

time of the second invasion (now *E. c. notatus*) as is revealed by the co-existence today of the two forms without any intergradation and interbreeding.

I wish to thank Dr. A. J. Cain, Dr. D. Lack, and Mr. J. D. Macdonald for advice and encouragement in the course of this work.—K. Z. HUSAIN, *Department of Zoology and Comparative Anatomy, University Museum, Oxford, England, August 25, 1958.*

**Breeding Record of the Double-crested Cormorant in South-central Alaska.**—On July 7, 1958, at Lake Louise in the Susitna River drainage system of south-central Alaska, a small colony of

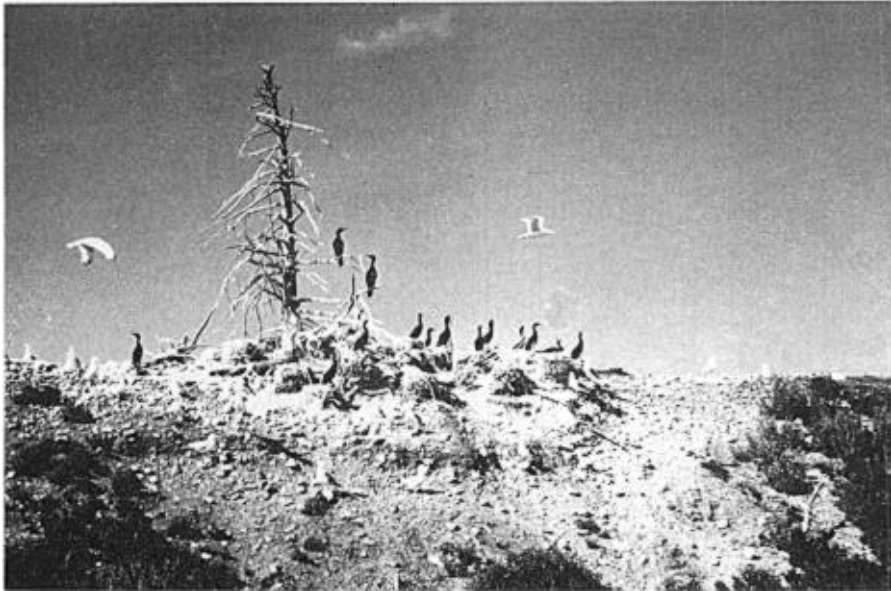


Fig. 1. Double-crested Cormorant colony at Lake Louise, 1958. Note the Herring Gulls around the colony.

breeding Double-crested Cormorants (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) was found, and a visit was made to the nesting area. The colony is located about 25 feet above the water level on the highest point of a small knoll-shaped island. The island is approximately 200 yards long and 50 yards across at the widest point. The area about the colony (fig. 1) is barren and gravel-strewn, but otherwise the island is sparsely covered with low shrubby vegetation. This vegetation is considerably more dense on the north, or leeward, side. An old spruce, devoid of vegetation, stands in the colony.

The 25 nests which comprise the colony were examined, and the results are as follows: empty, 15; with one egg, 1; with two eggs, 1; with one young, 1; with two young, 1; with three eggs and one young, 1. The remaining five nests were in a state of disrepair and empty.

The number of empty nests in a state of recent repair seems to indicate heavy predation by members of the large colony of Herring Gulls (*Larus argentatus*) that share this island. The interest of the Herring Gulls in the cormorant nests was demonstrated when the 40 to 50 adult cormorants were frightened from the area during our visit. On our departure many gulls returned immediately and perched on the nests or walked among them. The cormorants returned slowly, and even then a few gulls remained nearby.

The lack of synchrony in the breeding effort as evidenced by the presence of eggs, newly-hatched young, and, in one nest, advanced young (fig. 2) appears to be the normal situation in colonies of this species (Bent, U. S. Nat. Mus. Bull. 121, 1922:245). The general appearance of the colony, including the barren surroundings and great height and bulk of the nests, indicates that these birds have been present in the area for some years. Reproduction must be, to some extent, successful.

The known breeding range of the Double-crested Cormorant in Alaska includes the eastern

Aleutians, the Alaska Peninsula (Lake Iliamna), Kodiak Island, and the Kenai Peninsula (A.O.U., Check-list of North American Birds, 5th ed., 1957:35-36). The Lake Louise colony extends this range approximately 250 to 300 miles in a northeasterly direction from the Kachemak Bay area of the Kenai Peninsula, where the species is common. The relatively large size of Lake Louise, 52 square kilometers of surface, and the interconnected lakes Susitna and Tyone, together with their abundant fish fauna, apparently make this interior Alaska situation suitable for this small colony of cormorants. —FRANCIS S. L. WILLIAMSON and LEONARD J. PEYTON, *Arctic Health Research Center, Anchorage, Alaska, September 23, 1958.*



Fig. 2. Advanced downy cormorant young in the Lake Louise colony, 1958.

**Ground Doves Nesting in San Diego County.**—On May 4, 1957, Marilyn Bishop, of San Diego, reported the presence of four Ground Doves (*Columbigallina passerina*) at the Tia Juana River Valley in the extreme southwestern part of San Diego County. The doves were subsequently observed through the summer and most of the winter months. At times during this period as many as six doves were observed simultaneously.

On about June 10, 1958, Arthur G. Morley, Jr., brought to the museum a nest containing one egg. Laurence M. Huey, Curator of Birds and Mammals, identified the nest and egg as that of a Ground Dove. Mr. Morley related that this nest was first discovered along the Tia Juana River Valley on May 25, 1958. At that time the nest contained two eggs placed about three feet from the ground on the horizontal branch of a fallen tree. On June 5 this nest contained one young and an apparently addled egg. A second nest was found on June 5, 1958, again by Mr. Morley. This nest contained two eggs and was located near the previous nest about nine feet high in a small tree. An adult Ground Dove was seen to approach and settle on this nest. On June 12 I visited the area and observed seven Ground Doves in the vicinity. In the second nest I observed two recently hatched young.

Grinnell and Miller (Pac. Coast Avif. No. 27, 1944:186) list the Ground Dove as a vagrant to San Diego County.—JAMES R. SAMS, *San Diego Natural History Museum, San Diego, California, August 7, 1958.*

**Land Birds from Clipperton Island.**—The easternmost coral atoll in the Pacific Ocean is Clipperton Island, located at 10° 17' N lat. and 109° 13' W long. and approximately 600 miles southwest of the coast of Guerrero, México. Because of its remoteness and the difficulties of landing, the