

BINDER COPY
(Birds)

Craters of the Moon National Monument
Arco, Idaho 83213

N-22

April 9, 1970

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

Dear Dr. Scott:

As usual, the winter season was a very slow time here in regard to bird observations as well as human visitors. I will be unable to attend the Audubon Society convention but hope that you will enjoy it.

Weather: This winter was as moderate as the last one was severe. Mild, dry weather prevailed throughout most of the season, and both precipitation and snowfall were only about 1/3 of that recorded last winter. An unusual lack of strong winds cut down on severe drifting.

Records:

Whistling Swan - A flock of 44 flying low over the CRMO residence area, March 28 was the first record for the Monument.

Saw-whet Owl - One was observed in the CRMO residence area, December 7.

Mountain Bluebird - A male was seen in the CRMO residence area, February 25 and a pair, February 27; these are the earliest records for the Monument.

Pine Grosbeak - A flock of 24 was recorded on the CRMO Christmas Count, December 20.

Gray-crowned Rosy Finch - A flock which numbered at least 16 roosted in Indian Tunnel throughout the period.

Oregon Junco - One in the CRMO residence area, January 14 was unusual as they do not normally winter at the Monument.

Snow Bunting - A flock of about 70 was recorded near Arco on the following dates: December 12 and 13, February 5, and February 19. This species is apparently a regular winter resident in this area.

Sincerely,

Dennis L. Carter
Park Naturalist