

Grace's Warbler *Dendroica graciae*

Grace's Warbler nests just across the California border in the mountains of southern Nevada and northwestern Arizona, perhaps occasionally in the mountains of the eastern Mojave Desert. But it is only a rare vagrant to southern California's coast. There are 14 well-supported records for San Diego County, 11 of fall migrants, three of winter visitors, two of which involve birds returning for successive years. Even in migration and winter Grace's Warbler has a strong preference for conifers or trees such as athel tamarisk whose foliage mimics that of conifers.

Migration: San Diego County's fall Grace's Warblers accepted by the California Bird Records Committee are all from the Tijuana River valley (four) or Point Loma

(seven). Their dates range from 8 September (1968, Point Loma, Craig 1970) to 29 October (1966, Tijuana River valley, SDNHM 36047, the only specimen). Two 1987 sightings published in *American Birds* but not submitted to the committee fall within these dates.

Winter: One was at La Jolla (P7) 13 February–3 April 1988 (R. E. Webster; Pyle and McCaskie 1992). One was in Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery, Point Loma, 20 September 2001–20 April 2002 (G. McCaskie, Garrett and Wilson 2003), evidently returning 11 September 2002–2 February 2003 and 11 September 2003; it was joined by another Grace's Warbler after 9 November 2003. One at the San Dieguito River mouth, Del Mar (M7), 9 November 2001 (E. Copper; Garrett and Wilson 2003) returned the next year, being seen 8 January 2003 (NAB 57:258, 2003).