

observed a flock of six very small adult or subadult Canada Geese on a mud bar on the lower John River at about 66° 57' N, 151° 39' W. As I stalked them, two much larger geese flew into the resting flock and aggressively drove the smaller birds up and down the bar until the latter took wing and flew out of sight. I collected one of the larger geese, a first-year male, apparently non-breeding, of the race *taverneri* (U. S. Natl. Mus. 529775). It weighed 2438 g. From a distance of 30 yards, observing with 7× binoculars, it was my impression that the two larger birds were three or four inches taller than all members of the flock of six.

The above evidence establishes that both *B. c. taverneri* and *B. c. parvipes* occur in the central Brooks

Range. The evidence further suggests that another race also occurs there.

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INCUBATION AND NESTLING PERIODS OF THE HORNED PUFFIN

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As in the case of many alcids, the basic features of the breeding biology of Horned Puffin (*Fratercula corniculata*) have remained relatively unknown. While studying breeding biology of plankton-feeding alcids on St. Lawrence Island, Alaska, in 1966 and 1967, I obtained data on two phases of this puffin's breeding cycle—the durations of incubation and nestling periods. All nests studied were on Sevuokuk Mountain in the Northwest Cape area of the island.

Laying-hatching intervals were determined in 1967 for the single eggs in five nests, where both events

were known to the nearest day. This interval averaged 41.4 days with a range of 40–43 days. For the Common Puffin (*F. arctica*), Lockley (Puffins, 1953) gave periods of 40, 42 and 43 days; Myrberget (Medd. Statens Viltundersøk, 11:1, 1962) gave it as 40–45 days and averaged 41.8 days; and Kartaschew (Die Alkenvögel des Nordatlantiks, p. 85, 1960) stated that this period was "usually 35–37 days" but "may be 40–42."

One observation of the nestling period of Horned Puffin on St. Lawrence Island in 1967 was 38 days; the chick departed for sea during the night or early morning and possessed complete juvenal plumage. For the Common Puffin, Lockley (op. cit.) observed nestling periods of 47, 49 and 51 days; Kartaschew (op. cit.) gave it as 38–45 days; Myrberget (op. cit.) reported an average of 47.7 days; and Uspenski (The Bird Bazaars of Novaya Zemlya, Transl. of Russian Game Reports, 4:1, 1958) recorded two observations, 36 and 37 days.

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A CANADA GOOSE FROM THE MIDDLE PLEISTOCENE OF NEBRASKA

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In the summer of 1967 the University of Nebraska State Museum field party accompanied by C. Bertrand Schultz and Lloyd G. Tanner collected a number of fossils from the type locality of the Sappa Formation, U.N.S.M. Coll. Loc. Hn-102, NW ¼ of NW ¼ of Section 11, T 2 N, R 20 W, Harlan County, Nebraska.

This site is an abandoned volcanic ash mine on the farm of C. A. Bose. The fossils mentioned in this report are from the sandy silt just below the Pearlette Volcanic Ash bed in the Sappa Formation, which is generally regarded as Late Kansan in age. A geologic section taken at this locality has been published by E. C. Reed and V. H. Dreezen (Nebraska Geol. Surv. Bull. 23:56–57, 1965).

The fossils collected included a number of rodent incisors and skeletal elements, some turtle plastron fragments and the distal end of the left humerus of a goose, U.N.S.M. 20038, which though abraded, can be identified as a Canada Goose, *Branta canadensis* in the size range of a modern *B. c. canadensis* or *B. c. moffitti*. The stratigraphic data place this specimen quite accurately in the middle Pleistocene.

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