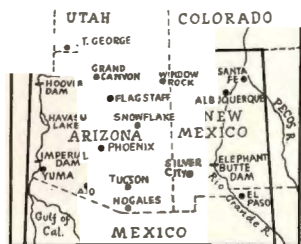


**SOUTHWEST REGION.** Summer temperatures were consistently hot in June and until about July 20, when the delayed summer rains began falling. Precipitation has been



been spotty, so that many areas are still in an arid condition, and the overall drought continues unbroken awaiting the recurrence of the wet cycle.

**Loons, grebes, and pelicans.**—A red-throated loon, probably the same individual, was seen at Havasu Lake, June 8 and 15 (Monson). A summer record for the eared grebe on the lower Colorado River was one seen at Headgate Rock Dam near Parker, Ariz., June 15 (M.). Pied-billed grebes had

begun returning to Havasu L. by July 9 (M.). A white pelican near Benson, Ariz., July 17, was reported to L. Hargrave.

**Cormorants, herons, and ibises.**—The double-crested cormorant colony at Lakeside, Ariz., this year contained but two nests (L. Levine). The colonies at Topock, Ariz., were holding their own, with young still in the nest as late as July 7 (M.). A great blue heron rookery is now active at Gillespie Dam on the lower Gila River, Ariz. (W. Pulich). The last spring snowy egrets were seen at Snowflake, Ariz., June 6 (L. L.); a colony was newly-established at Topock, with at least 20 nests, young mostly on the wing by July 7. Last summer only three nests of this species were found in the Topock area, at a location different from the present colony. This is believed to be a new breeding bird in Arizona (M.). Juvenile black-crowned night herons, out of the nest but weak on the wing, were seen near Topock, July 21 (R. Hitch, M.). The first summer record of wood ibis comes from near Buckeye, Ariz., July 7, when about 35 were seen (W. P.).

**Waterfowl.**—Young mallards were noted near Topock, June 18 (M.), and near Buckeye, July 7 (W. P.). At least 20 gadwalls were summering near Topock, where they were not known to breed (M.). Evidence that cinnamon teal nest in southern Arizona comes from a record of seven small young and five adults seen near Buckeye, July 7 (W. P.). A shoveller was noted near Pima, Ariz., July 25 (W. P.). A male lesser scaup duck was seen at Arivaca Junction, Ariz., July 21 (W. P.). A ruddy duck was observed at the same place, June 10 (A. Phillips, C. Vorhies). Two red-breasted merganser females were present at Havasu L. until June 10; thereafter one was noted June 16 and July 30 (M.).

**Hawks.**—An osprey was present near Benson from about July 10 to July 17, reported to Hargrave; one was noted at Havasu L., July 30 (M.). A pair of duck hawks was seen circling above the Patagonia Mts., Ariz., June 26 (A. P., T. Hall). Young sparrow hawks were still being fed in the nest the third week in July at Tumacacori National Monument, Ariz. (B. Jackson).

**Rails, gallinules, and coots.**—A clapper rail was seen at Headgate Rock Dam, June 6; adults and young were seen at later dates, including both adults and three young, July 17 (M.). Young of both Florida gallinules and coots were noted near Buckeye, July 7 (W. P.).

**Shorebirds.**—An early snowy plover was seen at Havasu L., July 13; 30 were seen near Topock, July 21 (M.). Two long-billed curlews were seen in the Bill Williams Delta, Ariz., June 6, and one at Havasu L., June 10 (M.); two were seen at Havasu L., July 9 (S. Platford, M.), and others later in July. The last spring spotted sandpiper was seen in the Bill Williams Delta, June 6; the first fall arrival at Havasu L., July 9 (M.). They

were present all summer at Snowflake, Ariz. (L. L.). Returning willets were noted at Havasu L., June 28, when five were seen (M.). An unusually early greater yellow-legs was noted in the Bill Williams Delta, June 24 (M.). The first returning least sandpipers were seen at Havasu L., July 13; the first western sandpiper at Havasu L., July 9 (M.). Marbled godwits were returning at Havasu L. by July 9, when 42 were observed (M.). The first returning avocets were noted at Havasu L., July 9 (M.). The last spring black-necked stilts were 16 seen at Headgate Rock Dam, June 6 (M.); the first returning birds were about 15 seen near Buckeye, July 7 (W. P.). Earliest returning Wilson's phalaropes were seen near Topock, July 14 (M.).

*Gulls and terns.*—The first returning ring-billed gulls were noted at Havasu L., July 30 (M.). A straggling Heermann's gull was seen at Needles Landing on Havasu L., July 13 (M.). Three Forster's terns noted near Topock, July 7, were unusually early returning migrants; more than 50 were seen at Havasu L., July 30 (M.). Late black terns were one seen at Arivaca Junction, June 10 (A. P., C. V.), and three near Topock, June 18 (M.); first returning migrants were noted near Topock, July 21 (M.).

*Doves through kingfishers.*—Mourning doves were reported as "exceedingly common" at Grand Canyon Village, Ariz., (H. Bryant). At Tempe, Ariz., where a dense growth of tamarisk now occupies the bed of the Salt River, white-winged doves have been nesting commonly for the last five years (L. Yaeger). A very early yellow-billed cuckoo was seen at El Paso, Texas, May 23 (L. McBee). A road-runner's nest containing two eggs was found 12 feet from the ground in the skeleton of a dead sahuaro, at Sand Tanks southeast of Gila Bend, Ariz., June 15 (W. P.). A freshly-dead long-eared owl was discovered floating on Havasu L., July 9 (S. P., M.). Young black-chinned hummingbirds left the nest on July 14, apparently an unusually late date, at El Paso (E. Barlow). Coppery-tailed trogons in the mountains of southeastern Arizona appear from all reports to be declining in numbers after their recent peak.

*Flycatchers.*—An Arkansas kingbird nest was found 4 feet up in a cholla cactus southwest of Congress Junction, Ariz., June 24 (W. P.). An ash-throated flycatcher was feeding its young the pulp of sahuaro fruit near Tucson, Ariz., June 28 (W. P.). Black phoebes were returning to the lower Colorado River Valley from their breeding grounds by June 24 (M.). One was seen at Showlow, Ariz., June 8 (L. L.). A few Traill's flycatchers are still nesting at Feldman, Ariz., on the lower San Pedro River, although the water has been drained from the swamp (A. P., T. H.). Others were nesting at Radium Springs, N. Mex., June 13 (L. M., R. Allen). The last migrant western flycatcher was noted at Havasu L., June 15 (M.).

*Swallows.*—The last seen of the violet-green

swallows breeding in the Parker Dam, Ariz.-Calif., area was noted June 27 (M.). Young were still being fed in the nest at Ruidoso in the Sacramento Mts., N. Mex., July 17-18 (L. M., R. A.). Two tree swallows seen near Topock, June, 18, were apparently summering; first returning migrants were noted there July 7 (M.). Several flew south low over Feldman, July 18 (A. P., T. H.). A colony of at least 20 bank swallow nests along the Rio Grande in New Mexico, about 12 miles above El Paso, contained young being fed on June 10 (L. M., R. A.). This colony is much smaller now than when it was discovered in 1939, and is believed to be the only colony in the Southwest Region. The young of barn and cliff swallows were already on the wing here, June 10 (L. M., R. A.). The purple martins of the Tucson vicinity apparently no longer roost near the city; virtually none have been seen passing over town this summer (A. P.).

*Wrens through vireos.*—At least one Bewick's wren was busily helping a pair of cardinals feed their young in early June at Tumacacori National Monument (B. J.). An exceptionally early migrant ruby-crowned kinglet was seen at Snowflake, July 28 (L. L.). Eight phainopeplas were seen near Parker Dam as late as June 10 (M.); a nest was being completed at Radium Springs, June 13 (L. M., R. A.). A pair of Bell's vireos at Tumacacori National Monument built four nests and laid at least 14 eggs—and still didn't raise any young. The first nest was begun April 7, and the last egg laid June 27 (S. Brewer). First returning warbling vireo was seen on the Colorado River Indian Reservation, below Parker, July 17 (M.).

*Wood warblers.*—A Lucy's warbler nest containing young was discovered at Radium Springs, June 13. This is the second record for the species in the Rio Grande valley in New Mexico, and the first breeding record. This may indicate that the species is extending its range eastward (R. A., L. M.). Flying young of the Macgillivray's warbler were seen at Ruidoso, July 17, 18 by same observers.

*Blackbirds and tanagers.*—A stray western meadowlark was seen at Needles Landing on Havasu L., June 8 (M.). An exceptionally early flock of Brewer's blackbirds, all males, were observed at El Paso, July 24 (L. M.). A flock of eight great-tailed grackles was seen near Bonita in the Sulphur Springs Valley, Ariz., July 24, and a lone male four miles west of Douglas, Ariz., July 22 (W. P.). The western tanager is reported as almost absent at Grand Canyon Village, where formerly it was a common nesting bird (H. B.). A male had returned to Feldman by July 18 (A. P., T. H.). A pair of hepatic tanagers was observed feeding young near the Reef Mine in the Huachuca Mts., Ariz., July 26 (H. Crockett).

*Finches and sparrows.*—A flock of red crossbills containing both adults and streaked young, the latter quite adept on the wing, was seen at Grand

Canyon Village, June 6 (H. B.). Little is known concerning the nesting of this bird in this region. Several Cassin's sparrows were noted singing near the headquarters of the Jornada Experimental Range, N. Mex., June 21 (L. M., G. Bradt, D. Harrison). — GALE MONSON, *Havasus Lake Nat'l. Wildlife Refuge, Parker, Ariz.*