

GREAT BASIN, CENTRAL ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION.—The controlling factor, water, for breeding waterfowl was set in the last two seasons and in



this season the harvest came. It appeared to be a better breeding season than there has been in several years. July was hot and very dry. In many areas of the Great Basin, Utah, Wyoming and the central Rockies there was no precipitation in July, but daily thunderstorms started in August. Landbirds as well as waterfowl appeared to have a good breeding season, but there are fewer substantiating figures. There was a 75 per cent increase in breeding Mourning Doves at Clear Lake in the Klamath Basin (EJO'N).

Swans—Ruby Lakes reported record production of the Trumpeter Swan with 4 nests and 11 cygnets surviving (DEL).

At Minidoka Refuge on the Snake River, southern Idaho, the first goose nesting was 80 per cent destroyed by early high water, but these birds nested again successfully with near normal results (SRW'). The ducks there are mostly Mallards and Gadwall—about 5000, which is normal. By the end of July the population rose to 35,000, because of the influx of molting Am. Widgeons, Mallards and Gadwalls on Lake Wolcott (SRW').

Although Monte Vista Refuge was hit by a water shortage, the number of Mallards present has almost doubled—up to 11,800. Other species, which are less numerous, were somewhat off (GPE). The refuge has grown, accounting for the increase. Several broods of Buffleheads were found on Lake Yellowstone on July 28 (OKS). Apparently this bird breeds

more commonly in northwestern Wyoming than has been supposed. The only rare ducks reported were 4 male and 2 female Wood Ducks at Deer Flat Refuge (W'CR). This is the largest count in this region for this rare duck.

Hawks—The Black Hawk nesting attempt near Springdale, southern Utah, raised no young (DLC). A Goshawk nested at Bryce Canyon Nat'l Park (DR). We hope these rare mountain hawks will survive.

Eagles—In spite of allowable shooting of the Golden Eagle in central Wyoming, three nests just north of Casper successfully raised 2 young each. A nest just a mile north of the city, however, was destroyed (OKS). Three young birds of the year were seen in the Kolobara region of Zion Park, July 25 (RW').

Swifts—Black Swifts were reported at Moraine Park and Bear Lake in Rocky Mountain Nat'l Park on four days in the third week of August, with up to 3 birds at a time (TC). It is known there are relatively large colonies of these birds in the Colorado Rockies, but the habitat is so inaccessible that they are rarely reported. There were 5 Black Swifts at Salt Lake City, June 18 (GK).

Hummingbirds—A Rivoli's Hummingbird was seen at a feeder on the eastern slope of the Rockies, just south of Rocky Mountain Nat'l Park, Aug. 5 (TC). The bird is casual in Colorado, but this is far east.

Swallows—Fifteen Purple Martins—a rare bird in Utah—were seen near Heber on July 10 (GK). This points to a breeding colony in the area.

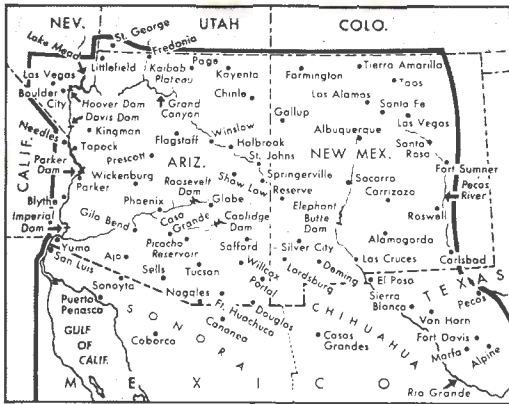
Warblers, Vireos—A Bay-breasted Warbler was collected on the west side of Upper Klamath Lake on July 6 (RGMcC), the first record for Oregon. A Red-eyed Vireo was found east of Upper Klamath on the same date by the same observer. This specimen also was collected.

Orioles—Scott's Orioles were found at 2 different localities in the juniper forest just south of Salt Lake City, June 29-30 (RF, GK); this is far north for the bird. One was seen carrying food.

Grosbeaks and Buntings—A Rose-breasted Grosbeak was found at 8000 ft. in the front range of the Rockies (Rocky Mountain Nat'l Park), July 16 (TC). This is far west for this bird. Evening Grosbeaks turned up at Durango, July 12 (OR). An Indigo Bunting was banded in Oak Creek Canyon, Zion Park, July 11 (RW'). This seems remarkably far west for this bird, but it is the second record for this Park.

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SOUTHWEST REGION.—The summer was unusually hot and dry in most of New Mexico, with water conditions the poorest in many years. The Rio Grande was dry in much of its course after June 1,



and there was very little water left at the Bosque del Apache Nat'l Wildlife Refuge by early July. At Roswell, there were 18 consecutive days of over 100° F. Arizona, after an exceptionally arid winter and spring, fared much better. Generous rains started falling in the Nogales area in early July, and later good rains fell in other parts of southwestern Arizona. In August the rest of the state benefited from heavy rains, and water conditions were vastly improved.

The lack of rain in New Mexico resulted in a dearth of weeds, especially wild sunflowers. However, the acorn and berry crop was reported as good to excellent. Arizona reports, on the other hand, indicated a poor mast production.

Cormorants, Herons, Ibis—Two Olivaceous Cormorants were seen near Nogales, Ariz., July 28 and Aug. 3 (*WH*). A Little Blue Heron was observed at Six-mile Lake below Carlsbad, N. Mex., July 9 to 10 (*RCB*). At the same location, at least 30 young Snowy Egrets and 30 young Black-crowned Night Herons were seen in nests (*RCB*). A *Wood Ibis*, extremely rare in New Mexico, was observed there from July 9 to 22 (*RCB, BKH*).

Waterfowl—As many as 5 adult Black-bellied Tree Ducks, but no young, were present near Nogales in June (*WH*). No Mexican Ducks could be found at the San Simon Cienega, Ariz.-N. Mex., during a visit there in April. Water conditions at the Cienega were extremely poor. The status of the *Mexican Duck*, which is now extremely rare in the United States, warrants restoration efforts involving the setting aside and development of suitable areas (*SHL*). A female Am. Widgeon was seen at Ft. Bayard, Grant Co., N. Mex., July 28 (*BKH*). A pair of Common Goldeneyes was observed at a stock pond on Beaver Dam Wash, extreme southwestern Utah, June 11 (*DLC*).

Hawks—Mississippi Kites again nested in New Mexico; one young was successfully reared at a nest in an elm at Roswell. It had left the nest by Aug. 11. At least 6 adults, other than the nesting pair, were noted in the vicinity during the nesting period (*VM*). A Goshawk was seen on the North Rim of the Grand Canyon, Ariz., July 4 (*DLC*). A pair of Cooper's Hawks nested at Pipe Springs Nat'l Monument, Ariz., where an adult and 2 juveniles were found, July 25 (*DLC*). Harris' Hawk had a good nesting season in

the Carlsbad area (*RCB*).

Quails—The Gambel's Quail hatch in much of Arizona was poor, owing to a dry winter (*SG*). In New Mexico, they were plentiful at the Bosque Refuge (*LIO*). Scaled Quail were unusually numerous in the Roswell area (*RDF*) and at Carlsbad (*RCB*).

Gallinules, Shorebirds—A brood of 5 young Common Gallinules was found at the Bosque Refuge (*LIO*), and 2 well-grown young were seen along the Pecos River below Carlsbad, July 20 (*RCB*). Two Spotted Sandpipers were observed at Rose Canyon Lake in the Santa Catalina Mountains, Ariz., Aug. 8 (*FMT*). Five Am. Avocets were noted at Santa Fe, N. Mex. on the rather early date of July 7 (*PRS*). Seven Wilson's Phalaropes, possibly early returning migrants, were noted there, June 18 (*PRS*).

Pigeons, Doves—Band-tailed Pigeons apparently had a good season. Small flocks were seen at Patagonia, Ariz., June 10 (*FMT*). A nest with egg was found at 9000 ft. on Carr Peak in the Huachuca Mountains, Ariz., Aug. 13 (*SHL*). A flock numbering 300 was seen about 30 miles north of Silver City, N. Mex., Aug. 4 (Leonard Oakley). Between 24 and 30 were present at Cedar Crest, in the Sandia Mountains, N. Mex., after Aug. 9, the first ones seen there since at least 1956 (*BM*). They also were reported from Los Alamos, N. Mex. (*MC*). A White-winged Dove was found near Littlefield, Ariz., July 30 (*RWR*). Inca Doves were still present at Parker Dam, Calif., on the Colorado River, as witnessed by at least 5 seen there, June 1 (*GM, PDeB, DP*).

Goatsuckers, Swifts, Hummingbirds—Not a single Buff-collared Nightjar (Ridgway's Whip-poor-will) could be found in the Arizona portion of Guadalupe Canyon in the Guadalupe Mountains of extreme southeastern Arizona and southwestern New Mexico (*SHL*). Both Common and Lesser Nighthawks were seen and heard near St. George, Utah, June 10 (*DLC, et al.*). Along 10 miles of highway travel southeast of Santa Fe, 62 Common Nighthawks were counted at 7 A.M. on July 17 (*PRS*). At least 6 Black Swifts were seen flying with swallows over the Virgin River bottomlands near St. George on a cool and cloudy day, June 10 (*DLC, et al.*). A Chimney Swift was noted over Carlsbad, July 4 (*BKH*). Levy is reasonably certain that he saw a male Lucifer Hummingbird in the Guadalupe Mountains. The Violet-crowned Hummingbird was quite common in the same mountains (*SHL*).

Trogons, Woodpeckers—A female and 2 male Coppery-tailed Trogons were seen in Cave Creek Canyon on the east side of the Chiricahua Mountains, Ariz., June 5. One of the males was in a nest hole. The following day, a male was observed in the Arizona portion of Guadalupe Canyon, apparently a first record for that locality (*GM, et al.*). Four Acorn Woodpeckers were noted in oak scrub at Deer Lake in the mountains above Cuba, Sandoval Co., N. Mex., July 21 (*PRS*).

Flycatchers, Swallows—The Tropical Kingbird has become more numerous at Nogales (*WH*). The *Thick-billed Kingbird* continued to expand its range in Arizona. A nest was found in a sycamore in Madera

Canyon, Santa Rita Mountains, June 2; later, on July 10, 2 young were still in the nest, 2 were perched near the nest, and a fifth was active in the nest tree (*H & RC*). The species appeared to be very common in the Patagonia area, Aug. 3 (*WH*). Only 1 pair could be found at each of Bonita and Guadalupe Canyons in the Arizona portion of the Guadalupe Mountains (*SHL*). Three pairs of Sulphur-bellied Flycatchers were found in Bonita Canyon (*SHL*). The Purple Martin was scarce at Tucson, Ariz., a maximum of 5 on July 14 comparing poorly with 75 to 100 seen there in the past three years (*FMT*).

Jays, Bushtits, Mimids—A flock of 8 Piñon Jays was observed in Joshua trees near Beaver Dam Wash, June 11 (*DLC*). Three male *Black-eared Bushiits* (one collected) were identified in 3 small flocks of Bushtits in the Arizona section of Guadalupe Canyon, June 6 (*GM, et al.*), a possible new state record. A Catbird was present at Cedar Crest, June 5 to 6 (*BM*). A Bendire's Thrasher was carefully observed along Beaver Dam Wash, June 11 (*DLC, AC*).

Vireos, Wood Warblers—A late Warbling Vireo was observed in mesquites near Washington, Washington Co., Utah, June 10 (*DLC*). A Black-and-white Warbler was noted at Cedar Crest, Aug. 7, 14, and 17 (*BM*). Lucy's Warblers were not found south of Parker, Ariz., but at least 15 were seen in large stands of mesquites near the Colorado River north of town, June 1 (*GM, et al.*). A drab and very late Audubon's Warbler was seen along Beaver Dam Wash, June 11 (*DLC*). A male was present at Cedar Crest, June 23 (*BM*). A Yellow-breasted Chat nest was found at Cedar Crest (*BM*). A Wilson's Warbler at Patagonia, June 7 (*WH*) was quite late. A male Am. Redstart was noted at Cedar Crest, Aug. 6, 7, 14, and 18 (*BM*).

Icterids, Tanagers—At least 6 pairs of Orchard Orioles were nesting in the vicinity of Carlsbad (*RCB*). About 12 Common Grackles were identified at Montezuma, San Miguel Co., N. Mex., Aug. 1 (*ES*). A pair of Bronzed Cowbirds was seen at Bard, Imperial Co., Calif., June 1 (*GM, et al.*). Three Western Tanagers in the desert near St. George, June 10, and another along Beaver Dam Wash, June 11 (*DLC*) were very late. Three Hepatic Tanagers were observed in Bayo Canyon below Los Alamos, Aug. 15 (*PRS*).

Fringillids—A pair of Cardinals was observed with 2 young at Parker Dam, June 1 (*GM, et al.*). A male Varied Bunting was found in Guadalupe Canyon, June 6 (*GM, et al.*). More than two dozen Evening Grosbeaks were seen on the North Rim of Grand Canyon, July 25 (*DLC*). An unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks were reported: adults were seen from June on, and juveniles were noted on Aug. 11, at Montezuma (*ES*); 4 were seen on Cumbres Pass, Conejos Co., Colo., June 12 (*BM*), and about 20 were found there, Aug. 10 (*PRS*); and the species was noted at Los Alamos, Aug. 13 to 14 (*MC*). A Pine Siskin feeding with Blue Grosbeaks about 15 miles north of Blythe, Riverside Co., Calif., June 1 (*GM, et al.*) was extremely late. A pair of Red Crossbills was observed at Los Alamos, July 20, and thereafter they were fairly common; none were

seen in 1962 (*WBL*). A Green-tailed Towhee was noted on June 9 and 27 at Cedar Crest, and a young bird was seen there, July 28 (*BM*). Four Savannah Sparrows were seen in a marsh near St. George, Utah, July 3 (*DLC*). Botteri's Sparrows were "numerous" at Nogales, Elgin, and Ft. Crittenden, Ariz. after early July (*WH*). At least 8 Sage Sparrows were seen at Dunn's Bridge, Santa Fe, July 4 (*PRS*). A Black-chinned Sparrow was seen at the mouth of Water Canyon, Magdalena Mountains, N. Mex., July 21 (*BM*).

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