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Ellen E. McMahon University of Arizona, Tucson

Clifford C. Oakley
U.S. Bureau of Land Management, Medford, Oregon

Stephen P. Cross Southern Oregon State College, Ashland, Oregon

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FIRST RECORD OF THE SPOTTED BAT (EUDERMA MACULATUM) FROM OREGON

Ellen E. McMahon¹, Clifford C. Oakley², and Stephen P. Cross³

Abstract.— A spotted bat (Euderma maculatum) was taken at Mickey Springs, 28 km northeast of Andrews, Harney County, Oregon. This represents a 225 km range extension and a new record for Oregon.

An adult female spotted bat (Euderma maculatum) was captured at Mickey Springs (T33S, R35E, S13) on 21 July 1976 at the north end of the Alvord Basin in southeastern Oregon. Mickey Springs, elevation 1235 m, and the Alvord Basin are located approximately 15 km east of Steens Mountain, 28 km northeast of Andrews, in Harney County. The rain shadow of Steens Mountain (elevation 2947 m) creates zeric conditions, and open water sources are scarce in the northern part of the basin. Mickey Springs itself is a hot spring, but its runoff forms a shallow, 12 x 24 m, cooled pond approximately 50 m to the east. This pond attracts numerous wildlife, including many bats. Mickey Mountain, elevation 1920 m, is located 3 km to the west and appears to be the closest area with potential roosting sites. The local vegetation is Shrub-Steppe (Franklin and Dyrness 1973), predominated by greasewood (Sarcobatus vermiculatus). Shadscale (Atriplex confortifolia) and sagebrush (Artemisia tridentata) are also abundant.

The spotted bat was captured sometime between midnight and 0800 in a mist net that had been tended for four hours after civil sunset and then furled to prevent further captures. The bat was discovered in a weakened condition as the net was being dismantled, and it subsequently died in the process of being removed from the net. It is on deposit in the Museum of Vertebrate Natural History at Southern Oregon State College, Ashland. External measurements are: total length, 124 mm; tail length, 49 mm; hind foot, 11 mm; ear, 41 mm; tragus, 15 mm; forearm, 52 mm; weight, 16.0 g.

This capture represents the first Euderma from Oregon. The closest record is from 24 km southwest of Caldwell, Idaho (Tucker, 1957), approximately 225 km northeast of Mickey Springs. Another Euderma was collected at Reno, Nevada (Hall 1935), 362 km to the south. These two marginal records and the similarity of habitat have led several authors (Hall and Kelson 1959, Snow 1973, Watkins 1977) to infer that the species range includes southeastern Oregon. Other species of bats captured at this site during four nights of netting were Myotis leibii, Myotis volans, Lasionycteris noctivagans and Pipistrellus hesperus.

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¹Department of General Biology, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona 85721. ²U.S. Bureau of Land Management, District Office, Medford, Oregon 97501. ³Department of Biology, Southern Oregon State College, Ashland, Oregon 97520.