

WAXWINGS — FAMILY BOMBYCILLIDAE

Bohemian Waxwing *Bombycilla garrulus*

A bird of the far north, the Bohemian Waxwing winters irregularly as far south as northern California. The records from San Diego County are the species' southernmost along the Pacific coast.

Winter: The three records are of two found dead and badly decomposed (not preserved) at Vallecito (M25) 29 March 1920 (Stephens 1920b), four to six at Yaqui Well (I24) 3–5 December 1972 (AB 27:664, 1973), and one

at Presidio Park (R9) 3–4 December 1974 (AB 39:743, 1975). The first two occurrences were in invasion years for the species farther north in California, although the third was not.

Conservation: From 1968 to 1977 the Bohemian Waxwing reached California annually, but since then it has been much less frequent. The trend toward warmer winters may result in the species' winter range shifting north and raises the question of whether the Bohemian Waxwing will ever again make it as far south as San Diego County.