SHORT COMMUNICATIONS

Phillips, Marshall, and Monson (The Birds of Arizona, p. 20, 1964) site only two nesting records for Arizona. Bailey (Birds of New Mexico 156-157, 1928) had no nesting records, and the only published record for New Mexico is one by Ligon (New Mexico Birds, pp. 61, 1961).

On 14 July 1965 we observed a Goshawk nest nine miles NNW of Silver City in the Pinos Altos Mountains at an elevation of 6350 feet. The nest was situated approximately 55 feet from the ground in a large ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*). This is apparently the first record of a Goshawk's nesting in a ponderosa pine for the southwestern United States (See White, Lloyd, and Richards, Condor, 67:269, 1965).

Two juvenile birds, probably a male and female, judging from the appreciable difference in size and some difference in coloration, perched near the nest, while a single adult (female?) circled, shricking, overhead during our stay near the nest. Neither of the young showed inclination to flush. A week later, on 21 July, when Johnson revisited the nest the young flushed but usually flew only 50 to 100 yards before alighting in another tree. No adult birds were seen at that time.— R. ROY JOHNSON, Department of Biology, The University of Texas at El Paso—Texas Western College, El Paso, Texas, and BRUCE K. HARRIS, Woonsocket, South Dakota, 8 March 1966.

Possible Yellow-shafted Flicker in Southwestern Oregon.—On 22 March 1966, near Brookings, Curry County, Oregon, the authors found feathers of what is apparently *Colaptes auratus*. The area in northern Brookings is about 800 meters east of Highway U.S. 101 and not near a residential area, ruling out the possibility that the bird originated from a moving auto or was discarded by a resident. Skeletal remains and other hard parts were not present.

A nearly complete right wing (seven primaries present), two right tail feathers, numerous breast and back feathers, and one upper tail covert were collected and are deposited at Southern Oregon College (SOC 629). Shafts and ventral parts of rectrices and remiges were compared to the chromatic hexagon adopted from the Villalobs system in Palmer (Handbook of North American Birds, vol. 1, 1962) for possible *Colaptes* hybrid. The color is near that of Orange-Yellow (in Palmer), although more brightly yellow. Rectrix shafts are colored basally, the color extending distally to 31 mm from the tip (total length of rachis 93 mm).

Gabrielson and Jewett (Birds of Oregon, p. 369, 1940) list two specimens from northwestern Oregon. A sight record from Medford (Jackson County), Oregon observed during February 1962 is reported by Browning (Murrelet, in press). Giles (Condor, 60:193, 1958) observed a male on Lower Klamath National Wildlife Refuge, Siskiyou County, California. Jewett *et al.* (Birds of Washington State, pp. 393–394, 1953), and Grinnell and Miller (Pacific Coast Avifauna No. 27, p. 226, 1944) list numerous records for Washington and California, respectively.—M. RALPH BROWNING and WILLIAM ENGLISH, Southern Oregon College, Ashland, Oregon, 19 May 1966.

Spring Migration of Dunlin in Interior Western Oregon.—Between winter 1961-62 and July 1965, I kept detailed field notes of the birds using a small marsh in the Willamette Valley about 12 miles south of Corvallis, Benton County, Oregon. This marsh, known locally as Mac-Fadden's Swamp or Marsh, has been described previously (Evenden, Marshall, and McAllister, Condor, 52:159, 1950); since that report, however, the area has undergone numerous changes. One relevant change is that the marsh area now drains fairly rapidly in the spring and except for a small channel of moving water is almost completely dry during the summer. This has made the area more attractive to shorebirds during the spring migration. Although Evenden and co-workers reported flocks of no more than 200 birds, flocks of 2000 to 3000 shorebirds are now normal during the spring.

Holmes (Condor, 68:29, 1966) has commented on the lack of reports on migrating Dunlin (*Erolia* [=*Calidris*] *alpina*) from the Pacific Northwest. This report offers data (fig. 1) on migrating Dunlin for four springs at McFadden's Swamp from 1962 through 1965. Most of these observations were made in an area of approximately 50 acres in which the shorebirds tended to concentrate. As the water level in the swamp dropped during the spring, small, bare islands appeared in this area while the rest of the swamp was still flooded. Approximately 80 per cent of the observations were made from a roadway along the south edge of the area where the birds were

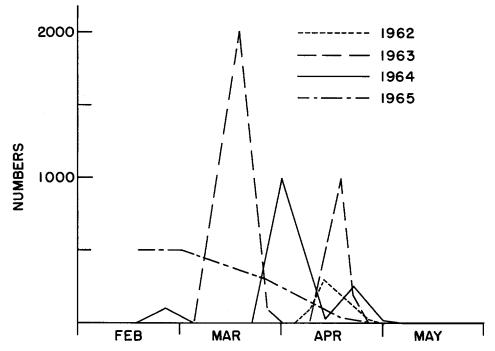


Figure 1. Migration of Dunlin at MacFadden's Swamp for spring 1962 through spring 1965.

most often seen; from here the entire area could be surveyed with a $20 \times$ telescope. Other observations were made by hiking into the swamp. During February, March, and April of the years reported I made 37 trips to the area (9 in 1962, 9 in 1963, 11 in 1964, and 8 in 1965), out of which Dunlin were observed on 16 trips (3 in 1962, 5 in 1963, 5 in 1964, and 3 in 1965). The numbers of individuals were determined by actual count when there were less than 100 birds present, and by visual estimations for larger numbers. These estimates were found to be accurate to plus or minus 15 per cent when checked by actual count. When these data are compared with those of Holmes (*op. cit.*) for the same years on San Francisco Bay, it is seen that birds first appear at MacFadden's Swamp about one month after this species leaves the bay area. Furthermore, the relative abundance noted for the first three springs at MacFadden's Swamp closely parallels the numbers recorded by Holmes for the same years: the numbers are smallest in 1962, increase considerably in 1963, and then fall off somewhat in 1964. This observation suggests that the relative numbers that Holmes noted on San Francisco Bay were at least partially affected by factors other than the habitat changes on the bay as he speculated.

The observations for spring 1965 deserve additional comment. Although Gullion (Condor, 53: 138, 1951) considered the Dunlin to be a "common winter visitor" some 30 to 40 miles south of the present area, based on birds observed during the winter of 1948-49, other authorities (Gabrielson and Jewett, Birds of Oregon, 1940; Grinnell and Miller, Pacific Coast Avifauna, No. 27), recent records of this species from Christmas Bird Counts in the Pacific Northwest (Audubon Field Notes, 17:85, 268 [1963]; 18:90, 298 [1964]; 19:98, 316 [1965]), and my own field notes all agree that Dunlin winter along coastal situations and are seldom found inland during the winter. Thus the Dunlin that were observed in the Corvallis area from 31 December 1964 until the end of the migration of the following spring were unusual for the Willamette Valley. Their appearance coincides with the beginning of the heavy flooding during December and January of that winter, and may have been caused by birds being driven out of areas along the coast.

Although a few birds arrive in February, the major portion of Dunlin migration at MacFadden's

SHORT COMMUNICATIONS

Swamp takes place between mid-March and mid-April. The time that any individual flock remains in the area is uncertain, but is probably not longer than two or three weeks. All Dunlin are gone by the end of the first week in May. This pattern was not found during spring of 1965, but the abnormal presence of wintering birds in the same general area suggests that migration patterns were also disrupted during that year.—JOSEPH G. STRAUCH, JR., 418 S. West St., Galesburg, Illinois 61401, 22 April 1966.