

Craters of the Moon National Monument
Arco, Idaho 83213

N-22

June 12, 1968

Dr. Oliver K. Scott
437 East 13th St.
Casper, Wyoming 82601

Dear Dr. Scott:

I have a few records to report for the spring migration period.

Weather: April was cold and dry with only .20-inch ppt. compared to an average of 1.30. However, snow cover disappeared much earlier than last year. May was also cold (except for the last week) with 2.23-inches of ppt. - about average.

General: There was little evidence of migration during the cold weather in April. As usual, many species arrived during May. The peak period of migration seemed to occur during the last week in May, although no well-defined waves were noted. Chipping Sparrow was the only species that appeared in large flocks. Several species appeared to be starting nesting earlier than last year.

List of Records:

Golden Eagle - single birds recorded, April 16 and May 9; it probably nests in the area, although no concrete evidence is available.

Sharp-shinned Hawk - two seen in Little Cottonwood Canyon throughout May and appeared to be nesting.

Belted Kingfisher - a female in Little Cottonwood Canyon, April 1 was the first Monument record; it was also recorded in the same locality, May 2.

Starling - unfortunately, it seems to be increasing here; several were seen in a variety of localities during the period.

Cedar Waxwing - three in Little Cottonwood Canyon, May 28 (Nancy Hurley) were the first for the Monument.

Townsend's Warbler - one in Little Cottonwood Canyon, May 30 is apparently one of the very few spring records for southern Idaho.

Yellow-breasted Chat - one in Little Cottonwood Canyon, May 28 (Allegra Collister) is another addition to the Monument list.

American Redstart - a male in Little Cottonwood Canyon, May 28 (DLC, Allegra Collister, Nancy Hurley) is another first for Craters of the Moon.

Fox Sparrow - first of the year were recorded in Little Cottonwood Canyon, April 1, and it was numerous in that locality during the remainder of the period.

All of the above records were obtained at Craters of the Moon National Monument and are my own unless otherwise indicated.

Sincerely,

Dennis L. Carter
Park Naturalist