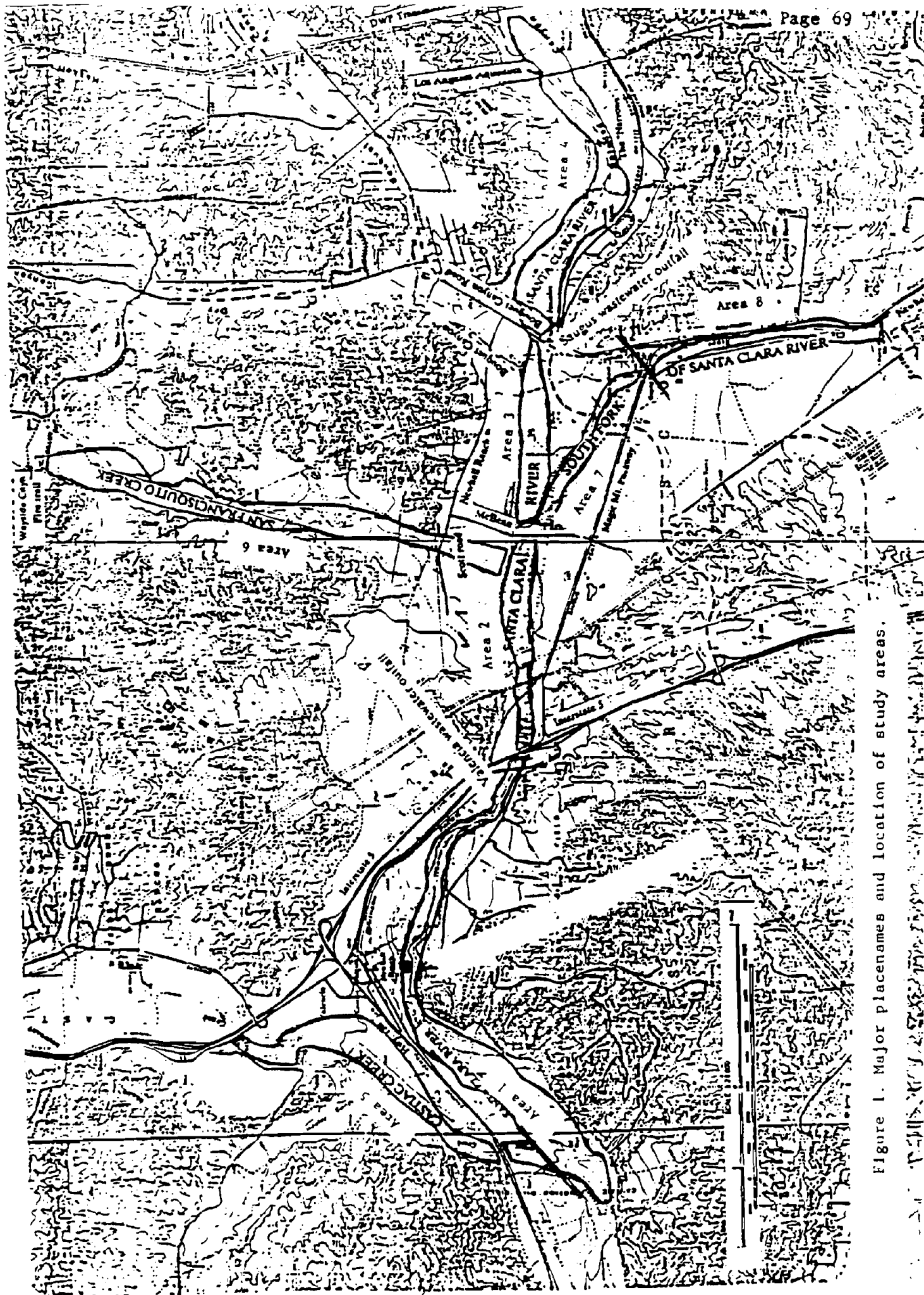


Figure 1. Major placenames and location of study areas.

Tables 1 through 8 present bird observations in each of the specific study areas for 1997. Different species breed at different times of the year. In general, species are most easily observed when they are actively defending territories by song during the establishment of breeding pairs. Once pairs are established and nesting begins song often decreases and the numbers of birds observed, therefore, also decreases. After young leave the nest, numbers observed increase. Thus, for most resident species, numbers of adult birds are most accurately censused in April and May, when territorial activity is at a maximum. A few species such as Anna's Hummingbird that nest early in the season may be underestimated. Numbers observed may decrease slightly in June and early July when birds are less active during nesting, and increase in late June and July when young birds leave the nest.

Several species that are not considered riparian species but are common in adjacent coastal sage and chaparral habitats come into the riparian zone in late summer when other vegetational areas are dry. The increase in numbers of Lazuli Bunting, Lark Sparrow, House Finch, Phainopepla and Mourning Dove in late June follow this trend.

Following are specific comments on the habitat and bird observations in each area.

Area 1. Santa Clara River; Old Highway to the mouth of Castaic Creek and Castaic Creek from this confluence to State Route 126.

Length of section, 3.5 miles. The Santa Clara River flows continuously in this section and is augmented by the Valencia waste water outfall near the upstream end of this section. Near Castaic Junction, a low area on the south side of the river is kept wet by runoff from Magic Mountain. Two Least Bell's Vireos were found along the river near Castaic Junction, not far from a locality where vireos were found in 1996 (Fig. 2; see additional comments in section on Least Bell's Vireo).

Area 2. Santa Clara River; Old Highway to McBean Parkway.

Length of section, 1.4 miles. The Santa Clara River flows continuously in this section. The channel is braided and wet riparian vegetation is well developed along this section of the river. As in previous years, this area was impacted by off road vehicles during the study period. However, vehicles remained for the most part in the main channel of the river.

Area 3. Santa Clara River; McBean Parkway to Boquet Canyon Road.

Length of section, 1.2 miles. Water, supplied by the Saugus wastewater outfall at the Boquet Canyon Bridge, is continuous in this section of the Santa Clara River. Riparian vegetation was

considerably improved over past years.

Area 4. Santa Clara River; Boquet Canyon Road upstream to DWP transmission lines.

Length of section, 2.3 miles. This section of the Santa Clara River in past years has been wet only briefly during spring rains. and due to water release from the DWP aqueduct 2.0 miles upstream from Boquet Canyon Road. This year there was no water flowing in this section of the river, with the result that much of last years new vegetation was dead and wet riparian species were very reduced.

Area 5. Castaic Creek; Route 125 to Old Road next to Interstate 5.

Length of section, 1.8 miles. Water was released from upstream dams for only a short duration during the study period. Only a short section receiving water from street runoff at the north end of the section, and a pond at the east side of the creek were continually wet. The result was many fewer riparian species compared to last year when water flowed continuously throughout the study. A single Least Bell's Vireo was observed but appeared to be an immature rather than a breeding bird. The dry conditions apparently were not suitable to vireos as no breeding birds were observed in areas where they have been found in previous years (Fig. 2; see additional comments on section on Least Bell's Vireo).

Area 6. San Francisquito Creek; Santa Clara River upstream 2.5 miles.

Length of section, 2.5 miles. This section was dry throughout the study period, except for a short section near a well at the middle of the section where water flowed during April and May. There were many fewer riparian species compared to last year when this section contained flowing water.

Area 7. South Fork of the Santa Clara River; McBean Parkway to Magic Mountain Parkway (Route 126).

Length of section, 1.0 miles. The channel along this section of the South Fork is narrow and very sandy. Almost all vegetation along the bottom of the channel was removed by spring floods. Some standing water was present near the McBean bridge.

Area 8. South Fork of the Santa Clara River, Route 126 upstream to Newhall Creek.

Length of section, 1.4 miles. This section of the river was dry except for damp areas formed by runoff from culverts along the west side of the creek. Cattails developed in these wet areas supported fewer Song Sparrows than in previous years and no Red-

winged Blackbirds, perhaps a sign of human disturbance near the wet areas.

Comments on Sensitive Species


Cooper's Hawk

Cooper's Hawk is considered a Species of Special Concern by the State of California. Coopers hawks were observed rarely on all sections of the main river in 1997 and also along San Francisquito Creek. This species is a resident that nests and hunts in riparian woodland habitat.

White-tailed Kite

This species, formerly the Black-shouldered Kite, is considered "Special" by the State of California. The pair of kites that nested in the dry woodland on the north side of the Santa Clara River near the confluence with Castaic Creek in 1995 was present this year, having been absent in 1996. A pair of kites also nested on the south side of the Santa Clara River about 1/2 mile west of the McBean Bridge.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo



The Yellow-billed Cuckoo is listed as a State Endangered Species. A single individual was observed on June 19th about 1 mile east of the Boquet River Bridge in a cottonwood tree next to the dry channel of the Santa Clara River. At this date cuckoos are migrating through southern California on their way to the nesting grounds along the Kern River. As the bird was silent and not in good breeding habitat, it is considered a migrant passing through the area.

Willow Flycatcher

This species is listed as an Endangered Species under the Federal Endangered Species Act. Willow Flycatchers were once widespread in wet riparian woodland in southern California but now only a few individuals exist. The main California breeding populations of this species are along the Kern River and in northern California. Individuals of this species were observed on all sections of the river between May 26 and June 10. Despite a concerted search, none of these individuals could be refound on subsequent visits and are, therefore, considered to be migrants passing through the area.

California Horned Lark

This species is a candidate for listing under the Federal Endangered Species Act. Horned Larks nest on dry hillsides above

Castaic Creek and were observed in late summer on plowed fields adjacent to the Castaic Creek and near the main river at Castaic Junction.

Least Bell's Vireo

Two singing Least Bell's Vireos were observed near Castaic Junction in dense willow along the Santa Clara River. This locality is different from the one where vireos were found last year, but is not too distant (Figure 2). As only males sing, this was considered evidence of two territorial males. In order to avoid disturbance of possibly nesting birds, no search for nests or mates was conducted.

Least Bell's Vireos were not singing this year along Castaic Creek in the area where they nested in 1996. Castaic Creek was dry most of the spring and annual vegetation along the creek was not well developed. A single bird was observed in a different location along the creek on June 5th (Figure 2). This bird did not sing and is considered an immature of the year rather than a breeding bird.

Yellow Warbler

The Yellow Warbler is considered a Species of Special Concern by the State of California. Yellow Warblers prefer wet riparian habitat but are also found in large cottonwoods in drier riparian areas. Singing yellow warblers were observed along nearly every section of the Santa Clara River and Castaic Creek. The drop in numbers observed between May and June indicate that most of the earlier birds observed were migrants passing through the area. The Yellow Warblers that remained in June along wet sections of the Santa Clara river presumably were breeding birds.

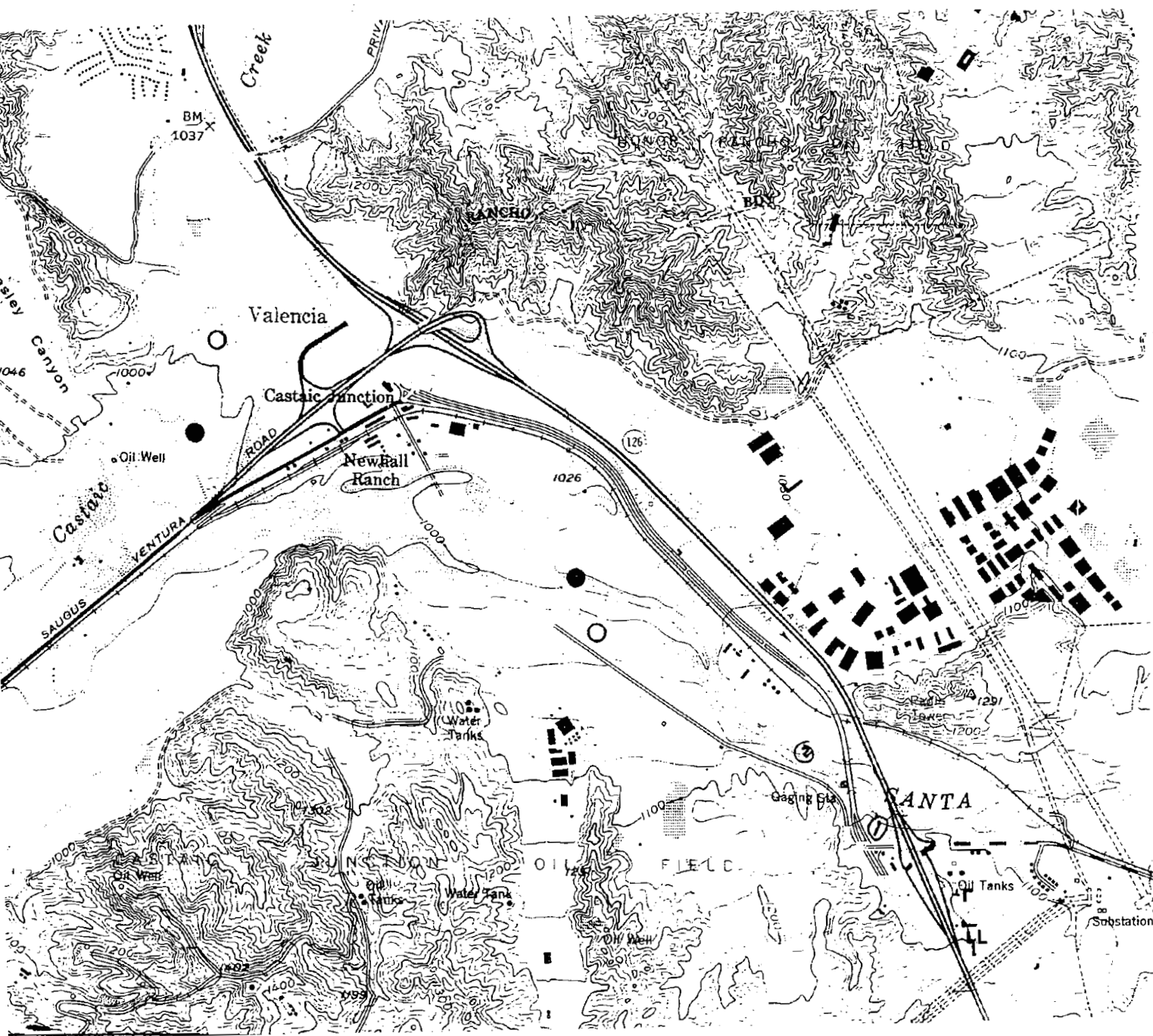
Yellow-breasted Chat

The yellow-breasted chat is considered a Species of Special Concern by the State of California. Chats were observed sparingly along the wet sections of the Santa Clara River. Numbers were lower along the upper river and Castaic Creek, both of which were dry, but increased along the main river.

Lawrence's Goldfinch

This species is a highest priority species on the Audubon Birds to Watch list for 1996. A pair was observed drinking along Castaic Creek in June. This species nests in coastal sage and chaparral habitat and visits the river during the dry late summer.

Figure 2. Location of Least Bell's Vireo Sightings in 1996 and 1997



● Location of 1997 sightings

○ Location of 1996 sightings

Table 1. Bird Observations along the Santa Clara River System, 1997: Santa Clara River from Old Highway along I-5 to the mouth of Castaic Creek and Castaic Creek from this confluence to State Route 126.

Species	date:	4/5	4/22	5/8	5/26	6/5	6/20	status
American Bittern	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	M
Green Heron	1	2	2	1	1	3		R*
Bl. cr. Night Heron	1	1	-	1	-	-		M
Mallard	9	4	13 (4)	3	-	1		R*
Turkey Vulture	1	-	-	-	2	1		S
White-tailed Kite	1	1	-	2 (1)	2	1		R*
Cooper's Hawk	1	-	-	-	-	1		R*
Red-shouldered Hawk	1	1	2	2	2	2		R*
Red-tailed Hawk	3	4	3 (1)	-	5	3		R*
American Kestrel	1	1	-	-	1	-		R*
Sora Rail	2	3	-	-	-	-		M
Virginia Rail	-	2	-	-	-	-		M
California Quail	57	3	14	34	8	23		R*
Killdeer	4	-	2	-	2	4		R*
Spotted Sandpiper	-	-	4	1	-	-		S*
Least Sandpiper	-	10	-	-	-	-		M
Domestic Pigeon	7	-	-	-	4	-		R*
Mourning Dove	12	-	15	6	3	12		R*
Greater Roadrunner	-	-	-	-	2	-		R*
Great Horned Owl	-	-	-	-	1	-		R*
Vaux's Swift	-	2	-	-	-	-		M
White-th. Swift	-	-	9	-	2	8		R
Black-ch. Hummingbird	-	-	1	-	5	1		S*
Anna's Hummingbird	13	5	9	7	9	12		R*
Costa's Hummingbird	-	-	-	-	1	-		S*
Belted Kingfisher	-	3	-	-	-	-		M
Nuttall's Woodpecker	6	6	9	9	11	13		R*
Downy Woodpecker	-	2	-	5	4	6		R*
Hairy Woodpecker	2	-	1	1	-	-		R*
Northern Flicker	-	3	2	-	-	2		R*
Pac. slope Flycatcher	-	-	2	1	-	-		M
Willow Flycatcher	-	-	-	1	-	-		M
Black Phoebe	-	-	3	-	4	7		R*
Ash-thr. Flycatcher	-	5	7	11	9	17		S*
Western Kingbird	2	10	3	4	1	5		S*
Violet-green Swallow	-	4	6	-	10	2		S*
N. Rough-w. Swallow	34	49	12	24	39	16		S*
Barn Swallow	-	1	-	-	-	5		S
Cliff Swallow	-	200	200	200	160	130		S*
Scrub Jay	11	5	14	16	16	22		R*
American Crow	20	3	5	5	6	7		R*
Common Raven	33	19	19	7	15	19		R*
Plain Titmouse	11	7	10	9	13	13		R*
Bushtit	8	7	4	6	18	71		R*
Bewick's Wren	24	27	27	48	22	28		R*

Table 1 (cont.). Bird Observations along the Santa Clara River System, 1997: Santa Clara River from Old Highway along I-5 to the mouth of Castaic Creek and Castaic Creek from this confluence to State Route 126.

Species	date: 4/5	4/22	5/8	5/26	6/5	6/20	status
House Wren	15	4	11	17	8	12	R*
Western Bluebird	2	1	2	4	1	12	R*
American Robin	-	-	-	-	-	2	R*
Mockingbird	1	-	-	-	-	-	R*
Wrentit	4	-	1	-	3	7	R*
Calif. Thrasher	2	4	2	5	5	13	R*
Cedar Waxwing	-	-	16	-	-	-	W,M
Phainopepla	-	-	-	-	3	1	S*
European Starling	5	5	22	6	15	18	R*
Bell's Vireo	-	-	-	2	-	1	S*
Yellow Warbler	2	8	13	8	5	4	S*
Yellow- r. Warbler	40	-	-	-	-	-	W,M
Common Yellowthroat	25	21	58	71	44	35	R*
Wilson's Warbler	-	2	8	1	-	-	M
Yellow-br. Chat	4	4	11	6	13	5	S*
Bl.-headed Grosbeak	-	15	18	7	19	38	S*
Blue Grosbeak	-	5	5	5	7	6	S*
Lazuli Bunting	2	4	10	-	3	17	S*
Spotted Towhee	15	5	26	27	19	29	R*
California Towhee	15	18	19	24	15	7	R*
Lark Sparrow	-	-	-	-	1	2	S*
Song Sparrow	125	103	108	108	121	55	R*
Red-w. Blackbird	24	19	15	16	10	5	S*
Brewer's Blackbird	1	-	-	-	-	-	R*
Brown-headed Cowbird	20	23	12	23	7	11	S*
Hooded Oriole	-	-	-	-	3	1	S*
Bullock's Oriole	11	-	3	2	1	13	S*
House Finch	4	6	17	16	53	78	R*
Lesser Goldfinch	13	10	5	3	4	12	R*
American Goldfinch	41	-	-	3	-	-	W,R*
House Sparrow	-	-	1	1	-	-	R*
Total Species:	46	48	49	45	52	53	
Total Individuals:	636	648	782	760	738	819	

Total Species on all visits: 76

Total Probable Breeding species: 61 (marked with *)

Status: M - Migrant; R - Resident; S - Summer Only; W - Winter Only

() = dependent young birds

Censuses of 4/5, 5/26, 6/20 on the north side of river,
Censuses of 4/22, 4/8, 6/5 on south side of river.

Table 2. Bird Observations along the Santa Clara River System,
1997: Santa Clara River from McBean Parkway to Old
Highway along I-5.

Species	date:	4/5	4/22	5/8	5/26	6/5	6/20	status
Great Blue Heron	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	M
Great Egret	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	W,M
Green Heron	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	R*
Bl. cr. Night Heron	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	M
Mallard	2	2	-	-	1	-	-	R*
Turkey Vulture	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	M,S
White-tailed Kite	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	R*
Cooper's Hawk	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	R*
Red-shouldered Hawk	1	1	2	2	1	3	-	R*
Swainson's Hawk	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	M
Red-tailed Hawk	-	1	1	2	2	-	-	R*
American Kestrel	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	R*
California Quail	21	8	9	9	13	-	-	R*
Killdeer	3	2	2	2	-	2	-	R*
Mourning Dove	1	-	2	5	7	4	-	R*
Roadrunner	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	R*
Barn Owl	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	R*
Great Horned Owl	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	R*
Bl. chin. Hummingbird	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	S*
Anna's Hummingbird	1	2	-	1	3	5	-	R*
Nuttall's Woodpecker	2	6	6	4	4	9	-	R*
Downy Woodpecker	1	1	4	3	2	4	-	R*
Hairy Woodpecker	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	R*
Northern Flicker	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	R*
Pac. slope Flycatcher	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	M
Willow Flycatcher	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	M
Black Phoebe	1	1	1	1	3	4	-	R*
Ash-thr. Flycatcher	-	4	4	2	6	3	-	S*
Western Kingbird	1	-	-	-	2	1	-	S*
Tree Swallow	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	S*
N. Rough-w. Swallow	25	44	16	18	22	22	-	S*
Cliff Swallow	-	20	30	50	50	70	-	S*
Barn Swallow	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	S*
Scrub Jay	2	4	3	5	5	6	-	R*
American Crow	6	3	2	10	9	2	-	R*
Common Raven	6	1	5	-	-	4	-	R*
Plain Titmouse	5	2	7	6	5	4	-	R*
Bushtit	4	8	4	22	2	-	-	R*
Bewick's Wren	8	9	17	21	13	6	-	R*
House Wren	4	2	5	4	1	-	-	R*
White-br. Nuthatch	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	R*?
Western Bluebird	4	3	2	1	3	-	-	R*
American Robin	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	R*
Wrentit	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	R*
Calif. Thrasher	4	3	4	2	-	2	-	R*

Table 2 (cont.). Bird Observations along the Santa Clara River System, 1997: Santa Clara River from McBean Parkway to Old Highway along I-5.

Species	date: 4/5	4/22	5/8	5/26	6/5	6/20	status
European Starling	7	16	33	7	6	8	R*
Warbling Vireo	-	-	1	-	-	-	M
Yellow Warbler	-	1	9	3	1	2	S*
Yellow- r. Warbler	11	5	-	-	-	-	W,M
Common Yellowthroat	4	15	4	6	11	10	R*
Wilson's Warbler	-	1	5	1	-	-	M
Yellow-br. Chat	-	-	6	6	4	5	S*
Western Tanager	-	-	2	1	-	-	M
Bl.-headed Grosbeak	2	4	5	4	6	3	S*
Blue Grosbeak	-	1	1	1	2	1	S*
Lazuli Bunting	-	-	-	-	-	3	S*
Spotted Towhee	2	4	4	7	5	6	R*
California Towhee	-	4	2	2	5	4	R*
Song Sparrow	26	40	31	25	37	37	R*
Red-winged Blackbird	10	20	28	8	2	-	S*
Brown-headed Cowbird	5	10	2	2	6	3	S*
Bullock's Oriole	3	2	-	-	-	-	S*
House Finch	8	12	15	6	15	16	R*
Lesser Goldfinch	-	-	-	2	15	7	R*
American Goldfinch	13	4	-	-	-	-	W,M
Total Species:	40	40	38	40	37	32	
Total Individuals:	196	270	278	256	275	261	

Total Species on all visits: 65

Total Probable Breeding species: 53 (marked with *)

Status: M - Migrant; R - Resident; S - Summer Only; W - Winter Only

Censuses of 4/22, 5/26, 6/20 on the north side of river,

Censuses of 4/5, 5/8, 6/5 on south side of river.

Table 3. Bird Observations along the Santa Clara River System,
1997: Santa Clara River from Boquet Canyon Rd. to McBean
Parkway.

Species	date:	4/8	4/19	5/11	5/27	6/6	6/19	status
Great Egret	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	W,M
Green Heron	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	R*
Mallard	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	R*
Cooper's Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	R*
Red-shouldered Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	R*
Red-tailed Hawk	1	4	2	3	2	1	1	R*
Golden Eagle	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	R
California Quail	15	6	11	6	-	-	6	R*
Killdeer	4	4	4	-	-	-	2	R*
California Gull	-	55	-	-	-	-	-	M
Domestic Pigeon	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	R*
Mourning Dove	5	5	6	5	2	9	9	R*
Bl. Ch. Hummingbird	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	S*
Anna's Hummingbird	3	2	2	4	5	7	7	R*
Nuttall's Woodpecker	3	2	3	2	5	3	3	R*
Downy Woodpecker	-	2	2	-	2	-	-	R*
Northern Flicker	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	R*
W. Wood Pewee	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	M
Willow Flycatcher	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	M
Black Phoebe	2	2	2	5	3	3	3	R*
Ash-thr. Flycatcher	-	1	6	2	2	5	5	S*
Western Kingbird	-	2	2	2	-	-	2	S*
N. Rough-w. Swallow	19	6	36	20	36	19	19	S*
Cliff Swallow	2	-	25	6	15	30	30	S*
Barn Swallow	-	-	-	-	2	6	6	S*
Scrub Jay	8	9	9	9	9	10	10	R*
American Crow	19	12	11	31	6	9	9	R*
Common Raven	38	31	35	55	61	14	14	R*
Plain Titmouse	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	R*
Bushtit	4	4	2	6	2	-	-	R*
Bewick's Wren	7	7	12	3	6	5	5	R*
House Wren	1	1	2	6	-	-	-	R*
Wrentit	1	2	1	1	-	1	1	R*
Calif. Thrasher	2	5	2	2	-	2	2	R*
European Starling	-	6	4	-	-	-	2	R*
Orange-cr. Warbler	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	M
Yellow Warbler	2	2	4	-	-	-	-	S*
Yellow- r. Warbler	13	3	-	-	-	-	-	W,M
Common Yellowthroat	7	6	5	10	9	14	14	R*
Yellow-br. Chat	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	S*
Bl.-headed Grosbeak	1	3	2	3	1	1	1	S*
Spotted Towhee	7	2	2	2	-	1	1	R*
California Towhee	4	3	3	4	2	4	4	R*
Song Sparrow	24	27	26	34	29	47	47	R*
White-cr. Sparrow	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	W

Table 3. (cont.) Bird Observations along the Santa Clara River System, 1997: Santa Clara River from Boquet Canyon Rd. to McBean Parkway.

Species	date:	4/8	4/19	5/11	5/27	6/6	6/19	status
Red-w. Blackbird		35	35	45	18	59	116	S*
Brown-headed Cowbird		4	6	12	3	3	5	S*
Bullock's Oriole		1	1	4	2	3	-	S*
House Finch		11	6	12	12	16	28	R*
Lesser Goldfinch		5	2	2	4	5	5	R*
American Goldfinch		9	-	-	-	-	-	W,M
House Sparrow		-	2	-	2	-	-	R*
Total Species:		37	37	36	29	27	29	
Total Individuals:		291	269	300	262	289	358	

Total Species on all visits: 52

Total Probable Breeding species: 43 (marked with *)

Status: M - Migrant; R - Resident; S - Summer Only; W - Winter Only

Table 4. Bird Observations along the Santa Clara River System,
1997: Santa Clara River from Power Line 2.5 miles upstream
from Boquet Canyon Rd. to Boquet Canyon Road Crossing.

Species	date:	4/8	4/19	5/11	5/29	6/6	6/19	status
Turkey Vulture	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	S
Cooper's Hawk	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	R*
Red-shouldered Hawk	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	R*
Red-tailed Hawk	1	2	2(1)	3	1	2	-	R*
American Kestrel	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	R*
California Quail	47	41	39	51	51	16	-	R*
Killdeer	4	-	2	2	5	-	-	R*
Domestic Pigeon	-	-	-	15	8	-	-	R*
Mourning Dove	14	20	30	16	24	14	-	R*
Common Ground Dove	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	R*?
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	M
Bl.-ch. Hummingbird	-	-	3	2	6	-	-	S*
Anna's Hummingbird	29	10	11	13	12	5	-	R*
Costa's Hummingbird	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	S*
Nuttall's Woodpecker	4	2	3	9	-	6	-	R*
Downy Woodpecker	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	R*
Northern Flicker	7	-	-	-	-	1	-	R*
Hammond's Flycatcher	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	M
Pac. slope Flycatcher	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	M
Willow Flycatcher	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	M
Ash-thr. Flycatcher	1	-	2	3	2	-	-	S*
Black Phoebe	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	R*
Western Kingbird	1	4	-	3	-	-	-	S*
N. Rough-w. Swallow	-	-	-	10	12	4	-	S*
Cliff Swallow	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	S*
Scrub Jay	18	6	22	30	21	18	-	R*
American Crow	7	2	1	6	5	-	-	R*
Common Raven	20	19	29	28	33	21	-	R*
Plain Titmouse	11	3	2	3	3	-	-	R*
Bushtit	10	6	8	13	22	3	-	R*
Bewick's Wren	27	24	34	34	9	9	-	R*
House Wren	5	-	3	-	-	-	-	R*
Ruby-cr. Kinglet	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	W
Swainson's Thrush	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	M
Hermit Thrush	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	W,M
Western Bluebird	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	R*
American Robin	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	R*
Wrentit	-	-	5	5	-	5	-	R*
N. Mockingbird	12	6	2	5	8	11	-	R*
Calif. Thrasher	10	10	9	17	8	4	-	R*
Cedar Waxwing	56	7	-	-	-	-	-	W
Phainopepla	-	5	6	8	5	1	-	R*
European Starling	9	19	4	7	7	3	-	R*
Warbling Vireo	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	M

Table 4 (cont.). Bird Observations along the Santa Clara River System, 1997: Santa Clara River from Power Line 2.5 miles upstream from Boquet Canyon Rd. to Boquet Canyon Road Crossing.

Species	date:	4/8	4/19	5/11	5/29	6/6	6/20	status
Orange-cr. Warbler	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	M
Yellow Warbler	3	-	3	1	-	-	-	S*
Yellow- r. Warbler	77	1	-	-	-	-	-	W,M
Common Yellowthroat	3	3	1	1	-	-	-	R*
Wilson's Warbler	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	M
Bl.-headed Grosbeak	2	2	11	6	-	4	-	S*
Blue Grosbeak	-	4	1	-	-	-	-	S*
Lazuli Bunting	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	S*
Spotted Towhee	37	33	30	34	20	12	-	R*
California Towhee	41	30	29	28	14	4	-	R*
Rufous-cr. Sparrow	-	5	2	1	-	-	-	R*
Lark Sparrow	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	R*
Brewer's Sparrow	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	M
Savannah Sparrow	4	-	-	3	-	-	-	R*
Song Sparrow	24	16	6	6	6	-	-	R*
White-cr. Sparrow	60	-	-	-	-	-	-	W
Red-winged Blackbird	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	S*
West. Meadowlark	2	1	2	-	-	-	-	R*
Brown-headed Cowbird	18	6	14	2	5	-	-	S*
Hooded Oriole	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	S*
Bullock's Oriole	6	6	6	25	3	3	-	S*
House Finch	25	11	34	104	61	25	-	R*
Lesser Goldfinch	19	3	5	7	22	-	-	R*
House Sparrow	2	4	-	-	3	-	-	R*
Total Species:	45	33	41	43	29	24	-	
Total Individuals:	633	314	378	515	382	175	-	

Total Species on all visits: 68

Total Probable Breeding species: 53 (marked with *)

Status: M - Migrant; R - Resident; S - Summer Only; W - Winter Only

() = dependent young birds

Table 5. Bird Observations along the Santa Clara River System,
1997: Castaic Creek from Old Road west to Rte. 126.

Species	date:	4/5	4/26	5/8	5/26	6/5	6/20	status
Green Heron	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	R*
Bl-cr. Night Heron	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	M
White-faced Ibis	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	M
Cooper's Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	R*
Red-shouldered Hawk	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	R*
Red-tailed Hawk	-	-	2	1	2	3	2	R*
American Kestrel	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	R*
California Quail	15	-	16	28	15	13	9(7)	R*
Killdeer	2	-	4	4	2	-	2	R*
California Gull	-	-	-	30	-	-	-	M
Domestic Pigeon	25	-	-	6	2	6	2	R*
Mourning Dove	11	-	11	5	8	9	14	R*
Anna's Hummingbird	4	-	5	3	7	9	4	R*
Nuttall's Woodpecker	3	-	4	4	5	4	5	R*
Downy Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	R*
Northern Flicker	1	-	-	2	-	-	4	R*
Black Phoebe	-	-	-	2	2	2	2	R*
Say's Phoebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	R*
Ash-thr. Flycatcher	-	-	3	3	1	1	7	S*
Western Kingbird	4	-	4	6	2	1	3	S*
Horned Lark	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	R
N. Rough-w. Swallow	37	-	36	50	38	30	36	S*
Barn Swallow	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	S
Cliff Swallow	-	-	10	35	8	130	130	S*
Scrub Jay	5	-	11	13	7	13	15	R*
American Crow	8	-	6	5	3	2	-	R*
Common Raven	2	-	1	1	4	5	10	R*
Plain Titmouse	1	-	2	2	2	-	-	R*
Bushtit	-	-	4	6	8	4	8	R*
Bewick's Wren	6	-	5	10	8	11	7	R*
Western Bluebird	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	R*
American Robin	3	-	2	2	-	-	-	R*
Wrentit	-	-	3	2	2	2	2	R*
Calif. Thrasher	2	-	3	4	4	3	5	R*
Cedar Waxwing	-	-	-	18	-	-	-	W,M
Phainopepla	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	S*
European Starling	5	-	4	25	4	5	2	R*
Bell's Vireo	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	S*
Orange-cr. Warbler	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	M
Yellow Warbler	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	S*
Common Yellowthroat	2	-	8	5	5	6	4	R*
Yellow-br. Chat	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	S*
Western Tanager	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	M
Bl.-headed Grosbeak	1	-	12	9	10	11	8	S*

Table 5 (cont.). Bird Observations along the Santa Clara River System, 1997: Castaic Creek from Old Road west to Rte. 126.

Species	date:	4/5	4/26	5/8	5/26	6/5	6/20	status
Blue Grosbeak	-	5	11	2	3	6	S*	
Spotted Towhee	2	3	4	6	6	5	R*	
California Towhee	5	5	10	6	10	4	R*	
Lark Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	R*	
Savannah Sparrow	11	1	-	3	-	-	R	
Song Sparrow	15	20	18	22	11	7	R*	
Red-wing. Blackbird	43	60	70	54	45	39	S*	
Yellow-h. Blackbird	-	10	-	-	-	-	M	
Brewer's Blackbird	5	4	-	-	-	-	R*	
Brown-headed Cowbird	4	6	10	6	5	-	S*	
Bullock's Oriole	6	6	5	5	8	2	S*	
House Finch	15	12	8	6	14	28	R*	
Lesser Goldfinch	-	-	-	-	4	2	R*	
Lawrence's Goldfinch	-	2	-	-	-	-	R*	
House Sparrow	-	2	-	-	-	-	R*	
Total Species:	32	39	38	35	38	34		
Total Individuals:	249	299	422	265	415	386		

Total Species on all visits: 59

Total Probable Breeding species: 49 (marked with *)

Status: M - Migrant; R - Resident; S - Summer Only; W - Winter Only

() = dependent young birds

Table 6. Bird Observations along the Santa Clara River System,
1997: San Francisquito Creek for 2 Miles above Main
Channel.

Species	date:	5/15	6/10	status
Cooper's Hawk	-		1	R*
Red-shouldered Hawk	-		1	R*
Red-tailed Hawk	3		1	R*
California Quail	18		44 (8)	R*
Killdeer	4		3	R*
Domestic Pigeon	-		68	R*
Mourning Dove	30		28	R*
Roadrunner	-		1	R*
Bl.-ch. Hummingbird	-		5	S*
Anna's Hummingbird	6		12	R*
Nuttall's Woodpecker	12		16	R*
Downy Woodpecker	-		1	R*
Northern Flicker			-	R*
Willow Flycatcher	-		1	M
Black Phoebe	3		2	R*
Ash-thr. Flycatcher	9		9	S*
Western Kingbird	4		7	S*
N. Rough-w. Swallow	8		30	S*
Cliff Swallow	5		8	S*
Scrub Jay	15		28	R*
American Crow	3		5	R*
Common Raven	10		19	R*
Plain Titmouse	4		7	R*
Bushtit	2		15	R*
Bewick's Wren	12		12	R*
House Wren	3		1	R*
Western Bluebird	2		-	R*
N. Mockingbird	1		2	R*
Calif. Thrasher	8		9	R*
Cedar Waxwing	10		-	W, M
Phainopepla	2		4	R*
European Starling	11		8	R*
Yellow Warbler	2		-	S*
Common Yellowthroat	-		7	R*
Black-headed Grosbeak	4		7	S*
Blue Grosbeak	2		4	S*
Lazuli Bunting	-		1	S*
Spotted Towhee	10		13	R*
California Towhee	31		24	R*
Lark Sparrow	-		1	R*
Song Sparrow	11		12	R*
Brown-headed Cowbird	16		6	S*
Hooded Oriole	-		1	S*

Table 6 (cont.). Bird Observations along the Santa Clara River System, 1997: San Francisquito Creek for 2 Miles above Main Channel.

<u>Species</u>	<u>date:</u>	<u>5/15</u>	<u>6/10</u>	<u>status</u>
Bullock's Oriole		20	11	S*
House Finch		5	73	R*
Lesser Goldfinch		11	12	R*
Total Species:		34	42	
Total Individuals:		297	532	

Total Species on all visits: 46

Total Probable Breeding species: 44 (marked with *)

Status: M - Migrant; R - Resident; S - Summer Only; W - Winter Only

() = dependent young birds

Table 7. Bird Observations along the Santa Clara River System,
1997: South Fork from Rte. 126 to McBean Parkway.

Species	date:	5/15	6\10	status
California Quail		4	4	R*
Mourning Dove		1	1	R*
Anna's Hummingbird		1	1	R*
Nuttall's Woodpecker		1	1	R*
Black Phoebe		2	1	R*
Ash-thr. Flycatcher		1	2	S*
Western Kingbird		-	1	S*
N. Rough-w. Swallow		15	4	S*
Cliff Swallow		-	20	S*
Scrub Jay		3	2(2)	R*
American Crow		-	2	R*
Common Raven		1	2	R*
Bewick's Wren		2	3	R*
Western Bluebird		2	-	R*
Northern Mockingbird		-	2	R*
Calif. Thrasher		2	2	R*
Eur. Starling		-	1	R*
California Towhee		4	-	R*
Lark Sparrow		-	1	R*
Song Sparrow		2	1	R*
Red-winged Blackbird		6	1(2)	S*
Brown-headed Cowbird		1	-	S*
Bullock's Oriole			-	S*
House Finch		8	9	R*
Lesser Goldfinch		-	6	R*
Total Species:		17	21	
Total Individuals:		56	71	

Total Species on all visits: 25

Total Probable Breeding species: 25 (marked with *)

Status: M - Migrant; R - Resident; S - Summer Only; W - Winter Only

() = dependent young birds

Table 8. Bird Observations along the Santa Clara River System,
1997: South Fork from Newhall Creek to Rte. 126.

Species	date:	5/15	6/10	status
Mallard		2	-	R*
Red-tailed Hawk		1	1	R*
California Quail		6	4(6)	R*
Killdeer		4	4	R*
Mourning Dove		13	6	R*
Anna's Hummingbird		-	4	R*
Nuttall's Woodpecker		-	1	R*
Northern Flicker		1	1	R*
Black Phoebe		2	-	R*
Rough-winged Swallow		-	4	S*
Scrub Jay		3	3	R*
American Crow		-	1	R*
Common Raven		-	5	R*
Bushtit		28	5	R*
Bewick's Wren		4	5	R*
N. Mockingbird		1	2	R*
Calif. Thrasher		1	2	R*
Cedar Waxwing		8	-	M, W
European Starling		2	-	R*
Yellow Warbler		1	-	S
Common Yellowthroat		-	1	R*
Blue Grosbeak		1	-	S*
Spotted Towhee		-	1	R*
California Towhee		10	4(1)	R*
Song Sparrow		10	4	R*
Brown-headed Cowbird		1	2	S*
Bullock's Oriole		5	3	S*
House Finch		14	17	R*
Lesser Goldfinch		2	1	R*
Total Species:		22	23	
Total Individuals:		120	83	

Total Species on all visits: 29

Total Probable Breeding species: 27 (marked with *)

Status: M - Migrant; R - Resident; S - Summer Only; W - Winter Only

() = dependent young birds

Appendix 1. Fish and Wildlife Rules for Least Bell's Vireo Censuses.

LEAST BELL'S VIREO SURVEY GUIDELINES

1. All riparian areas should be surveyed once a week from April 1 to July 31. These dates encompass the period during which most vireo nesting activity occurs. If additional information on vireo habitat utilization is needed, these surveys should be extended to August 31. Information typically collected after July 31 will reflect a broader extent of the riparian habitat and other adjacent habitat types that the vireo utilizes during the latter phase of the breeding season, especially when the young become independent of the adults.
2. Surveys must be conducted by qualified biologist(s) familiar with song and plumage characteristics of the vireo.
3. Surveys shall be conducted between dawn and 11:00 a.m. Surveys shall avoid periods of excessive heat, wind, and rain.
4. All vireo detections (e.g., vocalization points, areas used for foraging, etc.) should be used to define individual home range. These data need to be mapped on a large-scale aerial photograph.
5. Data on vireo breeding status (e.g., number and location of paired or unpaired territorial males, nest building efforts, feeding of nestlings, location of vireo nests, etc.) should be noted during each survey.
6. All sightings of cowbirds and their numbers in vireo territories should be noted during each survey.
7. No attempts should be made to locate or examine vireo nests unless authorized by permits issued by California Department of Fish and Game and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
8. A final report should be prepared which describes survey dates, methods, locations, and information identified in items 4, 5, and 6 above.

If you have any questions regarding these survey guidelines, please contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at (714) 643-4270.