

FROM FIELD AND STUDY

A Western Gull with Symmetrical White Wing Patches.—On January 20, 1965, we were watching a mixed flock of gulls that was following the Oregon State University research vessel "Yaquina" as it left the harbor at Newport, Lincoln County, Oregon. Among these gulls was an adult Western Gull (*Larus occidentalis*) which had large white patches in each wing. This bird followed the ship for about four hours and was observed repeatedly at close range during that time. The wing patches were symmetrically arranged and of almost the same size and shape. In appearance and location (fig. 1) they were very similar to those reported



Fig. 1. Western Gull showing symmetrical white wing patches.

earlier for the Heermann Gull, *Larus heermanni* (Hubbs and Bartholomew, Condor, 53, 1951:221-227) and distinctly different from those earlier reported for the Western Gull (Hubbs, Condor, 56, 1954:228). Although we were not able to determine if the white patches were confined to primary coverts as Hubbs and Bartholomew (*op. cit.*) found in many Heermann Gulls, their shape would indicate that they probably were. Although we have observed many individuals of this species on the Oregon coast for the last five years, we have never seen another individual marked in this fashion. Since the papers referred to above indicate that numerous individuals of Heermann and Western gulls with aberrant wing patches have been found along the coast of southern California, it is surprising that birds of this nature have not previously been reported from the Oregon coast.

The authors wish to thank Dr. Wayne V. Burt, of Oregon State University, Mr. Bruce Wyatt, of the Department of Oceanography, and Captain Howard A. Linse, of the research vessel "Yaquina" for allowing the authors to make observations from the "Yaquina" and for the generosity and courtesy they have shown us.—JOSEPH G. STRAUCH, JR., *Corvallis, Oregon*, and WILLIAM THACKABERRY, *Lebanon, Oregon*, February 8, 1965.

The Curve-billed Thrasher in California.—On November 1, 1964, we saw a Curve-billed Thrasher (*Toxostoma curvirostre*) at the headquarters of the Salton Sea National Wildlife Refuge, located about 5.5 miles west and 3.0 miles north of Calipatria, Imperial County, California. The bird remained in the immediate vicinity of the headquarters until January 25, 1965. Colored photographs of the bird were obtained which verify the identification. The bird was easily dis-

tinguished from the other desert thrashers, except the Bendire Thrasher (*Toxostoma bendirei*), by the presence of faint markings on the breast. The fact that the breast markings were diffuse spots rather than distinct streaks, and that the eye was orange rather than yellow, eliminated the possibility that it might be a Bendire Thrasher. The bird spent much of its time feeding under a row of desert thorn (*Lycium* sp.) and palo verde trees (*Cercidium torreyanum*), but occasionally perched in the open on the telephone lines.

This species has occurred previously in California only along the Colorado River about 50 miles to the east of the Salton Sea Refuge. One was collected two miles north of Bard, Imperial County, on December 31, 1916 (Huey, Condor, 22, 1920:73). There are four unpublished records of specimens in the San Diego Natural History Museum from the same location: a male (SDNHM no. 32770) collected on October 29, 1924, by Marvin Jones; a female (SDNHM no. 9707) collected on January 14, 1925, by L. M. Huey; a female (SDNHM no. 9722) collected on January 16, 1925, by L. M. Huey; and a female (SDNHM no. 32769) collected on January 18, 1925, by May Canfield. All have been identified as *T. c. palmeri*. In addition an individual was seen at Black Meadow Wash on the west side of Havasu Lake, San Bernardino County, on December 26, 1952, by Gale Monson (Aud. Field Notes, 7, 1953:229).

The fact that there are now at least six records of the Curve-billed Thrasher along the Colorado River during the winter indicates that it may be somewhat regular there at this time of the year. The bird seen in the Imperial Valley was apparently an individual that had wandered a little farther west than usual.

We are indebted to R. C. Banks for permission to publish the data on the specimens in the San Diego Natural History Museum.—GUY McCASKIE, *San Diego, California*, and ROBERT R. PRATHER, *Salton Sea National Wildlife Refuge, Calipatria, California, February 1, 1965*.

Additional Records for the Stolid Flycatcher on St. John, Virgin Islands.—The Stolid Flycatcher (*Myiarchus stolidus*) has been reported infrequently from the American Virgin Islands and is considered rare there. Seaman (Wilson Bull., 69, 1957:110) has summarized its sparse occurrence on St. Thomas, where it has been known from only one locality, and reports the taking of a specimen on March 5, 1956, near Reef Bay on St. John. In a very thorough survey of the birds of St. John, Robertson (Auk, 79, 1962:60) reported only one record of this species on the island, that of an individual seen on March 7, 1957, not far from the locality reported by Seaman.

On January 31, 1963, I saw several Stolid Flycatchers along the Centerline Road on St. John, between Cruz Bay and Susannaberg, where there was a steep hillside covered with a dense stand of low trees and scrub. Unfortunately I was not aware at the time of the rarity of the species and so did not keep a record of the exact number seen, nor of the exact location. The number seen was between three and six individuals.

On January 29, 1963, I saw two or three of these flycatchers on the hillside overlooking Perseverance Bay on the southwest shore of St. Thomas. The habitat was similar to that on St. John.—GEORGE A. HALL, *Department of Chemistry, West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia, December 14, 1964*.

The Pine Warbler in Kansas.—Few records exist for the Pine Warbler (*Dendroica pinus*) in Kansas. John M. Porter first mentioned a spring observation, May 20, 1946, of this species at Concordia, Cloud County, Kansas (Kansas Ornith. Soc. Bull., 2, 1951:25). L. B. Carson reports the observation of this species during the spring of 1953 at Topeka (Kansas Ornith. Soc. Bull., 4, 1953:19). Hedges, Myers, and Myers observed one at Camp Towanyak, Johnson County, September 26, 1954 (Burroughs Club Bull. 7, 1955:3). Since then, M. L. Myers has observed the Pine Warbler at this same locality on May 11, 1957, May 22, 1959, and May 4, 1960. Elizabeth Cole observed this species in Johnson County on September 21 and from October 3 to 15, 1964.

On October 25, 1964, Dick Anderson and I observed an adult Pine Warbler in pines at Memorial Park Cemetery, Kansas City, Wyandotte County, Kansas. At this same area on October 27–28, presumably the same bird was observed with Myrtle Warblers (*Dendroica coronata*) by Ted Anderson, Dick Stalling, and me. On October 29, at the above area, I observed an immature bird and also found an injured adult male which was preserved as a study skin