

111. COASTAL PRAIRIE

PRADERA COSTANERA

JOHN P. KELLY

*Audubon Cypress Grove Preserve**P.O. Box 808**Marshall, California 94940*

Location: California; Marin Co.; Marshall; Cypress Grove Preserve; 38°10'N, 122°54'W; Tomales Quadrangle, USGS. **Continuity:** Established 1988; 4 yr. **Size:** 31.0 ha. **Description of Plot:** See *J. Field Ornithol.* 60 (Suppl.):56-57 (1989). **Weather:** Mean start temp., 8°C (range 6-11°C). See BBC #98. **Coverage:** 8 h; 8 visits (4 sunrise); 4, 10, 18 April; 1, 10, 15, 22, 29 May. **Census:** Song Sparrow, 15.0 (19); Black-shouldered Kite, 2.0; House Finch, 2.0; American Goldfinch, 2.0; Mallard, 1.0; Northern Harrier, 1.0 (1N,2FL); Mourning Dove, 1.0; Anna's Hummingbird, 1.0; American Crow, 1.0; California Towhee, 1.0; White-crowned Sparrow, 1.0; Red-winged Blackbird, 1.0; Western Meadowlark, 0.5; Brown-headed Cowbird, +. **Total:** 14 species; 29.5 territories (38/40 ha). **Visitors:** Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Turkey Vulture, Red-shouldered Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, American Kestrel, California Quail, Allen's Hummingbird, Northern Flicker, Western Wood-Pewee, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Barn Swallow, Tree Swallow, Violet-green Swallow, Scrub Jay, Marsh Wren, Savannah Sparrow, Brewer's Blackbird, Pine Siskin. **Remarks:** A period of extremely low temperatures in late December 1990 may have caused increased winter mortality among resident insectivores. Both Black-shouldered Kite nests failed, probably resulting from a dramatic decrease in California Vole populations (Audubon Canyon Ranch, unpubl. data) following prolonged winter freeze and drought. **Acknowledgments:** This work was conducted by Audubon Canyon Ranch, Stinson Beach, CA. I thank Susan Kelly for help in summarizing the results.