

A SUMMARY OF FIELD OBSERVATIONS MADE IN KOOTENAY NATIONAL PARK FOR THE PERIOD OF May 13th , 1976 to September 5th, 1976. By WILLIAM J. MERILEES.

This is one of a number of reports originating from my summers work in the East Kootenay area of B.C. as a result of my employment with Parks Canada (Kootenay National Park) and Entech Environmental Consultants Ltd. of Vancouver. The other Reports are as follows For Entech; 1 "A general report on the bird fauna of the Columbia River Valley between Edgewater and Canal Flats B.C. 2: A report on the Great Blue Heron, Osprey and Bald Eagle Nesting locations in the Columbia River Valley between Edgewater and Canal Flats, B.C. 3; ~~XX~~ With Don Blood An Ardeid Waterfowl Survey, Columbia River Marshes. 4: (for my records) A summary of Field Notes during the summer of 1976 for the Columbia River Valley between Edgewater and Canal Flats and 5 for Kootenay National Park this report.

These are miscellaneous observations made on a from time to time basis as opportunity afforded and motivation dictated. All these observations were made inside Kootenay National Park

- Mallard - June 1st Dog Lake 1 pair  
June 3rd Kootenay Pond
- Pintail - June 1st Dog Lake 1 pair
- Green-winged Teal - June 1st Dog Lake 3 (2 female 1 male)
- Blue-winged Teal - June 17th Kootenay Pond North 4 (3 males 1 female)
- Ring-necked Duck - Dog Lake 4 (1 pair plus 2 males)
- Lesser Scaup - June 3rd Kootenay Pond 1 pair
- Goldeneye sp. - June 27th Kootenay Pond 2 females
- Bufflehead - June 3rd Kootenay Pond (1 pair)
- June 7th - June 7th - Nixon Lake 2 males  
June 17th - Kootenay Pond North female with 5 young 1A or 1B
- Harlequin Duck - June 8th Iron Gates 1 male
- Red-tailed Hawk - June 3rd - Vermillion Lookout 1  
June 27th - Kootenay Pond 2  
August 1st - Radium Lodge (adult with Immature circling over Red Wall)
- Golden Eagle - August 24th Kindersley Pass 1  
July 13th - Stoddard Creek 1 immature
- Marsh Hawk - August 17th McLeod Meadows 1
- Osprey - August 9th Dog Lake 1
- Blue Grouse - ~~XX~~ July 13th Stoddard Creek (female with 1 1/2 grown chick)

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Franklin's Grouse - May 31st Vermillion Crossing 1 male  
Ruffed Grouse - June 10th - Redstreak Campground 1 (grey tail)  
Sora Rail - June 17th Kootenay Ponds South 2  
                  June 17th Kootenay Ponds North 1  
American Coot - July 31st Kootenay Pond 1  
Killdeer - June 3rd Kootenay Pond  
                  June 27th Kootenay Pond  
                  July 31st Kootenay Pond 2  
Spotted Sandpiper - June 1st Dog Lake 3+  
                  June 30th - Marble Canyon to Paint Pots  
                  July 31st Kootenay Pond 1  
                  August 8th Paint pots 3 adults with 1+ young less  
                                  than a week old.  
Solitary Sandpiper - June 27th Kootenay Pond 1  
                  August 8th Paint Pots 2  
Lesser Yellowlegs - July 31st - Kootenay Pond 1  
                  August 8th Paint Pots 1  
Hawk Owl - July 12th Burn Area K.N.P. Banff Boundary (Banff Side)  
Night Hawk - July 13 & 14 Stoddard Creek bird on nest with 2 eggs  
Black Swift - June 29th Marble Canyon campground 5 - 7+  
Common Flicker - May 31st Conservation Corps HQ  
                  Aquacourt Trail June 1st & 4th & July 5th  
                  June 27th Kootenay Pond - with red moustache & red nape  
                                  wings with orange tinge.  
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker - June 1st Dog Lake Trail (workings only seen)  
Hammonds Flycatcher- Aquacourt Trail June 1st & 4th (heard)  
                  Kootenay Pond June 27th  
Olive-sided Flycatcher - May 31st Conservation Corps Camp singing  
                  June 7th Nixon Lake ;  
                  August 15th - McLeod Meadows Calling  
Violet-green Swallow - May 31st Conservation Corps Camp  
                  June 17th Kootenay Pond North  
                  First Week of August - Air filled with swallows  
                                  around lodge Barn & Violet Greens (young off  
                                  nest.)  
Bank Swallows - seen around Conservatio Corps Gravel Pit also a colony (?)  
                  above highway at Mt. Wardle ??  
Rough-winged Swallow - June 1st Dog Lake 5+

Barn Swallow - June 17th Kootenay Pond North

First week in August Air around Lodge filled with this species (families) and V.G. Swallow's.

Cliff Swallows - August 30th - Vermillion Crossing Bridge nests only seen

Gray Jay - June 9th Aqua Cour Trail

June 1st - Sand Bar Island - 3

June 3 - Kootenay Lookout

August 24th - Kindersley Pass 2

Steller's Jay - August 24th Kindersley Creek Trail heard

Raven - Nest in Sinclair Canyon 5 young left nest between May 27 & June 1st.

Clark's Nutcracker - August 23rd Radium Lodge - 1

August 24th - Kindersley Pass common

Maountain Chickadee - June 9th - Aqua Court Trail

Red-breasted Nuthatch - June 26th - Aqua Court Trail

June 1st - Dog Lake

July 5th Aquacourt Trail

Dipper - June 8th Iron Gates 1 - nest 18" above stream level bird entering

June 28th same location Adult with 1 young off nest.

Winter Wren - May 13th Aqua Court Trail singing

May 27th " " " "

June 7th Olive Lake

July 23rd Marble Canyon to Paint Pots 1 singing

Robin - May 13th Aqua Court Trail

May 31st Conservation Corps Camp

June 1st, 4th, 9th and July 5th - Aqua Court Trail

June 1st - Dog Lake

Varied Thrush - June 29th Paintpots 3+ singing

June 30th Marble Canyon to Paintpots 3+ singing

Hermit Thrush - July 24th Stanley Glacier Trail (top end) 1 singing

Swainson's Thrush - June 1st Dog Lake Trail

June 18th Paint Pots Trail

July 23rd Vermillion Crossing 1 found dead on highway

Mountain Bluebird - May 31st Conservation Corps Camp

June 1st Sand Bar Island

Townsend's Solitaire - June 1st Sand Bar Island

(Ian Jack mentions Solitaires common in winter feeding on juniper berries)

June 3rd Kootenay Pond

Golden-crowned Kinglet - May 13th Aqua Court Trail  
May 27th Redstreak Campground

Ruby-crowned Kinglet - June 4th Aqua Court Trail (heard)  
June 1st Dog Lake Trail  
June 18th Paint Pots  
September 4th Kootenay Crossing heard 3/4 call

Bohemian Waxwing - July 23rd Paint Pots adult with 1+ fully fledged young  
July 31st McLeod Meadows picnic area 1 John Stainer  
August 8th Paint Pots 6+

Cedar Waxwing - June 26th Radium Lodge 1+

Starling - June 23rd Radium (beginning of Road to H.Q.) Nest 2+ young  
about to leave nest

Solitary Vireo - May 13th Aqua Court Trail singing  
June 1st, 4th, & 9th Aqua Court Trail

Warbling Vireo - May 27th Redstreak Campground with nesting material  
June 4th, 9th and July 5th Aquacourt Trail

Orange-crowned Warbler - June 17th Kootenay Ponds male singing in lodgepole  
pines  
June 30th Marble Canyon to Paintpots 2 heard singing

Audubon Warbler - June 9th Aqua Court Trail  
June 1st Dog Lake Trail 2 males (Many around Lake)  
August 8th Paint Pots Adults with young

MacGillivray's Warbler June 30th Marble Canyon to Paintpots 1 ??

Townsend's Warbler - June 1st, 4th and 26th AquaCourt Trail heard  
June 1st Dog Lake Trail  
June 30th Marble Canyon to Paint Pots 2+ singing

Yellowthroat - June 7th Nixon Lake 1 male  
June 17th Kootenay Pond

American Redstart - June 7th Settler's Road 2+

Yellow-headed Blackbird - May 31st Vermillion Crossing 2 (Imm Male & Female)  
with 12 Cowbirds (Ian Jack present)

Red-winged Blackbird - May 16th McLeod Meadows 2 (in with a flock of about  
55 Cowbirds, 40 Chipping Sparrow & 2 Starlings - all  
feeding along roadside)  
June 1st Dog Lake 1 male  
June 17th Kootenay Pond North 1 pair

- Cowbird -. May 16th - McLeod Meadows 55 (in flock with 40 Chipping sparrows, 2 R-w Blackbirds and 2 Starlings feeding of roadside)  
 May 31st Vermillion Crossing 12 with 2 Y-h Blackbirds  
 June 3rd Kootenay Pond
- Western Tanager - May 27th Redstreak Campground 1 male  
 June 1st, 9th and 26th Aquacourt Trail
- Black-headed Grosbeak - July 31st one seen by John Stainer near Mcleoad meadows
- Evening Grosbeak - June 1st, 4th & 9th heard Aquacourt Trail  
 June 1st Sanbar Island 2+
- Cassins Finch - July 27th - Radium Lodge Saltlick 1 Male picking at salt lick up under overhang in exact area preferred by Mt. Sheep.
- Pine Siskin - May 31st Conservation Corps Camp  
 June 4th & 9th Aqua Court Trail  
 June 18th Paint pots
- Dark-eyed Junco - May 13th 2 on Aquacourt Trail 1 with nesting material  
 June 1st, 4th & 9th Aquacourt Trail  
 July 5th Aqua Court Trail  
 July 25th Redstreak Campground nest with 4 eggs
- Chipping Sparrow - May 13th Aquacourt Trail  
 May 16th Mcleods Meadow 40 with 55 Cowbirds feeding on roadside.  
 Aquacourt Trail June 1st, 4th 9th and July 5th  
 June 1st Dog Lake many along lake shore  
 June 27th Kootenay Pond  
 July 6th Radium Lodge adult with young just off nest
- White Crowned Sparrow - July 21st Sandbar Island nest with 3 eggs  
 July 24th Stanley Galcier Trail  
 July 24th imm off nest Stanley Glacier Parking Lot.