Little Gull Larus minutus

From the first sighting near the north end of the Salton Sea in 1968, the Little Gull has become ever more frequent in California, as this originally Old World species colonizes North America from the northeast. Of the 79 well-supported records for California through 2002, however, only two are from San Diego County.

Winter: An immature at the Oceanside harbor (H5) 27 December 1981 became entangled in fishing line and was taken to Sea World, where it died 27 March 1982 (SDNHM 41883). Another was seen at La Jolla (P7) 18 November 1994 (S. Walens, G. McCaskie, NASFN 49:101, 1995; Howell and Pyle 1997).



Photo by Kenneth W. Fink