

catching insects. They are extremely busy little creatures, and were remarkably tame, often feeding within a few feet of us.

Least Sandpiper. *Pisobia minutilla*. A few were associated with the other small sandpipers at Barr, six or eight often being seen together. All the shore birds collected were very fat.

Marbled Godwit. *Limosa fedoa*. This species is one of the forms considered rare in Colorado. We saw a flock of over a dozen August 28, and six birds August 31 at Barr. Four specimens were collected.

Greater Yellow-legs. *Totanus melanoleucus*. Only a few seen at Barr, but rather common on the seepage ponds to the eastward.

Lesser Yellow-legs. *Totanus flavipes*. Common at Barr where associated with the large flocks made up of Stilt, Least and Baird sandpipers.

Western Solitary Sandpiper. *Helodromas solitarius cinnamomeus*. A few noted at Barr and the small prairie ponds, but not common.

Western Willet. *Catoptrophorus semipalmatus inornatus*. Two seen at Barr August 28.

Spotted Sandpiper. *Actitis macularia*. A few seen along the prairie ponds, but strangely none noted at Barr.

Long-billed Curlew. *Numenius americanus*. A flock of fifteen noted on a small lake twenty miles east of Denver, August 28.

Black-bellied Plover. *Squatarola squatarola*. Two noted at Barr Lake August 31.

Killdeer. *Oxyechus vociferus*. A very common bird, noted along the shores of practically every little pond.—ALFRED M. BAILEY, *Colorado Museum of Natural History, Denver, September 21, 1925.*

American Redstart in Southern California.—On September 20, 1925, I collected an adult female American Redstart (*Setophaga ruticilla*) in the willows along the channel of the San Gabriel River, about one mile west of Artesia, Los Angeles County, California. A skin was made and it is now no. 35, collection of John McB. Robertson. Mr. J. Eugene Law has confirmed my identification.—JOHN MCB. ROBERTSON, *Buena Park, California, October 3, 1925.*

Wood Ibis in Ventura County, California.—On July 26, 1925, I shot a Wood Ibis (*Mycteria americana*) near the mouth of the Santa Clara River, in Ventura County, California. It was one of a flock of nine, all in the immature plumage. The birds were feeding in the shallow margins of sloughs, in a dense growth of pondweed (*Potamogeton*, sp. ?). When feeding, they kept the head and neck down continuously, often immersing the bill almost to the base, and raising the head only slightly when swallowing. They stayed in one spot for a long period, turning or advancing a step or two; and as they walked, they shook or wiggled the toes of one foot in the water, either in front near the bill or off to one side (see Law, *Condor*, xiv, 1912, p. 41). The last published records for this region are for 1901 and 1904, but the caretaker in a neighboring gun-club says that he saw a small flock in 1918 or 1919.—RALPH HOFFMANN, *Carpinteria, California, November 14, 1925.*

The Tennessee Warbler Again in California.—On October 14, 1925, an unfamiliar warbler was picked up dead in some bushes on the Williams School grounds in north Berkeley. The head was badly damaged, suggesting that the bird had been hit by an automobile. The specimen was given to me and I took it to the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, where Mr. Harry S. Swarth identified it as a Tennessee Warbler (*Vermivora peregrina*). This is the second known occurrence of this warbler in California, the first one having been of a bird taken near Pasadena, September 25 [not 27], 1897 (Grinnell, *Birds of Los Angeles County*, 1898, p. 45). The specimen is now no. 2167 in my collection.—RALPH ELLIS, JR., *Berkeley, California, November 19, 1925.*

The Buffle-head Breeds in California.—During June, 1921, the writer found two broods of half-grown Buffle-heads (*Charitonetta albeola*) at Eagle Lake. Although this was a new breeding record for California, I was not able at that time to capture

any of the young ducks, and the record, giving the facts so far as available, was published (Condor, XXIII, 1921, p. 165). This account was followed by two other articles, the first by Milton S. Ray (Condor, XXIII, 1921, p. 192) and the second by Allan Brooks (Condor, XXIV, 1922, p. 25). As a result of these two later articles, considerable doubt arose as to whether the Buffle-head actually breeds in California.

Since it is desirable to back up all new state records with specimens, I took the opportunity to collect, at Eagle Lake, Lassen County, California, on June 30, 1925, a female Buffle-head together with her brood of four half-grown young. The duck and ducklings were first watched for some time in order to make sure that the ducklings belonged to the female and were not the young of some other species. These five specimens are now numbered 45960-64, inclusive, in the California Museum of Vertebrate Zoology where they may be examined by anyone interested.

Another family of Buffle-heads, consisting of a mother and six half-grown young, was observed the same day that the specimens were collected; so at least two pairs of Buffle-heads nested at Eagle Lake in 1925. In May I repeatedly found a female feeding with her mate in a certain secluded pond. Later, when the female was away most of the day, presumably on the nest, the male was seen daily in the accustomed place, where he was joined by the female for short periods during late afternoons. Particular watch was kept to see if the drake assisted in the care of the young, but all evidence was negative. I was unable to find any adult males after the young were out of the nest. They seemed to have suddenly abandoned the locality.

The downy young Buffle-heads, upon which feathers had just begun to appear, on wings and back, were taken as they fed with their mother in a shallow arm of the lake. At this place the water was choked with a dense growth of aquatic weeds and moss which in turn supported large numbers of water-boatmen, damsel-flies and other insects that inhabit shallow, quiet waters. It was obvious from watching the ducklings as they dove and swam rapidly about just under the surface that they were after live game.

Mr. Jean M. Linsdale, formerly of the University of Kansas, now at the University of California, has kindly identified the food remains found in the digestive tracts, as follows:

- No. 45964, ♀ ad.: Corixidae 40%, Zygoptera 40%, 12 unidentified seeds 10%, sand 10%.
- No. 45963, ♂ nat.: Corixidae 45%, Zygoptera 40%, 2 Annelid worms 5%, sand 10%.
- No. 45962, ♀ nat.: Corixidae 40%, Zygoptera 45%, Notonectidae 5%, sand 10%.
- No. 45961, ♂ nat.: Corixidae 45%, Zygoptera 45%, 1 Annelid worm (trace), sand 10%.
- No. 45960, ♂ nat.: Corixidae 45%, Zygoptera 45%, sand 10%.

Thus, stomach examinations show that over 90 per cent of the material eaten by these young Buffle-heads consisted of animal matter, chiefly water-boatmen and damselfly nymphs. As many as 25 of the latter were found in one stomach, while barely a trace of vegetation was found in any stomach.—JOSEPH DIXON, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, November 5, 1925.*

Male American Crossbill Feeds Female.—On July 14, 1925, at Beaver Marsh, Klamath County, Oregon, I observed an American Crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra minor*) feeding what I supposed was a young bird. Both were on the ground. I shot both birds and found on skinning the supposed young bird that it was a female with an egg nearly ready to lay. The food consisted of ant larvae. It is common for males of a number of species to feed the females in the mating season; but I do not know whether the habit has been noted in the Crossbill.—RALPH HOFFMANN, *Carpinteria, California, November 14, 1925.*