

The feathers of the carpometacarpal region in *R. pachyrhyncha* are highly variable in color. They are sometimes bright red in both wings, red on one and brown on the other, or brown on both wings. According to the original description the color of this area in *terrisi* is reddish-brown, with no mention of variation. After comparing his specimens with the Coahuilan birds Moore states: "Coloration exceedingly variable in our specimens, even on the same individual. On three of our specimens this character averages very dark, except for an occasional freshly molted feather, which is much brighter and definitely red. On the type new feathers predominate in this area and are as brightly red as on your birds." The Coahuilan birds show various combinations of red and brown feathers on this area.

The color of the forehead of *R. pachyrhyncha* is bright red flecked with maroon. The preorbital space is maroon or brown. In *R. terrisi* (type series) the forehead and preorbital space are maroon. Our Coahuilan specimens have the forehead and preorbital space maroon, but some specimens show flecks of bright red, usually on single, unworn feathers.

The under primary coverts of *R. pachyrhyncha* exhibit a definite patch of bright yellow. While no definite yellow patch exists in either Moore's *R. terrisi* or the Coahuilan birds, there is an olive-yellow wash present in this region.

The Coahuilan specimens lack the distinctly bluish-green cast of the cheeks which is characteristic of *R. pachyrhyncha*. This character is not mentioned in the original description of *R. terrisi*.

*R. pachyrhyncha* is considerably smaller than *R. terrisi*. Our Coahuilan birds are slightly smaller than *R. terrisi* in most measurements but perhaps not significantly so.

We think that uniting *R. terrisi* and *R. pachyrhyncha* as a single species better expresses the relationship of these well marked forms, which should, therefore, be called *Rhynchopsitta pachyrhyncha pachyrhyncha* (Swainson) and *Rhynchopsitta pachyrhyncha terrisi* Moore. We assign our Coahuilan specimens to *R. p. terrisi*.

We are grateful to Dr. Robert T. Moore and Mr. Donald Medina of the Moore Zoological Laboratory at Occidental College for carefully comparing our specimens with the type series of *R. p. terrisi*, and to Dr. J. Van Tyne of the University of Michigan Museum of Zoology and Dr. Herbert Friedmann of the United States National Museum for lending us specimens of *R. p. pachyrhyncha*.—JOHN WILLIAM HARDY and ROBERT W. DICKERMAN, *Museum of Natural History, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas, March 14, 1955.*

**The Breeding Range of the Black Rosy Finch.**—The Black Rosy Finch (*Leucosticte atrata*) has been known to have a fairly limited and well defined range in the high mountains of central Idaho, southwestern Montana, western Wyoming, and northern Utah. Across intervening gaps in mountain habitat it is replaced to the west and east by strikingly different forms. *Leucosticte tephrocotis wallowa* occurs in the mountains of eastern Oregon and *Leucosticte australis* in the Rocky Mountains of southeastern Wyoming and eastern Colorado. *L. atrata* has some contact with *L. t. tephrocotis* to the north, but the nature of this meeting is as yet undetermined; at least occasional interbreeding may occur in the Bitterroot Mountains of western Montana (Mewaldt, Condor, 52, 1950:239).

A major extension of known breeding range of *Leucosticte atrata* was recorded in June of 1955 while collecting in the Jarbidge Mountains of northern Elko County, Nevada. Here on June 23, on Jarbidge Peak, six breeding individuals were taken in alpine cirques between 10,000 and 10,700 feet. The rosy finches were associated in pairs and the males were singing. The females had not yet laid, but enlarged ova up to 2½ mm. in diameter were present and laying would have occurred soon. Two females accompanied by males made several trips between a patch of sedge along a stream flowing from beneath a snow field and north-facing cliffs above, apparently occupied with gathering nest material. Males had testes measuring 10 and 11 mm. in length.

The birds from the Jarbidge Mountains differ in no way from a series of *atrata* taken near Cooke, Park County, Montana. The Jarbidge Mountains lie about 130 miles south of the Sawtooth Mountains of Idaho across the Snake River basin. The Sawtooth area is the closest point in the previously known breeding range of *atrata*. Farther away, across the Salt Lake basin, *atrata* breeds in the Wasatch Mountains of Utah. Heretofore no member of the genus *Leucosticte* has been found breeding in Nevada. The occurrence of rosy finches in the Jarbidge Mountains lends credence to a sight

record of leucostictes for late June in the Deep Creek Mountains of extreme western Utah and makes it seem probable that the form involved there was likewise *atrata*.—ALDEN H. MILLER, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, July 14, 1955.*

**Nesting of the Western Tanager in the Santa Cruz Mountains, California.**—The Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*) was listed as an uncommon and irregular summer resident in the Santa Cruz area of California by McGregor (Pac. Coast Avif. No. 2, 1901:16) but no nests were known to him. Although singing males and young birds have been reported subsequently (see, for example, Allen, Gull, 11(6), 1929:2), no nests were recorded until recently.

On May 19, 1951, Mrs. M. E. Shore found a nest under construction seven miles south of Los Gatos in the Santa Cruz Mountains. The present writer discovered a nest containing large nestlings on Stevens Creek, 12 miles west-southwest of San Jose on June 7, 1951. The nest was placed on a horizontal branch, 15 feet from the ground in a coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*). The nestlings were being fed by both parents on June 7 and 8. On June 9 the nest was empty and there was no evidence of either young or adults in the vicinity. At this same locality a nest was found on May 17, 1952, placed on a coast live oak branch, 30 feet from the ground. The behavior of the birds indicated that incubation was in progress.

Miss Emily D. Smith found a nest under construction two miles northwest of Los Gatos on June 17, 1951. On July 14 nestlings were being fed in this nest which also was placed on a horizontal coast live oak branch. On June 8, 1952, the writer was shown a tanager nest on the property of Miss Gladys Record in Los Gatos. The nest, which contained eggs or possibly small young, was in a coast live oak.

At the present time the status of the Western Tanager in the Santa Cruz Mountains seems to be that of a fairly common summer resident. It nests rarely in the Diablo Range (Mount Hamilton) on the east side of the Santa Clara Valley and in Marin County, but certainly not as abundantly as in the Santa Cruz Range.—CHARLES G. SIBLEY, *Department of Conservation, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, March 7, 1955.*

**Additional Records of "Tule Geese" from Solano County, California.**—Ever since Swarth and Bryant (Univ. Calif. Publ. Zool., 17, 1917:209-22) established the systematic status of the so-called "Tule Goose" (*Anser albifrons gambelli*) as a race of the White-fronted Goose, it has remained a rather obscure entity. It apparently has a limited distribution on both its wintering and breeding grounds. The characters which distinguish this race from *A. a. albifrons* as well as its distinctive habits have been adequately described by Swarth and Bryant, Bailey (Condor, 30, 1928:164-165), Moffitt (Condor, 28, 1926:241-243; 40, 1938:76-84) and Kortright (The Ducks, Geese and Swans of North America, 1942). These authors cite wintering records from only the Butte and Sutter basins in the Sacramento Valley and from the Suisun marshes of California. The breeding grounds of *gambelli* were not located until 1941 when breeding birds were found on the Perry River in the Canadian Arctic (Gavin, Wilson Bull., 59, 1947:195-203).

On December 21, 1954, I collected two *gambelli* from a flock of eight that was inhabiting a small area on the southern part of Banty Island in the marshes of the lower Napa River, Solano County, California. Two more were taken on December 24 and the remaining four were seen again on December 26 and January 2, 1955, at the same locality. This island is a part of the public hunting area owned by the Leslie Salt Company. Within the past year the company had constructed a peripheral levee around the island that held the water in its numerous small sloughs at approximately high-tide level. This situation may have contributed to the establishment of the particular sort of habitat favored by these geese, since in twenty-five years' experience hunting this area, none of this race had been previously observed. The sloughs were bordered by a dense complex of *Scirpus*, *Typha*, and *Spartina*, with interstitial areas supporting growths of *Salicornia* and *Grindelia*.

As in the observations reported by the authors cited, this flock of *gambelli* remained separate from the several flocks of *A. a. albifrons* feeding on sprouting grain fields in the vicinity. In so far as was observed, the "Tule Geese" were feeding primarily on the tubers and rhizomes of *Scirpus* which