

A Blue Goose Record from Utah.—On October 13, 1936, R. C. Winslow and V. T. Wilson reported an adult Blue Goose (*Chen caerulescens*) in unit 1 of the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge in Utah. The bird was with approximately 250 Snow Geese (*Chen hyperborea hyperborea*) feeding shortly after 4 p.m. in salt grass. The observation was checked immediately by Superintendent G. E. Mushbach and me. We were able to drive within 100 yards of the birds, and, since we had the sun at our backs, light conditions were excellent. Both 8x field glasses and a 19.5x field telescope were used in observing the birds, though, even as they flew a short distance, owing to our disturbing them, we could pick out the single Blue Goose with the naked eye.

A close watch was kept for this bird during the rest of the fall season, but it was not seen again. This appears to be the first record of this species for the State, as the records of the three universities and of the Biological Survey show no previous notes. Veteran hunters of this area were also questioned, but none reported ever having seen or taken such a bird on the Bear River Marshes.—WILLIAM H. MARSHALL, *Bureau of Biological Survey, Brigham City, Utah, January 27, 1937.*

Some Winter Field Notes from Monterey County, California.—From our winter field operations in Monterey County (December 21, 1936, to January 15, 1937), the following observations seem worthy of record at this time.

Pelecanus erythrorhynchos. White Pelican. Eleven individuals were observed by R. L. Rudd and the junior writer on December 21, 22, and 23, in company with a large number of California Brown Pelicans (*Pelecanus occidentalis californicus*) on the lagoon at the mouth of the Salinas River. The occurrence of White Pelicans along the coast on a body of brackish water seems sufficiently unusual to warrant being recorded.

Casmerodius albus egretta. American Egret. Fifteen American Egrets were observed by Rudd and von Bloeker, December 21 to 23, in the salt marsh at the mouth of the Salinas River. Insofar as we know this is the largest number of these birds seen at any one locality in Monterey County within recent years.

Egretta thula brewsteri. Snowy Egret. A single Snowy Egret was seen perched on a low eucalyptus limb at the western edge of the Moss Landing salt marsh on the afternoon of December 29, and one was seen in the same place on the following morning.

Cygnus columbianus. Whistling Swan. On the morning of January 14, we saw a flock of twenty-six Whistling Swans flying in V-formation across the Prunedale Highway, three and one-half miles north of Salinas. They were about twenty-five feet above the ground and flying east toward Gabilan Peak.

Chen rossii. Ross Goose. A male of this species was found on the rocks at Point Pinos on the morning of December 29. It had been dead for several days when found, having been shot through the back by a .22 caliber bullet. The specimen was preserved as a skeleton.

Nettion carolinense. Green-winged Teal. A pair was observed on the morning of January 8 by L. O. Williams and von Bloeker on the Salinas River at the mouth of El Toro Canyon. The male was heard calling several times.

Nyroca americana. Redhead. Two males were observed on the lagoon at the mouth of the Salinas River on the afternoon of December 21, in company with a large flock, estimated at over one thousand, of Canvasbacks (*Nyroca valisineria*).

Erismatura jamaicensis rubida. Ruddy Duck. Ruddy Ducks were found to be common at the mouth of the Salinas River, on the Salinas River at the mouth of El Toro Canyon, on the lagoon at Seaside, on the lake at Del Monte, and on the estero at Monterey. The only reason for including them in this list is to deplore the fact that so many were found dead, apparently shot by hunters for target practice and then left to rot. Many such dead birds were found at the mouth of the Salinas River, and several were seen at Seaside and at the mouth of El Toro Canyon.

Aquila chrysaetos canadensis. Golden Eagle. A Golden Eagle was found at the mouth of El Toro Canyon on the afternoon of December 31. It had been shot, and we found it in a bad state of decomposition. On January 10 a pair was observed resting on top of a hill in Wild Horse Canyon, east of San Lucas, and on January 14 a single individual was seen perched on a large boulder near the top of the old San Juan Grade, in the northeastern part of the county.

Totanus flavipes. Lesser Yellow-legs. A pair of these birds, one of which was collected, was observed at the southeastern edge of the lagoon at the mouth of the Salinas River in company with a large flock of Pintails (*Dafila acuta*) on the afternoon of December 23.

Stercorarius parasiticus. Parasitic Jaeger. One was observed on the lagoon at Seaside on January 5, and one was seen flying over the estero at Monterey on the morning of January 8. The occurrence of these two individuals over the mainland seems sufficiently unusual to merit recording.

Larus hyperboreus. Glaucous Gull. A male of this species was collected at the Seaside lagoon on January 5, making the fourth specimen known for this county. The right wing of this bird had been broken by a rifle slug, and it was badly infected with gangrene when the individual was captured. Two additional individuals were seen at this locality on this same date, and two more were observed by L. O. Williams and von Bloeker at the estero in Monterey on January 8.

Tyto alba pratincola. Barn Owl. The recent cold spell, in which the thermometer dropped as low as 20°F. (the coldest temperature recorded in 18 years) in the Salinas district, apparently caused the small, normally nocturnal mammals of this region more or less to cease activities at night, and it forced them abroad more in the daytime. As a result, owls were obliged to do their foraging by day, too. This we found the Barn Owls and a Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*) doing in the salt marsh at the mouth of the Salinas River during our operations there. On December 23, one Barn Owl which too closely encroached upon the territory of a Marsh Hawk (*Circus hudsonius*) had the temerity to attempt to "stand its ground" when attacked by the hawk. For several minutes feathers were flying as the birds met face to face in the air and struck at each other with feet and wings. Finally the Barn Owl, apparently realizing it was no match for its adversary, dodged off to one side and rapidly flew away while the hawk returned to its perch to preen its ruffled plumage.

Phalaenoptilus nuttallii californicus. Dusky Poor-will. On the evening of January 7, while setting traps for small mammals at Camp Ord, 3½ miles east of Marina, Rudd and von Bloeker heard the call of a Poor-will. The call was repeated a number of times.

Aeronautes saxatalis saxatalis. White-throated Swift. A large flock, numbering approximately 150 individuals, was observed each day from January 1 to 9 at the mouth of El Toro Canyon. Sometimes the flock behaved as a unit, soaring, wheeling, and turning *en masse*. At other times, the individuals flew according to their own whims, each independent of the flock. In such instances the group would become widely scattered in the air, then suddenly, as if some signal had been given, they would gather together again and fly in flock formation as a unit again. Four specimens were collected in this locality on January 1. On January 10 flocks of seven in Chualar Canyon and eight in Wild Horse Canyon were seen.

Tachycineta thalassina lepida. Violet-green Swallow. Swallows of this species were observed in small numbers in company with a large flock of nearly 300 Tree Swallows (*Iridoprocne bicolor*), flying over the Salinas River at the mouth of El Toro Canyon every day between December 31 and January 9. We estimated the ratio of Violet-green Swallows to Tree Swallows in this mixed flock to be one to twenty.

Sialia currucoides. Mountain Bluebird. A small flock of seven individuals was seen flying on the morning of January 3 across the road at Camp Ord in a northwesterly direction.—O. P. SILLIMAN, *Salinas, California*, and JACK C. VON BLOEKER, JR., *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, February 15, 1937*.

The Harris Sparrow in Northwestern Montana.—On October 2, 1936, while watching a flock of Gambel Sparrows (*Zonotrichia leucophrys gambelii*) that had been feeding daily for more than a week on weedseeds at my farm home near Fortine, Montana, I discovered among them a bird entirely new to me. After continued study of the bird from as near as four feet, I identified it as an immature Harris Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*). It was seen again the following day; and on October 4 and 5 two birds of this species fed with the Gambel Sparrows.

On the morning of October 6 there were five Harris Sparrows in the mixed flock, of which one was taken by a hawk later in the day. The remaining four birds fed about the yards, sometimes by themselves and sometimes with the Gambel Sparrows, for more than a week. In keeping with the usual crepuscular habits of *Zonotrichia*, these four birds regularly frequented the feeding-grounds in the deep twilight of early morning and late evening. The Gambel Sparrows began to thin out as some resumed their migration, the last one of the season being seen October 14. The four Harris Sparrows, however, all remained until October 15; two were seen daily from that time until October 20.

Though there seems to be no previous record of the occurrence of this species west of the continental divide in Montana, this region is within the general range covered by casual occurrence of the Harris Sparrow in migration. But to me it seemed remarkable that after watching migrating *Zonotrichia* about my home during twelve seasons, my first record of the Harris Sparrow should involve five migrating birds that used a common feeding-ground, that did not appear or remain together, and that seemed to be migrating in at least two groups. A possible explanation is that these five birds together moved southward from their summer home in company with Gambel Sparrows, and so reached this locality west of the main range of the Rockies. This explanation, however, is weakened by the fact that the Harris Sparrows did not travel as