

Psaltriparus minimus californicus. California Bush-tit. Common among the willows, oaks, and higher brush along the rivers and on hillsides. March 18, to June 14.

Polioptila cærulea obscura. Western Gnatcatcher. Not uncommon in the brush near ravines and on low hillsides and among the willows. April 16 to June 24.

Polioptila californica. Black-tailed Gnatcatcher. Only found once by me in San Pasqual, April 5, 1901. Several nests said to have been found at Escondido.

Sialia mexicana. Western Bluebird. Nest found at Crescent Valley with young in March, 1905. No other record. Breeds plentifully in the higher mountains and valleys.

Supplementary list of birds found breeding at Escondido Reservoir, elevation 1250 feet, and about two miles outside limits covered in foregoing list:

Vireo huttoni oberholseri. Oberholser Vireo.

Sitta carolinensis aculeata. Slender-billed Nuthatch. Both the above found by Mr. James Dixon. The latter species, possibly both, decidedly out of its range which should be the higher hills up to the level of the deciduous oaks.

Birds found breeding at Vista, Guajome and San Luis Rey, 10 to 15 miles northwesterly from Escondido:

Corvus corax sinuatus. American Raven. Found by Mr. B. P. Carpenter nesting at Vista in 1905.

Plegadis guarauna. White-faced Glossy Ibis. A colony of about a dozen birds was found nesting in the tules at Guajome in 1901. No other records.

Ardetta exilis. Least Bittern. Found nesting in the tules at San Luis Rey in 1901.

Telmatodytes palustris paludicola. Tule Wren. Common in the tules at San Luis Rey; never seen around the ponds in San Pasqual.

Escondido, California.

GULLS AS SCAVENGERS

By WALTER K. FISHER

THAT gulls are admirable scavengers is a fact well known, and it is considered of sufficient economic importance to insure their protection by all enlightened sea-coast towns. Some municipalities dump their garbage into the sea, and if gulls are at all common they do the rest, with the aid of numerous other water birds. Altho the neighborhood of a garbage chute may not be attractive to the average bird student, it is none the less a good place to watch and photograph gulls, provided these birds are plentiful in its vicinity.

Not far from the town of Monterey, California, there is such a chute, used chiefly by the Presidio of Monterey. On either side are convenient rocks upon which to stand, or place a tripod. The gulls swim in to the base of the chute and are very tame, or were three years ago. After feeding they sit about on the rocks, and one has little trouble in securing all the negatives he desires. The accompanying picture shows a number of immature gulls watching for morsels to be washed out by the waves. The immaturity of these birds may account for their lack of fear. I am not sufficiently practiced to be able to identify young gulls on the water, but the old birds which were common in the vicinity were chiefly *Larus argentatus* and *L. occidentalis*; so it is probable that the majority of the birds in

the picture belong to these species. At that particular time (December, 1903) sea-birds were unusually numerous in Monterey Bay, owing to the presence of schools of herrings.

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GULLS FEEDING ON GARBAGE NEAR MONTEREY; 184 BIRDS IN THE PICTURE

NOTES FROM THE PHILIPPINES

By JOSEPH CLEMENS

NOTING the Editor's request for articles, I concluded to send a word. Have had just a little time for collecting, but have taken about 80 species and wish to speak of one—the monkey-eating forest eagle, which Mr. W. R. Ogilvie-Grant made known as *Pithecophaga jefferi*.

I send two pictures of a living specimen, taken by Capt. James W. Van Dusen of the Med. Dept., U. S. A. The best picture (herewith reproduced) was taken when the bird was full of spirit and pride. The second was taken after the bird had broken its leg trying to force its way out of its prison. I have no doubt they are the only pictures in existence of this species. The bird was brought into the market by the Moros and purchased by Lt. Farrell, 15th Infty., U. S. A. It was killed during my absence to Manila and skinned by a Hospital Corps Sergeant. I put three hours' work on the skin on my return, and hope it is all right.

The descriptions of its spirits, and the manner of carrying its ruff constantly extended, given me by the Doctor, were very interesting. When they put in a chicken for its dinner, the bird would take it when hungry and eat it all; otherwise only the entrails.