

productive of plant life or invertebrates. Some of the bays are shallow but support little aquatic vegetation, this chiefly *Potamogeton perfoliatus*. Only one stand of tules was observed, a sparse growth on a submerged reef close to the west shore measuring approximately 10 by 150 feet. Two kinds of molluscs were collected.

Local residents report the presence of the following fishes: Kamloops trout, lake char, ling, squawfish and two species of sucker. Remains of lake shiners were found in gull pellets.

Fifteen pairs of gulls were nesting on Stack Rocks, an island of gray and white granitic rock situated some 250 yards from the east shore of the lake. Except for one small clump of sedge this island was bare of vegetation, and it is the only one of its kind in the lake. The measurements, at the water level obtaining on July 26, 1933, were 65 feet by 30 feet. The height at the highest point was 6 feet.

As I approached the island all the adult gulls flew out and circled over the advancing boat, so that it was a simple matter to make an exact count. As the boat drew nearer to the island the young birds, numbering twelve, swam out from the rocks. These twelve young birds, apparently all that had survived, were one-quarter to one-half grown. An adult female and a half-grown female were collected and preserved. The former is in worn plumage, the white tips to the primaries largely disintegrated.

The nests, of which twigs formed the chief constituent, had been built in rock crevices, and all but one had degenerated to shapeless masses of débris mixed with an accumulation of fish-bones and other litter. The nest which had remained intact was well made of twigs, chiefly spruce, lined with moss.

On May 15, 1934, the island was visited by Mr. F. M. Bell, a local rancher, who informed me that on that date there were fifteen nests, six with three eggs each, six with one egg each, and three empty. Mr. Bell counted thirty-three gulls. He mentions also that the first gull for the season was seen on April 15 and that the ice went out of Bridge Lake on April 26.

In order to learn something of the food habits of this colony the island was searched carefully for pellets and other food remains, with rather meager results. A number of fish skulls and vertebrae were identified as belonging to suckers. These and four regurgitated pellets were the only materials collected. One pellet contained bones and abraded feathers of a passerine bird; two contained bones, including pharyngeal teeth of lake shiner (*Richardsonius balteatus*), together with fragments of moss and vegetable débris; one contained abdominal segments and other hard parts of *Dytiscus* larvae representing at least eleven individuals.

Acknowledgment is made to Professor J. R. Dymond, Royal Ontario Museum of Zoology, Toronto, Ontario, for determination of large fish bones, and to Dr. W. A. Clemens, Director of the Pacific Biological Station, Nanaimo, British Columbia, for cooperation in the study of material composing regurgitated pellets.—J. A. MUNRO, *Okanagan Landing, B. C., Canada, August 14, 1934.*

A New Name for the Large-billed Hawk of Western Costa Rica and Panama.—Transfer of the tropical American hawks formerly included in the genus *Rupornis* to the genus *Buteo* (Peters, *Birds of the World*, 1, 1931, p. 228, and van Rossem, *Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool.*, 77, Dec., 1934, p. 429) makes necessary a new name for *Buteo magnirostris ruficauda* (Sclater and Salvin) [*Asturina ruficauda* Sclater and Salvin, *Proc. Zool. Soc.*, 1869, p. 133]. The subspecific name is preoccupied by *Accipiter ruficaudus* Vieillot (*Ois. d'Amér. Sept.*, 1, 1807, pl. 14), a synonym of *Buteo borealis borealis* (Gmelin). I therefore propose as a substitute: *Buteo magnirostris petulans*, nom. nov.—A. J. VAN ROSSEM, *San Diego Society of Natural History, San Diego, California, April 3, 1935.*

Variability in Size of Gulls.—Gulls are notoriously variable in size. This is particularly true of the larger and especially of the more maritime species. The Glaucous Gull shows it in extreme measure, but it is also strongly evident in the Herring, Glaucous-winged, Black-backed and others. It is less marked in the smaller inland and land-feeding species such as the Bonaparte and Franklin gulls.

It seems reasonable to suppose that this great difference in size of individuals of certain species may be largely due to, or emphasized by, variations in food supply