Dana Point Harbor, Orange, California, US  
Jul 16, 2016 7:10 AM - 7:25 AM

**COMMENTS:** Sea & Sage summer pelagic trip aboard the R/V Sea Explorer with Mike Bursk as captain and Jon Dunn, Jerry Tolman, Robert McNab, Tom Benson, and Jeff Bray as leaders. Weather in the morning was calm with a heavy marine layer but relatively warm temperatures. This list includes species seen in the harbor and on the breakwaters, primarily during our morning departure.

(13 species)

- Surf Scoter - 1
- Brown Pelican - 175
- Great Blue Heron - 2
- Snowy Egret - 1
- Black-crowned Night-Heron - 1
- Black Oystercatcher - 2
- Heermann's Gull - 300
- Western Gull - 75
- Caspian Tern - 1
- Elegant Tern - 60
- Rock Pigeon (Feral Pigeon) - 8
- Anna's Hummingbird - 2
- Barn Swallow - 1

View this checklist online at [http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist/S30734343](http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist/S30734343)

Offshore (ORA Co.), Orange, California, US  
Jul 16, 2016 7:25 AM - 3:10 PM  
75.0 mile(s)

**COMMENTS:** Sea & Sage summer pelagic trip aboard the R/V Sea Explorer with Mike Bursk as captain and Jon Dunn, Jerry Tolman, Robert McNab, Tom Benson, and Jeff Bray as leaders. There was a heavy marine layer early and mid morning that eventually gave way to clear skies in the afternoon; temperatures were warm throughout the day with light winds. From Dana Point Harbor, we headed more or less directly west to Lausen Sea Mount, stopping to look through large shearwater flocks over a large area between 5-10 km offshore. Once at the sea mount, we laid out a large fish oil slick and spent almost an hour observing the large number of Black Storm-Petrels coming into the slick. We then continued northwest to the oil platforms off Huntington Beach where we found several Brown Boobies roosting on Platform Edith. From the platforms we returned slowly southeast to Dana Point Harbor checking out flocks of shearwaters and other bird and mammal activity along the way. This list includes species seen during the offshore (outside the harbor) portion of the trip.

**Marine mammals observed:**
- Blue Whale: one seen over San Gabriel Canyon
- Fin Whale: one seen over San Gabriel Canyon
- Common Dolphin: >100; several rather small pods scattered throughout our trip
- California Sea Lion: 25; almost all of which were loafing on or around the oil platforms

(20 species) +3 other taxa
Northern Fulmar - 1. A fulmar sitting on the water as we were returning to Dana Point allowed close approach and was well photographed by many.

Pink-footed Shearwater – 30. Small numbers seen throughout the day.

Sooty Shearwater - 2500. Large flocks seen continuously from Lausen Sea Mount to Newport Canyons.

Black-vented Shearwater - 5000. Thousands in flocks off Dana Point and off the coast during our return trip from San Gabriel Canyon; smaller numbers out even as far as Lausen Sea Mount.

Black Storm-Petrel - 75. 50-60 were seen at the oil slick over Lausen Sea Mount; the rest were seen singly throughout the trip.

Brown Booby – 7. All perched on Platform Edith; they have been of regular occurrence on these platforms for the last year or two.

Brandt's Cormorant - 6. All around Platform Edith.

Pelagic Cormorant - 4. All on Platform Edith.

Brown Pelican - 50.

peep sp. 4 Probably Western Sandpipers

Red-necked Phalarope - 1

Pomarine Jaeger – 3. At least two were adults with full "spoons".

Parasitic Jaeger – 1. A jaeger that appeared too slender to be a Pomarine also had multiple white primary shafts eliminating Long-tailed.

Long-tailed Jaeger – 1. An immature Long-tailed Jaeger was found chasing a Western Gull and other birds over San Gabriel Canyon (33.58648, -118.09266) in the vicinity of a small fishing boat before it flew off in the direction of the oil platforms. We were able to view relatively well, though not particularly closely, for several minutes before it left. Distinguishing field marks included its tern-like, buoyant flight, small bill, dark remiges contrasting with the paler brown upper wing coverts, and two white outer primary shafts visible on the upper wing.

Parasitic/Long-tailed Jaeger – 2. Two relatively slender jaegers were seen well enough to eliminate Pomarine, but not well enough to distinguish between this species pair.

Craveri's Murrelet - 2. Two small black and white murrelets seen flying at a distance were later identified from photos as this species.

Cassin's Auklet - 3

Heermann's Gull - 100

Western Gull - 50

California Gull - 1

Royal Tern - 1

Elegant Tern – 1000. About 75% of these were in a massive feeding flock with shearwaters about 6.5 km due south of Newport Pier; the remainder were seen in small scattered flocks throughout the day.

Rufous/Allen's Hummingbird – 1. A hummingbird flew past the boat while we were looking at boobies on Platform Edith; only Jon Dunn saw it well enough to identify it to this species pair.

View this checklist & photos online at http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist/S307351