

## REVIEW

Utah Birds: Check-list, Seasonal and Ecological Occurrence Charts and Guides to Bird Finding. William H. Behle and Michael L. Perry. 1975. Utah Museum of Natural History. v + 144 p., 30 charts, 5 maps, 1 b&w photo. \$3.50. Available from the above museum, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah 84112.

As the title suggests, this book contains four major parts: 1) The annotated checklist section treats all 392 bird species which have occurred in Utah. It explains status codes, hypotheticals, exclusions, and provides arrival and departure dates. Also of interest, scientific names include subspecies involved. 2) Seasonal occurrence charts are the standard 12 month, horizontal-bar type. They employ percentage chance of observing (four categories) and depict those birds of irregular occurrence. 3) The similar ecological occurrence charts provide relative abundance and occurrence of permanent and summer residents across 18 habitat types. 4) Of particular value for resident and visiting birders alike are the guides to bird finding which give directions (including mileages and an occasional map), bird species to be expected and a wide range of side-interests, to 12 areas near the Salt Lake City region. Notable here are directions to the famous Great Salt Lake bird refuges.

Critical readers will find a few proof-reading oversights. For example, on page 4 under status codes, the designation rare reads "...35 times per year..." This should probably read 3-5 times per year. Occasionally a word is misspelled or left out. I counted 393 entries in the annotated list (one more than the authors' tally in their analysis on page 5.)

The authors take care in relegating certain records not backed by a specimen to a hypothetical status. For the researcher, however, there are a few out-of-season records listed (e.g. Rusty Blackbird) which would seem to require further details. Such records and the ever increasing number of sight records emphatically point out the value and need for a statewide reviewing committee.

The authors stress that this work "...will bridge the gap between the present and that time in the future when a more pretentious and inclusive book on the birds of Utah appears."

I found it to be a well-written, valuable book, providing much-needed information on species occurrences in the eastern Great Basin.

*Bruce Webb, 3 Chautauqua, Boulder, Colorado 80302*

## BULLETIN BOARD

### COLOR BANDED WESTERN GULLS

Western Gulls are being color-banded as part of a Bureau of Land Management study of seabirds in the Southern California Bight. George Hunt is interested in the dispersal patterns of the young gulls and whether they eventually return to the island where hatched to nest. Two 10 mm high, plastic, colored bands (red, blue, green, black or yellow over yellow) were placed on legs of nestlings. Information concerning date, location and color scheme should be sent to: Dr. George L. Hunt, Jr., Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of California, Irvine, California 92717.

The Bird-Banding Laboratory, Laurel, Maryland 20811, would appreciate a copy of your letter. Dr. Hunt will advise the observer as to the origin of the bird.