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Notes

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Two Records of the Mockingbird in British Columbia

A MOCKINGBIRD *Mimus polyglottis* was observed near the south boundary Miracle Beach Provincial Park on June 8, 1959. This park is roughly midway between Courtenay and Campbell River on the east coast of Vancouver Island. The bird was observed from a building by four observers with binoculars for two periods totaling 45 minutes. It was active in a gravelly clearing adjacent to the upper beach, alternating between feeding on the ground and perching in the tops of nearby, low-pruned Douglas fir and patches of thick wild rose. The site was open and dry.

On July 9, 1959, another Mockingbird was collected by Mrs. R. G. Miller at Murtle Lake in Wells Gray Provincial Park, roughly 100 miles north of Kamloops, B.C. This bird, a female, is now in the Wells Gray Provincial Park collection. According to R. Y. Edwards, who saw both birds reported in this note, the site of this record was a clearing by a cabin on the shore of the lake. Dense, unbroken forest of western red cedar, western hemlock and other conifers clothes the shores and hills about the lake, which lies at about 3500 feet above sea level.

The closest resident populations of Mockingbirds appear to be in Nebraska (eastern race) and California (western race). Both birds reported here must therefore be regarded as wanderers, far from breeding populations. Munro and Cowan in their *Review of the Bird Fauna of British Columbia* (Victoria, B.C. Provincial Museum, 1947) include the Mockingbird in their extralimital list on the basis of two records from Vancouver Island.

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