

visit of a half-dozen of these birds both morning and evening of June 24. Eight-power prism binoculars were used, and identification was as certain as it was possible to make it on the living birds.

As the Kaibab is comparatively little known, and since the altitude and forest conditions are essentially those in which the species occurs elsewhere, it seems likely that this is a part of its normal range, heretofore unknown, rather than a mere sporadic occurrence. Thus is added another species to the Arizona avifauna.—CHAS. T. VORHIES, *University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona, June 17, 1930.*

Southerly Breeding Record of Sage Thrasher in California.—Diligent search for a nest of the Sage Thrasher (*Oroscoptes montanus*) in a more southerly location than any previously recorded finally has been successful. While on one of these hunting trips, April 27, 1930, in company with Fred Frazer and Rex Parker, we located a nest containing five fresh eggs. The locality was about twenty miles from, and a little west of north of, San Bernardino, California, this being fully ten miles south and a little west of Victorville, the most southerly location previously recorded (Rowley, Condor, xxx, 1928, p. 325). The elevation was about 3400 feet above sea level.

The nest was in a shrub of cotton thorn (*Tetradymia spinosa*), eighteen inches from the ground and so well concealed that it could not be seen from above. The bird was flushed from the nest two different times and in each case flew only a few feet, then ran to a juniper bush and became lost to view. It later appeared at close range on top of other bushes and in Joshua trees in company with its mate. Neither bird made any sound while we were at the nesting site.

The nest and eggs seem to be normal in every way. The weights of the eggs in grams are 3.36, 3.23, 3.17, 3.15, and 3.03.

Another nest containing five young birds was found in a similar location a week later and at a point less than five miles northwest of the previous location. In each case there was plenty of *Artemisia tridentata* at hand for host bushes, and it was a surprise to find the Sage Thrashers using the *Tetradymia spinosa*.—WILSON C. HANNA, *Colton, California, May 15, 1930.*

Is the Lewis Woodpecker a Regular Breeder in the San Francisco Region?—The mind retains through life certain outstanding events of childhood days and wanderings. First acquaintance with uncommon birds can be recalled to mind as if occurring but a few months past. One such event of my early life was my first acquaintance with the Lewis Woodpecker (*Asyndesmus lewisi*). I recall that it was in the early spring of the year when I was at the Presidio collecting sea shells with the veteran, Julius Arnheim. A large bird flew overhead which I did not recognize. It lit close by and I was able to see the markings plainly. It was not difficult to find it in the books at home and my list was increased to include the woodpecker "that flew like a crow".

In the "Directory to the Bird Life of the San Francisco Bay Region", Pacific Coast Avifauna No. 18, the Lewis Woodpecker is listed as an "erratic winter visitant." The same publication states that H. W. Carriger found several nests with fresh eggs to small young on May 16, 1926, in the sycamores and oaks south of Sunol, Alameda County. In the Condor (xxix, 1927, p. 165) Hoffmann states that he saw a pair of Lewis Woodpeckers entering a hole in a cottonwood near Gustine, Merced County, April 23, 1926, and that he saw an immature one in July, 1924, at the same place. As recorded in the Condor (xvi, 1914, p. 183) the present writer saw a pair feeding near Pleasanton, Alameda County, June 12, 1914.

The above compilation and my observations of the present spring would lead me to believe that the Lewis Woodpecker is more common in central California during the breeding season than is generally thought.

On April 20, 1930, I was in the vicinity of Coyote, Santa Clara County, about one mile west of the main highway between San Jose and Gilroy. At this point there is a grove of oaks scattered throughout the field and as we drove past, a Lewis Woodpecker flew across in front of the machine. We stopped and I soon found a pair staying in the vicinity of one of the trees but did not locate a definite nesting site. The next Saturday, April 26, I made a special trip to the same locality. The pair of birds was still around the same tree and I located a hole high up in

the living limb which I thought was the nesting site. I also saw two other pairs in the same vicinity and I have no doubt that a careful search would bring nests to light.

On May 18, 1930, the Audubon Society made an excursion to the ranch of Mr. McCoy, located about five miles south of Livermore on the road to Mount Hamilton. On the ride out I saw one pair of Lewis Woodpeckers flying over the creek where the sycamores first are in evidence. A little farther out two more pairs were seen, and I determined to come back later to make more careful investigation.

In the afternoon I walked from the ranch northerly along the creek bed and saw several of the birds and finally located a pair that gave every evidence of having young in the vicinity. One was observed carrying food, and when I was in the vicinity of the nesting site both birds kept up a constant calling. The cry was very similar to the notes of the Hairy Woodpecker except that each note was given individually and not run together as when given by an excited Hairy Woodpecker. But all my watching failed to locate the nest.

On the way home I again stopped and sat around while the parent birds kept up their monotonous cries. Finally one flew to a sycamore about fifty feet distant from the tree which I thought must be the right one and a second bird appeared a short time later. This second bird entered a hole in the sycamore. It only took a fraction of a second to feed the young and fly away after more "stuffing". The nest was in the living trunk of a sycamore and about eighteen feet above the ground. It was impossible to say whether the hole was excavated in the living wood or was just an enlargement of a rotten spot in the tree. I got the impression that the excavation was made in the living wood.

One of the young boys was hoisted up the smooth tree with a convenient tow rope. The nest hole was large enough to enable him to reach inside and take one of the young out for inspection. It appeared to be about a week old as its eyes were still closed. The little one tried to swallow the finger of its captor and we hurriedly replaced it in the nest. The little birds kept up a constant squeaking which sounded more or less like steam escaping from an engine. After the boy started to climb to the nest the parent birds kept quiet although they were in the vicinity.

We had opportunities to watch the parent birds in the vicinity, apparently getting food for the nestlings. One perched on fence posts and occasionally flew out as if catching insects. At other times it would fly down to the ground and pick up something, probably a grasshopper. We saw another one perch in an olive tree and take something from the foliage.

It is easy to overlook these birds during the earlier nesting season as they will sit for long periods on the upper sides of limbs in the oaks or sycamores and will not fly when a person is near. When the feeding period commences, however, there should be no trouble in noticing the birds, as it takes constant work on the part of the parents to keep the youngsters supplied with food. Their insect catching habits can easily be mistaken for those of the California Woodpecker, especially at a distance. It would add to our knowledge of distribution if close watch be kept for this interesting bird in the sycamore groves of our interior Coast Range streams and among the oaks where the California Woodpeckers are found.

On June 1, 1930, I went into the territory back of Sunol and found about twelve Lewis Woodpeckers breeding. The nests were in the sycamores along San Antonio Creek, with the exception of one which I suspect was in a large valley oak. The parent birds were much disturbed by our presence. I also noted the parent birds out in the open fields gathering food, probably grasshoppers.—L. PH. BOLANDER, *Oakland, California, June 5, 1930.*

The Pintails of Northwestern Alaska.—On my return from Alaska in 1922, I submitted from the Colorado Museum of Natural History some specimens of the pintail duck to Dr. H. C. Oberholser for identification, and he reported on them as follows: "Those from the Seward Peninsula and Wainwright are *Dafla acuta acuta*, but the one from Point Barrow seems to be *Dafla acuta tzitzihoa*." I recorded two of these specimens (Condor, XXVI, 1924, p. 195) and others (Condor, XXVII, 1925, p. 169) as *acuta*, and, subsequently, a female in the collection of the Chicago Academy of Sciences (Condor, XXXI, 1929, p. 225) which was also so identified by Dr. Oberholser.