

Artemisia tridentata. The accumulated talus from the abandoned mines has been processed recently to obtain additional gold, and shallow ditches resulting from this work have filled with water, forming small ponds.

In early May, 1948, J. H. Severaid observed a pair of Pintails (*Anas acuta*) swimming and feeding in one of the ponds. On June 18, 1948, when I camped with Severaid at Bodie, observations were made again on the ducks. This time the drake was absent, and the female was accompanied by nine ducklings.

The pool was approximately 30 feet long and 25 feet wide and varied from one to two feet in depth. The neighboring area, a grassy meadow with scattered clumps of *Artemisia*, offered little cover. Nevertheless, according to Robert Bell, the caretaker, the duck nested on the dry ground under one of the *Artemisia* bushes.

Grinnell and Miller (Pac. Coast Avif. No. 27, 1944:77) give the altitudinal range of this species in California as being from near sea level to 6600 feet. This record of nesting at Bodie extends the known altitudinal range an additional 1774 feet.—PHILIP H. KRUTZSCH, *Museum of Natural History, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas, February 5, 1949.*

Gyr Falcon Taken in California.—On October 23, 1948, Robert F. Russell of the Tule Lake National Wildlife Refuge, while hunting quail about two miles west of Lower Klamath Lake, Siskiyou County, California, shot a Gyr Falcon (*Falco rusticolus*) which he later prepared as a specimen and sent to me for study. It is labeled as a male. The seventh primary is shorter than the tenth, indicating its affinity to the race *uralensis*. The plumage is that of an immature bird. This is the first record of this species in California.

Mr. Russell's account of the taking of this specimen is worth quoting verbatim: "I shot the hawk while quail hunting in that area. While searching for a cripple with my setter, I noticed a hawk circling, watching our activities. The bird evidently had no fear of man or dog and seemed to resent our presence—perhaps it was interested in the crippled quail. Suddenly the hawk folded its wings and dropped like a stone toward the dog from a height of about 75 feet. Just before the hawk reached the dog it pulled out of its dive, missing the dog's back by a scant two feet . . . The speed of the bird was extreme. I can distinctly recall the sound of the wind in its wings as it dove—like someone tearing a sheet. The hawk duplicated its first dive and I shot it as it came out of it."—STANLEY G. JEWETT, *Portland, Oregon, February 15, 1949.*

Loggerhead Shrike Steals Shot Sparrow.—In early May, 1948, my brother and I were collecting birds at a small marshy pond in a grassy field about four and one-half miles southeast of Reno, Nevada. A Savannah Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) flew up to a fence post about forty feet from where we stood. My brother shot the bird. The second it hit the ground, we ran to pick it up but were amazed to see a Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*) seize our bird and carry it away. The shrike carried the sparrow with laborious strokes of its wings and flew to a spot in a large field of sagebrush about fifty yards away. Because the prey was comparatively heavy, the shrike flew low over the ground. It seems incredible but we could not locate either the shrike or the sparrow after searching the area for at least a half hour.—NED K. JOHNSON, *Reno, Nevada, February 13, 1949.*

Winter Wren in San Diego County, California.—On October 10, 1941, I saw a Winter Wren (*Troglodytes troglodytes*) on Palomar Mountain, northern San Diego County, at an elevation between five and six thousand feet. On November 4, 1941, I could not find any Winter Wrens at the same location.

On March 6, 1949, I saw two Winter Wrens in Marion Canyon, Agua Tibia Ranch, near Pala, northern San Diego County, California, at an estimated elevation of three thousand feet. The birds gave the loud alarm note and one individual could be seen to curtsy with each double note as it perched in a blackberry tangle. This bird was observed at about twelve feet with binoculars. When the bird moved from one hiding place to another, its small size and the angle at which it held its tail could be noted.

It seems possible that the Winter Wren ranges regularly farther south in California than San Dimas Canyon near Pomona, Los Angeles County, which Grinnell and Miller (Pac. Coast Avif. No. 27, 1944:330) cite as the "southernmost recorded station for wintering" of this species.—ELEANOR GUYER BEEMER, *Pala, California, March 17, 1949.*