

FROM FIELD AND STUDY

Further Records from the Pleistocene of Newport Bay Mesa, California.—Since my previous reports (Howard, Condor, 51, 1949:20–28, and 57, 1955:136) concerning fossil birds recovered from the Pleistocene marine deposits of the Newport Bay mesa, California, several more bones have been acquired from this area by the Los Angeles County Museum. Most of the specimens were taken on the east side of the estuary at locality number 1066, the main locality of the Los Angeles County Museum for vertebrate material in this area; three specimens were taken at the north end of the estuary at invertebrate localities numbers 136 and 240. Seven of the previously recorded species from the Newport Pleistocene are represented plus two more that have not previously been recorded as fossil. That the records may be kept up-to-date for this important region, the identifiable specimens are listed here. Those from localities 136 and 240 are so indicated; the others are from locality 1066.

Gavia stellata. Red-throated Loon. A complete ulna (no. 2423). This is the first fossil record of this species.

Gavia immer. Common Loon. A nearly complete tarsometatarsus (no. 2608 from loc. 240). An incomplete coracoid (no. 2421 from loc. 136) is large enough for *G. immer*, but the glenoid facet is shorter and broader than in available Recent specimens of this species.

Aechmophorus occidentalis? Western Grebe. A poorly preserved proximal end of a humerus (no. 2610).

Diomedea albatrus. Short-tailed Albatross. A complete tarsometatarsus (no. 2617).

Puffinus griseus. Sooty Shearwater. A distal end of a humerus (no. 2621). Another distal end of a humerus (no. 2622) may also belong to *P. griseus*. It is similar in size and in the deep, laterally compressed shaft, but the distal contours are incomplete, and the brachial area, although poorly preserved, appears somewhat less depressed. The specimen may be significant as it is more highly mineralized than is usual for the Pleistocene bones from Newport Bay and thus may represent a secondary deposition from older beds.

Phalacrocorax penicillatus. Brandt Cormorant. One scapula (no. 2611).

Anser albifrons? White-fronted Goose. An eroded distal end of an ulna (no. 2419). A fragment of a carpometacarpus (no. 2615) appears also to be that of a goose, but it is impossible to determine the species.

Chendytes lawi. Three femora (nos. 2606, 2619, 2620) and a tarsometatarsus (no. 2618) of this extinct diving goose are present. Femur no. 2606 is from locality number 136.

Catoptrophorus inornatus. Willet. A nearly complete humerus (no. 2058). This is the first fossil record of the Willet.

In addition to the foregoing, an incomplete carpometacarpus of the Pliocene species, *Mancalla californiensis* (no. 2583) was recovered from the typical Pleistocene strata, in locality no. 1066. The bone is more highly mineralized than those typical of the Newport beds and of a dark, warm brown color. The preservation closely resembles that of specimens of the same species taken from the nearby Pliocene deposits of Corona del Mar. It is suggested, therefore, that it may have been secondarily deposited from older sediments.

The Los Angeles County Museum is indebted to Mr. Fred Feltham, Mr. F. L. Grouard, Mrs. Eleanor McLauchlan, and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Zava for the recovery of eleven of the specimens here listed; the other five were collected by the Museum's curators of paleontology, Dr. Theodore Downs and Mr. George P. Kanakoff.—HILDEGARDE HOWARD, *Los Angeles County Museum, Los Angeles, California, August 26, 1957.*

Notes on the Red Crossbill in Nevada.—In recent years, the author has obtained records of the Red Crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra*) from several mountain ranges in Nevada which add to the fragmentary knowledge concerning the occurrence of this species in the state. Despite persistent field work in western Nevada from 1948 through 1954, crossbills were not detected until March 26, 1953, when two were observed feeding in the tops of pifions at Geiger Summit, 6800 feet, Virginia Range, Washoe County. On August 14, 1954, John S. Spencer and the author found flocks totaling approximately 30 birds in a mature lodgepole pine and white pine forest at Big Meadows, 8700 feet, two miles west of Hunter Lake in the Carson Range, Washoe County. One group of about 15 birds had