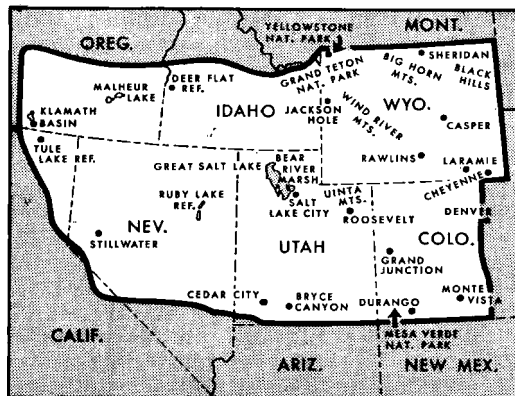


SPARROWS — Migration of these birds seemed mostly rather ordinary, but with a liberal sprinkling of "rarities." Late last dates were obtained at Bozeman for the Savannah Sparrow, Oct. 10, and Chipping Sparrow, Oct. 11. Savannah Sparrows remained well into October in the milder western extreme of the Region. Several were seen in a wet meadow near Richland, Wash. on the 9th and 1 was seen on Yakima Indian Reservation on the 28th. Oregon Juncos were beginning to show up in the valleys. At Walla Walla they appeared with colder weather Sept. 15 and in greater numbers with 20° weather Oct. 27. At Missoula the birds seemed scarce. Slate-colored Juncos were noted at Bozeman, Spokane, the Tri-cities and the Yakima area. Outstanding among unusual records was a **Clay-colored Sparrow** at Missoula Aug. 27. Harris' Sparrows were noted at six localities between Sept. 11 and the end of November, all singles except for 3 at Grindrod, south of Salmon Arm. Oct. 28-Nov. 30 (JM). The other localities were Bozeman, Missoula, Spokane, Coldstream near Vernon, B.C., and 10 mi. north of Williams L., B.C. Sept. 18 (AD). The peak of the White-crowned Sparrow migration apparently moved through the N. Okanagan about Sept. 26, when colder weather may have concentrated it. At Prineville the cold and snow at the end of October produced a concentration of the birds unlike anything the previous five autumns. Single White-throated Sparrows were present at Vernon, Sept. 19-Oct 3 (WC, JG) and on the Kinney Lake road, Mt. Robson Prov. Park, Aug. 19 (MS). Between late September and mid-October single Fox Sparrows were reported four times at Spokane, twice in the Vernon area and nowhere else. Jim Grant voiced the suspicion that they migrate in his area along the ridges at 3-5000 ft. altitude. One or 2 Golden-crowned Sparrows appeared in the Yakima area on three dates in October and the species was noted at Wenatchee Sept. 25 (MP). Single birds were seen at two places at Spokane on five dates during September and October — the most observations there since 1969. One or 2 Lapland Longspurs were seen near Missoula Sept. 17-Oct. 15 and 2-4 were noted at Banks L. and O'Sullivan Dam Oct. 9 (JA). Several migrating Snow Buntings were seen along the shore of Priest L. in n. Idaho in mid-October (RMW) and singles were noted at Missoula Nov. 17 & 24.

Jr., John Knox, David Laidman, Larry Larrochelle, Jim Mack, Barney Marshall, Cliff Martinka, **Niel F. Meadowcroft**: Walla Walla, Wash. area, Elisabeth Moore, Louis Moos, Opal Moos, **Gerald Morsello**: Prineville, Ore. area, Jo Nashem, Michael Perrone, **Margaret J. Polumsky**: Lewiston, Ida. — Clarkston, Wash. area, Arthur Renspie, Michael G. Shepard, Donald R. Skaar, **P. D. Skaar**: Bozeman — Ennis, Mont. area, **Mrs. S. O. Stanley**, reporting for Spokane Audubon Society: e. Washington and n. Idaho, David Stirling, **Butch Taylor**: Morrow Co., Ore., Wayne C. Weber, Robert M. Wilson, **Robert E. Woodley**: "Tri-cities" Wash. area, and **Maurice B. Wright**: Turnbull Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Cheney, Wash. — **THOMAS H. ROGERS, E. 10820 Maxwell, Spokane, Wash. 99206.**

GREAT BASIN— CENTRAL ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION / Hugh E. Kingery

Snowstorms and freezing weather spent the fall driving migrants in and out of our Region. Snowstorms struck the Colorado Rockies Sept. 3-4 and Sept. 16-18, with snow depths of 6-12 inches along the Eastern Slope but skipping far western Colorado. Despite these



CONTRIBUTORS (sectional editors, or societies, in bold face type, should receive credit for observations in their respective areas unless otherwise stated) — James Acton, Ruth Anderson, **Eugene C. Barney**: McNary Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Burbank, Wash., Steve Billeb, **Dave Brown**: Columbia Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Othello, Wash., Mr. & Mrs. Merrill Burlingame, Bea Buzzetti, Steve R. Cannings, Helen Carlson, Don Childress, Sharon Cotterell, Walter Cowan, **Emily R. Cragg**: Yakima, Wash. area, Albert Dueck, **James Grant**: interior British Columbia, Pauline Hager, Warren Hall, **Ralph L. Hand**: Missoula, Mont. area, Eve Hays, R. A. Hays, Mrs. Kathryn Hicks, Stan Hughes

unseasonable snows, birds lingered later than usual, with hummingbirds using icicled feeders at Evergreen, stray warblers found at McCoy, and landbirds bottled up in sheltered canyons at Colorado Springs. At the end of September a fierce, cold storm buffeted the northern part of the Region; several hundred swallows perished in the gale-driven rain, snow, and sleet at Malheur Nat'l Wildlife Refuge; late birds appeared at

feeders in Jackson, Wyo.; Salt Lake City birders found concentrations of migrating songbirds. Then at the end of October a Region-wide snowstorm with freezing temperatures drove migrating ducks south from, and ushered northern ducks and swans to, the wildlife refuges. After this storm had dumped 27 inches of snow on Flaming Gorge Nat'l Recreation Area, Utah, the usual high winds did not materialize and so failed to blow the ridges bare of snow; as a result Horned Larks and Starlings perished by the hundreds (GLM).

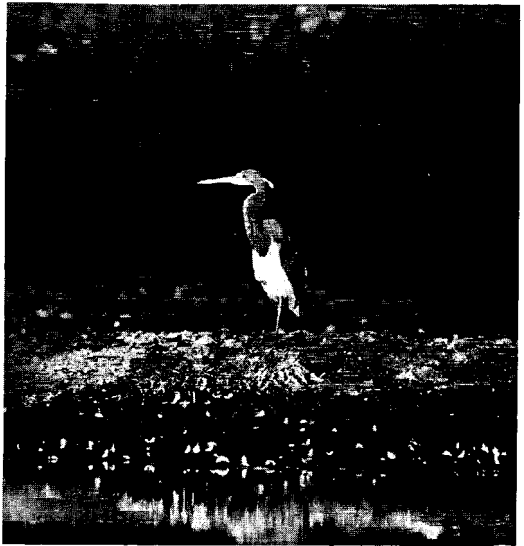
Regardless of the weather, southern birds penetrated north and west—with records of Louisiana Heron, Cattle Egret, and Rivoli's Hummingbird, observations of seabirds like a jaeger, Emperor Goose, Black Brant, and many scoters pushed inland; and eastern birds moved west, with Blue Jays, Brown Thrashers, warblers, and grackles appearing in the mountains. Observers at Sheridan, Wyo., speculate about a migration flyway which may bring vagrant eastern birds across northeastern Wyoming while traveling to or from central or southern parts of the U.S. and nesting grounds in western Canada and Alaska. This might account for species reported there but not to the south at Casper, Cheyenne, and Denver. This season they noted, and described in detail, four species not on Wyoming's state list; all are accepted from Montana and all but the hummingbird for Colorado: Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Philadelphia Vireo, Purple Finch, and Le Conte's Sparrow. One wishes photographs supported the detailed descriptions.

Reporters from several widely-scattered, locations in the Region commented on a scarcity of land birds; the comments concerned Zion Nat'l Park, Utah, Dubois, Wyo., Malheur Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Ore., and the Denver foothills. However the danger of an offhand conclusion on population trends was noted at Nat'l Elk Refuge, Wyo., where this year's paucity of observations of Sparrow Hawks was attributed not to a population decline but rather to the removal of a small power line across Poverty Flats, which the birds had used for a look-out.

LOONS, GREBES — Common Loons dropped into several locations in August — Antero Res., Colo., Nampa, Ida., and Pathfinder Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Wyo.; most loons came in November as usual. The only Horned Grebe reports came from the mid-Rockies — 6 at Antero Res. and 5 at Hutton Lake N.W.R., Wyo., Oct. 25. A spectacular concentration of **Eared Grebes** occurred on Mono L., Calif., on Oct. 1: from an estimated 1 bird per 100 square feet, Finkbeiner calculated a minimum number of **200,000!** Jackson Co., Colo. had 1050 as its peak Eared Grebe migration, Aug. 3; at Hutton L. the peak number reached 335 Aug. 18. Western Grebes peaked at 5750 at Bear River N.W.R., Utah Oct. 5; other impressive numbers included 1400 at Camas N.W.R., Ida., Sept. 4 (an increase); 150 at Nampa Oct. 1, 110 at Pathfinder N.W.R., Wyo., Sept. 30, and 3000 at the Klamath refuge system, Ore. and Calif. in September.

PELICANS, CORMORANTS, HERONS — White Pelican peak migration numbers included 3064 in mid-August at Bear R. and 1800 at Malheur, in September 1590 at the Klamath refuges and 255 at Camas N.W.R. Other observations included 100 at Pathfinder N.W.R. Aug.

25 and 50 at Cedar City, Utah Oct. 27-Nov. 2. Double-crested Cormorants stayed late, with 3 at the Klamath refuges Oct. 24-25 (S.A.S.), 15 at Ruby Valley N.W.R., Nev., Oct. 2, 1 at Collbran, Colo., Oct. 8 (LG), 12 at Nampa Nov. 1, and the last leaving Malheur Nov. 23, late by a month. The Cattle Egret at Minidoka N.W.R., Ida. remained until at least Aug. 21 (GH), and 1 visited Bear R. Sept. 23. A **Louisiana Heron** evidenced its widespread 1971 dispersal by visiting Honey L., Calif., Aug. 24-Sept. 3. Found and photographed by John Revill, the bird will be detailed in *California Birds* (TM, GM, RSt). Least Bitterns sur-



Louisiana Heron, Honey Lake Wildlife Management Area. Aug. 24, 1971. First N. California record. Photo/John Revill.

prised Malheur observers twice — Aug. 11 and Sept. 8. At Bear R., the White-faced Ibis has developed the soft-shell problem found in many raptors; DDT is reportedly used extensively in the Box Elder Co. mosquito abatement efforts. The Great Salt Lake's Am. Flamingo stayed through the summer, with an observation Sept. 29 at Farmington Bay (WWB).

SWANS, GEESE — The Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife has deleted the Trumpeter Swan from "rare" status, and this year took its first swan census since 1968. It covered only historic nesting grounds, and found that Idaho and Wyoming populations had dropped to 70 per cent of the levels of 1967-68, with 134 birds found in the 2 states this year. Cygnet production dropped to about 60 per cent of 1968's, although roughly the same as 1967, a low year in the cycle (TWP). (Compare with more favorable Montana populations reported in Northern Rocky Mountain Region.) At Malheur an introduced population produced 22 cygnets, compared with 12 in each of 1969 and 1970. Trumpeters increased their use of Nat'l Elk Refuge; the fall population there built to 50 ad., 7 imm. Nov. 24; and 32 returned to Ruby Valley N.W.R. Oct. 29. The Oct. 30 storm produced most of the Whistling Swan

TABLE 1
Waterfowl Counts at Western Refuges, Autumn, 1971

Location	Peak of Migration		Peak Species				Comments
	Date	Number	Geese		Ducks		
Klamath N.W.R. (EJO)	Oct. 24-30	2,408,903	Canada & Cackling	199,000	Pintail	1,300,000	Am Coot 120,000
			White-fronted	300,000	Am. Widgeon	300,000	
			Lesser Snow	200,000	Mallard	250,000	
			Ross'	11,000	Shoveler	60,000	
Malheur N.W.R. (WLA)	Aug. 1-5	182,800			Pintail	127,100	Am. Coot 83,600 All peaks 75-95% higher than last year; Canvasbacks 2½ times 1967 population due to enlarged sago pond- weed stands. 10% increase
	Oct. 3-9	157,900			Am. Widgeon	42,400	
	Oct. 17-23	158,800			Gadwall Canvasback	27,200 30,500	
Deer Flat N.W.R. Ida. (JTA)	Nov.		Canada	11,000			
	Nov. 26	500,000	Canada	7,500	Mallard Pintail	475,000 15,000	
Minidoka N.W.R. Ida. (JH)	Nov. 13	145,210			Mallard Pintail	110,170 14,817	Last year's peak, 89,600
Camas N.W.R. Ida. (CLH)	Sept. 4				Gadwall Pintail	13,800 6,000	Am. Coot 13,600
	Oct. 8				Am. Widgeon Mallard	6,300 25,000	
Stillwater W.M.A. Nev. (LDN)	Sept. 5-11				Pintail	43,000	Pintails peaked early, others peaked late.
	Oct. 10-16				Canvasback	19,700	
	Nov. 30		Snow	3,300			
Bear River N.W.R. Utah (WBZ)	Aug. 27	90,000			Pintail	74,000	Am. Coot peak Aug. 20 29,000
	Oct. 13	144,570			Gadwall Am. Widgeon Pintail Green-w. Teal Canvasback	27,500 18,250 33,400 16,000 26,700	
	Nov. 3		Whistling Swan	28,800			Only 40,000 ducks stayed after Oct. 30 storm

TABLE 1 (Continued)
Waterfowl Counts at Western Refuges, Autumn, 1971

Location	Peak of Migration Date	Migration Number	Geese	Peak Species	Ducks	Comments
Nat'l Elk Ref. Wyo. (DER)	Sept. 27	1,592				
Seedskaelee N.W.R. Wyo. (MOB)	Nov. 30	6,000		Mallard Com. Goldeneye	3,000 2,500	Diving ducks left with Oct. 30 storm
Pathfinder N.W.R. Wyo. (RKr)	Sept. 30	2,620		Mallard Pintail	675 550	Am. Coot 900
Hutton Lake N.W.R. Wyo. (RKr)	Sept. 28	3,000		Lesser Scaup Redhead	1,000 825	Am. Coot 1,300
Arapaho N.W.R. & Jackson Co., Colo. (RKr)	Sept. 13	29,670		Mallard Pintail Green-w. Teal Am. Widgeon	4,700 3,650 4,500 11,900	Sept. 30 snowstorm drove out most ducks
Antero Res., Colo. (BMM)	Sept. 26	1,200		Mallard Am. Widgeon	696 450	Am. Coot 13,000
Grand Junction, Colo. (LG)	Nov. 30	14,000		Mallard	12,500	
Monte Vista N.W.R. Colo. (CRB)	Aug. 1-5	37,500				Oct. 30 storm dropped duck population from 29,000 to 20,000

movements. Although the first 5 arrived at Bear R. Oct. 5, the count escalated to 28,800 on Nov. 3. The same storm brought 60 to Seedska-dee N.W.R., Wyo., 112 to Camas N.W.R., 336 to Minidoka N.W.R.; by Nov. 30 Malheur had 11,200 and Klamath had 5320. In Colorado the whistler is a rare migrant despite its numbers to the west. This fall reports included 12-21 Oct. 1-Nov. 3 in Jackson Co., Colo. (RKR, RSa), and 10 Nov. 4 on the Laramie R., Larimer Co. (PC). See Table 1 for Canada Goose movements. At Tule Lake N.W.R., Calif., an Emperor Goose made an infrequent appearance Oct. 10; at the same location hunters killed 2 Black Brant (EJO). At Eureka, Nev., 17 White-fronted Geese appeared Oct. 31. Malheur had its usual numbers of White-fronted Geese, but only half the 1969-70 counts of Snow Geese. The latter had by Nov. 30 built to only 60-80 per cent of their usual peak at Stillwater W.M.A., Nev., after arriving 2 weeks late.

Ducks — See Table 1 for statistics of the migration. Specific records include from Camas N.W.R., a new bird for Idaho, a **Black Duck** Oct. 24 plus a **Eur. Widgeon** Oct. 22 & 29 by 2 different observers. At Am. Falls, Ida., thousands of Shovelers were moving along the Snake R. Oct. 28-30 (CHT). Wood Ducks appeared in 2 places — 3 at Grand Junction Oct. 3 and a ♂ at Springdale, Utah Nov. 14-28 (JG, RCF, RKe). A family of 4 Com. Goldeneye Aug. 19 near Bend, Ore. raised speculations of nesting (ODS). The first Barrow's Goldeneye, early by a month, arrived in Dubois Oct. 29 with the storm. Numerous reports of scoters came from all over the Region. Single **White-winged Scoters** were found in California: Lower Klamath L. Oct. 24 (S.A.S.), near Honey L. Oct. 30 (RL), Leevining Nov. 11 (fide JMF), and Tule Lake N.W.R. the first week of Nov. (fide EJO); also at Sheridan Oct. 19 and 4 at Grand Junction, Colo., Nov. 3 (C & SS). One of a pair of **Surf Scoters** was shot at Honey L. Nov. 3 (JR); and a **Com. Scoter** visited Sheridan Oct. 11, a first for this part of Wyoming.

HAWKS, EAGLES — Two hundred Turkey Vultures soared over Malheur Sept. 9, 43 of them young of the year. The third White-tailed Kite in e. California in 2 years was described perfectly, seen in an ancient bristlecone pine forest of the White Mtns., Mono Co., at 10,400 ft. (fide JMF). Numerous Accipiter reports included an imm. Goshawk dependent on adults, Yellowstone Nat'l Park, Aug. 5; a successful nesting in the Steens Mtns. near Malheur, and 6 other observations; and 15 observations each of Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawks. At Malheur the first week of September, 50 Red-tailed Hawks were counted; and they were abundant in n.e. Calif., with a cast of 14 in one tree on Nov. 12 (DD). Rough-legged Hawks arrived 2-4 weeks late throughout the Region, but apparently in normal numbers. A Black Hawk was reported from Capitol Reef Nat'l Mon., Utah (MM). We have no information on the population of Golden Eagles in c. and s. Wyoming where poison and guns decimated them last winter. At Eureka, Nev., 63 observations compared favorably with the 19 from last year; Malheur, Klamath, Camas, and Monte Vista N.W.R. had frequent observations, but the birds seemed scarce at Sheridan and Zion. Bald Eagles arrived late through-

out the Region, with over 3 dozen reports in November, and early observations at Dubois, Nampa, Crater Lake Nat'l Park, Ore., and Deadman Pass, Mono Co., Calif. Ospreys are flourishing in the Crane Prairie area of Deschutes Nat'l Forest, Ore., with a population of 200 birds in the Osprey Management area and 58 active nests in the forest including 11 new ones this year (HR). Reports of 3 birds came from Nampa and single birds from Bear River, Eureka, Sheridan, and Mono Co. Malheur had none as usual, but Rupert, Ida. had none for the first time. Prairie Falcons were reported frequently, especially from Klamath, Malheur, Rupert, Monte Vista, Seedska-dee N.W.R., and Eureka.

GROUSE — Blue Grouse populations in Colorado (CEB) and Blue and Ruffed Grouse in n. Utah (JK) appeared normal. Blue Grouse began their vertical migrations to the high country in Colorado in mid-September and at Crater Lake by Nov. 16. Sharp-tailed Grouse population of n. Utah is quite low (JK). Sage Grouse are holding their own around Rupert, but in n. Utah are down from last year though above the 10-year average (JK). Chukars, Ring-necked Pheasant, and Gray Partridge have all increased in n. Utah this year (JK).

CRANES, RAILS — The first migrating Sandhill Cranes arrived at Monte Vista Aug. 8, with a peak there of 2500 on Oct. 17; all departed by Nov. 20. Malheur's nesting population produced 104 young, compared with 85 in 1970, but the September trend count showed only 7 per cent young, about half that of 1970 (CDL). Overflow from the migration east of the mountains included October sightings of 300 cranes at Sheridan, 300 at Cheyenne (MJ) and a small flock circling in a blizzard in the Poudre Canyon w. of Ft. Collins, Colo. (JC).

RAILS, PLOVERS — For Am. Coot migration see Table 1. Snowy Plovers occurred at Honey L., with 3 seen Aug. 27 (RSt, TM); 2 at Antero Res. Aug. 8 (HEW); and the last 1 at Malheur Sept. 16 (JB); its status in uncertain throughout the Region. The Black-bellied Plover repeated its scattered springtime appearances with birds seen at Sheridan Sept. 24-26, 2 at Ft. Klamath, Ore. (S.A.S.) and 37 at Lower Klamath L., Calif. (ODS) both on Oct. 25, and 1 at Crawford, Colo. Nov. 22 (LG).

SHOREBIRDS — Most locations noted fewer than usual. However Malheur observers saw 425 Com. Snipe Aug. 6; flocks of 30-40 are normal, but this concentration reflected the many seen this year. Long-billed Dowitchers peaked at Bear R. Aug. 13 with 6100 and at Malheur Aug. 19 with 6000. Late dates and numbers included 9000 at the Klamath refuges in October, 150 at Bear R. Nov. 9, and 110 at Modoc N.W.R. Nov. 11. Klamath refuges had 49,000 Least and 27,700 W. Sandpipers in September; Bear R. noted peaks of Baird's Sandpipers at 4000 July 23 and 1100 Western July 21. Baird's were found at Honey L. Aug. 27 (TM, RSt) and Malheur Sept. 6 (JB). Malheur recorded no Marbled Godwits this year, although many occurred last fall. **Hudsonian Godwits** strayed west to Sheridan Sept. 22 (PH) and Tule Lake, Calif. Sept. 10. The latter is a new record for the Klamath Basin (EJO, JMW). Am. Avocets lingered late throughout the Region, with records like the 100

at Pathfinder N.W.R. Sept. 30, 34 at Modoc N.W.R. Oct. 20, 18-27 at Lower Klamath L. Oct. 24-30 (S.A.S., ODS), over 200 Nov. 6 at Bear R. even though a large part of the marsh had frozen (WS), 1 Nov. 19 at L. John, Jackson Co., Colo. (RKR), and 1 at Stillwater W.M.A. Nov. 21. A Wilson's Phalarope visited Antero Res. Oct. 10, a late date. At Klamath, refuge personnel counted 5500 Wilson's and 7000 N. Phalaropes in September; the 5000-5500 N. Phalaropes at Lakeview, Ore., Aug. 24 compared favorably with last year (ODS).

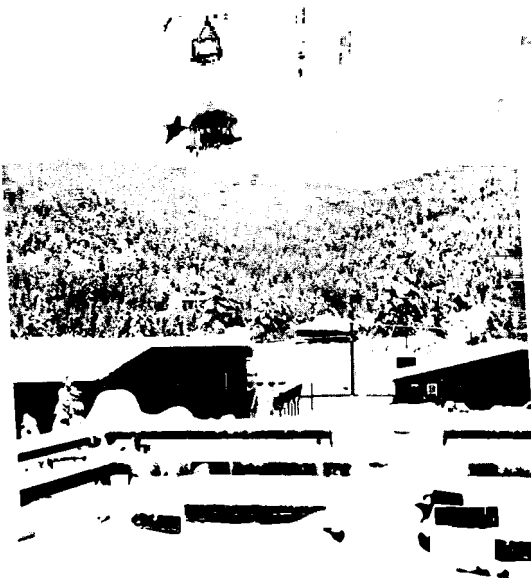
JAEGERS, GULLS — A dark phase **Parasitic Jaeger** exhibited all its field marks to observers at Malheur Aug. 27; the bird is new for Malheur, and the second or third record for e. Oregon (WA, BA). California Gulls left Malheur by Sept. 21, but stayed in substantial numbers at Antero Res. through mid-October. An Antero bird banded Sept. 10, 1970, was recovered at Eagle L., Calif. Sept. 3, and 1 banded June 30, 1970, at Riverside Res., Morgan Co., Colo., was recovered at Willard Spur, Utah Sept. 13 (RAR). At American Falls Res., Ida., 300-400 Ring-billed Gulls died from a non-violent, unknown cause; a few wintering Bald Eagles fed on them. The cause is under investigation (CHT).

PIGEONS, DOVES, CUCKOOS — Southward movements of Colorado Band-tailed Pigeons began by late August, increasing by Sept. 15; the substantial numbers which remained departed Oct. 15-23, with the last record Nov. 7 (CEB). At Durango 150 were counted Sept. 10. Mourning Dove southward movement was well under way by late August in Colorado with northern birds moving through Sept. 1-20 (CEB). The Yellow-billed Cuckoo has all but vanished from n.e. California's avifauna, even as a migrant, but Aug. 27 found 1 at Honey L. "eating a large green caterpillar." (RSt, TM). Observers at Zion again found no Road-runners.

OWLS, GOATSUCKERS, SWIFTS — Malheur's first definite Screech Owl was found Nov. 2; then another was found near Burns, Ore. Nov. 21. Salt Lake City had 1 Nov. 16 (EG). A Great Gray Owl was found in Yellowstone Nat'l Park, on Elk Creek, June 21. Flammulated Owls visited Canon City, Colo. Sept. 1 (DSi), and Durango Sept. 24. Monte Vista's population of 20 Great Horned Owls left the area the first week in October. Summer records of the Pygmy Owl included 1 at Evergreen Aug. 6 and Sept. 4 (NP, WWB); and 1 at Cedar City Sept. 10. The first sighting of Burrowing Owls in 3 years at Ruby Valley N.W.R. came Aug. 20, with 5 birds. Com. Nighthawks left Evergreen, Zion, and Dubois in August, Eureka, Alturas, and Nampa in Sept., with the last ones recorded at Malheur Oct. 3 and Salt Lake City Oct. 11 (PJ). A Lesser Nighthawk strayed north to Bear R. Sept. 23 (RR). Poor-wills were common in the Zion high country Sept. 13-28, and a dead one was found Oct. 5; Evergreen's Oct. 16 bird constituted an odd, late record (DSt, WWB). At Peaceful Valley, Colo., 7 Black Swifts were seen Aug. 28 (JF). At Ft. Rock and Steens Mtns., Ore. on Aug. 20-23 came records of White-throated Swifts, rare in Oregon (ODS, WA). The swift migration was noticed especially in Zion, with 400 drifting s.w. in small flocks Aug. 26; 450 at

8000 ft. just north of Zion on Sept. 15, and 9 at Rockville, Utah Oct. 31 (RKe). Other late records include Oct. 3 at Grand Junction and Oct. 30 at Durango.

HUMMINGBIRDS — At Springdale, Utah, hummingbirds reached a peak on Aug. 22, when an estimated 300 visited feeders in the north end of town — the estimate based on their consumption of 300 quarts of syrup; sample counts showed 60 per cent Black-chinned, 30 per cent Rufous, and 10 per cent Broad-tailed. At Virgin, 13 miles e. of Springdale, Rufous were scarce, Calliope numerous. Most hummingbirds left in late August, but they stayed until Sept. 24 in Salt Lake City (EG) and Springdale, past 2 snowstorms to Sept. 25 at Hotchkiss, Colo. (TC), until Oct. 3 at



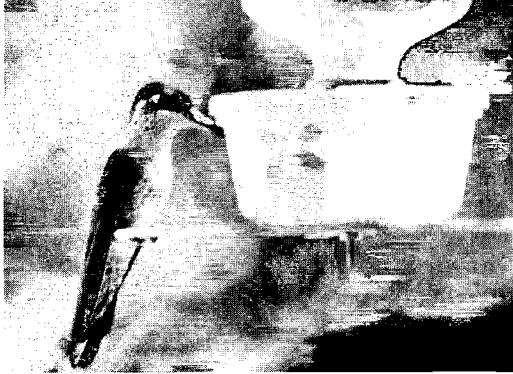
Hummingbird at feeder, Evergreen, Colo., Sept. 18, 1971. Photo/Norma Jean Dawson, courtesy Canyon Courier.

Durango, and at Grand Junction until Oct. 4 (a Rufous), probably the latest record for Colorado (WED). The ♀ **Rivoli's Hummingbird** at Springdale was last seen Aug. 10; on Aug. 24 at Cedar City a ♂ Rivoli's came to investigate our reporter in a green pickup truck before flaring over the top and out of sight (SM).

WOODPECKERS — Woodpeckers seem scarce in Yellowstone Nat'l Park, with only small numbers of the usual species. The cause could be the natural evolutionary changes in the plant communities, as suggested by some research; it could be from strict fire control over the past 100 years, or might be from pest and disease control over the same period. Yellow-shafted Flickers appeared at Malheur Oct. 3 and Salt Lake City Oct. 3-13 (EG); a hybrid was found there Nov. 2 (EG).

FLYCATCHERS, LARKS, SWALLOWS, JAYS — An ad. Eastern Kingbird at Honey L. was feeding 3 young at Honey L. Aug. 27, probably the same birds which nested there. Late birds were at Malheur until Sept. 11 and Sheridan until Oct. 5. Late Olive-sided

Flycatchers were noted at Salt Lake City Oct. 4 (GLK) and Estes Park Oct. 6 (RD). At Antero Res. 2500 Horned Larks massed during September, but the numbers dropped to 500 after the September snows. Larks congregated during a snowstorm on the Steens Mts. Oct. 15, the thousands probably en route to lower elevations. At Honey L. over 1500 were seen Oct. 30 (RL). Swallows migrated in their usual numbers, hundreds of all kinds between Rockville and Hurricane, Utah Sept. 28 (RAS); 850 Violet-greens near Colorado Springs Sept. 5 (A.A.S.); and a flock of over 200 at Dubois Aug. 17 being the last seen there —



Rivoli's Hummingbird, Springdale, Utah, July 11, 1971. First verified Utah record. Photo/Jerome L. Gifford.

early for a last observation. Blue Jays, which have become common in Denver in the past 5 years, spread into the foothills west of there, with observations near Tintytown (fide HEK), Evergreen, and Idaho Springs (fide WWB). A Blue Jay mated with a Steller's Jay in Boulder, Colo., and the family, with offspring, frequented feeders there this fall (PJ). Unusually large numbers of Com. Ravens inhabited the territory north of Malheur Oct. 15 (JHH). At Nampa observers counted 3015 Com. Crows Oct. 22. At Durango, Springdale, and Cedar City, observers commented on unusual numbers of Piñon Jays; but at Alturas fewer than usual were present. Clark's Nutcrackers dropped down to Colorado Springs early, and in greater numbers; A.A.S. observers found 50 there in November.

CHICKADEES, NUTHATCHES — Malheur had no observations of chickadees or nuthatches all fall, except 1 flock of Com. Bushtits, and fewer chickadees were present at Jackson, Wyo. (EW), Summit Co., Colo. (HER), Salt Lake City (WS), and Zion. During the first week in August 15 Mountain Chickadees wandered into a yard in Grand Junction, where they stayed for 24 hours (IB). Although none appeared at Salt Lake City, Red-breasted Nuthatches were fairly common in the Colorado foothills (D.F.O., HEK, WWB).

THRASHERS, THRUSHES — A Mockingbird at Antero Res. Aug. 15 seemed out of place. Brown Thrashers continued scattering into the Colorado mountains with birds Oct. 9 at Grand Junction, and on Oct. 14 at Placerville (RSy) and Idaho Springs (FC, fide WWB). Robins, scarce last fall and winter, returned in numbers to the Rockies. Large flocks, often

seen during the frequent snowstorms, were noted west of Denver (D.F.O.) and Colorado Springs, Estes Park up to timberline (RD), Dubois, Salt Lake City (EG), and Zion. Varied Thrushes were numerous at Crater Lake with a flock of 100 Nov. 4 at 4500 ft. and birds seen at Malheur Sept. 22-Oct. 6, and Klamath N.W.R. Oct. 25 (S.A.S.). Malheur banders caught only one third as many Hermit Thrushes as last year, the last Oct. 14; other October records included several after-storm birds in Salt Lake City Oct. 2-3 and 1 Oct. 8 feeding among snow patches (GLK), and the last 1 at Durango Oct. 15. Swainson's Thrushes passed through Durango in greater numbers than normal, with the last on Oct. 27, the day before another storm.

KINGLETS, PIPITS, WAXWINGS, SHRIKES — Bear R. recorded its first Golden-crowned Kinglet, a dead bird found Sept. 22. Both Malheur and Zion recorded their first fall Golden-crowns this October, and in n. Larimer Co., Colo. 20 were found Nov. 6 (WCS). Water Pipits were still common above timberline near Silverton, Colo., Sept. 10, but after the second September storm the same observer found many migrating in alfalfa fields with unbaled hay near Salida, Colo., Sept. 20 (OR). Malheur had only one observation of 7 pipits this year, compared with 11 observations of up to 40 birds last year. Rupert counted them in the thousands, and at Eureka, where they are unusual, 1 was seen on Oct. 22 and Nov. 21. By the end of November Bohemian Waxwings had arrived in the northern flanks of the Region with flocks reported at Sheridan, Rupert, and Nampa. In October an estimated 2000 Cedar Waxwings descended upon the honeysuckle berries at Alturas, and left 4 weeks later, after exhausting the berry supply. The first N. Shrikes reported were at Nampa Sept. 19, Eureka Oct. 17, and Dubois, with the tail of a junco in its bill, Oct. 30. A few were seen throughout the Region during November.

VIREOS, WARBLERS, GRACKLES — A Solitary Vireo at Durango Aug. 21 was the yellow subspecies, rather than the usual *V. s. plumbeus*. A Red-eyed Vireo strayed west to Cedar City Sept. 19. Our Region does not enjoy warbler waves on the scale of the eastern states, but a "wave" on Oct. 2 at Salt Lake City, after the Sept. 30 snows, comprised 5 species including 50-75 Audubon's, 25 Townsend's, and a **Black-throated Green Warbler**, observed at 15-20 feet (GLK). The last is only the second sight record for Utah. More Orange-crowned and Virginia's Warblers moved through Durango than in many years, the last on Oct. 20 (EF). Contrariwise our Cedar City reporter found none of the usually common Black-throated Gray and Wilson's Warblers, and only 1 MacGillivray's. The Sept. 6 storm in the Colorado Rockies produced, on Sept. 7, 2 unusual warblers in the same willow bush at McCoy, Colo. — a Tennessee and a Connecticut. The bush also held a MacGillivray's for the observers to contrast with the Connecticut (GS). Both are among a handful of Western Slope records. Nashville Warbler reports came from Mindoka N.W.R. (GH) and Evergreen Oct. 2. Magnolia Warblers appeared at Bear R. Sept. 26 (GL, fide GLK) and 2 at Colorado Springs Oct. 6-7 (BMM). A Grace's Warbler Oct. 22 at Grand Junction was north of its usual range (SD, LG, SS).

The Chestnut-sided Warbler at Boulder, Colo., was unusual and very late on Oct. 25 (PJ). Northern Waterthrushes appeared Aug. 26 at Cheyenne (MH), and at Antero Res. Sept. 19 after the mid-September snows. Wilson's Warblers apparently migrated late in w. Colorado; during the usual time, in August, Durango observers saw only 1, but they noted a good movement from Sept. 11-Oct. 16 (RSy) as did observers at Hotchkiss Sept. 27-Oct. 3 (TC). Com. Grackles, expanding into the mountains, occurred at Dubois 8 times in August and September, and at Estes Park Sept. 17 when a flock of 24 killed and ate 2 Pine Siskins (MP).

FRINGILLIDS — Adding to this spring's records of Rose-breasted Grosbeaks is a ♂ at Jackson May 20-June 1, for the second year in a row (EW). A Black-headed Grosbeak was banded at Malheur Sept. 5, the only recent fall record. Late birds were seen near Evergreen (DSt) Oct. 17 and Boulder Oct. 25 (PJ). Evening Grosbeaks were absent from Malheur and scarce at Durango (where they were abundant this spring), but common in n. Colorado, Rupert, and Crater L. The usual thousands of rosy finches arrived at Victor, Colo., Oct. 29, although a few had come in earlier (NS). The Pine Siskin was the most frequently observed bird at all elevations of Crater L. Nat'l Park, with 1 flock of 500 Oct. 14; yet the 1 observation at Malheur compared with 25 banded last year. Numbers of Red Crossbills have irrupted, with many observations from Yellowstone, Denver, Rupert, Nampa, Mono Co., and a nest Aug. 26 at Rocky Mountain Nat'l Park (GF). Ten White-winged Crossbills occurred Aug. 15 at Nampa. After the nesting birds left, wintering Rufous-sided Towhees seemed scarce west of Denver and Colorado Springs. A Brown Towhee was observed near Keno, Ore. Oct. 25, east of the Cascades, probably a first record for e. Oregon (ODS).

SPARROWS — Vesper Sparrows staged a heavy migration at Sheridan, after scarcity all summer, and were abundant around the Alturas airport throughout September. Winter juncos first appeared at Malheur Sept. 20, 2 weeks earlier than 1970, at Salt Lake City Oct. 2 after the Sept. 30 storm, at Zion Oct. 5, Evergreen Oct. 10, and Alturas Oct. 26, but they seemed scarce in the Colorado foothills and Summit Co., Colo. (HEK). Especially large numbers of Brewer's Sparrows moved through Eureka Sept. 25, and large concentrations occurred in Zion's high country. Last birds were seen at Malheur Sept. 8 and Durango Oct. 16, before a storm. Harris' Sparrows invaded the Region, with first dates at Evergreen Oct. 12, Colorado Springs mid-October, Dubois Oct. 17, Rupert Oct. 22, Malheur Nov. 7 (first in 5 years), and Honey L. Nov. 12 (RSt, DD, et al.), and Durango Nov. 18. Q White-throated Sparrow visited Cheyenne Oct. 10 (MH). Hundreds of White-crowned Sparrows, mostly imm., thronged around timberline Sept. 10 near Silverton (OR), and stayed around Durango until October storms swept them south. A Fox Sparrow occurred at Colorado Springs Nov. 7-9, and Malheur had 5 September observations. Longspurs appeared in n. California, with

several dozen found at Honey L. from Oct. 30; Chestnut-collared seemed more common than the usually more common Lapland; and a handful of McCown's also came in (RL, RSt, DD, BAM). At Rupert 8 Snow Buntings flocked in Nov. 6, and Malheur had 7 Nov. 14.

CORRIGENDA — The Chestnut-sided Warblers reported in *Am. Birds* 25: 828, 874, and 886 are all the same pair, and the species has nested near Colorado Springs, as indicated on p. 886.

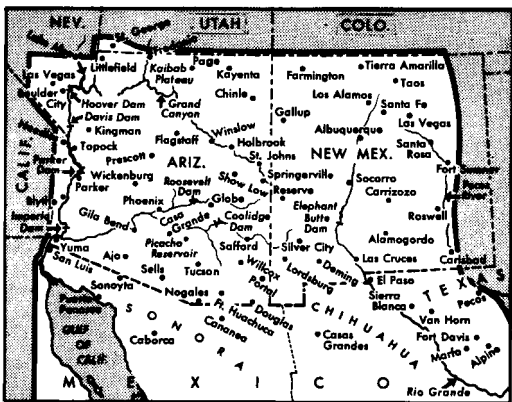
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SOUTHWEST REGION

/Gale Monson

All parts of the Region, almost without exception, received above-normal precipitation, continuing the trend of the preceding season, so that new plant growth and seed crops were heavy. Plentiful rains brought excellent stands of grasses, especially. Hills and swales covered with cured gramas, dropseeds, tobosas, three-awns, etc., were typical at the close of the period. Ponds, lakes, streams, and reservoirs, often dry in other years, were filled or flowing, a contrast to drought conditions a year ago.



The Southwest was unusually cold, with killing frosts striking much earlier than usual, coming in parts of the Region before tree leaves had a chance to change color. Storm systems passed through often after the last week in September. Snow fell in the higher country in mid-October, 20 in. at Flagstaff, Ariz. on October 18 being the greatest accumulation in October in 51 years. More snow came before October's end, leaving the mountains blanketed with white at the beginning of winter. Snows were accompanied by unusual early cold — only 6° F. at Flagstaff on October 19, for example. Well below the snow line, Tucson reported a record low of 26° F. on October 30. November storms were weaker, with less snow and cold, and average temperatures were nearly normal.

In spite of harsh weather, invasion of low country by high country birds almost failed to occur. In fact, Robins, bluebirds, and Townsend's Solitaires, as well as juncos, were not as common as usual at this season in the Sonoran Life Zones.

There was a veritable avalanche of unusual water bird records, particularly from s. Nevada and Arizona, including boobies and a Wandering Tattler. Gambel's and Scaled Quail numbers were low, but Harlequin Quail reproduced in almost fantastic numbers. Eastern warblers and sparrows were reported in larger numbers than usual.

LOONS, GREBES — An Arctic Loon was observed at Boulder Beach, L. Mead, Nev. Oct. 2-Nov. 5 (CL et al.). Another was found freshly dead along a street in s. Tucson, Nov. 19 (Mervin Larson, fide GMo). A Red-throated Loon was reported from Boulder Beach, Oct. 1 (CL). Western Grebes were widespread

and unusually numerous. Among the records were: 1 near Cananea, Sonora, Mexico, Oct. 13 (LS & SS); 1 at Show Low L., Navajo Co., Ariz., Oct. 28 (GMo); 14 at L. Pleasant, Maricopa Co., Ariz., Nov. 12 (BB & PN); and 12 at L. Farmington, San Juan Co., N. Mex., Nov. 13 (H. L. Sparance, fide AN). These are insignificant, however, when compared to at least 15,000 counted on the w. part of L. Mead in Nevada Oct. 31; more than 50,000 were probably present on the entire lake the same day (CL & VM).

PELICAN, BOOBIES, FRIGATEBIRD — This was a great year for these birds along the lower Colorado River. A Brown Pelican was found at Martinez L., Yuma Co., Ariz. in late August (RI) and on Oct. 3 (F. & W.S., fide AC). Three were seen in Cottonwood Cove, Mohave Co., Ariz., on L. Mohave, Sept. 26 (Terry Phillips, fide CL), and 1 was noted at Davis Dam, Ariz. — Calif. Oct. 2 (W. Stumpf, fide CL). Another was present at Las Vegas Bay, Nev., on L. Mead, Sept. 13-30 (CL et al., photos). Three imm. **Blue-footed Boobies** were found on the w. end of L. Mead, Aug. 27-Nov. 29, for a new record for Nevada (CL et al., photos; details to be published elsewhere.) Five to six were present on Martinez L. from mid-August to the end of October (RI), 1 of them still present Dec. 1 (F. & W.S., fide AC). Another new species for Nevada was the **Brown Booby**, 1 ad. and 1 imm. of which were observed on the w. end of L. Mead, Aug. 27-Sept. 19 (CL et al., details to be published elsewhere.) Single frigatebirds (sp.) were seen at Tucson (DP) and at Davis Dam (Arthur Johnson, fide CL), both on Sept. 3.

CATTLE EGRET — One was found at Phoenix, Oct. 30 (RW); 1 was seen at La Joya Refuge, on the Rio Grande below Albuquerque, Nov. 16 (JSa); and a third was present at a Tucson pond, Nov. 18 & 20 (HF et al.).

IBISES — Twenty Wood Ibises were found at Roosevelt L., Ariz., Oct. 5 (Win Green, fide Dick Todd). A single was seen in mid-September on a ranch e. of the Huachuca Mtns., Ariz. (Ed Lehner, fide PN). At a pond near Tucson Sept. 5, 64 White-faced Ibises were found (DP), an unusually large number.

WATERFOWL — A Whistling Swan was discovered at Tule Springs Park, near Las Vegas, Nev., Oct. 29 (CL, GK, & AH). In the Topock Marsh, Havasu Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Ariz., 650 Snow Geese were feeding at the end of November, a good increase over last year (BHW). Eighteen had arrived at the Bosque del Apache Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, N. Mex., Sept. 20, with about 8500 there at the close of the period (JSt). Eleven imm. Black-bellied Tree Ducks stayed at Nogales, Ariz. until at least Nov. 14 (BHa, TP, & SS). A Fulvous Tree Duck was found at Phoenix, Sept. 26 (SB & RW). At least 18 Mexican Ducks were regular at the Bosque Refuge all through the fall (JSt). Wood Duck singles were reported from Rattlesnake Springs, Eddy Co., N. Mex., Nov. 6 or 7 (FW), and from Martinez L. in late November (F. & W.S., fide AC).

Canvasback numbers were up at Farmington, San Juan Co., N. Mex. (AN), and as many as 114 were on a Tucson pond Dec. 3 (GMo). An Oldsquaw was found at Phoenix, Nov. 24-27 (BB & FB). One to 2 White-winged Scoters were at Phoenix, Oct. 29-Nov. 12 (BB et al.), and 2 were at Las Vegas Bay, Oct.