

105. COASTAL PRAIRIE

PRADERA COSTANERA

JOHN P. KELLY

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

Location: California; Marin Co.; Marshall; Cypress Grove Preserve; 38°10'N, 122°54'W; Tomales Quadrangle, USGS. **Continuity:** Established 1988; 8 yr. **Size:** 31.0 ha. **Description of Plot:** See *J. Field Ornithol.* 60(Suppl.):56-57 (1989). Detailed quantitative habitat data from

1993 are available from the author. **Weather:** Mean start temp., 10.8°C (range 4–14°C). Generally mild with normal temperatures. Rainfall during the 1994–95 rainy season was 106.7 cm, 48% above the 38-yr average of 71.9 cm. Significant periods of rainfall extended into May. Source: Audubon Canyon Ranch. **Coverage:** 7.0 h; 8 visits; 14, 28 Apr; 2, 11, 18, 25, 28 May; 1 Jun. **Census:** Song Sparrow, 24.0 (31); Anna's Hummingbird, 2.0; White-tailed Kite, 1.0; Mallard, 1.0; Northern Harrier, 1.0 (3FL); American Crow, 1.0; Red-winged Blackbird, 1.0; Western Meadowlark, 1.0. **Total:** 8 species; 32.0 territories (41/40 ha). **Visitors:** Turkey Vulture, Red-shouldered-Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, California Quail, Mourning Dove, Allen's Hummingbird, Black Phoebe, Ash-throated Flycatcher, Tree Swallow, Violet-green Swallow, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Barn Swallow, Western Scrub-Jay, Common Raven, Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Bushtit, Wrenit, California Towhee, Brown-headed Cowbird, Purple Finch, House Finch, Pine Siskin, American Goldfinch. **Remarks:** The White-tailed Kite nest failed in April. The California vole (*Microtus californicus*) population crashed during the winter, after a gradual 4-yr increase in abundance. One Northern Harrier territory produced three fledglings. Mourning Dove, House Finch, and American Goldfinch were common on all visits but inadequately quantified because of non-territorial breeding behaviors. **Acknowledgments:** This work is supported by Audubon Canyon Ranch, Sünson Beach, CA. Sarah Tappen compiled and summarized the results.