

Further Records from St. Lawrence Island, Alaska.—In two small lots of bird skins from St. Lawrence Island, Alaska, recently received from Paul Silook, an Eskimo collector resident at Gambell, in the northwestern part of the island, are several birds of interest. Three of these are new to the known fauna of the island, and one of them is new to the territory covered by the A. O. U. Checklist. All specimens are now in the U. S. National Museum.

Anthus gustavi. Petchora Pipit. An unsexed specimen, in winter plumage, unfortunately without definite date other than "1937," is the first of its species to be recorded from within the political boundaries of North America. This pipit breeds in Kamchatka and the Commander Islands west to northern Russia, and migrates ordinarily through China to the Philippines, Celebes, and the Moluccas. To find one far to the northeast of the breeding range, just exactly in the opposite direction from the migration route, is indeed surprising.

Limnodromus griseus scolopaceus. Long-billed Dowitcher. One specimen in breeding plumage was taken at Gambell; no date other than "1937." This species has not been recorded from St. Lawrence Island before, but there is nothing remarkable about its occurrence there.

Nettion carolinense. Green-winged Teal. A "female" (a male by plumage), taken at Gambell on May 16, 1936, is the first record for St. Lawrence Island. Nelson (Birds of Bering Sea, 1883, p. 88) stated that this duck "undoubtedly" occurs on the island, but until now no definite record was available. The specimen is definitely the American, and not the Old World, Green-winged Teal.

Anser albifrons albifrons. White-fronted Goose. One adult, unsexed, Gambell, May, 1937. Previously this species was known as a St. Lawrence bird only from osseous remains.—HERBERT FRIEDMANN, *United States National Museum, Washington, D. C., January 3, 1938.*

Notes from Buena Vista Lake, Kern County, California.—Upon learning that the Kern River was again flooding into the old Buena Vista Lake basin, W. J. Sheffler, G. B. Thomas and the writer decided to investigate the influx of bird species that were to be found breeding there in former years before the lake dried up. We spent the week-end of June 19 and 20, 1937, in scouting the shore lines of the lake and in making notes as to which birds seemed to favor, with respect to possible nest sites, the different types of submerged and newly sprouted vegetation. On these dates, the water obviously was still rising. Many nests were being built, but few eggs were in evidence. Colonies of Forster Tern (*Sterna forsteri*), Black Tern (*Chlidonias nigra surinamensis*), Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*) and the Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps podiceps*) were located, and much nest building activity was evident in each. Sheffler took one set of Western Grebe eggs on this trip, the only eggs found on the surface of the water with the exception of countless eggs of the American Coot (*Fulica americana americana*).

On July 4 and 5, 1937, with the addition of Sid Platford to our party, we again visited the lake, this time bringing a portable row boat. We found a disastrous state of affairs at the colonies that had been located previously. Nests of Forster Tern and Black Tern were flooded out, and many eggs of several species were floating about on the surface of the water. The only surviving nest with eggs of Black Tern at the colony was placed on a partly burned fence post which rose with the water level, the other nests all being flooded and destroyed. Similarly, a nest and eggs of the coot was placed on a floating piece of 1" x 12" pine board. Plant growth was so abundant that it anchored the floating wood sufficiently that the prevailing winds did not shift the nests more than a few feet one way or another from day to day.

A large nesting colony of Black-crowned Night Herons (*Nycticorax nycticorax hoactli*) was found in flooded willows, there being dozens of nests only a few feet apart and all containing fresh eggs on this date. Only a few scattered individuals of White-faced Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis guarauna*) were observed and no nests were located.

Of particular interest was the scarcity of ducks of all species. Although a few were seen, it seemed doubtful if many were able successfully to raise broods because of the continually rising water. A nest of Cinnamon Teal (*Querquedula cyanoptera*) was located early on the morning of July 5 under a small bush on the dry land about one hundred yards from the shore. It contained five fresh eggs at that time, but when I returned later in the day to photograph it, there remained but one egg, although the female flushed upon being approached. The consensus of opinion regarding the disappearance of the other four eggs seemed to point to a gopher snake as the culprit.—J. STUART ROWLEY, *Alhambra, California, January 20, 1938.*

Occurrence of the Marbled Godwit on the Coast of Oregon.—The occurrence of the Marbled Godwit (*Limosa fedoa*) in the state of Oregon has so seldom been recorded that when it does stop with us in its northward or southward migration, the event seems worthy of record. While looking over the numerous migrating shore birds at low tide on August 16, 1937, at Yaquina Bay, near Newport, Lincoln County, Oregon, three Marbled Godwits were noted on the exposed mud flats. The birds were collected and all three proved to be males. They have been mounted and are now

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part of the bird collection at the Braly and Currier Natural History Museum at DePoe Bay, Oregon. The identity of the specimens was verified by Stanley G. Jewett of Portland, Oregon.—J. C. BRALY, *DePoe Bay, Oregon, December 20, 1937.*

Two Gull Records for California.—On March 4, 1936, when in the company of James Moffitt, I shot an adult Glaucous Gull (*Larus hyperboreus*) at Suisun, California, some five miles west of Grizzly Island. The capture was notable in the fact that the bird was an adult, a small female. The plumage was fully adult with no trace of immature markings but, as is often the case, the bill showed a smudge of dusky toward the tip and the orange marking at the angle of the lower mandible was very dull in color. The iris was the normal pale straw color of the adult. A notable feature was the presence of faint gray cross bars near the tips of the two longest primaries that suggest the supposed hybrid *Larus nelsoni*. The bird was picked out from a company of Herring and California gulls which rose from the bank and circled overhead as we passed down stream in a boat.

On February 29, 1936, T. T. McCabe and the writer hired a launch to take us out to sea from Santa Cruz, California, in search of pelagic birds. On the return to port, when some seven miles out, I shot a Yellow-footed Gull (*Larus occidentalis livens*), an adult female, from the "tail" of gulls that McCabe had attracted by throwing out cut-up bait. The bird had light saffron-yellow feet, and the color of mantle and the measurements agreed with specimens in the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology and in my own collection from Baja California. The ovary was slightly enlarged. This establishes a record considerably to the north of any previous one. A few minutes later a specimen (nearly adult) of the northern race, *Larus occidentalis occidentalis*, was collected.—ALLAN BROOKS, *Comox, B. C., December 25, 1937.*

A New Race of Horned Lark from the Region of Great Salt Lake.—In the course of a study of the variation and distribution of the horned larks of western North America it has become apparent that those horned larks breeding in the eastern part of the Great Basin, particularly in the region of Great Salt Lake, are, as a population, distinct from all other races. It is therefore proposed that they be separated as a new race with the name

Otocoris alpestris utahensis, new subspecies. Great Salt Lake Horned Lark.

Type.—Adult male, no. 66312, Mus. Vert. Zool.; 10 mi. W Salt Lake City Airport, Salt Lake County, Utah; September 11, 1934; collected by D. M. Behle.

Diagnosis.—In fresh plumage, *utahensis* somewhat resembles *O. a. leucolaema* but the feathers of the dorsum have blacker centers and ashy rather than brownish edgings, thus producing a decided ashy-gray aspect on the entire back which contrasts markedly with the prevailing brown color-tone of *leucolaema*. The color of the bend of the wing and of the nape varies in individual males of *utahensis* from Pale Vinaceous to Drab Gray (names of colors capitalized are those of Ridgway, 1912). In breeding plumage, when wear has removed the highly diagnostic ashy-gray color, *utahensis* differs from *leucolaema* in its deeper tone of the nape which varies individually from Fawn Color to Vinaceous Tawny, and in its darker back which is grayer than the sandy brown of *leucolaema*. The new race is close to *enthymia* in general pallor, but it differs from that race in being smaller, more ashy, and with much more yellow on forehead, eye-stripe and throat. *Utahensis* shows close resemblance to *O. a. lamprochroma*, which occupies contiguous territory to the westward. In fresh plumage the feather edgings in this latter subspecies are more brownish-buff in color, and thus it has a slightly darker gray-brown tone than the chalky-gray of *utahensis*. In worn plumage, the situation as seen in fresh fall plumage is reversed, for *utahensis* is darker than *lamprochroma*. Also *utahensis* has no streaking on the nape region, such as one frequently encounters in examples of *lamprochroma*. The Great Salt Lake race differs from *occidentalis*, the race next to the southward, in much the same way as it does from *leucolaema*. It lacks the deep brown of *occidentalis* and is much less rufescent on the back.

Measurements.—Average and extremes for breeding males (38 specimens): wing, 103.9 mm. (107.5-100.4); tail, 70.4 (74.1-66.0); bill from nostril, 9.5 (10.5-8.1); tarsus, 21.2 (23.0-20.0); middle toe without claw, 10.8 (12.2-9.5). Breeding females (12 specimens): wing, 96.8 mm. (99.5-95.5); tail, 62.4 (66.0-60.0); bill from nostril, 9.1 (9.8-8.5); tarsus, 20.5 (21.2-20.2); middle toe without claw, 10.6 (11.8-9.2).

Geographic Distribution.—Breeds in the eastern part of the Great Basin, that is, in eastern Nevada in Elko and White Pine counties; in Utah west of the Wasatch Mountains, and in southern Idaho.

Remarks.—It is planned to present details of the distribution and variation of this race at a future time in connection with similar data on the other races of horned larks in western North America. It is felt advisable at this time merely to present a diagnosis of the new race.—WILLIAM H. BEHLE, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, December 15, 1937.*