

Cheyenne Bottoms population eventually become sedentary, or will *Anas fulvigula* of the Southern Great Plains be regularly, and perhaps strongly, migratory?

Anas fulvigula is worthy of careful watching at this moment in time. Oklahoma bird students must do their share of the watching. Every "Black Duck" seen from now on must be identified with great care.

STOVALL MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND HISTORY, UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA, NORMAN, OKLAHOMA 73069, 15 SEPTEMBER 1971.

THE GLAUCOUS GULL IN OKLAHOMA

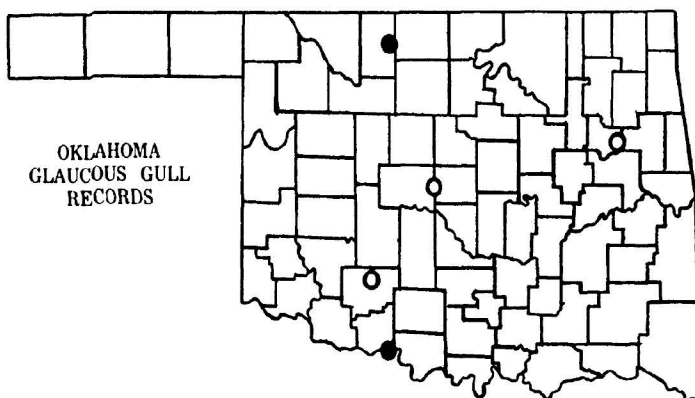
BY BERTIN W. ANDERSON

ON 5 FEBRUARY 1971, along the Salt Fork of the Arkansas River just below the Salt Plains Reservoir dam, in Alfalfa County, north-central Oklahoma, I observed two Glaucous Gulls (*Larus hyperboreus*). Each was obviously larger and "whiter" than any of the numerous Ring-billed Gulls (*L. delawarensis*) and Herring Gulls (*L. argentatus*) with which they were feeding and loafing at the water's edge. I collected one of the two, finding the specimen to be in second winter plumage. Its bill was flesh-colored with dusky tip, its legs and feet grayish flesh-color. Its primaries were wholly white, in this respect being very different from those of a specimen in first winter feather taken by George M. Sutton at Cambridge Bay, Victoria Island, in the Canadian Arctic Archipelago, on 6 September 1962. In the Victoria Island specimen each primary is pale grayish buff (almost white), marked with a subterminal gray spot and vague gray marbling.

The Oklahoma specimen, a male, now No. 7175 in the University of Oklahoma bird collection, is the second specimen of *L. hyperboreus* for the state. The first was taken on 17 December 1880 (Ragsdale, 1881, Bull. Nuttall Orn. Club, 6: 187) along the Red River just north of Clay County, Texas (Sutton, 1967, Oklahoma birds, p. 216).

According to data filed at the University of Oklahoma Bird Range, the Glaucous Gull visits Oklahoma only in mid-winter. The earliest fall date for the species, 17 December 1880, happens to be that on which the first Oklahoma specimen was taken (see above). On the latest "spring" date, 12 March 1960, a "nearly white" individual was seen at Lake Overholser, in central Oklahoma, by John G. Newell. Between 25 December and 15 February the species has been seen several times, chiefly by Newell at Lakes Hefner and Overholser. Occurrence in Oklahoma has not been patently cyclic. First recorded in 1880, next in 1942 (two birds at Grand Lake), it has been seen each winter from 1959 through 1963, from 1966 through 1968, in 1970, and in 1971. It has never been common. The state's several large impoundments, all of them created within the past seventy-five years, probably have been largely responsible for the species' presence here.

Larus hyperboreus has been reported from the following Oklahoma localities: Red River in Jefferson County or Cotton County, one record (1880); Grand Lake,



OKLAHOMA
GLAUCOUS GULL
RECORDS

Specimens (solid black spots) have been taken along (1) the Red River (1880) and (2) the Salt Fork of the Arkansas River below the Salt Plains Reservoir Dam (1971). Species has been sighted (circles) at Lakes Hefner and Overholser; at Lake Lawtonka; and along the Grand River just below Fort Gibson Reservoir dam.

one record of two birds (1942); Lakes Hefner and Overholser, several records (each winter from 1959 through 1963, from 1966 through 1968, in 1970, and in 1971); Foss Reservoir, one record (1960); Salt Plains Reservoir and Salt Fork of Arkansas River below reservoir dam, three records (one bird seen several times in 1961, one bird seen 2 January 1971, two birds seen 5 February 1971); Lake Lawtonka, one record, two birds (1963); Grand River below Fort Gibson Reservoir dam, one record (1970).

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GENERAL NOTES

Ross's Goose in Johnston County, Oklahoma.—On the afternoon of 28 December 1970, while driving through the 340-acre waterfowl feeding area of Tishomingo National Wildlife Refuge, in Johnston County, south-central Oklahoma, Ernest S. Jemison (manager of the refuge) and I flushed a flock of about 1,000 small Canada Geese—probably of the race *Branta canadensis hutchinsii*—from a field of standing corn. Toward the trailing edge of the rising flock, about 40 yards from our vehicle, was a white goose about the size of a Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*). Through our binoculars we had no difficulty in seeing that this bird's primaries were black. The flock alighted in a winter wheat field about 100 yards away. We drove to within 60 yards of the birds and looked again. This time we felt sure that the white bird was an adult Ross's Goose (*Chen rossii*), for we could see no black "grinning patch" on the mandibles. This same bird I saw again on 29 and 30 December, on each occasion with small Canada Geese.

To the best of my knowledge, this is the second record for Ross's Goose in Oklahoma. The first was of three adults observed feeding with a large