

one seen in August was thought to be a non-migrating individual. These observations and this inference have now been confirmed.

On May 27, 1956, I clearly identified a lone drake of this species that was diving in the surf just north of Punta San Jacinto, Baja California, at approximately latitude 30° 50' N. This record extends the range of the species about 24 miles and provides a date intermediate between those of the previous observations in México (April 10 and August 8).

On July 4, 1956, between Cardiff and Solano Beach, San Diego County, California, I saw another lone drake of this species. Like the May bird, it appeared to be in good condition. One peculiarity was that the conspicuous protuberance on the basal half of its bill above was unusually light (whitish-yellow, instead of orange-yellow). It was first seen on the wet beach in company with one Hudsonian Curlew and one Marbled Godwit. Presently it flapped into what may be called the marginal flat-water, just within the surf, where it seemed to feed, presumably on sandcrabs (*Emerita*). Later it flew into the surf and then swam outside.

This July bird was almost surely a non-migrant. The records for May, July, and August tend to bridge over the interval between the known overwintering records (November to April) for California summarized by Grinnell and Miller (Pac. Coast Avif. No. 27, 1944:90-91). It now seems almost certain that on the Pacific Coast, as on the Atlantic, individual Black Scoters occasionally remain south through the summer.

It may well be that the Black Scoter is more prone to this over-summering than the other scoters, for I have not recognized this species during the winter about San Diego and in Baja California, when Surf Scoters swarm and when White-winged Scoters are fairly common. And these last two species are very scarce in summer. Perhaps the summering Black Scoters wander about and thus reach points south of their normal wintering range.—CARL L. HUBBS, *Scripps Institution of Oceanography, La Jolla, California, July 5, 1956.*

Recent Bird Records for Nevada.—This note contains new information on the distribution or on the breeding status of thirteen species of birds in Nevada. Specimens mentioned are preserved in the University of Nevada Museum of Biology. Unless otherwise stated the collections and observations were made by the author. Subspecific determinations were made at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology by Drs. Alden H. Miller, Frank A. Pitelka, and Robert K. Selander. The author is indebted to these individuals for identifying a considerable amount of material submitted from Nevada during recent years. I wish to express my appreciation to Drs. Ira La Rivers and Fred A. Ryser of the University of Nevada for many favors extended the author while in the field and laboratory. Thanks are also due Mr. John S. Spencer of Reno, whose assistance in the field made available the data here presented on the Pigmy Owl and rosy finches, and to Mr. Russell K. Grater, who submitted information on the Lucy Warbler.

Parabuteo unicinctus. Harris Hawk. The only mention by Linsdale (Condor, 53, 1951:232) of this species in Nevada is a sight record by W. Pulich of one at Overton, Clark County, on March 30, 1949. On April 17, 1954, I watched a Harris Hawk at close range as it flew from a cottonwood tree in the dense deciduous growth and soared overhead at the Colorado River floodplain, 500 feet elevation, one-half mile north of the California line in extreme southern Clark County. This species should be expected more commonly as a vagrant along the Colorado River to at least as far north as the area where the present record was made. The environment is essentially the same there as that of the lower Colorado River Valley of southeastern California where the species is "locally common" (Grinnell and Miller, Pac. Coast Avif. No. 27, 1944:104).

Catoptrophorus semipalmatus. Willet. On May 14, 1954, at the north end of Washoe Lake, 5000 feet, Washoe County, Dr. Fred A. Ryser, John S. Spencer and the author saw an adult Willet fly from a nest containing two eggs which was built on a grassy knoll near the lake. To my knowledge this is the first report of a nest of this shorebird in Nevada.

Glaucidium gnoma californicum. Pigmy Owl. Considerable field work in the lower montane forest near Lake Tahoe during 1953 and 1954 by John S. Spencer and the author resulted in the detection of this species at the following localities on the west slope of the Carson Range between 6400 and 7500 feet on dates from July 24 to September 19: Zephyr Cove, Glenbrook, and Sand Harbor on Lake Tahoe, Daggett's Pass, Douglas County, and Marlette Creek, Washoe County.

Detection of these individuals was accomplished by imitation of the whistled note of the species in suitable habitat, which in the Carson Range appears to be open forest of mature Jeffrey pine and/or sugar pine growing with white fir and incense cedar on steep slopes. The two birds encountered at Marlette Creek were evidently a mated pair established on a territory on July 24. The individual of this pair which could not be obtained was assumed to be a female, for it called on a higher pitch than the male (testis 4 mm.) which was collected. It seemed reluctant to leave the area until it had been fired upon. A record from outside the general area of the occurrences mentioned above is that of a male collected in a forest of second-growth Jeffrey pine, ponderosa pine, and mountain mahogany at 6300 feet, three miles west and two miles north of Peavine Peak, southern Washoe County, on November 28, 1953. This individual is assumed to have been vagrant from breeding populations to the west in California, as summer occurrence of the Pigmy Owl on Peavine Peak has not yet been demonstrated. To my knowledge this species has not been recorded previously from Nevada.

Dendrocopos scalaris cactophilus. Ladder-backed Woodpecker. The following records extend the known breeding range of this bird in Nevada approximately 85 miles to the north. On April 10, 1954, a male with testis 8 mm. in length and a female with enlarged ova were taken in a Fremont cottonwood grove at Hiko Spring, 3880 feet elevation, Pahrnagat Valley, Lincoln County. The same day, and also in Pahrnagat Valley, L. Keith Miller collected a male with testis 6 mm. in length and saw several others at 3800 feet, four miles north of Alamo.

Sayornis nigricans semiatra. Black Phoebe. Found breeding at Meadow Valley Wash, 4300 feet elevation, four miles south of Caliente, Lincoln County, on April 11, 1954. Both members of the pair and their nearly-completed nest were collected. The female was adding mud to the sides of the nest as I approached. I am unaware of other breeding records for this phoebe in Nevada.

Empidonax difficilis difficilis. Western Flycatcher. Concerning this species Linsdale states: "Summer resident in small numbers; restricted to canyons at middle altitudes of the mountain ranges." An exception to this generalization was found at Ash Meadows, 2200 feet, extreme southern Nye County. There in 1951 this flycatcher was resident in the shady clumps of Fremont cottonwood and ash growing near the warm water pools at Fairbanks Springs. Individuals sang in the early morning from concealed perches in the thick foliage. A female, weight 9.4 gms. and a male, weight 10.0 gms., were collected on June 16 and 19, respectively. Both birds had gonads in breeding condition.

Hylocichla guttata. Hermit Thrush. Three specimens from southern Washoe County in the University of Nevada Museum of Biology have been determined by A. H. Miller as *H. g. slevini*, a race previously unrecorded in Nevada. A male from Hunter Creek Canyon, 5000 feet, Carson Range, taken on April 3, 1954, is similar to material from the Cascade Mountains of Oregon. A female from the same canyon at 4800 feet collected on May 3, 1954, is toward the race *guttata*. Another male was taken in a dense growth of mountain mahogany in the Carson Range at 5000 feet, four miles south of Verdi on April 26, 1954.

Regulus satrapa. Golden-crowned Kinglet. In an earlier note this species was reported from western Nevada for the first time (Johnson and Richardson, Condor, 54, 1952:358). Since that information was published many more sight records are available and eight specimens have been collected in Washoe and Douglas counties. Specimens were collected in presumed breeding habitat of mature and residual stands of white or red fir in the Carson Range from 6600 to 7800 feet. A significant sight record is that of a fledgling being fed by an adult in a dense pocket of mature white fir at 7200 feet, one-half mile southwest of Daggett's Pass, Douglas County, July 29, 1953.

An individual of undetermined sex taken at 5200 feet in a piñon forest at Geiger Lookout, Virginia Mountains, at twelve miles southeast of Reno on November 25, 1952, and a male collected at 4800 feet, nine miles south of Reno on February 24, 1954, represent birds from small wintering groups which have been noted in the valleys and foothills of southern Washoe County from late October through February.

Recently Miller and Russell (Condor, 58, 1956:76) reported a male in breeding condition taken on May 26, 1954, in Trail Canyon, Esmeralda County.

Vermivora luciae. Lucy Warbler. The following records are given to supplement the meager published data for the Colorado River area (Linsdale, *op. cit.*:242) and to present range extensions for this species to the north in Nevada. At the southern tip of Clark County, 500 feet elevation, from three to ten birds were seen or heard singing near the Colorado River each day from March 29 through

April 1, 1953. A male was taken on March 29. At Hiko Spring, 2000 feet elevation, Newberry Mountains, southern Clark County, two birds were observed closely in cottonwoods on April 14, 1954; this locality is about five airline miles west of the Colorado River. A male was obtained along the Muddy River, elevation 1700 feet, at six miles north of Glendale, Warm Springs area, Clark County, on April 6, 1950. At the same place on April 12, 1954, five birds were seen and a female with enlarged ova was collected. In a letter under date of March 16, 1951, Russell K. Grater of the National Park Service in Boulder City wrote me concerning the Lucy Warbler: "We have collections and records from the Muddy River and vicinity. One [was] collected near Overton on June 27, 1938. [Found] nesting near Overton in May, young [were] seen on June 20, 1938." On April 11, 1954, a singing female with enlarged ova was taken near Meadow Valley Wash at 4400 feet elevation, one mile south of Caliente, Lincoln County. The same day, along the Wash at four miles south of Caliente, six individuals were noted, several of which were singing, in cottonwoods and tree willows. A male with testis 5 mm. in length was shot there by Rex M. Larsen and was prepared by L. Keith Miller, members of our field party. Other individuals were observed in the cottonwood stands at several points along Meadow Valley Wash as far south from Caliente as Rox, Lincoln County, also on April 11. To my knowledge the specimen from near Caliente represents the northernmost known breeding station for the Lucy Warbler.

Dendroica occidentalis. Hermit Warbler. Listed by Linsdale (*op. cit.*) as a transient in Nevada with available records only in the fall. The species is also present in small numbers as a summer resident in the lower montane forest along the west-central state boundary. An adult male and two birds in either adult female or juvenal plumage were present in a group of mature Jeffrey pine at 6400 feet along Bryant Creek, one mile southeast of Barney Riley, Douglas County, on July 8, 1953. A female with enlarged ova and a brood patch was collected at Incline Public Camp, 6300 feet, Lake Tahoe, Washoe County, on July 3, 1954. On the same day at the north end of Crystal Bay, Lake Tahoe, at 6400 feet in the Carson Range at one-half mile east of the California state line, three juvenal birds of undetermined sex were taken in a mature forest of Jeffrey pine, sugar pine, white fir, and incense cedar.

Leucosticte tephrocotis. Gray-crowned Rosy Finch. During the winter of 1953-1954, a mixed flock of rosy finches occupied a mineshaft located at 5000 feet elevation, three miles northwest of Reno, on the south slope of Peavine Mountain, Washoe County. Seven visits to the area were made by John S. Spencer and the author from December 12, 1953, to March 7, 1954. At the time of the first visit approximately 150 individuals comprised the flock. Observations on the general behavior of the birds and their utilization of the shaft were similar to those recorded by Miller and Twining on rosy finches at a mineshaft in Lassen County, California (Condor, 45, 1943:78). Among the specimens collected at the shaft are two males taken on December 21, 1953 (weights: 25.1 and 25.3 gms.), and one male and two females taken on February 2, 1954 (weights: 25.3, 22.5, and 23.1 gms., respectively), which have been determined as *L. t. dawsoni* by A. H. Miller. One of the females of February 2 is of questionable racial allocation but seems closest to *dawsoni*. The race *dawsoni* has not heretofore been recorded from Nevada, although it breeds at high points to the south on the main axes of the Sierra Nevada and White Mountains of California near the Nevada border.

Six specimens of the race *L. t. wallowa* were also taken at the Peavine Mountain locality: female, unweighed, December 12, 1953; male, 24.2 gms. and two females, 21.7 and 23.7 gms., February 2, 1954; and male, 23.1 gms. and female, 20.8 gms., March 7, 1954. To my knowledge only one example of *wallowa* was available prior to this report from outside the breeding area of the race in the mountains of eastern Oregon, that of a specimen collected at Ramsey, Lyon County, Nevada, on November 15, 1941 (Alcorn, Condor, 45, 1943:40).

Leucosticte atrata. Black Rosy Finch. This species was present in the flock at the mineshaft mentioned above on the following dates: December 12, 1953, two males collected; February 2, 1954, female taken (weight, 24.2 gms.) and two males observed; February 20, 1954, three observed; and March 7, 1954, female collected (weight, 22.6 gms.). Prior to this note the species had been reported in the state only from the Jarbidge Mountains, Elko County, where it is summer resident (Miller, Condor, 57, 1955:306).

Passerella iliaca. Fox Sparrow. A specimen of *P. i. sinuosa* was collected at East McNett Ranch, 4700 feet, Fish Lake Valley, Esmeralda County, on March 26, 1951. This race has not been reported previously from Nevada. On February 15, 1954, a female of the race *P. i. unalaschensis* was shot in a

dense thicket of willows and serviceberry at 5000 feet, foothills of the Virginia Range at two miles east of Steamboat, Washoe County, providing the first record of this form from Nevada. The subspecies *P. i. fulva* has been collected at Secret Pass, Elko County, on August 18, 1933 (Gabrielson, Condor, 51, 1949:187). A second specimen of that race for the state was taken on April 28, 1954, at Thomas Creek Canyon, 7000 feet, east slope of the Carson Range, Washoe County. This individual was singing on a slope forested with mahogany, white fir and scattered Jeffrey pine. A male of the race *olivacea* collected in a willow thicket at Bailey Canyon, 5400 feet, foothills of the Virginia Range at two miles east and one mile south of Steamboat, Washoe County, on March 29, 1954, supplements the single specimen of this subspecies listed for Nevada by Linsdale (*op. cit.*:246) from the Ruby Mountains, Elko County.—NED K. JOHNSON, *University of Nevada Museum of Biology, Reno, Nevada, June 20, 1956.*

Cave Swallow Colony in New Mexico.—In June, 1952, the junior author discovered about 40 live birds, 20 dried mummies, and several nests of the Cave Swallow (*Petrochelidon fulva pallida*) in Goat Cave, about eight miles southwest of the entrance to Carlsbad Caverns, Eddy County, New Mexico. He took two of the well-feathered mummies back for storage in the naturalist's office at Carlsbad Park headquarters.

On July 21, 1953, we found 24 live Cave Swallows and 11 nests in Goat Cave, and two specimens were collected for the National Park Service.

On June 26, 1956, J. Stokley Ligon estimated that there were about 15 pairs of swallows "using" Goat Cave. He took an adult male, which is now number 1998 in his collection.

A month's survey by Kincaid in the summer of 1953 indicated that the closest cave used by Cave Swallows is approximately 293 miles away in southwestern Edwards County in central Texas. Kerr County, Texas, which adjoins Edwards County on the northeast, is the only locality in the United States mentioned for *Petrochelidon fulva pallida* in the American Ornithologists' Union Check-list of North American Birds (fourth edition, 1931:219).

Apparently the Cave Swallow was not identified in New Mexico prior to June, 1952. Time has proved the species to be no mere accidental straggler but a regular, although local, breeding member of the New Mexican avifauna.

We are indebted to J. Stokley Ligon and Robert K. Selander for confirming the identity of the specimens of *Petrochelidon fulva pallida* from Goat Cave.—EDGAR KINCAID, *Austin, Texas*, and RICHARD PRASIL, *Mt. McKinley National Park, Alaska, October 6, 1956.*

Northwestward Vagrancy of the Scott Oriole.—The Scott Oriole (*Icterus parisorum*) is summer resident in the high desert areas of the southwestern United States and México. Occasionally individuals straggle westward toward the Pacific coast of southern California, some even appearing in winter. The most extreme vagrancy known to date is represented by an immature male taken on November 26, 1955, about two miles east of Jamesburg in the upper Carmel Valley, Monterey County, central California. The bird is in fresh fall plumage but with juvenal remiges and rectrices. The feathers show no unusual wear and thus offer no suggestion that the bird had been a captive. The nearest station of record for the species is Santa Barbara (Grinnell and Miller, *Pac. Coast Avif.* No. 27, 1944:432) which is 175 miles to the south.—ALDEN H. MILLER, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, October 3, 1956.*