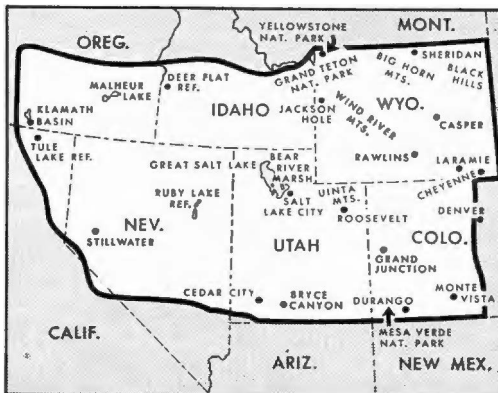


**GREAT BASIN, CENTRAL ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION.**—April and May were mostly wet and cold, although a generalization for this Region



is difficult. For instance, Malheur in the eastern Oregon sagebrush plains, where the winter snows in the Steens Mountains produce its water, had high winds and dry weather, evaporating much of the snow. Thus the run-off will not be as predicted. Harney Lake at Malheur has finally entirely dried up. Farther east in the Great Basin and Central Rockies the weather has been wet and either broke the moisture records or came close to it. Most correspondents report the weather as just plain miserable since much of the moisture is in the form of wet snow. Durango, as usual, is an exception, its weather being tied more to the Southwest, a much drier area (OR). In general, the perching birds have been slower to appear this year and perhaps there were fewer of them (LMB). The effects of the moisture

will be most beneficial to the great refuges of the Great Basin and their waterfowl populations. They wax fair ecstatic about the flow of the Bear River, responsible for the great Bear River Marshes Refuge at the north end of the Great Salt Lake. It is flowing as it did before the country was so heavily overgrazed. In fact, some Canada Goose nests were flooded out, giving fewer broods than last year—415 instead of 440 (RDJ). No correspondent reported any waves of migrants. In the northern Central Rockies of Wyoming there was no cold front of any significance during the critical period of the last 2 weeks of April and the first 3 weeks of May. A wave of migrants, to be noticed, requires a cold front to bring the birds down and stop them.

**Heron**—A Little Blue Heron was seen at Lower Klamath Lake in south-central Oregon on May 31 (Mr. & Mrs. Kimball). This is the first record for this area.

**Swans**—With excellent water conditions in eastern Nevada and elsewhere, the Trumpeters have been moving about. Three pairs were seen on the upper Humboldt River and there were fewer than that on Ruby Lakes Refuge (Clair Aldous).

**Geese**—Gene Crawford reported 51 nests of the Canada Goose at the Snake River Refuge in western Idaho—the same as last year. This refuge is administered with Deer Flat Refuge and is to be extended to protect the geese nesting grounds on islands in the river.

**Hawks**—Dennis Carter had a Black Hawk on the Virginia River south of Springdale near Zion Park, Utah, May 7. This is the first record for Utah. He saw this bird repeatedly and by May 24 there were a pair; perhaps a breeding record for Utah!

**Cranes**—There were 500 Sandhills at Grand Junction the second week of April—more than anyone can remember (EBC).

**Shorebirds**—A Stilt Sandpiper was seen for 6 days in early May (DE) at Klamath Marsh. This is the first occurrence reported from that area. Seven Am. Golden Plover were seen at Cheyenne on May 19 (Mrs. RDH), a rare spring record.

**Owls**—The number of Horned Owls in the area of Malheur is increasing and so is the rodent population. For the second year a man-made Horned Owl's nest was occupied at refuge headquarters. On May 31, Kridler mist-netted a Flammulated Owl at Malheur, a rare bird in Oregon. At Monte Vista Refuge in southern Colorado it is common; C. R. Bryant reported a maximum of 6 during this period.

**Swallows**—On May 13 the Utah Audubon Society saw 11 male and 3 female Purple Martins at Utah Lake, central Utah. This is a large number for a rare bird (GLK).

**Starlings**—The Starling steadily increases everywhere. Stewart Murie at Parowan, southeastern Utah, had them breeding for the first time.

**Warblers**—Virginia's Warblers, although common enough in the Colorado Rockies, is virtually unknown to the north in Wyoming, but Mrs. Lamberts had one on May 12 at Rawlins and there was one in Cheyenne, May 28 (Mrs. RDH). The Bay-breasted Warbler, thought to be casual in Wyoming, was

seen by the Wiards in Cheyenne on May 19. There was a Chestnut-sided Warbler in Casper's Audubon Park for 10 days, starting on May 12 (*Mrs. LCR & OKS*). This bird is thought to be casual in Wyoming, but this may represent only local ignorance, for the species may be far more common. (For so few observers covering so large a territory it is remarkable how much is known.) Mrs. Rognstad at the same place, had a Worm-eating starting on May 11 and remaining for a week, for the first state record and probably the second record for the Rocky Mountain Region.

**Oriole**—A Scott's Oriole was seen in Salt Lake City on April 30 (*BW*)—very far north for this bird.

**Grosbeaks**—There was a Cardinal at Cheyenne, May 19 (*Mrs. RDH*); there are few records for Wyoming. On May 13 there was a Blue Grosbeak at Torrington in eastern Wyoming (*RCR*)—a rare bird in the Region. Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were reported from west of Casper, May 7 (*OKS*), and in eastern Wyoming at the junction of the Chugwater and Laramie Rivers, May 18 (*OKS & RCR*). Another was seen at Grand Junction, May 27-28 (*LG*), a new species for that area of western Colorado.

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