

Crocethia alba. Sanderling. Though common along the coast, this species has not been recorded heretofore on the Reserve. On October 30, 1952, five were observed probing the sand at Gibson Beach. On November 15, 1952, one was walking over rocks and picking at algae at Pebbly Beach with 35 Black Turnstones (*Arenaria melanocephala*).

Ptychoramphus aleuticus. Cassin Auklet. Cassin Auklets were recorded five times. Their presence doubtless was due to severe storms or oil-soaked plumage. At various beaches dead, oil-covered individuals have been found: January 13 (seventeen), 24 (one), 31 (one), all in 1952, and January 11, 1953 (one). One auklet was found alive in shoreline vegetation on January 14, 1952.

Cerorhinca monocerata. Rhinoceros Auklet. Like the Cassin Auklet this species occurred in the Reserve due to storm conditions: January 13 (3), and December 10 (1), in 1952; March 2 (1), and March 10 (4), in 1953. On July 30, 1952, Williams and I saw one swimming near Bird Rock.

Phalaenoptilus nuttallii. Poor-will. Observations, mostly of single individuals, were made on November 17 and 20 in 1951, and March 5 and 26, August 17, and October 15, 17, and 28, in 1952.

Stellula calliope. Calliope Hummingbird. On April 18, 1953, I watched for 15 minutes a male feeding on *Castilleja* blossoms near Cypress Grove. A few days later a male of this species was collected at Carmel Highlands about a mile from the Reserve.

Ixoreus naevius. Varied Thrush. On February 22, 1952, one was seen on a lawn. Single individuals were also seen on February 28 and on March 17 and 27, 1952.

Regulus satrapa. Golden-crowned Kinglet. This species was seen in considerable numbers throughout the winter of 1952-53, the first date being October 24, 1952, and the last January 15, 1953.

Bombycilla cedrorum. Cedar Waxwing. Francis Williamson saw seven in the pines near headquarters on May 22, 1952.

Vireo bellii. Bell Vireo. On May 24, 1953, one of this species was heard and seen at close range in a live oak at the southeast edge of the Reserve.

Vireo solitarius. Solitary Vireo. On May 26, 1953, Williams and I heard and saw one near headquarters.

Vireo gilvus. Warbling Vireo. In a live oak thicket near headquarters Williams and I saw one on May 26, 1953. On this date a low pressure area existed in this region and many migrating warblers and other birds were in the trees.

Vermivora ruficapilla. Nashville Warbler. On April 30, 1953, two of these were seen on and about the top of *Baccharis pilularis* in a meadow area.

Molothrus ater. Cowbird. On July 15, 1952, Williamson, James Duncan and I observed a Western Flycatcher feeding a fledgling Cowbird in a small willow in the center of the pine woods. One was seen in pines at the foot of Rat Hill on May 31, 1953.

Piranga ludoviciana. Western Tanager. On June 10, 1953, Williams and I heard one singing in pines near the entrance to the Reserve.

Pheucticus melanocephalus. Black-headed Grosbeak. Two males were seen on May 5, 1953.

Spinus tristis. American Goldfinch. On May 14, 1952, a pair was seen on the slope east of Gibson Beach and on May 28 another pair in *Baccharis* near Cannery Point. On November 9, 1952, two males in winter plumage were feeding on tarweed (*Hemizonia*) near headquarters.

Pipilo fuscus. Brown Towhee. First seen by Catherine Legg near headquarters on July 15, 1952; one of this species spent three days there.

Chondestes grammacus. Lark Sparrow. One was seen in a picnicking area on April 15, 1951.—KEN LEGG, *Natural Bridges State Park, Santa Cruz, California, September 28, 1953.*

Record Families of Swainson Thrush.—Bent (U. S. Nat. Mus. Bull. 196, 1949:163-188) gives the number of eggs in sets of various races of the Swainson Thrush (*Hylocichla ustulata*) as three to five, with sets of the latter figure apparently rare. Several other authorities all list similar data. On July 12, 1952, in Michael's Draw, four miles north of Libby, Lincoln County, Montana, I discovered the nest of a Swainson Thrush containing seven young more than half grown. The site was two feet above ground at the edge of a wild rose thicket, adjoining alder stream border, in a forest of Douglas fir-western larch at the bottom of a ravine. The crowded nestlings, not yet of an age to desert the nest, crouched low, but filled the deep cup to the brim as I touched each on the head with a finger

while twice counting them off. One parent fed the nestlings soon afterward, remained close by and was readily identified. This was at approximately 2400 feet in the Transition Zone, throughout which the species is an abundant summer resident in suitable habitat.

On July 15, 1954, another nest was located three and one-half feet up in a low mountain alder of the inner cottonwood-willow stream border on Granite Creek four miles south of Libby. It held two eggs. On July 27, thinking there was yet time to obtain a photograph of the completed set, I stopped with the camera at the nest site. Both birds were present. One was observed at length from a few feet. Unexpectedly, however, the nest contained husky young three or four days old, and there were only two of them. Comparing this with the number of nestlings noted on July 12, 1952, and assuming there had been no interference with the 1954 nesting, it is clear that variation in clutch size in this species is greater than heretofore recorded.—JOHN L. BLACKFORD, *Libby, Montana, July 29, 1954.*

Unusual Barn Owl Nest Location.—On May 8, 1951, in a *Salicornia* marsh at Playa del Rey, Los Angeles County, California, I flushed a Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*) from its nest in the ground. Closer inspection disclosed the bird had taken over a box 2 feet wide, 3 feet long and 2 feet deep. The box, sunk into the ground and partially covered with *Salicornia*, contained five young owls almost ready to leave their nest, as shown in the accompanying figure. The nest was deserted in 1952 because heavy rains flooded the box. Another check on February 24, 1953, showed an owl again present in the box and incubating seven eggs.—RAY QUIGLEY, JR., *Whittier, California, February 1, 1953.*



Fig. 1. Nest of Barn Owl in *Salicornia* marsh.