

29. COASTAL FRESHWATER MARSH

PANTANO COSTANERO DE AGUA DULCE

JOHN KELLY

Cypress Grove Preserve

P.O. Box 808

Marshall, California 94940

Location: California; Marin Co.; Marshall; Livermore Marsh; 38°10'N, 122°54'W; Tomales Quadrangle, USGS. **Continuity:** Established 1986; 6 yr. **Size:** 10.5 ha. **Description of Plot:** See *J. Field Ornithol.* 60 (Suppl.):64 (1989). **Weather:** Mean temperature 8.4°C (range 4–11°C). **Coverage:** 8.5 hrs; 8 visits (mornings): 10, 24 Jan.; 8, 13, 19, 22, 26, 28 Feb. **Count:** American Wigeon 38.2 ind./visit, (8 visits); Red-winged Blackbird, 20.6, (8); Yellow-rumped Warbler, 16.9, (8); Mallard, 14.6, (8); Song Sparrow, 14.5, (8); Dunlin, 11.1, (2); Golden-crowned Sparrow, 9.4, (6); American Coot, 8.4, (8); Least Sandpiper, 8.1, (8); Marsh Wren, 8.0, (8); White-crowned Sparrow, 5.1, (5); House Finch, 4.4, (6); California Quail, 4.2, (2); Cinnamon Teal, 4.1, (6); Canvasback, 3.5, (7); Tree Swallow, 2.9, (4); Green-Winged Teal, 2.7, (6); Ruddy Duck, 2.2, (6); Long-billed Dowitcher, 2.2, (2); Allen's Hummingbird, 2.0, (3); Bufflehead, 1.9, (6); Fox Sparrow, 1.5, (7); Black Phoebe, 1.3, (5); Black-crowned Night-Heron, 1.0, (4); Northern Harrier, 1.0, (5); Great Blue Heron, 0.9, (6); Northern Flicker, 0.9, (5); American Robin, 0.9, (5); Brown Towhee, 0.9, (4); Brewer's Blackbird, 0.9, (2); Greater Yellowlegs, 0.8, (5); Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 0.8, (6); Red-shouldered Hawk, 0.5, (4); Common Snipe, 0.5, (3); Belted Kingfisher, 0.5, (4); Chestnut-backed Chickadee, 0.5, (3); Golden-crowned Kinglet, 0.5, (2); Golden-crowned Warbler, 0.4, (1); Willet, 0.4, (2); Hermit Thrush, 0.4, (3); Wrentit, 0.4, (2); Savannah Sparrow, 0.4, (3); Lincoln's Sparrow, 0.4, (3); Snowy Egret, 0.2, (2); Turkey Vulture, 0.2, (1); Killdeer, 0.2, (1); Anna's Hummingbird, 0.2, (2); American Crow, 0.2, (1); Common Yellowthroat, 0.2, (2); Red-tailed Hawk, 0.1, (1); Virginia Rail, 0.1, (1); Semipalmated Plover, 0.1, (1); Mew Gull, 0.1, (1); Glaucous-winged Gull, 0.1, (1); Northern Shrike, 0.1, (1); European Starling, 0.1, (1); American Goldfinch, 0.1, (1). **Total:** 57 species; 203 ind./visit (774 ind./40 ha). **Remarks:** Drought continued through Feb. dramatically reducing the extent and depth of open water, and increasing the availability of open, muddy substrate and shallow water. These changes in hydrology probably accounted for increases in the numbers of shorebirds and decreases in the number of waterbirds, particularly diving ducks, from previous years. Decreases in Common Snipe probably were associated with the absence of standing water in the upper marsh. Much of the lower marsh flats, which are covered by open water during years with normal rainfall, were dominated by *Oenanthes sarmentosa*. Allen's Hummingbirds and Red-winged Blackbirds were mostly territorial males. The high winter count for the Black-crowned Night-Heron roost was 7 adults and one juvenile. **Acknowledgments:** Data were compiled by Susan Kelly. This work was supported by Chevron USA, Inc., and Audubon Canyon Ranch.