

a close pair bond the year round and, when conditions are favorable as at Cabin John, they may roost in holes that are not far apart. When one of a pair goes to roost, it lets the other know to which hole it is going. This may serve to prevent both birds from going to the same hole and competing, as well as to keep the two in touch at a crucial time of day. The calls may also be territorial—a warning to intruders.

The habit of giving loud vocalizations is not mentioned in Bent (ibid.) nor by Hoyt (1957, *Ecology* 38: 246) in her excellent account of the roosting of *D. pileatus*. She has, however written (pers. comm.) that she “can still hear the long series of ‘cuks’ as the birds [in Sapsucker Woods] approached the roosting area in winter and early spring. It was from that that we could ascertain which of several roost holes was being used.” The habit may be a characteristic of the genus *Dryocopus*. Blume (ibid.) describes and gives a figure of the Black Woodpecker flying to its roost giving “kurr-kurr-kurrs” all the way to the hole, punctuated by a “kijah” when it alights on a perch. The “kijah” may correspond to the high call (Kilham 1959, *Condor* 61: 377) of *D. pileatus*. Blume (pers. comm.) also states that some individuals of *D. martius* call in flying to nest holes. He considers the calling territorial but, as shown above, I feel that the loud vocalizations are, more importantly, communications between the members of a pair.—LAWRENCE KILHAM, *Department of Microbiology, Dartmouth Medical School, Hanover, New Hampshire 03755*. Accepted 15 Jul. 73.

**Florida Burrowing Owl collected in North Carolina.**—While birding on the Outer Banks of North Carolina on 14 November 1966, Walter C. Morrison (pers. comm.) of Marlton, New Jersey, discovered a Burrowing Owl (*Speotyto cunicularia*) at Salvo, Dare County. I collected the owl on 14 February 1967. The specimen, an adult female, was subsequently determined at the U. S. National Museum to be *S. c. floridana*. It weighed 112.2 g, the wing (flattened) measured 165 mm, tail 71 mm, exposed culmen 22 mm, tarsus 45 mm, and middle toe (including nail) 27 mm. The ovary was 7 × 12 mm. The bird was in good flesh, and the stomach was almost empty. The specimen is now catalog No. 566510 in the NMNH. This constitutes the first record for North Carolina and appears to be the third specimen record of this subspecies outside of Florida and the Bahama Islands. Howell (1928) secured a specimen of *S. c. floridana* on 3 February 1912 on Blakely Island near Mobile, Alabama, and Bond (1943) reported a female of this race taken by Gaston Villalba at Campo Florida, Havana, Cuba, on 7 January 1943. All other Burrowing Owl records in eastern North America were either of the western form, *S. c. hypugaea*, or of undetermined subspecific identity. There is one sight record of a Burrowing Owl in Virginia (Murray 1952), and one in South Carolina (Sprunt and Chamberlain 1949), both at coastal locations. The site at which the owl was found is relatively open sand flats with scattered grasses and forbs. The bird was using a burrow in the middle of a National Park Service campground. This general area on the Outer Banks is similar physiographically to the habitat of *S. c. floridana* on the southeastern coast of Florida, where the birds are common along the old beach ridges and in sandy pastures.

The occurrence of *S. c. floridana* in North Carolina raises the question: how did the bird reach a point approximately 920 km (572 miles) from its range? Alachua County, Florida, is the nearest location (Ligon 1963), and the subspecies, so far as anyone is aware, is nonmigratory (Howell 1932, Bent 1938, Sprunt 1954).

Strong (1922) reported a Burrowing Owl that boarded a naval vessel at night just off Cape Henry, Virginia, on 22 October 1918. He was unable to determine the subspecies but supposed the owl to be of the Florida form in view of the proximity to its range. Murray (1952) commented on remarks in a letter from H. C. Oberholser who stated it was much more likely to be the western race because of the migratory habits of that bird. Johnny Johnson (pers. comm.) of Merritt Island, Florida, saw a Burrowing Owl, presumed to be of the Florida race, on a sport fishing boat off the Florida east coast on 27 July 1972. The bird flew aboard about 10:00 EDT while 40 km east of Cocoa Beach, Brevard County. It remained on board until 17:00, when the boat docked at Port Canaveral and the bird flew ashore and disappeared. The recent observation by Johnson and earlier sighting by Strong off the Virginia Capes suggest a possible mechanism by which *S. c. floridana* could readily reach places along the eastern seaboard of the United States far from its normal range. On the southeast coast of Florida the busy coastal shipping lane is within 1-2 km of shore.

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**Individual distance in the Herring Gull.**—Hediger (1942, *Wildtiere in Gefangenschaft*, English ed. 1950, *Wild animals in captivity*, London, Butterworth) divided animals into "contact" species that seek and tolerate bodily contact with conspecifics outside sexual or parental contexts, and "distance" species that do not. He further proposed that each member of a distance species maintains an "individual distance," a rather precisely defined zone of intolerance to approach by conspecifics. Estimates by field workers watching large aggregations of resting birds have