

chick lost from the hen. In spite of difficulty in securing specimens, I have no doubt in referring these swifts to the above species, and not to *cayennensis*, because of the large size. One female collected from a large flock on August 2, 1944, has the following measurements: wing, 188 mm.; tail, 88; culmen, 7. This Guatemalan species has not been recorded from Mexico previously.—MIGUEL ALVAREZ DEL TORO, *Museo Zoologico, Tuxtla Gutierrez, Chiapas, Mexico, September 25, 1951.*

Additional Records of *Cuculus* in North America.—The status of the genus *Cuculus* in North America has been reviewed by Deignan (*Condor*, 53, 1951:154-155) on the basis of three specimens from Wales, St. Paul Island, and St. Lawrence Island, Alaska. After re-examination of these specimens, it was concluded that *Cuculus canorus bakeri* is not represented in the North American fauna and that all three specimens must be referred to *Cuculus saturatus horsfieldi*.

Since this study was made in the interest of the A.O.U. Committee on Classification and Nomenclature, I should like to add two more records for consideration. One of these is a second specimen from St. Lawrence Island, collected by Howard Ataglook near Gambell on July 14 or 15, 1935. This was previously identified (by Dr. Harry C. Oberholser) as *bakeri* and was so recorded in my list of the Birds of St. Lawrence Island, Alaska, Appendix 5, in "Archeological Excavations at Kukulik, St. Lawrence Island, Alaska," by Geist and Rainey, volume 2, Miscellaneous Publications of the University of Alaska, 1936.

On June 29, 1937, Mr. John Steenis, a member of our Fish and Wildlife Service field party investigating the Aleutian Islands, collected a cuckoo at Rat Island. Dr. S. Dillon Ripley kindly examined the specimen and referred it to *Cuculus saturatus horsfieldi*, and it is so recorded in my unpublished manuscript on the fauna of the Aleutian Islands.

Recently I forwarded the second St. Lawrence Island specimen, referred to above, to Mr. Allen J. Duvall, at the United States National Museum, for further examination. Mr. Duvall reports as follows: "Bert Deignan and I have examined the specimen of *Cuculus* transmitted under your letter of August 26. We are of the opinion that it is not *C. canorus* but *C. saturatus horsfieldi*. The bird in question is the same race as the specimen taken by Mr. Steenis in the Aleutian Islands and we, therefore, now have five specimens, all referable to the same species."—OLAUS J. MURIE, *The Wilderness Society, Moose, Wyoming, October 15, 1951.*

Aberrant Heermann Gulls at Pacific Grove, California.—Because of interest in aberrant Heermann Gulls (*Larus heermanni*) which was stimulated by the paper by Hubbs and Bartholomew (*Condor*, 53, 1951:221-227), we paid particular attention to this species during two hours of observation of water birds at Mussel Point, on Monterey Bay, close to the Hopkins Marine Station in Pacific Grove, California, on October 8, 1951. Counts of Heermann Gulls perched on the rocks within a range of about 100-200 yards from our point of observation yielded up to 213 individuals. In addition to these there was a flow of scattered birds and small groups flying east or west close enough to observe adequately the wing pattern. For part of the time there was a large concentration of this species offshore. At first these gathered at some distance to the east, circling, alighting, resting on, or rising from the water in close formation, apparently feeding on some organism which made a sudden appearance at the surface. This mass of birds gradually moved westward opposite to us, then came in close to the rocks. In general, this behavior of large numbers of Heermann Gulls is not unusual in late summer and early autumn in the Monterey region. In the present instance we could do no more than guess at the number in the group and agreed it might have been 1000 or 1500. Individuals in this dense concentration could have been drawn from among those previously counted on the rocks or from among those which had been flying past us. Any attempt to arrive at a more accurate estimate of the total number of all Heermann Gulls seen would be futile.

Among those flying past, alighting on, or springing up from the rocks, and in the feeding flock over the water there were at least five individuals with white wing patches such as those described by Hubbs and Bartholomew. It might be supposed that because of local wandering, and because no two white-patched birds were seen simultaneously, some of these five were repeat observations of the same individuals. But we found that symmetry and asymmetry in the presence and size of the patches rendered the birds distinguishable. The five distinct patterns were as follows: equal size patches on each wing, patches on each wing but decidedly larger on right, patches on each wing but decidedly larger on left, patch on left wing but none on right, patch on right wing but none on left. Individuals

were subsequently noted with patterns similar to numbers 1, 2, and 3 (one observation for each). In these cases there was no way of determining whether they were repeats, or different birds with similar patterns.—WILLIAM M. PURSELL, *Berkeley, California*, and LAIDLAW WILLIAMS, *Carmel, California, October 26, 1951*.

Chestnut-backed Chickadee in the Sierra Nevada.—On June 17, 1951, a flock of five Chestnut-backed Chickadees (*Parus rufescens*) was seen along the Big Trees Trail in Calaveras Big Trees State Park, Calaveras County, California, at an elevation of about 4700 feet, by nine members of the Golden Gate Audubon Society (Gull, 33, 1951:27). The birds were observed at close range in good light for about 15 minutes. There was no sign of a white eye-stripe on any of the birds; the chestnut patch on the back was seen on several of the birds as well as the brownish wash on the flanks. [New locality records of this chickadee supported by specimen evidence should be sought in the future.—Editor.]—A. LAURENCE CURL, *El Cerrito, California, June 20, 1951*.

Sabine Gull at Mono Lake, California.—On September 16, 1951, while standing on the shore of Mono Lake in Mono County, California, watching the thousands of grebes and phalaropes, I was surprised to see a Sabine Gull (*Xema sabini*) flying low over the water and close to me. Size, shape, and color were all carefully checked through high-power binoculars although the bird was close enough for determination of species with the naked eye. It was interesting to note the dark head even at this late date. Searching the literature I find only one record for this same locality, that cited by Grinnell and Miller (Pac. Coast Avif. No. 27, 1944:171) as follows: "at Mono Lake, Mono County, in September, 1901 (W. K. Fisher, Condor, 4, 1902:10)."—EARLE R. GREENE, *Oxnard, California, October 3, 1951*.

The Painted Redstart at Santa Barbara, California.—On October 9, 1951, I was called by Mr. Waldo G. Abbott of the Santa Barbara Museum staff to come down to verify his identification of two Painted Redstarts (*Setophaga picta*). One bird was taken, a male in full plumage. The specimen is now in our systematic series in the bird hall, and is catalogued as no. 4048.

These birds apparently had been in the area for about a week, because a resident of the neighborhood said she had seen two birds which she described as Painted Redstarts. On October 9 the birds were in almost the exact place where Mrs. Cooke reported seeing one the preceding January (Condor, 53, 1951:205).—EGMONT Z. RETT, *Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, Santa Barbara, California, October 23, 1951*.

Wood Ibis in New Mexico.—On September 2, 1951, John G. Bamesberger and the writer observed three immature Wood Ibises, *Mycteria americana*, at a small marsh near Bernardo, Socorro County, New Mexico. One of these, a male, was collected and is now no. 124846 in the collection of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology. To the best of my knowledge this represents the first specimen of Wood Ibis taken in the state and the only recorded observation since 1854 when Henry observed a flock near Fort Thorn (Bailey, Birds of New Mexico, 1928:94). Fort Thorn is near the present town of Rincon, Dona Ana County, New Mexico. Bernardo is about 130 miles north of Rincon.—A. E. BORELL, *Albuquerque, New Mexico, October 25, 1951*.

Leconte Sparrow in Western Montana.—A group of Leconte Sparrows (*Passerherbulus caudacutus*) was discovered on July 16, 1950, at Camas Creek on the western side of Glacier National Park, Montana. At least four males were singing from definite locations. The birds were found in an isolated wet meadow about half a square mile in extent and containing the introduced timothy grass (*Phleum pratense*) and redbtop (*Agrostis alba*). The native plants are primarily *Alopecurus alpinus*, *Scirpus microcarpus*, *Carex crawfordi*, *C. scoparia*, *Camassia esculenta* and *Senecio triangularis*. A singing male with fully enlarged testes was collected and is now at Montana State University on indefinite loan.

Additional observations were obtained in 1951. No bird was seen at Camas Creek by Robert Lechleitner on June 15 nor by Davis and Lechleitner on June 25. However, on July 16 several birds were singing at Camas Creek and a nest with five eggs was found in an extensive meadow some eight miles to the northwest and four miles southeast of Logging Ranger Station. During the month of July an unsuccessful search was made for Leconte Sparrows in available wet meadows in Glacier