

normality seems rather long when one considers the cold climate and requisite energy intake in the form of seeds that must be extracted by a specialized bill from the cones of coniferous trees.

The skeleton of the individual has been preserved in the Biological Collections, University of Alaska.—GEORGE C. WEST, *Institute of Arctic Biology, University of Alaska, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701*. Accepted 25 Jun. 73.

Breeding of the Green-bellied Hummingbird.—On 21 February 1970 near Moco Moco creek in the Kanuka Mountains of southern Guyana at approximately 85 m elevation we found a nest of the Green-bellied Hummingbird (*Amazilia viridigaster*), which has not previously been described. The nest contained two half-fledged young, and we had good views of the parent returning to feed the nestlings. The nest was in a small tree growing from a rocky cleft beside a waterfall, and was fixed by cobwebs to two fine twigs near the end of a side branch, 3 m above the ground.

After the young had left we collected the nest. It is a typical hummingbird cup nest with an outer layer of moss encased by cobwebs, some lichen decorations, and a lining of a thick layer of tawny-colored vegetable down. Its dimensions are: internal diameter of cup 30 mm, depth of cup 14 mm, total depth of nest 28 mm.

During our 3 months' residence at Moco Moco creek (January–April 1970), we saw Green-bellied Hummingbirds often. Two were trapped, weighed (4.1 g and 3.9 g), and color-photographed. Identification was confirmed by comparison of the photographs with museum specimens. One bird caught at the end of January was not molting; the other, trapped on 21 March, was nearing the completion of its wing molt. Previous records of this species from Guyana are from the Merume Mountains and Quonga (Snyder 1966, *The birds of Guyana*, Salem, Massachusetts, Peabody Mus.). The present record extends the known range in Guyana about 80 miles to the south.—BARBARA K. SNOW and D. W. SNOW, *Old Forge, Wingrave, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, England*. Accepted 26 Jun. 73.

Puna bird species on the coast of Peru.—Observers on the coast of Peru have documented the presence of at least 10 bird species that nest only in the puna zone of the high Andes. Of these species only two can be called regular altitudinal migrants. This paper summarizes the known records of puna species on the Peruvian coast and offers some possible interpretations for the patterns that appear.

The puna zone of the Peruvian Andes (3,500 m to snowline) is an extensive expanse of grassy pampas (plains) and valleys, rocky slopes, lagunas (lakes), and boggy steppes. This zone extends from the Department of Cajamarca in northern Peru south through the Department of Puno on into Bolivia, Argentina, and Chile. In Peru the puna zone exhibits moderate seasonal fluctuations in temperature (Table 1). Precipitation is markedly seasonal, with 80–90% of the annual precipitation falling from the end of November to mid-April. Annual precipitation varies considerably from year to year. Over a 20-year period (1953–72), the weather station at Puno (Granja Salcedo), Department of Puno, had an annual mean rainfall of 618.2 mm and extremes of 481.7 mm and 996.7 mm for the driest and wettest years. The mean annual rainfall decreases on a north-south gradient (Table 2).