

ADDITIONAL BIRD AND MAMMAL OBSERVATIONS IN THE CARIBOU MOUNTAINS, ALBERTA

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In continuation of field work, previously reported in the *Blue Jay* (1975, 33:73-83 and 34:56-58), I revisited the area about the eastern quarter of Margaret Lake and Eva Lake with Mr. D. Ellis for 5 days, June 27 to July 1, and again with my son, H. Hohn, on July 12 and 13, 1976. This year, because no float plane was available, only Margaret Lake, where there is an air strip, was accessible. Three sight records of quite unmistakable species given to me by Mr. L. Wilson, part-owner of the Margaret Lake fishing lodge and designated L. W., are included.

BIRDS

New breeding records and species not recorded previously:

Red-throated Loon: After unsuccessful efforts during three successive breeding seasons, a nest with one egg was found on a lakelet about a mile north of Margaret Lake on June 28. On the preceding day two of these loons were seen near a still empty nest on a small lake by the mouth of the creek which drains Rock Island into Margaret Lake, where a pair was seen in June and July, 1975. On July 1 this nest was still empty but one of the birds, when attempting to fly off with its mate, could not get fully airborne and was perhaps carrying a fully formed egg. Further details are being submitted to the *Canadian Field-Naturalist*.

Arctic Loon: On July 1 two, frequently calling, were in view for about 20 minutes in a bay of Margaret Lake. I found a pair of these loons with young in northeastern Alberta about one mile

from Margaret Lake (Hohn, *Can. Field-Naturalist* 1972, 86: 372).

Whistling Swan: About 500 on Margaret Lake on May 25, 1976; they had left by the next day. L. W.

Canada Goose: A large flock on Margaret Lake, May 26, 1976, which also stayed less than 24 hours. L. W.

Blue-winged Teal: A female was flushed from cover along the small lake near the mouth of Rock Lake-Margaret Lake Creek, June 27.

Green-winged Teal: A female with nine downies on a small lake between Margaret and Eva Lakes, July 1.

Parasitic Jaeger: On the evening of June 29 one passed over Margaret Lake on an easterly course harrying a common tern for about half a minute. These jaegers are known to summer but are not known to breed on Lake Athabasca, about 200 miles east of Margaret Lake.

Fox Sparrow: One in song, June 27, near the mouth of the creek from Rock Island Lake in Margaret Lake; another was seen very briefly July 12 near the eastern extremity of Margaret Lake.

General Notes

Greater Scaup: (?) I was unable to collect the hen flushed from a scaup nest with eight eggs, July 1, on a small lake between Margaret and Eva Lakes. Again the measurements of two eggs taken from it suggest Greater rather than Lesser scaup but do not permit a definite conclusion.

Osprey: Two seen July 12 circling and uttering piping calls over a lake about a mile long between Margaret and Eva Lakes; may have had young nearby.



Canada Goose with brood.

Gary W. Seib

Lesser Yellowlegs: One was flushed from a nest with four eggs beside a seismic trail about a mile north of Margaret Lake, June 28.

Mew Gull: Two apparent pairs dived at us repeatedly with continuous calls at a small lake about a mile from Margaret Lake, June 28. Their behaviour strongly suggested that they had nests or young nearby but neither could be found.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: Several heard in song about Margaret Lake in late June.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: A nest containing several young found June 25 was empty when we rechecked on July 12.

Northern Waterthrush: A singing male a few miles northwest of the Margaret Lake fishing lodge, July 1, is the second local observation of this species.

MAMMALS

American Black Bear: Evidently not quite as scarce as indicated by the experience of Mr. G. Grimm (*Blue Jay* 1975, 33:82) for on June 21, 1975, we saw the corpse of a subadult which had been shot near the Margaret Lake fishing lodge, while this year Mr. and Mrs. Wilson encountered one swimming well out on the lake on June 26.





Flying Squirrel.

Hans Dommasch