

with its tail feathers firmly tangled in the slightly rough leaves and stems of a slender sedge, later determined to be *Scleria lithosperma*, by Dr. A. J. Oakes, Jr. Apparently the bird had been feeding on the ground, and its rather lax rectrices had been caught by the sedge, much as children catch a companion's hair by twisting a grass panicle, stripped of seeds, against it.

The bird was able to bite and had a good grip with its feet, but it could neither walk nor fly. It was an adult male (skull completely ossified) with a practically empty gut, but it is believed to have been suffering more from lack of water than food. Judging from the appearance of the bird and of the scratched-up sedge area, the bird must have been trapped not later than the previous day.—R. M. BOND, *Kingshill, St. Croix, Virgin Islands, January 11, 1960.*

New Records of Raptors from Jalisco, México.—While on a trip by jeep from La Huerta northward along the Jalisco coast to El Tuito, in February, 1959, the authors had the good fortune to collect specimens of the Hook-billed Kite (*Chondrohierax uncinatus*), the Roadside Hawk (*Buteo magnirostris*), and the Collared Forest-Falcon (*Micrastur semitorquatus*), near Tomatlán. These specimens seem to represent new additions to the known avifauna of the State of Jalisco, as shown in the Mexican Check-list (Pt. I, Pac. Coast Avif. No. 29, 1950).

The Roadside Hawks, a pair, agree in all essential characters with topotypes of *Buteo magnirostris xantusi* van Rossem, from the Río Armería, Colima, and represent a slight northward extension of the known range of the species. *Chondrohierax uncinatus uncinatus* was recorded previously only from the states of Sinaloa, Guerrero, and México, although the senior author has an unrecorded female from El Tuito, Jalisco. *Micrastur semitorquatus* was known previously from Sinaloa south to Chiapas on the Pacific coast of México, but with no known specimens from Jalisco. This specimen nicely fills the apparent gap.

It was especially interesting to us to collect both the "highland" Northern Pygmy Owl (*Glauucidium gnoma*) and the "Humid Tropical" or "Arid Lower Tropical" Least Pygmy Owl (*G. minutissimum*) on opposite sides of the same small, but steep, barranca in the lower Sierra de Autlán, in the course of the same explorations. The vegetation was similar on both sides, although the oaks were denser where *gnoma* was shot; however, *minutissimum* was actually closer to the small stand of young pines on a ridge! The latter was also taken in a grove of pines in central Colima.

In the same general region, the junior author took a Barred Owl (*Strix varia*) in the upper part of the Sierra de Autlán, and the Sharp-shinned Hawk (*Accipiter striatus suitoni*), the Spotted Owl (*Strix occidentalis*), and the Stygian Owl (*Asio stygius*) on the Volcán de Nieve (the Cerro Nevado de Colima—the "Sierra Nevada de Colima" *auctorum*). The two last-mentioned have not been taken previously in Jalisco, and the record of the Spotted Owl represents a considerable westward extension of range from Cerro Tancitaro, Michoacán.—ALLAN R. PHILLIPS and WILLIAM J. SCHALDACH, JR., *Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology, Los Angeles, California, January 19, 1960.*

Eating of Sand by Blue Jays.—Family groups of Blue Jays (*Cyanocitta cristata*) have come to a sand pile in our yard in Bethesda, Maryland, during the fall and winter months of several years, but it was not until a period of successive snowstorms in February and March, 1960, that I was able to observe in detail their habit of eating sand. Five jays, for example, arrived soon after sunrise on February 14. The sand was covered by 4 inches of fresh snow and the jays hopped about as if searching until one of them scooped out a hole by a rock. The others came over immediately to peck down inside. On March 3, two jays arrived at 7 a.m. in the midst of a snowstorm and alighted above the sand pile in 8 inches of fresh snow. They floundered helplessly, then flew away. As one of the jays perched on a limb, the other one came and fed it in what I interpreted to be courtship feeding. Two of the jays did appear to be closely associated on successive mornings. Thus a pair of jays came at 7:15 a.m. on March 4, worked together as they scooped away the snow from the base of a child's toy, then pecked down at the sand. The pair left after 6 minutes. At 7:30 a.m., however, four jays arrived over the sand pile and two of them flew away immediately, leaving the other two to work, after a few conflicts among them, at separate holes. I wondered if the paired birds had not brought their offspring of a previous year to the sand pile. Events on March 6 gave further suggestion that the jays were a family group. The pair came to the pile at 6:55 a.m., fed peacefully, and flew away; but at 7:05 a.m.