Wilson Bull., 91(2), 1979, p. 323

Interspecific use of Sandhill Crane nests.—Sandhill Crane (Grus canadensis tabida) nesting studies have been in progress in southeast Oregon since 1966. More than 650 nests have been examined, and 4 of these nests have contained eggs of other species. After eggs have hatched or have been destroyed, many crane nests are used by waterfowl and marsh birds for loafing sites. The following are the only instances I have recorded of interspecific use of crane nests for egg deposition.

On 13 May 1976, a nest was located 5 km south of Burns, Harney Co., Oregon. It contained 2 crane eggs and 1 Canvasback (Aythya valisineria) egg. The nest was both built in and composed of broad-fruited burreed (Sparganium eurycarpum). The Canvasback egg was next to the crane eggs and was apparently being incubated by the cranes. The Canvasback egg was collected and the 2 crane eggs hatched in early June. Johnsgard (Waterfowl of North America, Indiana Univ. Press, 1975) mentioned that Canvasback socially parasitize other females of their own species and have been known to lay eggs in the nests of both Redheads (Aythya americana) and Ruddy Ducks (Oxyura jamaicensis). I know of no other record of Canvasback egg parasitism of species other than waterfowl.

In southeast Oregon, Canada Geese (Branta canadensis moffitti) nest at the same time as Sandhill Cranes and use similar habitat. A crane nest that was lost to an unknown predator contained 2 goose eggs when re-examined on 12 April 1969. The goose eggs had apparently been deposited in the nest after the crane eggs had been destroyed; they had not been incubated. On 11 April 1974, a deserted crane nest with 2 crane eggs and 5 Canada Goose eggs was located. All 7 eggs had been covered with nesting material. Normally, Sandhill Cranes do not cover the eggs until they have been destroyed or hatched (shell fragments). Both of these nests were located on Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, about 50 km southeast of Burns.

An active nest was located on Malheur NWR in April 1971. When re-examined in May it was occupied by a Trumpeter Swan (Olor buccinator). The swan had added material to the nest and was incubating 5 swan eggs. Fate of the crane eggs was not determined, but the swan eggs hatched successfully. The crane eggs had probably been destroyed before the swan added material to the nest.

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The Red-whiskered Bulbul in Hawaii.—The Red-whiskered Bulbul (Pycnonotus jocosus) is native to India, but has been introduced into Australia (Chaffer, Emu 33:136-137, 1933; Barrett, Australian Bird Life, Brown, Prior, Anderson Pty., Ltd., Melbourne, 1947), Florida (Banks and Laybourne, Auk 85:141, 1968; Owre, Wilson Bull. 85:491-500, 1973), and Hawaii. In both Australia and Florida the bird is well established and has become somewhat of an agricultural pest. This bulbul was first recorded in the lower Makiki Heights area of Oahu in 1965 (Kjargaard, Elepaio 29:35, 1968). Over a 10-year period following their establishment, the birds have been reported only in small numbers (Table 1). However, since 1967 the species has spread