

FROM FIELD AND STUDY

A Northern Record for the Gray Titmouse in Oregon.—On February 9, 1936, while looking for winter birds in the Blitzen Canyon, Steens Mountains, Harney County, Oregon, I was attracted by the call of a titmouse, coming from a tangle of dead willows in a dry wash at the base of the canyon wall. The bird was collected, and it proved to be an adult female *Baeolophus inornatus griseus*. This species is extremely rare in Oregon, the only other records of its occurrence being in the juniper belt just west of South Warner Valley, Lake County, near the California-Nevada border.—STANLEY G. JEWETT, *Burns, Oregon, October 27, 1936.*

The Effect of Smudging upon Birds.—During California's recent cold wave, I spent the day of January 25, 1937, observing birds at the mouth of San Gabriel Canyon, some three miles north of Azusa, Los Angeles County. The sun was seldom visible through the dense blanket of smudge which had periodically covered many miles of the near-by citrus groves for the previous week. I mention this fact to introduce the cause of such a marked change in the appearance of the birds throughout this area.

Those birds most noticeably blackened were the House Wren, California Thrasher, Audubon Warbler, Willow Goldfinch, Golden-crowned Sparrow, Rufous-crowned Sparrow, California Towhee, and Pallid Wren-tit. Some were so heavily covered with smudge that the natural colors could hardly be imagined, while others were only slightly darkened on the chin and forehead. The latter inhabit areas less densely covered, which are not protected by trees or overhanging growth.

Of particular interest was the normal activity of all the species. At least outwardly they showed no evidence of being bothered by such an abnormal environment. A Rufous-crowned Sparrow was singing; others were feeding and flying about in their usual cheerful manner. Evidently the small amount of carbolic acid present in the crude-oil vapor is not enough to be fatally poisonous. When considering the great quantity of seeds and animal matter consumed, it seems unlikely that smudging could have a poisonous effect upon our birds, even should it continue many days. Luckily, that will probably never be necessary.

To give some idea as to how completely saturated the poor little fellows were, I might mention the difficulty I had in even partly restoring specimens to their normal color. Even solutions that normally dissolve grease and oil with ease I found to be of little use. I doubt if the bird itself could be instrumental in restoring its natural color. The spring molt will most likely be the only remedy.—GILBERT PHILP, *Beverly Hills, California, January 30, 1937.*

Ring-necked Duck in Ventura County, California.—A male Ring-necked Duck (*Nyroca collaris*) was found dead near Fillmore, Ventura County, January 27, 1937, and it was forwarded to the Los Angeles Museum by Sidney B. Peyton. It was mounted for display in a southern California duck group.—G. WILLETT, *Los Angeles Museum, Los Angeles, California, February 1, 1937.*

Parasites of Fish-eating Birds at Yellowstone Lake, Wyoming.—In the course of studies of the cestode parasites of trout in Yellowstone Lake, Wyoming, the digestive tracts of some 22 specimens of fish-eating birds, of eleven species, were examined in an effort to determine possible hosts. Four adult White Pelicans (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*), examined from the colony on the Molly Islands, gave results as follows:

June 22, 1931: *Contracaecum spiculigerum* present in large numbers in both esophagus and stomach; stomach also contained one mature trout (*Salmo lewisi*); the small intestine contained one small tapeworm (*Hymenolepis* sp.) and two larger tapeworms (*Diphyllobothrium cordiceps*).

June 22, 1931: *C. spiculigerum* present in large numbers in esophagus and stomach; stomach contained one mature, gravid, female trout; small intestine contained one small tapeworm (*Hymenolepis* sp.).

July 1, 1931: 17 small specimens of *C. spiculigerum* present in stomach; 2 *Hymenolepis* sp. present in small intestine.

July 23, 1931: Stomach contained the remains of one gravid female trout, and a large number of *C. spiculigerum*; two species of cestodes (*D. cordiceps* and *Oligorchis longivaginitus*) were present in the intestine.

Examination of three pelicans from Great Salt Lake Valley, Utah, in the spring of 1932 at the University of Utah, revealed large numbers of *C. spiculigerum* in the esophagus and stomach but failed to reveal any specimens of *D. cordiceps*.

Of three young pelicans examined on the Molly Islands, a week-old individual had no fish food in its stomach and no parasites; one two weeks old with its stomach filled with fish food had

no parasites; the third one three weeks old with its stomach full of partly digested fish contained ten specimens of a nematode (*Contraecum spiculigerum*).

A specimen of American Merganser (*Mergus merganser americanus*) contained two immature specimens of a tapeworm (*Diphyllobothrium* sp.) in the intestine. One out of two California Gulls (*Larus californicus*) examined, contained two immature tapeworms which were not identified. One of two Swainson Hawks (*Buteo swainsoni*) contained numerous unidentified cestodes in the intestine. One out of three Ospreys (*Pandion haliaëtus carolinensis*) contained a viable plerocercoid of *D. cordiceps* embedded in the flesh of a newly eaten trout found in the crop, but there was none parasitic in the intestine.

No tapeworm parasites were found in any of the following: 1 Eared Grebe, 1 Treganza Blue Heron, 1 Red-tailed Hawk, 1 Bald Eagle, 1 Common Tern, and 2 Caspian Terns.—LOWELL A. WOODBURY, *Department of Zoology, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, January 30, 1937.*

Notes on Range of Bendire Thrasher in Arizona and New Mexico.—Published records for Bendire Thrasher in northern or central-eastern Arizona appear to be few, and for New Mexico there are only two. The following records extend the known range of the species some distance northeast of the present accepted limit. Specimens mentioned are in the Jenks collections in the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology and in the Arizona State Museum at Tucson.

An adult male was collected by Stevenson, June 27, 1934, on the sage-brush plains of the Upper Sonoran Zone, 14 miles southeast of Navajo, Apache County, Arizona, elevation 6200 feet. The testes of this bird were greatly enlarged, probably indicating that it was breeding in the vicinity.

E. C. Jacot saw a few Bendire Thrashers between October 4 and 6, 1935, in the Lower and Upper Sonoran zones in the vicinity of San Carlos, Gila County, Arizona. He observed one or two daily there on February 21, 23, 29, and March 1 and 3, 1936. These birds were found in thick brush and cactus-covered hillsides. Jacot collected a male, February 21, 4 miles north of San Carlos, in juniper woodland, elevation 2700 feet.

A flock of 4 was seen by Jenks, July 5, 1936, at Miller's Ranch, in a juniper-pinyon stand, Upper Sonoran Zone, Catron County, New Mexico, elevation 6500 feet. This ranch is approximately 25 miles east of Springerville, Arizona, and, therefore, about 10 miles east of the Arizona-New Mexico line. An adult male and two juvenals not yet able to fly were collected.

Bailey (*Birds of New Mexico*, 1928, p. 557) writes that this thrasher has been found only in extreme southwestern New Mexico, where it is recorded from Hachita, Grant County, August 12, 1908, and from 10 miles northeast of Rodeo, Hidalgo County, where it was found nesting June 18, 1926.

Swarth (*Pac. Coast Avif.* No. 10, 1914, p. 73), in describing the range of the species in Arizona, states that it is locally a common resident of the Lower Sonoran valleys of the southeastern and northeastern parts of the state, but apparently it has an "exceedingly irregular and disconnected range." He states that it is abundant in the Santa Cruz Valley of southern Arizona and common in the plains and valleys from Tucson northwest to Phoenix and Gila Bend. Swarth includes a published record of this thrasher in summer in northeastern Arizona at Keams Canyon, Navajo County. Another published record not included in Swarth's list is that of an immature bird taken by A. K. Fisher at Holbrook in July, 1894 (*Condor*, vol. 5, 1903, p. 35).

The Bureau of Biological Survey collection in Washington, D. C., contains a number of Arizona specimens not mentioned in Swarth's List, which add to the knowledge of the distribution of this species. There are specimens taken at Sunset Pass, 18 miles southwest of Winslow, by E. W. Nelson, July 16, 1909 (im.), and 26 miles northeast of Flagstaff, Coconino County, by E. A. Goldman, June 25, 1933 (ad. male). The collection also contains an adult male taken July 17, 1914, by E. G. Holt at Safford, Graham County, in southeastern Arizona.

Adult and immature specimens have been collected by A. R. Phillips from Tuba City, Coconino County, in northeastern Arizona. The only other published record from northern Arizona is that of F. Stephens from Beale Spring, 3 miles northwest of Kingman, Mohave County, in northwestern Arizona. Farther south it has been taken in Yavapai County by W. P. Taylor at Congress Junction, June 22, 1916 (*Biol. Surv. coll.*) and at Mayer, June 10, 1931 (adult female) and Big Bug Creek, March 11, 1930 (adult male), by Jacot (*Univ. of Arizona coll.*).

These notes show that the Bendire Thrasher is somewhat more widely distributed in Arizona and New Mexico than is indicated in the texts on the birds of these states. The authors appreciate the kindness of authorities of the U. S. Biological Survey in granting permission to report on certain specimens in their collections.—RANDOLPH JENKS, *Arizona State Museum, Tucson, Arizona*, and JAMES O. STEVENSON, *Wildlife Division, National Park Service, Washington, D. C., December 21, 1936.*