

in difficulty. His chilled, frosted, fatigued limbs were insisting that he sit down while his will power said "keep going"; keep moving and restore circulation. A coyote called and an owl's hoot added to the tenseness of the predicament. At long last we cleared the canyon's mouth. Darkness fell. An accommodating moon led us to the car to give us an opportunity to retreat from the chilly night air, to cover our wet knees and legs. We trusted we might reach home without mishap there to assign our tired bodies to food and rest and our experience into reminiscence of an oologist.

Vancouver, Washington

April 8, 1944

The following letter from Dad dated April 8, 1944 of his observations of the bald eagle on a trip in the Fillmore area of Utah.

"Reports from Mel Hatton, a cattleman of Fillmore, Utah, to the effect that he and his father had observed, west of town, the bald eagle; that, Game Warden Black had seen these birds near the volcanic cones of Clear Lake region; that a rancher and native of Halden, met up with at a local service station, recalled that a pair of bald eagles had roosted, for several years (last seen about 3 years ago) in the cottonwoods on his farm, west of Halden and had wintered nearby, leaving in the spring together with other sight records of people of the nearby area, induced J. D. Daynes and the writer to attempt the establishment of a nesting record of this rare species for Utah.

After considering the sacrifice necessary to part with our very limited war rationed gas and tires for this purpose, we concluded the investigation of the area about Clear Lake may assist to clear the record and determine this eagle's status as a nester of that section of the state. We left Provo at 5:30 P.M. in a steady but not excessive rain. This sort of weather prevailed until we reached Levan where the rain ceased. Dark clouds hung low. We arrived at about 9:00 P.M. at Fillmore after an uneventful trip through sparsely settled ranch and farming areas.