

BIRDS OF THE NORTHERN CASCADE MOUNTAINS OF WASHINGTON

By AUSTIN W. BURDICK

During the summer of 1942, I was employed by the United States Forest Service as a Lookout and Fire Fighter in the central northern part of the State of Washington. Most of my spare time was devoted to the study of the bird life of the area in which I was stationed. My ornithological activities included the making of a fairly representative collection of specimens and the writing of daily field notes. Observations were made chiefly in northwestern Okanogan County, near the crest of the mountains; actually a very small part of that region was covered. Most of my time was spent at Monument 83 (long. $120^{\circ} 38\frac{1}{2}'$) near the Pasayten River where I was stationed from July 4 to September 10. The remainder of the summer (June 11 to 29, and September 12 to 14), except for a few days at Pateros (June 8, 9, and 10), was spent at the Early Winters Ranger Station, located just above Mazama.

Monument 83, at an elevation of 6500 feet, is situated on the boundary between the United States and Canada on the east side of the main Cascade divide. Thus records from Monument 83 apply equally to the State of Washington and to British Columbia. Several localities mentioned in this paper, such as Slate Peak, Hidden Lakes, and Hart's Pass, can be found only on large scale maps of that area.

Birds of this part of the Cascade Mountains have received little attention heretofore and there have apparently been no reports from the particular section herein covered. Brook's (Auk, 34, 1917:28-50) report on the Birds of the Chilliwack area of British Columbia includes observations on the west flank of the Cascades from the international boundary to the Fraser River. Very recently Wing (Murrelet, 25, 1944: 3-8) has presented a list of birds of the Conconully district of central Okanogan County.

I wish to express appreciation to P. T. Harris, Forest Supervisor of the Chelan National Forest, for his assistance in securing the necessary collecting permits. I also wish to thank George Wright, Ranger of the Pasayten District, for courtesies shown me while working there. Subspecific identifications of the specimens taken were made by Alden H. Miller unless otherwise stated. Stanley G. Jewett and George H. Lowery, Jr., have read the manuscript and offered suggestions. All of the specimens are deposited in the Louisiana State University Museum of Zoology.

Ardea herodias. Great Blue Heron. One was seen along the Pasayten River, just south of Monument 83 on September 11.

Anas platyrhynchos. Mallard. Three were seen three miles south of Mazama on June 11.

Aix sponsa. Wood Duck. A single bird was seen along the Methow River near Mazama on June 11.

Histrionicus histrionicus. Harlequin Duck. A female was seen on the Methow River at Winthrop on June 11.

Mergus merganser americanus. American Merganser. A female with three young was seen in a mill pond near Mazama on June 24.

Accipiter gentilis atricapillus. Goshawk. Monument 83: 1 ♂ im., August 27; 1 ♂ im., September 7. Seen regularly at Monument 83 during the summer. Also recorded at Early Winters on June 23 and at Hart's Pass on June 30.

Accipiter striatus velox. Sharp-shinned Hawk. Monument 83: 1 ♂ im., August 18. Recorded commonly at Monument 83. The specimen taken on August 18 has the dorsum like that of *perobscurus* but the breast pale as in *velox*.

Accipiter cooperii. Cooper Hawk. Monument 83: 1 ♂ im., August 16. This species was seen often at Monument 83 where it was taking a heavy toll of the young grouse which were so abundant there during August.

Buteo jamaicensis calurus. Western Red-tailed Hawk. Monument 83: 1 ♂, August 13. Observed daily at Monument 83.

Circus cyaneus hudsonius. Marsh Hawk. This species was first seen on July 11 at Monument 83 and was noted regularly thereafter. No adult males were noted.

Falco columbarius. Pigeon Hawk. One was seen at Pateros on June 10. Another was seen on August 3 at Monument 83.

Falco sparverius sparverius. American Sparrow Hawk. Monument 83: 1 ♂, July 27; 1 ♂, August 4. Seen regularly at Monument 83.

Dendragapus fuliginosus fuliginosus. Sooty Grouse. Monument 83: 1 ♀ juv., July 25; 1 ♂ juv., August 18; 1 ♀ ad., August 30; 1 ♂ ad., September 9. This large grouse (locally called "Blue Grouse" or "Hooter") was found from 3500 feet elevation to timberline (about 7000 feet). This species, along with the Franklin Grouse, was abundant during August in the high meadows where they came to feed on huckleberries and grasshoppers.

Canachites franklini. Franklin Grouse. Monument 83: 1 ♂ juv., July 12; 1 ♀ ad., 1 ♀ juv., August 5; 1 ♂ ad., August 17; 1 ♂ ad., August 25; 1 ♀ ad., 1 ♀ juv., September 3. Found commonly at Monument 83 throughout the summer.

Bonasa umbellus. Ruffed Grouse. Found only at the lower elevations at about 2000 feet. A female with young was seen at Early Winters on June 21.

Lagopus leucurus. White-tailed Ptarmigan. Although I was unable to find this species on my trip over Slate Peak on September 11, it definitely occurs there and on neighboring peaks. A brood was reported on Point Defiance in the summer months and also individuals on Dollarwatch, Slate Peak, and other high points.

Lophortyx californica. California Quail. Pateros: 1 unsexed two-day-old chick, June 8. This species was abundant at Pateros where it was seen on June 8, 9, and 10.

Phasianus colchicus torquatus. Ring-necked Pheasant. An abundant bird along the road from Pateros to Mazama on June 10.

Oxyechus vociferus. Killdeer. A few were seen at Pateros on June 8, 9, and 10. A lone individual was seen at Monument 83 on July 16.

Actitis macularia. Spotted Sandpiper. Several were noted at Pateros on June 8, 9, and 10.

Columba fasciata. Band-tailed Pigeon. One was seen at Monument 83 on September 4.

Zenaidura macroura. Mourning Dove. Seen frequently in the valley from Pateros to Mazama on June 10.

Bubo virginianus. Horned Owl. Heard calling practically every night during my stay at Monument 83. Several were seen.

Asio flammeus flammeus. Short-eared Owl. Monument 83: 1 ♂, July 13. Several were seen daily at Monument 83.

Chordeiles minor minor. Eastern Nighthawk. Early Winters: 1 ♂, June 22. Noted daily from June 11 to June 29 at Early Winters.

Nephoecetes niger borealis. Black Swift. Monument 83: 2 ♂, 1 ♀, July 28. Large flocks of Black and Vaux swifts were seen late every evening at Early Winters between June 11 and 29. A small flock of eleven birds was noted at Monument 83 on July 28.

Chaetura vauxi. Vaux Swift. Seen at Pateros on June 8, 9, and 10, and at Early Winters from June 11 to 29.

Aëronautes saxatalis. White-throated Swift. A lone bird was seen at Pateros on June 10.

Selasphorus rufus. Rufous Hummingbird. Monument 83: 1 ♂ im., July 23. Observed almost daily at Monument 83.

Stellula calliope. Calliope Hummingbird. Early Winters: 1 ♂, June 21. Noted commonly at Early Winters.

Megaceryle alcyon. Belted Kingfisher. Numerous individuals were seen along the Methow and Pasayten rivers.

Colaptes cafer cafer. Northwestern Flicker. Monument 83: 1 ♀, July 26. Noted frequently at Early Winters and Monument 83.

Ceophloeus pileatus. Pileated Woodpecker. Seen only at Early Winters where it was quite numerous.

Asyndesmus lewis. Lewis Woodpecker. Several were seen near Sweetgrass Lookout on June 24.

Sphyrapicus varius nuchalis. Red-naped Sapsucker. Noted frequently at Early Winters.

Dryobates villosus orius. Modoc Hairy Woodpecker. Monument 83: 1 ♂, July 6. Found in small numbers at Early Winters and Monument 83.

Dryobates pubescens. Downy Woodpecker. One was seen at Early Winters on June 21.

Picoides tridactylus fasciatus. Alaska Three-toed Woodpecker. Monument 83: 1 ♂, July 8; 1 ♂, July 9; 1 ♀, 1 ♂, August 20. Noted frequently at Monument 83.

Tyrannus tyrannus. Eastern Kingbird. A few were seen along the road from Pateros to Mazama on June 10.

Tyrannus verticalis. Arkansas Kingbird. Noted commonly at Pateros, Brewster, and Mazama on June 10.

Myiarchus cinerascens. Ash-throated Flycatcher. One was seen on June 16 at Early Winters.

Sayornis saya. Say Phoebe. Several nesting birds were seen at Pateros from June 8 to June 10.

Empidonax hammondi. Hammond Flycatcher. Early Winters: 1 unsexed, June 24. Monument 83: 1 ♂, August 3, 1 ♀, August 14. Several were noted both at Early Winters and at Monument 83.

Myiochanes richardsonii. Western Wood Pewee. Several were seen at Early Winters from June 11 to June 29.

Nuttallornis borealis. Olive-sided Flycatcher. Monument 83: 1 ♂, July 20. This was a common bird at both Early Winters and Monument 83.

Otocoris alpestris arcticola. Pallid Horned Lark. Monument 83: 2 ♂, 1 ♀, August 28; 1 ♂, 1 ♀, September 2. A single bird was seen at Monument 83 on July 23. No more were seen until August 28 when several were found at the same locality. Thereafter, small flocks were noted daily.

Tachycineta thalassina lepida. Violet-green Swallow. Monument 83: 2 ♂ im., August 2. A number of these birds was seen at Pateros on June 8, 9, and 10. They were also seen at Early Winters from June 11 to June 29, and on September 12, 13, and 14. Large migrating flocks were first seen at Monument 83 on August 2.

Stelgidopteryx ruficollis. Rough-winged Swallow. Several were seen at Pateros on June 8, 9, and 10.

Hirundo erythrogaster. Barn Swallow. Several were seen between Mazama and Winthrop on June 30. A single bird was seen at Monument 83 on September 8 and one at Mazama on September 13.

Petrochelidon albifrons. Cliff Swallow. A small colony was found nesting under a concrete bridge at Pateros on June 8. They were also noted at Mazama on June 30.

Progne subis. Purple Martin. Three birds were seen at Pateros on June 8.

Perisoreus canadensis griseus. Gray Jay. Monument 83: 1 ♂, July 10; 1 ♂, 1 ♀, August 5. This species was abundant at Monument 83 and along the Pasayten River. All specimens were identified as *griseus* by A. H. Miller, although he noted that the two taken on August 5 are not typical of that race. The female taken on August 5 is an intergrade toward *Perisoreus canadensis bicolor*, indicating accordingly the mixed nature of the population in this particular region.

Cyanocitta stelleri annectens. Black-headed Steller Jay. Early Winters: 1 ♀, September 13. Several were seen on the Pasayten River below Slate Peak on September 11. A few were noted also at Sweetgrass Lookout on June 24 and at Early Winters on September 14.

Pica pica hudsonia. American Magpie. Large numbers were seen near Sweetgrass Lookout on June 24. A flock of seven birds was seen at Monument 83 on September 8.

Corvus corax. Raven. This bird was noted daily during my stay at Monument 83.

Corvus brachyrhynchos. Crow. Large numbers of these birds were seen daily at Early Winters from June 11 to June 29.

Nucifraga columbiana. Clark Nutcracker. Monument 83: 1 ♂, August 2; 1 ♂, August 24; 1 ♀, September 3. Seen daily at Monument 83 where it was the most common bird on the mountain. A single bird was seen at Early Winters on September 12.

Parus gambeli grinnelli. Grinnell Mountain Chickadee. Monument 83: 1 ♀, July 26; 1 ♂, 1 ♀, August 14; 1 ♂, August 26. This chickadee was abundant at every locality visited.

Parus hudsonicus cascadenis. Cascade Brown-headed Chickadee. Monument 83: 1 ♂, July 11; 2 ♂, 1 ♀, August 12; 1 ♂, August 23. Although not nearly so abundant as the Mountain Chickadee with which it associated freely, this bird was found to be not uncommon in the immediate vicinity of Monument 83. At no time was it observed below an elevation of approximately 5000 feet. This recently described subspecies (Miller, Occ. Papers Mus. Zool. Louisiana State University, No. 14, 1943: 261-263) was based on the five specimens listed above. At the present time, the race is known only from northern Okanogan County.

Sitta carolinensis. White-breasted Nuthatch. A single bird was seen at Monument 83 on August 2. Several were noted at Early Winters on September 12, 13, and 14.

Sitta canadensis. Red-breasted Nuthatch. Monument 83: 1 ♀, August 14; 1 ♂, August 26. Found commonly at both Early Winters and Monument 83.

Certhia familiaris zelotes. Sierra Creeper. Monument 83: 1 ♀, July 26; 1 ♀, August 3. Several were noted at Monument 83 during July, but it was not until the fall migration in August that this bird became abundant.

Cinclus mexicanus unicolor. Dipper. Early Winters: 1 ♀, September 13. Found commonly on the

swift-flowing streams near Early Winters and near Monument 83. Two adults were seen feeding four young at Early Winters on June 28.

Troglodytes a'don. House Wren. Several of these birds were seen at Early Winters from June 11 to June 29. A single bird was noted at Monument 83 on August 24 and 26.

Nannus hiemalis pacificus. Western Winter Wren. Monument 83: 1 ♂, July 10; 1 ♂, August 23. Found to be fairly common along the Pasayten River and at Monument 83.

Dumetella carolinensis. Catbird. Several were seen at Early Winters from June 11 to June 29.

Turdus migratorius caurinus. Northwestern Robin. Monument 83: 1 ♀, August 25. A female taken from a large flock of migrant robins at Monument 83 on August 25 has been identified as this subspecies.

Turdus migratorius propinquus. Western Robin. Monument 83: 1 ♀, July 23. Several nesting pairs of robins were found at Monument 83 throughout the summer.

Ixoreus naevius naevius. Pacific Varied Thrush. Monument 83: 2 ♂, August 20. This bird was found nesting commonly six miles south of Monument 83 along the Pasayten River, on July 3. Several were also seen during August and September at Monument 83.

Hylocichla guttata slevini. Monterey Hermit Thrush. Monument 83: 1 ♂, July 8; 1 ♀, August 7; 1 ♀, August 11; 1 ♀, September 5. Hermit Thrushes were found to be plentiful at every locality visited.

Hylocichla ustulata almae. Western Olive-backed Thrush. Early Winters: 1 ♀, June 28. This species was noted only at Early Winters where a nest containing four eggs was found on June 28.

Hylocichla fuscescens salicicola. Willow Thrush. Early Winters: 1 ♀, June 21. Several were found along the Methow River at Early Winters from June 11 to June 29.

Sialia currucoides. Mountain Bluebird. Monument 83: 1 ♂, July 17; 1 ♂, September 8. A fairly common bird at Monument 83 and at Sweetgrass Lookout.

Myadestes townsendi. Townsend Solitaire. Monument 83: 1 ♂, August 14; 1 ♂, August 20; 1 ♂, September 5. Found in small numbers at Monument 83 during August and September.

Regulus satrapa olivaceus. Western Golden-crowned Kinglet. Monument 83: 1 ♂, July 11. This species was found at every locality visited.

Corthylio calendula. Ruby-crowned Kinglet. A fairly common bird at Monument 83, especially during the early fall migration.

Anthus spinoletta pacificus. Western Pipit. Monument 83: 1 ♂, September 1; 1 ♂, September 8. Although the pipit did not breed on Monument 83, it evidently nested in the vicinity for individuals were seen throughout the summer.

Bombycilla cedrorum. Cedar Waxwing. Several were seen at Pateros on June 8 and at Monument 83 on September 5 and 8.

Vireo solitarius cassinii. Cassin Vireo. Early Winters: 1 unsexed, June 28. Several pairs were found nesting at Early Winters during the latter part of June.

Vireo olivaceus. Red-eyed Vireo. Found to be fairly numerous at Pateros on June 8, 9, and 10 and at Early Winters from June 11 to 29.

Vireo gilvus. Warbling Vireo. Noted commonly at Pateros on June 8 to 10; at Winthrop on June 10, and at Early Winters from June 11 to 28.

Vermivora celata. Orange-crowned Warbler. A single individual was seen at Monument 83 on August 26. Several were noted at Early Winters on September 13.

Vermivora ruficapilla ridgwayi. Calaveras Warbler. Early Winters: 1 ♂, 1 ♀, June 28. A common nesting bird at Early Winters.

Dendroica aestiva morcomi. Rocky Mountain Yellow Warbler. Early Winters: 1 ♂, June 21. Found abundantly along the Methow River at Mazama. A single bird was seen at Monument 83 on August 3.

Dendroica auduboni auduboni. Audubon Warbler. Monument 83: 1 ♂, July 24; 1 unsexed, July 30; 1 ♀, August 15. A few were noted at Early Winters from June 11 to 29. At Monument 83, this species was found to be one of the more common nesting birds.

Dendroica townsendi. Townsend Warbler. Early Winters: 1 ♂, 1 ♀, June 28. Monument 83: 1 ♂, July 11; 1 ♂, August 9; 1 ♂, August 26. This was the common warbler of the wooded slopes around Early Winters and at Monument 83.

Oporornis tolmei. Macgillivray Warbler. Early Winters: 1 ♂, 1 ♀, June 28. Found commonly near Mazama and at Early Winters.

Icteria virens. Chat. Several were noted at Pateros from June 8 to 11.

Wilsonia pusilla. Pileolated Warbler. Several were seen on July 1 along the Pasayten River near the Airport.

Setophaga ruticilla. Redstart. Early Winters: 1 ♂, June 21. Noted daily at Early Winters from June 11 to 29.

Passer domesticus. English Sparrow. Abundant at Pateros and at Mazama.

Sturnella neglecta. Western Meadowlark. Several were seen at Pateros from June 8 to 11 and at Mazama from June 11 to 29.

Icterus bullockii. Bullock Oriole. A few were found at Pateros from June 8 to 11 and at Mazama from June 11 to 29.

Euphagus cyanocephalus. Brewer Blackbird. A very common bird at Pateros and Mazama. A single bird was noted at Monument 83 on July 16.

Piranga ludoviciana. Western Tanager. Early Winters: 1 ♂, June 20. Seen commonly at Winthrop on June 11 and at Early Winters from June 11 to 29.

Passerina amoena. Lazuli Bunting. Noted commonly at Early Winters from June 11 to 29.

Hesperiphona vespertina brooksi. Western Evening Grosbeak. Early Winters: 1 ♂, June 20. Monument 83: 1 ♂, August 2. Abundant at Early Winters from June 11 to 29 and at Monument 83 during July and August.

Carpodacus cassinii. Cassin Purple Finch. Early Winters: 1 ♂, June 21; 1 ♂, June 24. Monument 83: 1 ♂, July 9. A common bird at Early Winters and at Monument 83.

Pipicola enucleator montana. Rocky Mountain Pine Grosbeak. Monument 83: 1 ♂, July 15; 2 ♂, August 6. The pine grosbeak was found to be an uncommon bird at Monument 83. A male taken on July 15 had greatly enlarged testes and was presumably a breeding bird. All three specimens have been identified as *montana* by A. H. Miller; this agrees with his previous decisions (Auk, 57, 1940:420-421) as to the breeding race of the pine grosbeak in the Cascade Mountains of Washington.

Leucosticte tephrocotis. Gray-crowned Rosy Finch. Several were found feeding in a cherry orchard at Pateros on June 8 and 9. It was not noted thereafter.

Spinus pinus pinus. Northern Pine Siskin. Monument 83: 1 ♂, July 12. A very common bird both at Early Winters and at Monument 83.

Spinus tristis. Goldfinch. Found commonly at Pateros from June 8 to 11 and at Early Winters from June 11 to 29.

Loxia curvirostra bendirei. Bendire Crossbill. Monument 83: 1 ♂, 1 ♀, August 26; 1 ♂, 1 ♀, August 27. Several small flocks and a few paired birds were found throughout the summer at Monument 83.

Pipilo maculatus curtatus. Nevada Spotted Towhee. Early Winters: 1 ♀, September 13 (identification by J. Van Tyne). Several were seen at Early Winters from June 11 to 29 and on September 12 and 13.

Passerculus sandwichensis anthinus. (= *alaudinus* of Willett, Grinnell, and others). Western Savannah Sparrow. Monument 83: 1 ♀, August 29; 1 ♂, September 4. Found commonly at Monument 83 during late August and early September. Specimens taken have been identified by J. L. Peters.

Poocetes gramineus confinis. Western Vesper Sparrow. Monument 83: 1 ♂, August 29; 1 ♂, September 8. Found in small numbers at Monument 83 during August and September.

Junco oreganus shufeldti. Shufeldt Junco. Monument 83: 1 ♂, July 6; 1 ♂, July 18; 1 ♂, 1 ♀, August 9. An abundant nesting bird at Monument 83.

Spizella passerina arizonae. Western Chipping Sparrow. Monument 83: 1 ♂, July 9; 1 ♂, August 26. A very common bird at Pateros, Early Winters and at Monument 83.

Zonotrichia leucophrys gambelii. Gambel Sparrow. Monument 83: 1 ♂, 2 ♀, August 27; 1 ♂, 2 ♀, September 3. Found commonly at Monument 83 during late August and early September. It was also noted at Early Winters on September 12 and 13.

Zonotrichia coronata. Golden-crowned Sparrow. Monument 83: 1 ♀, September 5; 1 ♂, September 9. Early Winters: 1 ♂, September 13. Several were noted at Monument 83 during early September. A few small flocks also were seen at Early Winters on September 13.

Passerella iliaca. Fox Sparrow. A fairly common nesting bird at Monument 83. A few individuals were also noted at Early Winters on September 12 and 13.

Melospiza lincolni. Lincoln Sparrow. Two were seen in dense underbrush along the Methow River at Early Winters on June 17.

Melospiza melodia merrilli. Merrill Song Sparrow. Pateros: 1 unsexed, June 9. Found commonly at Pateros on June 8, 9, and 10 at Early Winters between June 11 and 29 and on September 12 and 13. A specimen taken at Pateros on June 9 has been identified as *merrilli* (not wholly typical) by A. Wetmore.

Museum of Zoology, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, June 16, 1944.