### TRICOLORED BLACKBIRD 2000 BREEDING SEASON CENSUS AND SURVEY – OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### William J. Hamilton III

Dept. Environmental Science and Policy, University of California, Davis, Davis CA 95616

#### wihamilton@ucdavis.edu

(530) 752 1122

(530) 304 6655 (cell)

(530) 752 3350 (fax)

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### **Executive Summary**

Numbers of Tricolored Blackbirds, *Agelaius tricolor* (tricolors), fell precipitously during the 1990s, from 370,000 estimated individuals in 1994 to 240,000 in 1997 and 162,000 in 2000. A count of 105,000 in 1999 is considered in the text and is considered an underestimate. The latest population estimate comes from a United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) sponsored Census conducted between April 21 and 24, 2000. In addition, a season-long survey was conducted to identify, insofar as possible, all additional tricolor breeding sites present before and after the date of the Census.

In this report reproductive success (RS) measures the proportion of successful nests and the number of fledglings they produce. RS of year 2000 colonies is given for alternative kinds of habitats by nesting substrate and foraging habitat. Reproductive effort (RE) measures use of time by adults during the nesting season. RS/RE is reproductive efficiency. Of all tricolor RE for the season 58.9% was at the 10 largest colonies. When nearby (within 5 miles of each other) colonies were merged for the entire 2000 breeding season and the 10 largest colony clusters are aggregated, these concentrations absorb 76.2% of the seasonal RE. Colony clusters are found in largely agricultural regions. Birds associated with colonies comprising colony clusters use exclusive foraging areas. These colony clusters are associated with large and productive foraging areas.

Grain and silage fields in the San Joaquin Valley accounted for 30.0% of the RE. Four colonies lost to harvest operations accounted for 4.1% of the annual RE. A USFWS purchase of the substrate crop at two colonies sheltered 14.2% of the observed RE and produced 12.0% of the season's fledgling crop (RS). Tricolors nested at Merced National Wildlife Refuge in heavy infestations of thistles and mustard in wheat planted for wintering geese. These fields were successfully managed for tricolors and accommodated 11.7% of all tricolor RE.

Collectively, colonies foraging in rice fields in the Sacramento Valley produced 34% of all year 2000 fledglings (RS). Nesting in cattails (*Typha*, 2 *spp.*), and bulrushes (*Schoenoplectus*, 3 *spp.*) associated with foraging for insects in rice accounted for 26.3% of the season's RE. Additional rice field foraging from nests in adjacent wild rice added another 4.2% to the overall RE.

Most of the causes of tricolor declines in abundance are known based upon observations during the 1990s of specific habitat changes. Causes of loss of colony sites and foraging habitat are evident and remedies are equally obvious. Management priorities should be to: 1) locate existing colonies and protect them and their associated foraging habitat, 2) manage mitigation associated with development to incorporate colony sites and their associated foraging habitats, 3) establish agreements with the rice, dairy and cattle industries to protect existing colonies and their habitats, 4) acquire easements or title to at-risk nesting and foraging habitats, 5) quantify population trends and their determinants and 6) identify life history characteristics critical to informed evaluation of management strategies.

#### **Recommendations Review**

The tricolor problem is spatially immense and differs in its characteristics by area. It is also not a classical management problem because the salient feature of tricolors, breeding and flocking in massive single-species swarms, cannot be preserved by maintaining the species at some minor abundance. Because tricolors completely overlap private property in the Central Valley, listing them as endangered would be disruptive and counterproductive. The alternatives are to encourage landowners and agencies to provide and maintain habitats. In this report and in earlier reports and publications (Hamilton et al. 1995, 1999; Beedy and Hamilton 1997, 1999) we have identified multiple management responses to the tricolor decline problem. These are summarized below.

#### Management

- 1. Emphasize further development of habitats favorable to successful reproduction in enduring settings. Take action to support the protection, enhancement and creation of such suitable habitats (Hamilton et al. 1995, #8c, f; Beedy and Hamilton 1997, pg 21; Hamilton et al. 1999, #11). Use HCPs as one imperfect vehicle to accomplish this (Hamilton et al. 1995, #8b; Beedy and Hamilton 1997, pg 24; Hamilton et al. 1999, #4).
- 2. Manage all public refuges and lands actively where tricolors regularly settle. Improve conditions favoring successful reproduction at existing colonies and colony sites including management of water levels (Hamilton et al. 1995, #8c; Beedy and Hamilton 1997, #6; Hamilton et al. 1999, #8) and management of predators (Hamilton et al. 1995, #8d; Beedy and Hamilton 1997, #6; Hamilton et al. 1999, #7).
- 3. Canvass the geographic distribution of tricolors for sites lacking one element of tricolor habitat requirements and forward this information to planning agencies. Include dairies, rangeland, highways (CALTRANS cloverleafs) and other sites (Hamilton et al. 1999 #10, DeHaven 2000).
- 4. Identify tricolor colonies in the path of destruction and protect them, by consent of cooperating parties, seasonal buyouts and in the long term by purchases of land and easements (Hamilton et al. 1999, #11). We have participated in the first two and recommend the latter (Hamilton et al. 1995, #8c; Beedy and Hamilton 1997, pg 20; Hamilton et al. 1999, #6). Tell colony site owners what they are supporting, why tricolors are important, and offer them incentives to encourage tricolors. Investigate the cost to dairies of accommodating tricolor colonies. (Beedy and Hamilton 1997, #5, pg 20, #6, pg 23).
- 5. Identify all utilized habitats and colonies on an ongoing basis. Identify successful and failed colonies and the causes of colony and reproductive failures. This is my recommendation for the 2001 sequel to the annual Census (Hamilton et al. 1995, #9a; Beedy and Hamilton 1997, #8, page 25; Hamilton et al. 1999, #5, #7).

6. Investigate the cost to dairies of accommodating tricolor colonies. Develop easement programs for dairies and rice growers to support tricolors. This should include funding to secure any resources favoring tricolors wherever they settle (Hamilton et al. 1995, #8b, c; Hamilton et al. 1999, #'s 13, 14).

#### Science

- 7. Further investigate life history characteristics of this species, especially demographic population responses such as density dependence, foraging habits and their reproductive outcomes, movements and wintering habits (Beedy and Hamilton 1997, #7; Hamilton et al., 1999 #5).
- 8. Identify interspecies interactions with this species and its habitats (Hamilton et al. 1995, #9b; Beedy and Hamilton 1997, #8; Hamilton et al. 1999, #7). Tricolors do not at present seem to fit well into the popular multispecies concept of management. The ibis relationship and winter habitat associations are promising places to look (Hamilton et al. 1995, #9b).
- 9. Determine taxonomic status of Southern California population to determine if it is a genetically discrete population (Beedy and Hamilton 1997, #8; Hamilton et al. 1999, #7).

#### Oversight

10. Establish a scientific committee to review recommendations and direct study objectives (Hamilton et al. 1999, #1). Submit findings of this research to relevant action-oriented groups. Proposals for action in support of tricolors have been submitted by me to all of the following: USFWS, CDFG, Partners in Flight, the Packard Foundation, the Bureau of Reclamation, the California Farm Bureau, the California Rice Growers, various water districts, individual property owners and The Cattlemen's Association. (Beedy and Hamilton 1997, #6, page 23; Hamilton et al. 1999, #'s10, 14).

#### Education

11. Emphasize the relative importance of tricolors as the most highly colonial North American land bird species and as one of nine California endemics and as a natural spectacle. There is at present little awareness of this species outside the limited group of birders and their respective organizations. Educate the public regarding the status and grandeur of this species and its colonies and gatherings. (Hamilton et al. 1995, #8a; Beedy and Hamilton 1997, #6).

#### Introduction

Tricolored Blackbirds are largely (> 95% of all individuals) endemic to California. Breeding tricolors nest in colonies but, unlike their sympatric congener, Redwinged Blackbirds (Agelaius phoeniceus), they forage away from their nesting habitat. Dense tricolor settlements form either in spiny vegetation (including wheat, quail brush (Atriplex), blackberries (Rubus) and mesquite (Prosopis)) or in flooded vegetation, especially emergent marsh vegetation (cattails (Typha spp.), bulrushes (Schoenoplectus spp.), wild rice and in woody plants such as tamarisk (Tamarisk), willows (Salix spp.) and mulefat (Baccharis viminea) (Beedy and Hamilton 1999). Details of tricolor population biology are given in Neff (1937), (DeHaven et al. 1975), Beedy et al. (1991), Cook et al. (1993), Hamilton et al. (1995, 1999) and Beedy and Hamilton (1997, 1999), Hamilton (1998) and Hamilton et al. (1995, 1999). Tricolor life history information is in Orians (1961), Orians and Christman (1968), Collier (1968), Payne (1969), Cook (1996), Hamilton et al. (1995), Hamilton (1998) and Beedy and Hamilton (1999). Relevant life history and population biology comparisons with Red-winged Blackbird are in Orians (1961), Orians and Christman (1968), Collier (1968), Payne (1969), Beletsky (1996), Beletsky and Orians (1989, 1996) and Weatherhead and Dufour (2000). Recent (2000) and past (1931-1999) measures of tricolor distribution and abundance are in Neff (1937), DeHaven et al. (1975), Beedy et al. (1991), Hamilton et al. (1995, 1999), Beedy and Hamilton (1997) and in this report.

Previous summaries identify a continuous precipitous population decline (Cook et al. 1993, Hamilton et al. 1995, 1999, Beedy and Hamilton 1997), correlated with and probably caused by continuing loss of habitat in the Central Valley and in Southern California (Hamilton et al. 1999).

#### Methods

#### Pre Census workshop

The workshop was held at Santa Nella (Merced County) to coordinate the Census and to train participants in methods of estimating the number of birds in flocks and colonies. Santa Nella was selected as the site for the workshop because it is central to the population of Census tricolors. The workshop demonstrated that participants could develop skills and confidence in accurately estimating colony size and bird flock size.

#### The Census

The 2000 Census was supported by USFWS and coordinated by Bill Hamilton, UC Davis and Bob Barnes, California Audubon Society (NAS). Bob Barnes served as a catalyst and drew more attention to the Census than we received in 1999, accounting for the new high in number for participants filing reports. This Census attempted 1) to locate all Tricolored Blackbird colonies throughout their current (April 21-24, 2000) distribution in California, 2) to estimate their numbers and 3) to determine the outcome of their nesting activity. Focus on a particular date avoided

redundant counts of the same individuals as they moved about during the breeding season (Hamilton 1998).

In previous years we used a three-day (Friday-Saturday-Sunday) interval for the censuses, emphasizing Saturday. Friday accommodates agency people. In 2000 including Monday to further attract participants accounted for only 1,754 additional birds. As in previous years after the Census date, further observations by Hamilton, DeHaven (USFWS) and Clendennen (Wind Wolves Reserve) were included if birds were present, based upon stage of breeding evidence, but not observed on the Census date.

The April Census effort was similar to that of 1999 (Table 1, Appendices 1-3). Coordination, forms and methods for reporting colonies were held nearly constant (Appendix 4). Total colony sites, occupied and empty (former colony sites with no birds) provides information about the thoroughness of the Census.

The Census effort in 2000 produced uneven coverage of the tricolor breeding range. Heavily agricultural regions in the Central Valley in particular are at present little known and seldom visited by birders, ornithologists or agency personnel participating in the Census. In 2000 and in other years experienced observers (Mark Chichester, Richard DeHaven, Sam Fitton (BLM) and the author) located large colonies in the San Joaquin Valley not reported by any other observers in the past (e.g., Beedy at al. 1991, DeHaven et al. 1975; but see Collier' 1968). The degree of completeness of the Census can be evaluated by determining the fraction of known colonies reported redundantly by other observers. An evaluation of redundant reports suggests that San Joaquin Valley silage colonies and small foothill ponds and springs (Clendennen, Ranlett) are sites most likely to be overlooked by Census observers. Participation in a short-term search is most valuable if an informed observer searches familiar lands.

Some sites were not visited due to access (Phil Unitt, San Diego County) and manpower limitations, especially foothill sites on both sides of the Central Valley. Nevertheless, the method of the Census and the survey, to reinvestigate all known breeding places and to search for new ones, has become an increasingly complete assessment of Tricolored Blackbird distribution and abundance. The 2000 Census probably located a greater proportion of the entire population than did censuses in previous years (Table 2).

Additional reports and personal observations of colonies were compiled throughout the season providing the entire breeding season survey (Appendix 5).

Estimating colony size. There are two ways the number of birds at colonies was estimated. 1) Raw estimates by the participating observers were used if a follow-up by the author could not be made. 2) At all other colonies (n = 20) the author made the original estimate and adjusted it as follows. Several transects were made through the colony, the number and density of active and inactive nests was determined and all nests were marked. Later, after all birds had vacated the colony, the estimated number of empty nests found along more extensive transects was determined. The estimated total number of active nests at the time of the original transect was adjusted based upon linear transects through the colony and mapping of the extent of the colony (see Hamilton et al. 1995). The proportion of active nests at a colony during the nesting season times the number of nests found at the end of the season gives an estimate of the number of females present at that time.

This number is multiplied by 1.5 to include males, a convention of Orians (1961) and Payne (1969) who determined that there was one polygynous male on the average for every two females at breeding colonies. This correction was not possible for the renesting birds at Merced NWR because no transects could be established without disrupting ongoing nesting activity.

#### Reproductive success (RS)

All accounts of RS in this report were based upon observations S. G. Herman (Evergreen State College) and the author. In a study of Red-winged Blackbirds Weatherhead and Dufour (2000) found a positive relationship of higher RS, as measured in this analysis, to population outcomes in following years. We determined RS by marking or observing nests and their fate immediately prior to fledging (Hamilton et al. 1995). RS was determined as follows:

Method 1. This analysis depends upon the relatively synchronous nesting of tricolor colonies. We either entered colonies or observed known stages of development such as nest building or the end of most male song signaling completion of egg laying and commencement of incubation of the last laid egg. At or near hatching colonies were again revisited and a series of 10 to 30 nests at the same stage of development were marked. The percentage of empty nests at this time also was noted. When the oldest nestlings were eight days old the colony was again visited and the number of active nests and number of nestlings per nest noted. At this stage it was also possible to search along an additional unmarked transect crossing the initially marked transect at right angles.

Method 2. If it is impractical to mark nests before eggs hatch, a series of nests can be located when or before the most developed nest is eight days post-hatching, a method comparable to that reported by Beletsky and Orians (1989) for Red-winged Blackbirds. In this way no nests that have fledged young can be mistaken for failed nests. This procedure is valid only for first nesting attempts at each site. Observations of subsequent nesting attempts may confuse failed nests with successful but empty nests from an earlier nesting cohort.

After the season when colonies are empty, more extensive transects are made. RS was measured at 20 colonies including the four failed silage colonies (Table 3 plus failed colonies). These data are essential to the estimation of fledgling production. Numbers from these measurements combined with reproductive effort, below, if extensive, can be used to predict the following year's population.

#### Reproductive effort (RE) and reproductive efficiency (RE/RS)

RE measures are based upon the global estimate of the tricolor population made by the Census, additional survey work and measures of RS at colonies. Reproductive efficiency is RE/RS. It is simply a measure of the effectiveness of time in producing fledglings.

Percentages (RE, Table 4) are the fraction of all time available during the season allocated by all tricolors to each colony. RE, if based upon perfect measurements of RS and of the size of the world population entering the breeding season, would

sum to 100%. But the size of the world population, the size of colonies and the proportion of nests that failed and when they failed all were measured imprecisely. Nevertheless, these are the only data available to estimate the productivity of colonies in alternative habitats. As such they provide data useful in evaluating the effectiveness of management investments to produce fledglings.

The global tricolor population was estimated to be 162,000 adults entering the 2000 breeding season (Table 1, Appendix 1). I assumed half of these birds (81,000) were females. For the 90 available breeding days (Hamilton 1998) minus 10 da for movement and recovery between successive nesting attempts (Payne 1969) there were thus estimated to be two times 81,000 or 162,000 tricolor female breeding days. There were substantially more than 162,000 nesting attempts because of nest failures and subsequent renesting efforts. To determine the percentage of the season's time expended at any particular colony, I determined the number of bird days spent there and divided by 81,000 times 80. These calculations, given in Appendix 6, produced estimates of RE (Table 4) and assume that all females actively nest and renest throughout the breeding season. This assumption is based upon our failure to find any substantial number of adults not actively breeding during the breeding season.

Adult mortality. Conversion of fledgling production to following year breeding adults requires an estimate of annual survivorship. But Tricolored Blackbird post fledging and adult mortality rates are unknown! Thus, no exact prediction of how many birds will enter the 2001 breeding season can be made. Information estimating survivorship in this report comes from studies of Red-winged Blackbirds (Beletsky and Orians 1989), an unsatisfying best-available-data approach. However, the values used here are within the range of values for known populations of songbirds of this size. When these estimates are applied to actual fledging data we (Hamilton et al. 1995) calculated that protection given to colonies in the mid-1990s would have had a substantial impact upon populations in subsequent years (Table 5).

#### Results

#### Comparison of 1999 and 2000 censuses

Some departures of numbers of tricolors at particular sites and localities in 2000 from reports in 1994, 1997 and 1999 are summarized in Table 6. These data show irregular annual local occurrence and abundance. While earlier authors commented on the illogical nature of these changes (see Beedy and Hamilton 1999) in most cases probable explanations for most local changes can be provided (Appendix 7).

The number of colonies found on the Census date increased from 53 in 1999 to 71 in 2000 (Table 1). Much of this increase is accounted for by the addition of small colonies in the foothills on both sides of the Central Valley (Figure 1). Ten small colonies in Kern and Placer counties compare with none in the same places in 1999 at the time of the Census (Clendennen, Coast Range foothills, Kern County; Ranlett, Sierra foothill locations Placer County). Five of the six Wind Wolves colonies were active later in the season in 1999, but did not settle until after the Census date and thus were not counted in the summary of the 1999 Census

investigation effort. Addition of these small colonies to Census observations in 2000 were the result of energetic and time-consuming search for colonies by local observers over a period of years, and by observers recruited to participate in the four-day search.

Participation in 2000 by Richard DeHaven, a highly experienced tricolor observer who searched agricultural fields in the San Joaquin Valley in the 1970s resulted in a substantial increase (by about 15,000 birds) in the number of tricolors located in the San Joaquin Valley. If DeHaven had not participated the Census total could have been as low as 147,000. DeHaven's (2000) method was to search extensively based upon several years of experience locating tricolor colonies (DeHaven et al., 1975).

A series of unfavorable local situations negatively impacted 1999 breeding outcomes (Hamilton et al. 1999). Several conditions were more favorable for tricolor breeding in 2000, summarized quantitatively in Table 6. Favorable events in 2000 were the buyout and/or success of the TeVelde and George colonies (Tulare County) the Delevan NWR and Hills Duck Club colonies (Colusa County) and Merced NWR colonies (Merced County). In addition, a greater proportion of all tricolor breeding in 2000 was on government lands (Merced NWR, Delevan NWR) than in previous years. They were highly successful (Appendix 1).

These colonies were in protected settings. Conditions at these sites following fledging may have favored better survival than the one-third estimation used here. Heaviest losses of fledglings are thought to come in the weeks immediately following fledging. Favorable conditions at this stage are produced by situations where the substrate remains habitable, as in marshes and blackberry thickets where water is immediately available. Early dispersal of fledglings and their parents to crèches near water and food, as is necessary for some silage field colonies, may impose higher losses upon fledglings. Circumstances at the Producers Dairy, Fresno County (1994, 1999), Merced NWR (2000) and at the TeVelde Ranch (2000) were particularly favorable because the silage nesting substrate provided persistent cover and access to open water remained available until tricolors and their fledglings voluntarily dispersed. Once tricolor nestlings fledge, marshes provide ideal maturation sites for fledglings.

The central conclusion of the Census and survey is that tricolors are continuing to decline precipitously in numbers, from millions in the 1930s (Neff 1937) to an estimated 750,000 in 1975 (Udvardy 1977), 370,000 as of the 1994 Census and 162,000 in this account for 2000. The conclusion that tricolor numbers are plummeting is based not only upon these data, but also on the collective experience of local experts throughout California who have observed tricolors over long intervals (Liz Cook and Ted Beedy, Sacramento County; Bill Hamilton, Yolo County; Richard DeHaven, Central Valley; Sam Fitton, San Joaquin Valley and Coast Range; Phil Unitt, San Diego County and others). Tricolors are a diminished natural spectacle in the Central Valley and in Southern California, the former strongholds of this species.

#### Ownership of habitat

About 31% of all tricolor reproductive effort was based upon nests placed on publicly owned property (Appendices 1, 5). This is higher than in most other years. However, these secure nesting sites depend upon the far less secure surrounding private lands. Tricolors select colony sites following spectacular *en masse* reconnaissance flights (Orians 1961) that cannot precisely predict the immediate future of the habitats they depend upon. Conversion of weedy fields and other habitats to cotton, vineyards and other substrates during the breeding season after tricolors have settled, as occurs occasionally, defeats colonies and wastes RE because adults continue to provision small and weak broods. As in previous years (Hamilton et al. 1995) over 90% of all foraging activity was on private property. The largest publicly owned foraging arena in 2000 was associated with the Merced NWR colonies, but these colonies also depended in part upon private lands and dairies (Woolington, pers. comm.).

#### Regional changes in abundance

There was a dramatic increase in the number of birds present in Merced County (Table 6, Appendices 1, 6) not attributable to increased observer effort. We (USFWS, CDFG, UCD) made a thorough search of Merced County west of Highway 99 in 1994, 1995, 1997, 1999 and 2000, as did others. Both USFWS and CDFG personnel live in this area and regularly travel local highways and roads. Interpretation of this change from 1999 and other years is included in Appendix 7.

#### Reproductive success and reproductive effort

Determination of the quantitative impact of reproductive losses upon population trends depends upon measures of demographic variables such as fledgling survivorship, annual survivorship of adults and number of breeding attempts. Mean RS for all monitored colonies is about 0.9 fledglings per female per nesting attempt (Table 3). If Census plus Survey counts of breeding birds estimate the global population total nests for the season (219,000) divided by the estimated population of females entering the breeding season (81,000) yields 2.7 nesting attempts per female per season.

The estimated reproductive effort (RE) lost to nests before fledging (RS) in Table 4 depends upon Census data estimating the whole population and identifying the duration of the breeding season. In 2000 the interval from the laying of the first to the last egg was somewhat more than 90 days, but there were relatively few and relatively small colonies at the extremes.

The match of the Census total to the observed RE (94.6 % in Table 4) was unexpectedly close and it is tempting to normalize these data to achieve a perfect match but this was not done. Comparison of these two data sets, collected in entirely different ways, suggest that an approximately equal effort was expended to obtain them. Both were more or less equally limited by property access and manpower constraints. The same people were responsible for about half the

estimates of the number of birds in colonies and about half of the same data entered into both summaries.

Dairy and grain associated colonies. Over 40% of all Tricolored Blackbird RE in 2000 was associated directly with dairies in the San Joaquin Valley and Southern California. Four colonies, one in Fresno County, two in Kings County and one in Tulare County were lost to harvest, accounting for 4.1% of all RE (Table 4).

Reproductive success in silage was 0.6 when failed and successful colonies were lumped (79,000 birds). When the 20,000 birds breeding in failed colonies are excluded RS was 1.0 per nest.

Silage and grain colonies near dairies accounted for 28.8% of all RE (Table 4). At and near dairies birds may nest in silage, cattails, Himalaya Blackberries, or in other nesting substrates (>41.5 % of seasonal RE, Table 4). Of this amount 11.7% was on the secure Merced NWR. Of the silage habitat, 14.2% of all RE was protected from destruction by USFWS purchase. But 14.2% is not the reproductive efficiency. When part of or all nests at colonies are lost, birds losing nests are freed to nest elsewhere. Assuming harvest losses occur midway through the breeding cycle, RE saved is half 14.2% or 7.1% and the number of fledglings saved by buyout intervention is proportionately less.

In recent years at Merced NWR when cattails but not thistles were available as a nesting substrate (except 1991, 'Glory Hole' cattail pond) there were no or small (<2000) colonies in this area. This year colonies nested in wheat fields overgrown to thistles and mustard (Tables 3, 4). Two of the three colonies nested a second time immediately following the first nesting effort. Nests were selectively placed in the densest patches of thistles and mustard. None were built in the patches of pure wheat between the thistle patches.

Rice associated colonies. Rice is an important foraging habitat for late nesting tricolors in the Sacramento Valley. Breeding in cattails or bulrushes adjacent to rice fields accounted for over 26.3% of all 2000 RE and over 34% of all RS. Most rice dependent colonies (86% of the individuals in 2000) range outward to forage for insects in rice fields. Cook (pers. comm.) noted the preference of tricolors for foraging in flooded and especially dry vernal pools. Figure 2 shows the foraging distance limits of one such colony on Tract 17, Delevan NWR. Tricolors at that colony also foraged on the refuge in dried vernal pools where insects, especially grasshoppers, were particularly conspicuous, but this part of the nestling provisioning effort accounted for less than 10% of all foraging time by that colony.

Bulrush nesting. At Maxwell II, nests in bulrushes were initially more successful than those in broadleaf cattails (*Typha latifolia*) in those in narrow leaf cattails (*T. angustifolia*) were the least successful. These differences were not analyzed further because their effect was eliminated by subsequent night heron predation. Bulrushes also accommodate heron, egret and ibis nesting. At two sites in Stanislaus and Merced counties, bulrush-nesting tricolor colonies not associated with night herons or ibises were highly successful. A large tricolor colony in bulrushes where no cattails were available in Riverside County was unsuccessful (<10% of nests fledged chicks) due to predation by Black-crowned Night-herons (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) and Great-tailed Grackles (*Quiscalus mexicanus*).

Observer effect. Comparison of RS of these nests with the marked and visited transect is a control estimating the effect of the observer upon the marked transect (summarized for previous years in Cook and Hamilton, ms.). No measurable effect was found, either in 2000 or in previous years (Cook and Hamilton, ms.). However, following entry into the George Dairy colony, Tulare County by the author and Richard DeHaven to evaluate the advisability of purchasing the colony and the crop, out trails through the exotic annual nettle (*Urtica urens*) and silage subsequently provided access for coyotes or dogs to prey upon nestlings. This result shows that coyote predation may be reduced by the presence of nettles.

#### Predation

Black-crowned Night-herons. Predation by Black-crowned Night-herons and raccoons (*Procyon lotor*) upon nests in cattail marshes and by Common Ravens (*Corvus corax*) and coyotes (*Canis latrans*) in upland and silage settings has in the past had catastrophic consequences for some colonies (Hamilton et al. 1995). However, some large cattail colonies were not heavily preyed upon by night herons in 2000. A high success rate was observed at two on Delevan NWR colonies (66% and 80% of all nest starts) and high RS in some cattail colonies was observed elsewhere (Table 3). This contrasts with recent (1993-1999) observations of wholesale tricolor nesting losses to night herons at most Central Valley cattail nesting sites including Delevan NWR in 1996 and 1997 and at several other sites in all previous years.

*Ibis association.* In 2000 I discovered that tricolors directly associated with ibises (*Plegadis chihi*) are protected from night heron predation. In some situations, as at Sutter NWR, Sutter County and the I-5 II colonies, tricolors stacked nests in bulrushes immediately below ibis nest platforms. In the same marshes, where both bulrushes and cattails were available, ibises sometimes used bulrushes exclusively (I-5 colony, 2000). Ibis also often use cattails for nesting platforms elsewhere.

#### Ten largest colonies

The record of the largest colonies since 1992 is summarized in Beedy and Hamilton (1997) for 1992, 1993, 1994 and 1997. The proportion of birds at the 10 largest colonies for the 2000 Census date (Table 7a, Figure 3) could be indicative of the thoroughness of our search. As the number of colonies located increases, the proportion of birds comprising the largest colonies might be expected to decrease, especially if the largest colonies are more likely to be detected. This proportion was 61.3% of all nesting birds at the time of the Census, lower than in previous years, suggesting that the 2000 search may have been particularly thorough.

Inclusion of a second list of the 10 largest colonies for the entire breeding season showed that over 58.9% of the *entire breeding season RE* was at the 10 largest colonies (Table 7b, Figure 4). When adjacent independent colonies within five miles of one another were combined into 10 *colony clusters* (Table 7c, Figure 5) they included an even greater proportion (76.2%) of all measured RE by tricolors for the season. One of several reasons colony clusters are so quantitatively important is that some of them produce two successive broods at the same location. Individuals losing nests can start again without losing time to travel and reconnaissance.

#### Discussion

#### Census analysis

Differences between years. Not all initial size estimates of colonies located during the Census can be adjusted by a post-season transect search to determine the number of active nests present during the breeding season. Refinement of initial estimates has been our convention in all years and, while it is a source for error in annual population estimates, it has been consistent. Part of the difference between 1999 and 2000 in number of birds found on the Census date could reflect a population increase resulting from protection by USFWS in 1999 of a large nesting colony (Producer's Dairy) in silage. But assuming that one-third of the fledglings produced there survived to breed the following year (Cook et al. 1993), fledglings from that colony would have added only about 9,000 individuals to the year 2000 breeding cohort (Table 5). The difference between 1999 and 2000 can more probably be explained by participation of DeHaven in the 2000 Census and by our failure to fully account for the fate of the large flock (75,000) observed (Hamilton et al. 1999) just prior to the 1999 Census in Tulare County.

Nonbreeding birds. There have been in all years of this study (1992-2000) relatively few nonbreeding birds (Appendix 2 for the Census date in 2000); most of them are flocks associated with colonies.

#### Habitat selection and habitat losses

Habitat selection. Tricolor colonies vary in size from 100 or even less (e.g., Clendennen, Kern County foothills) to as many as 105,000 individuals (1994, San Luis NWR) and in the past to as many as 300,000 individuals (Neff, 1937, Glenn County). Initial settlement at colony sites is into the most favorable situations. As settlement continues less favorable habitats are occupied. For example, dense thistles in wheat and silage fields attract first nesting individuals. Later starters may nest in thinner thistle patches or even in the wheat. Mapping hatching dates of nests throughout a colony identifies this relationship. First hatching nests are first settled. Males settling less favorable peripheral habitats may not attract females and subsequently may abandon their territories (Hamilton et al. 1995). This agrees with Collier's (1968) observation that far more individuals initiate than complete the nesting cycle at most or all colony sites, as observed again this year.

At some colonies all suitable nesting habitat is occupied (Hamilton et al. 1995). Elsewhere there is additional nesting habitat closely similar to that occupied which is unutilized (e.g., most, but not all, years at Laguna Seca, Monterey County). There are different densities of settlements in different years, especially at sites where all suitable habitat is utilized, such as at the Toledo Pit, Tulare County. So a local settlement exceeding the capacity of nesting habitat to accommodate it may accept low quality nesting substrate. Or some individuals may move on and settle elsewhere.

Habitat selection and water utilization. Tricolors select colony sites based upon their proximity to foraging areas. Nesting success depends, in part, upon the mean distance they must travel to provision chicks (Cook, Hamilton pers. obsn.). Tricolor colonies also depend upon open water within a short (< 500 m) distance from colony sites. Their need for water is low and can be satisfied by a small pond

and less than an acre-foot of water, by irrigation canals and even pools remaining late in the spring in seasonal streams. However, sites dependent upon flooding to protect nests or to support emergent aquatic vegetation, such as bulrushes and cattails, require open water for about four months and may require as much as three acre feet of water per acre per year. In California cattail marsh studies underway and completed suggest that cattails use less water than the reference comparison crop, healthy lawn or alfalfa. One cattail marsh in Ontario, Canada used 4.8 mm water/da, about 2 acre-feet/4 mo. season, not significantly different from shallow open pond water (4.9 mm/day). Thus, removal of cattails may not appreciably improve the water retention capacity of shallow water-filled reservoirs. This counterintuitive conclusion is due to a reduction of evaporative water losses by the cattail stand (Price 1994). Removal of cattail stands to enhance water capacity, as observed in Fresno, Yolo and Glenn counties and elsewhere may be unwarranted.

Reserve characteristics. Nesting sites must be associated with a nearby foraging space. In this year's rice study the foraging area supporting colonies on Delevan NWR included rice fields only up to 3.5 miles away. This area amounted to 10,000 ha or 25,000 acres per colony site (Figure 2). The amount of foraging habitat used within this space depends upon the resource and usually includes only a small part of the total area.

Other crops suitable for foraging tricolors near colonies include alfalfa and irrigated pasture, safflower, sunflowers and grains. Tricolors do occasionally forage in orchards, but not vineyards, and in most row crops (tomatoes, cotton, sugar beets, etc.), but they spend no substantial time doing so. Rangeland and oak-woodland are also important foraging habitats (East Park, Colusa County, Laguna Seca, Monterey County, Camanche Reservoir, San Joaquin County). All colonies require nearby water sources.

There is a vast additional potential to produce tricolor fledglings associated with rice if safe (free from night heron predation) nesting substrates can be provided. Mike Wolder, biologist at Sacramento NWR, Glenn County, advises development of parcels not smaller than 25-30 acres. A further modest buffer zone outside impoundments is desirable.

The colony on Tract 17 at Delevan NWR (Figure 2) was ideally situated to take advantage of nearby rice fields without being a major problem to rice growers. There are several reasons for the low impact of the Delevan colonies upon rice growers: 1) these colonies were not immediately adjacent to the utilized fields and thus their impact upon sprouting rice was spread over several growers, 2) the area was in production in all directions and there was a large amount of rice within reach of foraging tricolors and 3) the refuge provided some foraging habitat, supplementing tricolor resources and reducing the impact upon nearby rice. Elsewhere 40-acre parcels work well as nesting habitats. But parcels as small as two acres or even less can be significant producers of fledglings (Sunsweet, Yolo County 1998, 2000; San Luis Obispo County colony, 2000, 2/3 acre).

The most important foraging areas near dairies were alfalfa fields, irrigated pastures and grain associated with dairying operations. Adult tricolors in this setting also make extensive use of wheat and barley in the milk stage and dairy cow rations, especially cracked corn (Skorupa et al. 1980, Hamilton et al. 1995), imposing moderate losses upon dairymen.

Colony clusters. Once having identified the concept of colony clusters (above) I searched for them not only on the ground but also in the recent historical record. They were not difficult to find. The colony cluster in the vicinity of the Capitol Outing Club, Colusa County, followed by Orians (1961) in the late 50s, remains active (Table 7). Himalaya blackberries supporting a vast rice-foraging tricolor settlement east of Willows, California, were deliberately destroyed in 1998. In Sacramento County the colony cluster at Ranch Seco was lost to deliberate destruction of nesting habitat and to a huge vineyard. In Kings County during the 1990s the tricolor megalopolis near I-5 was lost to almonds, barley and cotton. The historical (1959) marsh colony at Madison, Yolo County (>100,000, Orians 1961) was lost to drainage. Neff (1937 reported several colony clusters, mostly in marshes in the midst of the rice growing districts of the Sacramento Valley that no longer exist.

Deliberate habitat destruction. Deliberate habitat loss, sometimes associated with tricolor observer actions, both by Census observers and the author, is a major problem. Since there has been a trend towards nesting in introduced plants (DeHaven 1975, Cook 1996, Hamilton and Beedy 1997, 1999) it will be difficult to rationalize their protection. As agriculture continues to intensify, patches of Himalaya blackberries are steadily being lost to potent herbicides and burning. A biodiversity-based justification for long-term maintenance of Himalaya blackberries (Hamilton et al. 1999) and giant cane (Arundo, DeHaven 2000) is not a viable long-term solution to the tricolor decline problem.

*Urbanization.* Protection of spectacular small colonies in the midst of cities, especially in Southern California but also at Laguna Seca (Monterey County) and elsewhere by easements or outright purchase is an urgent priority.

*Predation changes*. The distribution and abundance of ibis in California is expanding, from 800 in 1990 to 5,134 in 1999 (Ivey et al. 2000). Resurgence of ibis may change the long-term value of cattail marshes for tricolors and offers one answer to the question of how tricolors dealt with night herons in the past.

#### Management Actions and Their Outcome

Population increases depend upon habitat enhancement and protection. Since suitable nesting and foraging habitats have entirely different characteristics, improvement of conditions for either may produce a successful colony where there was none, as observed in 2000 and in other years at several locations.

Wind Wolves Conservancy. At Wind Wolves (western Kern County), following fence building to exclude cattle from foothill springs, the number of birds using nettles and cattails there increased from 740 in 1999 to 3,660 in 2000. Tricolors, unlike redwings, are well suited to exploitation of open, unirrigated rangeland. End of season observation showed high RS (as measured only by attendance of large flocks provisioning flighted fledglings) is a harbinger of further population increases. The limits to production in such safe foothill colonies has not been determined but has the potential to increase overall tricolor abundance while generating positive benefits in rangelands by controlling herbivorous insects, especially grasshoppers. The privately funded initiative at Wind Wolves identifies

a major opportunity to enhance tricolor numbers in rangeland habitats. Foothill and valley margins colonies also have escaped night heron predation (e.g., Sunsweet, Table 3).

Refuge nesting in goose habitat. At Merced NWR three colonies settled in weedy wheat. There thistles flourished in wheat fields planted to attract geese. A large proportion (>80%) of tricolor nests in these thistles succeeded. Both of the colonies monitored also successfully renested (Table 3, 4). This is at a site where there has been little successful tricolor nesting during the 1990s. A secure nesting substrate was the missing ingredient.

Other management actions on NWRs. At Sacramento, Delevan, Merced and Kern NWRs pools with cattails continue to be managed for tricolors. In comparison with 1994 observations an increasing proportion of the entire RE in 2000 was on wildlife refuges. Colusa NWR (Colusa County), once a tricolor nesting site, at present maintains no suitable tricolor nesting habitat.

#### **Populations**

Connectivity (Merriam 1991), i.e. movement between colony sites in California north of the Tehachapis may be nearly complete (DeHaven et al. 1975, Hamilton 1998). A success or loss anywhere may be a contribution to, or subtraction from the whole Central Valley population and, if tricolors move freely between Northern and Southern California, the global tricolor population. Local between year changes in presence of tricolors (Table 6) can be related to changes in local conditions. Earlier authors, incompletely informed about the causes of year-to-year changes in conditions, felt these changes were illogical and without apparent cause (a conclusion summarized in Beedy and Hamilton 1999). Payne (1969) evaluated proximate causes of year-to-year changes in settlement patterns. He and Collier (1968) evaluated the role of burning of cattail marshes and the delay or elimination of initiation of breeding caused by it. Collier (1968) showed that the drying of ponds caused local colonies to shift their location and noted that specific marsh conditions influenced changes in settlement and numbers. Most of the year-to-year changes (Table 6) have logical explanations, derived from my diachronic observations. Some of them are given in Appendix 7. Site by site, the causes of loss of colony sites and their associated foraging habitats are known. Causes of tricolor declines in abundance are also known and remedies are equally apparent.

The main utility of Table 4 is to show the relative importance of alternative habitats and the management strategies they suggest. Substitution of alternative estimates will change the results (Table 5). For example, if survivorship of adults is 70% rather than 50% there will be 33,000 more adults in 2001. But these adjustments will not change the relative importance of particular colonies; relative importance of colonies will change only if the global population was underestimated. Available data suggest that a viable management strategy is to work with known colony sites and already identified habitats. Search for and evaluation of habitat without these leads (DeHaven 2000), a potentially useful long-term strategy, will be neither cost effective nor timely.

Hamilton (1998) evaluated patterns of irregular within-breeding-season movements by tricolors. His study, based upon the annual censuses and surveys, showed that

tricolors are breeding at more than one place during the breeding season, i.e., that they are itinerant breeders. When tricolors have not yet arrived at a site an observer finding no colonies may erroneously conclude that there are no birds using a particular locality or region that year (Hosea 1984, Beedy et al. 1991, DeHaven 2000 for Colusa County).

Colonies also can be overlooked if visits to colony sites are infrequent. At one site (Capitol Outing Club) in 1994, 60,000 tricolors arrived and initiated breeding between June 1 and June 4. Their nests were entirely emptied by night heron predation by June 17. Observations there on all dates before June 1 and after June 17 would have produced no observations of tricolors. To avoid missing birds during the breeding season local searches must persistently observe colony sites throughout the season, an activity best pursued by local residents.

#### **Further Work and Recommendations**

There is a wide range of possible ways that tricolor distribution and abundance are affected (see especially Hamilton 1998). These have been largely unevaluated. The extensive and complex literature dealing with population fluctuations has as yet not been brought to bear on the tricolor population evaluation and management problem. One achievement of ongoing tricolor studies is identification of a set of actions (Beedy and Hamilton 1997, Hamilton et al., 1999, this report) that, when implemented in specific places, will promptly reverse the striking decline in tricolor numbers noted here and reported elsewhere.

Future Censuses and surveys. In 1994, 1997, 1999 and 2000 we searched for colonies with as many people as possible, as thoroughly as possible on a specific date. This Census depends upon participants to locate and estimate the size of colonies. Serious amateur and professional birders (Appendix 8) located most of all birds recorded. Future censuses and surveys should emphasize participation by these highly motivated and knowledgeable individuals. An expanded list of people contacted and who contacted us but filed no written or verbal report is also available. Censuses in the past two years were done on short notice. There is competition for the time of those individuals most qualified to make field evaluations of tricolor distribution and abundance in late April when the censuses are conducted. A season long search for colonies would not depend upon recruiting of these individuals on a particular weekend. I recommend that a season-long survey be conducted in 2001 to more effectively identify all colonies and to avoid overemphasis upon the San Joaquin Valley colonies active on the traditional dates of the Census. What is the best method for attaining maximum coverage?

Any census should be planned well in advance and an intensive search for colonies initiated by mid-March. Early season observers need to be in the field by 20 March when the silage-nesting season begins. Much of the work developing estimates of colony size and almost all of the RS estimates were made after the Census was completed. Some colonies forming before or after the Census were not located or were reported and not quantified. These essential activities are personnel and cost limited. Resources throughout the 1990s, with the exception of 1994, were inadequate to exploit the opportunity to evaluate the fate of colonies which in all years has depended heavily upon volunteer labor. To quantitatively track this

species we need one or two full-time experienced field workers and a full-time communications and records keeper working at least six months.

Contacting landowners and convincing them to accept observers is a time consuming process and requires a skillful person willing to work with diverse people and organizations. Censuses and surveys are sensitive and have resulted in the loss of colonies to deliberate destruction by landowners. Further work needs to consider ways to minimize this effect.

Night heron predation. Unlike all recent years (since 1991) Black-crowned Nightheron predation was low or absent at some cattail colonies. Hence I withdraw my support for our (Hamilton et al. 1999) recommendation that additional large cattail expanses to accommodate tricolor breeding be avoided. This conclusion notwithstanding, most tricolor nesting in cattails failed at Kern NWR, Kern County, probably due to night heron predation. Night herons were observed destroying the Maxwell I and Maxwell II colonies (Colusa County). A quantitative measure of night heron and ibis distribution and abundance is needed. It should be compared with earlier heron censuses conducted by CDFG. These old records need to be recovered and extended.

Rice. Tricolors are at present heavily dependent upon rice (Table 4), the successor to the great Sacramento Valley wetlands. In 2000 RS at most nests in rice habitats was lower (by about 20%) than in other (1991-1999) seasons (Table 3). A recent analysis of riparian birds in California (RHJV, 2000) states that pesticides are a factor in tricolor decline. I know of no evidence that toxic contaminants have adversely affected this species since Beedy and Hayworth's (1992) report of selenium poisoning associated with the Kesterson affair. The possible impact of recent changes in pest insect control upon tricolor reproduction in rice needs evaluation. A study of the environmental relationships of tricolors depending upon rice is a high priority. For an evaluation of use and management of rice for waterbirds in Europe see Fasola and Ruiz (1997).

Silage. The scale of operations necessary to implement a policy of protecting colonies in silage by USFWS should not be underestimated. It may not be evident from this and previous reports that censuses in late April were conducted during the breeding season well after several silage colonies already were lost. Some silage colony losses scatter large colonies, reducing the potential to accurately estimate numbers of colonies and breeding birds. If USFWS plans to implement a policy of protecting all tricolor colonies in silage habitats, regardless of planned actions, the plan needs to be established before the 2001 tricolor breeding season.

Access. Another issue to be considered relative to tricolor management if silage colonies are going to be managed is access to private property. One 1994 Tulare County silage colony (50,000 birds) nesting on private property could only be accessed by travelling about three miles on private roads. That year USFWS personnel were unable to do so. The colony was wiped out during harvest. Elsewhere we have relied on the goodwill of landowners for access to colonies. How is this problem going to be resolved?

Are buyouts meaningful to tricolor populations? There are several reasons to buy out or otherwise protect at-risk colonies on private property. These include; (1)

silage fields produce tricolors, a declining and possibly jeopardized species, supplementing their numbers relatively inexpensively, (2) there are ethical objections to destroying colonies of birds and (3) we should a be observing the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

Discussion above suggests that tricolor abundance is a matter of adding to and subtracting from a pool of individuals comprising the population. This kind of calculation is especially meaningful when populations are suppressed by catastrophic events such as DDT poisoning, excessive hunting, collecting and other exotic human forces. Is silage cutting such a factor? Between 1992 and 1994, in 1999 and 2000 we (CDFG, USFWS, Hamilton, Producers Dairy) protected several colonies, substantially reducing silage breeding colony losses. Nevertheless the decline continued (Table 5). Perhaps tricolor population decline is the outcome of habitat loss and largely independent from fledgling losses. Was the Passenger Pigeon (*Ectopistes migratorius*) hunted to extinction or the victim of massive habitat changes (Butcher 1992)?

Population changes and within-season movements. The plausible suggestion by DeHaven (2000) that losses of large colonies in the silage fields may have no population meaning seems to be refuted by his classical studies (DeHaven et al. 1975) which showed that tricolor philopatry is limited. Tricolors fledged at any particular colony are more likely to be found somewhere else the following year than at their natal colony site when they initiate nesting. It seems to follow that successful colonies may contribute to or draw upon breeding stock elsewhere, either as colonists or as additions to active colonies. It should also follow that those persistent failures at particular colony sites use reproductive effort (RE), depleting the entire population. In response to these arguments DeHaven (pers. comm.) notes that while natal philopatry is limited, 2-year-old and older tricolors may be more highly philopatric to their sites of initial breeding settlement, a relationship not tested by any available data and certainly a possibility. Itinerant breeding (Hamilton 1998) demonstrates the interdependence of tricolor colonies throughout the Central Valley and possibly the tricolor world. To what extent are the respective colonies in the Central Valley drawing upon or contributing to one another? Are there major sources (of production of fledglings) and sinks (habitats vielding unsuccessful reproduction, Pulliam 1988, Hamilton et al. 1995)? Many details of tricolor life history are unresolved and knowledge of them is crucial to an informed evaluation of the causes of tricolor population decline.

#### Conclusion

Tricolored Blackbirds deserve to be given a higher priority in conservation affairs than they have so far been given. In a recent USGS announcement of support for species at risk (SAR), over 40 species of birds were listed as eligible for funding. Tricolored Blackbirds were not included. In a review of avian diversity and conservation priorities, Owens and Bennett (2000) evaluated phenotypic diversity. The phenotypic diversity component of the North American avifauna represented by tricolors is huge. Tricolors are now the most highly colonial land bird in North America, a place they took in 1914 when the Passenger Pigeon became extinct. Massed colonies are a part of tricolor and avian diversity, and that aspect of their diversity continues to erode.

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Bob Barnes, California Audubon, organized the Census, recruiting not only participants but also enthusiasm for the species and its protection.

The participants in the Census are listed in Appendix 8. Their reports included much of importance in addition to the reports of observations of tricolor at and away from colonies. Appendix 8 lists only those who contributed written accounts to the Census. Listing of all those who dutifully searched for and reported colonies is not possible but their support is deeply appreciated.

Sam Fitton and Richard DeHaven made particularly extensive travels in the San Joaquin Valley to make the Census as complete as possible.

Liz Cook contributed data not only from 2000 but also previous years. Without her extensive knowledge of the tricolor issue in Sacramento County a far less complete report would be possible.

Without exception I have had full cooperation from the USFWS NWRs and their respective staffs. This included the use of staff time to participate in counts of colonies and to verify situations in the field that would otherwise have relied only upon the observations of the author. At San Luis NWR Sharon Bakeman and Tim Kelson assisted in the field with post-season nest counts. Mike Carpenter helped in the field at Delevan with active nest counts. Dennis Woolington provided logistic and personal support with information and time afield. At Sacramento NWR Mike Wolder provide real time information about tricolor settlements. At Kern NWR tricolor observations were made and supported by David Hardt and Jack Allen.

Holman King, CDFG biologist, located and supported reconnaissance of a colony in northern Merced and southern Stanislaus counties.

David Clendennen precisely tracked tricolor and other events in nature on the Wind Wolves reserve.

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#### 2000 TRICOLORED BLACKBIRD SURVEY TABLE 1 INVESTIGATION EFFORT

#### Investigation effort summary for Tricolored Blackbird Survey years

INVESTIGATION SITES	N S	SITES ON	APRIL 21-	N COUNTIES					
	1994	1997	1999	2000	1994	1997	1999	2000	
SURVEY BREEDING COLONIES	80	71	53	72	26	25	22	24	
COLONY SITES NO BIRDS PRESENT	94	43	114	134	18	15	19	26	
TOTAL	174	114	167	206	33	29	29	33	
TOTAL BREEDING COLONIES ALL DATES	99	79	89	98	28	28	26	25	
TOTAL COUNTIES SURVEYED					37	34	32	33	
SURVEY PARTICIPANTS REPORTING	68	55	50	81					

SURVEY SUMMARY, NUMBER OF BIRDS:	1994	1997	1999	2000	
BREEDING BIRDS *1	300,000	185,000	85,000	105,481	
BREEDING BIRDS **2	330,000	230,000	95,000	155,000	

<sup>\*1</sup> Breeding birds as of late April; observers Bill Hamilton, Liz Cook, Bakersfield observers, Sam Fitton, Tim Manolis. Scope is Central Valley plus eastern Riverside County. Latter done by Hamilton, local collaborators. Figures rounded to nearest 5,000.

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<sup>\*\*2</sup> Breeding birds as above plus all reports by other observers throughout the geographic distribution of the species as of late April. Rounded to

# TRICOLORED BLACKBIRD April 21-24, 2000 SURVEY TABLE 2 ANNUAL SURVEY COMPARISON

		1994		ĺ		1997	
Region and County	Breeding	Nonbreeding	Total		Breeding	Nonbreeding	Total
SACRAMENTO VALLEY							
BUTTE	0	0	0		0	0	0
COLUSA	25	2	27		2,100	1,975	4,075
EL DORADO	0	0	0		0	i)	0
GLENN	2,000	0	2,000	i	0	0	0
PLACER	1,000	0	1,000	- 1	430	228	658
SACRAMENTO	93,225	803	94,028		25,850	5,658	31,508
SUTTER	35		235		0	0	0
TEHAMA	0		0		35	0	35
			475		200	0	200
YOLO	400		597	ı	0		950
YUBA SUBTOTAL	9 <b>6,685</b>		98,362		28,615	8.811	37,426
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY							
CALAVERAS	0	0	0		8,253	60	8,313
FRESNO	21,150		21,150		2,500		8,550
KERN	70,600		72,255		16,850		16,900
	70,000		10,000		33,300		33,300
KINGS	_				1		13,000
MERCED	60,100		79,100		13,000		
SAN JOAQUIN	13,750		15,978		11,750		11,857
STANISLAUS	2,500		3,928		150		150
TULARE	50,000		50,000		53,500		55,500
SUBTOTAL	218,100	34,311	252,411		139,303	8,267	147,570
SAN FRANCISCO BAY DELTA	20		2.1			0	1 207
ALAMEDA	20		24		1,265		1,265
CONTRA COSTA	400		400		0		0
MARIN	0		400	1	0		0
NAPA	11		11		350		400
SANTA CLARA	3,350	150	3,500	1	550		550
SOLANO	0	5	5		37	1	38
SUBTOTAL	3,781	559	4,340		2,202	51	2,253
NODELL COACE							
NORTH COAST							2
HUMBOLDT	100		100		0		0
LAKE	0		0	•	0		60
MENDOCINO	0		0	1	12		12
SONOMA	0		30		0		0
SUBTOTAL	100	30	130		12	60	72
CENTRAL COAST							
MONTEREY	2,200	20	2,220	l	5,500	400	5,900
SAN BENITO	, 0		0	ļ	460	778	1,238
SAN LUIS OBISPO	0		0		660		660
SANTA BARBARA	2,000		2,000				0
	,		,		i .		
SANTA CRUZ	0		0		0 000		0
SUBTOTAL	4,200	20	4,220		6,620	1,178	7,798
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA							
LOS ANGELES	755		815		430		430
ORANGE	1,000		1,034		231		231
RIVERSIDE	2,100		2,175		37,956	400	38,356
SAN BERNARDINO	0	0	0		300	0	300
SAN DIEGO	2,000	0	2,000		3,178	58	3,236
TUOLUMNE	0	0	0		, c		0
VENTURA	90		90	1	C		0
SUBTOTAL	5,945		6,114		42,095		42,553
NODTHE ACT INTERVOR							
NORTHEAST INTERIOR							
LASSEN	0		0	t	C		6
MODOC	0		250		0		0
SHASTA	2,500		2,585		0		0
SISKIYOU SUBTOTAL	400 <b>2,900</b>		947 3, <b>782</b>		250 250		250 2 <b>56</b>
			3,182		200		200
TOTAL	331,711	37,648			219,097	18,831	
GRAND TOTAL	, ,	,-30	369,359			-0,002	237,928
CALIFORNIA CO WITH BIRDS	32	2				30	

	_	1999	m . 1	n	2000	TD - 4 - 1
Region and County	Breeding	Nonbreeding	Total	Breeding	Nonbreeding	Total
SACRAMENTO VALLEY	<b>=</b> 000	050	~ 050	= 0.9=	399	= 101
BUTTE	5,000	958	5,958	5,035 2,500		5,434 2,500
COLUSA	1,000	31. 0	1,031	2,500		2,500
EL DORADO	0	0	0	0		0
GLENN	0 000 e	2,500	4,500	6,200		6,200
PLACER SACRAMENTO	2,000 12,859	2,500	12,859	12,275	-	16.383
SUTTER	200	-	400	200		200
TEHAMA	0		0	0		0
YOLO	0		o	80		80
YUBA	0	0	oi	0	0	0
SUBTOTAL	21,059	3,689	24,748	26,290	4,507	30,797
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY						
CALAVERAS	0		0	260		760
FRESNO	39,790		40,040	5,046		5,061
KERN	3,350		3,350	10,600		10,650
KINGS	0		0.001	10,000		10,000
MERCED	1,500		3,961 0	25,980 7,008		27,100 7,073
SAN JOAQUIN	0 3,000		4,126	1,000		15
STANISLAUS TULARE	3,000 14,000	-,	14,000	53,300		53,300
SUBTOTAL	61,640		65,477	112,194		113,959
SAN FRANCISCO BAY DELTA						
ALAMEDA	4,000	0	4,000	0	0	0
CONTRA COSTA	, 0		0	0	0	0
MARIN	0	0	0	0	0	0
NAPA	640	40	680	104	0	104
SANTA CLARA	0	0	0	0	0	0
SOLANO		33	33	0		0
SUBTOTAL	4,640	73	4,713	104	0	104
NORTH COAST						
HUMBOLDT	0		0	0		0
LAKE	0		0	0		0
MENDOCINO	15		15	0		ı)
SONOMA SUBTOTAL	0 1 <b>5</b>		0 1 <b>5</b>	0		0
CENTRAL COAST						
MONTEREY	2,430		2,436	955		1,018
SAN BENITO	201	160	160	702		1,420
SAN LUIS OBISPO	261 0		511 0	500		1.000
SANTA BARBARA SANTA CRUZ	300	-	300	200		0 200
SUBTOTAL	2,991		3,407	2,357		3,638
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA						
LOS ANGELES	520	605	1,125	510	100	610
ORANGE	100		106	490		195
RIVERSIDE	3,000		4,000	10,000		10,000
SAN BERNARDINO	1,000	,	1,000	0		0
SAN DIEGO	160		195	1,310		2.021
TUOLUMNE	0		0	400		575
VENTURA	0	0	0	0		0
SUBTOTAL	4,780	1,646	6,426	12,710	991	13,701
NORTHEAST INTERIOR						
LASSEN	0		0	300	9	309
MODOC	0		0	0		0
SHASTA	0		01	0		0
SISKIYOU SUBTOTAL	0	-	0	300		30 <b>0</b>
SCOTOTAL			0	300	9	309
TOTAL	95,125	9,661		153,955	8,553	
	00,120	0,001	40.00	· ·		
GRAND TOTAL	00,120	0,001	104,786	· ·		162.508

### $\begin{array}{c} {\tt 2000\ TRICOLORED\ BLACKBIRD\ SURVEY} \\ {\tt TABLE\ 3} \\ {\tt REPRODUCTIVE\ SUCCESS\ IN\ 2000} \end{array}$

			REP	RODUCTIVE	SUCCESS II	N 2000					
Colony (Foraging Ha	Substrate	Date	N nests	succ nests	% succ	RS Succ	All	Colony Size	Fledge	Predation	Ibis
COLUSA											
DELEVAN 17 (RICE)	CATTAIL ·	6/17/00	35	28	80	1.5	1.20	25,000	20,000	NO	NO
DELEVAN 42 (RICE)	CATTAIL	6/10/00	29	19	66	2.7	1.80	12,000	14,000	NO	NO
HILLS (RICE)	CATTAIL	6/23/00 6/27/00	36	24 18	67	1.6 1.6	1.20	25,000	20,000	NO	
ACRE FARMS (RICE)	CATTAIL	6/13/00	39	6	15	1.6	0.50	10,000	3,333	HERON	NO
I-5 MAXWELL (RICE)	I CATTAIL	7/1/00	22	5	23	1.6	0.40	5,000	1,199	HERON	YES
I-5 MAXWELL (RICE)	II CATTAIL/BULRUSH	7/9/00	71	2	3	2.0	0.03	2,000	38	HERON	YES
HARBISON RD (CATTAIL)		7/1/00		0	0	0.0	0.00	7,500	0	HERON	NO
MERCED											
MERCED NWR (RANGELAN	#3 THISTLE ID)	5/25/00	22	18	82	14	1.12	18,000	13,440	МО	NO
MERCED NWR (RANGELAN	#5 THISTLE	6/3/00	5	4	80	1.0	0.80	11,000	8,800	NO	NO
ARENA PLAIN	S H.BLKBERRY ID)	5/13/00	36	18	50	1.9	0.95	8,500	5,666	NO	NO
RIVERSIDE											
немет	BULRUSH	4/7/00 5/12/00	6 44	2	4	1.8 1.5	0.20 0.10	10,000 10,000		HERON / GRACKLE	YES
SUTTER											
SUTTER NWR (RICE)	CATTAIL / BULRUSH	8/2/00	108	7	6	1.4	0.10	7,500	500	HERON	YES
TULARE											
TE VELDE (ALFALFA)	SILAGE	5/3/00 5/6/00	33 91	24 44	73 48	1.4 1.5	1.00 0.70	30,000 30,000	20,000 14,000	COYOTE	МО
TOLEDO PIT (ALFALFA)	CATTAIL	4/16/00	36	16	44	1.6	0.70	15,000	7,000	NONE	NO
YOLO											
SUNSWEET I (RICE)	CATTAIL	4/17/00	20	0	0	0.0		200	0	UNK	ХО
SUNSWEET II (RICE)	CATTAIL	6/1/00		10		2.1		2,000	2,800	NO	NO

X WEIGHTED RS / NEST OF MEASURED COLONIES EXCLUDING LOST SILAGE COLONIES
X UNWEIGHTED RS / NEST OF MEASURED COLONIES INCLUDING LOST SILAGE COLONIES
0.87

# TRICOLOR BLACKBIRD April 21-24, 2000 SURVEY ${\tt TABLE~4}$ REPRODUCTIVE EFFORT SUMMARY FOR SREEDING COLONIES

Colony	Ownershi p nesting		Foraging Substrate	Si D	Nesting Substrate		Reproduc tive effort	Colony Size (Adults)	Fledglings	Fledgling s per
Population use of time (PVT) Public (PUB) (	e for each co Government	lony, Time l (GOV)	ost to succe	ssful 1	nests (S) appears above	lost n	ests (U) Sila	ige (Si) Grain	(G) Dairy (D)	Privte
RICE DEPENDENT F	ORAGING									
DELEVAN 17:	GOV	PVT/PUB	RICE		CATTAIL	s U	3.2% 0.8%	25,000	20,000	1,20
DELEVAN 42:	GOV	PVT	RICE		CATTAIL	S U	3.3% 0.6%	12,000	14.000	1.75
HILLS RICE:	PVT	PVT	RICE		CATTAIL/ BULLRUSH	S U	6.9% 1.3%	25,000	20.000	1.20
ACRE FARMS:	PVT	PVT	RICE		CATTAIL	s U	0.6% 1.3%	10,000	3,333	0.50
MAXWELL I:	GOV	PVT	RICE		CATTAIL	S U	0.5% 0.6%	5,000	1,200	0.36
MAXWELL II:	GOV	PVT	RICE		WILD RICE	S U	TRACE 0.3%	2.000	38	0.05
SUNSWEET:	PVT	PVT :	RICE		CATTAIL	S	0.7%	2,000	1,919	1.4
SUTTER WILD RICE:	PVT	PVT	RICE		CATTAIL	S U	3.7% 0.5%			
SUTTER NWR:	GOV	PVT	RICE		CATTAIL/ BULLRUSH	S U	0.2% 0.7%	7,500	500	0 1
HARBISON	PVT	PVT	RICE		CATTAIL	U	0.3%	7,500	9	0.0
TOTAL ALL RICE							30.5%			
ALFALFA FORAGINO	G (=DAIRY D	EPENDENT	) COLONIES	S						
FAILED SILAGE			ALFALFA	Si /D	CUT FEED	U	4.1%	20,000	9	0.0
TE VELDE:	PVT	PVT	ALFALFA	Si/D	WHEAT (TRITICALE)	S U	7.4% 3.9%	30,000	17,000	0.8
GEORGE DAIRY:	PVT	PVT	ALFALFA	Si/D	WHEAT/ NETTLES	S U	2.3% 0.6%	7,500	4,500	0.9
TOLEDO PIT:	PUB	PVT	ALFALFA	D	CATTALLS	S U	2.4% 3.8%	21,000	10,266	0.7
HEMET:	PUB	PVT	ALFALFA	D	BULRUSH	S U	0.3% 4.0%	20,000	1,000	0.0
TOTAL ALL							28.8%			
MERCED COUNTY C	OLONIES, F	RANGELAND	FORAGINO	S						
MERCED NWR 3:	GOV	PVT/GOV	RANGE		THISTLE	S U		18.000	13,440	) 1.1
MERCED NWR 5:	GOV	PVT/GOV	RANGE	Si /D	THISTLE	S	3.6%	11,900	8,800	) 1.2
ARENA PLAINS:	PUB	PVT	RANGE		H. BLACKBERRY	s U	1.3%	8,500	5,666	3 1.0
MERCED NWR NORTH	H: PUB	PVT/GOV	RANGE	Si /D	WHEAT		0.8%	2,000		
TOTAL MEASURED MERCED:							14.3%			

# TRICOLOR BLACKBIRD April 21-24, 2000 SURVEY ${\it TABLE~4}$ REPRODUCTIVE EFFORT SUMMARY FOR BREEDING COLONIES

Colony	Ownershi		Foraging Si D	Nesting Substrate			Colony Size	Fledglings	Fledgling
	p nesting	foraging	Substrate		U t	tive effort	(Adults)		s per
The following were no	t measured	and are esti	mated based upo	n same year and other yea	ar mea	asurement	s in similar hal	oitats elsewhe	ere.
ÆRN NWR RENEST	GOV	PVT	?	CATTAIL		0.7%	2,000		
STANISLAUS SLOUGH	?	PVT	ALFALFA	BULRUSH		4.6%	15,000		
OTHER BULRUSH	MIX	MIX	MIXED	BULRUSH		2.8%	9,139		
3LACKBERRY	MIX	MIX		H. BLACKBERRY		8.0%	25,192		
CATTAIL	MIX	MIX	MIXED	CATTAIL		3.0%	9,957		
CAMARISK	PVT	PVT	MIXED	TAMARISK		0.6%	2,000		
VIND WOLVES NETTLE/ CATTAIL)	PVT	PVT	RANGE	NETTLE		1.1%	3,660		
THER WILLOW	PVT	PVT	MIXED	MIXED/ WILLOW		0.2%	767		
COTAL ESTIMATED RS NOT MEASURED						21.0%	67,715		
JNACCOUNTED FOR	NESTING					5.4%			
RAND TOTAL						100.0%		***************************************	

#### 2000 TRICOLOR BLACKBIRD SURVEY TABLE 5 DEMOGRAPHIC CONSEQUENCES OF INTERVENTION

1981 SAN ANYONIO ALL	COLONY SAVED	N	RS	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
1909 LETTICE   KI			110										
1909   TELPRICE IX    15,000   22   10,066   5,333   3,687   1,834   917   4.99   230   115   58   58   594   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   110   11			2.5	, , ,									
1908   TILABE TU					90,111	,							
1994   MILLIWOOD IKE						,							
1964   PRODUCERS   FR   25,000   18						20,000				1.167	584	292	146
1964 SANLUTS ME											500	250	
1000 PRODUCERS (PR)								,					
2000 GEORGE DAIRY (TU   30,000   0.85   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.000   3.5   1.		,					,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	,	,			9,000	4.500
Total difference in breeding adults													5,667
The same estimates with 70% rather than 50% amust adult survivorship are:  COLONY SAVED  N RS 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2000 2000 2007 2777 544 551 267 1785 1237 98 266 606 6500 2.5 36,111 25,778 17,885 1237 98 2,686 606 606 4,246 2,972 2,686 601 1992 1237 1248 1249 1247 1248 1249 1247 1248 1249 1247 1249 1249 1247 1249 1249 1247 1249 1249 1249 1249 1249 1249 1249 1249													1,417
Part	Total difference in breeding	g adults		777	36,500	36,249	51,091	25,545	12,723	6,390	3,198	10,600	12,386
Part	The same estimates with 70% i	rather than	50% an	nual adult	t survivors	hip are:							
1991 SAN ANTONIO (AL)							1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
1992 EPITUCE   KI			100									45	
1992 LETTLCE   KI			2.5							6,066	4,246	2,972	2,081
1993 TULARE (TU		,						3,593	2,515	1,761	1,232	863	604
1994 WILDWOOD KE		48,000	1.0			10,666	7,466	3,262	2,283	1,598	1,119	783	548
1994 SAN LUIS   ME		,						6,533	4,573	3,201	2,241	1.569	1,098
1999 PRODUCERS (FR)	1994 PRODUCERS (FR)	28,000	1.8				8,000	5,600	3,920	2,744	1,921	1,345	941
Same   Description   Same   Description   Same   Description   Descrip	1994 SAN LUIS (ME)	105,000	0.7				15,633	10,943	7,660	5,362	3,753		
Total difference in breeding adults	1999 PRODUCERS (FR)	45,000	0.9									9,000	
Total difference in breeding adults	2000 TE VELDE (TU)	30,000	0.85										5,667
Same, but Reproductive Effort sevel subtracted to account for breeding elsewhere, 50% annual survivoship:   COLONY SAVED   N RS   1992   1993   1994   1995   1996   1997   1998   1999   2000   2001     1991 SAN ANTONIO (AL)   3,500   2.5   18,055   9,027   4,513   2,257   1,129   565   263   142   71     1992 LETTUCE (KI)   15,000   2.2   3,666   1,833   2,666   1,333   667   334   167   84   42     1994 WILDWOOD (KB   28,000   1.5   388   194   97   48   68   2,333   1,167   584   292   114   57   299     1993 TULARE (TU)   48,000   1.0   5,333   2,666   1,333   667   334   167   84   42     1994 WILDWOOD (KB   28,000   1.5   388   384   4,000   2,000   1,000   500   250   125   63     1994 PRODUCERS (FR   28,000   0.7   388   384   384   389   389   389   389   388   389   389   389   389   389     1999 PRODUCERS (FR   45,000   0.9   388   384   389   389   389   389   389   389   389   389   389   389     2000 GEORGE DAIRY (TU   7,500   3.58   388   272   190   133   93   65   46   32   22   31     1992 LETTUCE (KI)   65,000   2.5   388   272   190   133   93   65   46   32   22   31     1992 LETTUCE (KI)   65,000   2.5   388   272   190   133   93   65   46   32   22   31     1992 LETTUCE (KI)   65,000   2.5   388   272   190   133   93   65   46   32   22   31     1992 LETTUCE (KI)   65,000   2.5   388   272   190   133   93   65   46   32   22   31     1993 TULARE (TU)   48,000   1.0   3.500   3.88   272   3.666   3.666   3.966   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.96   3.9	2000 GEORGE DAIRY (TU)	7,500	0.85										1,417
COLONY SAVED   N	Total difference in breeding	g adults		777	36,655	43,858	63,527	44,469	31,128	20,824	14,576	19,204	20,504
COLONY SAVED   N	Same but Reproductive Effort	saved subt	tracted t	e account	for breeding	g elsewhe	re. 50% an	nual surviv	vorship:				
1991 SAN ANTONIO (AL)										1998	199 <b>9</b>	2000	2001
1992 LETTUCE (KI) 65,000 2.5 18,055 9,027 4,513 2,257 1,129 565 283 142 71 1992 LETTUCE (KI) 15,000 2.2 3,666 1,833 915 457 229 114 57 29 1993 TULARE (TU) 48,000 1.0 5,333 2,666 1,333 667 334 167 84 42 1994 WILDWOOD (KE) 28,000 1.5 4,606 2,333 1,167 584 292 146 73 1994 PRODUCERS (FR) 28,000 1.5 4,606 2,303 1,167 584 292 146 73 1994 PRODUCERS (FR) 28,000 1.5 4,000 2,000 1,000 500 250 125 63 1994 SAN LUIS (ME) 105,000 0.7 7,817 3,909 1,955 978 489 245 123 1999 PRODUCERS (FR) 45,000 0.9 4,500 2,000 1,000 500 250 125 63 1994 GEORGE DAIRY (TU) 7,500 0.85 7,817 3,909 1,955 978 489 245 123 1999 PRODUCERS (FR) 45,000 0.9 4,500 2,500 1,955 978 489 245 123 1999 PRODUCERS (FR) 45,000 0.85 7,817 3,909 1,955 978 489 245 123 1999 PRODUCERS (FR) 45,000 0.85 7,817 3,909 1,955 978 489 245 123 1991 SAN ANTONIO (AL) 3,500 0.85 8 18,249 18,123 25,543 12,772 6,386 3,196 1,598 5,301 6,195  Same, but Reproductive Effort saved included, 70 annual survivorship:  **COLONY SAVED** **N RS*** 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 1991 SAN ANTONIO (AL) 3,500 388 272 190 133 93 65 46 32 22 31 1992 LETTUCE (KI) 65,000 2.5 18,055 12,638 8,847 6,193 4,335 3,034 2,124 1,167 1,041 1992 LETTUCE (KI) 15,000 2.2 3,666 2,566 1,796 1,257 880 616 421 302 1993 TULARE (TU) 48,000 1.5 4,666 3,266 2,266 1,600 1,120 784 594 1994 WILDWOOD (KE) 28,000 1.5 4,666 3,266 2,266 1,600 1,120 784 594 1994 PRODUCERS (FR) 28,000 1.5 4,666 3,266 2,266 1,600 1,372 960 762 471 1994 SAN LUIS (ME) 105,000 0.7 7,500 0.85 750 798  1999 PRODUCERS (FR) 45,000 0.9 7,500 0.85 750 798  1900 GEORGE DARY (TU) 7,500 0.85 750 798								24	12	6	3	2	1
1992 LETTUCE (KI)			2.5									142	
1993 TULARE (TU)					10,000				,				
1994 WILDWOOD (KE)						,							
1994 PRODUCERS (FR) 28,000 1.8						0,000		-					
1994 SAN LUIS (ME) 105,000 0.7													
1999 PRODUCERS (FR)		,						,					
2000 TE VELDE (TU) 30,000 0.85 2,334 2000 GEORGE DAIRY (TU) 7,500 0.85 300 0.85 2,534 2000 GEORGE DAIRY (TU) 7,500 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85 300 0.85	1994 SAN LUIS (ME)	105,000	0.7				7,817	3,909	1,955	978	489	245	1.23
2000 GEORGE DAIRY (TU) 7,500 0.85  Total difference in breeding adults 388 18,249 18,123 25,543 12,772 6,386 3,196 1,598 5,301 6,195  Same, but Reproductive Effort swed included, 70% annual survivorship:  COLONY SAYED N RS 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001  1991 SAN ANTONIO (AL) 3,500 388 272 190 133 93 65 46 32 22 31  1992 LETTUCE (KI) 65,000 2.5 18,055 12,638 8,847 6,193 4,335 3,034 2,124 1,167 1,041  1993 LETTUCE (KI) 15,000 2.2 3,666 2,566 1,796 1,257 880 616 431 302  1994 WILDWOOD (KE) 28,000 1.5 48,000 1.0 5,333 3,733 2,331 1,632 1,142 800 560 392  1994 WILDWOOD (KE) 28,000 1.5 4 4,066 3,266 2,286 1,600 1,120 754 549  1994 PRODUCERS (FR) 28,000 1.5 4 4,000 2,800 1,960 1,372 960 762 477  1999 PRODUCERS (FR) 45,000 0.9 4 7,316 5,471 3,830 2,681 1,877 1,314 920  2000 TE VELDE (TU) 30,000 0.85 709	1999 PRODUCERS (FR)	45,000	0.9									4,500	2,250
Same, but Reproductive Effort saved included, 70% annual survivorship:  COLONY SAVED  N  RS  1992  1993  1994  1995  1996  1997  1998  1999  2000  2001  1991 SAN ANTONIO (AL)  3,500  388  272  190  133  93  65  46  32  22  31  1992 LETTUCE (KI)  65,000  2.5  18,055  12,638  8,847  6,193  4,335  3,034  2,124  1,187  1,041  1992 LETTUCE (KI)  15,000  2.2  3,666  2,566  1,796  1,257  880  616  421  302  1993 TULARE (TU)  48,000  1,0  5,333  3,733  2,331  1,632  1,142  800  560  392  1994 WILDWOOD (KE)  28,000  1,5  4,666  3,266  2,286  1,600  1,120  784  549  1994 SAN LUIS (ME)  105,000  0,7  7,816  5,471  3,830  2,681  1,877  1,314  920  1,598  5,301  6,195  2000  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2001  2	2000 TE VELDE (TU)	30,000	0.85										2,834
Same, but Reproductive Effort saved included, 70% annual survivorship:  COLONY SAVED  N RS 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 1991 SAN ANTONIO (AL) 3,500 388 272 190 133 93 65 46 32 22 31 1992 LETTUCE (KI) 65,000 2.5 18,055 12,638 8,847 6,193 4,335 3,034 2,124 1,187 1,041 1992 LETTUCE (KI) 15,000 2.2 3,666 2,566 1,796 1,257 880 616 431 302 1993 TULARE (TU) 48,000 1.0 5,333 3,733 2,331 1,632 1,142 800 560 392 1994 WILDWOOD (KE) 28,000 1.5 4,666 3,266 2,286 1,600 1,120 784 549 1994 PRODUCERS (FR) 28,000 1.8 4,000 2,800 1,960 1,372 960 762 471 1994 SAN LUIS (ME) 105,000 0,7 7,316 5,471 3,830 2,681 1,377 1,314 920 2000 TE VELDE (TU) 30,000 0,85 799	2000 GEORGE DAIRY (TU)	7,500	0.85										709
COLONY SAVED N RS 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 1991 SAN ANTONIO (AL) 3,500 388 272 190 133 93 65 46 32 22 31 1992 LETTUCE (KI) 65,000 2.5 18,055 12,638 8,847 6,193 4,335 3,034 2,124 1,187 1,041 1992 LETTUCE (KI) 15,000 2.2 3,666 2,566 1,796 1,257 880 616 421 302 1993 TULARE (TU) 48,000 1.0 5,333 3,733 2,331 1,632 1,142 800 560 392 1994 WILDWOOD (KE) 28,000 1.5 4,666 3,266 2,286 1,600 1.120 784 549 1994 PRODUCERS (FR) 28,000 1.8 4,000 2,800 1,960 1,372 960 762 473 1994 SAN LUIS (ME) 105,000 0.7 7,316 5,471 3,830 2,681 1,877 1.314 920 1999 PRODUCERS (FR) 45,000 0.9 45,000 GEORGE DAIRY (TU) 7,500 0.85	Total difference in breeding	g adults		388	18,249	18,123	25,543	12,772	6,386	3,196	1,598	5,301	6,195
COLONY SAVED N RS 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 1991 SAN ANTONIO (AL) 3,500 388 272 190 133 93 65 46 32 22 31 1992 LETTUCE (KI) 65,000 2.5 18,055 12,638 8,847 6,193 4,335 3,034 2,124 1,187 1,041 1992 LETTUCE (KI) 15,000 2.2 3,666 2,566 1,796 1,257 880 616 421 302 1993 TULARE (TU) 48,000 1.0 5,333 3,733 2,331 1,632 1,142 800 560 392 1994 WILDWOOD (KE) 28,000 1.5 4,666 3,266 2,286 1,600 1.120 784 549 1994 PRODUCERS (FR) 28,000 1.8 4,000 2,800 1,960 1,372 960 762 473 1994 SAN LUIS (ME) 105,000 0.7 7,316 5,471 3,830 2,681 1,877 1.314 920 1999 PRODUCERS (FR) 45,000 0.9 45,000 GEORGE DAIRY (TU) 7,500 0.85	Same, but Reproductive Effort	t saved incl	uded. 70	% annual	survivorsh	nip:							
1991 SAN ANTONIO (AL) 3,500 388 272 190 133 93 65 46 32 22 31 1992 LETTUCE (KI) 65,000 2.5 18,055 12,638 8,847 6,193 4,335 3,034 2,124 1,187 1,041 1992 LETTUCE (KI) 15,000 2.2 3,666 2,566 1,796 1,257 880 616 431 302 1993 TULARE (TU) 48,000 1.0 5,333 3,733 2,331 1,632 1,142 800 560 392 1994 WILDWOOD (KE) 28,000 1.5 4,666 3,266 2,286 1,600 1,120 784 549 1994 PRODUCERS (FR) 28,000 1.8 4,000 2,800 1,960 1,372 960 762 473 1994 SAN LUIS (ME) 105,000 0.7 7,316 5,471 3,830 2,681 1,877 1,314 920 1999 PRODUCERS (FR) 45,000 0.9 4,500 GEORGE DAIRY (TU) 7,500 0.85							1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
1992 LETTUCE (KI) 65,000 2.5 18,055 12,638 8,847 6,193 4,335 3,034 2,124 1,187 1,041 1992 LETTUCE (KI) 15,000 2.2 3,666 2,566 1,796 1,257 880 616 431 302 1993 TULARE (TU) 48,000 1.0 5,333 3,733 2,331 1,632 1,142 800 560 392 1994 WILDWOOD (KE) 28,000 1.5 4,666 3,266 2,286 1,600 1,120 784 549 1994 PRODUCERS (FR) 28,000 1.8 4,000 2,800 1,960 1,372 960 762 471 1994 SAN LUIS (ME) 105,000 0.7 7,816 5,471 3,830 2,681 1,877 1,314 920 1999 PRODUCERS (FR) 45,000 0.9 4,500 3,150 2000 TE VELDE (TU) 30,000 0.85 2334 2000 GEORGE DAIRY (TU) 7,500 0.85			100										
1992 LETTUCE (KI) 15,000 2.2 3,666 2,566 1,796 1,257 880 616 431 302 1993 TULARE (TU) 48,000 1.0 5,333 3,733 2,331 1,632 1,142 800 560 392 1994 WILDWOOD (KE) 28,000 1.5 4,666 3,266 2,286 1,600 1,120 784 549 1994 PRODUCERS (FR) 28,000 1.8 4,000 2,800 1,960 1,372 960 762 471 1994 SAN LUIS (ME) 105,000 0.7 7,816 5,471 3,830 2,681 1,877 1,314 920 1999 PRODUCERS (FR) 45,000 0.9 4,500 TE VELDE (TU) 30,000 0.85 2.334 2000 GEORGE DAIRY (TU) 7,500 0.85			2.5	500									
1993 TULARE (TU) 48,000 1.0 5,333 3,733 2,331 1,632 1,142 800 560 392 1994 WILDWOOD (KE) 28,000 1.5 4,666 3,266 2,286 1,600 1.120 784 549 1994 PRODUCERS (FR) 28,000 1.8 4,000 2,800 1,960 1,372 960 762 471 1994 SAN LUIS (ME) 105,000 0.7 7,816 5,471 3,830 2,681 1,877 1,314 920 1999 PRODUCERS (FR) 45,000 0.9 4,500 3.150 2000 TE VELDE (TU) 30,000 0.85 2000 GEORGE DAIRY (TU) 7,500 0.85					10,000								
1994 WILDWOOD (KE) 28.000 1.5 4,666 3,266 2,286 1,600 1.120 784 549 1994 PRODUCERS (FR) 28.000 1.8 4,000 2,800 1,960 1,372 960 762 471 1994 SAN LUIS (ME) 105,000 0.7 7,316 5,471 3,830 2,681 1,877 1.314 920 1999 PRODUCERS (FR) 45,000 0.9 4.500 3.150 2000 TE VELDE (TU) 30,000 0.85 2.334 2000 GEORGE DAIRY (TU) 7.500 0.85													
1994 PRODUCERS (FR) 28,000 1.8 4,000 2,800 1,960 1,372 960 762 473 1994 SAN LUIS (ME) 105,000 0.7 7,816 5,471 3,830 2,681 1,877 1,314 920 1999 PRODUCERS (FR) 45,000 0.9 4,500 3.150 2000 TE VELDE (TU) 30,000 0.85 2.334 2000 GEORGE DAIRY (TU) 7,500 0.85						5,333							
1994 SAN LUIS (ME) 105,000 0.7 7,816 5,471 3,830 2,681 1,877 1.314 920 1999 PRODUCERS (FR) 45,000 0.9 4,500 3.150 2000 TE VELDE (TU) 30,000 0.85 2.334 2000 GEORGE DAIRY (TU) 7,500 0.85													
1999 PRODUCERS (FR)       45,000		28,000	1.8								960	762	471
2000 TE VELDE (TU)       30,000   0.85       2.834         2000 GEORGE DAIRY (TU)       7.500   0.85       709	1994 SAN LUIS (ME)	105,000	0.7				7,316	5,471	3,830	2,681	1,877	1,314	920
2000 GEORGE DAIRY (TU) 7.500 0.85	1999 PRODUCERS (FR)	45,000	0.9									4.500	3.150
2000 GEORGE DAIRY (TU) 7.500 0.85	2000 TE VELDE (TU)	30,000	0.85										2.334
Total difference in breeding adults 288 18 397 21 397 31 761 23 632 16 542 10 755 7 599 9 560 10 399													709
	Total difference in breeding	g adulte		398	18 397	21 897	31 761	23 632	16 549	10.755	7 599	9 560	10,399

# $2000\ {\tt TRICOLOR}\ {\tt BLACKBIRD}\ {\tt SURVEY}$ ${\tt TABLE}\ 6$ ANNUAL COMPARISON OF SELECTED HABITATS

Change in 2000 from previous surveys in number of tricolors found in specific habitats, places or regions. Totals include renesting. Some birds are thus counted more than once. Totals may exceed the world population. Numbers are rounded to nearest 5,000.

SITES	2000	1999	1998 1997	1996 1995	1994	1993	1992
APRIL SURVEY TOTAL	162,000	110,000	240,000		350,000	inc.	inc.
SACRAMENTO VALLEY							
DELEVAN NWR #42	**12,000	2,000	12,000		12,000	9,000	0
SACRAMENTO CO.	12,000	13,000	32,000		110.000	inc.	84,000
SUNSWEET, YOLO CO.	2,040	•	0		X	X	X
CHAMBERLAIN, YOLO CO.	X	X	0		0	1,000	800
CAPITOL OUTING, COLUSA CO.	31,000	6,000	80,000		60,000	5,000	60,000
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY	:						,
MERCED CO.	26,000	1,500	13,000		112,000	20,000	79,000
PRODUCERS DAIRY, FRESNO CO.	0	37,500	5,500		20,000	?	?
SILAGE, GRAIN, SAN JAOQUIN VALLI	60,500	14,000	2,500		118,000	*48,000	*50,000
TOLEDO PIT, TULARE CO.	21,000	•	51,000		50,000	unk.	n
KERN NWR	7,500	2,000	9,000		1,500	5,000	15,000
KINGS CO. (I-5)		•	•		•	20,000	65,000
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA							
HEMET, RIVERSIDE CO.	10,000	4,000	35,000		2,000	X	X

<sup>\* =</sup> Survey less extensive than in other years, but sites counted were done as in other years

<sup>\*\*</sup> = New pond, 2 sites

<sup>• =</sup> Essential feature of habitat missing, no settlement possible

X = Habitat did not exist

<sup>? =</sup> Site not examined sufficiently to provide reliable information

Inc. = Search incomplete compared with more recent years

### TRICOLORED BLACKBIRD April 21-24, 2000 SURVEY TABLE 7 $10~{\tt LARGEST~COLONIES}$

County	Date/Nesting	Number	Observer Location	Substrate	Latitude	Longitude	RE
TABLE 7A. 10 LAR	GEST COLONI	ES OBSEI	RVED ON 2000 SURVEY DATES				
TULARE	4/20/00	18,000	HAMILTON - DEHAVEN - GREG TE VELDE	WHEAT SILAGE	36 5.47	119 27.1	##
TULARE	4/20/00	15,000	HAMILTON - TOLEDO PIT NW POND [HIST 199	5- CATTAIL	36 05.581	119 41.101	6.2
MERCED	4/21/00	12,000	HAMILTON/ DEHAVEN - MERCED NWR S UNIT E FIELD #3 (REVISED EST 5/3 BASED ON	WHEAT THISTLE/ MUSTARD	37 10.315	120 36.047	6.8
RIVERSIDE	4/21/00	10,000	HAMILTON & PAULEK - HEMET SEWAGE	BULRUSH	33 47.986	117 01.255	4.3
MERCED	4/21/00	8,500	HARVEY - MERCED NWR ARENA PLAINS UNIT HWY 140 TO SNOWBIRD LN BEAR CREEK	H. BLACKBERRY/ WILLOW	37 10.2	120 25.2	2.7
TULARE	4/26/00	7,500	HAMILTON - GEORGE DAIRY [HIST]	SILAGE/ NETTLES	36 0.33	119 28.55	2.9
SAN JOAQUIN	4/22/00	7,000	HOLT · S SIDE HWY 12 POND [HIST 1997-1999]	CATTAIL/	38 12.135	120 59.644	2.1
KINGS	4/21/00	6,000	DEHAVEN - D&T DAIRY/ KANSAS AVE/ 5TH AVE 10 MI N CORCORAN.	SILAGE	36 7.922	119 33.439	1.2
TULARE	4/20/00	6,000	HAMILTON - TOLEDO PIT SW POND	CATTAIL/ BULLRUSH	36 05.298	119 40.992	*
TULARE	4/20/00	5,000	HAMILTON - TULE RIVER AG FIELD	SILAGE	36 03.958	119 51.306	1.0

#### TABLE 7B. 10 LARGEST COLONIES OBSERVED THROUGHOUT THE 2000 BREEDING SEASON

TULARE	4/30/00	30,000	HAMILTON - DEHAVEN - GREG TE VELDE	WHEAT SILAGE	36 5.47	119 27.1	11.3
COLUSA	6/17/00	25,000	HAMILTON - DELEVAN NWR BLOCK 17	CATTAIL	122 5.7	9.0	
COLUSA	6/23/00	25,000	HAMILTON - GRAY HILL'S DUCK CLUB SE	CATTAIL 39 13.557		122 05.599	8.2
TULARE	4/30/00	21,000	HAMILTON - TOLEDO PIT	CATTAIL 36 05.581		119 41.101	6.2
MERCED	6/20/00	15,000	KING - AG SLOUGH MERCED/STANISLAUS CO LINE W OF HILMAR E SIDE SAN JOAQUIN	BULRUSH 37 24.492		120 58.160	4.6
COLUSA	6/10/00	12,000	HAMILTON - DELEVAN BLOCK 42	CATTAIL	39 16.680	122 06.256	3.9
MERCED	5/15/00	18,000	HAMILTON/ DEHAVEN - MERCED NWR S UNIT E FIELD #3 (REVISED EST 5/3 BASED ON WITHIN COLONY OBS) LATE SEASON INCREASE	WHEAT/ THISTLE/ MUSTARD	37 12	120 37	3.8
RIVERSIDE	4/21/00	20,000	HAMILTON & PAULEK - HEMET SEWAGE	BULRUSH	33 47.986	117 01.255	4.3
COLUSA	6/13/00	10,000	HAMILTON - ACRE FARMS, INCUBATING	CATTAIL	39 19.149	122	1.9
MERCED	4/21/00	8,500	HARVEY - MERCED NWR ARENA PLAINS UNIT HWY 140 TO SNOWBIRD LN BEAR CREEK	H. BLACKBERRY/ WILLOW	37 17	120 42	2.7
TOTAL	184,500						
	*						

<sup>\*</sup> Reproductive Effore (RE) of two Toledo Pit colonies was not determined separately

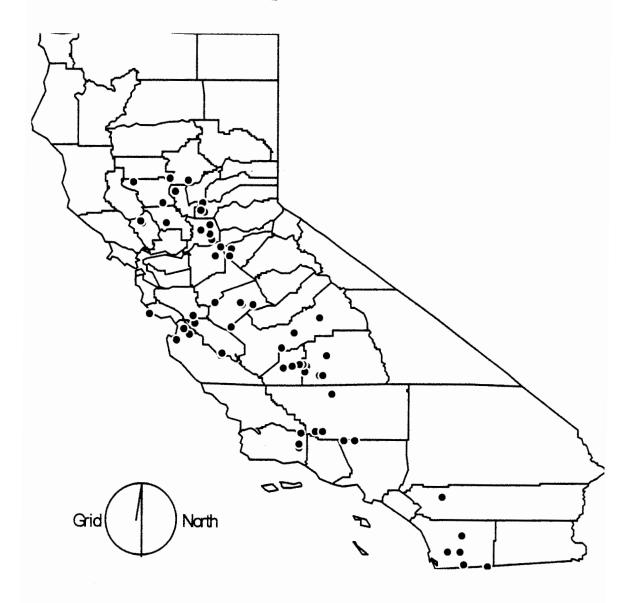
#### TRICOLORED BLACKBIRD April 21-24, 2000 SURVEY TABLE 7 10 LARGEST COLONIES

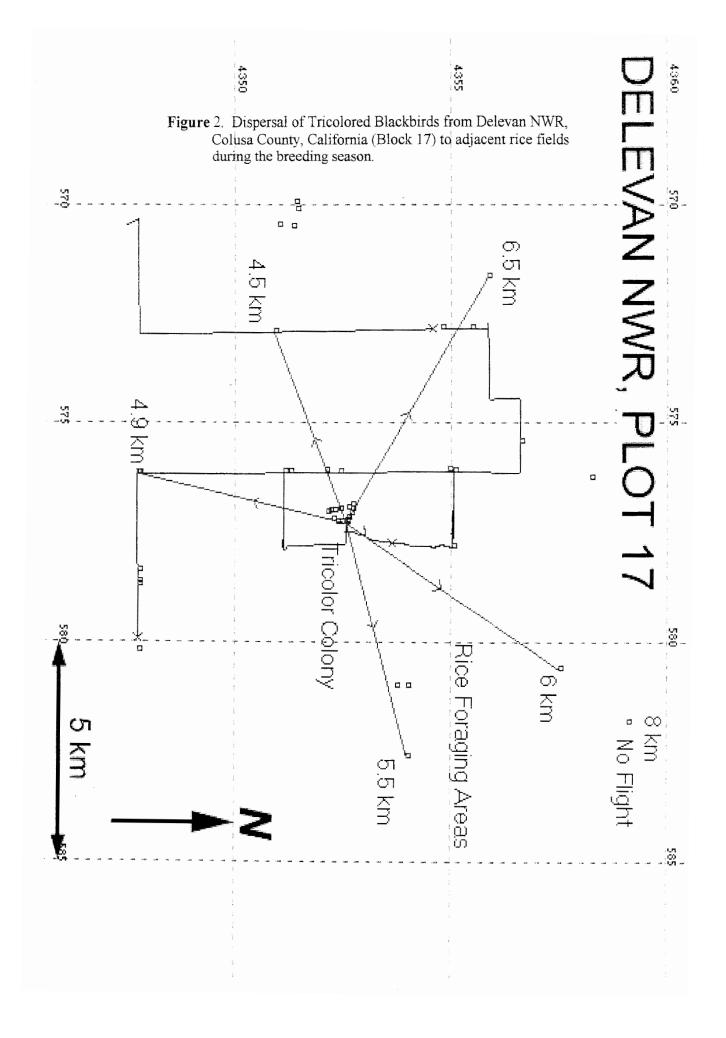
untv	Date/Nesting	Number	Observer	Location	Substrate	Latitude	Longitude	RE
		BSERVE	D THROUGHOUT	THE 2000 BREEDING SEASON				
· va		00.000	CLANDIA DES	HAVEN - GREG TE VELDE	WHEAT SILAGE	36 5.47	119 27.1	11.8
LARE	4/20/00	30,000 6,000		EDO PIT SW POND	CATTAIL/	36 05.298	119 40.992	1.2
LARE	4/20/00	0,000	MANUEL ON - LOE	EDOTII SW TOND	BULLRUSH	00 00.200	110 10100	
LARE	4/30/00	15,000	HAMILTON - TOL	EDO PIT NW POND	CATTAIL	36 05.581	119 41.101	6.2
IAIUS	51,000	10,000						
61								
CO(USA LUSA	6/17/00	25,000	HAMILTON - DEI	EVAN NWR BLOCK 17	CATTAIL	39 17.0	122 5.7	9.0
LUSA	6/10/00	12,000	HAMILTON - DEI		CATTAIL	39 16.680	122 06.256	##
LUSA	7/1/00 Y	7,500	HAMILTON - HAR		CATTAIL			0.3
	44,500							
€,								
LUSA	6/13/00	10,000	HAMILTON - ACE	E FARMS, INCUBATING	CATTAIL	39 19.149	122	1.9
LUSA	6/23/00	25,000	HAMILTON - GRA	Y HILL DUCK CLUB - SE	CATTAIL	39 13.557	$122\ 05.599$	8.1
	35,000							
Meni	6							
RCED	د ع 4/21/00	12,000	HAMILTON/ DEH	AVEN - MERCED NWR S UNIT	WHEAT/ THISTLE/	37 10.315	120 36.047	6.8
IVOLD	22100	17,000		ISED EST 5/3 BASED ON	MUSTARD			
RCED	5/15/00	6,000	HAMILTON/ DEH	AVEN - MERCED NWR S UNIT	WHEAT/THISTLE	37 10.315	120 36.047	
			E FIELD #3 (REV	ISED EST 5/3 BASED ON				
				OBS) LATE SEASON INCREASE				
RCED	4/21/00	3,000		ERCED NWR E FIELD #5	THISTLE/	37 12	120 37	4.
RCED	5/15/00	8,000	BREEDING	RCED NWR FIELD #5 SECOND		37 12	120 37	
RCED	4/21/00	2,000		ED NWR DUCK SLOUGH	WHEAT	37 12	120 37	Ō ō
nobb	31,000	2,000						
~ <u>~</u>	1							
Kineus.	_		****	THE PART OF STREET, SE	TATE TATEOUT	00 .5 000	110 01 057	
ERSIDE	4/21/00	10,000		ULEK - HEMET SEWAGE	BULRUSH	33 47.986	117 01.255	4.7
ERSIDE	5/12/00 <b>20,000</b>	10,000	HAMILTON - HE	MET SECOND BREEDING	BULRUSH	33 47.986	117 01.255	4.5
	20,000							
morred								
RCED*	6/20/00	15,000	KING - AG SLOU	GH MERCED/STANISLAUS CO	BULRUSH	$37\ 24.492$	120 58.160	4 (
Stavisians				AR E SIDE SAN JOAQUIN				
ANISLAUS*	6/20/00	2,000	HAMILTON - AG		BULRUSH	37 28.92	120 58.282	0.6
	17,000		MERCED/STANIS	LAUS CO LINE NEAR DENAIR				
	17,000							
Tuleur								
LARE	4/20/00	5,000	HAMILTON - T	JLE RIVER AG FIELD	SILAGE	36 03.958	119 51.306	1.0
LARE	4/26/00	7,500	HAMILTON - GE	ORGE DAIRY	SILAGE/ NETTLES	3 <b>6</b> 0.33	119 28.55	2.5
	12,500							
Manad								
RCED	4/21/00	8.500	HARVEY - MERC	ED NWR ARENA PLAINS UNIT	H. BLACKBERRY/	37 17	120 42	2,
			HWY 140 TO SNO	WBIRD LN BEAR CREEK	WILLOW			
	8,500							
TĽM Y JOAQUIN	4/22/00	7,000	HOLL & SIDE E	WY 12 POND [HIST 1997-1999]	CATTAIL	38 12.135	120 59.644	2.:
MONACIN	7,000	1,000	HOLI-5 SIDE I	W 1 12 FOND [HIS1 1997-1999]	CATTAIL	50 12.100	120 00.044	
	.,							
(ind)			_					
<b>7</b> GS	4/21/00	6,000		DAIRY/ KANSAS AVE/ 5TH AVE	SILAGE	36 7.922	119 33.439	1.1
			10 MI N CORCOR	AN.				
	6,000							

<sup>\*</sup> Exceeds world population. This is a summery of repeated nesting throughout the breeding season.

**Figure** 1. California distribution of breeding TricoloredBlackbirds during the Survey

### **Breeding Colonies 2000**





**Figure** 3. Ten largest Tricolored Blackbird colonies observed during the Survey.

# 10 Largest Colonies during 2000 survey period



**Figure** 4. Ten largest colonies observed during the breeding season, 2000. Successive breeding attempts at the same location are included.

# 10 Largest Colonies during all of 2000 season



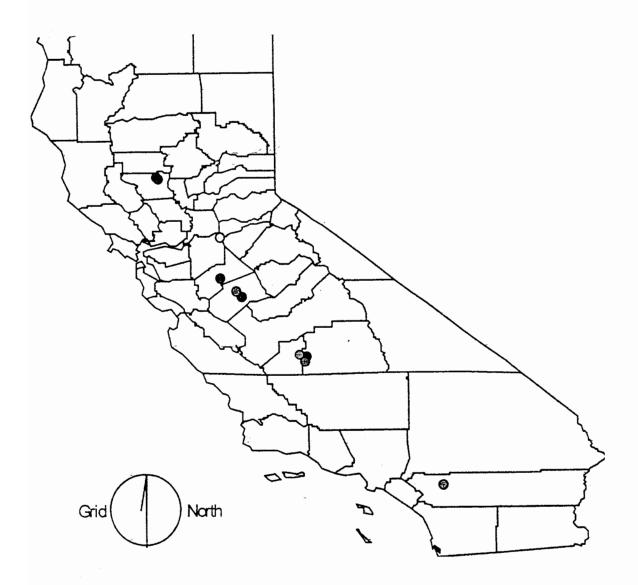
Figure 5. Ten largest megacolonies observed in 2000. These 10 places include 33% of all breeding attempts during the season (% effort?)

# Mega Colonies 2000



Figure 5. Ten largest colony clusters observed in 2000. These 10 places included 76.2% of the seasonal reproductive effort by Tricolored Blackbirds

# Colony Clusters 2000



### TRICOLORED BLACKBIRD April 21-24, 2000 SURVEY APPENDIX 1 BREEDING BIRDS

BUTTE BUTTE 5.0	4/24/00	Y					
			35	CORDES - UBBWA LITTLE DRY CREEK UNIT. WEST SIDE FIELD II. DFG. OVER WATER.	WILLOW/CATTAIL	39 23.290	121 53.291
	4/23/00 035	Y 5,0	000	MANOLIS LONE TREE RD. [HIST 1999]	H. BLACKBERRY	39 22.359	121 34.531
CALAVERAS	4/22/00	Y	40	BALDWIN - 487 HUNT RD POND 2.1 MI W SALT SPRING VALLEY RD [HIST 1997]	CATTAIL.	38 02.50	120 50.17
CALAVERAS	4/22/00	Y 2	220	BALDWIN - 1860 S PETERSBURG RD, VALLEY SPRINGS [HIST 1997]	CATTAIL/ H. BLACKBERRY	38 11.301	120 47.791
<u></u>	260				***********************	· • · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
COLUSA.	4/22/00 500	Y 2,5	500	BEEDY - US BUREC SITES - LODOGA RD, LARGE FLOODED MARSH SE END OF EAST PARK RES (HIST 1994-1998)	BULRUSH	39 20.390	122 31.244
	700						
FRESNO	4/22/00	Y	46	FITTON - LITTLE PANOCHE RES E TIP OF ISLAND [HIST] (STONE- 100)	CATTAIL/WILLOW	36 46.678	120 48.019
FRESNO	4/21/00	Y 5,0	000	DEHAVEN - N SIDE MONTEIRO BROS DAIRY 5336 W HARLAN RD AT POLK 3 MI NW OF	NETTLES/WHEAT SILAGE	36 26.7	119 53.68
5,(	)46						
KERN	4/21/00	Υ 9	925	LA BERTEAUX - KERN RIVER @ 2,800 FT. [HIST	H. BLACKBERRY	34 44.087	124 10.236
KERN	4/24/00	Y 1,5	500	ALLEN - W SIDE RIVER BOTTOM 1.5 MI W SW CORNER KERN NWR THEN DIRT RD S 1.4 MI	CATTALL/BULRUSH	36 41.98	119 39.63
KERN	4/21/00	Y 4,0	000	ALLEN -KERN NWR MARSH UNIT 1 [HIST 1992- 1999] MAINTAINED	CATTAIL/BULRUSH	34 43.717	119 34.786
KERN	4/21/00	Y	35	HAMILTON - KERN QUARRY; FEMALES [HIST]	CATTAIL	35 38.687	119 34.700
KERN	4/21/00	Y s	180	BLACK - MT POSO OIL FIELDS TULE RD #1 BTW GRANITE & BKS GLENNVILLE RD MILE MARKER 152 F 8.05 [HIST 1999]	CATTAIL/BULRUSH	35 37.43	118 58.73
KERN	4/22/00	Y 1,0	000	CLENDENNEN - SAG POND WIND WOLVES PRESERVE SAN EMIGDIO RANCH [HIST 1998- 1999] CATTLE EXCLUDED	CATTAIL	34 56.73	119 11.144
KERN	4/24/00	Υ 3	300	CLENDENNEN - WESTERN CANYON WIND WOLVES PRESERVE SAN EMIGDIO RANCH [HIST 1998-1999] CATTLE EXCLUDED FOUND ONLY 1	CATTAIL/NETTLES		
KERN	4/22/00	Y 1,0	000	CLENDENNEN - LITTLE LOBO WETLAND WIND WOLVES PRESERVE SAN EMIGDIO RANCH CATTLE EXCLUDED (HIST 1998-1999)	CATTAIL/NETTLES	35 56.933	119 12.46
KERN	4/22/00	Y 8	300	CLENDENNEN - MUDDY CREEK WIND WOLVES PRESERVE SAN EMIGDIO RANCH SOME CATTLE [HIST 1998]	NETTLES	34 56.436	119 15.00
KERN	4/22/00	Υ 6	800	CLENDENNEN - SANTIAGO SPRINGS WIND WOLVES PRESERVE SAN EMIGDIO RANCH CATTLE EXCLUDED (HIST 1999)	NETTLES	34 56.270	119 16.637
KERN	4/22/00	Y	60	CLENDENNEN - DOGGY FLAT WIND WOLVES PRESERVE SAN EMIGDIO RANCH [NEW]	NETTLES	35 56.685	119 9.507
KERN	4/22/00	Y 4	100	CLENDENNEN - ECHO CANYON WIND WOLVES PRESERVE SAN EMIGDIO RANCH (NEW)	NETTLES	34 57.513	119 8.978

### TRICOLORED BLACKBIRD April 21-24, 2000 SURVEY APPENDIX 1 BREEDING BIRDS

UNTY:	Total D	ate/Nes	ti N	umber	Observer Location	Substrate	Latitude	Longitude
igs Krys	4	/21/00	Y	4,000	DEHAVEN - 0.25 MI NW RD 36/ AVE 192 6 MI NE CORCORAN. SILAGE BEING MOWED COLONY LOST BIRDS DISPERSING - HATCHLINGS 2D	BARLEY/MUSTARD SILAGE	36 8.45	119 29.6
GS		/21/00	Y	6,000	DEHAVEN - D&T DAIRY/ KANSAS AVE/ 5TH AVE 10 MI N CORCORAN.	SILAGE	36 7.922	119 33.439
	10,000							
LUSSEN	4 300	/19/00	Y	300	MANOLIS- HWY 395 CREEK DRAINAGE [HIIST]	CATTAILS	36 56.73	119 12.464
ANGELES	4	/22/00	Y	210	GARRETT - N OF AVE B - 8 W OF 250TH ST W NEENACH [HIST]	CATTAIL/BULRUSH	34 47.25	118 34.250
ANGELES		/24/00	Y	300	CLENDENNEN - QUAIL LAKE HWY 138 4-5 MI E HWY I-5 ON CALIFORNIA AQUADUCT	CATTAIL/BULRUSH	34 46.16	118 44.7
h. /	510							
Minised RCED	4	/21/00	Y	480	FITTON - 1 MI N OF END COTTONWOOD RD E ACROSS FROM COMM. TOWER E OF I-5 W OF CANAL [HIST CLOSE TO SITE]	CATTAIL	37 11.839	121 04.462
RCED	4	/21/00	Y	2,000	HARVEY - MERCED NWR TURNER ISLAND RD NW DUCK SLOUGH PERIMETER RD	WHEAT	37 12	120 37
RCED	4	1/21/00	Y	8,500	HARVEY - MERCED NWR ARENA PLAINS UNIT HWY 140 TO SNOWBIRD LN BEAR CREEK	H. BLACKBERRY/ WILLOW	37 10.2	120 25.2
RCED	4	/21/00	Y	12,000	HAMILTON/ DEHAVEN - MERCED NWR S UNIT E FIELD #3 (REVISED EST 5/3 BASED ON WITHIN	WHEAT THISTLE/ MUSTARD	37 10.315	120 36.047
RCED	25,980	1/21/00	Y	3,000	CHOUINARD - MERCED NWR E FIELD #5	THISTLE/	37 12	120 37
Monteners NTEREY	4	L/21/00	Y	35	TENNEY - HEBERT POND N SIDE SAN JUAN GD 0.1 MI E HEBERT RD (HIST 1994-1995)	CATTAIL	36 45	121 37.2
NTEREY	4	1/21/00	У	20	TENNEY - EAST ZABOLA POND E SIDE OLD STAGE RD 8.8 MI S OF SAN JUAN GD RD [HIST	CATTAIL	36 39.25	121 32.554
NTEREY	955 955	/22/00	Y	900	DAVIS - LAGUNA SECA [HIST]	CATTAIL	36 34.156	121 45.970
Nague.	4	/21/00	Y	24	KAY - JULIANA VINYARD POND #2 END BARNETT RD POPE VALLEY [HIST 1997-1999]	CATTAIL	38 39.210	122 23.798
PA	104	/21/00	Y	80	KAY - ST SUPERY VINYARD DOLLAR HIDE RD POPE VALLEY [HIST 1993-1999]	H. BLACKBERRY	38 38.389	122 21.943
19								
Crange INGE	4	/22/00	Y	300	ERICKSON - SAND CYN RES NEAR SAND CYN OVERPASS S OF HWY 405 NW OF UC IRVINE	THISTLE		
ANGE	4	/21/00	Y	40	AIRD - HWY 405 @ SAND CANYON EXIT IN AG			
ANGE		/21/00	Y	150	AIRD - LAGUNA NIGUEL REGIONAL PARK, CENTRAL ISLAND	REEDS		
	490							
Die eer ICER	4	/22/00	Υ	5,000	RANLETT - PLACER #1 STOCKPOND OFF INDUSTRIAL BLVD. [HIST 1990'S]	BULRUSH	38 51.49	121 19.46
CER	4	/22/00	Y	1,000	RANLETT - PLACER #2 RIOSA RD 5 MI E OF SHERIDAN 0.5 MI W GLADDING RD TEICHERT	H. BLACKBERRY	38 58.8	121 17.53

### TRICOLORED BLACKBIRD April 21-24, 2000 SURVEY APPENDIX I BREEDING BIRDS

COUNTY:	Total Date/Nes	ti Number	Observer Location	Substrate	Latitude	Longitude
PLACER	4/22/00		RANLETT - PLACER #3 PLACER HOLDINGS/ TWELVE BRIDGES NEAR STOCKPOND ON HILLSIDE SEEP (HIST 1997-1999)	H. BLACKBERRY	38 50.01	121 15.65
	6,200					
RIVERSIDE	4/21/00 10,000	Y 10,000	HAMILTON & PAULEK - HEMET SEWAGE	BULRUSH	33 47.986	117 01.258
SACRAMENTO	4/22/00	Y 220	COOK - ELDER CREEK RD W OF EXCELSIOR	H. BLACKBERRY	38 30.658	121 18.566
SACRAMENTO	4/22/00	Y 560	COOK - KNOX/FLORIN RDS NESTING, FORAGING IN NW GRASSY FIELDS (BURKE - 200) [HIST	H. BLACKBERRY	38 29.56	121 18.53
SACRAMENTO	4/22/00	Y 500	COOK - HWY 16 D OF BRADSHAW RD BEHIND BETHANY SLAVIC MISSIONARY CHURCH. NESTING (BURKE - 30 FORAGING)	H. BLACKBERRY		
SACRAMENTO	4/22/00	Y 4,200	COOK - S/E CORNER MORRISON CREEK/BRADSHAW RD ; NESTING [HIST]	H. BLACKBERRY	38 31.53	121 19.83
SACRAMENTO	4/22/00	Y 2,500	COOK - E INTERSECTION APRICOT/TAVERNOR RDS [HIST]	H. BLACKBERRY	38 26.21	121 11.2
SACRAMENTO	4/27/00	Y 20	BURKE - JACKSON HWY/BRADSHAW OPPOSITE 10270 ELDER CREEK RD	H. BLACKBERRY	38 30.449	121 20.085
SACRAMENTO	4/26/00	Y 3,900	DEHAVEN - ENTRANCE TO PRARIE CITY ORV	H. BLACKBERRY	38 35.970	121 10.330
			PARK 0.5 MI JUNCT WHITE ROCK RD. 2 GROUPS		38 36.057	121 10.265
SACRAMENTO	4/26/00	Y 375	DEHAVEN - 2 MI NW RANCHO SECO COOLING TOWERS OFF TWIN CITIES RD BENEATH POWER	H. BLACKBERRY/ ROSE	38 20.884	121 08.887
	12,275		LINES INCUBATING (EPANCHIN - 130			
SAN BENITO	4/22/00	Y 580	SHEARWATER - HWY 25 S BITTERWATER RD IRRIGATION DITCH	CATTAIL/ MUSTARD	36 20.813	120 57.438
SAN BENITO	4/24/00	Y 54	SHEARWATER - SAN FELIPE LAKE. HWY 152 / PACHECO PASS RD	BULRUSH	36 59.099	121 27 843
SAN BENITO	4/19/00	Y 68	SHEARWATER - TELEDYNE POND UNION RD/ HWY 156 [HIST 1996-1997; 1999]	CATTAIL	36 50.1	121 26.98
	702					
SAN DIEGO	4/22/00	Y 300	UNMACK - JACUMBA POND OLD HWY 80 [HIST 1997-1999]	CATTAIL	32 34.201	116 11.548
SAN DIEGO	4/21/00	Y 340	SMITH - HWY 79 / MESA GRANDE RD JUNCT, SANTA YSABELL	H. BLACKBERRY	33 8.76	116 39.96
SAN DIEGO	4/21/00	Y 600	WINTER - I-8 TO WEST WILLOWS EXIT @ VIEJAS INDIAN CASINO [HIST 1999]	CATTAIL	32 50.5	116 41.68
SAN DIEGO	4/22/00	Y 50	BREISCH - POTRERO S LAKE OF TWIN LAKES RESORT [HIST 1999 ALTERED]	CATTAIL	32 37.417	116 36,734
SAN DIEGO	4/22/00	Y 20	STOWE - UNITT - LINDO LAKE RT 67 FROM EL CAJON (HIST 1994-1999)	CATTAIL	32 51.30	116 55.00
	1,310					
SAN JOAQUIN	4/22/00	У 8	HOLT - E. HWYS 12/88 INTERSECTION S. SIDE	CATTAIL	38 03.327	121 04.612
SAN JOAQUIN	4/22/00		HOLT - S SIDE HWY 12 POND [HIST 1997-1999]	CATTAIL/BULRUSH	38 12 135	120 59.644
	7.008					

### TRICOLORED BLACKBIRD April 21-24, 2000 SURVEY APPENDIX 1 BREEDING BIRDS

UNTY:	Total	Date/Nes	ti Num	nber	Observer		Location	Substrate	Latitude	Longitude
N LUIS		4/22/00	Y	300			O HWY 33, 0.5 MI S AM - 500 4/18/00]	BULRUSH/CATTAIL	34 55.119	119 31.147
N LUIS	500	4/21/00	Y	200	EDELL - PON RD (HIST 199		INCT BITTERWATER	CATTAIL/WILLOW	35 21.931	120 04.669
Do selse NTA CRUZ	200	4/22/00	У	200		ND 1 KM NE 01 COAST [HIST 19	F GREYHOUND ROCK 995-1999]	CATTAIL/ BULRUSH	37 1.467	122 14.683
Sieten	200	4/22/00	Y	200	MANOLIS - P.	ASS RD 3.8 MI I	E WEST BUTTE RD	H. BLACKBERRY	39 11.105	121 48.097
Tulone										
LARE		4/22/00	Y 1,	,800	STEARNS - Y	OKOHL VALLE	Y ROCKY HILL RD	BULRUSH	36 17.9	119 4.03
LARE		4/20/00	Y 15.	,000,	HAMILTON -	TOLEDO PIT N	W POND	CATTAIL	36 05.581	119 41.101
LARE		4/26/00	Y 7,	,500	HAMILTON -	GEORGE DAI	RY [HIST]	SILAGE/ NETTLES	36 0.33	119 28.55
LARE		4/20/00	Y 5,	,000	HAMILTON -	TULE RIVER	AG FIELD	SILAGE	36 03.958	119 51.306
LARE		4/20/00	Y 6	,000	HAMILTON -	TOLEDO PIT S	W POND	CATTAIL/BULLRUS	36 05.298	119 40.992
LARE		4/20/00	Y 18	,000		(DEHAVEN - I	HWY 168 GREG TE 168	WHEAT SILAGE	36 5.47	119 27.1
	53,300									
The Column	400	4/23/00	Y	400	SCHEIFERST	EIN - S OF ROC	CK RIVER RD @			
Yele										
LO		4/22/00	Y	30	ROMINGER -	RANCH POND	(HIST NEW POND	CATTAIL	38 59.748	122 01.811
LO	80	4/22/00	Y	50	HAMILTON -	SUNSWEET		CATTAIL	38 37.162	121 57.756
							· 基 및 보호 : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :			

TAL 153,955

BREEDING BIRDS

### TRICOLORED BLACKBIRD April 21-24, 2000 SURVEY APPENDIX 2 NONBREEDING BIRDS

COUNTY:	Total Date/Nes	tin	Number	Observer Location	Substrate	Latitude	Longitude
BUTTE	4/24/00		23	CORDES - OROVILLE WA. WILBER RD. 1.6MI S HWY 162. BIRDS ACTIVELY FORAGING.		39 26.543	121 39.195
BUTTE	4/24/00	N	11	CORDES - Z RD/ SEVEN MILE LN.@ COUNTY SIGN MARKER.	RICE HULL PILE/ SUDAN GRASS	39 32.188	121 55.146
BUTTE	4/22/00	N	80	LOLLER - TABLE MOUNTAIN, N OROVILLE OFF LARGE PARKING LOT W. SIDE CHEROKEE RD.	SODAH GIRBO		
BUTTE	4/21/00	N	25	LOMELI - NELSON RD 1.9 MI E OF HWY 99			
BUTTE	4/21/00	N	30	LOMELI - PALERMO/HONCUT HWY NEAR COX		39 23.386	121 32.316
BUTTE	4/21/00	N	60	LOMELI - NELSON RD 1.3 MI E HWY 99 FORAGING FLOCK	DRY VERNAL POOL	39 31.415	121 39.856
BUTTE	4/21/00	N	100	LOMELI - COTTONWOOD RD 1.9 MI E HWY 99 PONDING BASIN	DEAD WILLOWS	39 33 158	121 39.922
BUTTE	4/21/00	N	70	LOMELI - 0.2 MI W WILBUR RD / TRES VIAS RD NEAR BARN. MIXED FLOCK FORAGING		39 30.582	121 39.160
	399		***********				
CALAVERAS	4/22/00	N	500	BALDWIN - ROCK CREEK RD 1.5 MI S MILTON FORAGING FLOCK [HIST 1995, 1996, 1997]		38 1.2	120 50
.44-4	500						
FRESNO	4/22/00	N	12	FITTON - LITTLE PANOCHE RES W OF RES BACKWATER ON FENCE		36 44.636	120 51.639
FRESNO	4/22/00	N	3	FITTON -FEEDLOT SHELL RD W OF HWY 33 [HIST] MALES	FEEDLOT	36 13.512	120 20.588
	15						
KERN	4/21/00	N	45	BLACK - 1 MI E OF SITE #1 BTW GRANITE & BKS GLENNVILLE RD MILE MARKER 152 F 9.18	BULRUSH/CATTAIL	35 37.6	118 58.02
KERN	4/22/00	N	5	CLENDENNEN - NEW WATER WIND WOLVES PRESERVE SAN EMIGDIO RANCH (HIST 1998-	CATTAIL		
	50			19991 HEAVILY GRAZED			
LASSEN	4/19/00 9	N	9	TATMAN - HONEY LAKE WA 2 MI FROM DAKIN UNIT FORAGING MIXED FLOCK			
	9						
LOS ANGELES	4/24/00	И	100	CLENDENNEN - CLEVELAND'S POND GORMAN POST RD E SIDE 3 MI S OF GORMAN		34 43.82	118 48.15
	100						
MERCED	4/26/00	И	30	HAMILTON - BOSE RD [HIST 1990'S]	H. BLACKBERRY	37 29.146	120 82.313
MERCED	4/21/00	И	500	SANDE - NUNES & SONS DAIRY HWY 140/ EDMINSTER RD FORAGING FLOCKS CARRING FOOD. COLONY POSSIBLY 1 MI IN BBERRY	H. BLACKBERRY	37 19	120 52
MERCED	4/21/00	N	250	FITTON - REGO DAIRIES BETWEEN ORCHARD & WHITWORTH RDS FORAGING FLOCK		37 12.208	121 03.844
MERCED	4/21/00	N	210	FITTON - BUTTS RD W OF 1-5 FORAGING FLOCK		37 09.465	121 04.049
MERCED	4/24/00		130	STONE - O'NEILL FOREBAY WA HWY 33 POND #1		37 4.9	121 04.043
	1,120		250	ROOSTING ON COTTONWOODS [HIST]		J. 1.0	
	1,120				.S 2006	rvey Senort Do	abuseding

# TRICOLORED BLACKBIRD April 21-24, 2000 SURVEY APPENDIX 2 NONBREEDING BIRDS

UNTY:	Total Date/Nestin	Number	Observer Location	Substrate	Latitude	Longitude
,0\						
NINTEREY	4/22/00 N	8	DAVIS - LOCH PADDEN			
ONTEREY	4/22/00 N	10	DAVIS -E SIDE OLD STAGE RD POND FORAGING MIXED FLOCK	PASTURE	36 39.088	121 31.467
ONTEREY	4/22/00 N 63	45	FITTON - PEACH TREE VALLEY POND RT 25 S		36 10.881	120 48.161
C ANGE	4/22/00 N	5	KENYON - VILLAGE POND PARK BETWEEN MUIRLANDS AND ROCKFIELD IN LAKE FOREST	***************************************		
ÇÅ CRAMENTO	4/22/00 N	39	COOK - SCOTT RD S OF WHITE ROCK RD FORAGING IN FIELDS (FREGIEN - 50)	RANGELAND	38 35.215	121 07.642
CRAMENTO	4/22/00 N	430	COOK - S OF ELDER CREEK, FORAGING AND ROOSTING [HIST]	WILLOWS		
CRAMENTO	4/22/00 N	290	COOK - CLAY STATION RD 1.1 MI S OF DILLARD RD; MOSTLY MALES FORAGING FLOCK	PASTURE	38 20.25	121 09.76
CRAMENTO	4/22/00 N	2,600	COOK - NW CORNER OF KATENA / CLAY STATION RDS FORAGING FLOCK			
CRAMENTO	4/22/00 N	500	FREGIEN - SCOTT RD 2.5 MI S WHITE ROCK RD POND [HIST 1997-1999]	CATTAIL/BULRUSH	38 3.85	121 07.89
CRAMENTO	4/22/00 N	60	BURKE - NATOMAS RD S OF RIEGO RD DEWITT FARMS & AJOINING FIELDS	H. BLACKBERRY		
CRAMENTO	4/24/00 N	29	TREASTER - DILLARD/ COLONY RDS NEAR END WOODS RD FORAGING GRASSLAND VERNAL	SEDGE		
CRAMENTO	4/23/00 N	160	TREASTER - HOWARD RANCH MIXED FLOCK FORAGING GRASSLAND VERNAL POOL.			
	4,108					
BENITO	4/22/00 N	1	FITTON - BITTERWATER CK	ELDERBERRY	36 19.789	120 56.466
N BENITO	4/22/00 N	280	FITTON - HWY 25 JUNCT COALINGA-LOS GATOS CK RD FLYING FLOCK		36 24.055	120 52.942
N BENITO	4/22/00 N	34	SHEARWATER - LONOAK RD 1.9 HWY 25 FLYING			
N BENITO	4/22/00 N	40	SHEARWATER - HWY 25 ALONG DITCH FLYING			
N BENITO	4/22/00 N	38	SHEARWATER - HWY 25 @ LEWIS CK BRIDGE FLOCK BATHING IN CREEK		36 18.033	120 55.803
N BENITO	4/22/00 N	261	SHEARWATER - IDRIA RD @ 7.0 MILE MARKER. MALES FORAGING NEAR CREEK		36 31,005	120 49.959
N BENITO .	4/24/00 N	64	FORAGING FLOCK PASTURE MUSTARD NEAR		36 42.862	121 16 655
	718		DRAINAGE DITCH (HIST PAICINES RES CLOSE)			
Sam						
DIEGO	4/21/00 N	50	MCINTOSH - AMIGO RD / HWY 78 POND (HIST	CATTAIL/BULRUSH		
N DIEGO	4/20/00 N	400	UNMACK - TULE LAKES, WIEST RANCH MC CAIN VALLEY RD			
N DIEGO	4/24/00 N	1	MAHRDT - RESERVOIR (HIST 1997 - 1999			

### TRICOLORED BLACKBIRD April 21-24, 2000 SURVEY APPENDIX 2 NONBREEDING BIRDS

COUNTY:	Total Date/Nestin	Number	Observer Location	Substrate	Latitude	Longitude
SAN DIEGO	4/22/00 N	30	PRYDE - SANTEE LAKES FLOCK FORAGING GRASSLAND (HIST)		32 51.42	117 00.36
SAN DIEGO	4/24/00 N	200	WEAVER - CHIHUAHUS CREEK BRIDGE HWY 79 W OF OAK GROVE HAYING FORAGING AREA			
SAN DIEGO	4/22/00 N	30	BREISCH - 25026 POTRERO VALLEY RD FLOCK IN OPEN FIELD		32 36.837	116 36.817
				***************************************		
SAN JOAQUIN	4/22/00 N	52	YEE - S AIRPORT WY & AVENUE D FLOCK			
SAN JOAQUIN	4/22/00 N	13	HOLT - CLEMENTS RD NEAR COMSTOCK RD HERON ROOST REMOVED [HIST 1995]		38 05.387	121 07.426
	65				************	
SAN LUIS OBISPO	4/21/00 N 500	500	EDELL - 5650 BITTERWATER RD FLOCK FORAGING IN GRASSLAND		35 21.931	120 04.669
STANISLAUS	4/21/00 N 15	15	- FITTON - ORESTIMBRE CK NEWMAN RANCH		37 18.028	121 09.314
TUOLUMNE	4/25/00 N	175	SCHIEFERSTEIN - ROCK RIVER RD HETCH HETCHY LIMING PLANT; MALES. POSSIBLE COLONY IN BBERRY ON BROOKS RANCH	PASTURE		
TOTAL	8,553		NONBREEDING BIRDS			
1011111	0,000		1011MADELLA DIAMO			

# TRICOLORED BLACKBIRD April 21-24, 2000 SURVEY APPENDIX 3 NO BIRDS

UNTY	Date/Nestin Nu	mber	Observer Location	Substrate	Latitude	Longitude
AL AMEDA	4/22/00 N		PEETERS - SUNOL AREA (3 SITES) [HIST]	CATTAIL	37 34.16	121 52.30
PU PPTE	4/24/00 N	0	SILVEIRA - LLANO SECO SACRAMENTO RIVER NWR @ 7 MILE / NELSON RDS (ENTIRE REFUGE)		39 32.83	121 54.64
ŜA LAVERAS	4/22/00 N	0	BALDWIN - COPPEROPOLIS RES [HIST 1996-	CATTAIL	37 89.09	120 38.22
CO ALUSA	4/24/00 N	0	CARPENTER - DELEVAN NWR (ENTIRE REFUGE) [HIST 1994, 1998]	H. BLACKBERRY	39 17	122 5.7
LUSA	4/24/00 N	0	WOLDER - COLUSA NWR @ ABLE / DAM RDS INTERSECTION (ENTIRE REFUGE)	CATTAIL	39 8.92	121 62.07
LUSA	4/22/00 N	0	BEEDY - PIONEER DUCK CLUB, LURLINE RD	CATTAIL/TULE	39 13.874	122 05.859
·LUSA	4/22/00 N	0	FLOODED, GOOD GROWTH BEEDY - ACRE FARMS LURLINE RD DEEP -FLOODED [HIST]	CATTAIL/TULE	39 19.149	122 06.218
LUSA	4/22/00 N	0	BEEDY - CAPITOL OUTING CLUB, SANTA FE RD HISTORICAL FLOODED BURNED THIS YEAR	CATTAIL	39 13.903	122 06.985
<i>C</i> 1						
DORADO	4/23/00 N	0	MALL - S HWY 50 CRAZY HORSE CAMPGROUND [1987 HIST SITE CONVERTED RESIDENTIAL]		38 39.250	121 00.25
DORADO	4/23/00 N	0	MALL - GOLD HILL RD .25 MI W HWY 49	H. BLACKBERRY/ CATTAIL	38 45.75	120 51.717
DORADO	4/23/00 N	0	MALL - SALMON FALLS RD POND 3.9 MI S OF PIOLOT HILL [HIST 1971]	H. BLACKBERRY/ CATTAIL	38 47.45	121 01.116
FR						
ESNO	4/27/00 N	0	HAMILTON - PRODUCER'S DAIRY SE CORNER	SILAGE	36 44.087	120 13.403
ESNO	4/27/00 N	0	HAMILTON - PRODUCER'S POND [HIST]	CATTAIL	36 44.562	120 13.936
ESNO	4/21/00 N	0	FITTON - LITTLE PANOCHE CK GRAVEL PIT [HIST] WATER WITHHELD SITE DISTURBANCE	CATTAIL	36 47.865	120 44.959
ESNO	4/22/00 N	0	FITTON - AT LITTLE PANOCHE /MINE CREEKS	WILLOWS	36 44.381	120 51.639
ESNO	4/22/00 N	0	FITTON - LAKE LOS NIETOS [HIST]	CATTAIL	36 44.636	120 51.639
ESNO	4/22/00 N	0	FITTON - NW COLINGA GRAVEL PIT [HIST]	CATTAIL	36 09.925	120 22.243
ESNO	4/22/00 N	0	FITTON - FRESNO W OF SUTTER AVE [HIST]		36 05.492	120 12.730
(,L						
ENN	4/25/00 N	0	WOLDER - HWY I5 RD.7 W RD HH [HIST 1994]	H. BLACKBERRY		
ENN	4/24/00 N	0	CARPENTER - SACRAMENTO NWR @ DUCK PONDS (ENTIRE REFUGE) [HIST 1996]		39 25.40	121 70.40
ENN	4/25/00 N	0	CARPENTER/WOLDER - NE JUNCT RD 99W & RD 39 (BAYLISS) POOR HABITAT	TULE/ WILLOW		
ENN	4/25/00 N	0	CARPENTER/WOLDER - RD 45 & RD VV SITE DESTRUCTION FIRE & SPRAY [HIST 1995]	H. BLACKBERRY	39 32.98	122 3.54

# TRICOLORED BLACKBIRD April 21-24, 2000 SURVEY APPENDIX 3 NO BIRDS

COUNTY	Date/Nestin Nu	nber	Observer Location	Substrate	Latitude	Longitude
GLENN	4/25/00 N	0	CARPENTER/WOLDER - RD VV & RD 34; (DAIRY N OF RD 34)	H. BLACKBERRY	39 37.02	122 3.21
GLENN	4/25/00 N	0	CARPENTER - RD PP & RD 45		39 32.32	122 67.93
GLENN	4/25/00 N	0	CARPENTER/WOLDER- GRAVEL PIT RD 45 &	CATTAIL		
GLENN	4/25/00 N	0	CARPENTER/WOLDER - GRAVEL PIT S OF RD 48 PRIVATE PROPERTY PETE KNIGHT	CATTAIL	39 32.1	122 10.18
HUMBOLDT	4/22/00 N	0	JULIANO - DRAKE HILL RD, HWY 101 S. OF FORTUNA AND VICINITY (HIST)			
KERN	4/21/00 N	0	HAMILTON - WILDWOOD RD	WHEAT/BARLEY	35 43.891	119 26.225
KERN	4/20/00 N	0	HAMILTON - BAKERSFIELD RECHARGE (3 SITES) [HIST]		35 19.529	119 12,173
KERN	4/22/00 N	0	-CLENDENNEN - THREE SPRINGS WIND WOLVES PRESERVE SAN EMIGDIO RANCH	NETTLES		
KERN	4/22/00 N	0	CLENDENNEN - SOMETIMES LAKE WIND WOLVES PRESERVE SAN EMIGDIO RANCH (HIST 1999) EPHEMERAL DRY	CATTAIL		
KINGS	4/22/00 N	0	HAMILTON - KINGS CANAL - 24TH & ELGIN [HIST CATTAILS CLEARED]		36 22.459	119 53.235
LOS ANGELES	4/16/00 N	0	GARRETT - PIUTE PONDS EDWARDS AIRFORCE BASE S OF AVE C 1.5 MI E OF SIERRA HWY	BULRUSH	34 47.44	118 7.46
MENDOCINO	4/22/00 N	0	MORLEY - POND STATE HWY 20. LOGGING CAMP 19 MCGUIRE RANCH		39 21.164	123 36.669
MERCED	4/21/00 N	0	HARVEY - MERCED NWR ARENA PLAINS UNIT SUNRISE & PELICAN LAKE [HIST]	TULE	37 17	120 42
MERCED	4/21/00 N	0	CHOUINARD - ARENA PLAINS UNIT, MERCED NWR HWY 165 N/ E HWY 140, S SNOWBIRD LN HISTI WETLANDS		37 17	120 42
MERCED	4/26/00 N	0	HAMILTON - STAIR STEP [HIST]		37 02.389	120 58.103
MERCED	4/26/00 N	0	HAMILTON - WILLOWS IN VICINITY	H. BLACKBERRY	37 18.474	120 50.564
MERCED	4/26/00 N	0	HAMILTON - EDMINSTER RD AREA	H. BLACKBERRY		
MERCED	4/26/00 N	. 0	HAMILTON - HENRY MILLER [HIST 1999]		37 06.005	120 56.488
MERCED	4/25/00 N	0	HAMILTON - H. BLACKBERRY [HIST] DEGRADED, POISONED OUT	H. BLACKBERRY	37 18 107	120 51.068
MERCED	4/25/00 N	0	HAMILTON - H. BLACKBERRY [HIST 1994]	H. BLACKBERRY	37 18.019	120 51.098
MERCED	4/25/00 N	0	HAMILTON - BARN [HIST 1993]	BULRUSH	37 08.144	120 49.997

# TRICOLORED BLACKBIRD April 21-24, 2000 SURVEY APPENDIX 3 NO BIRDS

UNTY	Date/Nestin Nu	mber	Observer	Location	Substrate	Latitude	Longitude
M	4/21/00 N	0	SANDE DIC DOTTO	M DAIDV N SAN IOAOIIIN R		37 18	120 53
RCED	4/21/00 N	U	LEVEE HWYS 165 &	M DAIRY N SAN JOAQUIN R 140		37 10	220 00
ERCED	4/21/00 N	0	SANDE - KESTERSO &140 [HIST MAINTAL	N FREITAS UNITS HWYS 165 [NED]		37 15	120 52
ERCED	4/21/00 N	0		NWR DUCK SLOUGH [HIST FLOODING & FENCELINE		31 12	120 37
ERCED	4/21/00 N	0	CHOUINARD - MERC SLOUGH [HIST]	ED NWR DEAD MAN		37 12	120 37
ERCED	4/21/00 N	0	WOOLINGTON- WES	T BEAR CK - EAST BEAR CK		37 15	120 47
ERCED	4/21/00 N	0	WOOLINGTON - LOS	BANOS DETENTION DAM		36 58.43	120 59.50
M							
NTEREY	4/21/00 N	0		BALA POND / OLD STAGE JUAN GD RD [HIST 1994-1996		36 39.626	121 32.839
)NTEREY	4/23/00 N	0	TENNEY - WARNER OF ELKHORN RD	POND GARRIN RD 0.25 MI E		36 40.58	121 43.9
)NTEREY	4/21/00 N	0	TENNEY - CRAZY HO CRAZY HORSE CYN	DRSE POND SAN JUAN GD / RD S		36.46.378	121 36.094
ONTEREY	4/22/00 N	0	DAVIS - HEBERT RD	POND		36 45.687	121 37.115
A 16							
NA PA	4/24/00 N	0	WYKOFF - NAPA VA	LLEY CORP DR/ ANSELMO		38 14.786	122 16.702
			CT MARSH [HIST 19	98]			
PA	4/24/00 N	0		NOMA WA POND HUICHICA ER GROWN WILL BE	CATTAIL	38 12.716	122 70.628
PA	4/21/00 N	0	KAY - JULIANA VIN BARNETT RD POPE	YARD POND #1 END VALLEY [HIST 1997-1999]	CATTAIL	38 39.210	122 23.798
2							
RIV MERSIDE	4/23/00 N	0	PAULEK - SAN JACI	NTO WA (ENTIRE REFUGE)		33 52.75	117 06.71
/ERSIDE	4/21/00 N	0	HAMILTON - BRIDG	E ST RIVERSIDE	NETTLE		
CA.							
ÇA CRAMENTO	4/22/00 N	0		NTERNATIONAL RD / CIMATED BY GRAVEL CO			
CRAMENTO	4/22/00 N	0	LATROBE RD 2 MI N	OF JACKSON HWY	H. BLACKBERRY	38 31.038	121 07.196
CRAMENTO CRAMENTO	4/22/00 N	0	CLARKSBURG RD E		II DI MUZDEDEN	20.00.00.10	121 13.36-14.32
CRAMENTO	4/22/00 N 4/22/00 N	0	HAUSCHILT RD N C	OF GRANTLINE RD F HWY 104	H. BLACKBERRY	38 28.00-13	121 15.56-14.52
CRAMENTO	4/22/00 N	0	CHEROKEE RD 1/3 1	MIS OF HWY 104	H. BLACKBERRY	38 17.066	121 15.914
CRAMENTO	4/22/00 N	0		ELDON RD / WATERMAN RD	H. BLACKBERRY	38 26.290	121 20.893
CRAMENTO CRAMENTO	4/22/00 N 4/22/00 N	0	BRADSHAW RD S OF	F SHELDON RD ANTLINE RD / MOSHER RD	H. BLACKBERRY H. BLACKBERRY	38 27.433 38 23.40	121 20.087 121 20.10
CRAMENTO	4/22/00 N 4/22/00 N	0	ALTA MESA RD 1 M		H. BLACKBERRY	38 23.40 38 16.53	121 13.49
CRAMENTO	4/22/00 N	0	FLORIN RD 1 MI E (		-1. 2. 14 2. (122/14/14/14	JU 13.00	
CRAMENTO	4/22/00 N	0	DAVIS RD S OF DILL		H. BLACKBERRY	38 24.084	121 15.355
CRAMENTO	4/22/00 N	0	IVIE RD AT HWY 10		H. BLACKBERRY		
CRAMENTO	4/22/00 N	0	WALNUT RD @ HWY		II DI ACEDEDDA	20 20 20	101 ) 5 50
CRAMENTO CRAMENTO	4/22/00 N 4/22/00 N	0		/2 MI S OF JACKSON HWY ANTLINE RD / BRADSHAW	H. BLACKBERRY H. BLACKBERRY	38 29.03	121 15.50
CRAMENTO	4/22/00 N	0		N OF DILLARD RD 2 MI E OF		38 21.54	121 19.48

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### TRICOLORED SLACKBIRD April 21-24, 2000 SURVEY APPENDIX 3 NO BIRDS

COUNTY	Date/Nestin Nu	mber	Observer Location	Substrate	Latitude	Longitude
SACRAMENTO SACRAMENTO	4/22/00 N 4/22/00 N	0	MARENGO RD 1/2 MI N OF SIMMERHORN RD INTERSECTION BORDEN RD / WEST RD	H, BLACKBERRY H, BLACKBERRY		
SAN BENITO	4/24/00 N	0	SHEARWATER - HWY 152 BETTENCOURT DAIRY [HIST YES]		36 58.998	121 28.106
SAN BENITO	4/24/00 N	0	SHEARWATER - HWY 25 & CIENEGA RD PAICINES RESERVOIR [HIST]		36 43.070	121 16.839
SAN BENITO	4/24/00 N	0	SHEARWATER - FRYE LANE [HIST 1996-1997]	BULRUSH	36 55. 930	121 25.471
SAN BENITO	4/24/00 N	0	SHEARWATER - POND RIGEMARK GOLF COURSE FAIRVIEW RD & HWY 25 [HIST]		36 48.957	121 21.802
SAN BENITO	4/24/00 N	0	SHEARWATER - POND SANTA ANITA/QUIEN SABE RDS (HIST 1996)		3.6 47.854	121 15.798
SAN BENITO	4/24/00 N	0	SHEARWATER - GRANITE ROCK POND DEEP WATER SOUTHSIDE RD .9 MI JUNCT UNION RD		36 48.828	121 23 059
			-			
SAN JOAQUIN	4/22/00 N	0	HOLT - CLEMENTS / COMSTOCK RDS INTERSECTION [HIST 1994-1997]		38 05.445	121 07.687
SAN JOAQUIN	4/22/00 N	0	HOLT - DEAD END GILMORE RD HIMALAYA BLACKBERRIES REMOVED [HIST 1990-1995]		38 04.279	120 99.442
SAN LUIS	4/22/00 N	0	EDELL - POND HWY 46 5 MI E HWY 1 [HIST			
SAN LUIS	4/21/00 N	0	EDELL - POND CRESTON RD PASO ROBLES		34 55.8	119 30.75
SAN LUIS OBISPO	4/22/00 N	0	EDELL - POND, VILLACK RD/ 3 MI N CAYUCAS, CATTAIL HWY 1 [HIST 1987-1989]			
SAN LUIS OBISPO	4/24/00 N	0	STILES - SEWAGE EVAP PONDS, HWY 1 N CUESTA COLLEGE [HIST 1988]	BULRUSH		
					·	
SANTA CLARA	4/22/00 N	0	MILLER - SARGENT CREEK			
SANTA CLARA	4/22/00 N	0	MILLER - COYOTE RANCH PERCOLATION	TULES		
SANTA CLARA	4/22/00 N	0	MILLER - CALERO RESERVOIR MARSH	TULES		
SANTA CLARA SANTA CLARA	4/22/00 N		MILLER - SILVER CREEK	CATTAIL		
SANTA CLARA	4/22/00 N 4/22/00 N		MILLER - HALLS VALLEY MILLER - ARROYO BAYO			
SANTA CLARA	4/22/00 N		MILLER - CALAVERAS RESERVOIR			
STANISLAUS	4/20/00 N	0	HAMILTON - HWY I-5		37 19.737	121 06.447
SUTTER	4/24/00 N	0	MOLDED STAMED VIND SEVENIDE DEBLICES		20.4.40	202 45 50
,			WOLDER - SUTTER NWR (ENTIRE REFUGE)		39 4.42	121 45.52
SUTTER	4/24/00 N		WOLDER - BUTTE SINK (ENTIRE REFUGE)		39 15.83	121 54.31
SUTTER	4/22/00 N	0	MANOLIS - WEST BUTTE RD S OF ENTRANCE SUTTER BUTTE OUTING CLUB [HIST 1994?			
SUTTER	4/22/00 N	0	MANOLIS - GILSIZER SLOUGH AT SUTTER BYPASS/W END THOMPSON RD(HIST			
ТЕНАМА	4/24/00 N	0	WOLDER - H. BLACKBERRY HWY I5 N OF			
IBIANA	±14±100 N	U	WOLDER - H. BLACKBERRI HWY 15 N OF			
			***			

### TRICOLORED BLACKBIRD April 21-24, 2000 SURVEY APPENDIX 3 NO BIRDS

UNTY	Date/Nestin Number	Observer	Location	Substrate	Latitude	Longitude
 (ව						
ro	4/24/00 N	MOORE - ANDERS	SON POND	CATTAIL	38 36.570	121 59.844
DLO	4/22/00 N	HAMILTON - CHA DELETED (2 SITE	MBERLAIN H. BLACKBERRY (S) [HIST]	H. BLACKBERRY	38 35.569	121 51.746
LO	4/22/00 N	HAMILTON - WIN	TERS SEWAGE [HIST]	CATTAIL	38 32.52	121 59.28
JU						
(BA	4/22/00 N	BEEDY - TANABE	/RAMIREZ RDS [HIST AREA]			
ВA	4/24/00 N		HWY 65 TO 40 MILE RD, TO ANCHO RIO OSO DUCK CLUB	H. BLACKBERRY		
BA	4/24/00 N		HWY 65 W DAIRY RD N OF ST 1996-1997] AMPHITHEATER UCTION CLOSE!		39 2.67	121 27.58
ВА	4/24/00 N	PEACEMAKER - F - PRESENTS (HIST	FORTY MILE RD BILL GRAHAM 1996]			

### 2000 TRICOLOR BLACKBIRD SURVEY APPENDIX 4 1999, 2000 SURVEY FORMS

### 1999 Tricolored Blackbird Survey Form County of Observation: Date of Observation: Telephone #: Observer: Address: Target Date: Saturday, April 24 and Sunday, April 25, 1999 Reports for any breeding season date are important. Specify date(s) of your observations. Complete one form for each individual nesting or non-nesting colony and each exact location where tricolors have been observed nesting in the past but were not present on April 26. Please return this form immediately to allow researchers time to follow up on your observations. Send the completed form to: Kevin Hunting Phone: (916) 657-4436 California Department of Fish and Game Fax: (916) 653-1019 Sacramento, CA 95814 NESTING COLONIES (if no nesting behavior is observed, please go to Non-nesting, below): Estimated <u>number and sex ratio</u> of adults: \_\_\_\_\_ (Whole number, <u>not</u> a range or +/- please) ☐ Some Singing..... Yes No Please circle choice that applies. ☐ Carrying nesting material..... Yes No ☐ Adults carrying food..... Yes No ☐ Fledglings out of nest..... Yes No ☐ Estimated area (acres) of habitat occupied by nests:\_\_\_\_\_ Ac. ☐ Estimated area (acres) of habitat not occupied by nests: Ac. ☐ Nesting Substrate: Do not use tules as a category. Instead, use cattails, bulrushes, or other specific plant species designations. (If more than one species, use percentages.) \_\_\_Cattails \_\_\_ Himalaya Blackberries \_\_\_ Willows \_\_\_Bulrushes \_\_\_Other Blackberries \_\_\_Nettles \_\_Ag Fields (circle type): barley wheat silage thistles mustard Other (specify species): **NON-NESTING COLONIES OR FLOCKS:** Estimated <u>number and sex ratio</u> of adults: \_\_\_\_\_(Whole number, <u>not</u> a range or +/-please) **LOCATION** (Nesting or Non-Nesting): Please give exact location and include a copy of a map (topo maps are best) if possible. USGS quad name and UTM coordinates are preferred. ☐ USGS Quad Name ☐ UTM Coordinates (GPS) N E Zone Township, Range, Section: Twn Rng Directions: How to reach the observation site. Road names, distances travelled, local landmarks ☐ Road designations: Owner or local contact, if known: HISTORY: Have you or has anyone in your party observed tricolors nesting at this exact or nearby (specify which) location in the past? If yes, give years: Condition of historic site:

## 2000 Tricolored Blackbird Survey Form

2000 Tricolor Survey: fax to 530 752 3350 or E-mail wjha County of Observation:	amilton@ucdavis.edu  Date of Observation:
Observer:	Telephone
Address:	
Email: Reports for any breeding season date are important. Spec	cify date(s) of your observations.
Target Dates: Saturday, April 22, Sunday, April 23, 2000	). If these not possible go on April 21 or 24.
Complete one form for each individual nesting or non-nes	sting colony and each location where tricolors were
observed nesting in the past but were not present on April	22 or 23 of this year. Please e-mail or fax this form
Mail the completed form to:	Bill Hamilton
	mental Science and Policy (DESP will do),
	nia Davis, Davis, CA 95616.
·	. Email wjhamilton@ucdavis.edu
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	604 6655. Phone (530) 752 1122
Mobile phone (350) 5	01 00557 11010 (550) 752 7122
NESTING COLONIES (if no nesting behavior is observe	ed, please go to Non-breeding, below.
Estimated number and sex ratio of adults:	(Whole number, not a range or +/- please)
☐ Some Singing	Yes No circle all choices that apply
☐ Some Carrying nesting material	Yes No
☐ Some Adults carrying food	Yes No
☐ Some Fledglings out of nest	Yes No
☐ Estimated area (acres) of habitat occupied by nests:	Ac.
☐ Estimated area (acres) of habitat not occupied by nests:	
Nesting Substrate: Do not use tules as a category. Instead	ead, use cattails, bulrushes, or other. If more than one
species supports nests estimate percentages.	
☐ Cattails Himalaya Blackberries Willows Bulr	rushes Other Blackberries
I are attributed the shore of orac according by this colony.	
Length, width, shape of area occupied by this colony Nearest water source used by this colony:	
NON-BREEDING COLONIES OR FLOCKS (see information of the colonies).	
Number and sex ratio of adults:	
. Tumber und gen rune of udditor.	( Those hamos, not a large of a product)
LOCATION (Breeding or non-breeding): Exact location,	, copy of a map (topo maps are best) if possible.
GPS measurements are great. Please indicate where the G	GPS reading was taken relative to the colony. Or give USG
designations or copy part of a map.	
☐ LatitudeLongitude	
Township, Range, Section: Twn Rng	Sec
Directions: How to reach the observation site. Road name	
Road designations:	
Owner or local contact, if known:	
HISTORY: Have you or has anyone in your party observ	red tricolors nesting at this exact or nearby
(specify which) location in the past? If yes, give years: _	
Condition of historic site:	

### TRICOLORED BLACKBIRD April 21-24, 2000 SURVEY APPENDIX 5 LATE SEASON BIRDS

COUNTY	Total ate/Nesti	ng :	Number	Observer Location	Substrate	Latitude	Longitude
COLUSA	5/9/00		20	HAMILTON - CHISOLM COVE EAST PARK RES	CATTAIL	39 20.390	122 31.244
COLUSA	6/22/00	N	0	HAMILTON - COLUSA NWR. NO WATER, MARSH DRYING [HIST]	BULRUSH	39 8.92	121 62.07
COLUSA	6/1.3/00	Y	10,000	HAMILTON - ACRE FARMS, INCUBATING	CATTAIL	39 19.149	122 06.218
COLUSA	6/13/00	Y	5,000	HAMILTON - HWY I-5 & MAXWELL RD I	CATTAIL	39 18.29	122 11.515
COLUSA	7/9/00	Υ	2,000	HAMILTON - HWY I-5 & MAXWELL RD I I	BULRUSH/ CATTAIL	39 18.05	122 12.05
COLUSA	6/10/00	Y	12,000	HAMILTON - DELEVAN BLOCK 42	CATTAIL	39 16.680	122 06.256
COLUSA	6/17/00	Y	25,000	HAMILTON - DELEVAN NWR BLOCK 17	CATTAIL	39 19.154	122 06.219
COLUSA	6/23/00	Y	25,000	HAMILTON - GRAY HILL DUCK CLUB - SE	CATTAIL	39 13.784	122 05.703
COLUSA	7/1/00 86,520	Ϋ	7,500	HAMILTON - HARBISON RD	CATTAIL		
	00,020						
FRESNO	5/2/00 0	N	0	HAMILTON - LITTLE PANOCHE PARKING LOT		36 47.124	120 47.942
GLENN	6/21/00	N	0	HAMILTON - BLUE GUM RD CHEESE FACTORY PONDS, CATTAIL DELETED TO CONTROL ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS		39 35.043	122 11.440
	0						
KERN	7/21/00	Υ	700	BARNES - PRINCE'S POND	BULRUSH	35 40.33	118 20.20
KERN	7/21/00	Υ	100	BARNES - 0.5 MI FROM PRINCE'S POND	BULRUSH/ H. BLACKBERRY		
KERN	6/8/00	Y	2,000	HAMILTON - CORNER COCORAN AND HWY 46 NE PITS, PROVISIONING FLEDGLINGS	TAMARISK/ CATTAIL	35 36.281	119 34.318
KERN	6/4/00	N	0	HAMILTON - TWISSELMAN, HWY I-5 [HIST]	COTTON	35 43.922	119 44.538
KERN	6/4/00	Y	600	HAMILTON - KERN NWR NESTING FAILURE, FORAGING [HIST]	CATTAIL	35 44.48	119 35.102
KERN	5/11/00 6,400	Y	3,000	HAMILTON - KERN NWR	CATTAIL	35 44,018	119 35.102
	0,400						
MERCED	6/20/00	Y	15,000	KING - AG SLOUGH MERCED/STANISLAUS CO LINE W OF HILMAR E SIDE SAN JOAQUIN	BULRUSH	37 24.492	120 58.160
MERCED	5/15/00	Y	6,000	HAMILTON - MERCED NWR TOUR RTE FIELD #3 SECOND BREEDING	WHEAT/THISTLE	37 10.315	120 36.047
MERCED	5/15/00	Y	8,000	HAMILTON - MERCED NWR FIELD #5 SECOND		37 12	120 37
	29,000			BREEDING			
MONTEREY	6/27/00	Y	300	SHEARWATER - NE OF SAN JUAN / CRAZYHORSE RD INTERSECTION AT POND	CATTAILS	36 46.378	121 36.044
1.50 \ Xm\r_ =				(PLUS ABOUT 200 FLEDGLINGS) (HIST			
MONTEREY	5/9/00	Y	300	BANKS - FORT HUNTER-LIGGETT NW POND AT JUNCT MISSION & NACIMIENTO-FERGUSON	CATTAIL/ WILLOW	36 0.49	121 14.3
MONTEREY	5/9/00 500	N	0	BANKS - SAN ARDO [HIST]	DESERT OLIVE		

# TRICOLORED BLACKBIRD April 21-24, 2000 SURVEY $\begin{array}{c} \text{APPENDIX 5} \\ \text{LATE SEASON BIRDS} \end{array}$

UNTY	Totalate/N	Vesti	ng N	lumber	Observer Location	Substrate	Latitude	Longitude
pb ACER	5/4 1,500	√00	Y	1,500	DEHAVEN - 0.5 MI E BREWER RD /0.5 MI S NICOLAUS RD DRY PASTURE W/ LEVEES	H. BLACKBERRY	38.53.345	121.26.464
71 Verside		2/00	Y	10,000	HAMILTON - HEMET SECOND BREEDING	BULRUSH	33 47.986	117 01.255
SA CRAMENTO	5/4 4,000	√00	Y	4,000	DEHAVEN - NATOMAS BASIN CONSERVANCY PROPERTY. NATOMAS LEVEE RD 1.5 MI S JUNCT RIEGO RD (HIST 1960-1999) TOTAL OF 5	H. BLACKBERRY	38 43.869	121 29.658
5/A N BENITO		2/00	N	150	FITTON - RT 25 BEARVALLEY 0.5 N LA GLORIA		36 34.194	121 10.902
N BENITO	5/2	2/00	N	500	FITTON - SAN JUAN RD 1.5 MI W SAN JUAN BAUTISTA BI DIRECTIONAL FLYING FLOCK, COLONY PRIVATE LAND		36 51.589	121 33.105
N BENITO		8/00	Y	400	FITTON - SAN JUAN RD 2.5 MI NE SAN JUAN BAUTISTA COLONY LN OPFF DUNCAN AVE PO -BOX 'FOSTER'S 400' SAN BENITO RIVER	CATTAII	36 51.6036	121 29.941
\$A N DIEGO	1,050 4/3	0/00	Y	700	HESTER - CAMERON CORNERS POND HWY 5 BUCKNER SPRINGS TURNOFF TO HWY 94 LEFT INCUBATING (HIST 1997-1999)	CATTAIL	32 37.666	116 28 083
A N LUIS OBISPO	5/2	9/00	Y	500	STILES - CAL POLY PONDS W OF CUESTA	BULRUSH	35 19.76	120 44.91
N LUIS OBISPO	5/1	0/00	N	0	FITTON - CRESTON RD 2.2 MI E OF S EL POMAR RD OAK GRASSLAND CONVERTED [HIST]	VINEYARD	35 34.117	120 34.742
N LUIS OBISPO	5/1 501	0/00	N	1	FITTON - RT 58 5.0 MI W SODA LAKE RD MALE	CATTAIL	35 30.772	120 12.617
ζ <b>A</b> <sub>i</sub> NTA CRUZ		6/00	Y	100	BULGER - WADDELL CREEK MARSH MOUTH HWY 1 [HIST 1999]	CATTAIL	37 5.69	122 19.67
57 ANISLAUS			Y	2,000	HAMILTON - AG SLOUGH ON MERCED/STANISLAUS CO LINE NEAR DENAIR	BULRUSH	37 28.92	120 58.282
TTER		6/00	Y	6,000	MOORE - WILD RICE A; HWY 113 5.32 MI TO ROBBINS ALL RICE FORAGING/HAY FIELDS	WILD RICE	38 56.522	121 40.835
TTER	7/1	.6/00	Y	6,000	MOORE - WILD RICE; HWY 113 4.2 MI N OF ROBBINS FLEDGLINGS/FLIGHTLINGS ALL	WILD RICE		
TTER	7/1 19,500	.8/00	Y	7,500	HAMILTON - SUTTER NWR TRACT 20.1	CATTAIL	38 59.96	121 39.48
TE HAMA	6/2 0	21/00	Ņ	0	HAMILTON - GAY CREEK HIST]	H. BLACKBERRY	39 47.886	122 12.269
TU LARE	4/3 12,000	30/00	Y	12,000	HAMILTON - (DEHAVEN - HWY 168 GREG TE VELDE JUNCT RD 56 / AVE 168 (LATE SEASON	WHEAT SILAGE	36 5.47	119 27.1

# TRICOLORED BLACKBIRD April 21-24, 2000 SURVEY APPENDIX 5 LATE SEASON BIRDS

COUNTY	Totalate/Nesting N	Jumber	Observer	Location	Substrate	Latitude	Longitude
YOLO	7/15/00 N	0	HUNTER - DAVIS	SEWAGE PONDS	CATTAIL		
YOLO	6/15/00 Y	100	CONNOR - CONAV	VAY RANCH	H. BLACKBERRY	38 36.238	121 42.670
YOLO	6/13/00 Y	2,000	HAMILTON - SUN LOCATION (HIST?	SWEET 2ND COLONY AT	CATTAIL	38 37 162	121 57.756
	2,100						
TOTAL	175,971		LATE SEASON BI	RDS			

### I made the following assumptions:

- 1) Successful nests plus fledging to independence takes a female 40 days.
- 2) To quantify time taken when nests are lost to rainfall and windstorm I counted from the beginning of nesting to the event. To determine the initiation of nesting, I determined the day the first egg was laid and added 5 days for nest building.
- 3) Losses to Black-crowned Night Herons are mostly predation upon eggs. To determine the cost of these losses I took the nest-building interval and added half the incubation period (11 da) or about 10 days.
- 4) Loss to coyotes and raccoons, which are nestling and egg predators that continue to hunt until fledging, is, on the average, 25 days.

From estimated values (Table 3), there were		
fledglings produced by 67.95% of the population.	=	127,662
That makes an estimate of 100 % of the whole fledgling Population	=	179,046
We (Cook et al. 1993) estimate fledgling annual survivorship at 1/3 X 179,046 yearlings entering the 2001 season	=	59,692
I estimate annual survivorship of 162,000 adults at 1/2 after		
Orians and Beletsky's (1989) studies of Washington state redwing adults in 2000	=	81,000
If annual adult survivorship were 70% this figure would be	=	[113,400]
These figures predict the 2001 adult breeding season population will be	=	140,692
Protected by FWS buyouts, 21,500 fledglings	=	7,166
Without buyouts the projected 2001 estimate would be		
At 70% adult survivorship this figure is	=	[173,000]
Without the buyouts and 70% adult survivorship	=	[165,834]

These numbers are simulations, based upon hypothetical survivorship information for another species. Any suggestion that they predict 2001 populations would be unwarranted.

# 2000 TRICOLORED BLACKBIRD SURVEY APPENDIX 7 INTERPRETATIONS OF OBSERVATIONS IN TABLE 6

Riverside County created wetland. The Hemet colony was occupied as soon as habitat planted to bulrushes in 1993 developed to partial maturity late in the 1994 season. By 1997 the planting was mature and hosted most of the tricolors known to inhabit southern California (Bowen and Hamilton, pers. obsns.). Between 1997 and 1999 management actions changed the basic characteristic of the Hemet habitat by burning the bulrushes and removing most of the bulrushes, temporarily deleting its current value as tricolor habitat. In 1999 this colony was located in a smaller research marsh unaffected by management actions. It recovered by the 2000 breeding season a substantially smaller area was available for nesting.

**Toledo Pit (Kern County).** This water district holding pond has consistently accommodated large tricolor colonies since first observed in 1995. In 1999 a large (35,000) flock of tricolors found the pond empty in late April. By the time the pond was flooded on May 1 they had moved (Hamilton et al. 1999).

**Sacramento County.** Collapse of the huge Sacramento County breeding population was occasioned by deliberate habitat destruction, planting of vineyards and other forms of development (Beedy pers comm., Cook, pers, comm., DeHaven pers. comm.).

Oneill Forebay (Merced County). The decline of highly productive settlements in the Himalaya blackberries at O'Neill Forebay (Merced County) from 1994 conditions followed watercourse changes there and loss of vigor by the blackberry plant nesting substrate.

**Producers Dairy** (**Fresno County**). The Producers Dairy colony has variously suffered attempts to incidentally and deliberately (scaring devices, elimination of a cattail marsh) eliminate tricolor habitat or conditions. Given its situation near a large alfalfa foraging area it probably will remain an initial settlement site.

Sunsweet drying yard (Yolo County). This colony is typical of industrial colony sites at gravel pits, prisons and smaller sewage facilities throughout California. Its small size (< 3 acres) limits colony size. Created in 1994, it was first colonized after volunteer cattails matured in 1997. A nearby rice grower who lost some sprouting rice to the adjacent colony prevailed upon the parent company, Sunsweet to disk the cattails in the winter of 1997-1998. Regrowth occurred and it was again colonized in 1999 and 2000, an outcome the grower reluctantly agreed to. The fate of this highly productive colony depends upon the outcome of continuing negotiations.

# 2000 TRICOLORED BLACKBIRD SURVEY APPENDIX 7 INTERPRETATIONS OF OBSERVATIONS IN TABLE 6

**Silage.** In 1994 all silage colony birds were protected by buyout, private agreement and protection of a colony in silage planted by private parties on federal land. In intervening years until 1999 no protection was afforded and large colonies were wiped out before the census. The apparent decline in the number of silage nesting birds at the time of the Census may reflect colony destruction rather than a failure to settle silage. The fate of all silage colonies depends upon the fate of buyout policy. No unprotected silage colony produced any fledglings in the 1990s. Management of planting dates and crop varieties (DeHaven 2000) is not likely to change the negative outcome for tricolors for this winter planted crop.

Merced County. The surge of tricolor numbers in Merced County between 1999 and 2000 (Table 2) is one of several year to year changes, the nature of which seem to preclude effective sampling of overall abundance by local sampling schemes. Even sampling of colonies and their size as widely as in one of the major valleys of Central California (San Joaquin Valley or Sacramento Valley) will not produce an estimate accurately predicting the results of a global census. To verify this conclusion, compare Sacramento Valley and San Joaquin Valley contributions to the sum of the censuses for all years.

Merced NWR. Changes were largely (55%) the result of agricultural practices incidentally benefiting tricolors. Thistles were encouraged to mature after tricolors settled in them. Prompt initiation of active management by Dennis Woolington when tricolors settled enhanced the productivity of these colonies. These actions included timely irrigation of the thistle crop, making possible a secure second nesting

Rice. Extending from the data showing that a tricolor colony utilizes 25,000 acres of rice (Figure 2) and assuming 514,000 acres of California rice (Ag Census of California, 1997), fully utilized rice could accommodate as many as 20.6 tricolor megacolonies. The difference between this number and observations suggests that several additional colonies could be accommodated in rice country if there were appropriately situated nesting sites. However, Delevan Tract 17 has been a reserve summer

During the brief interval of my association with this species (9 years) it has been reduced from a prominent feature of the valley and foothills landscape to an irregularly encountered species. Causes of loss of colony sites and foraging habitat are evident and overall causes of tricolor declines in abundance are known. Remedies are equally apparent. Maintenance of populations without habitat will be a policy with negative consequences. This report of waxing and waning of successful reproduction is an account of colony surveillance and does not necessarily address the causes of tricolor decline.

# TRUCOLORELI BLACKBRIO April 21.24, 2000 SURVEY APPENDIX 8 PARTICIPANTS FILING REPORTS

MAME	ORGANIZATION	DATIMENT			
AIRD, BRUCE	SEA & SAGE AUDUBON		baaird@carthlink.net		ORANGE
ALLEN, JACK	KERN NWR	KERN NWR PO BOX 670, DELANO CA 93216	Jack, Allen@FWS, Gov	661-725 2767	KISKN
ANDERSON, JOHN		21740 CO RD 88, WINTERS CA 95694		530 662-4570	YOLO
BALDWIN SY	USKS	PO BOX 162 LONG BARN CA 95335-0162	sbaldwin@fs.led.us	209-586-3234	CALAVARAS
BANKS, 31M	MOCKINGBIRD KIDGE ASSOC	50880 PINE CANYON, KING CITY CA 93930	jhbanks@inreach.com		MONTERES
BARBEK, D					SAN DIEGO
BAICNES, BOB	CALIFORNIA AUDUBON	FO BOX 953, WELDON CA 93283	bbarnes@lightspeed.net	760-378-3044	KERN
BEEDY, TED	JONES & STOKES ASSOC, INC.	2600 V ST, SUITE 100, SACRAMENTO CA 95818 1914	tedb@jsanet.com	916.737.3000	COLUSA
вир, вил.	US BURREC	HOW WOOD ST, WILLOWS CA 95988		530-934-1329	COLUSA
BLACK GORDON		2619 RIO VISTA, BAKERSFIELD CA 93306	gblack 1539@aoi.com	661-872 1539	KERN
ALIOT REAL	HSFWS: SAN LITE NWR		•		MERCED
BREISCH RICH		4735 MT ASHMUN DR. SAN DIEGO CA 92111	breisch@cari net	858-278-6280	SAN DIEGO
ZIIOF ABOTHE		500 SWANTON RD PO 14 DAVENPORT ANA NUEVO CA 95017		831-405-1944	SANTA CKUZ
BOLINGE CART.		5725 TIPETAVE SACRAMENTO CA 45848	hologowa com	916-457.2740	SACRAMENTO
CARDENTER MIKE	TISEWS SACIEVAMENDO NWR	759 CO RD 49W WILLOWS CA 95988	Mike Carnenter@fws.gov	530 934-2801	CLENN
CHAINEY MANK	A PART OT LIGHT STATE OF THE ST	TOP OF THE SOUTH STREET, WILLIAM STREET, WILLI			COLUSA
CHOINABL WANA	SEL LINES SERVICE	647 W PACHEON REVOLUCE HANGS OA 93635	Tina Choninand@fws gov	209.826 3508	MERCED
CHOCHESTER, 1995	WINDOWS VEG BEREINE	BO ROY IN MARICODA INVV. RAICHSKIELL CA 92059	delindentaliellisment met	661.858.1115	X
COUNTRY DAVID	CONAMAVRANCII	C DOM TO HIGHWOOLD AND I, DRIMMAN LEAD ON TOLOGO			OTOX
COOK 1.12	COWR	6 SIMMONS WAY DAVIS CA 95616	Joseph Charles Ca. Pov	530-758-9726	SACKAMENTO
COURTS SIE	neces and a second	PO BOX 146 BETTY CITY CA 45920	numer#032#hutte@tfw.ca.gov	530-982-2169	BUTTE
DAVIS JIGGE	TOSC BNVIRONMENTAL STITUTES	HOSC SANTA CRUZ CA 95064	indavis@cuts.ucsc.cdu	831-459-4763	MONTEREY
DESTAVEN RICHARD	ISPASI	2800 COTTAGE WY SACKAMENTO CA 95825	Richard DeHaven@fws.gov	916-414-6738	SACRAMENTO
EDELL TOM	30	46 EIGHTH ST. CAYUCOS CA 93430	Tom Edeli@dot.ca.gov	805 995-1691	SAN LUIS OBISPO
PANCIIIN, PETER	USFWS	2615 O ST APT B, SACRAMENTO CA 95816	Peter_Epanchin@fws.gov	916-451-4433	SACKAMENTO
ERICKSON, RICHARD	LSA ASSOCIATES	ONE PARK PLAZA, SUITE 500, IRVINE CA 92614	richard.erickson@lsa-assoc.com	949-553-0666	ORANGE
FITTON, SAM	BI.M	2091 CALLSTOGA DR, HOLLISTER CA 95023	sfitton@ca.blm.guv	831-630-5023	FRES/MERC/MONT/SANLOU/SANBEN
FREGIEN, GARY	CDPR	1416 9TH ST KM 923, SACRAMENTO CA 95814	gfreg@parks.ca.gov	916-653-0578	SACKAMENTO
FULTON, JOHN	USFWS; SAN LUIS NWR				MERCED
GARRETT, KIMBALL	LA CO MUSEUM NAT HIST	900 EXPOSITION BLVD, LOS ANGELES CA 90007	Kgarrell@nhm.org	213-763-3368	LOS ANGELES
GEORGE, KATTHY					OACHAMENTO
GIFFORD,					SAN JOAQUIN
GRUMMER, BILL.				Contract Contract	NATA ANY AND ORGANIZATED REPRESENT ASAN TO A
HAMILTON, BILL	UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA	UC DAVIS DEST DAVIS CA 95616	Whamiltonwaldu.edu	2011-201-100	MCRCICD
HAKVEY, BAKEN	FWS; SAN LIIS NWK	SAIN LUIS INWA COMPLIZA PU DUA 2176, LUS BAINUS UA 32033 2236 DELWADD CE CAN DIMOO CA 09111	nated that veyerwa.gov	848-277-9357	SAN DIEGO
district, porceint		SEGRETARION SE, SON DIEGO ON SELLI	and dely@ness com	209.469.4438	NEDOACH NAS
HOLL, WALLAN	SEGUMENT BUILD STAYED ACTION	SOUD MINER DAVIG OA SECTE	wandered and com	530.681.7874	0.10%
DONIER, MINE	CHECK DAVIS FUBLIC WORKS	TATALON STANDARD OF SOCIAL	dinliano@dfara gov		HOMBOLDT
EAV OILS		DAME KRARNEY ST. SCHOOL CA CASSA	zuvinstla@napanet net	707-963-9664	NAPA
KENVON DICK		FIGURE OF THE STATE OF THE STAT	Kenyon@exe con		ORANGE
KING HOLMAN	S NOTES RECEIVED			209-667-1219	STANISLAUS
KEI DSKN TIM	HSEWS: SAN LUIS NWE				MERCED
A RESPONDENCE	EREMICO BIOLOGICAL SERVICES	10375 LOS PINOS RD ONYX CA 93955-9726	KREMICO@aol.com	760-378-3021	KERN
TOTABLE FRED			[vlollar@uol.com		BUTTE
COMELE	510	2071 OROVILLE CHICO HWY, DURHAM GA 95938	hlomeli@lfg.ca.gov	530-892-8470	BUTFE
MACOURER MARLA	USEWS	2800 COTTAGE WAY SACKAMENTO CA 95825	marla macoubrie@fws.gov	916-414-6557	SANTA CLARA
MAJIRUT, C. R.		9847 WILLOW LN, ESCONDIDO CA 92029	emalird@aol.com	760-741-3895	SAN DIEGO
MALL ROLF		1004 CHAFFIN CT, ROSEVILLE CA 95661	The Malls@aol.com	916 784-3182	PLACER
MANOLIS TIM		808 ENCINA WY, SACKAMENTO CA 95864	Ylightfoot@aol.com	916-485-9009	SUTTER/BUTTE
MCINIOSH MARGARET		G353 ANN O RENO LN. POWAY CA 92064	marbert@concentric.net	858-486.9586	SAN DIEGO
MILER KAREN	SWASI	221 FARO AVE, DAVIS CA 95616	Karen J Miller@fws.gov	530-756-6115	SANTA CLARA
MOORE, TOM	SWASH	2233 WATT AVE SUITE 375, SACRAMENTO CA 95825	Thomas_moore@fws.gov	916-414-6457	YOLO
MOREEY, ARTHUR		150 MORROW ST, FORT BRADG CA 95437	agmorley@hotmail.com	707-964-2541	MENDOCING
PAULEK, TOM	DPG2; SAN JACINTO WA	POBOX 1254, 17050 DAVIS RD, JAKEVIEW CA 92567	Tpaulek@ffg2.ca.gov	909 624 0280	RIVERSIDE
PEACEMAKER, ANITA		PO DOX 845, OREGON HOUSE OA 95962		916-992-0433	YUBA
PEETERS, HANS		1929 KILKARE KD, SUNOL CA 94586			ALAMEDA
PKYDE, PHII.	SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY	DEPT GEOGRAPHY SAN DIEGO STAT UNIVERSITY	ppryde@mail.sdsu dedu	619 594 5525	SAN DIEGO
KANLETT, JOHN		490 MANDAKIN HILL KIJ, NEWCASHLE CA 95698 Presi nd 80 Winders CA 66664	Jean Cleavidinasine cons	3105 105-016	YOLG
SANDE, KARINE	USPWS, MISHCIED NWIL	USFWS FO BOX 2176 LOS BANOS CA 93635	Tinothy Keldsenedws.gov	209-826 3508	MERCED
SCHIEFERSTEIN, JOYCE			schiefgsonnet.com		THOLHOMNE
SCHEAM, BRAD		220 STAGECOACH RD, ARROYO GRANDE CA 93420	ganebrida@lightspeed net	805 489 1260	SAN LUIS ORISPO

2000 Survey Report participants

# APPENDIX 8 PARTICIPANTS FILLING REPORTS

	ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS	e-MAII.	PHONE	COUNTY
SH.VETRA, JOE	USFWS; SACRAMENTO NWR C	SACRAMENTO NWRC 752 CO RD 99W, WILLOWS CA 95988		530-934-2801	BUTTE
SMPTH, SUSAN	NOAA	13716 E RUETTE LE PARC, DEL MAR CA 92014	Susan Smith@noaa.gov	858-546-7070	SAN DIEGO
STEARNS, CHARLES		166 HIGH SIERRA DR, EXETER CA 93221		559-592-4273	TULARE
STILES, MIKE	CAL POLY	CAL POLY, LOS OSOS CA	ups. controls some	805-528-1515	SAN LUIS OBISPO
STONE, BYRON		18110 W HENRY MILLER AVE, LOS BANOS CA 95635		530-521-9067	MERCED/FRESNO
STOWE, MARYBETH		5465 REPECHO DR J201, SAN DIEGO CA 92124		858-279-5636	SAN DIEGO
TATMAN, BARBARA	DFG2; HONEY LAKE WA	HONEY LAKE WA	cholines@dfg2.ca.gov	530-254-6644	LASSEN
TENNEY, CHRIS		428 CAPITOL ST, SALINAS CA 93901	4tennys@concentric.net	831-753-1656	MONTEREY
TREASTER, GENELLE		12641 WOODS RD, WILTON CA 95693	gtreaster@ps.net	916-687-7331	SACKAMENTO
UNITE, PHIL	SAN DIEGO NAT HIST MUSEUM	SAN DIEGO NAT HIST MUSEUM PO BOX 1390, SAN DIEGO CA	Punitt@sdnhm.org	619-232-4259	SAN DIEGO
UNMACK, FRANK		4163 MARS WAY, I.A MESA CA 91941	FandMUnmack@aol.com	619-670-6780	SAN DIEGO
WEAVER, KENNETH		1113 SENWOOD WAY, FALLBROOK CA 92028	kweaver@tfb.com	760-723-2448	SAN DIEGO
WINTER, KIRSTEN	USFS	10845 RANCHO bernardo rd #200, san diego 92127	Kwinter@fs.fed.us	858-674-2956	SAN DIEGO
WOLDER, MIKE	USFWS, COLUSA NWR	752 CO RD 99W, WILLOWS CA 95988	mike_wolder@fws.gov	916 934-2801	COLUSA
WOOLINGTON, DENNIS	USFWS; SAN LUIS NWR	PO BOX 2176, LOS BANOS CA 93635	Dennis_woolington@fws.gov	209-826-3508	MERCED
WYKOFF, LARRY	DFG	PO BOX 47, YOUNTVILLE CA 94599	lwykoff@DFG.CA.GOV	707-944-5542	NAPA
YEE, DAVID			davidyee@lycnet.com	203-365-1526	SAN JOAQUIN