Barrow Golden-eye at Benicia, California.—On January 18, 1947, a Barrow Golden-eye (Glaucionetta islandica) was observed at close range, swimming in Carquinez Straits just off the end of First Street Wharf, Benicia, Solano County, California. It was a beautiful adult male; the black back with row of white spots along each side, the white crescent before each eye, and the purple irridescence of the head feathers were excellently displayed in the bright sunlight. While we watched, he swam off toward a flock of ducks, mostly Canvas-backs and scaups, some two hundred yards offshore.

Although the Common Golden-eye (Glaucionetta clangula) is plentiful here in the winter, I have not previously observed the Barrow Golden-eye. I find there are only a few records for the San Francisco Bay region, and this appears to be the first reported observation from Solano County.—EMERSON A. STONER, Benicia, California, February 12, 1947.

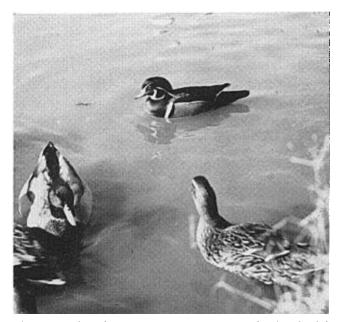


Fig. 23. Wood Duck with Mallards at Encanto Park, Phoenix, Arizona. Photograph by Harry L. Crockett and Ruth Crockett.

Another Record of the Wood Duck in Arizona.—Harry L. Crockett and Ruth Crockett, of Phoenix, Arizona, observed a Wood Duck at Encanto Park in that city in 1940 and 1941. Anderson and Anderson (Condor, 49, 1947:89) have recorded a Wood Duck in the Tucson area in 1941. The pertinent observations of the Crocketts are as follows: November 11, 1940, a male was seen at the lagoon in Encanto Park; he subsequently spent five months there. On November 9, 1941, a male again appeared at the lagoon; a week later a female was present.—Warren Pulich, Tucson, Arizona, January 3, 1947.

The Brown Thrasher in California.—On October 22, 1945, a party from the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology was camped at Cottonwood Spring, 3000 feet, Riverside County, California, within the boundaries of the Joshua Tree National Monument. This spring, surrounded by Washington palms and large cottonwoods, is truly an oasis hidden in a hollow among the desert hills. At 9:00 a.m. I saw a thrasher whose every sound and action indicated bewilderment. It worked slowly through the tops of the cottonwoods, calling loudly, and then descended to some nearby catclaw where it could be heard scratching among the dry leaves. After several minutes, the bird flew down canyon 150 yards to some small cottonwoods and then retraced its route, on the ground, beneath the brush. All the while it uttered calls as if hoping for an answer. When the bird was taken, it proved to be a male Brown Thrasher (Toxostoma rufum longicaudus). There are four birds of this species previously listed for California (Grinnell and Miller, Pac. Coast Avif. No. 27, 1944:347), but this is the first to be saved as a specimen and it serves to establish racial identity. The specimen is now no. 94277 in the museum's collection.—Ward C. Russell, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, January 16, 1947.