

Regular Winter Occurrence of the Evening Grosbeak at Chico, California.—Recently, in looking over my notes on Evening Grosbeaks (*Hesperiphona vespertina*), I found that I had irregular records for the summer months in the Warner and Trinity mountains of California and for the Sierra Nevada as far south as Sequoia National Park. More interesting, however, were the regular winter records for the Chico area in Butte County. Here the bird has been noted many times each winter since 1934 from the first part of December through March, except in 1943 when I was away.

When the winter snows on near-by mountains descend to the four thousand-foot level and the days become stormy, flocks numbering as many as fifty of these striking birds are seen daily along the Chico-Durham highway feeding on the ground beneath the introduced ornamental pistachio trees (*Pistacia chinensis*). These trees produce large crops of small hard-shelled nuts or cashews which are eagerly cracked and eaten by the Evening Grosbeaks. The birds pay little attention to the speeding cars less than six feet away. They are also quite unafraid of human beings. On one occasion my class approached within ten feet of several birds that were feeding on the ground on the Chico State College campus. The hundreds of pistachio trees, introduced into this vicinity by the United States Plant Introduction Station several years ago, provide the favorite food of the Evening Grosbeak. The nuts of these trees and the proximity of the bird to its summer range may account for the regular occurrence here in winter.—LLOYD G. INGLES, *Chico State College, Chico, California, April 1, 1945.*

Birds of the Yellow Pine Association of Potosi Mountain, Southern Nevada.—Potosi Mountain, Clark County, Nevada, in the southern part of the Spring Mountains, is a high point which attains an altitude of 8500 feet. Twenty-five miles to the north in this same range is Charleston Peak, 11,910 feet, with its cluster of subsidiary crests. Growths of yellow pine and white fir descend in these mountains to 8000 feet (van Rossem, *Pac. Coast Avif. No. 24, 1936:8*), rarely to 7000 feet if local conditions of slope exposure are favorable. Between the Charleston Peak area and Potosi Mountain is a low section, at one point 5500 feet, where no yellow pines or firs occur. This gap in Transition-Zone conditions is about fifteen miles in extent. Thirty miles south of Potosi Mountain is Clark Mountain, San Bernardino County, California, from which I have reported (*Condor, 42, 1940:161-163*) a small Transition-Zone avifauna which exists in two pockets of white firs at about 7000 feet. The gap between Clark and Potosi mountains is not only greater than that to the north of Potosi but it is lower, and there is of course no trace of a Transition-Zone biotâ in it. Clark Mountain is an extreme southern outpost in the Mohave Desert for several species of montane birds. Potosi Mountain and its avifauna therefore deserve attention because the Transition area there is small, somewhat as on Clark Mountain, and because the station is intermediate in position.

Potosi Mountain was visited by a party from the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology from June 11 to 15, 1940. The north slopes are precipitous above the 6500-foot level and yellow pines appear even below 7000 feet in shaded spots and along slanting benches in the cliffs. White firs are in the shadiest pockets. The irregular occurrence and inaccessibility of much of the tree growth made it impractical to determine the size of the population of Transition-Zone species of birds with an accuracy comparable to that carried out on Clark Mountain. I should estimate that the Transition areas in the aggregate were two to three times the extent of the fir pockets on Clark Mountain, yet nowhere was the timber so compact. There was, however, extensive Gambel oak scrub at the lower edge of the Transition areas; this scrub was lacking on Clark Mountain.

In spite of inaccessibility, a reasonably complete check on presence and absence of Boreal species was made. The following were present and apparently were stationed for breeding; summer occurrence on Clark Mountain and in the Charleston Mountains (*vide van Rossem, op. cit.*) is shown for comparison.

	Clark Mt.	Charleston Mts.
Broad-tailed Hummingbird (<i>Selasphorus platycercus platycercus</i>)	x	x
Hairy Woodpecker (<i>Dryobates villosus leucothorectis</i>)	x	x
Western Wood Pewee (<i>Myiochanes richardsonii richardsonii</i>)	o	o
Violet-green Swallow (<i>Tachycineta thalassina lepida</i>)	x	x
Mountain Chickadee (<i>Parus gambeli inyoensis</i>)	x	x
White-breasted Nuthatch (<i>Sitta carolinensis tenuissima</i>)	o	x
Mexican Bluebird (<i>Sialia mexicana bairdi</i>)	x	x
Ruby-crowned Kinglet (<i>Regulus calendula olivaceus</i>)	o	x
Solitary Vireo (<i>Vireo solitarius cassinii</i>)	o	o
Virginia Warbler (<i>Vermivora virginiae</i>)	x	x
Audubon Warbler (<i>Dendroica auduboni auduboni</i>)	?	x
Cassin Finch (<i>Carpodacus cassinii</i>)	o	x
Gray-headed Junco (<i>Junco caniceps caniceps</i>)	x	x