

"On August 12, 1938, Dr. B. A. Westfall . . . and I saw three adult Starlings in the trees in front of the post office at Las Vegas, Nevada. This was about 9 o'clock in the morning. Dr. Westfall is a trained ornithologist having had considerable experience in that field and I am well enough informed on the common birds to know Starlings without a doubt. We were both surprised to see these birds so far west and followed them as they flew from bush to tree in the vicinity of the U. S. Post Office. Our observations lasted over 15 or 20 minutes during which time we were very close to the three birds. Business matters took us on but we were so impressed with our find that we discussed it several times during the day and the next morning looked for the birds again. We did not see them. As you know large trucks come through from the East and Las Vegas is a base point for considerable trucking. We have nothing to offer beyond that suggestion concerning the arrival of these birds in Las Vegas. Both Dr. Westfall and I feel absolutely certain of our identification."—CLARENCE COTTAM, *Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C., September 8, 1941.*

Nesting of Buffle-head Duck at Lake Almanor, California.—While motoring on Lake Almanor, Plumas County, on May 19, 1940, I passed through some standing dead timber on the south side of the lake. I was surprised to flush a female Buffle-head (*Charitonetta albeola*) from a hole 25 feet up in a dead tree. Either the noise of the motor or the boat brushing against the tree scared her out. The duck flew up the lake a considerable distance and settled on the water, giving opportunity to identify it with the aid of field glasses. On May 20, I returned with a ladder. The female was in the vicinity but she did not allow me to approach closely. The nest contained six partly incubated eggs.—HOWARD P. DAVIS, *Alhambra, California, January 27, 1941.*

Two New Records for Nevada.—Examples of two species of birds heretofore unknown from the state of Nevada recently have been taken in the vicinity of Fallon:

Crocethia alba. Sanderling. A lone individual was seen and obtained (no. 81635, Mus. Vert. Zool.) on May 10, 1941, at the south end of Soda Lake, Churchill County.

Seiurus aurocapillus. Oven-bird. One was obtained (no. 83232, Mus. Vert. Zool.) on June 12, 1941, four miles west of Fallon, Churchill County. This bird was found by Mr. W. H. Alcorn near the stock corral on his ranch. It appeared to have been dead for about two days; we were unable to determine what had killed it.—J. R. ALCORN, *Fallon, Nevada, July 18, 1941.*

Summer Records from the Bodega Bay Region, California.—Ornithological observations made in the period from May 20 to June 27, 1941, in the vicinity of Bodega Bay on the central California coast, include a number of noteworthy records of summer occurrence. The field work centered about Dillon Beach, Marin County, and included the lower end of Bodega Bay, the northern part and mouth of Tomales Bay, and Tomales Point. In evaluating these records, I have had access to references on the birds of California assembled by the late Dr. Joseph Grinnell.

Gavia stellata. Red-throated Loon. This winter visitant usually leaves the coast of central California by early May. One adult was seen on June 13 on protected waters near the mouth of Tomales Bay. Two more individuals were noted on June 21 at the same location. Moffitt's record (*Condor*, 40, 1938:261) from Marin County of an individual taken May 22, 1921, is apparently the latest record heretofore.

Brania nigricans. Black Brant. Brant usually stay through April. A small flock of approximately forty individuals remained near the mouth of Tomales Bay until May 30. One or two individuals were seen at the same place on June 10, 25, and 26.

Numenius americanus. Long-billed Curlew. Mid-summer records of this curlew, which is predominantly a fall transient along the coast, are apparently few. A flock of ten was seen on June 26 on mud flats near Tom Point on Tomales Bay. Grinnell and Wythe (*Pac. Coast Avif. No. 18, 1927:71*) mention July 6 as an early date for the San Francisco Bay region.

Ereunetes mauri. Western Sandpiper. Summer "stragglers" have apparently been recorded on a number of occasions along the central California coast. But it seems worth while to record a sizable flock of about seventy individuals which appeared on the mud flats near the mouth of Tomales Bay on June 26. Prior to this date no limicolines other than a few isolated individuals were noted in the region, but on the 26th, besides the present species, the curlews recorded above, a flock of seven willets (*Catoptrophorus semipalmatus*), and several unidentified sandpipers of different species appeared.

Limosa fedoa. Marbled Godwit. Approximately ten godwits were seen scattered over mud flats of Bodega Lagoon, Sonoma County, on June 12. "Stragglers" have been recorded along the central California coast through the summer season.

Larus philadelphia. Bonaparte Gull. A single immature gull of this species was seen on June 21

among Heermann Gulls at Dillon Beach. Grinnell and Wythe (*loc. cit.*:42) cite two June records for the San Francisco Bay region.

Larus heermanni. Heermann Gull. These birds usually arrive from their Mexican breeding grounds in June. It may be of interest to record a marked influx of this species into the Dillon Beach region on June 5, prior to which only a few individuals were present. Following that date, approximately 75 individuals remained on the beach that extends from the village of Dillon Beach southwestward to Sand Point (1¼ miles). Heermann Gulls were considerably more numerous than California Gulls (*Larus californicus*).

Calypte anna. Anna Hummingbird. This hummer reaches the northwestern limits of its breeding range in counties bordering San Francisco Bay; to the north of Golden Gate the species is normally confined to bay- and valley-drained slopes with oak woodland or open chaparral. It seems worth while to record a coastal occurrence near the tip of Tomales Point, where a male was seen on June 9. It was seen in a small grove of eucalyptus and cedar trees growing in an east-facing draw, the sides of which were otherwise covered with a low chaparral growth (*Lupinus*), grass, and patches of cow parsnip (*Heracleum lanatum*). This is my only record for the region.

Penthestes rufescens. Chestnut-backed Chickadee. The small grove of isolated trees in which the Anna Hummingbird was noted also harbored a pair of Chestnut-backed Chickadees, which was apparently established there. This is of interest in the matter of habitat relations of the species, since the remainder of Tomales Point is covered with chaparral and grass, the nearest coniferous growth being three-quarters of a mile to the south.—FRANK A. PITEKKA, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, October 7, 1941.*

An Avifauna from Sub-Recent Deposits at Lower Klamath Lake, California.—A small collection of bird and mammal bones from the Lower Klamath Lake beds just south of the California-Oregon state line were sent for identification to Dr. Chester Stock of the California Institute of Technology by Dr. L. S. Cressman of the University of Oregon. Dr. Stock turned the bird collection over to the writer and suggested that a brief report should be prepared describing the avifauna. I am indebted to Dr. Cressman for information concerning the deposit, and to Drs. L. H. Miller and A. H. Miller for use of the comparative materials in their charge.

The avifauna consists almost entirely of aquatic species, most of which occur today in lakes and marshes along the Pacific coast. Remains of almost all of these birds have also been found in the Pleistocene deposits either at Fossil Lake, Rancho La Brea, or McKittrick.

The collection from Klamath Lake includes the following species of birds:

<i>Colymbus auritus</i> . Horned Grebe.	<i>Nyroca valisineria</i> . Canvas-back.
<i>Aechmophorus occidentalis</i> . Western Grebe.	<i>Clangula hyemalis</i> . Old-squaw.
Unidentified goose.	<i>Mergus merganser</i> . American Merganser.
<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i> . Mallard.	Unidentified ducks.
<i>Chaulelasmus streperus</i> (?). Gadwall.	<i>Buteo</i> , sp. Hawk.
<i>Dafila acuta</i> . Pintail.	<i>Fulica americana</i> . American Coot.
<i>Querquedula</i> , sp. Teal.	<i>Larus</i> , sp. Gull.
<i>Spatula clypeata</i> (?). Shoveller.	<i>Asio</i> , sp. Owl.

Perhaps the most interesting find in the collection is a humerus assignable to *Clangula hyemalis*. This duck breeds on the Arctic coasts of both hemispheres, only rarely wintering as far south as California. Flocks of Old-squaws usually feed in the surf near the outer beaches or in bays, but may also be found inland on large rivers and lakes. In spite of its rarity in the region today, the species has been recorded in the fossil avifauna from Silver Lake, Oregon, where it was represented by two ulnae (Shufeldt, R. W., *Jour. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila.*, ser. 2, 9, 1892:406).

No fossil records of the American Merganser have been found in North America, although remains of the smaller Hooded and Red-breasted mergansers have been reported from Fossil Lake (Wetmore, A., *Smithsonian Misc. Coll.*, 99, 1940:28-29). The coracoid referred to *Mergus merganser* is quite large, being equalled in length only by coracoids of the two largest skeletons of this species in the collections of the University of California. Since the American Merganser is today a fairly common bird on the streams and lakes in the Pacific states, it is not surprising to find remains of it in this assemblage. The other avian species present are also those which one might expect to find on the freshwater lakes in this region. The Mallard, Canvas-back, Pintail, and Coot are the types found to be most abundant.

Remains of every species of bird represented in the collection were found at a locality called The Narrows. Only a few bones of the more abundant forms came from Laird's Bay, a deposit considered by Cressman (*Carnegie Inst. Wash. Year Book No. 39, 1939-40:300-306*) to be the younger of the two. He believes that the crude bone artifacts associated with the bird and mammal remains from The