

nesting site of the greatest number of cormorants was on the island known as Phantom Ship where as many as 54 were counted at one time, some perching on the coniferous trees as well as the rocky crags. Many immatures were observed later on in the summer season.

The schools of diseased fish provided food for the California Gulls (*Larus californicus*) and American Mergansers, and a few Ring-billed Gulls (*Larus delawarensis*). The gulls probably fly in from Klamath Lake and most of them leave before nightfall. Some days they may be seen in a large flock flying in circles high above the center of the lake. They hunt singly or in flocks and may be seen dipping into a dense school of fish that is swimming close to the surface. The American Mergansers are believed to be transients and the largest number seen in one day was fourteen, which was more than seen by me last year.

Also connected with the fish problem was the presence this year of more Ospreys (*Pandion haliaëtus*) than usual. Although no nests were found, the birds were seen about ten times throughout the summer and were observed to be chased by Bald Eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) which made them drop their prey.

Other raptors also were more abundant. Two probable nesting ledges of the Duck Hawk (*Falco peregrinus anatum*) were found on the crater wall and later in the season one adult and two young were seen maneuvering together near Pumice Point. Two possible nesting ledges of the Prairie Falcon (*Falco mexicanus*) were found on the northeast crater wall, and in August one bird of this species used as a perch a tree above the Sinnott Memorial beneath which there was a concentration of people. The movement of people below seemed not to bother the activities of the falcon and twice it was seen to make unsuccessful stoops at golden-mantled ground squirrels.

Noticeable was the decided decrease in Red Crossbills (*Loxia curvirostra*). In the summer of 1938, crossbills came in great numbers to the rim area coincident with the maturing of the cones of the white-bark pines and mountain hemlocks. This year there were relatively few mature cones of the white-bark pine, which cones require two years to mature. By census counts, crossbills were much more abundant in 1938 than in 1937 and 1939. Only three small flocks and occasional solitary individuals were seen in 1939. These were seen to feed on cones of the mountain hemlock which mature in one year and which were as abundant as ever, but it is believed the ripe cones of the white-bark furnish a more desirable source of food for crossbills. The factor of cone production as a cause for the erratic distribution and variation in nesting times of the Red Crossbill has recently been reviewed by Griscom (Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist., vol. 41, 1937, p. 82).—ELMER C. ALDRICH, *Oakland, California, November 2, 1939.*

The Osprey in New Mexico.—The Osprey (*Pandion haliaëtus*) is an uncommon bird in New Mexico; it has been reported from only ten localities in Dona Ana, Grant, Catron, Chavez, Taos, and San Miguel counties (F. M. Bailey, *Birds of New Mexico*, 1928, pp. 184-185). With exception of two records from Taos and San Miguel counties, these are all from the southern half of the State. In view of this relative scarcity it is desirable to report the following observations.

At about 11:00 a.m. on April 23, 1936, one was seen at Mariana Lake, Mariana Lake Trading Post, McKinley County. It was perched on the top of a telephone pole near the water, at the west end of the lake, and was eating a fish. At the time of this observation Mariana Lake held considerable water and provided fair sport fishing for bass, blue-gill, and catfish. Because of drouth, silting, and excessive growth of cattails, the lake has since become much reduced in size. To the best of my knowledge this is the first record of this species on the Navajo Indian Reservation.

A dead Osprey was found on October 24, 1937, wired to the top west girder of the Alameda Bridge over the Rio Grande, one and one-quarter miles west of Alameda, Bernalillo County. The bird was in a relatively fresh condition, possibly dead no more than one or two days. Although one cannot be certain, it is possible that this Osprey was shot along the Rio Grande, somewhere in the general vicinity of the Alameda Bridge.

On the afternoon of September 18, 1939, an Osprey was seen at Caballo Dam, Sierra County. It was perched on top of a telephone pole beside the main highway, west of the dam. The bird flew from its perch as our car approached and it was then seen to be carrying a fish about eight inches long. Caballo Dam is on the Rio Grande and was completed in September, 1937; the lake that is now forming behind it provides an enlarged habitat for this bird. The Rio Grande at this point contains bass, blue-gill, catfish, carp, and chub.

Mr. A. E. Borell of the Soil Conservation Service at Albuquerque, New Mexico, has provided the following observation: "In late afternoon of September 19, 1938, an Osprey was seen perched on a telephone pole near a playa lake, twenty-three miles southwest of Hatch, Luna County. Flood waters had made a large shallow pond in an area where there usually is no water."—LAWRENCE V. COMPTON, *Soil Conservation Service, Albuquerque, New Mexico, September 28, 1939.*