

Longspurs -- Uncommon to rare fall transients and wintering visitants to California.

Travel with **Horned Larks** (ssp leucolaema in so.Cal): 7 ¼" with **pale backs** & **yellowish throat outlined with a dark crescent**; white belly, black horn & black stripe under eye. longer gray bill and dark legs. Flight calls high, rather soft, weak, lisping *see=tu* or *see titi* and other variations, some buzzy notes.

Longspurs are 6 ¼" with **streaked backs, distinctive auricular patches, wing markings**, light legs, small light bills, light malar stripes, tending to **fly on outer edges** or back of mixed flocks.

Habitat: bare ground to short and bit taller weeds.

Fall/Winter Plumage	Lapland	Chestnut -collared	McCown's	Smith's very rare
Primary ID	darkest; rufous on wings & male nape	m. rufous nape , white wingpatch, possibly hidden. f. drab	Palest, plainest, stocky rufous coverts . Undulating flight	Overall rufous , lighter below. Black streaks above. Solitary
Earpatch	Rufous; heavy black outline	Pale; dark outline , possibly broken	Pale; lightly outlined	Pale; darkly outlined
Wings	rufous greater coverts & tertials	m. small white wing-patch probably hidden	rufous median coverts	Black & rufous striped
Breast	M: dark breastband, F: buffy	M: black horizontal scallops; F: vertical streaks	M: dark gray horizontal streaking; F: dark buff chestband	Light rufous with some breast vertical streaking
Belly	Whitish ; dark tan sides streaked	Tan ; sides lightly streaked	White , tan sides	Pale rufous , few side streaks
Tail in flight	one white outer tail feather	white w/ black triangle based at tails end	black "T" with top at tails end	two white outer tail feathers
Call	<i>Trididit</i> ; 3 part dry rattle	Distinctive <i>cheedlup</i> ; 3-5 syllable rattle; <i>tew</i>	Soft, dry rattle; Odd ringing <i>pwoik</i>	Distinctive metallic rattle; harder, sharper

- Wanda Dameron, Los Angeles, CA. Rev. 11/13