

record of leucostictes for late June in the Deep Creek Mountains of extreme western Utah and makes it seem probable that the form involved there was likewise *atrata*.—ALDEN H. MILLER, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, July 14, 1955.*

Nesting of the Western Tanager in the Santa Cruz Mountains, California.—The Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*) was listed as an uncommon and irregular summer resident in the Santa Cruz area of California by McGregor (Pac. Coast Avif. No. 2, 1901:16) but no nests were known to him. Although singing males and young birds have been reported subsequently (see, for example, Allen, Gull, 11(6), 1929:2), no nests were recorded until recently.

On May 19, 1951, Mrs. M. E. Shore found a nest under construction seven miles south of Los Gatos in the Santa Cruz Mountains. The present writer discovered a nest containing large nestlings on Stevens Creek, 12 miles west-southwest of San Jose on June 7, 1951. The nest was placed on a horizontal branch, 15 feet from the ground in a coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*). The nestlings were being fed by both parents on June 7 and 8. On June 9 the nest was empty and there was no evidence of either young or adults in the vicinity. At this same locality a nest was found on May 17, 1952, placed on a coast live oak branch, 30 feet from the ground. The behavior of the birds indicated that incubation was in progress.

Miss Emily D. Smith found a nest under construction two miles northwest of Los Gatos on June 17, 1951. On July 14 nestlings were being fed in this nest which also was placed on a horizontal coast live oak branch. On June 8, 1952, the writer was shown a tanager nest on the property of Miss Gladys Record in Los Gatos. The nest, which contained eggs or possibly small young, was in a coast live oak.

At the present time the status of the Western Tanager in the Santa Cruz Mountains seems to be that of a fairly common summer resident. It nests rarely in the Diablo Range (Mount Hamilton) on the east side of the Santa Clara Valley and in Marin County, but certainly not as abundantly as in the Santa Cruz Range.—CHARLES G. SIBLEY, *Department of Conservation, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, March 7, 1955.*

Additional Records of "Tule Geese" from Solano County, California.—Ever since Swarth and Bryant (Univ. Calif. Publ. Zool., 17, 1917:209-22) established the systematic status of the so-called "Tule Goose" (*Anser albifrons gambelli*) as a race of the White-fronted Goose, it has remained a rather obscure entity. It apparently has a limited distribution on both its wintering and breeding grounds. The characters which distinguish this race from *A. a. albifrons* as well as its distinctive habits have been adequately described by Swarth and Bryant, Bailey (Condor, 30, 1928:164-165), Moffitt (Condor, 28, 1926:241-243; 40, 1938:76-84) and Kortright (The Ducks, Geese and Swans of North America, 1942). These authors cite wintering records from only the Butte and Sutter basins in the Sacramento Valley and from the Suisun marshes of California. The breeding grounds of *gambelli* were not located until 1941 when breeding birds were found on the Perry River in the Canadian Arctic (Gavin, Wilson Bull., 59, 1947:195-203).

On December 21, 1954, I collected two *gambelli* from a flock of eight that was inhabiting a small area on the southern part of Banty Island in the marshes of the lower Napa River, Solano County, California. Two more were taken on December 24 and the remaining four were seen again on December 26 and January 2, 1955, at the same locality. This island is a part of the public hunting area owned by the Leslie Salt Company. Within the past year the company had constructed a peripheral levee around the island that held the water in its numerous small sloughs at approximately high-tide level. This situation may have contributed to the establishment of the particular sort of habitat favored by these geese, since in twenty-five years' experience hunting this area, none of this race had been previously observed. The sloughs were bordered by a dense complex of *Scirpus*, *Typha*, and *Spartina*, with interstitial areas supporting growths of *Salicornia* and *Grindelia*.

As in the observations reported by the authors cited, this flock of *gambelli* remained separate from the several flocks of *A. a. albifrons* feeding on sprouting grain fields in the vicinity. In so far as was observed, the "Tule Geese" were feeding primarily on the tubers and rhizomes of *Scirpus* which