

Horned Puffin *Fratercula corniculata*

The Horned Puffin nests principally in Alaska and winters far out to sea. There are still only five records for San Diego County, none more recent than 1976.

Migration: In the second half of the 20th century, the Horned Puffin occurred along the west coast of the contiguous United States mainly in spring, with an unusual influx in 1975 and 1976 (Hoffman et al. 1975, Briggs et al. 1987). Records for the coast of San Diego County are of dead birds washed up 3 miles north of La Jolla (O7) 25 February 1933 (Huey 1933, SDNHM 16183), near La Jolla 28 September 1974 (SDNHM 38925), and at Del Mar (M7) 12 May 1976 (AB 30:891, 1976). Also, one was seen 19 miles southeast of San Clemente Island 1 June 1971 (AB 35:801, 1971), and seven were seen (one photographed) within 10 miles southeast of the south end of San Clemente Island 10 May 1975 (AB 29:909, 1975).



Photo by Kenneth W. Fink