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SECOND OCCURRENCE OF THE LONG-NOSED SNAKE,
RHINOCHEILUS LECONTEI LECONTEI, IN IDAHO

George B. Pendlebury

ABSTRACT—A second record of the long-nosed snake in Idaho was taken at the entrance to Bruneau Dunes State Park, Owyhee County.

The presence of the Long-nosed Snake, Rhinocelis lecontei lecontei, in Idaho has been based on a single specimen from Glenns Ferry, Elmore County (Klauber 1941). Medica (1975) considered this, and a similar occurrence in Carbon County, Utah, as being representative of disjunct populations.

On 5 May 1972, I found an adult female R. l. lecontei that had been recently killed on a road immediately inside the entrance to Bruneau Dunes State Park, Owyhee County. This locality is 37 km (23 mi) west of the Glenns Ferry occurrence. The snake, which was apparently about to shed, had a total length of 656 mm and a snout-vent length of 581 mm. A portion of skin from the mid-body was kept for preservation. When found, the snake had probably not been dead very long, hence weather conditions at the time (1945 hrs) were probably a good approximation to those which existed at the time of the snake's death: air temperature 24 C, light breeze, 5/10 cloud cover.

References


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