

GREAT BASIN-CENTRAL ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION.—From all indications, the breeding season this year was quite successful. Hot and dry



weather prevailed during most of the period, but this had very little adverse effect on the nesting. Although few comparative data were received, it appears that throughout most of the Region the nesting season compared favorably with last year. At the Bear River Refuge, Utah, there was an increase in most of the nesting species.

Grebes and pelicans.—Eared grebes were common throughout the period at the Sheldon Antelope Refuge, Cedarville, Calif. (John E. Schwartz). Two pied-billed grebes were noted near Minden, Nev., June 4 (E. C. D. Marriage). White pelicans were observed throughout most of the region during the period; on Aug. 15 an estimated 3700 were observed on the Bear River Refuge. These birds come from the nesting colonies on the islands in Great Salt Lake to feed on the numerous small fish found in the Refuge waters. Western grebes nested in abundance at Bear River Refuge; also pied-billed and eared grebes nested in their usual numbers at BRR.

Cormorants and herons.—A flock of 25 double-crested cormorants was noted June 20 near Rye Patch Reservoir, Pershing Co., Nev., by Fred G. Evenden. Black-crowned night herons were common near Alamosa, Colo., until June 1; since then none have been observed there (Julia and Robert Armagast). Two pied-billed grebes, 2 American egrets, and 4 American bitterns were observed, June 15, near Carson City, Nev. (E.C.D.M.). Great blue herons and snowy egrets became common near Logan, Utah, in June (Dr. J. S. Stanford). The white-faced glossy ibis was reported as abundant at Carson Lake and the Stillwater area, Nev., June 24 (F.G.E.). Fifty-nine double-crested cormorant nests were counted at BRR on May 25. Great blue herons, snowy egrets, black-crowned night herons, and white-faced glossy ibises nested in their usual numbers at BRR.

Geese.—Near Carson City, Nev., 24 Canada geese, with goslings, were noted (E.C.D.M.). Noland Nelson reports that 812 Canada geese were counted, June 16, at Ogden Bay Refuge, Utah, 250 at Farmington Bay Refuge, Utah, and 211 at the public shooting grounds near Penrose, Utah. Dr. Stanford reports several Canada geese near Logan, Utah. At the Sheldon Refuge, Nev., several broods were observed (J.E.S.). A total of 313 Canada goose broods was counted on one trip over the dikes at BRR, as compared with 391 for the maximum count last year. Average brood size was 4.5.

Ducks.—From information received, duck nesting throughout the region compares favorably with previous years, with some increases noted. Schwartz reported that production of gadwall and mallard at the Sheldon Refuge, Nev., was higher than in previous years; he also reported that green-winged teal, cinnamon teal, pintail, and ruddy were common nesters. Oliver K. Scott reported that ducks in the locality of Casper, Wyo., had a very successful breeding season although much suitable breeding ground was still unoccupied. A waterfowl census made July 1 at Ogden Bay Refuge, Utah, revealed 935 mallards, 1250 gadwalls, 18,560 pintails, 1650 cinnamon teal, 2132 redheads, and 763 shovellers (N.N.). Undoubtedly a large percentage of the pintails were non-nesters and male birds which had completed nesting activities. The summer residents and nesting population at Farmington Bay Refuge, Utah, totaled 2549, and at the Public Shooting Grounds near Penrose, Utah, the total was 4162 (N.N.). Several mallard, pintail, and cinnamon teal nests were reported near Salt Lake City by C. W. Lockerbie. On sample plots (which comprise approximately 10 per cent of available nesting area) at BRR, the following nests were counted: gadwall 192, cinnamon teal 95, mallard 34, redhead 51, shoveller 5, pintail 7, blue-winged teal 1, and baldpate 1; this is an increase of 18 per cent over the nests found on the same area last year. Near Carson City, Nev., 8 cinnamon teal, 12 shovellers, and 6 buffle-heads, were observed (E.C.D.M.). Canvas-backs were reported nesting at Swan Lake in southern Idaho by Bruce K. Norris.

Cranes, rails, and coots.—Two sandhill cranes were observed, July 4, at Grassy Lake in Targhee Nat'l Forest, Wyo., by Oliver K. Scott. Two Virginia rails were noted, June 4, near Minden, Nev. (E.C.D.M.). Russel H. Pray reported a Virginia rail, June 24, near Bieber, Lassen Co., Calif. The coot reached a population of 67,000 on Aug. 15, at BRR, and was present at other areas in their usual numbers.

Shorebirds and gulls.—A new record for the intermountain region is reported by C. W. Lockerbie; a black oyster-catcher, in company with willets, was observed, Aug. 5, at Farmington Bay Refuge, Utah. Killdeer were common nesters at Alamosa, Colo. (Armagast), near Logan, Utah (J.S.S.), Sheldon Refuge, Cedarville, Calif. (J.E.S.), Mesa Verde Nat'l Park (Watson), and at BRR. Avocets, killdeer, long-billed curlews, and black-necked stilts nested in their usual numbers throughout most of the region. Lockerbie reported the long-billed curlew, solitary sandpiper, willet, knot, western sandpiper, least sandpiper, pectoral sandpiper, avocet, and Wilson's phalarope, nesting near Salt Lake City. A nesting survey at Bear River Refuge revealed 3300 California gull nests, 514 avocet nests, 91 black-necked stilt nests, and 35 Caspian tern nests.

Hawks.—Schwartz reported that the marsh hawk, ferruginous hawk, and prairie falcon nested at the Sheldon Refuge, Cedarville, Calif.; also turkey vulture, red-tailed hawk, Swainson's hawk and golden

eagle were resident through the period. Schwartz noted that hawks and owls were more numerous this year, and attributes this partly to the increased rodent population. An estimated 50 sharp-shinned hawks and 25 Cooper's hawks were observed early in August at Ruby Lake Refuge, Ruby Valley, Nev., by Baine H. Cater. Ferruginous hawk nests have decreased near Casper, Wyo. (O.K.S.). Red-tailed hawks and sparrow hawks were frequently seen near Alamosa, Colo. (Armagast). On Aug. 15, 12 marsh hawks, 2 turkey vultures, 1 golden eagle and 1 prairie falcon were observed at BRR.

Owls.—Short-eared owls and horned owls were reported as resident through the period at Sheldon Refuge, Nev. (J.E.S.). A horned owl was observed, June 12, in Fandango Pass, Modoc Co., Calif., and a common screech owl observed, June 13, near Likely, Modoc Co., Calif. (R.H.P.). At BRR a peak of 15 short-eared owls was observed, July 11; one short-eared owl nested on the main dike within three feet of the roadway and raised her young successfully.

Hummingbirds.—A calliope hummingbird on nest (one egg hatched) was observed, July 31, near Salt Lake City (C.W.L.). Broad-tailed hummingbirds were common near Alamosa, Colo. (Armagast). Rufous and calliope hummingbirds, nesting, were observed at Grass Lake and Hope Valley, Alpine Co., Calif., July 16 (F.G.E.). A black-chinned hummingbird built a nest in a porch swing in Minden, Nev., where the young were raised successfully.

Kingfishers and woodpeckers.—Red-shafted flickers were reported at Sheldon Refuge, Nev. (J.E.S.); near Carson City, Nev., where broods were observed (E.C.D.M.); near Alamosa, Colo., where nests were observed (Armagast). Near Salt Lake City one was seen on its nest, June 10, by Lockerbie who also reported a hairy woodpecker in nest at Big Mt., Summit Co., Utah. Near Logan, they were common through June (J.S.S.). Lewis's woodpecker was a common nester near Carson City, Nev. (E.C.D.M.). Yellow-bellied sapsuckers are common in the mountains near Alamosa, Colo. (Armagast).

Passerine birds.—Three ash-throated flycatchers were observed, June 27, near Lookout, Modoc Co., Calif. (Pray), and Watson reports several at Mesa Verde Nat'l Park, Colo., during the period. Barn and cliff swallows were common through all northern counties of Nevada, and rough-winged swallows were seen in Elko and Churchill Counties, Nev. (F.G.E.). Violet-green, barn, and cliff swallows were common nesters near Alamosa, Colo. (Armagast). At Bear River Refuge 1800 barn swallows and 1200 cliff swallows nested on the area. Armagast observed a number of **black-throated gray warblers** east of Dike Mountain and LaVeta Pass, Colo., where two nests were noted, on June 11, an apparent eastward extension of range. On Aug. 15 there were 1500 yellow-headed blackbirds and 400 red-wings at BRR. A pair of gray-crowned rosy finches was observed, June 26, at Crater Lake, Ore. (R.H.P.). Oliver K. Scott reported that the lark bunting is becoming steadily more abundant in central Wyoming.—VANEZ T.