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Reporting Observations: All individuals interested in birds in New Mexico are encouraged to submit their observations to *NMOS Field Notes*. Especially solicited are records of uncommon species, nesting birds, and early, late, or out-of-season/range birds. Records should be submitted in taxonomic order and should include species name, date, exact location, numbers of birds, age, sex, and color morph (if applicable), and name and contact information of observer. Details are necessary for unusual records; these may be submitted on a report form (available from the address above), but any written format is acceptable. Photographic documentation is strongly encouraged.

NEW MEXICO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
(*Founded 1962*)

The New Mexico Ornithological Society was organized to gather and disseminate accurate information concerning the bird life of New Mexico; to promote interest in and appreciation of the value of birds, both aesthetic and economic, to further effective conservation of the state's avifauna; to facilitate opportunity for acquaintance and fellowship among those interested in birds and nature; and to issue publications as a means of furthering these ends.

Membership and Subscriptions: Membership in the New Mexico Ornithological Society is open to anyone with an interest in birds. Memberships are for a calendar year and annual dues are payable 1 January. Dues are: Regular Membership \$20; Family \$30; Student \$10; Supporting \$50; Life \$500. Address for the New Mexico Ornithological Society: P. O. Box 3068, Albuquerque, NM 87190-3068; www.nmbirds.org.

Front cover: Buff-breasted Flycatcher (*Empidonax fulvifrons*) in Deadman Canyon, Burro Mountains, Grant County, New Mexico, 27 May 2016 (see page 26). Photograph by Mouser Williams.

Back cover: Groove-billed Ani (*Crotophaga sulcirostris*) at Rattlesnake Springs, Eddy County, New Mexico, 12 May 2016 (see page 20). Photograph by Charles L. Black.

SPRING SEASON 2016

Spring 2016 began warm and dry, resulting in the driest March in a century, but sufficient precipitation in late 2015 allowed for relatively good water and vegetation conditions to persist through the season. Birding was reported as steady but not spectacular. Highlights included the state's fifth Western Gull plus such rarities as Groove-billed Ani, Golden-fronted Woodpecker, Couch's Kingbird, and Sedge Wren. Field work in Grant County by Jarrod Swackhamer found Buff-breasted Flycatcher in the Burro Mountains and Costa's Hummingbird, Gray Hawk, Dusky-capped Flycatcher, and Botteri's Sparrow along the Gila River.

Localities and Counties

Alameda, *Bernalillo*
Albuquerque, *Bernalillo*
Animas, Mts., Valley, *Hidalgo*
Belen, *Valencia*
Bernardo, *Socorro*
Bitter Lake NWR, *Chaves*
Black Range, *Grant/Sierra*
Boones Draw, *Roosevelt*
Bosque del Apache NWR, *Socorro*
Bosque Redondo Lake, *De Baca*
Brantley Lake, *Eddy*
Burro Mts., *Grant*
Carlsbad Caverns National Park, *Eddy*
Carrizozo, *Lincoln*
Cherry Creek, *Grant*
Cienega Canyon, *Bernalillo*
Clanton Canyon, Cienega, *Hidalgo*
Clayton, Lake, *Union*
Cliff, *Grant*
Clovis, *Curry*
Cochiti Lake, *Sandoval*
Conchas Lake, Dam, *San Miguel*
Corrales, *Sandoval*
Deming, *Luna*
Eagle Nest Lake, *Colfax*
Elephant Butte, Lake, Dam, *Sierra*
Eunice, *Lea*
Farmington, *San Juan*
Fort Sumner, *De Baca*
Fort Union, *Mora*
Galisteo, *Santa Fe*
Gila Bird Area, *Grant*
Gila Middle Box, *Grant*
Glenwood, *Catron*
Guadalupe Canyon, *Hidalgo*
Hobbs, *Lea*
Holloman Lake, *Otero*
Kingston, *Sierra*
Lake Avalon, *Eddy*
Las Cruces, *Doña Ana*
Las Vegas, NWR, *San Miguel*
Leasburg SP, *Doña Ana*
Lordsburg, *Hidalgo*
Los Alamos, *Los Alamos*
Loving, *Eddy*
Luis Lopez, *Socorro*
Magdalena, Mts., *Socorro*
Maljamar, *Lea*
Mangas Springs, *Grant*
Mesilla Bosque SP, *Doña Ana*
Milnesand, *Roosevelt*
Morgan Lake, *San Juan*
Moriarty, *Torrance*
Mosquero, *Harding*
Ned Houk Park, *Curry*
Nichols Canyon, *Grant*
north *Roosevelt* trap [NRT], *Roosevelt*
Oasis SP, *Roosevelt*
Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo, *Rio Arriba*
Peloncillo Mts., *Hidalgo*
Percha SP, *Sierra*
Pinos Altos, Mts., *Grant*
Post Office Canyon, *Hidalgo*
Quemado Lake, *Catron*
Radium Springs, *Doña Ana*
Ramah Lake, *McKinley*
Rattlesnake Springs, *Eddy*
Redrock, *Grant*
Rio Grande Nature Center, *Bernalillo*
Rodeo, *Hidalgo*
Roswell, *Chaves*
San Andres Spring, *Doña Ana*
Sandia Crest, *Bernalillo*
Sandia Mts., *Bernalillo/Sandoval*

San Mateo Mts., *Socorro*
 Santa Fe, Canyon, *Santa Fe*
 Santa Rosa, *Guadalupe*
 Six Mile Dam, *Eddy*
 Springer, Lake, *Colfax*
 Sumner Lake, Dam, *De Baca*
 Taos, *Taos*

Truth or Consequences, *Sierra*
 Ute Lake, *Quay*
 Washington Ranch, *Eddy*
 Water Canyon, *Socorro*
 Zuni, *McKinley*
 Zuni Mts., *McKinley/Cibola*

Standard Abbreviations

AFB	Air Force Base	SP	State Park
Bosque NWR	Bosque del Apache NWR	UNM	Univ. of New Mexico
BLNWR	Bitter Lake NWR	USFWS	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
BBS	Breeding Bird Survey	WMA	Wildlife Management Area
CBC	Christmas Bird Count	WSMR	White Sands Missile Range
CCNP	Carlsbad Caverns NP	WTP	Water Treatment Plant (or Ponds)
CG	Camp Ground	♂	male (represents sword & shield of Mars)
Cr.	Creek	♀	female (represents mirror of Venus)
EBL	Elephant Butte Lake	ad(s).	adult(s)
GBA	Gila Bird Area	subad(s).	subadult(s)
L.	Lake	imm(s).	immature(s)
LVNWR	Las Vegas NWR	juv(s).	juvenile(s)
MSB	Museum of Southwestern Biology	sp.	species
Mt(s).	Mountain(s)	m.ob.	many observers
NAPI	Navajo Agricultural Products Industry	m.ph.	many photographs
NM	National Monument	v.o.	various observers
NMSU	New Mexico State Univ.	+	others; et al.
NP	National Park	*	written details provided
NRT	north <i>Roosevelt</i> trap	**	photo or audio provided
NWR	National Wildlife Refuge	***	specimen obtained
PA	Picnic Area		
R.	River		
RGNC	Rio Grande Nature Center		
RGV	Rio Grande Valley		

Initialed Observers

MJA	Michael J. Andersen	WEM	William E. Maley
RA	Richard Aracil	LKM	Larry K. Malone
JPB	Jonathan P. Batkin	PM	Patricia Mehlhop
MJB	Matthew J. Baumann	NM-C	Narca Moore-Craig
GMB	Grant M. Beauprez	BLM	Bernard L. Morris
CLB	Charles L. Black	RN	Robert Nieman
SB	Sue Briney	JRO	Jerry R. Oldenettel
MaB	Mary Brown	JEP	John E. Parmeter
CMB	Celestyn M. Brozek	NDP	Nicholas D. Pederson
RC	Roger Clark	MKR	Mary K. Ray
DJC	David J. Cleary	RAR	Rose Ann Rowlett
DyC	Dylan Cuellar	MBR	Megan B. Ruehmann
WTE	Wyatt T. Egelhoff	CMR	Christopher M. Rustay
SMF	Stephen M. Fettig	CIS	Catherine I. Sandell
BRF	Bernard R. Foy	KS	Kim Score
GAF	Gerald A. Friedman	MTS	Marcy T. Scott
GKF	Gary K. Froehlich	MaS	Mary Smith
CJG	Coleman J. Goin	MiS	Michael Smith
DLH	David L. Hawksworth	NGS	Nancy G. Stotz
KAH	Karen A. Herzenberg	JBS	Jarrod B. Swackhamer
NEH	Nancy E. Hetrick	JAT	John A. Trochet
TFH	Terry F. Hodapp	REW	Richard E. Webster
WJ-W	Will Jaremko-Wright	MEW	Mara E. Weisenberger
ABJ	Andrew B. Johnson	AW	Adrienne Warner
JPJ	James P. Joseph	SW	Steve West
RK	Rick Koehler	WFW	William F. West
DL	Daniel Leifheit	DGW	Debra G. Whitecotton
JL	Judy Liddell	MW	Mouser Williams
CDL	Carroll D. Littlefield	SOW	Sartor O. Williams III
EM	Ed MacKerrow	JEZ	James E. Zabriskie
MDM	Martin D. MacRoberts		

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

Greater White-fronted Goose—An apparently healthy one lingered at Bosque NWR to 21 May (GKF**).

Ross's Goose—Noteworthy for *Torrance*, one was 16 km northwest of Encino 7 Mar (MBR**).

Tundra Swan—Two were at LVNWR 4 Mar (WJ-W).

Eurasian Wigeon—A ♂ was late at Bosque NWR 1-13 May (MJB*, CMR*, NEH**, GKF**, R. Hix**).

Mexican Duck—In *Hidalgo*, Mexican Ducks outnumbered Mallards 13 to 7 at Lordsburg WTP 14 May (D. Julian) and 8 to 4 at Clanton Cienega 14 May (NM-C). A pair (♂ & ♀) was at Luis Lopez 30 Mar (JRO). To the northwest, “phenotypically normal” Mexican Ducks were at three Zuni wetlands on various dates 28 Apr-31 May (JAT).

Ring-necked Duck—Late for *Hidalgo* were 2 at Clanton Cienega 14 May (NM-C).

Wild Turkey—An impressive 250 were roaming the protected grounds of Rattlesnake Springs and adjacent Washington Ranch 25 Mar (SW).

Pied-billed Grebe—A juv. was enjoying a meal of crawfish at Bosque NWR 24 May (P. Hicks**).

Horned Grebe—One molting into breeding plumage lingered at Bosque NWR 17-22 May (MJB**, CMB).

Inca Dove—Notably scarce in Albuquerque in recent years, one was a window kill in Old Town 19 Apr (D. Weissman***; spec. to MSB).

Common Ground-Dove—Reports during the breeding season were one near Rodeo 7 May (J. Turner), 2 in Guadalupe Canyon 14 May (SOW, PM), and one at Clanton Cienega 14 May (NM-C, REW).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo—Unusual was one in mesquite-grassland habitat on the Las Cruces West Mesa 19 May (NGS**).

Groove-billed Ani—One was at Rattlesnake Springs 12-16 May (CLB**, MaS*); the species has been documented in New Mexico in five of the six years 2011-2016.

Lesser Nighthawk—Far north of expected (and high in elevation), one was at Los Alamos 29 Apr (MaB**, SMF, TFH).

Mexican Whip-poor-will—maintaining a Sangre de Cristo Mts. presence, up to 4 were vocal in Canovas Canyon west of El Porviner, *San Miguel* 12-14 May (WJ-W audio). In the next ranges south, one was in Cienega Canyon, Sandia Mts. 23 May (AW) and 2 were in Red Canyon, Manzano Mts., *Torrance* 28 May (ABJ).

Chimney Swift—Reported from six eastern counties 23 Apr-27 May (m.ob.), including one west to Springer 22 May (WTE). A *Chaetura* swift in *Luna* east of the Florida Mts. 17 Apr (WTE*) was thought by the observer to be a possible Vaux's; another *Chaetura* was in the RGV at Truth or Consequences 14 May (J. Ottinger).

Magnificent Hummingbird—Surprisingly few reports: one at Glenwood 19 May (S. Ramos), a ♂ at Cherry Creek CG 25 May (T. Godfrey**), up to 2 at Pinos Altos 20 Apr-14 May (JBS**), and a ♂ in P.O. Canyon 27 Apr (CDL*).

Lucifer Hummingbird—First ♂ arrived in P.O. Canyon 19 Mar and the first ♀ on 21 Mar, where numbers peaked at 38 on 25 May (CDL*). A ♀ was in the Animas Mts. in lower Indian Creek Canyon 13-14 May (NEH**).

Anna's Hummingbird—Far northeast of expected, an ad. ♂ at Texico 11-12 May (GMB**) provided the second *Curry* record this year.

Costa's Hummingbird—Although known from New Mexico's Gila River Valley since the 1870s, Costa's is decidedly irregular in occurrence there; in *Grant* this spring, up to 3 ♂♂ were displaying in the Redrock area 17-21 Apr (JBS), 2 ♂♂ were in the Gila Middle Box in the vicinity of Faucet Canyon 4 May (JBS), and 2 ♂♂ were in the GBA on various dates 30 Apr-7 May (JBS**, NEH**, WTE**). Farther east, another ad. ♂ was in the lower RGV south of Radium Springs 27 Mar (MTS*, JEZ**).



Costa's Hummingbird, Gila Bird Area, Grant Co., 30 April 2016.
Photograph by Jarrod B. Swackhamer

Rufous Hummingbird—The species has become regular in spring migration in the Peloncillo Mts.; this year, some 24 passed through P.O. Canyon 15 Feb-20 Apr (CDL*) and a ♂ was in Owl Canyon 9 Apr (D. Zappone**).

Calliope Hummingbird—The singles that passed through P.O. Canyon 15-16 Apr and 22 May (CDL*) provided the only reports.

Broad-billed Hummingbird—Now a regular breeder north to P.O. Canyon; this season, the earliest arrival there was 2 Mar and numbers peaked at 17 on 10 Apr (CDL*).

Common Gallinule—This species has been scarce everywhere in the state in recent years, so noteworthy were up to 3 at Bosque NWR 8-30 May (CMR, CMB**, MJB, JEP). Surprising was one northwest to Zuni's Blackrock L. area 27 May (JAT).

Sandhill Crane—A flying one lingered at Albuquerque to at least 22 May (GKF**).

American Avocet—Reported widely, including a nest with eggs at Zuni 29 May (JAT), a flock of 61 at Calley's L., *Mora* 22 May (CMR), three nests at EBL 31 May (DJC**), and a high count of 359 at BLNWR 1 May (CMR).

Black-bellied Plover—One at Brantley L. 28 Apr (WFW) provided the only report statewide.

American Golden-Plover—Rare in numbers and irregular in occurrence in New Mexico, one was at Brantley L. 12 Apr (RN**).

Snowy Plover—Earliest at BLNWR were 4 on 3 Mar (SB) but 45 were there by 18 Mar (JEP). Noteworthy for *Mora* were up to 4 at Wagon Mound 22 May (CMR, WTE**).

Semipalmated Plover—Earliest spring arrivals this season were singles at LVNWR on 10 Apr (WJ-W), EBL on 10 Apr (DJC), Brantley L. on 12 Apr (RN), and Bosque NWR on 17 Apr (MJB).

Whimbrel—Establishing the earliest spring date yet for the state, 2 were at EBL Dam 5 Mar (R. Aleshire**). Arriving later were singles at Morgan L. 30 Apr (CLB), Bosque NWR 8-15 May (m.ob., MJA**, NEH**, MJB**), and LVNWR 18 May (WJ-W**).

Hudsonian Godwit—A bright individual was at Holloman L. 21-25 May (K. Driggers, LKM*).

Marbled Godwit—High counts were 31 at Morgan L. 24 Apr (MW), 32 at Albuquerque's Alameda flats 29 Apr (JL), 33 at Brantley L. 9 May (RN), and 126 at EBL 21 April (DJC).

Dunlin—A late one at Brantley L. 2 May (SW) was attaining breeding plumage.

White-rumped Sandpiper—One to 4 were at four locales from the RGV eastward 7-27 May (m.ob.); west was one at Morgan L. 23 May (CLB).

Solitary Sandpiper—Relatively scarce in spring, and especially so west to *Grant*, singles were south of the Burro Mts. 14 Apr (MBR) and at Mangas Springs 21-24 Apr (JBS**). Noteworthy for *Lincoln* was one near Pichaco 17 Apr (CMR).

Willet—The 37 counted at Ramah L. 1 May (JAT) was a high count for the Zuni area. High count for EBL was 157 on 26 Apr (DJC).

Red-necked Phalarope—Reported from six counties from the RGV eastward; high counts were in *San Miguel* and included 27 at Crane L. 17 May (WTE, RC) and 36 at

McAllister L. 18 May (WJ-W**). Noteworthy for *Mora* was one at Wagon Mound 22 May (CMR, WTE, MW**).

Laughing Gull—An ad. put in a surprise appearance at the Santa Fe Community College WTP 2 May (GAF**).

Western Gull—The gull of the season was an ad. at Cochiti L. 7-11 May (B. Zvolanek, I. Prather**, JPB**, BRF**, RC**, DyC**, JRO**, CMB**, m.ob.), which provided only the fifth credible record for New Mexico but followed the fourth by only one year.



Western Gull, Cochiti Lake, Sandoval Co., 10 May 2016.
Photograph by Roger Clark.

Lesser Black-backed Gull—Continuing from Feb, a first-cycle individual was at EBL 10 Mar (DJC**).

Least Tern—Wandering singles were an early one at Bosque NWR 22 Apr (CMB) and others at Oasis SP 19 May (DGW**) and Green Meadow L. in Hobbs 29 May (DLH). High count at BLNWR was a disappointing 5 on 21 May (SB).

Caspian Tern—Singles were at EBL 18-19 Apr (DJC**), Brantley L. 7-8 May (DL**, SW), Cochiti L. 12 May (BLM**), and Ute L. 13 May (JEP*).

Common Tern—Singles were at the Clovis WTP 16 May (DyC*) and Springer L. 22 May (WTE*, CMR, DyC**).

Red-throated Loon—One was retrieved from a brine pit in the L. Grande area east of Loving 22 Apr, taken to rehabilitation, and released 23 April at L. Avalon, where present to 29 Apr (SW**, RN**).

Common Loon—Late were singles at Quemado L. 3-4 May (A. Salas*, C. Bear), Conchas L. 14 May (WJ-W*), and EBL 27-30 May (DJC**).

Neotropic Cormorant—North to *Bernalillo*, once again, were about 25 at Albuquerque's Tingley ponds Mar-May (DLH) plus 4 at RGNC 9 Mar (JL**). Others away from historical middle RGV locales were one at the Ohkay Owingeh lakes 13 Mar-25 May (BRF, GAF), up to 3 at Deming 3 Mar-22 Apr (LKM, WTE**), one at the Clovis NMOSFN 55:2 (Spring 2016)

WTP 11 May (JEP), up to 2 at Brantley L. 12 Apr-27 May (RN**, GMB), and one at L. Avalon 25 Mar-29 Apr (RN).

Brown Pelican—Yet another strong season, which may indicate that coastal populations are stressed and dispersing, with one found dead on I-40 east of Separ, *Grant* 29 Mar (C. Hagenlocher**), one dead (and headless; presumed shot) at Brantley L. 24 Apr (SW*), up to 2 at EBL 16 Mar-19 Apr (LKM, A. Mickelson, DJC**), at least one at Bosque NWR 30 Mar (K. Topping**), and one far north to Eagle Nest L. from 19 May into Jun (M. Greenwood**, M. J. Kelly).

American Bittern—As in recent years, reports of this species were few: up to 2 were at BLNWR 1 Mar-17 May (m.ob.), at least one at Bosque NWR was heard “booming” on various dates 14 Apr-30 May (m.ob.), one was in upper EBL 1-5 May (DJC**), and one was at Washington Ranch 20 May (RN**).

Least Bittern—An early one was at BLNWR 16 Apr (CMR). Singles were singing at EBL 24 May (DJC) and Bosque NWR 29-30 May (JEP).

Great Blue Heron—A pair nested successfully on a man-made platform at Six Mile Dam, where seen feeding nestlings 18 & 21 May (RN**, SW).

Great Egret—One was north to Los Alamos 29 Apr (SMF, TFH).

Snowy Egret—Early for the Albuquerque area, one was at RGNC 11 Mar (MW**).

Tricolored Heron—Singles were at Bosque NWR 10-11 Apr (B & R Bailey et al., CIS**, DyC**), BLNWR 1 May (CMR), and EBL 24 May (DJC).

Green Heron—One was early at Bosque NWR 20 Mar (WTE*). Noteworthy was one at Carrizozo 30 Apr (CMR).

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron—Two ads. were at Bosque NWR 13 May (RK**), where at least one, sporting breeding plumes, continued to 25 May (m.ob., EM**).

Glossy Ibis—Although rare, this species is now regular in spring; this season, single ads. were at Bosque NWR 15 Apr (JEP*, GKF) and 21 May (GKF**), and at Ute L. 13 May (JEP*).

Black Vulture—Under review is one seen at L. Roberts, *Grant* 17 Apr (B. Dolton*); there are but two confirmed New Mexico records.

Turkey Vulture—Returning birds were much in evidence by mid-Mar, including roosts of 195 at Santa Rosa 18 Mar (DLH) and 150 at Rattlesnake Springs 20 Mar (RN).

White-tailed Kite—One was north in the RGV to Albuquerque’s South Valley 16 Apr (KAH**, JL*, ABJ). Continuing from Feb, one was in the upper EBL area through Mar to 19 Apr (DJC**). Unusual for the Rattlesnake Springs area was one there 14 May (D. Tipton**, SW*).

Mississippi Kite—A pair was carrying nest material at Conchas L. 14 May (WJ-W**). Noteworthy for *Torrance* was one near Moriarty 5 May (CMR).

Bald Eagle—An active nest was on private land east of EBL 3 Apr (K. Stinnett*), the first for *Sierra* in over 15 years.

Common Black Hawk—Where seldom reported were singles north to the Gallinas R. near Montezuma, *San Miguel* 24 Apr (WJ-W), south of Mosquero along Atarque Cr., e. *San Miguel* 12 Apr & 7 May and where nesting was suspected (MDM), and at Ned Houk Park north of Clovis 27 May (JRO**). Farther south, noteworthy for the San Mateo Mts. was an ad. in upper Alamosa Canyon 26 Apr (MKR**) and 2 ads. in *Eddy* along the lower Pecos R. near the Texas line 14 May (SW).

Gray Hawk—Noteworthy were an ad. along the Gila R. at Redrock 17-21 Apr (JBS**) and an ad. at Mesilla Bosque SP 2-10 Apr (B. Rodriguez**, CJG**, WTE**).

Broad-winged Hawk—A good spring passage produced one to 2 at 15 sites in eight counties from the RGV eastward 18 Apr-21 May (m.ob., m.ph.).

Zone-tailed Hawk—One east to Eunice 8 May (E. McCasland**) was a *Lea* first.

Elf Owl—Surveys for Elf Owls at known sites on the east slope of the Black Range in *Sierra* documented birds at 14 sites in four general localities 20-30 Apr (DJC*). Noteworthy for *Eddy* was at least one at Rattlesnake Springs 14-15 May (GMB, JRO).

Short-eared Owl—One was at the Sandhills Prairie Conservation Area east of Milnesand 18 Apr (GMB*).

Lewis's Woodpecker—Unusual was one in the upper Alamosa Valley near Dusty, *Socorro* 30 May (JPJ**), as was one in *Lincoln* near Loma Grande 5 Mar (L & S Ingram**). Suggestive of breeding were 3 on the east slope of the Sandia Mts. along La Madera Road, *Bernalillo* 20 Apr (KAH, L. Ladwig**) & 4 May (WEM).

Red-headed Woodpecker—A pair had returned to the RGV near Algodones, *Sandoval* by 9-15 May (DLH, K. Andregg, MJA**), where the species had nested the previous two years. Also west of expected was one along the upper Pecos R. at Ribera, *San Miguel* 24 May (C. Roper).

Acorn Woodpecker—Rare east to *San Miguel*, one was at Las Vegas 28 May (WJ-W**).

Golden-fronted Woodpecker—The ♀ present at the lake and golf course recreational complex just west of Eunice in Oct-Nov 2015 was re-discovered there 4 Mar (RN**), continued through Mar and Apr (JEP*, JRO) and was last documented 14 May (P. W. McCasland**).

Red-bellied Woodpecker—The overwintering ♂ at Rattlesnake Springs continued there to at least 3-4 May (m.ob., RN**). Another ♂ was found south of Mosquero along Trigg Road, e. *San Miguel* 12 Apr (MDM*).

[Monk Parakeet]—One visited a feeder in Albuquerque’s North Valley 12-22 Apr (R. Maurer**, CMR), where there have been persistent reports since 2010.

Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet—Apparently responded to favorable (i.e., wetter) conditions in Guadalupe Canyon, where there were singing birds at five well-spaced sites 14 May (SOW, PM). Noteworthy was one singing north to the Gila R. at Nichols Canyon 30 May (JBS*), only the second ever reported for *Grant*.

Greater Pewee—Another “Mexican” species that continues to spread northward, one was singing in the Black Range north of Kingston 7 May (DJC*).

Hammond’s and Dusky Flycatchers—Probably overwintering, one of each was seen and heard north of Cliff along the Gila R. near the mouth of Turkey Cr. 6 Mar (MJB*).

Gray Flycatcher—A ♂ was on territory near Kingston by 9 Apr (DJC**).

Buff-breasted Flycatcher—Last recorded summering in the Burro Mts., *Grant* in 1876, one was singing in Deadman Canyon 7-29 May (JBS**, NEH**, WTE**, MW**, JRO). Farther south, up to 9 were in the Animas Mts. 13-15 May and one nest was located (NEH**, KS**); the species is now regular there during the breeding season. One was singing in Clanton Canyon, Peloncillo Mts. 14 May (NM-C**, RAR**, REW audio), where the species is irregular in occurrence.

Black Phoebe—Had returned north to Farmington by 13 Mar (J. W. King) and others were reported across the north in *Rio Arriba*, *Taos*, and *Colfax* during the season (m.ob.).

Vermilion Flycatcher—The species continued to push north across a broad front, including single ♂♂ in *Los Alamos* 22 Apr (MaB**), *Santa Fe* 2-3 Apr (JPB**, RC**), *Fort Union* 15 Apr (M. Urban**), and south of *Bueyeros*, *Harding* 9 May (CMR*). Noteworthy were up to 2 near *Conchas Dam* 14-27 May (WJ-W**, RA), one on the high plains at *Ramon*, *Lincoln* 31 Mar (SW), and another in *Lincoln* near *Picacho* 17 Apr (CMR).

Dusky-capped Flycatcher—New northerly locales were established by two pairs in *Deadman Canyon*, *Burro Mts.* 7 May and later (JBS**, m.ob.), one in the *Gila Middle Box* downstream from *GBA* 4 May (JBS), and one along the *Mimbres R.* at *East Canyon*, *Grant* 17 May (JBS).

Great Crested Flycatcher—Very rare in spring, singles were vocal near *Radium Springs* 14 May (MTS*) and at *Ute L.* 21 May (CMR*).

Brown-crested Flycatcher—Noteworthy for the lower RGV was one was singing near *Radium Springs* from 17 May into Jun (MTS*, JEZ**).

Couch’s Kingbird—Remarkable was documentation of one at *Boones Draw* 21 May (MJB***, audio) followed by another there 22 May (ABJ***) (specs. to MSB). Both were molting ad. ♀♀, strongly suggesting post-breeding dispersal. Couch’s Kingbird records now outnumber *Tropical Kingbird* records in *New Mexico* by about 10 to one.

Thick-billed Kingbird—Vocal individuals were at two Guadalupe Canyon sites 14 May (SOW, PM).

Western Kingbird—Early were 3 at Las Cruces 6 Apr (WTE**) and singles along Separ Road, *Grant* 7 Apr (JBS) and at Bosque NWR 7 Apr (S. Griffin).

Eastern Kingbird—Noteworthy for spring in the middle RGV was one at Belen 23 Apr (W. Medley**). One was south to Santa Fe 21 May (M. L. Watson).

White-eyed Vireo—One was singing at Las Vegas 25 May (WJ-W**) and at least one was singing in Albuquerque's South Valley 7-27 May (MJA**, WEM**, ABJ).

Bell's Vireo—Again occurred north in the RGV to the Corrales-Albuquerque area, with singles singing at two sites in the Corrales bosque 14 Apr (WEM*, JRO**) & 25 Apr (M. Shoop**) and Albuquerque's Alameda bridge 7 & 29 May (D. Nichols**, S. Buckley).

Gray Vireo—A pair was nesting east of Corazon Hill, *San Miguel* 14 May (WJ-W**), at the eastern edge of the New Mexico breeding range.

Yellow-throated Vireo—Singles were at NRT 30 Apr (JEP*, JRO**), Milnesand 29 Apr (JRO**) and 12 May (JRO**), and Bosque NWR 19 May (J. King*).

Cassin's Vireo—One north of Cliff along the Gila R. near the mouth of Turkey Cr. 5 Mar (MJB*, ABJ*) likely wintered in the area.

Warbling Vireo—One singing in Bluewater Gorge, *Cibola* 30 May (JAT) was believed to be the eastern *V. g. gilvus*.

Red-eyed Vireo—Only two reports: one at NRT 15-16 May (WTE**, JRO) and an undetailed one at Rattlesnake Springs 28 May (DL).

Steller's Jay—One was south to the Peloncillo Mts. 28 Mar (E. Neubold *vide* CDL).

Purple Martin—On the far eastern plains—presumably spreading west from Texas—were 4 at Clovis 27 May (JEP) and 2 at Hobbs 29 May (DLH). One was in the Gallinas Mts. near Corona, *Lincoln* 22 May (DLH) where the species had been found breeding in previous years.

Cave Swallow—The species is now spreading rapidly north across eastern New Mexico, with reports this season of small to moderate sized colonies, almost entirely in culverts under highways, in *De Baca*, *Roosevelt*, *e. Chaves*, *e. Eddy*, and *Lea*. Among the numerous reports were at least 2 at Taiban, *De Baca* 8 May and later (JEP+), up to 4 at NRT 7 May and later (JEP+), up to 20 northeast of Kenna, *Roosevelt* in May (m.ob.), up to 30 along US 70 northeast of Roswell near Railroad Mt., *Chaves* in May (m.ob.), and up to 30 south of Hobbs 18-19 Mar (JEP, JRO). Two were reported flying with other swallows north to Sumner Dam 15 May (WTE*). Farther west, numbers at Carlsbad Cavern [the main cave], CCNP were reported as “robust” and containing many unbanded individuals, suggesting recruitment from elsewhere, while the species was said to be nesting throughout the Pecos Valley lowlands of *Eddy* (SW).

Black-capped Chickadee—One was singing at the Bernardo bridge 30 Apr (CMR), near the southern limit of the RGV distribution for the species.

Red-breasted Nuthatch—A pair was feeding nestlings at the Doc Long Picnic Area, Sandia Mts. 26 May (D. Weisz**), at 2070 m, near the lower elevational edge of breeding habitat for the species.

Sedge Wren—The species is decidedly rare and irregular in the state, with only about 20 credible records (involving about 25 birds) since the first in 1970, so noteworthy was one singing along the Seasonal Road at Bosque NWR 22-27 Apr (CMB, NDP**, MJB audio, MJA**, JRO**, JEP*, GKF).



Sedge Wren, Bosque del Apache NWR, Socorro Co., 23 April 2016.
Photograph by Michael J. Andersen.

Carolina Wren—Continues to spread over the eastern two-thirds of New Mexico, this season with singing singles near Clayton 10 Apr (DLH*), at Nara Visa, *Quay* 21 May (CMR, DyC audio), at two sites in Santa Rosa 14 & 21 May (JEP*), at RGNC 29 May (WEM), and at Belen's Whitfield Center 27 Mar (DLH audio). At Bosque NWR, where resident since 2011, individuals were singing in at least five locales Apr-May (m.ob., m.ph.).

Cactus Wren—Noteworthy for *Santa Fe*, at least 6, plus several nest structures, were conspicuous in the Caja del Rio area 20 Mar (JPB, BRF).

Black-tailed Gnatcatcher—One was at Leasburg SP 14 May (MTS), where the species has been scarce or absent since the Feb 2011 freeze.

Eastern Bluebird—A small colony was near Conchas Dam 14 May (WJ-W**), where at least 2 fledglings were noted 27 May (RA).

Gray-cheeked Thrush—Under review is one seen at a rest area south of Amisted, *Union* 21 May (CMR*, DyC**). There are only about 10 credible records for the state, all in the period 12-27 May; the present report is the first since 2012.

Wood Thrush—One singing at Rattlesnake Springs 14-15 May (GMB*, SW*, JRO) provided only the second *Eddy* report.

Rufous-backed Robin—One at Leasburg SP 8 May (WTE**, D. T. Meliopoulos**) was seen again, about 5 km south of the original sighting, 15 May (MTS*, JEZ*).

Gray Catbird—The one that wintered in Cienega Canyon, Sandia Mts. was still present 4 Mar (K. Haller). Scarce in *Lincoln*, one was in riparian habitat west of the town of Lincoln 30 Apr & 6 May (CMR).

Curve-billed Thrasher—Providing further evidence of northward spread by this species, singles were at Morgan L. 24 Apr (MW) and Arroyo Hondo, *Taos* 10 May (R. Consolloy).

Brown Thrasher—Reported from seven counties from the RGV eastward, including high counts of 3 at Fort Sumner's Bosque Redondo L. 20 Mar (DLH) and up to 5 at Rattlesnake Springs 1 Mar-24 Apr (m.ob.). One was singing at Bosque Redondo L. 10 May (JEP), where the species has nested in past years.

Bendire's Thrasher—One was along the west base of Dowa Yalanne, southeast of Zuni village, 30 Apr (JAT).

Crissal Thrasher—One was singing in the Caja del Rio area southwest of Santa Fe 26 Mar (BRF).

Phainopepla—North of expected, single ♂♂ were in the Zuni Mts. in Bonita Canyon, *Cibola* 30 May (JAT) and Albuquerque's RGNC 25-29 May (C. Davis, m.ob., m.ph.).

Olive Warbler—One was singing northwest to the Zuni Mts. in upper Ojo Bonito Canyon 31 May (JAT). A heard-only bird in Acid Canyon, *Los Alamos* 14 May was not relocated 15 May (CMR*). In the Magdalena Mts., singles were in Water Canyon 10 Apr (JPJ, AW) and 7 May (ABJ).

rosy-finch—Last of the Sandia Crest rosy-finches were a **Brown-capped** 17 Mar (N. Trity), 7 **Blacks** 20 Mar (R. L. VanBuskirk et al.), and one **Gray-crowned** 29 Mar (B. Engdahl**). Nine **Brown-capped**s were downed by snow in *Taos* near Tres Piedras 18 Apr (S. Benton).

White-winged Crossbill—Under review is a ♀ seen in the Doc Long area, Sandia Mts. 26 May (BLM*).

American Goldfinch—Single ♂♂ were at Fred Baca Park, *Taos* 18 May (R. D'Antonio**) and Zuni's Blackrock L. area 27 May (JAT); the species has summered in both locales in recent years.

Worm-eating Warbler—One detailed at Las Vegas 17 Apr (WJ-W*) provided the lone report.

Blue-winged Warbler—A remarkable 3 were documented this season: A ♂ at Los Alamos 7-10 May (MiS**, MW**, JPB**, m.ob.) provided a first for *Los Alamos*; a ♀ at Galisteo 12 May (JPB**, RC) provided the second record for *Santa Fe*; one at Clanton Cienega 14 May (RAR**, J. T. Shiflett**, NM-C*, REW*) was a first for *Hidalgo*.

Tennessee Warbler—Rare in the state, single ♂♂ were at Los Alamos 7-8 May (m.ob., m.ph.) and Cienega Canyon, Sandia Mts. 4-10 May (WEM**).

Orange-crowned Warbler—A bright West Coast *lutescens* was in P.O. Canyon 22 Mar while a duller Rocky Mts. *orestera* was there 18 Apr (CDL).

Lucy's Warbler—Far north was one singing at Farmington 14 Apr (R. Estes**), the second consecutive year for the species there. In the RGV, the species seems well established north to the Albuquerque area, arriving in the South Valley by 31 Mar (M. Shoop) and with a dozen or more in the North and South valleys, from the Alameda bridge southward, during Apr and May (m.ob., m.ph.). Noteworthy for the date was one north of Cliff along the Gila R. near the mouth of Turkey Cr. 4 Mar (MJB, ABJ).

Mourning Warbler—A ♀ was west to Bluewater Gorge, *Cibola* 30 May (JAT*).

Kentucky Warbler—An impressive season found singles at Ned Houk Park 30 Apr (JEP*, JRO**), NRT 11-14 May (JEP*), and Rattlesnake Springs 30 Apr (RN**) plus a ♂ banded at San Andres Spring 17 May (MEW**).



Kentucky Warbler, San Andres Spring, Doña Ana Co.,
17 May 2016. Photograph by Mara E. Weisenberger.

Hooded Warbler—One to 2 were seen at NRT on various dates 23 Apr-9 May, these probably involving at least 4 individuals (JEP*, KS*, m.ob., JRO**, GMB**, BLM**). Elsewhere, singles were at Milnesand 29 Apr & 5 May (JRO**), the Conoco Pond south of Maljamar 28-29 Apr (CLB, JRO), Albuquerque's South Valley 16 Apr (J. Rumley**), and Bosque NWR 22 Apr (*fide* MJB).

American Redstart—Among several reports was a second-year ♂ west to Zuni's Blackrock bosque 27 May (JAT*).

Northern Parula—Had an especially good season in the RGV and environs, with reports from eight locales from *Santa Fe* and *Los Alamos* south through *Bernalillo* and *Socorro* to *Doña Ana* 13 Apr-24 May (m.ob.). NRT was the only locality away from the RGV, where 2 were reported 15 & 22 Apr (JRO*).

Chestnut-sided Warbler—Single ♂♂ were at Ned Houk Park 27 May (JEP*, JRO), Galisteo 18 May (J. Bulger***; window killed spec. to MSB), and Water Canyon 19 May (J. King*).

Blackpoll Warbler—Single ♂♂ were in *Curry* south of Cannon AFB 13 May (DGW**) and Alameda's Shady Lakes 14 May (BLM*).

Palm Warbler—Singles were at Percha SP 26 Mar-7 Apr (JEP*, CMB**, MKR**) and Milnesand 17 Apr (MiS, MW**).

Yellow-throated Warbler—A rare and irregular eastern species, this season singles were photographed at NRT 17 Apr (JRO**, MW**, MiS) and Albuquerque 10 May (C. C. Witt**).

Grace's Warbler—An early one was in Chloride Canyon, Black Range, *Sierra* 30 Mar (DJC**).

Hermit Warbler—One strayed east to Bosque NWR 30 Apr (MJB**, NDP**).

Black-throated Green Warbler—A ♂ at NRT 11 May (JEP**) was the only report. The species has been annual in New Mexico over the past 10 years, averaging about 5 records per year, with most occurring in the fall.

Canada Warbler—Under review is one described at NRT 22 May (D. L. Weidemann*, M. Weidemann*). There are only about a dozen previous records since the first in 1975.

Painted Redstart—Apparently “overshooting” expected range, singles were at Percha SP 31 Mar (CMB**) and Albuquerque's South Valley 16-17 Apr (M. O. Hilchey, RK). Continuing from Jan, one was north of Cliff along the Gila R. near the mouth of Turkey Cr. 5 Mar (MJB).

Rufous-crowned Sparrow—Rare northwest to the Zuni area, one was in Bluewater Gorge, *Cibola* 30 May (JAT).

Abert's Towhee—One was singing at Rodeo 23-30 May (REW audio).

Rufous-winged Sparrow—At least one was in Guadalupe Canyon 14 May (SOW, PM), where the species has been present since 2011.

Botteri's Sparrow—One singing north to the Gila R. floodplain at Nichols Canyon 20 May (JBS** audio) provided a new locality. Farther south, one was singing at Rodeo 30 May (REW).

Cassin's Sparrow—Responding to favorable grassland conditions, this species had another banner year on the eastern plains (m.ob.), e.g., 113 on the Hobbs BBS 30 May (DLH). Unusual was one singing at the Santa Fe Canyon Preserve 1 May (BRF*).

Field Sparrow—Noteworthy were 2 west to Conchas L. 20 Mar (WJ-W*).

Black-chinned Sparrow—Two were northwest to Zuni's Chaema Canyon 30 Apr (JAT) and 2 others were on the west side of the Malpais in Bonita Canyon, Zuni Mts. 30 May (JAT).

Fox Sparrow—A slate-colored one was at BLNWR 18-19 Mar (JEP*, RN**, JRO**). In *Doña Ana*, a red one was at Las Cruces 27 Mar (J. Wilbur**) and another red one was banded at San Andres Spring 20 Apr (MEW**).

Harris's Sparrow—Lingering were singles at Taos to 8 Apr (J. A. Lay**), near Clayton 10 Apr (DLH*), south of Cannon AFB, *Curry* 3 May (DGW**), and near Fort Union 9 May (CMR**).

Golden-crowned Sparrow—A late ad. was south to Double Adobe, Animas Mts. 14 May (AMC*).

Yellow-eyed Junco—Maintaining a *Grant* presence, one was on Jacks Peak, Burro Mts. 6 Apr (LKM).

Northern Cardinal—Continuing from winter, a ♂ was singing at Albuquerque's BioPark through May and into Jun (J. N. Stewart). Noteworthy for *Otero*, another ♂ was near Oliver Lee SP 18 Mar-6 May (D. & B. Findley**).

Varied Bunting—Small numbers were across the south in *Hidalgo*, *Doña Ana*, and *Eddy*, including 2 in Guadalupe Canyon 14 May (SOW, PM), a female banded at San Andres Spring 17 May (MEW*), and up to 4 in Slaughter Canyon, CCNP 30 Apr-15 May (m.ob.).

Bobolink—A ♂ was a surprise flying over the highway at Moriarty 23 May (WEM*).

Orchard Oriole—Singles were west to the RGV at Albuquerque 4 May (CMR*), Luis Lopez 1-8 May (S. Fullingim**), and Mesilla Bosque SP 13-14 Apr (CJG, WTE).

Baltimore Oriole—Nicely documented were a ♀ at NRT 1 May (JEP*) and single ad. ♂♂ at Bosque Redondo L. 4 May (BLM**), Los Alamos 13 May (J. Magelssen**), and south of Radium Springs 16 May (MTS*, JEZ**). Useful documentation is appreciated for all reports of this species, which is a rare spring and fall transient in New Mexico, but where its true status is complicated by undetailed reports.

Scott's Oriole—Very early was one at Deming 11 Mar (LKM). In the northeastern quadrant of the state, 3 were at Corrazon Hill, *San Miguel* 14 May (WJ-W) and one was singing at NRT 30 Apr (JEP).

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NEW MEXICO COUNTIES

