

Craters of the Moon National Monument
Arco, Idaho 83213

ASD 12

N-1419

December 3, 1967

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

Dear Dr. Scott:

Report on Fall Migration - August 15, 1967 to November 30, 1967

All of the records listed were obtained at Craters of the Moon National Monument, Butte County, Idaho unless otherwise indicated, and all general comments refer to this locality. All records are my own unless credited to Brent Ritchie.

Weather: This fall was characterized by remarkably mild, dry weather which lasted well into November. This first measureable snowfall (3 inches) was recorded on November 22 and was followed by 10 inches of snow, November 28 - 29. Temperatures were much above normal during most of the period, but the temperature dropped to 3°, November 27.

General: Migrants moved through the area in good numbers during the early part of the period, and a few concentrations were noted. Many late records were obtained, probably due to the mild weather. No spectacular invasions of any of the erratic species were recorded.

List of Records:

accipiters - Cooper's and Sharp-shinned Hawks were recorded several times, primarily during the first half of the period when many land birds were migrating.

Golden Eagle - a few records of individuals throughout the period

Long-eared Owl - 1 at the Sentinel in the Tutimaba Wilderness Area,
November 11

Poor-will - seen frequently in the Little Cottonwood Canyon area until the late date of September 27 when two were recorded (Brent Ritchie)

Eastern Kingbird - one in an agricultural area, east of Carey, Blaine County,
August 22

Empidonax sp. - frequently seen in Little Cottonwood Canyon through
September 20

Black-capped Chickadee - one seen with Mountain Chickadees in Little
Cottonwood Canyon, November 12

Mountain Chickadee - present in small numbers all fall

Red-breasted Nuthatch - a few in the area throughout the period
 Winter Wren - one in Little Cottonwood Canyon, September 20
 Sage Thrasher - numerous through the third week in September; last record - September 22
 Robin - A flock of 40 was feeding on chokecherries in Little Cottonwood Canyon, October 14; the last record was one in the same locality, November 15 (DLC, Brent Ritchie).
 Hermit Thrush - a few records from Little Cottonwood Canyon including one on the late date of October 20
 Mountain Bluebird - numerous through the first week in October; last record - eight, October 11
 Golden-crowned Kinglet - A flock of a dozen or more was seen repeatedly in Douglas Fir stands from September 20 to the end of the period.
 Ruby-crowned Kinglet - common through the third week in October; last record - one, October 24
 Bohemian Waxwing - five in Little Cottonwood Canyon, November 30 (Brent Ritchie)
 Solitary Vireo - One in Little Cottonwood Canyon, September 12 is the only record for the Monument.
 Nashville Warbler - One in Little Cottonwood, September 12 is another first for the Monument.
 Myrtle warbler - Singles in the residence area, October 11 & 21; both individuals were carefully observed at close range and the immaculate white throat noted. This is another new species for Graters of the Moon.
 Audubon's Warbler - abundant through the 15th of October with a peak of 60 in the residence area, October 1
 Townsend's Warbler - one in Little Cottonwood Canyon, September 6 is the first for the Monument.
 MacGillivray's Warbler - One in Little Cottonwood Canyon, October 1 is a very late record.
 Bobolink - two in an alfalfa field, east of Carey, Blaine County, August 22
 Yellow-headed Blackbird - one in the residence area, September 1
 Lazuli Bunting - The last record was one in Little Cottonwood Canyon, September 13.
 House Finch - Small flocks numbering up to 18 were in the residence area early in the period.
 Gray-crowned Rosy Finch - two at Dewdrop Cave, November 17 (Brent Ritchie)
 Pine Siskin - flocks of 50 or less throughout the period
 Savannah Sparrow - one in the residence area, September 17, a new species for the Monument.
 White-crowned Sparrow - numerous through mid-October and one still present, October 24
 Song Sparrow - three still present in Little Cottonwood area, November 12

At the end of the period, the number of species on the Monument bird list totaled 123.

Sincerely,

Dennis L. Carter
 Park Naturalist