

reported moving at such localities as Cos Cob, Connecticut (Audubon Field Notes 16:13, 1962), Amherstburg, Ontario (A.F.N. 21:28, 1967), and others too numerous to mention. A check of records published during the past ten years indicates that there is some movement towards the southwest in the fall. Fig. 1 shows the western boundary of the breeding range, and also indicates localities west of that boundary from which individuals have been reported. The westernmost of these occurrences (all unchecked, and as they appear in Audubon Field Notes) are one on Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge, about 15 miles south of Spokane, Washington, on 29 September 1968 (A.F.N. 23:84, 1969); one on Ravalli Refuge, about 25 miles north of Missula, Montana, on 19 November 1968 (A.F.N. 23:84, 1969); one in Star, about 20 miles west of Boise, Idaho, during the winter of 1959-60 (A.F.N. 14:329, 1960); one in Cedar City, Utah, on 29 October 1966 (A.F.N. 21:63, 1967); one in Albuquerque, New Mexico, between 7 December 1965 and 19 February 1966 (A.F.N. 20:447, 1966), and another there during the winter of 1967-68 (A.F.N. 22:466, 1968); one in Big Bend National Park, Texas, during the winter of 1967-68 (A.F.N. 22:466, 1968).

The California occurrences appear more likely to have been genuine strays from the western edge of their breeding range rather than escapees when the following facts are considered:

1. Neither individual exhibited the characters of a recent escapee.
2. No Blue Jays were known to have been released, or lost, in the immediate vicinity of either of the two localities.
3. One individual appeared in the fall and remained for the winter, a pattern being set by other westward occurring individuals of this species. The other occurred at the time of year when it would be expected to be moving from its winter quarters to its normal range. *Guy McCaskie, San Diego Natural History Museum, Balboa Park, San Diego, California 92112.*

AN INLAND RECORD OF THE BLACK OYSTERCATCHER

On the afternoon of 5 July 1969 I saw a Black Oystercatcher (*Haematopus bachmani*) flying among the deciduous trees along Bear Creek about two miles east of Shelter Cove, Humboldt County, California. This point is about twenty miles upstream and is at an elevation of about 1400 feet; it is separated from the nearby coast by a ridge with peaks reaching more than 3000 feet. The weather was bright and clear for the week prior to the observation; thus the possibility of the bird having become lost in the usually common coastal fog is unlikely.

The Black Oystercatcher is resident along the rocky coast between Alaska and Baja California and is relatively uncommon along the Humboldt County coast. There appear to be no previous records of this species away from the coast, and even though this bird was but two miles inland, it more than likely followed Bear Creek twenty miles upstream. *Raymond Higgs, Point Reyes Bird Observatory, Bolinas, California 94924.*