

Valley had been subjected to the bulldozers of water salvage and flood control agencies as early as 1967. However, the recent records show that sufficient habitat remains in some areas of the Verde Valley to attract breeding kites. Whether or not the valley will become a regular breeding area for the Mississippi Kite, only time and future investigations will tell.

EXTENSION OF THE BREEDING RANGE OF THE BLACK OYSTER-CATCHER IN ALASKA

THOMAS J. ELEY, JR.

Black Oystercatchers (*Haematopus bachmani*) breed along the Pacific coast of Alaska from the Aleutians, around the Gulf of Alaska, south into Baja California, Mexico (A.O.U. 1957, Gabrielson and Lincoln 1959). Hanna (1920) reported the taking of an adult Black Oystercatcher during January, 1917 on St. George Island, Pribilof Islands. Gabrielson and Lincoln (1959) stated that this was the only record north of the Aleutians. Subsequent workers on the Pribilof Islands (Kenyon and Phillips 1965, Sladen 1966), on St. Lawrence Island (Fay and Cade 1959, Sealy et al. 1971, Johnson 1974), and in Bristol Bay (Brina Kessel pers. comm.) reported no additional observations of Black Oystercatchers.

On 15 July 1974, during a boat census of the Pacific walrus (*Odobenus rosmarus*) on Round Island, Bristol Bay, Alaska (58°36'N, 159°54'W), I saw two adult Black Oystercatchers on the intertidal rocks of the eastern portion of the Island. I visited the same place by foot two days later and found two adult Black Oystercatchers feeding two flightless young. One adult stayed with the chicks while the other foraged among the intertidal rocks, up to 50 m away. The foraging adult periodically returned to the young and fed them snails, apparently of the genus *Littorina*. Comparison of this feeding behavior and the plumage characters of the young with the descriptions of Webster (1941) indicated that the young were less than 5 days old.

I again visited this site on 20 and 21 July 1974 and each time I found the two adults and the two chicks together within 75 m of the original location. At these times the young were following the adults among the intertidal rocks.

These observations of flightless young extend the breeding range of Black Oystercatchers in Alaska approximately 350 km north into Bristol Bay.

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Department of Biology, Harold S. Colton Research Center, Museum of Northern Arizona, Flagstaff, Arizona 86001. Present address of second author: Laboratory for Ecological Studies, National Park Service, Grand Canyon National Park, Grand Canyon, Arizona 86023. Accepted for publication 28 August 1974.

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Department of Pathobiology, The Johns Hopkins University, 615 N. Wolfe St., Baltimore, Maryland 21205. Accepted for publication 17 April 1975.