

difficult.

Reaching the interior, the binoculars were focused on the nest. They disclosed the structure had had seasonal repair. Don and Mark, anxious to examine the nest worked their way up the steep jagged face of the crater, approx. 40 feet as I made ready the cameras. Don, the first to reach the nest, shouted "two eggs". The incubating eagle had unnoticed left her nest and at no time during the investigation of the nest or area were the eagles later seen.

The eggs were sparsely marked with brick-red, one area over the larger end, the other on the smaller. The top of the nest measured seven feet along the face of the wall and showed extensive new materials - sage and rabbit brush, a liberal amount of wheatgrass, cedar bark and a few downy feathers of the eagle were in the depression; also, two stones of lava the one in the depression, an angular 2" x 1" thick and the other, a much larger, 6 x 3 x 2 inches was on the rim of the nest (bringing stones to the nest by eagles is not uncommon). Three legs sans flesh of the jackrabbit lay on the rim of the nest with others woven into the structure. Various bones of the same animal was on the ground nearby.

Another nest of the eagle, an alternate, was observed by the boys. It was built in a sheltered recess in a rather cramped situation approx. 150 feet east of the occupied nest. This nest was overlooked during the previous season by Dr. C. Lynn Hayward and myself, at which time both eagles were seen in the air over the volcano and could have been nesting at that time.

Our objective accomplished we made our way back thru the aforementioned opening of the crater and along a base trail much more easily negotiated. As we were leaving, three ravens were seen in the air high and to our right or south. Their aerial gymnastics soon disclosed an attempt at mating. The two males made poses and feints at each other to win the affections of the female. The most daring was obviously winning out as the less aggressive seemed to be showing signs of discouragement.

The measurement of the eagle eggs collected at this crater are: 70.5 x 56.2 mm      70.6 x 58.0 mm.      Melvyn of trip 256 miles.      Altitude at rim of Pavant Crater 5175 ft.      4" telescope lens.