

(birds)

Craters of the Moon National Monument
Arco, Idaho 83213

N-1419

June 13, 1970

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

Dear Dr. Scott:

I was fortunate in being able to do more birding this spring than last year.

April was cold and wet, and the migration seemed to be at a virtual standstill during most of the month. The same conditions prevailed during the first half of May, but clearing and warmer weather at mid-month resulted in a big push of birds May 15th; Violet-green Swallow, Audubon's Warbler, Chipping Sparrow, and Brewer's Sparrow arrived on this date. Birding was productive during the last two weeks in May due to alternating fair and stormy periods.

The following species were recorded at Craters of the Moon:

Williamson's Sapsucker - a female was found in limber pines near the residence area, April 11; this was the first record for the Monument.

Common Raven - a pair nested on a ledge inside Indian Tunnel, and young were seen in the nest, May 24 and thereafter.

Catbird - one seen and heard at the Visitor Center, May 24 was an addition to the Monument list (#141).

Wilson's Warbler - this species is usually uncommon to rare here in spring, but several records were obtained during the last two weeks in May this year.

Wyoming records:

Sandhill Crane - I observed a flock of 63 in a field south of Jackson, April 27 and 28. One individual had yellow tags on each leg, and I have learned that it was marked at Gray's Lake, Idaho.

Rosy Finch sp. - A huge flock which probably numbered at least 5,000 was seen south of Jackson, April 27. The weather was quite stormy at this time.

Sincerely,

Dennis L. Carter
Park Naturalist