

evidently all roost together, but as soon as the sun comes up they quickly disperse, leaving the usual six or eight birds which I've seen all week hunting in this area."

This concentration of twenty-five birds on January 23 was the largest number seen at any one time, although the birds continued to be present in varying numbers. On January 29 courtship flight was first observed. On February 22 I did not arrive at the "kite rookery," as I had come to call it, until 8:30 a.m., usually far too late in the morning to see any more than six or seven birds, but there were fourteen kites in the same three dead willows.

On March 3, I met Mr. and Mrs. Howard Cogswell and Mr. and Mrs. James Murdock of Los Angeles in Oceanside shortly after dawn in the driving rain to try to show them this concentration of kites. Due to the rain, the fact that we did not reach the range until well after sun-up (had it been visible), and also that the season was far advanced (the morning concentration had decreased steadily in the latter part of February), there were only two birds present at the usual spot. However, in the course of the day's observation in the vicinity we were able to find eleven kites. As I noted in my journal at the time, "they have evidently all spread out to breed, for we had to travel to every spot I knew of to find the eleven birds we saw."

On March 12 there were five pairs in the immediate vicinity of the winter roosting spot and three nests were found. Adult birds were observed sitting in them for long periods, leaving only when I approached closely and then showing considerable concern. I found it impossible to see into any of the nests and so I do not know definitely whether or not eggs had been laid. However, one pair of birds which I watched closely were seen to copulate twice within an hour.

I was transferred away from Camp Pendleton in the month of April, but upon my return in early May the kites evidently had young in the nest, as the adults were seen for the first time hunting regularly in the main area of the base, right among the barracks.—ALLEN H. MORGAN, *Hartford, Connecticut, November 20, 1947.*

The Eastern Brant in Idaho.—While Glen Bandelin of Sandpoint, Idaho, was in a blind with goose decoys before him at the southeast corner of Lake Pend O'Reille at the mouth of Clark's Fork River, Bonner County, Idaho, on October 7, 1947, a bird alighted among the decoys unnoticed by the hunter. It was there for an undetermined time and flushed only when the hunter became restless and moved about in the blind. A long shot brought the bird down.

Game Management Agent Edward T. Carter, in checking Bandelin's kill for the day, saw the bird and brought it to the attention of Webster H. Ransom of the Fish and Wildlife Service, who at once made an unsuccessful effort to secure the bird for a specimen. Ransom, however, did obtain the head and part of the neck, at the same time writing a complete description of the bird's plumage, which he illustrated with a pen line sketch. This sketch, with the head and neck, were presented to me early in November. To verify my identification of the bird as an Eastern Brant I sent all this evidence to Alden H. Miller, who examined the material and compared it with all the brant in the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology at Berkeley, California. In conclusion Dr. Miller wrote me under date of December 8, 1947: "The head thus seems perfectly typical of *Branta bernicla hrota*."

From Ransom's description of the feathers on the back and wings I believe the bird was immature. It was in poor flesh as is usual with the few brant I have examined taken far from salt water. Apparently a fresh water habitat does not furnish these salt water birds with a suitable diet to keep them in good flesh.

The only previous mention of any brant occurring in Idaho with which I am familiar is that of Davis (*Condor*, 37, 1935:234) who lists the Black Brant as a regular migrant. This occurrence is referred to by Arvey in "A Check List of the Birds of Idaho" (*Univ. Kansas Publ., Mus. Nat. Hist.*, 1, 1947:193-216). I know of no specimens to verify these reports.—STANLEY G. JEWETT, *Portland, Oregon, January 2, 1948.*