

**Mechanism of feather replacement in a hummingbird.**—Watson (1963, Auk 80: 486) pointed out that during natural molt in several species of birds the loss of the old feather occurs only after the feather follicle has been activated and the new feather is growing. Until the sheath of the newly emerged feather opens the old feather is presumably lost by scraping against another object. When the sheath of the new feather opens the old feather probably falls off as the sheath splits at the tip. At the time of his report, Watson noted evidence of this molt mechanism in only eight orders of birds, including Passeriformes. Subsequently, I added a further record for the passerines (Wolf 1967, Auk 84: 128). Although this method of molt probably is common among many bird species, the general lack of records makes it seem worthwhile to report instances for new groups of birds. Here I report the first record of this molt mechanism in the Apodiformes, extending the records to a ninth order.

A captive male Rivoli's Hummingbird (*Eugenes fulgens*) that I caught in Costa Rica in July 1970 was in heavy molt about the base of the bill on the throat and forehead on 28 April 1971. As in many hummingbirds (Wagner 1955, Auk 72: 286) most of these feathers began molting nearly simultaneously resulting in a large tract covered with pinfeathers in about the same stage of growth. In this same male, new feathers on the throat and forehead had grown nearly full length with the old feather still capping the new sheath (see Fig. 1B of Watson's article for a similar occurrence in *Alectoris chukar*).—LARRY L. WOLF, *Department of Biology, Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York 13210*. Accepted 13 Dec. 73.

**Redhead breeding in the state of Jalisco, Mexico.**—The Redhead (*Aythya americana*) has hitherto been recorded only as a winter visitor in Mexico, found in greatest numbers along the northeastern coast (Tamaulipas) and in smaller numbers along the western coast (particularly Sinaloa and Nayarit). The species is relatively uncommon in the interior (Leopold 1959, *Wildlife of Mexico*, Berkeley, Univ. California Press, pp. 186–188). The Redhead is not common south of the transverse volcanic cordillera of central Mexico, although a few winter to Guatemala (1957, Check-list of North American birds, fifth ed., Baltimore, Amer. Ornithol. Union, p. 81; Weller 1964, *J. Wildl. Mgmt.* 28: 64). The most southerly breeding location previously reported is on the California-Arizona line in the vicinity of Yuma (Weller *ibid.*). During studies of the Mexican Duck (*Anas diazi*) in central Mexico in the summer of 1973, I discovered a breeding population of Redheads on Laguna de Zapotlan (19° 45' N, 103° 30' W), approximately 100 miles due south of Guadalajara, Jalisco. These records constitute, by about 1000 miles, the most southerly known nesting for the Redhead and add a new breeding species for Mexico.

I first visited the lake on 26 April, returned eight times in the latter half of May, nine times in June, twice in mid-July, and three times in August. On 12 visits I used a boat and 3-horsepower motor to explore the lake. Other visits involved only brief inspections of one or two small stretches of shoreline. Excepting four dates in May and one in June, I saw Redheads on all visits to the lake.

In April and May I encountered Redheads as scattered pairs or small groups, and during this period the species did not seem particularly numerous on the lake. On 12 June I saw a flock of at least 100 individuals, as well as numerous scattered pairs. From mid-June until I left the region in late August, Redheads were common and conspicuous on the lake. Perhaps 200 individuals stayed there through the summer. I saw active courtship on various dates in June and July, and pairs were still common in early August.