

subdivisions and "improvements", including complete tree surgery, have probably produced sufficient nesting cavity shortage to force stucco and tile upon the bluebird's attention.—ROLAND CASE ROSS, *Los Angeles City Schools, Los Angeles, California, December 7, 1932.*

The Bridled Titmouse near Tucson, Arizona.—In view of the scarcity of published records of the occurrence of the Bridled Titmouse (*Baeolophus wollweberi annexus*) below the oak belt in Arizona, the following may be of interest. On October 2, 1932, at 11:25 a. m., two of these birds were seen in my front lot, three miles west of Old Fort Lowell and about a quarter of a mile south of Rillito Creek, elevation approximately 2400 feet, Pima County, Arizona. They were traveling west and were observed in a mesquite tree at a distance of thirty feet through 8x binoculars.

The surrounding district consists chiefly of small scattered farms interspersed with areas of creosote bush and a few mesquite and catclaw trees. Close by is the dry Rillito Creek bed with its border of mesquite and a few cottonwoods and desert broom in the bottoms. A mile to the north is the wide alluvial fringe of the Santa Catalina Mountains with giant sahuaro, palo verde and cholla.—A. H. ANDERSON, *Tucson, Arizona, November 19, 1932.*

The Gila Woodpecker in the Imperial Valley of California.¹—On March 21, 1932, I saw what I was certain were two Gila Woodpeckers (*Centurus uropygialis uropygialis*) in a row of cottonwoods near the town of Calipatria near the south end of Salton Sea, but there was no opportunity for certain identification; while the circumstance was noted as "probable" there was the chance that flickers might have been what actually were seen. However, on June 14, while en route to Arizona in company with Mr. Robert T. Moore, several of these woodpeckers were seen on fence posts at various places along the highway between Brawley and El Centro. They were tame enough to permit us to stop the car and examine them at leisure. Again, on the return trip, early in July, I saw occasional birds in cottonwoods and on roadside fence posts near Holtville, El Centro and Brawley. Mr. A. B. Howell, to whom I mentioned the presence of Gila Woodpeckers in the Valley, tells me that he first noticed them in the vicinity of his ranch near Calexico in 1931.

These birds, until now, were known as residents of California only through their occupancy of the narrow strip of riparian growth along the Colorado River. Their spread into the Imperial Valley to points as far west as the southern end of Salton Sea is unquestionably due to the planting of cottonwoods and other trees in the locality, one which was formerly unsuited to their requirements. The route of ingress has most probably been along the International Canal rather than over the inhospitable desert to the east.

Inquiry at several date farms in the Coachella Valley at the north end of the sea has, to date, indicated that Gila Woodpeckers have not invaded the groves there. It would seem to be only a question of time, though, before such is the case, an invasion which will probably not be hailed with enthusiasm by date growers.—A. J. VAN ROSSEM, *Pasadena, California, December 7, 1932.*

Early Nesting of the Leconte Thrasher.—Many years ago M. French Gilman of Banning and I, while wandering over the desert in Coachella Valley, California, found a nest containing young of Leconte Thrasher (*Toxostoma lecontei lecontei*). We judged that the nest must have contained eggs during late January and we then decided that we would some time find a set of eggs in that month and establish an early record.

For a number of years after this we made numerous trips to the desert in late January in our quest but with absolutely no results, and finally discontinued them. Late January of this year was cold and an acquaintance remarked to me that it would be a long time before I would be collecting eggs. This discouraging remark proved to be a spark that made me reply, "No, I will start on a trip tomorrow morning at five." True to my remark I started in the cold with Fred Frazer and Rex Parker for helpers in the renewed quest.

¹ Contribution from the California Institute of Technology, Pasadena.

We separated, so as to cover as much country as possible, and spent January 31, 1932, searching the desert in Coachella Valley. The trip was not in vain for Fred Frazer found a typical nest in the center of a cholla cactus on the open desert. We joined him and after flushing the bird from the nest several times, and taking some photographs, I took the three slightly incubated eggs for my collection.—WILSON C. HANNA, Colton, California, December 26, 1932.

Some Fall Migration Notes from Northern Arizona Lakes.—In the forest of western yellow pines (*Pinus ponderosa*) south of Flagstaff, Arizona, are some thirty lakes within as many miles of that town. These lakes are principally found in depressed areas upon lava flows, but a few are crater lakes and one, Lake Mary, is artificially formed. They are scarcely known ornithologically. Mearns visited several of them in the late eighties and published his notes as a part of "Observations on the Avifauna of Portions of Arizona" (Auk, vii, 1890, pp. 45-55, 251-264). He referred to the region as the "Mogollon Mountains," but geologically it is a part of the San Francisco Mountains. In recent years few observations have been recorded from any of these lakes.

Several times during the fall of 1932, I visited Long Lake, about thirty miles from Flagstaff by road, and in so doing passed Lake Mary and Ashurst Lake, nine and twenty-five miles, respectively, from that town. One trip was made to Stoneman Lake still farther south. These lakes are all in the Transition Zone and are well above 6000 feet in elevation.

In view of the scarcity of records from the region and because of several records of note, a part of my observations are here given. Large numbers of ducks and geese seen will be treated separately at a later time. Numbers refer to specimens in the collection of the Museum of Northern Arizona.

Colymbus auritus. Horned Grebe. On October 16 a grebe (no. 3373, ad. ♂) was taken by me at Stoneman Lake and has been identified by Dr. A. Wetmore as of this species. No other grebes were seen; but only a short distance was patrolled as the shore was lined with hunters awaiting the opening of the duck season. Though the lake is small, it is estimated there were thousands of water fowl upon it and it is likely that more grebes were among them.

The Horned Grebe is placed in the "hypothetical list" of the birds of the state as having been recorded only by Coues who reported it from the Colorado River and Fort Grant, "statements which are not sufficiently explicit" (Swarth, Pacific Coast Avifauna, no. 10, 1914, p. 81). A review of the *Condor* has failed to reveal record of the occurrence of *C. auritus* in Arizona. It is thus gratifying to substantiate the record of Coues.

Colymbus nigricollis californicus. Eared Grebe. Though Mearns (*op. cit.*, p. 50) found this bird breeding in great numbers in the general region, only one published fall record is available, that of a grebe believed to be of this species and which was seen by me on Horse Lake just south of Flagstaff on November 14, 1930 (Miscellaneous Bird Notes from the San Francisco Mountains, Grand Canyon Nature Notes, vii, no. 2, p. 19). The ground was covered with snow, and ice rimmed the shore.

On August 14, 1932, I found this grebe to be common on Ashurst Lake. One specimen (no. 3277) was taken. Winter plumage had not been completed. Identification has been checked by Dr. Wetmore. Only one grebe was seen on Long Lake on October 30. On this date, Dr. F. M. Murphy of Flagstaff reported that grebes were common on Ashurst Lake. He had visited this lake at least once a week since October 16 and found little change in numbers during this period. No grebes were seen on Long Lake on November 6, but six were counted there on November 20.

Swarth (*op. cit.*, p. 9) refers only to the records of Mearns from this region. A review of the *Condor* since 1909 revealed only one record of the Eared Grebe from the state (Goldman, *Condor*, xxviii, 1926, p. 160). These few reports, however, should not be interpreted as giving the true status of the species.

Ardea herodias treganzai. Treganza Blue Heron. The Blue Heron is not common on the plateau. In a recent issue of the *Condor* (xxxiv, 1932, p. 217) I gave a summary of all records known from the region. No specific fall dates were available. During the last half of October and until the last week in November, I made several trips to these lakes but not one heron was seen. On November 6, however, Mr. J. D.