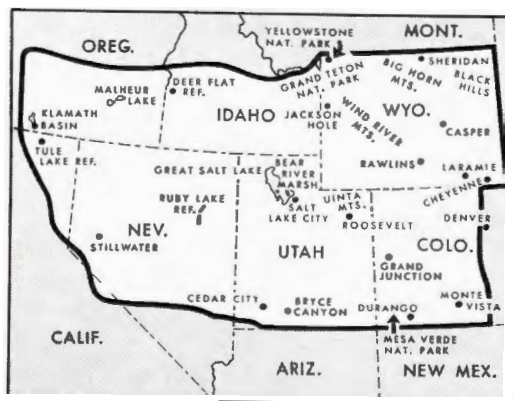


GREAT BASIN, CENTRAL ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION.—Over most of this area the summer was wet and cool. However, as usual, western



Colorado was different; it was hot and dry. In general, the season was not remarkable bird-wise.

Grebes.—A Horned Grebe nested in the Blitzen valley at Malheur in eastern Oregon (David Marshall), one of the first breeding records for the state of Oregon.

Pelicans.—For the first time in several years White Pelicans nested at Harney Lake next to Malheur (Marshall). Harney Lake has been virtually dry until the last few years. The pelicans nested on two low narrow islands. Heavy waves from a storm on

the lake washed over most of the islands and destroyed all but two of 230 nests.

Hérons.—There was a big show of herons at Farmington Bay on the Great Salt Lake, Aug. 10 (Lockerbie). There were 91 Great Blues, 150 Snowies and the usual Black-crowned Night Herons and bitterns. This is the greatest number seen in years in that area. At Malheur and Harney Lakes, owing to abundant water, this was a good nesting year for herons. Marshall reported from that area: 350 pairs of Great Blue Herons; 450 pairs of Common Egrets; 100 pairs of Snowy Egrets; and 700 pairs of Black-crowned Night Herons.

Swans.—On Aug. 6, 2 swans believed to be Trumpeters were seen with 2 two-thirds-grown cygnets at Malheur (Marshall). It appears that the plantings from Red Rock Lakes are finally getting results. The Trumpeters continue to have poor results in their breeding efforts at Flat Creek in the National Elk Refuge at Jackson, Wyo. (Greenwalt)—they nested but lost their young. Elsewhere in Jackson Hole the Trumpeter fared better. The pair behind Rockefeller's new Jackson Lake Lodge raised 4 cygnets, putting on a real show for the hotel guests (Berlet).

Geese and Ducks.—In general, with abundant water supplies, the breeding season in this Region was good. Malheur and elsewhere recorded more production according to brood counts. There was nothing unusual recorded, however. There are changes going on in the Malheur area in eastern Oregon. The Carp have increased to such an extent that there is very little sago pond weed left. Consequently, Malheur is now a much poorer feeding ground for waterfowl. A Harlequin Duck was found at Klamath Falls on June 14 (McLeod)—an unusual record for that area.

Shorebirds.—There is nothing exceptional to report except a great concentration of Am. Avocets reported near Farmington Bay on the Great Salt Lake on Aug. 10. One flock contained 10,000 birds and there were also two smaller groups (Lockerbie).

Owls.—The Short-eared Owl is still showing signs of increasing in this Region. Monte Vista Refuge in southern central Colorado reported a build-up to 60 individuals by the end of this reporting period (Bryant).

Hummingbirds.—Mrs. Crews at Hotchkiss in the mesa country of western Colorado reported a good breeding season for the hummers, with the Black-chinned the most common local species and the Broad-tailed the most numerous migrant. A Rufous Hummingbird showed up in Cheyenne in southeastern Wyoming, Aug. 7 (Mrs. Hanesworth). This seems quite far east for the bird.

Martins.—Gleb Kashin reported 3 Purple Martins in the Wasatch Mountains above 9000 ft., about 15 miles out of Salt Lake City, June 22. This is a rare bird in those mountains.

Grosbeaks.—Durango continues to be the Evening Grosbeak capitol of this area. For some reason there are more of these birds in Durango than elsewhere. Returning flocks with young started appearing by July 17 (Reames). Except for this area in south-

western Colorado, the Evening Grosbeak is only reported in small numbers in this Region.

Longspurs.—Mrs. Hanesworth had 2 pairs of breeding Chestnut-collared Longspurs at Cheyenne, June 15, in addition to the much more common McCown's Longspur. The latter bird is common to abundant over most of the eastern half of Wyoming during the breeding season.—DR. OLIVER K. SCOTT, 437 East 13th St., Cas per. Wyo.