

in the streams and ponds held up very well; the stream flow in the northern part was considerably above normal and the fields and forests showed little signs of drought even with the scant rainfall. Apparently due to the many summer activities and vacations little comparative data have been received; however, 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 several of the nesting species.

Grebes, Pelicans.—An estimated 500 pairs of Western Grebes and several pairs of Pied-billed and Eared Grebes nested at the Bear River Refuge. The White Pelicans apparently nested successfully on the islands in Great Salt Lake, as on August 1 it was estimated that approximately 4000 adult and young birds were using BRR as a feeding ground. O. K. Scott reported 20 White Pelicans observed at Wheatland Reservoir on August 13. At Deer Flat Refuge in Idaho, F. Sheldon Dart reported Western Grebes down 50% from last year; Eared Grebes and White Pelicans 10% less. Loren W. Croxton reported 30 Eared Grebes and 12 White Pelicans at Ruby Lake, Nev.

Cormorants, Herons.—Sixty-seven pairs of Double-crested Cormorants nested on the Bear River Refuge; this is an increase of 8 pairs over last year. At Deer Flat Refuge, Idaho, Dart reported a 75% decrease in the number of cormorants using that area, and a 60% decrease in Great Blue Herons. C. W. Lockerbie reported 6 Great Blue Heron nests on May 21 near Echo Dam in Morgan County, Utah. Approximately 100 pairs nested on the Bear River Refuge and adjacent areas. Approximately 350 pairs of Snowy Egrets, 400 pairs of White-faced Ibises, and 125 pairs of Black-crowned Night Herons nested at BRR; this compares favorably with the previous few years. At Deer Flat Refuge, Idaho, Snowy and Am. Egrets were observed in limited numbers, and Black-crowned Night Herons showed a decrease of 75%; White-faced Ibis declined 50% (FSD).

Geese.—The Canada Goose nesting population and production for the Snake River Islands, Idaho, equaled but did not exceed that of a year ago. The Canada Goose population at Deer Flat Refuge was 225 on August 15, according to Dart. At BRR 310 broods of young Canada Geese were counted on May 15, as compared with a count of 313 broods for last year on approximately the same date. At Ruby Lake Refuge, Nev., Croxton reported a summer population of approximately 500 Canada Geese.

Ducks.—From reports received to date it would appear that duck nesting throughout the region compared favorably with last year. O. K. Scott reported that the ducks had a very successful breeding season in central Wyoming, but somewhat later than usual. At Deer Flat, Idaho, Dart reported duck nesting down approximately 30%; Am. Coots about the same as last year. Production at Deer Flat Refuge was estimated at 500 birds; 85% Mallards, 5% Cinnamon Teal, 4% Redheads, and the

GREAT BASIN-CENTRAL ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION.—In general the weather man was kind to the birds during the past nesting season. Prob-



ably the one exception was the late snow storms in Wyoming which continued on into June, and, according to Dr. O. K. Scott of Casper, was detrimental to nesting land birds. The temperatures during most of the period were near normal, with neither extreme highs nor lows. Precipitation was very light over most of the region, but the water

balance Am. Widgeon, Pintail and Blue-winged Teal. The duck nesting population and production at BRR compared favorably with previous years. A total of 462 nests were found on 10 sample plots, as compared with 388 for last year, and with a 10-year average of 368 nests. The sample plots cover approximately 10% of the nesting area. The Am. Coot showed a marked increase in nesting pairs at BRR; 48 nests were found on the sample plots, as compared with only 8 in 1949 and 14 in 1947.

Hawks.—A Goshawk nest and a Red-tailed Hawk nest were observed at Summit Co., Utah; a Swainson's and 2 Red-tailed Hawk nests were noted at Morgan Co., Utah, and a Red-tailed Hawk and Golden Eagle nest were observed at Tooele Co., Utah (CWL). At the Deer Flat Refuge, Idaho, only a few Marsh Hawks were observed, and no other species were seen (FSD). At Ruby Lake, Nev., Croxton noted 75 Turkey Vultures, 20 Red-tailed Hawks, 10 Ferruginous Hawks, 100 Marsh Hawks, and 100 Sparrow Hawks. Hawks were reported as breeding in about the same numbers as last year in Central Wyoming (OKS).

Shorebirds, Gulls and Terns.—At the Deer Flat Refuge, Idaho, shorebirds decreased considerably from last year, especially the Wilson's Snipe, Western Sandpiper, Sanderling, and California and Ring-billed Gulls, according to Dart; he also remarked that a few Franklin's Gulls, not reported in the past, were observed in that area. Five Killdeer nests were noted at Farmington Bay Refuge, Utah, and 2 near Salt Lake City (CWL). Small numbers of Killdeer, Wilson's Snipe, Long-billed Curlew, Willet, Lesser Yellow-legs, Avocet, Black-necked Stilt, and Forster's Terns were noted at Ruby Lake Refuge, Nev., during the period (Croxton). At the BRR 955 nesting pairs of Avocets and 77 nesting pairs of Black-necked Stilts were counted; also 3835 California Gull nests containing 8936 eggs, and 29 Caspian Tern nests with 51 eggs, were observed.

Doves.—Mourning Doves appeared to be quite numerous at Deer Flat Refuge, Idaho, and evidence pointed to a good nesting season (FSD). Croxton reported 125 Mourning Doves at Ruby Lake Refuge, Nev. At BRR 40 Mourning Doves were counted on Aug. 1.

Owls.—A few Short-eared Owls were reported at Ruby Lake Refuge, Nev. (Croxton). A Long-eared Owl nest with 4 young was noted near Salt Lake City (CWL). Approximately 20 Short-eared Owls nested on the Bear River Refuge.

Kingfishers, Woodpeckers.—Small numbers of Belted Kingfishers, Red-shafted Flickers, and Lewis's Woodpeckers were observed at Ruby Lake Refuge, Nev. (Croxton). Lockerbie reported a Hairy Woodpecker feeding young at a nest near Salt Lake City, observed by Dr. Behle.

Passerine Birds.—At Ruby Lake, Nev., Croxton reported observing 150 Violet-green Swallows, 100 Bank Swallows, 100 Barn Swallows, 75 Cliff Swallows, 150 Long-billed Marsh Wrens, 100 Loggerhead Shrikes, 100 Yellow-headed Blackbirds, 100 Red-winged Blackbirds, 500 Brewer's Blackbirds,

and small numbers of Western Wood Pewees, Horned Larks, Scrub Jays, Piñon Jays, Rock Wrens, Sage Thrashers, Black-throated Gray Warblers, Western Meadowlarks, Lazuli Buntings, Savannah Sparrows, and Sage Sparrows. Scott reported that McCown's Longspurs were numerous on the Northern Loraine Plains in Wyoming, and there were also some Chestnut-collared Longspurs in the same region. Lockerbie reported observing hundreds of young Cassin's Finches and Pine Siskins out of the nest on July 9, and hundreds of young White-crowned Sparrows on July 23, in Salt Lake County; he also reported small numbers of nesting Mountain Chickadees, Black-capped Chickadees, Water Ouzels, Catbirds, Mountain Bluebirds, Cedar Waxwings, Bullock's Orioles, Black-headed Grosbeaks, Pine Grosbeaks, and Black Rosy Finches in Salt Lake County, and a Mountain Bluebird nest in Summit County, Utah. At the Deer Flat Refuge, Idaho, Am. Magpies have increased and are now quite numerous; the Am. Crow population has decreased from last year (FSD). Barn and Cliff Swallows nested in their usual abundance at BRR. Other nesters at BRR are the Eastern and the Western Kingbirds, Horned Lark, Am. Magpie, Yellow Warbler, Western Meadowlark, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Red-winged Blackbird, Brewer's Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird, Savannah Sparrow, and Vesper Sparrow. VANEZ T. WILSON AND ROSS H. NORR, *Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge, Brigham, Utah.*