

An Apparently Authentic Record of the Spectacled Eider for California.—Through the instrumentality of Mr. G. H. True, Jr., Economic Biologist of the California State Division of Fish and Game, the California Academy of Sciences has recently come into possession of the well preserved skin of the head of an adult male Spectacled Eider (*Arctonetta fischeri*). This fragment permits of unmistakable identification. The specimen was recently brought to Mr. True by Assistant Fish and Game Warden D. O. Sellick who advised that his father, Mr. O. F. Sellick of Bitterwater, San Benito County, California, shot the bird on Bitterwater Lake in February, 1893. At that time, Mr. Sellick senior recognized that the duck was an unusual one, so he skinned and preserved its head. The fragment is now preserved as no. 57547 of the ornithological collection of the California Academy of Sciences.

Unusual as this record is, for the species in question is an exceedingly northern one which winters in the Aleutian Islands and has, we believe, not previously been recorded from south of Sanak Island, Alaska, there does not appear to be any reason to doubt its authenticity. Further, the Messrs. Sellick are reported to be entirely reliable observers.

Possibility that the specimen was one escaped from captivity has been considered and deemed too unlikely for acceptance since we believe that this eider has never been kept in captivity in America and almost certainly not so early as 1893. It appears to be more likely that the bird was simply an exceptional wanderer, but in this case the fact that it was fully adult is more unusual than if it had been a young of the year. Previous to this record, we know of only three occurrences of eiders in California and these all of the King (*Somateria spectabilis*); the Pacific Eider (*S. mollissima v-nigra*) has been recorded as a casual visitor to the coast of Washington.—JAMES MOFFITT, *California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, September 19, 1940.*

Records of the Tule Wren and Black-footed Albatross in Oregon.—Gabrielson and Jewett (*Birds of Oregon, 1940, p. 458*) state that there is only one known set of eggs of the Tule Wren taken in Oregon and that (p. 80) there are only a few sight records of the Black-footed Albatross for the State. It may be added that on June 8, 1940, four occupied nests of the Tule Wren (*Telmatodytes palustris paludicola*) were found in a marsh on Beaver Creek, Lincoln County, only one-half mile back from the ocean. The first nest had three fresh eggs, the next, five, the third, six young birds half feathered out, and the last, six badly formed eggs. All the occupied nests were twice as long as broad and all empty ones were globular. The nests were anywhere from six inches to three feet above the ground. On July 28, 1940, the writer obtained a female Black-footed Albatross (*Diomedea nigripes*) on the beach at Otter Rock. The gulls and sand fleas had started to work on it but I was able to prepare a study skin which was sent to Mr. Jewett for his collection.—H. H. HANN, *Otter Rock, Oregon, July 29, 1940.*