

White Pelicans breeding in Colorado.—The first known nesting of White Pelicans (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) in Colorado occurred in 1962, when an estimated 200–250 adults reared about 60 young on an island in Riverside Reservoir, 3 miles north of Masters, Weld County, Colorado. Adult pelicans with small nestlings were first observed by Norman L. Hughes and William H. Rutherford, of the Colorado Game and Fish Department, during a routine aerial count of waterfowl on 29 May 1962. Young were observed from the ground on 23 July by Jack R. Grieb and Howard D. Funk of the same department. On 24 July, Ronald A. Ryder, assisted by Game and Fish Department personnel and students from Colorado State College at Greeley, banded 45 flightless, but nearly full-grown young. Ring-billed Gulls (*Larus delawarensis*) and Double-crested Cormorants (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) were also believed to have nested on islands in Riverside Reservoir, as immatures of these species were seen flying in the area 24 July, but no definite nests or flightless young were found.

Riverside Reservoir is approximately 4 miles long and 2 miles wide, with a surface area of 3,811 acres and a storage capacity of 57,633 acre-feet. The reservoir is relatively isolated and rarely visited except during waterfowl hunting seasons, when portions are leased by private gun clubs. The past two years the reservoir has been filled to near capacity, which has made its islands more isolated than in recent dry years. Personnel of the Colorado Game and Fish Department have banded flightless ducks on the reservoir every summer since 1957.

The AOU Checklist of 1957, Bergtold (1928. *A Guide to the Birds of Colorado*), Sclater (1912. *A History of the Birds of Colorado*) and Cooke (1897. *The Birds of Colorado*) all list the White Pelican as probably nesting in Colorado, but cite no definite dates nor places of nesting. The nearest known nesting colonies are in Great Salt Lake, Utah, Yellowstone Lake, Wyoming, and Bennett County, South Dakota.—RONALD A. RYDER, *Colorado State University*, and JACK R. GRIEB, *Colorado Game and Fish Department, Fort Collins, Colorado, 13 August 1962.*

Altitude record for Mallard.—Recently the Operations Division of the Air Transport Association submitted for identification one feather salvaged after an aircraft-bird strike. It was a right primary, in good condition, and was determined by Mrs. Roxie C. Laybourne, of our Bird and Mammal Laboratories, as coming from a Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*).

The strike occurred at 4:15 PM on 9 July 1962, between Battle Mountain and Elko, Nevada. The plane, a Western Airlines L-188 Electra, was cruising at an air speed of 345 knots and an altitude of 21,000 feet. The bird was not seen by any of the crew, all of whom were looking outside at the time. The pilot, Captain Markle Sparks of Los Angeles, believed the bird was at a higher altitude than the plane, that it attacked the plane as it approached, and lost control just before impact. He suspected an eagle as the only bird in that area that could climb so high.

The pilot reported that he "felt a light thud and about a minute later the stewardess came forward and said that the passengers in the rear of the airplane felt a small explosion. Upon landing, there was a dent in the leading edge of the right horizontal stabilizer about the size of a football. It hit just at the side of a rib and there was a tear approximately 9 inches long beside the rib. There was down around the tear, and the feather inside. There was no blood nor any other indication that it was a bird that we had struck." The strike did not cause any immediate change in the flight procedure, but did necessitate replacing a 5-foot section of skin on the tail assembly.—RICHARD H. MANVILLE, *U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington 25, D.C., 17 October 1962.*