

A White-winged Crossbill (*Loxia leucoptera*) was observed at Yakima Park by Gordon Gullion on August 3, 1948. This is a rare bird in the park, with previous records only from Longmire and Indian Henry Hunting Ground.

On July 15, 1948, I found a dead Spotted Towhee (*Pipilo maculatus*) on the highway at Sunrise Point, elevation 6200 feet. This is the first actual record for the park, although Taylor and Shaw (Mammals and Birds of Mount Rainier National Park, 1919) stated that it had been reported from the area but had no records to verify the report.—RUSSELL K. GRATER, *National Park Service, Lake Mead National Recreational Area, Boulder City, Nevada, November 8, 1950.*

**New Bird Records for Western Nevada.**—Alcorn (Condor, 48, 1946:129-138), Gabrielson (Condor, 51, 1949:179-187), and Linsdale (Pac. Coast Avif. No. 23, 1936) have published ornithological records from the Lahontan Valley and Carson Sink area of western Nevada. To supplement the work of these writers, the records to follow here seem worthy of note. All but that of the Arctic Loon were made on the 205,000-acre Stillwater Wildlife Management Area, which lies to the north and east of the town of Fallon, Churchill County. The loon skin is in my personal collection; all other specimens are in the United States National Museum.

*Gavia arctica pacifica*. Arctic Loon. The remains of an immature of this subspecies was picked up on April 9, 1950, from the shore of Soda Lake, approximately five miles northwest of Fallon, and sent to Mr. Jewett, who confirmed this identification. This bird had probably been dead for a month or more. This is, to the best of my knowledge, the first record of this loon in Nevada.

*Mareca americana*. Baldpate. Alcorn lists this species as a year-round resident in the Lahontan Valley, but reports that "no nests or young birds have been seen." On July 12, 1950, I collected from a brood of eight a young Baldpate which was passing from the downy to feathered stage. This brood, along with four other Baldpate broods, was in the Indian Lakes area.

*Anas discors*. Blue-winged Teal. Alcorn cites but one record of this species in the Lahontan Valley, a male taken on April 1, 1939, by Vernon Mills of Fallon. Since that time this bird has apparently become more numerous in this part of Nevada. Periodic sight records of male Blue-winged Teal, often accompanied by female teal, were made between May 16 and June 15 in 1949 and 1950 by LeRoy W. Giles, Vernon and Laura Mills, and the writer. As many as three males have been seen in a single day. Undoubtedly this species breeds here, although it is by no means abundant.

*Bucephala albeola*. Bufflehead. On one of the Indian Lakes, two Buffleheads extended their 1949-50 winter stay through May and June and up until July 12, 1950, when one of the birds was collected. After this the bird's partner disappeared. The Bufflehead collected turned out to be a male in the eclipse plumage and was consequently flightless. Alcorn lists the Bufflehead as a "winter resident. Seen in all months from October to June, inclusive." Linsdale does not record any summer records for the species in the state.

*Charadrius alexandrinus*. Snowy Plover. Linsdale says this species is "probably a regular summer resident in small numbers" in Nevada. My own observations show that it occurs in larger numbers and more frequently than supposed. On the Stillwater Wildlife Management Area it is seen in the Pelican Island Marsh, along the Big Water, and Stillwater Point Reservoir. These locations offer similar habitat—open alkaline lakes with a shoreline practically void of vegetation. My notes contain numerous sight records between July 7 and August 31, inclusive, in 1949 and 1950. On July 20, 1950, a flock of 50 was seen on the Big Water and on August 8, 1950, the four-mile long east shore of the Big Water had from one to several Snowy Plovers at intervals of 100 to 200 feet, making a total of several hundred birds. One plover was collected from the Big Water on July 15, 1949.

*Charadrius hiaticula*. Semipalmated Plover. One of this species was seen at the Big Water on August 22, 1949. On May 8, 1950, one from a flock of six was taken in the Indian Lakes. On September 9, 1950, a female, one of several, was collected from the Big Water; and on September 13, 1950, four were seen at the Big Water. So far as I can determine, the bird taken on September 9, 1950, is the first taken in the fall in the state. This species appears to be to a regular migrant in small numbers in the Lahontan Valley.

*Squatarola squatarola*. Black-bellied Plover. Linsdale fails to list this species, but Alcorn lists several fall records. My notes contain some spring records. On April 10, 1950, in the Stillwater Marshes I collected a male from a flock of twenty-eight. On April 18, 1950, at the same location I observed a flock of twelve, and on May 16, 1950, ten were seen at the Big Water.

*Totanus flavipes*. Lesser Yellow-legs. I have but one additional record of this uncommon species, a male taken on July 29, 1949, in the Indian Lakes.

*Calidris canutus*. Knot. On May 16, 1950, I obtained one of two Knots observed at the northeast edge of the Nutgrass Area. To the best of my knowledge, this constitutes the first record of this species in the state.

*Erolia minutilla*. Least Sandpiper. Linsdale and Alcorn fail to list any July records of this species. On July 13, 1949, I collected a female, one of two seen in the Stillwater Marshes.

*Hydroprogne caspia*. Caspian Tern. Linsdale fails to record any nesting colonies of this species in the state. Alcorn says, "A few nest each year on a small island in the Lahontan Reservoir." This bird also nests on a bare island, one-third of an acre in size, in the Stillwater Point Reservoir. On June 15, 1949, eleven nests, containing only eggs, were counted on the island. Fifteen adults were also present. The island was next visited on August 5, 1949, when four young, not yet able to fly, and eighty-eight adults were counted. The colony showed a significant increase in size in 1950. On June 2, 1950, a total of 107 nests was counted along with over 100 adults. Intermingled with the tern nests were thirteen nests of the California Gull (*Larus californicus*). No young of either species had yet hatched, but all nests held from one to three eggs. The island was last visited on July 31, 1950, when sixty young Caspian Terns and seven young gulls were flushed into the water. A few of the young could fly.—DAVID B. MARSHALL, *U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Fallon, Nevada, October 2, 1950.*

**California Condors in Madera County, California.**—On August 30, 1950, at 5:30 p.m., Mr. Fred D. Douthitt, Superintendent of the San Joaquin Experimental Range, called my attention to some Condors (*Gymnogyps californianus*) circling over the Range. Mr. Douthitt had first seen the birds at about 5:15 p.m. We counted six birds in one widespread group and a few minutes later, after the six had disappeared northward, saw three in the east, thereby making a possible total of nine Condors in all. The Condors seemed to dwarf a group of Turkey Vultures which were circling at a lower altitude.

During the entire time, none of the birds was observed to flap its wings. Individuals would appear overhead and then disappear into the distance within short periods of time, giving one the impression that they were soaring at fast speeds. That they were riding on updrafts is partly indicated by the presence of a storm front which appeared at 2:30 p.m. north of the Range in the form of dust clouds. By 5:30 p.m. the dust cloud was directly west of the Range.

Grinnell and Miller (*Pac. Coast Avif. No. 27, 1944*) do not cite any records of this species north of Fresno County in recent years.—NATHAN W. COHEN, *Division of Zoology, University of California, San Joaquin Experimental Range, O'Neals, California, October 30, 1950.*

**The Fulvous Tree-duck in Northeastern California.**—On October 10, 1950, a Fulvous Tree-duck (*Dendrocygna bicolor*) was seen flying over one of the ponds on the Honey Lake State Waterfowl Refuge, near Wendel, in eastern Lassen County, California. This individual was observed again on October 11 and was collected on October 12. The specimen, an immature male, is now no. 122469 in the collection of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology.

During the two days this bird was observed it was noted that it remained in company with a large number of American Coots (*Fulica americana*) and did not flush with the large flocks of tipping ducks occupying this pond at the same time. When flushed, this tree-duck flew alone and tended to return to the location from which it flushed.

Although this species has apparently never before been recorded from northeastern California, its occurrence at Honey Lake is not surprising since tree-ducks breed in Nevada at Washoe Lake and near Fallon, 75 and 90 miles, respectively, to the southeast (Friedmann, *Condor*, 49, 1947:193). These areas are part of the same general physiographic region and it seems probable that this bird was a straggler from either the Washoe Lake or Fallon breeding colonies. The northernmost previous record of the Fulvous Tree-duck in California is from the vicinity of Live Oak, Sutter County (Wetmore, *Condor*, 21, 1919:73), about 100 miles southwest of Honey Lake and in the Sacramento Valley.

Thanks are due John E. Chatten and Malcolm E. Foster of the California Division of Fish and Game for permission to collect this duck.—GORDON W. GULLION, *Honey Lake Refuge, Wendel, California, October 26, 1950.*