

**Breeding of the Fork-tailed Petrel off the Washington Coast.**—The fifth edition of the A.O.U. Check-list of North American Birds (1957) and Bent (U. S. Nat. Mus. Bull. 121, 1922:137), list the Fork-tailed Petrel (*Oceanodroma furcata*) as breeding on islands off the coast of Washington. However, Jewett, Taylor, Shaw, and Aldrich (Birds of Washington State, 1953:74), and Dr. Alexander Wetmore in a personal communication, agree that this statement is based on a questionable egg record and that there is no authentic breeding record of this petrel for Washington, although there are good breeding records for sections of the coast to the north and the south. Consequently, it seems worth recording that on July 17, 1959, Garrett Eddy, William Hawkins, Karl Kenyon, and I discovered numerous burrows of Fork-tailed Petrels containing adults, young, and eggs, on Bodelteh Islands off Cape Alava, Clallam County, Washington.

The two main Bodelteh Islands, of approximately five and ten acres each, lie about a mile offshore and are part of the Flattery Rocks group. They have steep, rocky slopes, generally brush-covered and leading to somewhat level, wooded top areas over 190 feet high. The burrows of the petrels were usually two to four feet deep on steep, rocky, sparsely vegetated areas from 20 feet or so above high tide to over 150 feet. Typically they started in crevices or under rocks and continued, with some excavation of soft earth, to the nesting chamber. After finding the first two petrels, one on an egg and one on a newly hatched young, Eddy and I found some seven more occupied burrows in perhaps one hour's additional search. Six of these held single young, up to about two weeks old, but no adults. Judging from our observations and those of Kenyon and Hawkins, the population of breeding Fork-tailed Petrels on Bodelteh Islands must consist of many hundreds of pairs.

Burrow-nesting species associated with the Fork-tailed Petrels on Bodelteh Islands were Leach Petrels (*Oceanodroma leucorhoa*) and Cassin Auklets (*Ptychoramphus aleutica*). Hawkins found four Leach Petrels on eggs in burrows on the brush and grass-covered south slope of the eastern island. The several occupied auklet burrows were all situated on fairly open areas beneath trees on the flattish tops of the islands above the slopes where the petrels were nesting. They held young, one of which was nearly fledged.

Evidence was seen of considerable predation, presumably by some mammal. Eight sets of wings and partial pectoral girdles of Fork-tailed Petrels were found under bushes in the course of a limited search. The difficulty of landing on Bodelteh makes it seem unlikely that predators such as domestic rats have been introduced to the islands, so it is hoped a native predator is involved and something of a balance has already been reached between it and the population of the Fork-tailed Petrel.—FRANK RICHARDSON, *Department of Zoology and Washington State Museum, University of Washington, Seattle, September 29, 1959.*

**An Occurrence of the Rose-breasted Grosbeak in Southern Nevada.**—On May 17, 1959, a male and female Rose-breasted Grosbeak (*Pheucicus ludovicianus*) were seen by me at Indian Springs Ranch, Clark County, Nevada. The birds frequented the shrubby vegetation adjacent to the spillway of the larger of two small irrigation reservoirs on the ranch property. The vegetation here consists primarily of mesquite (*Prosopis juliflora*), four-winged saltbush (*Atriplex canescens*), and a tangle of cultivated blackberry (*Rubus* sp.). The birds remained in the area for several days. However, on May 24, the last date of observation, only the female was seen.

As far as is known the only previously reported occurrence of the Rose-breasted Grosbeak in Nevada is that of a single male bird observed over twenty years ago by Grater (Auk, 56, 1939:191) in the vicinity of Saint Thomas on the north arm of Lake Mead.—W. H. RICKARD, *New Mexico Highlands University, Las Vegas, New Mexico, October 27, 1959.*

**The Rusty Blackbird and Dickcissel in Oregon.**—On March 20, 1959, while watching a mixed group of Redwinged and Brewer blackbirds at the feeding station outside our window at Tillamook, Oregon, my wife remarked that there was an odd looking blackbird among them. It was collected to confirm my identification of it as a male Rusty Blackbird (*Euphagus carolinus*), a species hitherto unrecorded from Oregon. The specimen is now number 12420 in my collection.

On March 24, 1959, Mr. Paul Lewis told me of a bird that for several days had been visiting the feeding station at his home in Tillamook. He believed it to be a Dickcissel and asked me to check his identification. The following day I took several Dickcissel skins from my collection to the Lewis residence where, for more than 15 minutes, we watched the bird feeding just outside the window. I did