

NOTES

RECORDS OF COMMON GALLINULES AT HONEY LAKE, CALIFORNIA

On 23 May 1971 with R. LeValley and T. Manolis, I saw a single Common Gallinule (*Gallinula chloropus*) feeding with American Coots (*Fulica americana*) in shallow water near the headquarters of the Honey Lake Wildlife Area, Lassen Co., California. At the same locality on 24 June 1972, D. Erickson, G. Hunn, R. Stallcup, and I observed the same or another gallinule resting in a diked pond with coots and several species of ducks. The yellow-tipped bill, dark brown back, and white side stripes were noted on each occasion. On neither date was a search made for nests or other gallinules.

There are apparently no other published gallinule records for northeastern California (Grinnell and Miller, Pacific Coast Avifauna, 27: 132, 1944), although the bird checklist of the Klamath Basin National Wildlife Refuges, which includes portions of both California and Oregon, lists the species as accidental. The American Ornithologists' Union (Check-list of North American Birds, Fifth Ed., 1957) extends the breeding range north in the western United States to central Arizona and to Glenn and Butte Cos. in the northern part of the Central Valley of California. That publication fails to list the species from any point in the Great Basin, despite the following records: in the Lahontan Valley, Churchill Co., Nevada, an adult specimen was taken on 15 July 1928 (Alcorn, Condor, 42: 169-170, 1940), another bird was collected on 8 October 1940, and one was seen on 29 and 30 August 1942 (Alcorn, Condor, 48: 129-138, 1946); and at Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, Harney Co., Oregon, one was seen on 20 May 1972 (Kingery, American Birds, 26: 787-791, 1972). These occurrences indicate that the Common Gallinule is at least a rare visitor to the Western Great Basin. The summer dates suggest possible breeding status.

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