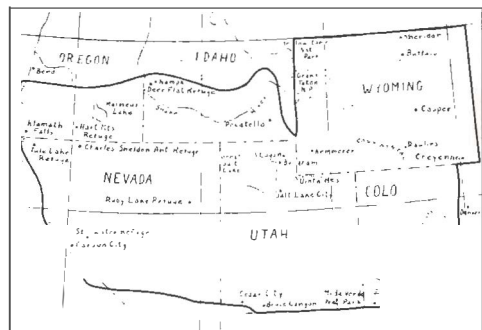


GREAT BASIN-CENTRAL ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION.—The rainfall continued to be normal or above normal over this Region. The summer



was comparatively cool and the breeding season late due to early wet and cold weather. In general the waterfowl season was highly successful. Some of our observers here in the West hold positions in National Parks and the unprecedented horde of tourists was so great that their field work was slim. It is fervently hoped that the government can be persuaded to stop using our National Parks as a source of revenue. Revenue derived from the Parks should be ploughed back into the Parks. Their personnel and facilities are becoming hopelessly inadequate for the job.

Ken McLeod reports that wildlife is threatened by new trouble in the Klamath Basin. This time it is insect poisons spread by airplane over agricultural areas adjacent to regions where wildlife abounds. The fate of Klamath Marsh still hangs in the balance.

Swans, Geese, and Ducks.—Carl Jepson, naturalist at Grand Teton National Park, reported that the **Trumpeter Swan** nested in four places in that park this season and brought off 14 young, a new high. The elk refuge just north of Jackson remains the easiest place to observe these spectacular birds. Reports of the breeding of the Canada Goose were spotty. At Bear River they were down from 300 broods to 240. At Grand Teton National Park (Jackson Hole) they were up in numbers and at Pathfinder Reservoir in central Wyoming, down in numbers (Berlet).

Leo Young at Bear River Marshes at the northeast end of the Great Salt Lake, reported enough rain to hold the water level of the units there at a reasonable level. This consequently produced an abundance of food and nesting cover. The result was more nesting ducks and an excellent breeding season. On twelve special nesting plots the count rose from 141 nests last year to 240 nests this year. This, of course, is only a small part of the nesting population. At Monte Vista in central southern Colorado in the San Luis Valley, Bryant noted the best-ever duck nesting season with production at about 1500 birds in this new refuge. Ken McLeod observed that waterfowl had an excellent season in the Klamath Basin but no figures are available from this great ornithological paradise. John Warkley found the **Harlequin Duck** breeding on the Yellowstone River in Yellowstone Park in two places, July 12. One is just below Fishing Bridge and the other is not far from Tower Junction.

Cranes, Turkeys, Shorebirds.—The Sandhill Crane bred in two places in Jackson Hole (Jepson) within the Park: one pair near Moran and another on the National Elk Refuge, both sites easily accessible to viewers. They were seen by many tourists. Wyoming's wild Turkey population is increasing rather rapidly. These birds now occur in the Laramie Range around Laramie Peak, in the Black Hills of Wyoming, and in the Big Horns. A hen was found on eggs at Devil's Tower National Monument (McIntyre). In fact, Wyoming just entered into a deal with the state of Montana by which Wyoming acquired mountain goats in exchange for Turkeys. There is some debate as to whether the Turkey was ever native to these regions. Bryant reported excellent shorebird breeding results at Monte Vista in Colorado. Warkley

recorded 3 pairs of Black-necked Stilts nesting at Ocean Lake in July in central Wyoming, an unusual record. Hyde reaffirmed that the Mountain Plover is a rather common breeding bird around Laramie, Wyo., in the southern part of the state.

Terns, Owls.—The Caspian Tern nested at Ocean Lake in central Wyoming for the first time (Warkley). The **Great Grey Owl** was again at Moose at Grand Teton National Park Headquarters (Jepson). Another was reported in Yellowstone Park near Lake by Warkley. R. J. Fleetwood observed no Short-eared Owl nests on Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge in central Colorado, while in previous years he had found up to seven.

Starlings.—The Common Starling continues to spread out in the Rocky Mountain Region. Oppie Reames found them breeding in Durango in southwestern Colorado for the first time. Fleetwood found them nesting in the San Luis Valley near Alamosa to the east.

Crossbills.—The Red Crossbill continues to be a fascinating bird. After an absence from its range in the Rockies for a year it turned up in great numbers this June almost everywhere. Don Thatcher reported them west of Denver first on June 11. They were abundant in the Laramie Range in central Wyoming by June 8 (Wyo. Aud. Soc.). Rawlins, in southern Wyoming, had some on July 25 (Lambertsen). Mrs. Waltman had them at Story in the Big Horns. Laramie had them at the end of July (Hyde). They were not seen at Devil's Tower by Grace McIntyre until August 14 after fourteen months' absence. She maintains an excellent feeding station at headquarters all year round and has many interesting species there in both summer and winter that can be seen by tourists. These birds include the White-winged Junco.—DR. OLIVER K. SCOTT, 437 East 13th St., Casper, Wyo.