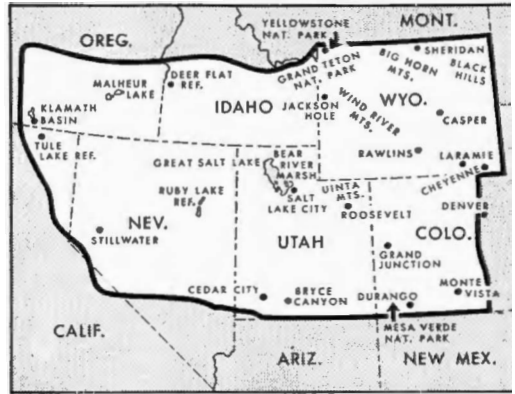


GREAT BASIN, CENTRAL ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION.—The wet phase that started in the fall of 1961 continued throughout this period. The



only real change has been in the vegetation, owing to overgrazing; this change has been tremendous, from waist-high native grasses and running streams to semi-arid sage-brush and dry washes with imported cheat grass. The moisture increase has grown high grass this season and increased the pairs of nesting ducks. Flooding has caused nest losses and many very late broods. Figures on this year's hatch have not yet been received. In southern Utah and particularly southwestern Colorado conditions are drier than usual. The usual summer showers did not materialize.

R. G. McCaskie has submitted many new records and distribution extensions from northeastern California, an area that extends over the Sierra into the Great Basin.

Loons—A Common Loon was seen at Bear River Marshes on July 16 (RDJ)—a most unusual bird at the Refuge this season.

Swans—We have little information except that no young were produced at Ruby Lakes, Nev., according to Donald Lewis, the new refuge manager.

Ducks—The breeding season in the Klamath Basin, Oreg.-Calif. state line, was much delayed by cold, dry weather. There was a 5 per cent drop in total waterfowl production, but the late hatch may add to the total count (EJO'N). Bear River Marshes, Utah, reported double last year's nesting ducks. A sampling showed nesting ducks: Gadwall 34%; Red-head 17%; Cinnamon Teal 15%; Mallard 14%; Pintail 8%; Shoveler 4%. This is an unusual number of Pintails—normally the most common migrant, but almost absent as a breeding bird. There were a few Green-winged Teal nests, unusual for Bear River. Am. Coot continued to be a plague with 75,000 present (RDJ).

Hawks—The members of the Colorado Bird Club have noted a recent plunge in the number of Golden Eagles in the mountain country of Colorado. Harold Holt, the club president, states the breeding pairs were down 50 per cent from last year. The pair of *Black Hawks* seen at Springdale, Utah, this spring summered in the area but no nest was found. These hawks are believed to be the first recorded for the state (DG). Stewart Murie reported a great increase

in grasshoppers in the non-irrigated land about Parowan, Utah. In addition to many smaller birds, Sparrow Hawks seem more prevalent. Nine were seen on an eighth mile of fence. This bird is a highly successful species throughout the mountain states.

Quail—Mrs. Shaw reported, from Warm Lake in the mountains north of Boise, Idaho, Mountain Quail with 11 chicks, July 29.

Sandhill Crane—Donald Lewis reported 10 pairs of these birds at Ruby Lakes. At Monte Vista Refuge in the San Luis Valley, Colo. they are trying to repopulate with Sandhill Cranes, starting with 14 young birds. The Refuge is continuing to grow under a 7-year program (RCB).

Shorebirds—Mrs. Lambertsen had an Upland Plover near Separation Creek west of Rawlins, Wyo. on Aug. 11. This bird is relatively common in the eastern part of Wyoming but almost unknown in the western.

Swifts—A pair of Chimney Swifts, a casual bird in Wyoming, was seen at Casper on June 2 and there-after (OKS).

Hummingbirds—Mrs. Crews, in Colorado's mesa country, has been feeding Black-chins during the summer. The Rufous and Broad-tails come during the migration season.

Woodpeckers—There were Northern Three-toed Woodpeckers at Cedar Breaks Nat'l Monument, Utah, July 6 (DC). They are common in the heavy forests at the foot of the Teton Mountains, Grand Teton Nat'l Park (OKS). An Acorn Woodpecker was seen at Milford near Honey Lake, Calif., June 19 (RGMcC). The habitat was correct but it was outside of its normal range on the east side of the Sierra.

Warblers—Dennis Carter reported an immature Orange-crowned Warbler being fed in the potato hollow, Zion Park, Utah, June 20—the first breeding record for the Park. R. G. McCaskie collected a female Black and white Warbler at Eagleville, Calif., June 30—the first specimen for the state.

Icteridae—Bobolinks are still nesting at the north end of Utah Lake. Many grassy and wet areas are being drained (GK). There were 100 pairs of Tricolored Blackbirds at Honey Lake, June 10—the first report (RGMcC).

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