

FROM FIELD AND STUDY

Notes on Some Unusual Oregon Birds.—Ross Goose. *Chen rossii*. This goose is apparently of infrequent occurrence during migration through Oregon. Some twenty years ago, a few were seen in the Portland game market. During the past several years, constant inquiry among the sportsmen of eastern Oregon brings to light the fact that few of the goose hunters have any knowledge of this species. An adult male was killed on November 6, 1921, at Crump Lake, Warner Valley, Lake County, Oregon, by W. S. Wyble, who told the writer that it was alone when shot. Mr. Wyble has been a resident of that locality many years, during which time he has seen many thousands of geese, taken by himself and visiting sportsmen; but this specimen was the first seen by him and he was unable to identify it.

Emperor Goose. *Philacte canagica*. Of rare and infrequent occurrence* within the state. Mr. Clarence Edner, of Netarts, Oregon, reported three of these birds along the ocean beach near Netarts during December. They were shot at several times by local residents but not until December 3, 1923 (when one of the birds was found dead on the beach and forwarded to me), was their identity known.

American Bittern. *Botaurus lentiginosus*. Although the American Bittern is a very common breeding bird of the tule-bordered lakes of eastern Oregon, its occurrence west of the Cascade Mountains in Oregon can be considered infrequent. Deputy Game Warden George Russell, of Tillamook, Oregon, found two of these birds that had been killed by local duck hunters during the past winter. The first one was picked up on the shore of Netarts Bay on November 4, 1924, while the second came from Tillamook Bay on November 24, 1925. Both were males.

Scaup Duck. *Marila marila*. On November 20, 1924, Mr. Frank Robeson sent me a small bag of ducks from Lakeside, Oregon. These consisted of Canvas-back (*Marila valisineria*), Lesser Scaup Duck (*Marila affinis*), and two of the large Scaup Duck (*Marila marila*). As there are few authentic records of this duck taken within the state of Oregon, these two specimens were preserved as study skins.

Rough-legged Hawk. *Buteo lagopus sancti-johannis*. A male of this species shot by W. H. Riddle at Seaside, Oregon, on October 13, 1925, and sent me for identification, is the first record of this hawk along the coast that has been brought to my attention. It is of common and regular occurrence from October to March east of the Cascade Mountains in Oregon.

Woodhouse Jay. *Aphelocoma woodhousei*. The only references I can find relative to the occurrence of the Woodhouse Jay in Oregon are that by Townsend in his "Narrative" published in 1839, in which he says "found in the territory of the Oregon", and that by Bendire who says "I observed this species on the southern slopes of Steens Mountains in southeastern Oregon in August, 1877, which locality marks about the northwestern limits of their range" (Life Histories of North American Birds, 1895, p. 372). Ridgway (Bds. N. and M. America, pt. 3, p. 333) gives its range as "north to southeastern Oregon (Steen's Mountain)", evidently using Bendire's record as his authority. For several years, I have known of the occurrence of some form of *Aphelocoma* along the east base of the Steens Mountains, but not until August 9, 1921, did I have an opportunity to secure a specimen. On that date, and the next day, about a dozen of these birds were seen and an adult male secured about three miles north of Andrews Post Office (Wildhorse), in southeastern Harney County. This specimen, the first taken in Oregon, is now in the Biological Survey collection in Washington, D. C.

Alaska Longspur. *Calcarius lapponicus alascensis*. The occurrence of this species in Oregon is of sufficient rarity to warrant recording the finding of a specimen at Mikkalo, Gilliam County, Oregon, on December 28, 1924. On the above date, a friend found a dead male of this species and sent it to me for identification. Mikkalo is a station on the railroad about twenty miles south of the Columbia River in a gently rolling country, formerly a bunch-grass area but now one of the wheat producing sections of Oregon. It is a section where little bird life is found in winter, except for wandering flocks of Dusky and Pallid Horned Larks and a few Magpies and Ravens. During the latter part of December, 1924, the cold was intense in eastern Oregon, the thermometer reaching as low as 40 degrees below zero.—STANLEY G. JEWETT, Portland, Oregon, June 30, 1925.