

was identified by Zimmerman as *Spizella pusilla arenacea*, the western race (tail, 71 mm; wing, 68 mm; skull completely ossified). This is the first record for this species in New Mexico. On 26 December, Mr. Karl Gilbert and I observed a single Field Sparrow while conducting the Carlsbad Caverns Christmas bird count (*Aud. Field Notes*, 16: 215, 1962). A much earlier observation of four Field Sparrows had been made by Harris on 21 December 1958, but at the time the significance of the observation was not realized, and no attempt was made to collect the birds. Since obtaining the bird on the Madera Ranch, I have made four more observations of Field Sparrows, one in Carlsbad Caverns National Park and three on the Madera Ranch. Another Field Sparrow was caught by Marylou Travis in Los Alamos, New Mexico (elevation 7,300 feet), some 250 miles northwest of Carlsbad, on 13 January 1962. The bird was feeding with a mixed flock of juncos in a banding trap following a severe snow storm. It was preserved by William Huey and presented to the University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, where identification was verified by Dr. James S. Findley. Measurements are: tail, 66 mm; wing, 63.5 mm; tarsus, 17.5 mm. The pileum of both specimens had a pronounced gray median stripe. From these records it seems likely that the Field Sparrow is a regular winter visitor to New Mexico.

I am much indebted to Dr. Zimmerman for the identification of skins and for many helpful suggestions regarding preparation of the manuscript.—BRUCE K. HARRIS, *New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, Silver City, New Mexico.*

First records of the White-tailed Kite for El Salvador and Alabama.—On 30 April 1963, while my grandson James H. Brennan, III (of Dothan, Alabama), and I were collecting birds near the village of Barra de Santiago, El Salvador, I observed an almost entirely white hawk sitting on a post 100 feet from the roadside. I was able to approach to a distance of about 50 feet before it took flight affording an excellent view. I secured the specimen, an adult female (tail, 184 mm) referable to the North American race (*Elanus leucurus majusculus*) of the White-tailed Kite and so identified by Dr. George H. Lowery, Jr. This northern subspecies had previously been reported south only to Guatemala and British Honduras (Friedmann, *U. S. Natl. Mus., Bull.* 50: 72, 1950). The specimen is now no. 31066 in the Louisiana State University Museum of Zoology.

The experience thus gained convinced me absolutely of the validity of an earlier sight record that I had previously been reluctant to report because of my unfamiliarity with the species.

On 29 September 1962, at 0830 hours, on State Highway 22, I drove across the Cahaba River in Dallas County, Alabama, about eight miles southwest of Selma. Over a field adjacent to the east bank of the river, I observed from about 100 yards away a snowy white hawk approximately 150 feet up, soaring in lazy circles about 150 feet in diameter. Through 7 × 35 binoculars I watched the bird for about six minutes until it disappeared to the west. It struck me immediately as being a kite, for several times it performed the "tumbling act," which I had seen Mississippi Kites (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) do dozens of times, 1940–1948, while I resided near Eagle Lake, Mississippi, northwest of Vicksburg. I noted every mark of the bird and had little doubt then that I was looking at the first White-tailed Kite observed in Alabama. It is most interesting that another observation of a lone White-tailed Kite was reported (E. A. Williams, *Oriole*, 27: 52, 1962) as made only 18 days later (17 October 1962) and about 250 miles distant at Brasstown Bald, a mountain in extreme north-eastern Georgia.—MERRIAM L. MILES, *Sutton Place, Orville, Alabama.*