

It will be well for all of us to base our papers on facts and not to condemn all scientists in any branch because of some single representative who is a "black sheep"; for we can find such in any class.—WILSON C. HANNA, *Colton, California, March 29, 1939.*

Old-squaw and American Scoter in San Diego Region.—Mr. J. W. Sefton, Jr., has recorded (*Condor*, vol. 41, 1939, p. 83) the first capture of an Old-squaw (*Clangula hyemalis*) in southern California since 1921. Even though his note is not concerned with sight records of this species, the implied rarity of the Old-squaw at San Diego may justify the publication of two very satisfactory observations of the bird from my own notes. On March 18, 19, and 20, 1928, a bedraggled individual, in an indefinite plumage but approaching that of the adult female, was seen on the edge of the "Strand" in San Diego Bay near Coronado. This bird was most unsuspecting, and since I have been familiar with the Old-squaw since my childhood, the record was as positive as a sight record can ever be.

On June 20 and 21, 1937 (and therefore slightly more unusual a record than the above), another very dishevelled Old-squaw was seen in San Diego Bay, in an obscure buffy plumage frequently found in summering birds in the East. It also was very tame, and spent most of its time on shore, within a few yards of the spot where the 1928 bird was noted. It seemed to be in unhealthy condition.

My notes contain references to other northern ducks in the San Diego region, but none seems worth giving in detail except the following, since they concern such species as the American Golden-eye and Red-breasted Merganser. On March 27, 1928, a female American Scoter (*Oidemia americana*) was observed with great care from a short distance as she fed in the surf just off the breakwater at Coronado in company with many Surf Scoters. This bird was observed almost daily until April 18, when I left California. On April 6 she was joined by an adult male in excellent plumage, and this individual also remained at Coronado until my departure. Even had this unmistakable male bird failed to appear, the female American Scoter is more easily identified at sight than females of either of the other two species when the birds are resting on the water and the white wing-patch of *Melanitta deglandi* scarcely visible. Like the Old-squaw, the scoters are extremely abundant winter ducks on Long Island, New York, and I have known them all well for many years.

Although the attitude of western ornithologists is more conservative toward sight records than that of the easterners, the observations cited above should not, it seems to me, invoke more than a minimum of uncertainty in the minds of even the most cautious.—WILLIAM TOD HELMUTH, III, *East Hampton, New York, April 9, 1939.*

Some Unusual Arizona and New Mexico Bird Records.—The following records were obtained in the course of field observations made during the period September, 1936, to December, 1938, inclusive, by the writer on the Navajo and Hopi reservations in Apache, Navajo, and Coconino counties, northeastern Arizona, and in parts of McKinley, Valencia, and San Juan counties in northwestern New Mexico. Most of these records represent the first published occurrences of the species in the respective parts of these two states.

Haliaeetus leucocephalus. Bald Eagle. An adult observed October 29, 1937, at Long Lake in the Lukachukai Mountains, New Mexico; Transition Zone.

Pandion haliaetus. Osprey. One flying over the San Juan River at Farmington, New Mexico, October 7, 1938.

Dendragapus obscurus. Dusky Grouse. A pair seen in Lukachukai Mountains above Sanastee, New Mexico, October 26, 1937. This big upland game bird is rare in these mountains that lie along the New Mexico-Arizona state line. Seen in forest of aspen, Douglas fir, and ponderosa pine.

Numenius americanus. Long-billed Curlew. One seen August 3, 1938, at a small reservoir near Mexican Springs, New Mexico; another August 11, 1938, at Ganado Lake, Arizona.

Limnodromus griseus. Dowitcher. One seen at a small reservoir near Bodaway House, about ten miles southwest of Gap Trading Post, Arizona, March 24, 1937. Still in gray plumage.

Lobipes lobatus. Northern Phalarope. One observed at an almost frozen-over pond about eight miles north of Sanastee, New Mexico, November 19, 1937. This, the only record I have for the species, is apparently an unusually late one.

Chlidonias nigra. Black Tern. A flock of six flew over Ganado Lake, Arizona, August 11, 1938.

Coccyzus americanus. Yellow-billed Cuckoo. One seen and others heard at Waterflow, New Mexico, July 20, 1938. Waterflow is in an irrigated district, with many cottonwoods and other trees.

Asio flammeus. Short-eared Owl. One observed September 30, 1938, near Egloffstein Butte, about twenty miles southwest of Keams Canyon, Arizona; Upper Sonoran grassland.

Megaceryle alcyon. Belted Kingfisher. One seen September 25, 1936, at Laguna Creek Dam near Dinnehotso, Arizona; another on October 9, 1937, near a small lake in the Lukachukai Mountains above Crystal, New Mexico.

Tyrannus tyrannus. Eastern Kingbird. One seen at Shiprock, New Mexico, on July 27, 1938. This is the first New Mexico record west of the Rio Grande, although the species has been observed several times in northeastern Arizona.

Iridoprocne bicolor. Tree Swallow. Four seen near Aztec, New Mexico, April 27, 1937. Allan R. Phillips (in letter) reports seeing three tree swallows about ten miles north of Gallup, New Mexico, on May 5, 1937.

Riparia riparia. Bank Swallow. Four seen flying over Pueblo Colorado wash at Ganado, Arizona, August 11, 1938, and one flying over reservoir at Snake Butte, about fifteen miles southwest of Keams Canyon, Arizona, September 30, 1938.

Pica pica. Black-billed Magpie. One observed September 19, 1936, at Tees-nos-pas, Arizona. Tees-nos-pas is only a few miles air line from the San Juan River in southeastern Utah and northwestern New Mexico, where the magpie is locally common; so this record is not unexpected. Arizona, except for this one locality, is completely out of the normal range of this species.

Cinclus mexicanus. Dipper. One seen along Lukachukai Creek in Lukachukai Mountains, Arizona, June 24, 1938, and two along headwaters of Whiskey Creek in Lukachukai Mountains, New Mexico, October 11, 1937.

Bombycilla cedrorum. Cedar Waxwing. Two seen May 8, 9, 11, and 12, 1937, at Keams Canyon, Arizona, feeding on apple blossoms. Individual birds were seen May 23 and June 7, 1937, at the same locality. One observed at Gallup, New Mexico, October 18, 1938.

Phainopepla nitens. Phainopepla. One adult male seen June 24, 1937, at Keams Canyon, Arizona.

Dendroica caerulescens. Black-throated Blue Warbler. A male observed October 9, 1938, in Milk Ranch Canyon near Fort Wingate, New Mexico. This is the second record for New Mexico, and the first west of the Rio Grande Valley. It is interesting to note that the other record was made at almost exactly the same time of year, October 8, 1904, at Gallinas Mountain, by J. H. Gaut (see Bailey, Birds of New Mexico, 1928, p. 615).

Seiurus noveboracensis. Water-thrush. One seen May 15, 18, 19, 20, and 22, 1937, at Keams Canyon, Arizona, all probably the same individual. One also seen in Milk Ranch Canyon near Fort Wingate, New Mexico, September 8, 1938.

Icteria virens. Yellow-breasted Chat. Adult seen at Keams Canyon, Arizona, October 12, 1938.

Icterus parisorum. Scott Oriole. Two males seen May 20, 1937, at Wildcat Mesa, ten miles northwest of Keams Canyon, Arizona. One adult male seen with almost fully-grown juvenile, July 14, 1937, in Hopi Buttes, near Na-ah-ti Trading Post, Arizona. Both records are from open piñon-juniper woodland.

Molothrus ater. Cowbird. Flock of five at Keams Canyon, Arizona, June 24, 1937, and a pair at Jeddito, Arizona, June 30, 1937.

Guiraca caerulea. Blue Grosbeak. One seen July 20, 1938, at Waterflow, New Mexico, in cottonwood grove.

Passerina amoena. Lazuli Bunting. One observed May 15, 1937, another June 30, 1937, both at Keams Canyon, Arizona. I was present at Keams Canyon between these two dates, but saw no other birds of this species. Later in the season, two were seen August 24, 1938, at Oraibi, Arizona, and two August 28, 1937, at Keams Canyon.

Hesperiphona vespertina. Evening Grosbeak. Several small flocks (thirty-five individuals in all) seen December 6 to 8, 1938, at Fence Lake, New Mexico, about seventy miles south of Gallup, New Mexico. The birds were feeding on juniper berries.

Spinus tristis. American Goldfinch. One male and two females seen May 28, 1937, and a pair on June 4, 1937, at Keams Canyon, Arizona.

Pipilo fuscus. Brown Towhee. Several observed June 2 and June 16, 1938, at Schillingburg's Trading Post, about ten miles west of Crownpoint, New Mexico. Also one September 2, 1938, at Barth's Jaralosa Ranch, about twenty miles south of Zuni, New Mexico, and three on December 13, 1938, about ten miles southwest of Gallup, New Mexico. Apparently a rare bird in northwestern New Mexico; I have never met with it in northeastern Arizona.

Calamospiza melanocorys. Lark Bunting. Adult male seen May 13, 1937, at Wildcat Mesa, ten miles northwest of Keams Canyon, Arizona. None seen in northeastern New Mexico.

Spizella arborea. Tree Sparrow. Three seen January 19, 1937, and two on February 19, 1937, at Moenave, near Tuba City, Arizona. Also one seen near Newcomb's Trading Post, thirty miles south of Shiprock, New Mexico, November 9, 1937.—GALE MONSON, *311 East Green, Gallup, New Mexico, February 1, 1939.*

Food Consumption of a Sparrow Hawk.—At Norris, Tennessee, we received a wounded Sparrow Hawk (*Falco sparverius*) which a CCC crew had found lying in the woods. The bird, a male, had evidently been shot. The right wing was injured, as well as the right side of the head, and the