

of the San Diego Society of Natural History it appears to be a female or immature bird.

Larus canus brachyrhynchus. Short-billed Gull. According to L. M. Huey of the San Diego Society of Natural History, the status of this gull in San Diego County is uncertain. On December 15, 1934, while collecting sea-birds off La Jolla, in company with T. W. Harvey, III, we noticed a gull slightly smaller than the abundant Western, California and Ring-billed gulls. When it flew within range we both fired and secured the bird which has been identified by Mr. Huey as the above species. It is a female and is now in my collection.—KARL W. KENYON, *La Jolla, California, March 2, 1935*.

Black-headed Jay Mimicking Loon.—At Okanagan Landing, on a morning in early May, the tremolo call of a Loon (*Gavia immer*) coming, so I thought, from far out on the lake and subdued by the distance, was accepted as genuine without question as to its source. Then my attention was attracted to a party of three Black-headed Jays (*Cyanocitta stelleri annectens*) which moved about in the brush along the lake shore, and, to my surprise, the low, quavering call, again repeated, was traced to one of these birds which was perched on a hawthorn branch thirty feet from where I stood. Upon its last performance the mimicked loon call was followed by a warbled cadence of four liquid notes.—J. A. MUNRO, *Okanagan Landing, B. C., Canada, August 11, 1934*.

Condors in Northern Los Angeles County, California.—On August 9, 1934, at a point near the Antelope Valley highway and some eight miles east-northeast of Sandberg, I saw seven Condors (*Gymnogyps californianus*) feeding upon, or flying about, a dead sheep. They were accompanied by two Turkey Buzzards and thirty or more Ravens.

On December 14, 1934, I saw three Condors circling high over the Liebre Ranch headquarters. On December 15 three sailed within fifty feet over Sandberg (on the Ridge Route), going toward Cobblestone Mountain; on December 17, one sailed over at a height of fifty feet, headed northeast toward the desert. On January 12, 1935, three Condors sailed over the same place, 200 feet or so aloft, also headed northeast toward the desert.—HARVEY T. ANDERSON, *Sandberg, California*.

Unusual Food Habits of California Gulls.—During the past three years a few local complaints and newspaper reports have been received that gulls in Salt Lake Valley, Utah, have become destructive to the cherry crop. The first report in 1931 could not be confirmed and the State game commissioner wrote that he had been unable to verify the complaints although he had heard of a number.

In 1932 additional reports were received, and during the past season damage was reported in both Utah and Salt Lake valleys. Under date of September 13, 1934, Newell B. Cook, Commissioner of Fish and Game in Utah, wrote the following:

“As the cherries ripened in different localities in the State, the Sea-gulls would work heavily on this fruit. If you were to go to Rock Island this fall, you would find the entire north end of the island covered with cherry stones. This is also true of some of the islands of Great Salt Lake. These birds were very destructive the last year to Utah’s crop of cherries.

“During the hot weather of early July the Sea-gulls also worked heavily on grasshoppers and crickets. They would eat and disgorge several times a day. This also happened in 1929 at Roy, Utah.”

A number of competent and reliable observers have witnessed the gulls feeding on the cherries, and in localized areas the damage has been considerable. Mr. C. Lynn Hayward, of the zoology department of Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, writes under date of January 23, 1935, that since the gulls appeared to be unable to alight in the foliage, they would hover over the trees and beat the fruit down with their wings. The birds would then fly to the ground and feast on the harvest. A county agricultural agent reported that in many cases the ground was heavily covered with ripened fruit and that the birds had practically stripped the trees.

Mr. Hayward further reported that “the gulls now nest on Rock Island, Utah Lake, in great numbers and the colony there has been on the increase for a number of years. A number of parties who visited the island last summer report . . . that the ground in the vicinity of the nests was thickly strewn with cherry stones. Just how long the