

On July 25, 1923, I shot a pair of Hermit Thrushes in eastern Humboldt County, at the forks of the Van Duzen River, 8 miles east of Bridgeport and many more miles east of the eastern limits of the redwood growth. The birds were among Douglas firs in a north-facing shaded ravine. Even so, the light-intensity to my senses was far greater there than it was in the redwood forest where I had gotten the other thrushes five days previously. These upper Van Duzen River thrushes (nos. 43988-89, Mus. Vert. Zool.) are, like Mailliard's Eel River examples, *slevini*, showing the racial characters of small size and pale coloration. This pallor consists in not only less deeply and dully brown upper surface but in paler toned and more restricted dusky spotting on chest and in paler shading along sides. This distributional state of affairs with regard to the race *slevini* was rather to be expected from the fact that this subspecies had already been recorded from two points not far east of the Humboldt County line by Miss Louise Kellogg (Univ. Calif. Publ. Zool., vol. 12, 1916, p. 388).

The point that should come out clearly from the above statements is that the breeding Hermit Thrushes of the dense redwood forests near the seacoast in Humboldt County are subspecifically different from those of places farther inland in the same and other counties and in the coast counties to the southward. The subspecies of the Humboldt redwoods is by appearance to be referred to *Hylocichla guttata guttata*, even though separated from the metropolis of that race by the intervening *H. g. nanus*.—J. GRINNELL, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley, October 22, 1923.*

**Notes from Southern and Lower California.**—*Sula brewsteri*. Brewster Booby. A female specimen of this species was recently presented to the Natural History Museum, San Diego, by Dr. Van Wort, who collected the bird on August 7, one mile off the east shore of East San Benito Island, Lower California, Mexico. This constitutes the northernmost record of the species on the west coast of the Peninsula.

*Lophodytes cucullatus*. Hooded Merganser. Records of this bird from San Diego County are few and the following occurrence may be of interest. An adult female was collected by Charles Gordon at Warner's Hot Springs, November 15, 1922, and is now mounted in the Museum.

*Archibuteo lagopus sancti-johannis*. Rough-legged Hawk. On January 26, 1921, a male specimen of this species was collected by the writer at the Fanita Ranch, three miles west of Santee, San Diego County. On November 15, 1922, a Rough-legged Hawk was collected near the road in the eastern arm of Warner's Valley, San Diego County. Upon preparing the specimen the crop and stomach were found to contain an adult female pocket gopher (*Thomomys*) and six grasshoppers, recently captured. The after parts of the gopher, from the thorax back, with the six grasshoppers were found in the stomach, while the head and shoulders of the gopher remained in the crop. The victim had apparently been torn in two and swallowed in two gulps. Both hawks are in the collection of Laurence M. Huey.

Near the southern end of Warner's Valley, at the junction of the Palomar Road, another Rough-legged Hawk was seen on November 15, 1922, perched in the top of a dead tree. I pursued the bird, but was unsuccessful in approaching, as there was not sufficient cover for concealment. The bird flushed at about a hundred yards and the following excerpt from my notebook gives a description of the flight: "On taking wing the hawk gave a wonderful exhibition of flight, standing still high in the air, with quivering pinions, like a boy's kite, for minutes at a time; then, swooping toward the ground at some imaginary prey, it would ascend again for a minute or so to peer about."

A Rough-legged Hawk was observed and positively identified near Santee on December 24, 1922, by a party composed of C. G. Abbott, A. W. Anthony and the writer. This individual was recorded in Bird-Lore's Twenty-third Christmas Census. Otherwise this species has not before been recorded south of Ventura County.

*Archibuteo ferrugineus*. Ferruginous Rough-leg. Recent records of this species visiting southern California seem lacking, so the following occurrences in San Diego County seem worthy of note. A male taken by the writer at Jamacha, December 27, 1917. In the Huey Collection. A specimen taken by John R. Burnham, one mile north of Warner's Hot Springs, November 27, 1921. In collection of Natural History Museum, San Diego. A specimen taken by S. C. Sandford, in Viejas Valley, January 4, 1923. In collection of Natural History Museum, San Diego. An individual

observed by the writer in Warner's Valley, November 15, 1922. An individual observed by the writer (in company with C. G. Abbott and A. W. Anthony) one mile west of Santee on December 24, 1922, and recorded in Bird-Lore's Twenty-third Christmas Census. An individual observed by C. G. Abbott and Ralph Hoffmann near Campo, December 30, 1922.

This bird is a regular winter visitant to the San Jacinto plains region in Riverside County, but only occasionally straggles into the southern part of San Diego County.

*Phalaenoptilus nuttalli nitidus*. Frosted Poor-will. Returning late from a day's collecting in the back country on February 19, 1922, I collected two specimens of Poor-will in Mission Valley, near San Diego, by aid of automobile lights. One of them proved to be *P. n. californicus*, and the other was submitted to Mr. H. S. Swarth who pronounced it to be of the above subspecies. It was an adult female and constitutes the most western record for this bird. The specimen is now no. 2314, Huey Collection.

*Junco oreganus shufeldti*. Shufeldt Junco. A specimen of this Junco was collected on February 17, 1918, at Sloan's Ranch, five miles east of Dehesa, San Diego County. The bird was taken from a small flock of Juncos feeding along the creek and selected for its grayer appearance. The sexual organs were so disfigured by shot that the sex was indeterminate, though the bird's bright black plumage would indicate it to be a male. This is the most southwesterly occurrence of this bird in California. The specimen is no. 1747, Huey Collection. Identification of the specimen was by Joseph Grinnell, H. S. Swarth and Major Allan Brooks.

*Oreoscoptes montanus*. Sage Thrasher. Dates of occurrence of this species from San Diego and vicinity seem lacking and the following data may be of interest. One specimen taken January 23, 1918, from the writer's back yard in the city. Huey Collection. Three specimens taken January 28, 1921, three miles east of National City. Huey collection. Four specimens taken March 15, 1923, five miles east of National City. Collection of Natural History Museum, San Diego. "Sage Thrashers were abundant on the mesa, and a great many could have been collected." Huey notes, March 15, 1923. This seems to mark an apparent regularity of the species each winter in this locality.—LAURENCE M. HUEY, *Natural History Museum, San Diego, California, September 29, 1923*.

**Notes from the Vicinity of Santa Barbara.**—On February 3, 1923, I noticed several Cassin Purple Finches (*Carpodacus cassini*) feeding in weed patches under the trees in a walnut grove in Carpinteria. From that date till April 8, there were always from eight to twenty birds in the neighborhood of my house. Much of the time they fed with California Purple Finches and Willow Goldfinches in the sycamores; and once I found them feeding in live oaks. They were for the most part silent, giving only the characteristic three-syllabled call; but on April 3, one or two males sang. They were quite tame and rather more sluggish than either of the other two *Carpodaci*. On February 22 I found a number in Mr. Peyton's apricot orchard in Fillmore, showing that there had been something of a general invasion of the region west of their breeding range.

On September 13, 1923, I noted two immature Eastern Kingbirds (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) in the Bird Refuge at Santa Barbara. Several other observers reported that the birds spent several days in the same locality.

On October 25, 1923, at about dusk a Hermit Thrush was tugging at a worm on my lawn. A California Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus gambeli*) dove from some trees about thirty feet away, landed in the spot hastily vacated by the thrush, and devoured the worm. In this procedure the Shrike showed the proclivities of a jaeger.—RALPH HOFFMANN, *Carpinteria, California, October 29, 1923*.

**Another Flight of Harris Hawks.**—Mr. Frank Richmond of El Centro, California, reports to me that on August 28, 1923, he saw near Calexico, a flight of about 250 Harris Hawks (*Parabuteo unicinctus harrisi*). He got within 60 feet of the nearest of them; apparently they did not have any fear of him or his auto. Some were perched in small trees and some in the cottonwood trees directly over his head, and others were hopping around on the bare ground. They were probably feeding, for the ground had just been irrigated and was quite wet. This is within two miles of the place where Mr. Richmond reported the flight on October 22, 1920 (see CONDOR, XXIII, 1921, p. 65).—W. LEE CHAMBERS, *Eagle Rock, Los Angeles, October 16, 1923*.