

North America and the Office of Naval Research.—HENRY E. CHILDS, JR., *School of Veterinary Medicine, University of California, Davis, California*, and WILLIAM J. MAHER, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, October 1, 1959.*

**Rocky Mountain Race of the Williamson Sapsucker Wintering in California.**—The winter occurrence in California of Williamson Sapsuckers of the Rocky Mountain race, *Sphyrapicus thyroideus nataliae*, was first reported in 1944 by Grinnell and Miller (Pac. Coast Avif. No. 27:236–237). At that time four specimens from the Providence Mountains, San Bernardino County, collected in January, one from near Susanville, Lassen County, also collected in January, and a September-taken specimen from 8 miles northeast of Hyampom, Trinity County, comprised the known records of *nataliae* in that state.

Comparison of a small-billed Williamson Sapsucker collected by the author in 1957 with other specimens in the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology revealed the existence in the collection of the museum of several further examples of *nataliae* from California. The following are the additional records: 3½ mi. E Weed, 5000 feet, Siskiyou County, male, December 21, 1934; Warner Creek, 6600 feet, Shasta County, male, September 24, 1923; Eagle Lake, Lassen County, female, October 14, 1923; Santa Cruz County, male, November 29, 1896; Sage Hen Creek, 6500 feet, Nevada County, female, November 12, 1950; and 2 mi. W Reyes Peak, 7000 feet, Pine Mountain, Ventura County, male, December 29, 1957.

These specimens all possess small bills. The two races overlap in bill length and width (Cowan, Condor, 40, 1938:128–129), but measurements do not adequately reveal the full extent of the difference in the bulk of the bills of the two forms. The bills of the specimens here listed are all well within the range of measurements of *nataliae* and are below the means for *S. t. thyroideus*. Careful visual comparison of overall bill sizes removes doubt as to their affinity to *nataliae*.

Thus, there are presently twelve records of the Rocky Mountain race wintering in California. The localities from which the various specimens have been taken are spread throughout the various mountain regions of the state, and the dates fall in the months from September through January. Nearly half of the twenty-five winter-taken specimens of Williamson Sapsuckers from California in the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology belong to *nataliae*, and at least two others should perhaps be assigned to that subspecies. These facts concerning numbers and distribution indicate a probable widespread migration of *nataliae* to the coniferous forests to the west of its breeding range.

The author wishes to express appreciation to Ned K. Johnson for aid and to Dr. Alden H. Miller for advice and loan of specimens.—RALPH J. RAITT, JR., *Department of Biology, New Mexico State University, University Park, New Mexico, December 28, 1959.*