

Baja California

4 – 13 February 2006

Trip Report

Leaders:

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Introduction

Expedition cruises are always exciting because of the element of the unknown. Though there was an itinerary, weather and logistical considerations were always going to control the actual programme. The objective was to enjoy the whales and birds of the Sea of Cortez. Seven species of cetaceans were noted as were over ninety species of birds. We were privileged to watch five of the species of great baleen whales, many at close quarters and at length. The birdwatching varied from testing in the case of the land birds to leisurely in the case of wetland species. A considerable amount of time was also spent beach combing, coming across the occasional land mammal and enjoying a wide variety of plants. The success of the trip was due to the combined efforts of the fine crew of the Don Jose, under Captain Jose Lozano, John, our whale expert and all of you, the members of the group. I'm sure that you will agree that a fine time was had by all. My sincere thanks go to John, Jose and the crew. I can't wait to get back to Mexico.

Many thanks indeed to Chris Milner for the photo montage pages that accompany this report!

The Diary

Saturday 4 February

Weather: Rather dull in LA

The flight to Los Angeles and the transfer to a hotel in Santa Monica went smoothly. We had just enough time, before dark, to take a brisk walk to the Seafront. After dinner it was early to bed to build up our strength for the rest of the trip.

Sunday 5 February

Weather: Fine

It is just as well that we built up our strength for the journey to La Paz. It took us an age to book in for our flight. It was just as well that we had allowed plenty of time as it took over an hour for our boarding passes to be prepared. It would seem that Aero California were somewhat unfamiliar with E tickets! We then encountered amazing incompetence at 'Security'. In the end we just made the flight with little time to spare.

On our arrival in La Paz we were driven to the Don Jose, which was to be our home for the rest of the trip. We were greeted by a couple of Black-crowned Night-herons which were fishing from the mooring ropes. After a very authentic local meal we once again made for our bunks.

Monday 6 February

La Paz

Weather: 1/8 Cumulus, sunny, calm

As the sun rose we watched Brown Pelicans, Magnificent Tropicbirds, gulls and herons take to the air. We also saw ten White Ibis fly over; this is a scarce species in the area. Whilst we were still eating breakfast the Don Jose slipped its moorings and set off into the Sea of Cortez.

In the first half hour of sailing north we came across a number of feeding Bottle-nosed Dolphins, some thirty in all. That was a good start. We also made our first acquaintance with Double-crested Cormorants, Caspian Terns and Yellow-footed Gulls.

As we made our way towards the island group Espirito Santo we came across a few Brown Boobies. On one of the islets we discovered a fine female Peregrine perched on the highest point.

Flying fish and jumping rays (*Mobula* sp.) were noted. The rays were spectacular, leaping clear of the surface of the sea.

As we approached the islet Los Islotes we were overflowed by small parties of Blue-footed Boobies and one or two Brown Boobies, both of which breed on the island. The most impressive aspect of the island, though, was the colony of Californian Sealions.

We were soon in the pangas (small skiffs), edging our way up to the breeding sealions. There was a cacophony of roaring bulls, mewing females and bleating young. The beachmaster bulls were very busy enforcing their territorial rights whilst the rest were sunning themselves. Some were in the water. A handful of Brandt's Cormorants, a number of Turkey Vultures, Osprey and a Raven were also busy on the island.

Sallylightfoot Crabs, starfish, urchins and corals were much in evidence. Whilst exploring a small cave we also encountered a beautiful orange cup coral.

Some of the party then went snorkelling, enjoying close proximity with a number of sealions, tropical fish and other fascinating sea creatures.

After a late lunch we set off south towards Los Frailes, a quiet cove on the peninsular.

While we were sailing in the waters surrounding Isla Cerralvo we found yet more cetaceans. At 15.00 the first Blue Whale spouted, rolled and sounded. At 16.20 another Blue Whale blew, rolled, showing its small dorsal fin and then raised its tail and made for the deep. Nearby another Blue Whale did the same.

Between 17.35 and 17.45 three Bryde's Whales made brief appearances on the surface.

The 'performance' closed at 17.50 when a pod of some sixty Common Dolphins were seen in the distance.

The consensus was that the rigours of our flight to La Paz were worth the effort after such a good start to the holiday.

Tuesday 7 February

Los Frailes

Weather: 1/8 Cirrus, sunny, calm

We anchored at Los Frailes at about 03.00 (so I'm told).

By 09.00 we had landed on the beach.

Once we had taken a look at the granitic headland and the beach we walked a little way inland. A Baja California Rock Squirrel dashed away as we turned a corner. We then discovered an interesting variety of birds, including Blue-grey Gnatcatcher, Grey and Ash-throated Flycatcher, Western Scrub Jay, Northern Mockingbird, a male Pyrrhuloxia and a Cactus Wren.

Some of the group had their first sighting of a hummingbird, a female Costa's Hummingbird.

Three Killdeer feeding on a dry pond were the only representatives of the waders to be found.

At 10.30 we sailed south at a leisurely rate. From 11.00 until 12.50 we enjoyed wonderful views of Humpbacked Whales. It would appear that at least twenty two individuals were involved. Many of them were seen in pairs. Not only did we see them blow, roll and dive to the deep but there was more.

Between 12.30 and 12.45 a lone adult whale breached fourteen times. This was a wonderful spectacle so many photographs were taken. The nearest approach to the boat was about sixty metres so we really felt the impact of a breaching whale.

Just before lunch we witnessed a great heaving mass of water in the midst of which were three whales, they may have been indulging in breeding behaviour.

From 13.45 to 14.45 we watched the antics of three Humpbacks then set sail again.

A dozen more Humpbacks were noted, in total at least thirty four Humpbacks were seen before the close of the day.

As we passed the towering peaks of Cabo San Lucas hundreds of Magnificent Frigatebirds and Brown Pelicans were flying into their roosts. A handful of Brown Boobies were also present.

As the light faded heart shaped blows from whales indicated that we were in the presence of the first Grey Whales of the trip. At least six were seen well enough to make a positive identification.

A fiery sunset brought the day to a close; a day in which we had seen two more species of whales.

Overnight we sailed towards Magdalena Bay.

Wednesday 8 February

Pacific Ocean

Weather: 3/8 Cu. Sunny, calm

We woke to a flaming sunrise well out in the Pacific Ocean; well to be truthful Japan was still a long way off.

Soon after breakfast we came across a group of seven Humpback Whales, one of which breached. Then a flock of Bonaparte's Gulls appeared. They were followed by a handful of Bottle-nosed Dolphins. In the next hour or two we also encountered small groups of Black-vented Shearwaters.

At 08.35 a large rorqual whale spouted, eventually we established that we were watching a Blue Whale and its calf. At 08.45 a Fin Whale surfaced close to the Don Jose. It spouted and rolled, spouted and rolled and then dived. Soon Grey Whales joined the throng, as did small groups of Common Dolphins which ran the bow. From 08.58 until 13.00 we noted thirty five Grey Whales, some of which breached.

In mid morning two Craveri's Murrelets flew across the bow and settled on the sea.

As we approached Magdalena Bay huge flocks of gulls and cormorants appeared. All of the cormorants bar one were Brandt's, the exception being a lone Double-crested. Heermann's Gulls were present in good numbers but they were all immature birds except for two stunning adults. California Gulls were also well represented.

Two Californian Sealions then got into the act.

By 13.00 we had reached the mouth of Magdalena Bay. Here we were welcomed by some thirty five Grey Whales, one of which breached close to the boat.

We were soon eating yet another fine lunch in the 'middle' of the Bay.

As we prepared for a panga ride a Royal Tern flew over the boat with a Pomarine Skua in 'hot pursuit'.

During the panga ride we concentrated on watching six Grey Whales, two of which took a short cut under the panga!

On our return to the Don Jose she had anchored at Punta Belcher. From the deck we noted a Great Blue Heron, two Raven, a lone Osprey and a delicious cocktail or two.

The night at anchor was particularly peaceful.

Thursday 9 February

Punta Belcher

Weather: 3-5/8 Cu. Sunny, calm

At 08.00 we landed on the beach. As soon as we were all ashore we were able to watch Semi-palmated Plover and Least Sandpiper quietly feeding along the water's edge.

We then moved inland. Almost immediately we flushed a superb Black-tailed Jack Rabbit, one of six we were to see during the morning. A pair of Californian Gnatcatchers then caught our attention. Some time was then spent watching and photographing two Costa's Hummingbirds.

Even though this arid area appeared to lack interest we soon came across a variety of colourful plants, the odd butterfly, including the Monarch, and a number of very speedy lizards.

As we approached the largely abandoned fishing camp we found Northern Mockingbird, Yellow Warbler and a flock of delightful Black-throated Sparrows.

On the rusting ironwork and the decaying concrete of the abandoned mine there were treasures to be found in the form of a pair of American Kestrels and a pair of nesting Osprey.

The beach held a flock of gulls including a handful of Western Gulls. Hiding in the flock were also a group of Royal Terns. Further along the shore were four Godwits in non-breeding plumage. To our delight there were three Marbled and one Hudsonian Godwit. Three Black Turnstone had also made their winter home amongst the rusting ironwork.

One of the great delights of the morning was the beach combing. Some of the most interesting finds were a collection of mollusc shells and the skull of a Bottle-nosed Dolphin.

At 14.30 we set off on a whale watch in the panga. We spent two hours in close contact with up to a dozen Grey Whales, one of which breached. At one point three large adults dived simultaneously, an action accompanied by the clicking of cameras.

At 16.50 we landed at the mouth of a dry valley a little way up the coast, disturbing a pair of Black-necked Grebe in the process. The beach here was a mixture of smooth sand and low sea swept rocks. It was here that we once again had a chance to study a collection of migrant waders. American Oystercatcher, Whimbrel, Sanderling, Semi-palmated and Wilson's Plover, Least Sandpiper and a lone Black Turnstone were all busily feeding.

Before moving inland we examined two sealion skulls and a number of whale vertebrae.

Once inland we soon came across a scattering of birds including House Finches, Green-tailed Towhee and a flock of Lesser Goldfiches.

Once again we had had a really varied day.

Friday 10 February

Punta Belcher

Weather: a.m. 4/8 Cu. Sunny, N 3-4 p.m. 1/8 Cu

At 08.30 we set off on a 'whale hunt' once again. Almost straight away we were overflown by a sub-adult Pomarine Skua that was harrying a gull.

At 09.00 the battery connected to the outboard motor gave up the ghost. One of the group,

who shall remain nameless, remarked that 'Worse things happen at sea.' Within fifteen minutes a panga from Baja Expeditions local camp site came to the rescue.

We spent the next hour quietly following one pair of whales. Much of the time was spent with the motor switched off, the boat being propelled by gentle strokes of the oar. During that time the pair mated four times. During the mating the sea boiled with spray and their tails came out of the water. At one stage as the male returned to the surface its long pink penis could be seen. Neil was concerned lest the resulting video would be seized by U.S. Customs as a pornographic movie. After the third joint encounter one of the whales breached four times. The temptation to speculate as to whether it was the male or the female was resisted.

A third animal then held off from the pair. It then joined the pair and yet again the water boiled. The exact nature of this interaction was unclear. Soon after all three dived and we returned to the Don Jose. We had undoubtedly observed a fascinating series of events.

After lunch we moved north and anchored off the long tombolo west of San Carlos. As we approached the anchorage it was obvious that there were a lot of wetland bird species on the muddy shore between the mangroves and the extensive dunes.

By 14.15 we had landed and were soon standing amongst the low, pioneer White Mangrove watching the birds on the beach. Herons were represented by Great and Little Blue, Tri-coloured, Green Herons, Yellow-crowned Night-herons, Great White and Reddish Egrets. Long-billed Curlew, Willet, Long-billed Dowitcher and Snowy Plover were the most interesting of the waders. As we walked away from the shore we had good views of a Coyote and others were heard in the mangroves. Black-tailed Jack rabbits were also much in evidence. As we walked from the Bay towards the Pacific shore of the dunes we stopped to admire a variety of plants. The most spectacular birds noted were a flock of Horned (Shore) Larks and a pair of White-crowned Sparrows.

On our return to the boat she moved to a anchorage near San Carlos.

Saturday 11 February

San Carlos

Weather: 0/8, sunny, calm

As we stood on deck before breakfast some five thousand cormorants passed by, most of them Brandt's Cormorant. They were accompanied by at least six hundred Brown Pelicans.

After breakfast we were taken to a nearby area of mangrove in the panga. On a sand spit was a wonderful collection of birds. Fine adult Brown Pelicans were mixed in with a variety of gulls and small flocks of Royal and Caspian Terns. Keeping a respectful distance were a flock of Willet and a lone Long-billed Curlew. One of the most pleasing sights, though, were two Double-crested Cormorants showing off their white breeding crests.

As we landed a Reddish Egret flew by. Once ashore we discovered a flock of roosting American Golden Plover. We were then treated to good views of Western Scrub Jay, Northern Mockingbird and Loggerhead Shrike. A Lincoln's Sparrow was then watched through the telescope. As we were about to embark on the panga four Bottle-nosed Dolphins appeared and started to chase needlefish. This was an apt conclusion to the wildlife watching from the Don Jose.

By 11.45 we were in an air conditioned minibus en route to La Paz. As we left San Carlos we noted sixteen Ospreys, many of which were sitting on nests. During the drive we also came across Turkey Vultures, Crested Caracara, Harris and Red-tailed Hawks and American Kestrel. Other notable species included Greater Roadrunner, which unfortunately was not seen by us all, and three Gila Woodpeckers firmly clinging to large cacti.

After a brief stop at the office of Baja Expeditions and the hotel we made for Black Water, a rather appropriate euphemism for the local sewage treatment works. Fortunately the old sewage ponds had been retained. It was difficult to know what to look at first. The ponds

were a haven for wildfowl and waders. Perhaps the most striking birds present were the Black-necked Stilts, of which there were some two hundred. White-faced Ibis were also numerous. It was also good to obtain good views of Lesser Yellowlegs, Long-billed Dowitcher and Spotted Sandpiper. A flock of American Coot was also of interest. American Pipit, Brewer's Blackbird, Common Grackle, Red-winged Blackbird and Violet-green Swallow were also present. We could have spent much more time at this site but it was time to go shopping.

We were delighted that John was able to join us for a drink during dinner.

Sunday 12 February

La Paz

Weather: fine

After an early breakfast we set off for the airport. The checking in procedure and security checks went well and we were soon in flight for Los Angeles.

Everything went well in LA. We even found that once through security we were assigned to a very comfortable lounge. Once we had all had a walk around the area we held the last 'callover' of the trip so that all our records were up to date.

Monday 13 February

On our arrival at London Heathrow we gathered our bags and made our fond farewells.

CHECKLIST

KEY

BLACK WATER	BW
SEA OF CORTEZ	SCO
PACIFIC	PAC
LA PAZ	LP
MAGDALENA BAY	MB
OVERLAND	OV
TOTAL COUNT	[]

BIRDLIST

GREBES

Black-necked (Eared) Grebe *Podiceps nigricollis* Four MB

PETRELS & SHEARWATERS

Pink-footed Shearwater *Puffinus creatopus* *Procellariidae* Eight PAC

Black-vented Shearwater *Puffinus opisthomelas* Twenty five PAC

BOOBIES & GANNETS

Blue-footed Booby *Sula nebouxii* *Sulidae* Fifty at Los Islotes, SCO

Brown Booby *Sula leucogaster* Six SCO and some twenty Cabo San Lucas

CORMORANTS

Double-crested Cormorant *Phalacrocorax auritus* *Phalacrocoracidae* Twenty LP and scattered records SCO, probably hundreds in amongst huge flocks of penicillatus, MB

Brandt's Cormorant *Phalacrocorax penicillatus* Small numbers SCO and hundreds PAC. Some five thousand MB.

PELICANS	<i>Pelicanidae</i>	
Brown Pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>	Very widespread. Some six hundred in a flock MB
FRIGATEBIRDS	<i>Fregatidae</i>	
Magnificent Frigatebird	<i>Fregata magnificens</i>	Widespread and numerous
HERONS & BITTERNES	<i>Ardeidae</i>	
Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>	Widespread on mudflats [18]
American Great White Egret	<i>Casmerodius albus</i>	One LP, eight MB
Reddish Egret	<i>Egretta rufescens</i>	Four MB
Tricolored Heron	<i>Egretta tricolour</i>	Three MB
Little Blue Heron	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>	Five MB
Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	Three LP
Green Heron	<i>Butorides virescens</i>	One SCO and one MB
Yellow-crowned Night-heron	<i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>	Four in the mangroves MB
Black-crowned Night-heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	Two LP
IBISES & SPOONBILLS	<i>Threskiornithidae</i>	
American White Ibis	<i>Eudocimus albus</i>	Ten LP
White-faced Ibis	<i>Plegadis chihi</i>	Twenty five BW
WILDFOWL	<i>Anatidae</i>	
American Wigeon	<i>Anas Americana</i>	Two drakes BW
Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>	One duck BW
Blue-winged Teal	<i>Anas discors</i>	Six BW
AMERICAN VULTURES	<i>Catharidae</i>	
Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	Common SCO, Four MB. Sixty OV [170]
OSPREY	<i>Pandionidae</i>	
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Three SCO, four MB and seventeen OV
HAWKS	<i>Accipitridae</i>	
Harris's (Bay-winged) Hawk	<i>Parabuteo unicinctus</i>	Two OV
Red-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>	One Los Frailes SCO. Eight OV
FALCONS & CARACARAS	<i>Falconidae</i>	
Crested Caracara	<i>Caracara cheriway</i>	Two SCA. Twenty OV
American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>	One (USA). One Los Frailes, Four MB. Five OV
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	One Espirito Santo SCO, One MB and one BW
RAILS & COOTS	<i>Rallidae</i>	
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	One BW
American Coot	<i>Fulica Americana</i>	Some sixty BW
OYSTERCATCHERS	<i>Haematopodidae</i>	
American Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus palliates</i>	Four SCO and seven MB
AVOCETS AND STILTS	<i>Recurvirostridae</i>	
Black-necked Stilt	<i>Himantopus mexicanus</i>	Some two hundred MB
PLOVERS	<i>Charadriidae</i>	
American Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis dominica</i>	Eighteen MB
Semipalmated Plover	<i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>	Twenty six BW
Wilson's Plover	<i>Charadrius wilsonia</i>	Fifteen MB
Killdeer	<i>Charadrius vociferous</i>	Three Los Frailes
Snowy Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	Two MB

SANDPIPERS	<i>Scolopacidae</i>	
Hudsonian Godwit	<i>Limosa haemastica</i>	One MB
Marbled Godwit	<i>Limosa fedosa</i>	Twenty one MB
Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	Thirty one MB
Long-billed Curlew	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	Two MB
Lesser Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa flavipes</i>	Twelve MB
Spotted Sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularia</i>	Two SCA and three BW
Willet	<i>Catoptrophorus semipalmatus</i>	Twenty six MB
Black Turnstone	<i>Arenaria melanocephala</i>	Four MB
Long-billed Dowitcher	<i>Limnodromus scolopaceus</i>	One (plus a dozen distant birds that were almost certainly of this species) MB, ten BW
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>	Five MB
Least Sandpiper	<i>Calidris minutilla</i>	Thirteen MB
SKUAS	<i>Stercorariidae</i>	
Pomarine Skua	<i>Stercorarius pomarinus</i>	Two MB
GULLS	<i>Laridae</i>	
Heermann's Gull	<i>Larus heermanni</i>	Common PAC/MB. Mainly imm. Birds but some stunning adults
Ring-billed Gull	<i>Larus delawarensis</i>	Twenty one PAC
California Gull	<i>Larus californicus</i>	Common MB
Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	Common LP and MB
Western Gull	<i>Larus occidentalis</i>	Nine scattered records
Yellow-footed Gull	<i>Larus livens</i>	Common throughout
Bonaparte's Gull	<i>Larus Philadelphia</i>	Eight PAC/MB
TERNs	<i>Sternidae</i>	
Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>	Four SCO and twelve MB
Royal Tern	<i>Sterna maxima</i>	About one hundred records
AUKS	<i>Alcidae</i>	
Craveri's Murrelet	<i>Synthliboramphus craveri</i>	Two PAC
PIGEONS & DOVES	<i>Columbidae</i>	
Rock Dove (Feral Pigeon)	<i>Columba livia</i>	Widespread in inhabited
GROUND-CUCKOOS	<i>Neomorphidae</i>	
Greater Roadrunner	<i>Geococcyx californianus</i>	Two briefly OV
HUMMINGBIRDS	<i>Trochilidae</i>	
Costa's Hummingbird	<i>Calypte costae</i>	One Los Frailes. Two MB
WOODPECKERS	<i>Picidae</i>	
Gila Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes uropygialis</i>	Three OV
TYRANT FLYCATCHERS	<i>Tyrannidae</i>	
Gray Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax wrightii</i>	One Los Frailes
Ash-throated Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus cinerascens</i>	Two Los Frailes and one MB
LARKS	<i>Alaudidae</i>	
Shore (Horned) Lark	<i>Eremophila alpestris</i>	Some Forty on the dunes MB
SWALLOWS & MARTINS	<i>Hirundinidae</i>	
Violet-green Swallow	<i>Tachycineta thalassina</i>	Eight BW
WAGTAILS & PIPITS	<i>Motacillidae</i>	
American (Buff-bellied) Pipit	<i>Anthus rubescens</i>	Two BW
SHRIKES	<i>Laniidae</i>	

Loggerhead Shrike	<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>	Four LP, four MB, three OV and two LP
WRENS	<i>Troglodytidae</i>	
Cactus Wren	<i>Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus</i>	One Los Frailes and one LP
MOCKINGBIRDS & THRASHERS	<i>Mimidae</i>	
Northern Mockingbird	<i>Mimus polyglottos</i>	Seven overall
GNATCATCHERS	<i>Poliptilidae</i>	
Blue-grey Gnatcatcher	<i>Poliptilia caerulea</i>	Three Los Frailes and two MB
California Gnatcatcher	<i>Poliptila californica</i>	Two MB
JAYS & CROWS	<i>Corvidae</i>	
Western Scrub Jay	<i>Aphelocoma californica</i>	One Los Frailes and two MB
American Crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	Several USA
Common Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	Widespread [15]
STARLINGS	<i>Sturnidae</i>	
Common (European) Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	Several USA
NEW WORLD SPARROWS and BUNTINGS	<i>Emberizidae – Emberizina</i>	
Lincoln's Sparrow	<i>Melospiza lincolni</i>	Two MB
White-crowned Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia leucophrys</i>	Two MB
Lark Sparrow	<i>Chondestes grammacus</i>	Ten near BW
Black-throated Sparrow	<i>Amphispiza bilineata</i>	Twenty MB
Green-tailed Towhee	<i>Chlorura chlorura</i>	Five MB
CARDINALS & GROSBEAKS	<i>Emberizidae - Cardinalinae</i>	
Pyrrhuloxia	<i>Pyrrhuloxia sinuatus</i>	A male Los Frailes
New World Warblers	<i>Parulidae</i>	
Yellow Warbler	<i>Dendroica petechia</i>	
FINCHES	<i>Fringillidae</i>	
Lesser Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis psaltria</i>	Eight MB
House Finch	<i>Carpodacus mexicanus</i>	Five MB
SPARROWS	<i>Passeridae</i>	
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	two Loreto Airport
NEW WORLD ORIOLES	<i>Icteridae</i>	
Red-winged Blackbird	<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>	One BW
Common Grackle	<i>Quiscalus quiscula</i>	One BW
Brewer's Blackbird	<i>Euphagus cyanocephalus</i>	A flock BW

REPTILES

Pacific Green Turtle	<i>Chelodonia mydas</i>	One SCO
Lizard sp		Several unidentified lizards seen on both coasts

FISH

Mobula sp		Many jumping SCO
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Flyingfish sp		Noted SCO and MB
Sergeant Major		Noted SCO
King Angelfish		Noted SCO
Needlefish sp		Recorded MB
Mullet sp		Noted MB

BUTTERFLIES

Monarch	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>	Two Los Frailes and one in the dunes MB
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OTHER TAXA

Sally Lightfoot Crab	<i>Grapsus grapsus</i>	Common Los Islotes and Los Frailes SCO
Fiddler Crab sp		On beaches MB
Pelagic Crab sp		PAC and MB
Gulf Sun Star	<i>Heliaster kubinji</i>	Common SCO
Bivalve – Pinni		MB only
Red cup Coral		Noted SCO
Buttercup coral		Noted SCO
Green Coral		Noted SCO

MAMMALS

CARNIVORES - Dogs	<i>Carnivora - Canidae</i>	
Coyote	<i>Canis latrans</i>	Two seen and four heard MB
CARNIVORES - Sealions	<i>Carnivora - Otariidae</i>	
Galapagos (Californian) Sea Lion	<i>Zalophus californianus</i>	Some two hundred SCO. Eight MB
CETACEANS - Marine Dolphins	<i>Cetacea - Delphinidae</i>	
Common Dolphin	<i>Delphinus delphis</i>	Some sixty SCO and nine PAC
Bottle-nosed Dolphin	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	Thirty LP, six PAC and four feeding MB
CETACEANS - Grey Whale	<i>Cetacea – Eschrichtiidae</i>	
Grey Whale	<i>Eschrichtius robustus</i>	Six PAC and some 120 MB
CETACEANS - Rorquals	<i>Cetacea - Balaenopteridae</i>	
Bryde's Whale	<i>Balaenoptera edeni</i>	Four Cerralvo Canal,SCO
Blue Whale	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>	Three Cerralvo Canal,SCO
Fin Whale	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	One PAC
Humpback Whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	Thirty four SCO and seven PAC
EVEN-TOED UNGULATES – Deer	<i>Artiodactyla - Cervidae</i>	
White-tailed Deer	<i>Odocoileus virginianus</i>	One Los Frailes SCO
RODENTS - Squirrels	<i>Rodentia - Sciuridae</i>	
Baja California Rock Squirrel	<i>Spermophilus atricapillus</i>	One Los Frailes SCO
RODENTS - Kangaroo-rats	<i>Rodentia – Heteromys</i>	
Pocket Mouse sp		Five MB
LAGOMORPHS - Rabbits & Hares	<i>Lagomorpha - Leporidae</i>	
Black-tailed Jackrabbit	<i>Lepus californicus</i>	Thirteen MB