

colonies of Fox Sparrows were found in the vicinity, and Nehls mentioned that "we found all of the fox sparrows up on the hot, dry slopes and not along the streams. . . . The two or three meadows that we checked did not produce any fox sparrows."

It appears that the logging operations there have opened up a new habitat suitable for Fox Sparrows, and that colonization by that species has occurred. Further, colonization has come from two directions and from two separate populations, *megarhyncha* to the south and *fulva* to the east. It is of interest to note that White-crowned Sparrows (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*) have also colonized suitable areas there, but that the source of that species was from the west (Banks, Univ. California Publ. Zool. 70:41, 1964).

Several questions of interest cannot be answered with the material on hand. One wonders when the colonization of this newly opened habitat occurred. In 1941 Alden H. Miller and Ward C. Russell, of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, collected along the North Santiam River near the locality I later visited. According to Russell's notes, logging and burning were taking place at that time (see Banks, loc. cit.), although certainly the area affected was much less extensive than 19 years later. They obtained several

specimens of White-crowned Sparrows, but no Fox Sparrows; the latter species was not observed by these two reliable field men, and presumably was not present. Thus, at least along that portion of the North Santiam River, colonization by the race *fulva*, normally found on the other side of the Cascades, apparently took place between 1941 and 1960.

Eight years passed between the collection of the two specimens, of different subspecies, reported here. Has *megarhyncha* extended northward, replacing *fulva*, or do both forms exist in the newly formed habitat? If the latter situation prevails, are there ecological differences, perhaps in the successional stage of regrowth, which permit both to occur? To what extent do they interbreed, or remain separate? Some of these questions may be answerable with study now or in the near future. The question of the fate of this "new" population over the longer term is of no less interest, and should be kept in mind by future investigators.

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APPARENT LACK OF THE DOUBLE-SCRATCH IN TWO SPECIES OF *SPIZELLA*

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A foraging method called the double-scratch occurs in numerous New World emberizines (see Nice, Trans. Linnaean Soc. New York 6:42, 1943; Harrison, Wilson Bull. 79:22, 1967). The double-scratch involves a hop forward and then a jump backward; in the latter movement both feet drag so as to scrape away the substrate (e.g., leaf litter or snow). A strongly genetic basis for this behavior is indicated by its apparent occurrence in all individuals of those species having the trait. Moreover, as I have noted, individuals of species not showing this behavior (e.g., *Cyanocitta cristata*, *Passer domesticus*, *Richmondia cardinalis*) apparently fail to learn it, despite their occasional opportunities to observe other species using the double-scratch. Recently Harrison has suggested applying the double-scratch as a taxonomic character in classifying emberizines. I here report an apparent exception to the

taxonomic distribution of the double-scratch as summarized by Harrison (op. cit., p. 23).

Nice (op. cit., p. 42) commented that the double-scratch "does not seem to occur in the Field Sparrow" (*Spizella pusilla*). Furthermore, despite a deliberate effort to observe such behavior, I have failed to see the double-scratch used by either Field Sparrows or Chipping Sparrows (*S. passerina*). In contrast, I have repeatedly noted this behavior in wintering Tree Sparrows (*S. arborea*) and have also confirmed the occurrence of the double-scratch for *Pipilo erythrophthalmus*, *Passerculus sandwichensis*, *Junco hyemalis*, *Zonotrichia albicollis*, *Passerella iliaca*, and *Melospiza melodia*. The double-scratch does not appear to characterize *Spizella*, having been reported for only one species of that genus.

If the genus *Spizella* is monophyletic, then presumably the loss or reduction in double-scratch has evolved within the genus, for this trait occurs widely in the emberizines, and there is no evidence that *Spizella* is primitive in the subfamily. Harrison (op. cit.) has suggested a possible correlation between the loss of the double-scratch and the evolution of walking from hopping, but this correlation does not seem to apply to *Spizella*, for Tree, Chipping, and Field Sparrows all typically hop over the substrate.

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PSEUDO-SLEEPING ATTITUDE IN LESSER SCAUP AND RING-NECKED DUCKS

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Cornwell and Bartonex [Bartonek] (Condor 65:444, 1963) have summarized field observations concerning what they described as pseudo-sleeping in two species of waterfowl (Canvasback, *Aythya valisineria*, and Ruddy Duck, *Oxyura jamaicensis*) and several other bird species. Brackbill (Condor 66:309, 1964) has re-

ported an apparent case of the same phenomenon in a Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*). The speculation by Cornwell and Bartonex (op. cit.) that this phenomenon exists among other species of anatids prompted me to report an incident I observed on 27 April 1969.

While photographing waterfowl on the northern shore of Lake Mendota near Madison, Wisconsin, I approached a mixed flock (about 15 birds) of Lesser Scaup (*A. affinis*) and Ring-necked Ducks (*A. collaris*). Males and females of both species were present. The weather was cold and windy (about 15°F with northerly, offshore winds). These birds had been feeding in a loose group about 30 ft offshore in a relatively calm zone of water for the previous hour or so. When I was about 50 ft from the birds, I took a partially exposed position behind a beached boat.