

They are not close sitters, and usually leave the nest before the tree is reached or the ladder placed against the trunk. As soon as an intruder's footsteps become audible the landlady pokes her head from the entrance, and soon after departs, never giving opportunity for capturing her on the nest. Deserted flicker nest holes are made use of by several other birds. In these holes I have often found Sparrow-hawks and Saguaro Screech Owls. Once a Bendire Thrasher made her nest in one with a crack in one side that let in light enough for her. In a partly excavated hole I found the nest of a Western Kingbird, and in another the nest of a House Finch. Occasionally the Cactus Wren builds in the deserted hole. In one Saguaro I found occupied nests of the Gilded Flicker, Gila Woodpecker, and Ash-throated Flycatcher. A Cactus Wren was in an ironwood at the base of the cactus, and, beyond reach of the ladder, were holes giving signs of occupancy by owls. I have never secured any of these flickers in the red phase of plumage described by Mr. Grinnell (University of California, Publications in Zoology, vol. 12, 1914, pp. 136-137) though I have noticed a few that seemed deeper in color than others.

Fort Bidwell, California, May 1, 1915.

FURTHER NOTES FROM THE SAN BERNARDINO MOUNTAINS

By ADRIAAN VAN ROSSEM and WRIGHT M. PIERCE

THESE NOTES are taken from a list of a hundred odd species noted in the vicinity of Big Bear Lake and Bluff Lake in the San Bernardino Mountains, southern California, between September 15 and 23, 1914. Only those species are included which for one reason or another may be deemed worthy of comment.

Colymbus nigricollis californicus. Eared Grebe. Common on Bear Lake, where, much to our surprise, downy young were not uncommon at this late date. A series of young taken September 17 graded all the way from apparently newly hatched chicks to fully grown birds in complete fall plumage. While the majority of adults were still in full, though rather worn, breeding dress two were taken which in life were not distinguishable from fall juvenals.

Porzana carolina. Sora. One was flushed from the grass at the edge of Big Bear Lake, September 17. Though recorded previously on but two occasions Soras are probably not uncommon migrants through the locality. It is doubtful if they breed there.

Oreortyx picta plumifera. Plumed Quail. Unexpectedly rare, in fact apparently absent from the region under consideration. The only evidence of the species found were some feathers in the trail at Clark's Ranch (elevation 5000 feet), in the Santa Ana Canyon.

Circus hudsonius. Marsh Hawk. A female seen beating over the lake, September 22.

Falco mexicanus. Prairie Falcon. A female of the year taken at Big Bear Lake on September 17, and another (judged to be a male) seen in the same locality September 20.

Xenopicus albolarvatus. White-headed Woodpecker. But very few of the specimens taken had completed the fall molt; the majority still retained the worn summer feathers on the belly and center of the breast. As this condition was common to both adults and birds of the year it seems not improbable that the fall molt of both occurs at approximately the same time. Those which had complete new plumage were juvenals, very likely of early broods.

White-headed Woodpeckers were often observed to drink at a small stream near our camp at Bear Lake, where a pine sapling grew from the edge of a small pool. On

this sapling the birds would alight, usually about three feet from the base, "hitch" quickly backwards down the trunk to the water, and, leaning sharply to one side, drink by quick, nervous dips. One was seen actually on the sand, evidently preparatory to drinking or bathing, but was frightened away by our approach.

Sphyrapicus ruber daggetti. Sierra Sapsucker. Not uncommon about Bluff Lake. Noticeably fewer in numbers at Bear Lake. All those taken were juvenals in nearly complete fall plumage, though all retained a belt of old feathers across the upper breast. In common with the Williamson Sapsuckers they were most often seen near the headwaters of the numerous little canyons running into the two lakes. There they were often gathered in threes or fours, flycatching after the manner of the California Woodpecker. On several occasions a Williamson Sapsucker was noted with these groups.

Sphyrapicus thyroideus. Williamson Sapsucker. Noted over the same range and in about the same numbers as the last species. Adults and young alike had entirely completed the fall molt.

Chordeiles virginianus hesperis. Pacific Nighthawk. One flew over camp at Bear Lake at sunset on the 18th of September. A long wait by the lake shore at dusk resulted in the sight of one (perhaps the same bird) flying over the lake.

Chaetura vauxi. Vaux Swift. A group of three seen flying west along the shore of Bear Lake, September 18.

Calypte anna. Anna Hummingbird. Female taken at Bear Lake, September 22.

Stellula calliope. Calliope Hummingbird. Apparently rather common near the summit above Clark's Ranch, where several females or young were feeding from a patch of flowers on September 16.

Nuttallornis borealis. Olive-sided Flycatcher. Still present in considerable numbers. Noted over the entire region covered.

Myiochanes richardsoni. Western Wood Pewee. A pair was usually in evidence about camp at Bear Lake. Last noted on September 20, when a young bird was taken at a water hole about half way between Bear and Baldwin lakes. This bird was in juvenile plumage and was accompanied by two adults.

Empidonax wrighti? Wright Flycatcher. One was seen at very close range in a willow clump near Bear Lake on September 22. Flycatchers were seen on one or two other occasions previous to this, but none was taken.

Otocoris alpestris actia. California Horned Lark. Rather uncommon in the dry pastures near Bear Lake.

Cyanocitta stelleri frontalis. Blue-fronted Jay. Though most of the year's young, and all the adults, apparently had completed the fall molt, one juvenal taken September 18 was still in ragged plumage. The old feathers still predominated on the upper parts, head and neck, and on the central underparts.

Aphelocoma californica. California Jay. Though common on the lower, chaparral-covered slopes, this species was noted but once in the higher mountains, where a bird was seen near the divide between Bear and Baldwin lakes, at 7000 feet.

Cyanocephalus cyanocephalus. Pinyon Jay. Common in good sized, straggling flocks, about the east end of Bear Lake, and in smaller numbers about Bluff Lake. In the series taken the adults average lighter in color, and the feathers already show signs of wear, while the birds of the year are in more recently acquired, and consequently brighter, plumage.

Poocetes gramineus confinis. Western Vesper Sparrow. Apparently not uncommon on the dry brushy flats near the east end of Bear Lake. First noted September 17.

Zonotrichia leucophrys gambell. Gambel Sparrow. First noted September 18, when one was taken at Bear Lake. Seen thereafter in small numbers.

Passerella iliaca schistacea. Slate-colored Sparrow. Two taken September 23, one on the summit between Bluff Lake and the Santa Ana Canyon, and another in the dense manzanita brush above Clark's Ranch in the same canyon. Five or six were noted scattered between these two points.

Passerella iliaca stephensi. Stephens Fox Sparrow. Still present in the mountains, though not in anything like the numbers in which it is found during the summer months. Apparently absent altogether from the immediate vicinity of Bluff Lake, where during the breeding season it is abundant. Eight specimens were taken, one on the summit between Bluff Lake and the Santa Ana Canyon (September 16), and seven in a small canyon near the east end of Bear Lake (September 22). All were seemingly adults and

mostly in rather ragged plumage. The old feathers had been molted, and the new ones not fully developed, many being still ensheathed at their bases. As young birds in complete fall plumage were taken in the same general locality in August (1910), it is fair to conclude that the post-juvinal molt antedates by several weeks the annual molt of the adults.

Oreospiza chlorura. Green-tailed Towhee. Noted in moderate numbers; rather more in evidence than during the summer months.

Piranga ludoviciana. Western Tanager. Noted only on September 22, when one was taken and another seen.

Vermivora rubricapilla gutturalis. Calaveras Warbler. Recorded on but three occasions, the last date being September 22.

Vermivora celata lutescens. Lutescent Warbler. Apparently absent from the higher mountains. Common about Clark's Ranch in the Santa Ana Canyon, both on September 15 and September 23.

Dendroica nigrescens. Black-throated Gray Warbler. One taken and another seen at Bear Lake, September 22.

Oporornis tolmiei. Macgillivray Warbler. One seen at Bear Lake September 19, and two on the summit between Bluff Lake and the Santa Ana, September 23.

Geothlypis trichas occidentalis. Western Yellow-throat. Observed but once, when a male of the year was taken at Bear Lake, September 22.

Wilsonia pusilla chryseola. Golden Pileolated Warbler. Noted only near Bear Lake September 21 and 22.

Troglodytes aedon parkmani. Western House Wren. Two seen on several occasions in a willow clump near Bear Lake.

Myadestes townsendi. Townsend Solitaire. Seen on the summit above Bluff Lake, at Bear Lake and at Baldwin's Lake. Usually associated with small flocks of Western Bluebirds.

Planesticus migratorius propinquus. Western Robin. A bird of the year taken September 22 is still plentifully sprinkled with spotted juvenal feathers. But one other robin seen, and that on the same date.

Dos Cabezas, Arizona, November 20, 1914.

FROM FIELD AND STUDY

Dwarf Cowbird on the Coronado Islands.—On a recent visit to North Island of the Coronados group, one of our party, Mr. C. O. Reis, secured an adult male of the Dwarf Cowbird (*Molothrus ater obscurus*). The bird was taken May 31, 1915.—A. E. COLBURN, *Los Angeles, California.*

Dwarf Cowbird in the San Diegan Region.—Although the eggs of the Cowbird (*Molothrus ater obscurus*) have been reported from the San Diegan region not uncommonly, specimens of the bird are not extensively recorded. Miss Emily Hollister of the State Normal School, Los Angeles, placed in my hands on January 26, 1915, a female of this species. The bird had been picked up dead by one of her students within the city limits of Los Angeles. It was in good condition and plumage. The unguinal phalanges of all toes of the right foot were missing, but the scars were old, and the injury could not have interfered greatly with the bird's activities. On June 5, 1915, Mr. J. E. Law and the writer were collecting among willows along the Los Angeles River near Lankershim, when the notes of a cowbird were heard. The bird, an adult male, was finally secured by Mr. Law, who suggested its being recorded in connection with the above.—L. H. MILLER, *Los Angeles, California.*

A Striking Plumage of the Western Tanager.—On May 16, 1915, Mrs. Mary Case Durant of Los Angeles, brought to me a specimen of the Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*), which had broken its head in collision with electric wires at her residence, in this city. The bird is striking because of the extreme development of the red factor in its plumage. Not only is the head unusually intense in color, but red feathers invade the rump patch and the breast and belly regions, while the entire anal tuft is red also.—L. H. MILLER, *Los Angeles, California.*