

Range.—Upper Sonoran zones of extreme southern Nevada, southeastern California, southern Arizona, and southwestern New Mexico, south to east central Sonora. Winter range unknown, but probably in northwestern Mexico.

Spizella atrogularis atrogularis Cabanis

Spinites atrogularis Cabanis, Mus. Hein., 1, sig. 17, April [Oct.?), 1851, p. 133, footnote (Mexico[Mexico, D. F.]).

Struthus atrimentalis Couch, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila., [7] "April," 1854, p. 67 (Agua Nueva, Coahuila).

Range.—Southern portions of Mexican plateau, north to southern Coahuila. Apparently resident.

MEASUREMENTS OF MALES IN MILLIMETERS

	Wing	Tail
4 <i>caurina</i>	64-65	66-68
3 <i>cana</i> (Ventura County).....	61-64	62-67
7 <i>cana</i> (southern California).....	60-63	62-64
8 <i>cana</i> (Lower California).....	60-63	61-65
6 <i>evura</i>	64-67	68-74
5 <i>atrogularis</i>	63-68	67-74

San Diego Society of Natural History, Balboa Park, San Diego, California, August 5, 1935.

FROM FIELD AND STUDY

A Food Habit of the English Sparrow.—Early on the morning of June 1 an interesting and to me unusual food habit of the English Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) was observed. Harry Logan, Customs Inspector, called my attention to a nest of ants he had uncovered while cleaning up a pile of trash, before going off duty. The nest was located under a half page of newspaper which had fallen directly under the International fence. A large quantity of eggs had been laid on top of the concrete pavement and under the paper. The ant adults, a large, dark, reddish species, were thickly clustered around and on the eggs.

While I was discussing this phenomenon, an adult male English Sparrow appeared and took cognizance of the situation. He began circling the exposed nest and started robbing the ants, which by this time were carrying their eggs to a safer place. Seizing an egg the bird would, with a shake of the head, disengage the attendant ant. He was soon joined in the sport by a female. Gathering a mouthful of eggs each would leave for its respective nest. Apparently they were from two different nests, located approximately 150 yards away.

After several trips the ants were fairly well scattered, and the male sparrow began hopping into the midst of the crawling mass. He would just about gather a mouthful of eggs when he would be obliged to take time out to free himself of clinging ants. Sometimes a fluttering hop would do it. Sometimes he would have to pull them loose. Several times he was noticed leaning back on his tail and bracing himself with one leg, as he vigorously pulled an enterprising ant loose from the upper part of the other leg. The female did not brave the dangers of the middle of the nest until the ants were so scattered as to make the dangers negligible. Once she was noted having a struggle with an ant in her mouth, which she loosened with a toe of the left foot. When an ant with a pair of extra strong jaws got a strong hold, a weak, plaintive note was heard accompanied by a fluttering hop. A strand of barbed wire an inch or two above the concrete and traversing the diameter of the nest furnished an excellent sniping post for the two birds, now joined by a third male sparrow from Mexico. The three effectively robbed the nest of a majority of the

eggs estimated to number approximately one thousand.—UHL R. KUHN, *Nogales, Arizona, July 8, 1935.*

Nine New Birds from Williams, Arizona.—Apparently the only published records of birds from the vicinity of Williams, Coconino County, Arizona, are in two papers by Dr. A. Wetmore (Kansas Univ. Sci. Bull., 4, 1908, pp. 377-388; Condor, 23, 1921, pp. 60-64) and in one by W. B. Mershon (Condor, 21, 1919, p. 126).

On February 10, 1934, I visited Williams. In company with Mr. C. M. Armack a trip was made the next morning through the Transition Zone to a point five miles south of town. In the afternoon of the same day, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. John Bedford, observations were made two miles north of town in the Upper Sonoran Zone. In addition to my personal notes, Mr. Bedford has contributed from his notebook. Twelve specimens taken are in the collection of the Museum of Northern Arizona.

To Wetmore's list of 65 species (1921, p. 60) are added *Cygnus columbianus* (Mershon, *loc. cit.*) and the following nine, making a total of 75 species recorded from the vicinity of Williams, Arizona.

Meleagris gallopavo merriami. Merriam Turkey. Although not seen by me, turkeys are quite common in the forest near Williams where a large number are killed each season by local hunters.

Porzana carolina. Sora. Regarding this species Dr. A. Wetmore, under date of April 4, 1933, has written me the following: "Between June 28 and July 1, 1907, I found several nests of this bird at Rollins Lake, near Williams, Arizona. The water level in the lake had receded recently, leaving the nests high and dry, which circumstance probably accounts for the fact that the rails had left them. I examined this area in the summer of 1918, but found that grazing had destroyed all cover and that there were no trails of rails at that time."

Oxyechus vociferus. Killdeer. I saw a single individual at a pool beside the highway about seven miles east of Williams on the morning of February 10. This appears to be the earliest date of record for the plateau.

Columba fasciata. Band-tailed Pigeon. Bedford reports a nest with one egg found on September 10, 1932, at Summit Springs, ten miles south of Williams. The nest, about eight feet above the ground, was in an oak tree in pine-oak association. When visited again two weeks later the nest was empty. On October 4, 1931, in the same locality, several hundred pigeons were seen feeding on acorns.

Speotyto cunicularia hypugaea. Western Burrowing Owl. Bedford reports seeing this bird on several occasions near Howard Lake about twenty miles north of Williams.

Megaceryle alcyon caurina. Western Belted Kingfisher. A single bird was seen by Bedford at Saganaw Dam, just south of Williams, in late summer, 1924. On September 4, 1932, a kingfisher caught a goldfish from a small pond in the lawn only a few yards from the Bedford house. An individual was also seen at the same pond about a week later.

Corvus brachyrhynchos hesperis. Western Crow. Bedford told me that on about the first of February, 1934, a flock of nine crows sat for some time in the top of a tree at his home. On February 11 of the same year I saw several and heard others about two miles south of town. On September 4, 1932, Bedford shot one at a small tank just north of Williams. Although noted in spring and fall near Flagstaff, there are relatively few published records for the State.

Mimus polyglottos leucopterus. Western Mockingbird. Although frequently seen in the Upper Sonoran Zone 18 miles north of Williams, Mr. Bedford says he has seen this species only once in the Transition Zone, south of Williams, July, 1933, elevation 7000 feet.

Myadestes townsendi. Townsend Solitaire. Fairly common on February 11 in juniper woods two miles north of town.—LYNDON L. HARGRAVE, *Museum of Northern Arizona, Flagstaff, April 22, 1935.*

A Cackling Goose Record for Lower California, Mexico.—According to Grinnell's "Distributional Summation of the Ornithology of Lower California" (Univ. Calif. Publ. Zool., 32, 1928, p. 78), records of collected specimens of the forms of *Branta canadensis* from Lower California are few. It therefore seems worth while to record the capture, on November 3, 1934, of a specimen of *Branta canadensis minima* at