

Phalacrocorax pelagicus. Pelagic Cormorant. A number of these birds was flushed from their perches on a rock jutting out of the ocean on the south end of the island. This species is common throughout the area during the winter.

Larus glaucescens. Glaucous-winged Gull. Fifteen to 20 gulls were seen wading in the brakish pond on the western shore. This species winters in southern and south-central Alaska.

Capella gallinago. Common Snipe. Two Common Snipe were flushed from a marsh on the north end of the island on February 25. Although this species winters casually north to southeastern Alaska, none has been reported wintering as far north as Middleton Island. A possible reason for the occurrence of this species in the area is the fact that the mud and water in the marshes were unfrozen.

The preceding species were observed during the summer by Rausch; the following observations, however, represent wintering or non-breeding records only.

Plectrophenax nivalis. Snow Bunting. Observed on two occasions: on February 25, one bird was seen flying over the northern upland meadow; on February 26 another Snow Bunting was seen flying over the northwestern beach. The latter bird was collected for the University of Alaska Museum. Snow Buntings are a common wintering species in Prince William Sound.

Nyctea scandiaca. Snowy Owl. Snowy Owls were first reported on Middleton Island in November of 1957, and four to six individuals have remained on the island, probably because of the abundance of rabbits. These owls have not reduced the population of rabbits; in fact after transecting all of the vegetation types, we estimated that there was a minimum of 7000 rabbits present. The island is not situated in a common wintering area for the species. One specimen was collected for the University of Alaska Museum.

Philacte canagica. Emperor Goose. Five Emperor Geese were seen wading in a brakish pond on February 25. They were seen again on February 26 wading in the surf on the western beach near the brakish pond. Gabrielson and Lincoln stated that probably small numbers of Emperor Geese winter north to Prince William Sound, but the last record of them in this area was about November 13, 1930, when a large flock was seen on the Copper River Flats.—THOMAS P. O'FARRELL, *Department of Zoology, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee*, and ARTHUR M. SHEETS, *Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Cordova, Alaska, February 8, 1962*.

Baltimore Oriole at Santa Barbara, California.—On November 2, 1961, I was called to the home of Mrs. Russell Kriger in Santa Barbara, California, to identify a Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*). It was a brilliantly colored male and was attracted to the limb of a weeping willow tree which had been punctured by a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*). Mrs. Kriger said it visited this same spot several times a day and was first noticed on October 7, 1961; and it was still there on January 16, 1962.

This is the first substantiated record of *Icterus galbula* in California. [A conclusive color photograph of this bird was examined by the editor.]

It is interesting to note the unusual number of wintering orioles at Santa Barbara in 1961-62, all of which have been males. There are four species represented: Bullock (*Icterus bullockii*), quite common, both adult and immature; Hooded (*Icterus cucullatus*), a few, this winter and last; Scott (*Icterus parisorum*) two sightings both this winter and last; and now, the Baltimore.—WALDO G. ABBOTT, *Department of Ornithology, Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, Santa Barbara, California, January 16, 1962*.