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THE
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Gulls with Color Bands

In the December issue of *THE GULL* I gave the record of the finding of immature California Gulls with color bands by Laidlaw O. Williams at the Exposition. In addition to this record Mr. Williams also saw at Monterey, January 9th, a Western Gull banded RSR at Coronado Island, Mexico, and another one banded R-RS at Haystack Rock, Oregon.

Mrs. Junea W. Kelly also reported the finding of an immature California Gull at Bay Farm Island, August 18th, banded SB-B at Mono Lake this year.

While taking the Christmas census, December 17th, at Crissy Field, San Francisco, Mr. Albert B. Stephens discovered an immature Western Gull with an RSB band on the right leg, having been banded this year at Haystack Rock, Oregon.

In explanation of these bands the following is given: RS-Y means a red colored band over a United States survey band on the right leg, and a yellow band on the left leg. SB-B means a survey band over a blue band on the right leg, and a blue one on the left leg. RSR means red band over survey over red, and R-RS means red on right leg and red over survey on the left.

Western Gulls banded at North Coronado Island, Mexico, in 1938 wear a red band over the survey band over red on the right leg, and for 1939 a red over red on the right leg and a survey on the left leg. Those banded at Three Arch Island, Oregon, wear for 1938 a survey on the right leg and red over blue on the left, and for 1939 blue over survey over red on the right leg. Those banded at Haystack Rock, Oregon, wear for 1938 a blue band on the right leg and a red over survey on the left, and for 1939 a red over survey over blue on the right leg.

California Gulls banded at Mono Lake, California, wear for 1938 a blue over survey on the right leg and a blue band on the left, and for 1939 a survey over blue on the right and a blue band on the left. Those banded at Great Salt Lake, Utah, wear for 1939 a red over survey on the right and a yellow band on the left leg.

Glaucous-winged Gulls banded at Mittlenatch Island, Gulf of Georgia, B. C., are banded for 1938 with a yellow band over a survey on the right leg and have a yellow band on the left and for 1939, 100 were banded with two yellow bands on the right leg and a survey band on the left, and 117 have a yellow band only on the right and another 100 have only a survey band on the right leg. Those banded at Yellow Island, Haro Straits, B. C., wear for 1938 a yellow over blue on the right leg and a survey band on the left and for 1939 a blue over yellow on the right leg and a survey band on the left leg. Those banded at Gull Island, Howe Sound, B. C., wear for 1938 a yellow over a survey band on the right and a blue band on the left, and for 1939 a yellow over a survey over a blue band on the right leg.

Four thousand young gulls were banded at these different stations. Watch for them,—the bands will be only on the immature gulls. Send in your records, being careful to note color and position of the bands and on which leg they are placed.

Laura A. Stephens.

Christmas Census for 1939

San Francisco, California. (Marina, Presidio, Ocean Beach, Golden Gate Park and Lake Merced.) December 17, 1939, from 7 a. m. to 5 p. m. There was a dense fog in the early morning, which made observation of water birds very difficult and accounts for the lack of some species usually noted. By noon the sun was out and the afternoon was warm and pleasant, the day's average temperature being 57°. Autumn and winter have been unusually warm and dry this year and the rainfall has been only 1.78 of an inch to date. This kind of a season also probably accounts for some of the late records of summer visiting birds.

Our complete list of birds at Christmas time now totals 142 species. This census shows the largest number of species (100), but not the greatest number of individuals (13,424), this latter figure being 1000 less than the record of last year.

The Marina, Presidio, Land's End and San Francisco Beach totaled 70 species, the highest record for this territory, being eight above last year, adding seven new species: Eared Grebe, Redhead, Hudsonian Curlew, Heermann Gull, House Wren, Hutton Vireo and Myrtle Warbler.

Golden Gate Park produced its highest record, 56 species, 3568 individuals, twelve species more than last year, with two new species: Black-crowned Night Heron and Calaveras Warbler. This warbler was observed with high power binoculars by Mr. Frank G. Watson, who noted the gray sides of the head and the bright yellow underparts and the bill of the *Fermivora* group. Mr. Watson also examined skins at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, and feels correct in his identification.

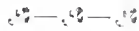
Laurel Hill Cemetery, which has been included only the last three years, had a total of fourteen species. This year twenty species were noted here, including nine new ones, bringing the total up to twenty-three.

Lake Merced, which has a total of 110 species seen at Christmas time, produced only 72 species, a loss of seven from its high record of last year. A dead Pigeon Hawk was found and taken to the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley. Two new species, Cinnamon Teal and Long-eared Owl, were added to this list. The only other record of a Long-eared Owl for San Francisco was in May, 1892, when Mr. Milton S. Ray shot one near Ingleside (*Condor*, VIII, no. 2, 1906).

The complete list is as follows: Eared Grebe 131; Western Grebe 46; Pied-billed Grebe 79; Brown Pelican 26; Farallon Cormorant 21; Brandt Cormorant 7; California Heron 2; Black-crowned Night Heron 2; American Bittern 2; Hutchins Goose 2; Mallard 676; Gadwall 2; Baldpate 174; Pintail 22; Green-winged Teal 8; Cinnamon Teal 2; Shoveller 20; Wood Duck 1; Redhead 10; Ring-necked Duck 177; Canvas-back 140; Scaup 56; American Golden-eye 1; White-winged Scoter 2; Surf Scoter 27; Ruddy Duck 138; Red-breasted Merganser 4; Sharp-shinned Hawk 4; Cooper Hawk 2; Red-tailed Hawk 4; Pigeon Hawk (Presidio) 1; Sparrow Hawk 12; Quail 145; Virginia Rail 3; Sora 1; Coot 1631; Killdeer 178; Surf Bird 10; Ruddy Turnstone 4; Black Turnstone 27; Wilson Snipe 37; Hudsonian Curlew 2; Sanderling 120+; Glaucous-winged Gull 433+; Western Gull 1011+; Herring Gull 102; California Gull 2053+; Ring-billed Gull 99; Short-billed Gull 472; Bonaparte Gull 8; Heermann Gull 6; Long-eared Owl 1; Anna Hummingbird 163; Kingfisher 3; Red-shafted Flicker 99; Willow Woodpecker 7; Black Phoebe 34; Say Phoebe 7; Horned Lark 33; California Jay 8; Chickadee 298; Bushtit 323; Red-breasted Nuthatch 29; Creeper 6; Wrentit 5; House Wren 1; Winter Wren 1; Vigors Wren 39; Tule Wren 7; Western Robin 200; Varied Thrush 1; Hermit Thrush 58; Western Bluebird 5; Golden-crowned Kinglet 30; Ruby-crowned Kinglet 168; American Pipit 334; Cedar Waxwing 3; Hutton Vireo 5; Myrtle Warbler 5; Calaveras Warbler 1; Audubon Warbler 509; Townsend Warbler 30; Yellow-throat 40; English Sparrow 253; Meadowlark 135; Red-wing Blackbird 25; Tricolored Blackbird 2; Brewer Blackbird 451; Purple Finch 9; House Finch 71; Pine

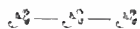
Siskin 16; Willow Goldfinch 12; Green-backed Goldfinch 7; San Francisco Towhee 42; Savannah Sparrow 46; Junco 391; Nuttall Sparrow 1150; Golden-crowned Sparrow 109; Fox Sparrow 96; Song Sparrow 203. Total miles afoot 25, total hours in field 42, observers 27: Messrs. and Mesdames F. M. Jencks, David J. Nichols, Albert B. Stephens; Mesdames Euid Austin, Mary L. Court-right, Junea W. Kelly, Otis H. Smith; Misses Frances J. Blake, Selma Werner; Messrs. Gordon Bolander, B. C. Bremer, Ed. Greenhood, Don Heyneman, Harold Kirker, Bob Levy, Ed. McClintock, Oliver J. Millard, E. V. Miller, Arthur H. Myer, Norton Noteware, Jack Stewart, Frank G. Watson, Joseph J. Webb and Russell Wilson.

Laura A. Stephens.



Bird Census in Yosemite National Park

Yosemite Valley, Yosemite National Park, California. (Mirror Lake, 4,000 feet elevation, to El Portal, 2,000 feet elevation, fifteen miles distance.) December 18, 1939, 9 a. m. to 4 p. m. Clear, sunny, no wind; minimum temperature 40°, maximum 56°. Nine observers, total miles afoot 24, total hours 22. Hooded Merganser 2; Red-tailed Hawk 4; Golden Eagle 5; Pygmy Owl 3; Kingfisher 4; Red-shafted Flicker 15; Pileated Woodpecker 2; California Woodpecker 55; Modoc Woodpecker 7; White-headed Woodpecker 3; Black Phoebe 1; Blue-fronted Jay 414+; Long-tailed Jay 11; Short-tailed Chickadee 101; Plain Titmouse 12; California Bush-tit 24+; Red-breasted Nuthatch 2; Sierra Creeper 13; Pallid Wren-tit 4; Dipper 7; Western Robin 3; Varied Thrush 12; Hermit Thrush 4; Western Bluebird 18; Golden-crowned Kinglet 38; Ruby-crowned Kinglet 65; Audubon Warbler 5; Black-throated Gray Warbler 1; Purple Finch 2; Sacramento Towhee 11; Brown Towhee 34; Thurber Junco 24+; White-crowned Sparrow 93+; Golden-crowned Sparrow 8; Song Sparrow 8. Total 35 species, 1015+ individuals. Mrs. Catherine Merriam, Mrs. Della Hoss, Mrs. Ruth Knowles, Mrs. Alice Oliver, Vincent Mowbray, Edward Dennison, Lowell Adams, J. E. Cole (Junior Park Naturalist), M. E. Beatty (Acting Park Naturalist).



Bird Census at Benicia, California

Benicia, California, December 21; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Clear; light southeast wind; temp. 45° at start, 52° at return. Both observers traveling together by automobile with frequent stops to canvass the marsh and hills along highway between Benicia and Cordelia, the two towns being 14 miles apart, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. One observer (Stoner) traveling alone by foot from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Total man-hours, 14. Horned Grebe 2; Pied-billed Grebe 2; California Heron 3; American Egret 8; Brewster Egret 3; Black-crowned Night Heron 3; Whistling Swan 14; Lesser Snow Goose 1000; Mallard 16; Pintail 300; Shoveller 24; Canvasback 400; American Golden-eye 3; Ruddy Duck 2000; White-tailed Kite 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk 1; Red-tailed Hawk 13; Marsh Hawk 3; Prairie Falcon 1; Sparrow Hawk 19; California Quail 23; Coot 600; Killdeer 6; Black-bellied Plover 450; Greater Yellow-legs 20; Red-backed Sandpiper 65; Western Sandpiper 43; Glaucous-winged Gull 8; Western Gull 60; California Gull 23; Ring-billed Gull 3; Short-billed Gull 10; Bonaparte Gull 215; Horned Owl 1; Burrowing Owl 2; Anna Hummingbird 8; Red-shafted Flicker 54; Willow Woodpecker 2; Nuttall Woodpecker 1; Say Phoebe 1; Nicasio Jay 40; Plain Titmouse 3; Bush-tit 60; Suisun Marsh Wren 2; Mockingbird 2; Robin 6; Ruby-crowned Kinglet 18; Pipit 90; Cedar Waxwing 31; California Shrike 38; Audubon Warbler 21; English Sparrow 50; Meadowlark 400; Red-wing 28; Brewer Blackbird 3500; House Finch 45; Willow Goldfinch 85; Green-backed Goldfinch 7; Sacramento Towhee 6; Savannah Sparrow 80; Junco 35; Nuttall Sparrow 75; Golden-crowned Sparrow 40; Suisun Song Sparrow 3. Total 64 species; 10,066 individuals. Thirteen of the Whistling Swans were feeding in a slough and were approached to within 120 feet before they flew a short distance and lit on a pond. The White-tailed Kite was feeding over the marsh, often fluttering in one spot in the air in characteristic kite attitude. — Emerson A. Stoner, James M. Barkley.

Audubon Notes

January Meeting: The 23rd annual meeting will be held on Thursday evening, the 11th, at 8 o'clock, in the Ferry building.

The evening will be devoted to the reading of annual reports and the election of officers and directors for the ensuing year, to be followed by a discussion on species and subspecies.

Members are urged to be present.



January Field Trip will be taken to Lake Merritt, Oakland, on Sunday, the 14th. The annual census of the ducks will be taken and a request is made for volunteers. Bring luncheon.

San Francisco members take the Twenty-second Street Grand Avenue Key train and get off at Perkins Street, where party will meet about 10 o'clock. Please check train times before starting. Train schedules are subject to change.



1940 Dues: The annual dues for the year of 1940 are now payable and all members are asked to make their remittances as early as possible to the Treasurer. It is requested that all checks be made in the name of the Audubon Association of the Pacific.



December Meeting: The 268th regular meeting was held on the 14th, in the Ferry Building, with twenty-seven members and guests present. Mrs. Kelly presided.

At the last minute word came that the speaker for the evening would not be able to be present. Mrs. Kelly led in a discussion relative to the members' wishes in having lectures on subjects other than birds. It was brought out that some clubs use a variety of sub-

jects and that many topics, while not strictly on ornithology, are nevertheless closely related to it.

Mr. Webb reported on the Lake Merced situation, which also brought forth suggestions and comments from others.

Mr. Moffitt told of his intention to issue a check-list of the birds of the San Francisco Bay region. This included the subject of species and subspecies, which matter was postponed to the January meeting.

All in all it was a very lively and interesting meeting despite the fact that we had no regular speaker.



Observations: The following observations have been reported:

Mrs. Kelly: Bay Farm Island, November 17th, ten Avocets, three Black Turnstones; 19th, Avocets, three Black Turnstones, two Ruddy Turnstones, twenty-four Snowy Plovers, 100+ Black-bellied Plovers, two Burrowing Owls; Lake Merritt, December 2nd, Heermann Gull, male Gadwall, male Redhead, three Green-winged Teal.

Mr. Moffitt: Lake of Nations, Treasure Island, October 26th, four Eared Grebes. (Another bird to add to the list given in the December issue of THE GULL.)

Mrs. Stephens: Chain of Lakes, Golden Gate Park, November 11th, Varied Thrush, male Wood Duck, seen again on the 19th, and still present on the 28th, twelve Shoveller Ducks on the 23rd, and eighteen on December 7th; November 23rd, three Green-winged Teal; Metson Lake, December 3rd, four Scaup, Cliff House rocks, 15+ Surf-birds, 1 Ruddy Turnstone, 25+ Black Turnstones; Pine Lake, Wilson Snipe and two Hooded Mergansers.

Audubon Association of the Pacific

Organized January 25, 1917

For the Study and the Protection of Birds

President.....Mrs. G. Earle Kelly.....1311 Grand St., Alameda, Calif.
 Corresponding Secretary.....C. B. Lastreto.....260 California St., San Francisco
 Treasurer.....Mrs. A. B. Stephens.....1695 Filbert St., San Francisco

Monthly meeting second Thursday, 8 P. M., Room 19, Ferry Building.

Address Bulletin correspondence to Mrs. A. B. Stephens, Editor, 1695 Filbert St., San Francisco.

Membership dues, payable January 1st, \$3.00 per year.

Student memberships, \$1.50 per year.

Life memberships, \$50.00.

Members are responsible for dues until written notice of resignation is received by Treasurer.