

The table above shows the number of individual birds trapped; the following table the number of captures, including repeats.

TRAP A		TRAP B	
Song Sparrow.....	2	Song Sparrow.....	7
Fox Sparrow.....	58	Fox Sparrow.....	36
Golden-crowned Sparrow.....	36	Golden-crowned Sparrow.....	20
Nuttall Sparrow.....	1	San Francisco Towhee.....	23
San Francisco Towhee.....	22	San Francisco Brown Towhee.....	1
San Francisco Brown Towhee.....	1	Junco .....	1
Dwarf Hermit Thrush.....	2	Nicasio Jay.....	8
Nicasio Jay.....	18	California Quail.....	30
California Quail.....	31		
	—	Total.....	126
Total.....	171		

It will be seen that of a total of 181 birds banded, 87, or 48%, entered the trap baited solely with hulled whole barley of the kind used, when treated with thallium, in the attempt to exterminate ground squirrels.

The total number of captures shows a slightly smaller percentage of birds entering trap B; even so, of the 297 captures, 126, or more than 42% apparently preferred barley to the various other kinds of feed scattered on the ground beside them. Many individual birds, especially Fox Sparrows, San Francisco Towhees and quail, were attracted by both kinds of bait, and apparently entered either trap indifferently.

If this grain had been treated with thallium and placed on the ground as is done by squirrel poisoners, probably most of these 181 birds would have been killed.—E. L. SUMNER, SR., *Berkeley, California, March 1, 1932.*

**Clapper Rails Occur on Marshes of Salton Sea, California.**—While engaged in making a survey of nesting waterfowl for the Division of Fish and Game in 1931, I visited the marshes about the southeast end of Salton Sea, June 10 and 11. I was observing the birds on a tule marsh near Mullet Island, at the edge of Salton Sea, six miles west of Niland, Imperial County, in the late afternoon, June 10, where, about sundown, the presence of a number of Clapper Rails was established. Three birds were definitely observed, one of which ran across the road only a few feet in front of my car. Many others of this species were heard calling and "cackling" in the nearby tule patches.

Unfortunately no attempt was made to secure a specimen for subspecific identification due to the absence of Captain Davis, proprietor of Mullet Island, from whom permission to do so should first have been obtained. However, judging from the close faunal relationship of this region with the adjacent Lower Colorado River Valley and the connection of the two localities by the New and Alamo rivers, it seems probable that the Imperial County rails are Yuma Clapper Rails (*Rallus obsoletus yumanensis*) (Dickey, Auk, XL, 1923, p. 90; van Rossem, Condor, XXXI, 1929, p. 215).

The following morning, June 11, I worked the edge of the marshes between New and Alamo rivers, where no rail was seen, but this locality was well adapted to the species, which could well have been present yet not observed during the bright, hot morning. Another locality, known as Raynor's Duck Club, four miles south of Calipatria, seemed an ideal spot for this species. Here heavy tule growth surrounded a large pond formed by a widening of the Alamo River. Again I was prevented from inspecting this region by the absence of the owner.

I did not consider these observations worthy of publication until I noted that the A. O. U. Check-list (4th ed., 1931, p. 96) states the known range of *yumanensis* to be the "Lower Colorado River Valley from Laguna Dam south at least to Yuma," and reference to available literature failed to provide any extension of this range. Therefore, it seems desirable to draw attention to the probable rather common occurrence of this species in the lower Salton Sea region, in the hope such action may spur future collectors in this vicinity definitely to establish its subspecific identity by collecting specimens.—JAMES MOFFITT, *Division of Fish and Game, 510 Russ Building, San Francisco, California, February 16, 1932.*

**Mortality among Birds in Antelope Valley, California.**—In Antelope Valley, Los Angeles County, California, we had a very heavy wet snow on February 15, 16 and 17, 1932. On the morning of the 16th, on our ranch, we began to see dead bluebirds

and dead robins, and live ones very feebly trying to find shelter. I scattered wheat and milo, but the birds made no effort to eat these foods. By the 17th hundreds were dead. Under a joist that holds our wide eaves, in a pile on the ground, were 52 dead birds. The men gathered up 101 in the barn. In a pile in the circle in front of the houses were 23, with dozens scattered around under the trees. None was found out in the fields.

The robins did not pile up, but a person could not walk without seeing dead ones every few feet. Neighbors reported the same thing. One man buried 200, and there were lots left. Everyone had robins in the house, but they would not eat. The little bluebirds were fat. I think they must have been migrating and the wet, cold weather got them. We found no other kinds of dead birds. Our usual supply of sparrows, woodpeckers, etc., came through well.

A lot of good-sized branches were broken off the trees, among them branches off the china-berry trees. The bluebirds did try to eat the china berries, but would not touch the wheat or milo.

Lancaster people, ten miles away, reported a similar quantity of dead birds.—LYDIA G. WELD, *Lancaster, California*. [Transmitted by Ralph Hoffmann, *March 17, 1932*.—Eds.]

**Bird Remains from Indian Dwellings in Arizona.**—Through the courtesy of Mr. Lyndon L. Hargrave of the Museum of Northern Arizona, I have recently studied a small collection of bird bones from abandoned Indian dwellings in Arizona. Mr. Hargrave states that the bones were obtained from a dwelling site in the Piñon belt thirty-five miles north of Flagstaff, Coconino County. The bones were accumulated by the Indians between 1000 and 1100 A. D., as attested by associated pottery types and tree rings, he says. The collection comprises sixty-eight dissociated bones, sixty-three of which can be identified. The remaining five bones either are lacking in distinguishing characters or are so fragmentary as to be indeterminable. (In a recent communication, dated February 2, 1932, Mr. Hargrave explains that certain of the bones here reported are from Indian dwellings at Wide Ruin, near Navajo, Apache County. These are: All of the Turkey material except 1 ulna; 1 skull, 1 lower jaw, 1 sternum, 1 sacrum, 2 coracoids, 2 humeri, 2 ulnae, 1 carpometacarpus, 2 femora, 2 tibiotarsi, and 2 tarsometatarsi of the Sparrow Hawk; and 1 indeterminable ulna. All other bones are from the Flagstaff site.)

The ornithological interest attached to these remains is largely in the suggestions as to past ecologic conditions which the assemblage presents and in the occurrence of forms which are not present or are not common in the area at the present time. Of course it is difficult to be sure that the Indians did not obtain animals at considerable distances from the dwelling site; but for the most part the remains probably represent animals secured in the immediate Coconino Plateau region or in the adjacent Colorado River Valley. The bones of raptorial and game species predominate.

*Buteo borealis*, Red-tailed Hawk: 1 ulna.

*Falco mexicanus*, Prairie Falcon: 1 humerus and 1 ulna.

*Falco sparverius*, Sparrow Hawk: 1 skull and lower jaw, 1 sternum, 2 sacra, 3 left coracoids, 1 right coracoid, 2 right humeri, 2 left humeri, 3 left ulnae, 2 right ulnae, 2 left carpometacarpi, 2 left femora, 1 right femur, 2 right tibiotarsi, 2 left tibiotarsi, 1 right tarsometatarsus, and 1 left tarsometatarsus. Many of these bones are exceptionally small and agree in size only with males of the small race *peninsularis*. This is especially true of the skull, ulnae and carpometacarpus. *Peninsularis* occurs normally in the Cape district of Lower California, but Grinnell (Univ. Calif. Publ. Zool., 32, 1928, p. 113) reports specimens, apparently of this race, from the Colorado River region south of the United States boundary. There is, then, a considerable representation of dwarfed Sparrow Hawks present in this collection of bones. Measurements of the lengths of carpometacarpi of Sparrow Hawks are as follows: ♂, no. 15548 Mus. Vert. Zool., *F. s. phalaena* (seemingly an averaged-sized male), 28.3 mm.; ♂, no. 55043, *F. s. peninsularis*, 24.1 mm.; specimens from Indian dwellings, 24.7 mm. and 25.8 mm.

The abundance of the Sparrow Hawk suggests that the Indians made special use of their plumage or possibly that they kept them as pets.