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NEW MEXICO
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FIELD NOTES

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Editor: Roland A. Goodman

Editorial Committee: William Howe, W. Burton Lewis,

Paul Steel, Ross L. Teuber, and Steve West

NEW MEXICO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

2016 Valle Rio

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

FROM THE EDITORS:

The season's most interesting bird was an aberration -- a male Elegant Tropicbird that wandered to western Catron County, roughly 120 miles northeast of the species' nearest regular habitat in Arizona's Chiricahua Mountains. It is very rare in New Mexico.

Spring was generally unpleasant -- cool in the south, cold in the north, dry in the south, relatively moist in Albuquerque, windy everywhere. Nevertheless birders were out in force and saw a good scattering of rarities, including a very unusual Brown Pelican on Morgan Lake, west of Farmington. Others scarce in the state included a probable Black-bellied Whistling Duck, an Oldsquaw, a Whimbrel, a Hudsonian Godwit, a Sprague's Pipit, a Yellow-throated Vireo, and, out of 27 species of warblers, these rarities: Prothonotary, Blackburnian, Bay-breasted, Blackpoll, Palm and Worm-eating.

Many birds were out of place: Carlsbad had its first Mississippi Kite and Chimney Swift in several years, several Northern Goshawks were at unusually low altitudes, a Common Black Hawk was far out of place in the lower Rio Grande Valley, and an Eastern Kingbird, a Black Phoebe, some Purple Martins and Eastern Bluebirds were seen far away from normal ranges. And it was noted that grackles were still expanding their territories in the state.

SPRING BIRD COUNTS IN N.M. (name, sponsor, date, compiler, species, total)

Española Big Day Count (Sangre de Cristo Audubon Society), 5/15, W. Burton Lewis, 95, 2274

Big Count (Otero County Bird Club), 5/7-8, Robert Jenness, 98, 1614

Gila Valley Spring Migration Count and Big Bird Bash (Southwest N.M. Audubon Society and N.M. Audubon Council), 5/7, Ralph Fisher, 147, 10416

Roswell Spring Count (Southeastern N.M. Audubon Society), 5/8, Sherry Bixler, 128, 3476

PLACE NAMES AND THEIR COUNTIES

abbreviations and symbols:

L. -- Lake	R. -- River	
MRGV -- middle Rio Grande Valley	SGR -- State Game Refuge	
Mt. (Mts.) -- Mountain(s)	SP -- State Park	
NM -- National Monument	v. o. -- various observers	
N. M. -- New Mexico		
NP -- National Park	* -- details provided	
NWR -- National Wildlife Refuge	** -- photograph	
OCBC -- Otero County Bird Club	*** -- specimen	
Alamogordo -- Otero	Boone's Draw -- Roosevelt	Cuba -- Sandoval
Albuquerque -- Bernalillo	Bosque del Apache NWR	Cumbres -- Rio Arriba
Apache Creek -- Catron	(Bosque NWR) -- Socorro	
Aztec -- San Juan	Caballo L., Dam -- Sierra	Dixon -- Rio Arriba
Bandelier NM -- Sandoval, Los Alamos	Carlsbad -- Eddy	Embudito -- Bernalillo
Bill Evans L. (often Evans L.) -- Grant	Carlsbad Caverns NP -- Eddy	Española -- Rio Arriba
Bitter L. NWR (Bitter L.) -- Chaves	Carson -- Taos	Evans L. -- Grant
Black Range -- Grant	Chaco Canyon NP -- San Juan	Estancia -- Torrance
Black Rock Dam, Zuni -- McKinley	Chama -- Rio Arriba	Fort Stanton -- Lincoln
Bloomfield -- San Juan	Clayton, L. -- Union	Fort Sumner -- De Baca
Burford L. -- Rio Arriba	Cloudcroft -- Otero	Galisteo -- Santa Fe
	Cochiti L., Canyon, Pueblo -- Sandoval	

Gila R. -- Grant, Catron, Hidalgo	Melrose -- Curry	Rio Grande Gorge SP -- Taos
Glenwood -- Catron	Mescalero Sands -- Chaves	Rodeo -- Hidalgo
Guadalupe Canyon -- Hidalgo	Mesilla -- Doña Ana	Roswell -- Chaves
Guadalupe Mts. -- Eddy	Milnesand -- Roosevelt	Rocky Arroyo -- Eddy
	Morgan L. -- San Juan	
	Mule Creek -- Grant	Sacramento Mts.-- Otero
Harroun L. -- Eddy	Oasis SP -- Roosevelt	San Antonio -- Socorro
High Rolls -- Otero	Old Refuge at Mesilla	Sandia Mts., Crest, Park -- Bernalillo
Holloman L. -- Otero	-- Doña Ana	San Simon Cienega -- Hidalgo
Jemez Mts. -- Sandoval	Owen's farm -- Doña Ana	Santa Fe -- Santa Fe
Juan Tabo Canyon -- Bernalillo	Ojo Caliente -- Rio Arriba	Sevilleta NWR -- Socorro
Kirtland Air Force Base -- Bernalillo	Parkview -- Rio Arriba	Silver City -- Grant
La Joya SGR -- Socorro	Pecos -- San Miguel	Sitting Bull Falls -- Eddy
La Luz -- Otero	Peloncillo Mts. -- Hidalgo	Socorro -- Socorro
La Mesilla -- Rio Arriba	Percha Dam SP -- Sierra	Summit -- Hidalgo
Las Vegas -- San Miguel	Piños Altos -- Grant	Tijeras -- Bernalillo
Los Alamos -- Los Alamos	Post Office Canyon -- Hidalgo	Truth or Consequences -- Sierra
Los Lunas -- Valencia		Tucumcari -- Quay
Loving -- Eddy	Randall Davey Nature Center -- Santa Fe	Tularosa -- Otero
Magdalena Mts. -- Socorro	Randall's pool -- Doña Ana	Valle Grande -- Sandoval
Malaga -- Eddy	Rattlesnake Springs -- Eddy	Virden -- Hidalgo
Mangas Springs -- Grant	Red Bluff -- Eddy	Wagon Mound -- Mora
Maxwell NWR -- Colfax		Water Canyon, Magda- lena Mts. -- Socorro
		Weed -- Otero
		Whites City -- Eddy
		Zuni Pueblo -- McKinley

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		CWr -- Christina Wright
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SPECIES ACCOUNTS

WESTERN GREBE -- 3 near Las Vegas 4/24 (PSt); up to 10 at Evans L. (RF).

CLARK'S GREBE -- Seen at Morgan L. 5/12 (PJ) and at Las Vegas 4/24 and 5/28

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN -- Rising numbers in MRGV: 5 at La Joya SGR 4/5 (JH, Roxie Laybourne); 200+ at Bosque NWR 3/17 (RT) and 150 there 4/10 (CR, PI, PSn, Joyce Takamine). Arrived 4/22 at Bitter L. (KW). In less usual areas, at Clayton L. (WC), at Tucumcari L. 5/6-5/31 (BU), 6 at Oasis SP 5/19 (PJ), and 5 (including 3 immatures) at Evans L. in late April (Dale McCauley). Late were 15 at Cochiti L. 5/31 (CR).

BROWN PELICAN -- unusual: Second verified record for northwest corner of N.M. and one of very few for the state was an immature photographed at Morgan L. 3/28-29 (John & Jan Rees, AN). Previous nw. record was in 1977.

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT -- At peripheral sites: Zuni (DC), Tucumcari L. (BU), 2 at Burnt Cabin Park, Black Range, 4/27 (JV), and Evans L. (RF).

OLIVACEOUS CORMORANT -- Still regular at Bosque NWR, with 2 there 4/5 (JH, Roxie Laybourne), 5 on 4/9 (PI, PSn, CR, SW, Joyce Takamine) and 18 next day by same team, and 17 on 4/24 (BO). Further south were singles at Percha Dam SP 3/21 (CR) and the Old Refuge at Mesilla 5/9 (EW, LHS).

LEAST BITTERN -- 1 possibly seen at La Joya SGR 5/1 (PJ).

GREAT BLUE HERON -- Many heronries with this species predominating: 20+ birds with about 19 nests at Glenwood 3/12-16 and young seen by 5/30 (JH), 60 nests 5/7 at Kwillylekia heronry in same region 5/7 (RW), and at least 15 active nests at Phantom Banks heronries in southern Eddy County by 5/28 (SW).

GREAT EGRET -- 4 at Bosque NWR 4/4 (JH, Roxie Laybourne).

SNOWY EGRET -- First of spring was 1 at Bitter L. 3/6 (KW).

LITTLE BLUE HERON -- Many Bosque NWR reports, including 2 on 4/8-10 (PJ, JS, PI+), 2 on 4/19 (RT) and 2 on 5/7 (SW). Only one from southeast was at the Loving heronry 5/25 (SW).

TRICOLORED HERON -- Singles at Bosque NWR 5/9 and 5/28 (RT) and at Rattlesnake Springs 5/8 (PJ, JS).

CATTLE EGRET -- Most records from Rio Grande and Pecos Valleys; e.g., Bosque NWR had 1 on 3/18 (RT), 6 on 4/9 (PI+). Peripherally, at Zuni 4/10 (DC) and 15 to 17 at Tularosa 4/1-2 (JSNht).

GREEN-BACKED HERON -- 1 at Riverside Pond on Española Count.

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON -- breeding: More nesting areas found: carrying nesting material to 4 sites near Las Vegas 5/28 (CR), and 24 active nests 5/14 at La Mesilla, south of Española (CR)...At least 450 nesting near Loving 5/25 (SW).

WHITE-FACED IBIS -- At Bosque NWR, 60 on 4/8 (PJ, JS) and a peak of 150 to 200 on 4/24 (BO). 120 at La Joya SGR 4/24 (PJ). Increased numbers at Mangas Springs during season (RF).

BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING DUCK -- unusual: 3 deemed to be probable were at Bitter L. 5/27 (KW). Only previous southeastern records are 2 from Eddy County.

TUNDRA SWAN -- 1 at Maxwell NWR 3/5 (PJ, JH).

GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE -- 23 at Maxwell NWR on 3/5 was unusually high for a species not commonly seen in the area.

SNOW GOOSE -- 1 blue phase with 70 white birds at Owen's farm 3/22 (BZ).

ROSS' GOOSE -- 10 at Bosque NWR 4/5 (JH, Roxie Laybourne). 3 there 4/10 (PI+), and 1 on 4/15 (PJ, JS).

CANADA x SNOW GOOSE hybrid -- unusual: Apparently first N.M. report of this rare hybrid was 1 at Bosque NWR 3/26 (PJ, JS).

CANADA GOOSE -- Away from MRGV and Pecos Valley were sightings near Chama (JSLHS), in the northern Black Range 4/27 (JV), and at Fort Stanton (SB).

MALLARD (Mexican race) -- 2 on Gila R. just n. of Gila Bridge 5/7 (CR).

BLUE-WINGED x CINNAMON TEAL hybrid -- a male apparently of this mixture was seen at Bosque NWR from 3/24 (RT, PB) through 4/9 (photo by JS).

CANVASBACK -- A late male was at Tucumcari L. (BU).

LESSER SCAUP -- 2 at Bosque NWR 4/9 were last of season (PJ, JS).

OLDSQUAW -- unusual: Very scarce in N.M. at any time, mostly on large bodies of water -- but 1 was at Bottomless L. SP 4/25-26 and 5/6 (Jack Holloway, photo by JS).

HOODED MERGANSER -- 9, a high number, at Bitter L. 3/1-4 (KW).

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER -- Only in MRGV: 6 at Bosque NWR (RSCT, PB) and a male at Caballo Dam 4/27 (PJ).

OSPREY -- An early migrant n. of Truth or Consequences 3/1 (OM).

BLACK-SHOULDERED KITE -- 1 or 2 near Rodeo 4/18 and 23, and 5/10 (J.Salatz+).

MISSISSIPPI KITE -- 1 near Carlsbad 5/13 (SW, Jim Walters) was first seen there in several years.

NORTHERN GOSHAWK -- Low-altitude individuals at Bosque NWR 4/28 (PSt), on Gila Valley Count, at Post Office Canyon 4/4 (RS), and at Rattlesnake Springs 4/28 (fide CW).

COMMON BLACK HAWK -- unusual: Singles in MRGV near Socorro 4/16 and at Percha Dam SP 4/8, 28 (PJ*).

HARRIS' HAWK -- unusual: 1 near Alamogordo 5/7-8 was out of normal range (fide RJ).

RED-SHOULDERED HAWK -- unusual: An immature buteo, possibly of this species, at Percha Dam SP 3/21, 30 (CR+). Two others, also possible, at same locale 5/7 (RT).

BROAD-WINGED HAWK -- unusual: An immature*, possibly of this species, at Boone's Draw 5/9-10 (PJ, JS).

SWAINSON'S HAWK -- Early singles at Bosque NWR 4/1-2 (OMac), Holloman Air Force Base 3/15 (RJ) and near Alamogordo 3/24 (RSKJ).

RED-TAILED HAWK -- 1 or 2 at Boone's Draw 5/7-9, 18-19 (PJ, JS) may have been nesting, which usually occurs only locally on the Staked Plains.

FERRUGINOUS HAWK -- breeding: 2 copulating near Wagon Mound 3/5 (JH, JS*, PJ). Early.

GOLDEN EAGLE -- breeding: Pair nesting in bluffs w. of Redrock 5/16+ (RF).

LESSER PRAIRIE CHICKEN -- 8 near Melrose 4/3 (JV), 14 at Milnesand 4/28 (Hue & Jo Ann MacKenzie), 50+ at Mescalero Sands 4/21 (BO), but only 3 on 4/5 in eastern Eddy County, where species apparently has disappeared from areas sprayed for control of shinnery oak (SW).

WILD TURKEY -- Increasing in Clayton area (WC); up to 92 near Apache Creek in March (fide Elaine Carrejo); 21 released at Washington Ranch (SW) are likely the source of recent Rattlesnake Springs sightings; 6 or 7 males of the Gould's race calling in the Peloncillo Mts. in May (Daniel Figert+).

MONTEZUMA QUAIL -- Several pairs scattered around Silver City (RF); 2 at Mountain Park, Sacramento Mts., 4/16 (J. K. Cadwallader+); present after 4/30 in the Peloncillos (RS).

NORTHERN BOBWHITE -- At Bitter L. in April and May (v.o.); 15 at Rattlesnake Springs 3/20 continued the recent expansion into that area (SW).

SCALED QUAIL -- Numbers down at Clayton (WC). 2 on Española Count.

GAMBEL'S QUAIL -- On spring counts, Española 5, Gila Valley 109, OCBC 33.

VIRGINIA RAIL -- Abundant at Tucumcari L. throughout the spring (BU). At La Joya SGR, 1 on 4/24 and 2 on 4/25-6 (PJ).

COMMON MOORHEN -- 1 at Harroun Crossing near Malaga 5/8 (PJ, JS); regular there.

SANDHILL CRANE -- Season's high of 338 at Bitter L. 3/4 (KW).

WHOOPIING CRANE -- 2 flying north with 63 Sandhills at Dixon 3/2 (JW).

BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER -- Seen at Holloman L. 5/14 (EW, CA).

SEMI-PALMATED PLOVER -- 1 at Las Vegas NWR 5/28 (CR); 10 at Bitter L. 4/29 (KW).

SNOWY PLOVER -- At Bitter L., year's first 4 on 3/31 (RT), 11 on 3/25 (KW), top of 103 on Roswell Count. 32 adults and 7 young at Holloman L. 5/28 (EW, CA).

MOUNTAIN PLOVER -- 2 at Grasslands Turf Farm near Los Lunas 4/26 (PJ).

BLACK-NECKED STILT -- 22 at Bosque NWR 4/9 and 28 there next day (CR, PI, PSn+). First in southeast were 8 near Loving 4/5 (SW).

AMERICAN AVOCET -- 10 at Burford L. 5/29 (LH). 18 at Tucumcari L. 3/29 (BU). At Bosque NWR, first were 8 on 3/17 (RT); up to 100+ by 4/10 (CR, PI+). First in southeast were 6 at Bitter L. 3/11 (KW).

SOLITARY SANDPIPER -- 2 at La Joya SGR 5/2 (PJ, JS).

WILLET -- 1 at Bosque NWR 4/10 (CR, PI+).

WHIMBREL -- unusual: 1 at Bitter L. 4/28 (Hue & Jo Ann MacKenzie); rare in N.M.

LONG-BILLED CURLEW -- 5 at El Paso Gap, Guadalupe Mts., 5/5 (John Goodwin).

HUDSONIAN GODWIT -- unusual: Very rare in state, 3 at Bitter L. 4/29 (Hue & Jo Ann MacKenzie).

MARbled GORWIT -- Spring highs, 19 at Zuni 4/24 (DC) and 90 at Bitter L. 4/29 (KW).

SANDERLING -- 9 at Bosque NWR 4/24 (BO); only spring report.

WESTERN SANDPIPER -- Probable season's first, 7 at Randall Davey Center 4/26 (CR).

BAIRD'S SANDPIPER -- 1 at Tijeras Arroyo 3/21 (B); 6 at Bosque NWR 4/9 (PJ, JS).

STILT SANDPIPER -- High number, west of normal, 17 at Bosque NWR 5/19 (PSt, RT).

LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER -- 420+ at Bosque NWR 4/10 (PI, CR+).

WILSON'S PHALAROPE -- First of spring, 2 at Tucumcari L. 3/16 (BU). 50 at Bosque NWR 4/9 and 200+ on 4/10 (PI, CR+). 300+ at Holloman L. 5/7 (TSEW).

RED-NECKED PHALAROPE -- 9 males, 2 females at Tucumcari L. 5/25 (BU); first spring report.

FRANKLIN'S GULL -- Seen statewide from 3/25 (2 at Holloman L., fide EW) to end of period; maximum, 110 at Bosque NWR 4/10 (PI, CR+).

BONAPARTE'S GULL -- Small numbers from 3/30 to 5/16 at Las Vegas NWR (CR, PI+), Black Rock L. (DC), Bosque NWR (v.o.) and Caballo L. (JS, PJ).

RING-BILLED GULL -- 19 at Bitter L. rose to 1,028 on 3/5 (KW).

FORSTER'S TERN -- In Rio Grande and Pecos Valleys in small numbers from 3/31 (2 at Bitter L. -- RT) to end of period. 1 at Tucumcari L. 5/31 (BU).

LEAST TERN -- First seen at Bitter L. 5/7 (James Montgomery Jr.).

BLACK TERN -- 1 at Black Rock L. 5/8 (OC); 2 at Bitter L. 5/7 (James Montgomery Jr.) and 14 there 5/20 (Peter Jungemann); 2 at Loving 5/25 (SW).

WHITE-WINGED DOVE -- Up to 15 at Socorro by 4/27 (JS); very few at Truth or Consequences nearly all season, but up to 8 by 5/31 (DM); 1 on Roswell Count and another at Rattlesnake Springs 5/4 (fide CW).

INCA DOVE -- Peak of 4 at Socorro feeder 3/25 (JS).

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO -- unusual: 1 at Boone's Draw 5/10 (PJ, JS) and 1 at Rattlesnake Springs 5/4 were early....Several calling at Tucumcari L. 5/25 (BU) and 1 at Glenwood 5/27 (BMc).

GREATER ROADRUNNER -- 1 e. of Farmington 5/14 (J. and M. Parker) was n. of usual range.

WESTERN SCREECH OWL -- unusual: Heard frequently near Chama 5/16-24 (LHS). 1 at Owen's farm 5/2-3 (BZ). Seldom reported from these areas.

ELF OWL -- 1 to 5 at Glenwood 5/8-13, 1 banded 5/23 (BMc)....breeding: Pair at Glenwood 6/2+ (BMc).

BOREAL OWL -- 1 calling near Cumbres Pass 4/2 (DS, John Rawinski) was the fourth record for the species at that location within a year.

COMMON NIGHTHAWK -- 1 at Truth or Consequences 5/10 (DM) was early. First of season heard at Glenwood 5/24 (BMc).

CHIMNEY SWIFT -- unusual: 1 over Tucumcari L. 5/2 (BU). 1 in Carlsbad 5/18 (SW) was first report for Eddy County in several years.

WHITE-THROATED SWIFT -- unusual: In unexpected locales, 1 at Bosque NWR 4/10 (CR+) and 1 n. of Whites City 4/24 (SW)....20 at Sitting Bull Falls 5/21 (SW), and 7 seen entering a crack at Window Cave, West Slaughter Canyon, Carlsbad Caverns NP 4/7 (SW+); Bailey first reported nesting swifts in this area in 1924.

LUCIFER HUMMINGBIRD -- breeding: A male 2/27 and female 4/12 were first arrivals at Post Office Canyon, where up to 6 were present and believed to be breeding by late April (RS).

RUFDOUS HUMMINGBIRD -- unusual: Male in March and early April at Glenwood feeder (Dick & Shawn Nelson, fide JH)....1 at Post Office Canyon 4/10-24 (RS).

ELEGANT TROGON -- unusual: A male wandered ne. to Pueblo Park, between Glenwood and Reserve 5/28 and was well described (D. Goodfellow+). Rare in N.M.

LEWIS' WOODPECKER -- breeding: Adult with nestlings at Forked Lightning Ranch, which is south of Pecos (elevation 7,000 feet) 5/23 (LM)....1 on Gila Valley Count was very late.

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER -- 1 in Roswell week of 2/27-3/4 (ES) was early.

ACORN WOODPECKER -- 1 at Glenwood 5/9-10, first time since late winter (BMc).

GILA WOODPECKER -- 6 on Gila Valley Count was up slightly from previous years. 9 in Guadalupe Canyon 5/31 (SWi).

LADDER-BACKED WOODPECKER -- breeding: Adult feeding young in nest at Tucumcari L. 5/31 (BU)....1 at Ojo Caliente 4/23 was n. of range (CR, SG).

DOWNY WOODPECKER -- Pair at Gila Riparian Habitat Area on 4/2 (RF), plus 1 on Gila Valley Count. Singles at Percha Dam SP 5/7 (RT), Bosque NWR 4/28 (Pst) and San Antonio 5/20 (PJ) were late.

OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER -- 1 at Rattlesnake Springs 5/3 (GP), where rare in spring.

GRAY FLYCATCHER -- 1 or 2 at Zuni 4/17-5/22 (DC). Singles at Juan Tabo Canyon 4/17 (HS), at Bosque NWR 4/15 and at Percha Dam SP 4/22 (PJ, JS), and singing in Piños Altos Mts. 5/21 (RF+).

BLACK PHOEBE -- 2 at Ojo Caliente 4/23 (SG, CR) were n. of known range, and 1 at 7,100 feet in Los Alamos 5/2 (Stacy Fradkin) was high.

EASTERN PHOEBE -- 1 at Bosque NWR 4/1 (RT); 1 at Rattlesnake Springs 3/17-5/1 (v. o.).

VERMILION FLYCATCHER -- A male in Albuquerque 5/19 (HS) was northerly. The 40 on the Gila Valley Count was a high total.

ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER -- 1 at Carlsbad Caverns NP 4/7 (SW) was early.

WESTERN KINGBIRD -- 1 at La Luz 4/4 (WB), also early.

EASTERN KINGBIRD -- An accidental at Rattlesnake Springs 5/26 (G. & R. Vickery) was also a late migrant.

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER -- 1 at Bitter L. 4/24 (KW) was northerly. Species remained rare in Carlsbad area (SW).

PURPLE MARTIN -- unusual: 5 at Percha Dam SP 5/7 (RT) and 3 near Redrock on Gila Valley Count. Seldom occurs in lowland areas.

TREE SWALLOW -- 2 at Clayton L. 4/27 and 5/26 (WC).

NORTHERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW -- 3 near Alamogordo, where rare, 4/23 (OCBC).

CAVE SWALLOW -- 200 on 3/12 to 4,000 on 5/30 at Carlsbad Caverns NP. Cave x Barn Swallow hybrid banded 5/18 (SW), an adult, whereas previous hybrids were all found in fall and were mostly young.

GRAY JAY -- 1 near sw. corner of Valle Grande, along NM-4, 3/4 (PSt); now rare in Jemez Mts. 1 at Santa Fe 3/14 (LH) was at a low 7,350 feet.

STELLER'S JAY -- Remnants of autumn's lowland invasion, 2 at Glenwood 3/12-16 (JH+) and 5 at Percha Dam SP (CR).

BLUE JAY -- 5 at Cahoon Park on Roswell Count; 1 at Tucumcari L. 5/2, 31 (BU).

SCRUB JAY -- 5 at Percha 3/21 (CR), and 1 very late 5/2 at Owen's farm (BZ).

GRAY-BREASTED JAY -- 6+ at Percha Dam SP 3/21 (CR).

PINYON JAY -- 1 at Post Office Canyon 5/22-23 (RS) was first in 3 years.

CLARK'S NUTCRACKER -- 2 near Rio Grande Gorge SP 4/23 (CR, SG) in a lone juniper were out of habitat.

BLACK-BILLED MAGPIE -- A few have returned to Clayton since 1985 after many years' absence (WC); 3 near Galisteo 4/16 (CR+) were s. of range.

AMERICAN CROW -- 58 at Bosque NWR 5/30 (CR), several at Mesilla 5/9 (LS,EW).

COMMON RAVEN -- breeding: Nest with pair feeding young in Guadalupe Canyon 5/31 (Swi).

MOUNTAIN CHICKADEE -- Late wintering birds: 2 at La Joya SGR 4/18 (PJ), 1 at Percha Dam SP 3/30 (JS, PJ), at Silver City to mid-April (RF), 1 at Virden 3/15 (JS, PJ), 1 at Rattlesnake Springs 3/17 (fide CWr).

BRIDLED TITMOUSE -- 2 at Percha Dam SP 3/21 (CR).

VERDIN -- 1 at La Joya SGR 5/1 (PJ); 2 on OCBC Count.

BUSHTIT -- 2+ at Percha Dam SP 4/24 (JS, PJ).

RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH -- Scattered higher-elevation reports. In lowlands, 1 on University of New Mexico campus, Albuquerque, 4/22 (LG) and 1 at Owen's farm through March (BZ).

WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH -- 4 at Percha Dam SP 3/21 (CR).

BROWN CREEPER -- 3 at Percha Dam SP 3/21 (CR); 1 at Rattlesnake Springs 3/17 (fide CWr).

CANYON WREN -- breeding: Nest with eggs at Forked Lightning Ranch s. of Per 5/28 (LM).

CAROLINA WREN -- At Rattlesnake Springs 3/20 and 4/24 (SW); probably same bird that first appeared previous autumn.

AMERICAN DIPPER -- breeding: Adult nesting under bridge at Chama in May (LHS).

GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET -- 1 along Mule Creek 3/16 (JS+); 5 at Cloudcroft 5/31 (CR).

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER -- 3 at Boone's Draw 5/7 and 4 at La Joya SGR 4/18 (PJ); 2 on Roswell Count; 1 at Percha Dam SP 3/21 (CR).

BLACK-TAILED GNATCATCHER -- 1 male in breeding plumage detailed at San Simon Cienega 3/15 (JS, PJ).

EASTERN BLUEBIRD -- 2 males, 2 females at Dixon 3/2-17 (JW), and a male near mouth of Water Canyon 3/19 (BO).

MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD -- 2 at Gila Hot Springs 5/7 (BH, Bill Rogers) and 1+ at Carlsbad Caverns NP 3/6 (fide CW) were outside of range.

HERMIT THRUSH -- 1*** retrieved from a cat in Albuquerque 5/21 appeared to be of the faxoni (eastern) race, but the university collection had no specimen for comparison (HS). This specimen not saved because tail was missing.

AMERICAN ROBIN -- breeding: Singing male and eggshell at Truth or Consequences 5/25 (DM).

GRAY CATBIRD -- 1 at Rattlesnake Springs 4/15 (fide CWr).

NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD -- 1 at La Luz 3/6 (R&KJ); 1 at La Joya SGR 4/14 (JS,PJ).

SAGE THRASHER -- 1 at Carson 5/29 (LH); at Santa Fe 3/15-22 (SBo); 1 at Santo Domingo 3/16 (Donna Desch); 1 at Zuni 3/6 (DC); last seen in Eddy County 4/5 (SW).

BROWN THRASHER -- 1 at Tucumcari 3/15 (BU); 1 at Rattlesnake Springs 3/19 (fide CWr); 1 n. of Red Bluff Reservoir in Eddy County 4/5 (SW, DLy).

BENDIRE'S THRASHER -- 1 on Gila Valley Count was somewhat unusual; 1 near Summit 3/15 (JS, PJ).

CURVE-BILLED THRASHER-- 2 at Roswell 3/12 (LH).

CRISSAL THRASHER -- 1 at La Joya SGR 4/18 and 5/2 (PJ, JS); 1 at High Rolls 3/12 (GSmi); 1 near Weed 3/19 (JHt); 1 in sandhills of eastern Eddy County 4/5 (SW, DLy).

AMERICAN PIPIT (Water Pipit) -- 2 to 5 at Randall Davey Nature Center 4/29-5/9 were first local records (CR); 40 at Zuni 4/23 (DC); 24 at Mangas Springs 3/5 (RF).

SPRAGUE'S PIPIT -- unusual: 1 well described at Chaco Canyon NP 4/18 (Robert Bradley). It was far to the northwest of expected habitat, as well as being a very rare spring record in N.M.

CEDAR WAXWING -- Small numbers reported w. of the Pecos Valley, except for 157 on the Espanola Count and 40+ at Sandia Park 5/5 (Pst). 2 at Rattlesnake Springs was only Pecos Valley report (fide CWr).

PHAINOPEPLA -- 2 at Socorro 5/12-13 and 1 at San Antonio 5/20 (PJ); 1 at High Rolls 4/30 (GSmi); 1 at Walnut Canyon 5/1 (SW, DO).

BELL'S VIREO -- First report was at Rattlesnake Springs 4/28 (fide CWr). Absent at Mangas Springs (RF); 2 or 3 at Rocky Arroyo 5/9 (JS, PJ); 11 singing males in Guadalupe Canyon 5/31 (SWi).

GRAY VIREO -- 1 or 2 in Zuni Mts. 5/23, 28 (DC).

SOLITARY VIREO -- First report was 1 at Alamogordo 4/19 (GSmi).

YELLOW-THROATED VIREO -- unusual: 1 reported at Roswell 5/6 (SB).

WARBLING VIREO -- 2 at Rattlesnake Springs 5/3 (fide CWr) were first report of season. 15 at Cloudcroft 5/31 (CR).

TENNESSEE WARBLER -- 1 at Boone's Draw 5/7, 10 and a probable at Rattlesnake Springs 5/9 (JS, PJ).

NASHVILLE WARBLER -- 1 or 2 at Boone's Draw 5/10 (JS, PJ).

VIRGINIA'S WARBLER -- 1 at Ojo Caliente 4/23 (CR, SG), 1 at Black Rock (DC) same date, 5+ at Boone's Draw 5/7 (PJ) and 1 at Rocky Arroyo 5/9 (JS, PJ).

LUCY'S WARBLER -- 12 at Percha Dam SP 4/8 (PJ), 3 along Gila R. 4/10 (RF), 3 or 4 at San Antonio 5/19 (PJ) and 43 on Gila Valley Count.

NORTHERN PARULA -- 1 at Waldrop Park, Chaves County, 4/21 (BO+). (Not 3/21, as stated in American Birds.)

YELLOW WARBLER -- Arrived 4/1 at Mangas Springs (RF); none recorded in rest of state until 4/27.

YELLOW-RUMPED (Myrtle) WARBLER -- Small numbers statewide 3/12 to 5/10.

BLACK-THROATED GRAY WARBLER -- 1 at High Rolls 4/14 (GSmi); 2 at Percha Dam SP 4/22 (PJ, JS).

TOWNSEND'S WARBLER -- 1 at Waldrop Park, Chaves County, 4/21 (BO+). (Not 3/21, as stated in American Birds.)

BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER -- unusual: Singing male seen near Cuba 5/26 (Letitia Morris).

GRACE'S WARBLER -- 3 at Bandelier NM 4/30 (PI, CR); 1 on Española count; 14 at Cloudcroft 5/31 (CR).

PALM WARBLER -- unusual: 1 male seen well at La Joya SGR 4/24 (LG, Carol Davis).

BAY-BREASTED WARBLER -- unusual: 1 female described from Rattlesnake Springs 5/21 (Carol Cochran, Dave Thayer).

BLACKPOLL WARBLER -- unusual: A male at Boone's Draw 5/10 (JS, PJ) and another at Roswell 5/9 (Greg Knadle).

BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER -- 1 in Black Rock Canyon 5/25-26 (DC); 1 to 3 at Boone's Draw 5/6, 10 (PJ, JS); 1 at Roswell 5/10 (fide SB).

AMERICAN REDSTART -- Singles at Boone's Draw 5/10 and 5/19 (PJ, JS).

PROTHONOTARY WARBLER -- unusual: Female seen briefly at Boone's Draw 5/10 (JS, PJ).

WORM-EATING WARBLER -- unusual: 1 hit a window in Sandia Mts. 5/15 (Eric Toolson).

OVENBIRD -- Singles at Boone's Draw 5/10 (JS, PJ) and Roswell 5/12 (Greg Knadle).

NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH -- 1 at San Antonio 5/20 and 1 at Rocky Arroyo 5/9 (PJ); 1 at Rattlesnake Springs 5/5 (James & Charles Black).

MACGILLIVRAY'S WARBLER -- First report, 5/3 at Rattlesnake Springs (fide CWr); 1 at Tucumcari 5/25 (BU); absent from Mangas Springs in spring (RF).

COMMON YELLOWTHROAT -- Very scarce at Mangas Springs (RF).

WILSON'S WARBLER -- 1 at Alamogordo (JTa) and 6 at Rattlesnake Springs 4/16 (fide CWr); 61 on Gila Valley Count.

RED-FACED WARBLER -- 2 pairs in Black Range 5/7, but unusually scarce (RF).

PAINTED REDSTART -- 1 on Gila Valley Count was only report.

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT -- First report, 5/5 at Rattlesnake Springs (fide CWr); 28 on Gila Valley Count.

LIVE WARBLER -- Not found in Black Range this spring (RF).

SUMMER TANAGER -- 3 at Boone's Draw 5/7 (PJ, JS) were easterly.

NORTHERN CARDINAL -- 1 at Old Refuge at Mesilla 5/9 (LHS, EW), 1 at Harroun L. 5/8 (PJ, JS), and up to 2 persisted at Rattlesnake Springs 3/21-5/17 (CWr).

PYRRHULOXIA -- 6 at Roswell 3/12 (LH) was high for area; 1 that wintered at Mangas Springs was last seen 3/8 (RF).

ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK -- Westerly were single males at Aztec 5/12 (PSt) and La Luz 5/11 (GF).

LAZULI BUNTING -- 14 on Española Count was high.

INDIGO BUNTING -- Subadult male at Socorro 4/6 (F&RS) was very early.

VARIED BUNTING -- Single males at 7,000 feet near High Rolls 5/7 (W&GB) and at Rocky Arroyo 5/9 (PJ) were outside the normal range.

PAINTED BUNTING -- 1 at Bitter L. 5/19 (Peter Jungemann); common near Red Bluff reservoir 5/28 (SW+).

GREEN-TAILED TOWHEE -- 1 at Percha Dam SP 3/10 (OM) was early and 1 at Boone's Draw 5/19 (PJ) was late.

RUFIOUS-SIDED TOWHEE -- 3 at Boone's Draw 5/19 (PJ) were late.

CASSIN'S SPARROW -- 1 singing at Zuni 5/15-27 (DC, TR) was well west of the normal range.

CLAY-COLORED SPARROW -- 1 at Albuquerque 5/20 (HS), 1* at La Joya SGR 5/1 (PJ) and possibly 2* at Sevilleta NWR 4/27 (PSt); scarce in spring in MRGV.

FIELD SPARROW -- unusual: 1* at Las Cruces 3/24 (LHS); well west of normal.

BLACK-CHINNED SPARROW -- 7+ on 5/4 (PJ, JS) was high for Magdalena Mts.

LARK SPARROW -- 3 at Bosque NWR 3/24 (PB, RT) were early.

LARK BUNTING -- 1 at Zuni 4/17 (DC) and 7 at Albuquerque 5/19 (HS); westerly.

GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROW -- 1 to 2 in Sandia Mts.* 4/11-25 (HS, PSt).

HARRIS' SPARROW -- 1 near Socorro 3/31-4/1 (PB).

DARK-EYED JUNCO -- A white-winged at Dixon 3/2 (JW).

CHESTNUT COLLARED LONGSPUR -- 2 at Chaco Canyon NP 4/12 (Robert Bradley) were northwesterly. About 300 in Tijeras Arroyo, Kirtland Air Force Base, 3/21 (BD).

BOBOLINK -- A vagrant at Farmington 5/15 (Bob Carr) was second local record. 5 at Parkview 5/15 (Dorothy Blanton, fide LHS).

EASTERN MEADOWLARK -- A singing male in Embudito Canyon 4/9 (HS); northerly.

RUSTY BLACKBIRD -- Female* at Rattlesnake Springs 5/4 (GP) was late; species is an accidental fall migrant there.

GREAT-TAILED GRACKLE -- 1 near Ojo Caliente 4/23 (SG, CR); up to 15 at Zuni 3/26-5/7 (DC), 4 or 5 near Fort Sumner 5/19 (PJ), 27 on Gila Valley Count and 20 to 30 in Silver City during period (RF), several near Fort Stanton 5/14 (SB+).

COMMON GRACKLE -- 2 on Española Count, 1 at Zuni 3/17 (DC), 3 near Estancia 5/31 (CR), and up to 20 at Socorro 3/29-4/28 (PJ, JS).

BRONZED COWBIRD -- 1 or 2 at Truth or Consequences 5/16, 30, 31 (DM); 2 possibly at Harroun L. 5/8 (PJ).

ORCHARD ORIOLE --North of usual were singles at Boone's Draw 5/6, 10 (PJ, JS).
Common near Red Bluff reservoir 5/28 (SW+).

HOODED ORIOLE -- A male near Socorro 4/4-8 (PB, RT) was well north of normal
1 at Percha dam SP 5/7 (RT).

NORTHERN ORIOLE -- A vagrant male of Baltimore race at Boone's Draw 5/10 (PJ,JS)

CASSIN'S FINCH -- Fairly widespread w. of Pecos Valley in low to moderate
numbers into mid-May (v. o.).

RED CROSSBILL -- A few in montane areas (v.o.). In Santa Fe 3/1, 4/17 and
5/20-27 (LH+).

PINE SISKIN -- breeding: 3 fledglings in Albuquerque 5/19 (HS)...Widespread
from Clayton and the Pecos Valley westward (v. o.).

EVENING GROSBEAK -- Moderate to high numbers in major montane areas through-
out the period (v.o.). At lower elevations: up to 8 in Alamogordo area 4/17-
5/30 (RJ+); 2 at Rattlesnake Springs 4/24 (LHS+), where species is very rare
and the few previous records are of fall and winter birds.