

GREAT BASIN, CENTRAL ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION.—As previously reported the past winter in the region was severe, long-lasting and accompanied by record snowfall in many areas. Spring



was late in Utah resulting in a 7 to 10-day delay in spring migration. Sudden warm spells in late April and May resulted in severe floods. Otherwise weather was about normal. Dr. Oliver K. Scott reported heavy snow and wintery weather in March followed by a warm dry April and a cool wet month of May at Casper, Wyo. Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Armagast reported an early mild spring in the vicinity of Alamosa, Colo. This resulted in a 1 to 2 week advance of the normal spring migration. Although not within the period covered, Eugene Kridler reported an inch of snow at Lava Beds National Monument in Northern California on June 10.

Our report for the previous period covered some of the early migrants but interesting observations dating back into this period and not included in the report are mentioned herein. This report in the main, however, covers the later migrants and early nesting data. The heavy floods in Utah in May considerably increased nesting loss (through flooding) to some of the early waterfowl on affected areas.

Grebes and Pelicans.—Four species of grebes—Horned, Eared, Pied-billed and Western—were re-

ported from Tule Lake and Lower Klamath Refuges in California and Oregon (P. E. Steel). The Eared Grebe reached a peak population of 15,000 on April

An increase in migrating White Pelicans in central Wyoming was noted by O. K. Scott. A maximum population of 2500 White Pelicans was observed at Tule Lake and Lower Klamath Refuges, April 10 (PES). Nesting of White Pelicans in Utah appears normal and in the usual numbers.

Cormorants, Herons and Ibises.—A peak concentration of 1500 Double-crested Cormorants was recorded in the Tule Lake area (PES). Don Watson at Mesa Verde National Park, Colo., reported a Snowy Egret (Brewster's) on May 3, and L. F. Allen recorded the same species at Zion National Park, Utah, April 22. Z. H. Foster noted 2 Great Blue Herons near Caldwell, Idaho, on June 1. White-faced Ibises were noted on April 6 at Farmington Bay, Utah (C. W. Lockerbie) and on April 7 at Bear River Refuge, Utah (V. T. Wilson). The rare Green Heron was reported on May 15 from Tule Lake, Calif. (PES).

Swans and Geese.—Final departure dates for Whistling Swan were reported as follows: BRR, April 29 (VTW); Tule Lake, May 31 (PES); and Nampa, Idaho, April 15 (F. S. Dart). Similarly, last observation dates for Snow Geese (Lesser) were: April 12, Deer Flat Refuge (FSD); April 29, BRR (VTW), and May 31, TLR (PES). The Cackling Canada Goose migration reached a peak of 10,000 at Tule Lake and dwindled to 2 by May 31. On this same area White-fronted Geese were largely gone by May 31 also.

The first broods of young Canada geese were observed, May 6, at Bear River Refuge. This is at least two weeks later than normal. On May 26, 256 broods were counted and the hatch reported as excellent from this area (VTW). This is down 81 broods, however, from last year's count on May 24. The Snake River in Idaho showed an increased nesting population of Canada Geese but total production was probably off 20 to 25% due to nest destruction by spring floods (FSD). A rare Emperor Goose was recorded on April 18 by P. E. Steel at Tule Lake.

Ducks.—Waterfowl migrations were noted as 2 to 3 weeks late in Idaho and down 10 to 20% on all species except Shovellers which were up about 20% (FSD). Tule Lake and Lower Klamath Refuges received good migrations with increases in most species particularly Shovellers and Green-winged Teal. Ring-necked Ducks, Canvas-backs, Am. Golden-eyes, and Buffle-heads had all departed by the end of May—the golden-eyes and Ring-necks leaving somewhat earlier than the others on April 30 and May 10 respectively (PES). An increase in Cinnamon Teal was noted by Scott in the vicinity of Casper, Wyo., and conversely a scarcity of Canvas-backs in the same area. Population peaks for some important species at BRR were reported on March 27 as follows: Pintail, 48,500; Green-winged Teal, 12,200; Canvas-back, 4400; and Lesser Scaup, 1150 (VTW). In the western part of the Region, P. Steel lists concentration peaks of: 160,000 Pintails, March 16; 60,000 Green-winged Teal, April 6; 45,000 Shovellers, April 20;

25,000 Mallards, April 6; 20,000 Lesser Scaup, April 6; and 12,000 Cinnamon Teal, April 20. A White-winged Scoter was observed by Mrs. H. E. Shaw near Nampa, Idaho, May 6.

Vultures and Hawks.—As previously reported, Bald Eagles wintered in Utah in considerable numbers. These wintering concentrations largely disappeared by April 1. Turkey Vultures were recorded at Ogden Bay, Utah (N. F. Nelson) May 15 and Mesa Verde, Colo. (D. Watson) March 2. A Pigeon Hawk was also listed from the latter source and area on May 3. Swainson's Hawks were first witnessed at Tule Lake on April 13 (PES) and a group of 11 of this species, apparently in migration, was observed by H. Higgins near Soda Springs, Idaho, April 21.

Cranes and Coots.—Reports from three different states listed Sandhill Cranes. P. Steel recorded 8 on Feb. 28 at Tule Lake, R. M. and Mrs. Armagast reported a flock of approximately 75 near Alamosa, Colo., the first week in April and 11 near Soda Springs, Idaho, April 21 (HH). A scarcity of Am. Coot was noted in the vicinity of Alamosa, Colo. (RMA).

Shorebirds and Gulls.—The Northern Phalarope migration passed through the Tule Lake area between May 4 and 16. Sanderlings, a rare species in this area, were observed on May 6 and 16 (PES). V. Wilson, BRR, reported arrivals of: Black-billed Plover, May 2; Wilson's Snipe, April 21; Long-billed Curlew, March 30; Solitary Sandpiper, April 11; Willet, April 11; and Lesser Yellow-legs, April 7. He also observed a Snowy Plover on April 27. C. W. Lockert also noted this species on April 20, somewhat south of Bear River.

California Gulls arrived on Feb. 28 at Ogden Bay, Utah, and the Franklin's Gulls, April 1 (NFN). Forster's and Black Terns were observed at Farmington Bay, Utah, May 4, and the Caspian Tern in Millard Co., Utah, April 20 (CWL). Steel gives an arrival date of April 12 for the Bonaparte's Gull in the Tule Lake area.

Doves.—Mourning Doves were first reported on April 13 at Farmington Bay (CWL) and April 14 at Ogden Bay, Utah (NFN). Arrival dates for this species at Mesa Verde, Colo., and Nampa, Idaho (Mrs. HES) were April 16 and May 6 respectively.

Owls and Woodpeckers.—Burrowing Owls were reported from southern Utah, April 19 (CWL), and on April 27 at Nampa, Idaho (Mrs. HES). Wintering Red-shafted Flickers had departed from the Tule Lake area by April 17 (PES) and were first observed on April 4 in Idaho (Mrs. HES).

Passerine Birds.—Arrival date reports for passerine birds were so numerous that only a few typical examples will be included herein. Kridler reported a Sprague's Pipit, April 30, at Lava Beds Nat'l Monument, Calif. Bohemian Waxwings, which were so plentiful during the past winter, were reported as leaving Casper, Wyo., about April 5 (OKS). An Oven-bird on May 18 and an increase in Common Starlings were noted from the same area. Yellow-headed blackbirds arrived at Ogden Bay, Utah, April 2 (NFN).

Arrival dates for some of the sparrows were: Lark

Sparrow, May 15; Chipping Sparrow, May 22; Brewer's Sparrow, April 26; Fox Sparrow, April 3—all at Tule Lake (PES); Vesper Sparrow, April 6; Lark Sparrow, April 6; Desert Sparrow, May 17, from southern Utah (CWL); and Vesper and Chipping Sparrows at Mesa Verde, Colo., April 14 (DW). An unusual report of a Sage Sparrow near Alamosa, Colo., was received from the Armagasts. This bird was about 75 miles east of the Continental Divide, considerably beyond its normal range.—JESSOP B. Low, *Utah State Agricultural College, Logan, Utah.*