

tinued presence of Buff-breasted Flycatchers in southeastern Arizona could be partially dependent on the relative inaccessibility of their nests due to overhanging structures.

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**Sandhill Crane incubates a Canada Goose egg.**—I have previously reported on inter- (Littlefield, *Wilson Bull.* 91:323, 1979) and intraspecific egg dumping (Littlefield, *Auk* 98: 631, 1981) in Sandhill Crane (*Grus canadensis tabida*) nests. Except in one nest, which contained one Canvasback (*Aythya valisineria*) egg and two crane eggs, none of the dumped eggs was being incubated.

On 23 April 1982, a Sandhill Crane nest was located 72 km SSE of Burns, Harney Co., Oregon, on Malheur National Wildlife Refuge (NWR). Upon discovery, the male crane was incubating a Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*) egg (84.7 × 56.2 mm). Also present in the nest bowl were traces of goose down. The nest was typical of Sandhill Cranes and had the following measurements: nest diameter—105 cm; bowl diameter—39 cm; bowl depth—6.6 cm; and nest height above water—20.6 cm. Surrounding vegetation and nest composition was hardstem bulrush (*Scirpus acutus*), and the water depth was 17.4 cm. The goose egg appeared fertile and was estimated to have been incubated about 20 days (see Westerskov, *J. Wildl. Manage.* 14:56–67, 1950). While the nest was being examined the crane pair performed distraction behavior within 6 m of the nest. Upon reexamination on 1 May 1982, the egg had been destroyed by an unknown predator. At this time I removed all nesting material in an effort to locate crane egg shell fragments; however, none was located.

Sandhill Cranes are normally intolerant of close approach to their nests by other avian species (pers. obs.). How incubation of the goose egg began is unknown, but there are at least three possibilities. (1) Perhaps both crane and goose eggs were in the nest, but the crane eggs were removed by a predator, leaving the goose egg. Coyotes (*Canis latrans*) have often been seen on Malheur NWR removing eggs intact before consuming them at upland sites (pers. obs.). (2) The crane eggs were removed by a predator and the Canada Goose deposited her egg before the crane pair returned to the nest; or (3) although unlikely, the cranes took over the nest after the goose laid her first egg. This would account for the few down feathers present in the nest bowl.

There are several records of Canada Goose eggs being deposited in Sandhill Crane nests (Littlefield 1979; W. Radke, pers. comm.); however, I know of no other record of a goose egg being incubated by a Sandhill Crane pair.

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