

Disclaimer: This file has been scanned with an optical character recognition program, often an erroneous process. Every effort has been made to correct any material errors due to the scanning process. Some portions of the publication have been reformatted for better web presentation. Announcements and add copy have usually been omitted in the web presentation. We would appreciate that any errors other than formatting be reported to NMOS at this web site. Any critical use of dates or numbers from individual records should be checked against the original publication before use as these are very difficult to catch in editing.

NEW MEXICO
ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
FIELD NOTES

VOLUME 28, NO. 2
March 1 - May 31, 1989

Editor: Roland A. Goodman

Editorial Committee: Nancy Cox, Steven Cox, William
Howe, W. Burton Lewis, Paul Steel, Ross Teuber

NEW MEXICO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
2016 Valle Rio
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

FROM THE EDITORS:

Another species was added to the New Mexico list when a female Gargany, a Eurasian dabbling duck, was shot at Bitter L. during an authorized hunting period. The season's rarities were our fourth Piping Plover, our third Great Kiskadee, and the second modern documented Cerulean Warbler. A likely Eurasian Wigeon also was remarkable. And the Boreal Owl kept moving south.

Unusual sightings were numerous. A Common Black Hawk at Albuquerque and a Harris' Hawk at Bosque NWR were out of place. Hummingbirds at the "wrong" place or time included Rufous at Post Office Canyon and Pleasanton, a Broad-billed at Hobbs, and a Calliope and two Magnificents at Silver City feeders. A Le Conte's Sparrow was near Caprock. A probable record high for the species was a congregation of 27,000 Violet-green Swallows at Navajo Dam. Continuing their northward and westward march, Bronzed Cowbirds showed up at Roswell, Socorro, Percha Dam and Mengas Springs. Terns at unaccustomed sites included two Caspians at Bluewater L., a Common at Holloman L., and a Least at Bosque NWR.

Seven vireo species were seen, and 31 warblers (notably Golden-winged, Worm-eating, Kentucky, and the Cerulean). A Varied Thrush in Carlsbad was notable.

Bill Howe noted that, as the new Brentley Dam near Carlsbad fills, the water level at upstream L. McMillan has fallen, drying up a marsh at its north end that "was an important area for marsh birds and shore birds in the Pecos Valley."

The spring count in the Sandias of northward-bound raptors, February 1 through May 9, recorded 2,780 birds of 18 species, plus 122 not identified as to species. Hawkwatch International (latest name) managed the count.

	Total	--Peak--			Total	--Peak--	
		Date	No.			Date	No.
Turkey Vulture	1,070	4/5	128	Red-tailed Hawk	182	twice	17
Osprey	38	4/5	5	Ferruginous Hawk	13	3/27	3
Bald Eagle	7	2/25	2	Rough-legged Hawk	1	2/16	1
No. Harrier	71	4/6	19	Zone-tailed Hawk	3	three	1
Sharp-shinned	498	4/26	39	Golden Eagle	205	3/12	21
Cooper's Hawk	499	4/6	35	American Kestrel	118	4/6	20
No. Goshawk	4	4 days	1	Merlin	3	three	1
Broad-winged Hawk	2	2 days	1	Peregrine Falcon	7	seven	1
Swainson's Hawk	43	4/26	13	Prairie Falcon	18	three	2

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

- BIG COUNT (Otero County Bird Club), 5/6, Robert Jenness, 49, 326
- ROSWELL Spring Count (Southeastern N.M. Audubon Society), 5/6-7, Sherry Bixler, 112, 5,284
- FARMINGTON, 5/13, Alan Nelson, 84, 4664
- ESPANOLA Big Day Count (Sangre de Cristo Audubon Society), 5/21, W. Burton Lewis, 104, 1,488
- GILA Valley Spring Migration Count and Big Bird Bash (Southwest Audubon Society and N.M. Audubon Council), 6/6, Ralph Fisher, 118, 6,739

(name in capital letters identifies count in species accounts)

INITIALED OBSERVERS IN THIS ISSUE

- | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| PB -- Pat Basham | PC -- Phyllis Cremonini | LH -- Lois Herrmann |
| SB -- Sherry Bixler | RF -- Ralph Fisher | GH -- Geoffrey Hill |
| CB -- Charles Black | SF -- Sam Fitten | GHo -- Gail Hodge |
| JB1 -- James Black | MF -- Mark Flippo | JH -- John P. Hubbard |
| WB1 -- William Black | AF -- Alton Ford | TH -- Tyler Huning |
| DC -- David Cleary | LG -- Larry Gorbet | JSNHT (JHT, NHT) -- |
| WC -- Wes Cook | MH -- Mitch Heindel | Joseph & Nancy Hutto |
| | | SI -- Stephen Ingraham |

PI -- Pat Insley	CR -- Chris Rustay	MS -- Marjorie Swain
RJ -- Robert Jenness	RS -- Robert Scholes	JTa -- Jackie Talley
CJe -- Carlyn Jervis	AS -- Alan Schmierer	JTy -- John Taylor
PJ -- Philip Johnson	GS -- C. Gregory Schmitt	RT -- Ross Tauber
AK -- Adolf Krehbiel	HS -- Hart R. Schwarz	JT -- John Trochet
ML -- Mark Lockwood	LHS -- Lorraine Schulte	JV -- James Vaught
BSDMc -- Barbara & Daniel McKnight	JS -- John Shipman	SW -- Steve West
REVM--Robert & Vir- ginia Messick	F&RS -- Frank & Rita Slowen	HSRW -- Harvey & Ruth Williams
DM -- Doris Miller	GSmi -- Gerri Smith	SWi -- Sartor Williams III
PM -- Peggy Mitchusson	PSn -- Patricia Snider	EW -- Eleanor Wootten
AN -- Alan Nelson	DSt -- Dale Stahlecker	BZ -- Barry Zimmer
	PSt -- Paul Steel	DSMZ -- Dale & Marian Zimmerman

LOCALITIES AND THEIR COUNTIES IN THIS ISSUE

ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS IN TEXT:

L. -- Lake	R. -- River
MRGV -- middle Rio Grande Valley	SP -- State Park
Mt. (Mts.) -- Mountain(s)	V. O. -- various observers
NM -- National Monument	
N. M. -- New Mexico	* -- details provided
NWR -- National Wildlife Refuge	** -- photograph
SGR -- State Game Refuge	*** -- specimen
Alamogordo -- Otero	Farmington -- San Juan
Alcalde -- Rio Arriba	Gallup -- McKinley
Bear Canyon (Dam) -- Grant	Glenwood -- Catron
Bell L. -- Lea	Guadalupe Canyon -- Hidalgo
Bill Evans L. (often Evans L.) -- Grant	Guadalupe Mts. -- Eddy
Bitter L. NWR (Bitter L.) -- Chaves	Hachita -- Grant
Black Rock Dam, Zuni -- McKinley	Hatch -- Dona Ana
Boone's Braw -- Roosevelt	Hobbs -- Lea
Bosquecito -- Socorro	Holloman L. -- Otero
Bosque del Apache NWR (Bosque NWR) - Socorro	Jemez Mts. -- Sandoval
Brantley L. -- Eddy	Juan Tabo Canyon -- Bernalillo
Caballo L., Dam -- Sierra	La Cueva-- Sandoval
Caprock -- Lea	Laguna Grande -- Eddy
Carlsbad -- Eddy	La Joya SGR -- Socorro
Carlsbad Caverns NP -- Eddy	L. Avalon -- Eddy
Chama -- Rio Arriba	L. McMillan -- Eddy
Chicosa L. -- Harding	Las Cruces -- Dona Ana
Clanton Canyon -- Hidalgo	Las Vegas -- San Miguel
Clayton (L.) -- Union	Loa Lunas -- Valencia
Clovis -- Curry	Loving -- Eddy
Cochiti L. -- Sandoval	Magdalena Mts. -- Socorro
Dog Canyon -- Otero	Mangas Springs -- Grant
Elida -- Roosevelt	Maxwell NWR -- Colfax
El Vado L. -- Rio Arriba	McAllister L. -- San Miguel
Emory Pass, Black Range -- Grant	Mogollon Creek -- Grant
Espanola -- Rio Arriba	Morgan L. -- San Juan
	Mule Creek -- Grant
	Nara Visa -- Quay
	Navajo L. -- San Juan
	Nutt -- Luna
	Otis -- Eddy
	Pleasanton -- Catron
	Post Office Canyon -- Hidalgo
	Randall Davey Nature Center -- Santa Fe
	Rattlesnake Springs -- Eddy
	Redrock -- Grant
	Rodeo -- Hidalgo
	San Antonio -- Socorro
	Sandia Mts. -- Bernalillo
	San Francisco R. -- Catron
	San Jon -- Quay
	San Marcial -- Socorro
	San Mateo Mts. -- Socorro
	Santa Fe -- Santa Fe
	Sevilleta NWR -- Socorro
	Slaughter Canyon, Carls- bad Caverns NP - Eddy
	Snow L. -- Catron
	Socorro -- Socorro
	Tierra Amarilla -- Rio Arriba
	Tijeras -- Bernalillo

Tularosa -- Otero Water Canyon, Magda- McKinley
Villanueva -- San Miguel lene Mts. - Socorro Zuni Reservation (Zuni
Virden -- Hidalgo Zuni Mts. -- Cibola, for short) - McKinley

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

RED-THROATED LOON -- unusual: 1 at L. McMillan 3/25 (BZ+); uncertain because the bird -- rare in N.M. -- was a quarter mile away and in winter plumage.

COMMON LOON -- 2 at Maxwell NWR 5/31 (Pst).

EARED GREBE -- 7 to 8 at Bosque NWR 4/8 (Pst).

WESTERN GREBE -- 4 at Maxwell NWR 5/30-31 (Pst).

CLARK'S GREBE -- 12 at Maxwell NWR 5/30-31 (Pst). Up to 3 in the Pecos basin from Las Vegas to L. McMillan 3/25-5/14. Approximately 20 pairs on the Rio Grande south of San Marcial 5/23-24 (JH+). 2 at Bitter L. 5/6 (SW).

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN -- 1 seen 3/26 and 16 on 4/16 (AN+) at Morgan L. 25 on 5/6 at L. McMillan (SW) and 8 at Maxwell NWR 5/30-31 (Pst). Unexpected were 30+ over the Magdalena Mts. 4/8 and 55 over the San Mateos 4/14 (PJ+). Up to 55 near Alamogordo 3/24-4/3 (JTe).

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT -- breeding: Found nesting s. of San Marcial 5/23 (JH)....1 or 2 at Zuni 3/22 and 5/14 (DC). 1 possible at Snow L. 5/12 (PJ).

OLIVACEOUS CORMORANT -- 3 or 4 at Bosque NWR 5/13-14 (MH).

AMERICAN BITTERN -- 2 at Bosque NWR 4/9 (Pst).

GREAT BLUE HERON --breeding: Some observed in a cormorant nesting colony in upper Caballo L., including one that appeared to be incubating (C. S. Wells, fide W. Pulich). Active nest sites in southern Eddy County in early March (SW).

GREAT EGRET -- 1 at Bitter L. 3/8 and 2 at Caballo L. 3/29 (Pst).

SNOWY EGRET -- breeding: Up to 400 nesting in s. Eddy County in early March (SW)

LITTLE BLUE HERON -- 2 to 4 seen near Socorro (GH), s. of San Marcial (JH) and at Bitter L. (SB+) 4/16-5/23.

TRICOLORED HERON -- Singles at Bosque NWR 5/2 (PM) and near Loving 5/7 (SW).

CATTLE EGRET -- Up to 30 in the Socorro area 4/4-5 and 29 (JH+), 10 at Bosque 4/9 (PSn) and 8 there 4/26 (PJ). 1 at Sevillete NWR 5/29 (RT). Many small flocks at San Marcial 5/24 (JS+); a few also at Bitter L. (SB+). 9 on Gila count. 1 at Rattlesnake Springs 4/17 (fide PC).

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON -- breeding: 30 to 32 active nests near Española 5/25 (CR). Up to 500 nesting in s. Eddy County in early March (SW).

WHITE-FACED IBIS -- 2 at Bosque NWR 3/6 (RT) and 20 on 4/9 (Pst). 18 near Tularosa 3/10 and 3/28, plus 22 in April (JSNht, GSm +). 35 at Holloman L. 4/9 (SW).

GREAT WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE -- Up to 15 at Bosque NWR 3/6-4/14 (RT+).

SNOW GOOSE -- 1 on Farmington count. 1 at McAllister L. 4/23 (Pst). Up to 16 near Clayton through 4/17 (WC). About 340 on 3/10 (PJ, JS), 7 on 5/13-14 (MH) and 3 on 5/23 (PM) at Bosque NWR.

CANADA GOOSE -- 4 on Chama R. below El Vado L. 5/13-14 (CR)....Goslings seen 5/6 at Bitter L. (SW) and 5/22 at La Joya SGR (JH, JV).

MALLARD -- Pairs of Mexican form at Bosque NWR 4/8 and at Redrock 3/31 (SW).

GARGANEY -- unusual: The first N.M. record of this small Eurasian dabbling duck -- a common breeder from Britain to Siberia -- was belatedly analyzed in the NMOS Bulletin (Vol. 18, No. 3-4, 1990) by C. Gregory Schmitt. It was shot at Bitter L. during a hunting season by James B. Montgomery, Jr., who sent the left wing to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which identified it as an immature female Garganey. This difficult identification was confirmed by Schmitt, who made sure that it could not have escaped from any licensed breeding flock in N.M. A rare wanderer to North America, the species has been sighted in the interior only on 16 other occasions, and only 2 other females have been reported outside Alaska. Schmitt's detailed account in the Bulletin is a model well worth reading.

CINNAMON x BLUE-WINGED TEAL -- This hybrid at Bosque NWR 3/21-4/25 may have been the same one present there the previous spring.

NORTHERN SHOVELER -- 400+ at Holloman L. 4/9 (SW).

EURASIAN WIGEON -- unusual: One at L. Avalon 3/25 (PJ, JS).

CANVASBACK -- Pair at Las Vegas NWR 4/23 (PSn).

RING-NECKED DUCK -- 7 at Holloman L. 3/30 (EW, LHS); 1 near Abiquiu on Rio Chama 4/22 (PSn); 1 to 20 at Randall Davey in April (CR).

GREATER SCAUP -- Up to 4 at La Joya SGR 3/30 (PJ, JS) and Bear Canyon L. 5/22 (RF).

LESSER SCAUP -- Up to 52 at Bosque NWR 3/9-5/23 (PM).

COMMON GOLDENEYE -- 2 at Las Vegas NWR 4/23 (PSn) and 1 to 3 there 4/2-30 (CR).

BUFFLEHEAD -- 2 at Salt Lake near Loving 4/5 (SW); first report for area.

COMMON MERGANSER -- 2 n. of Alcalde on Rio Grande (Española count).

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER -- 4 at Bill Evans L. 3/21 (RF).

OSPREY -- breeding: Pair reported nesting at Elephant Butte L. (J. Koons, fide RF). Verification lacking.

BLACK-SHOULDERED KITE -- unusual: 1 at Rattlesnake Springs 4/14 (Cathy Cook+).

BALD EAGLE -- breeding: Pairs at Bolack's Farm (Farmington) and at Navajo L. built nests (AN), but both were abandoned in May with no young fledged. A nest with 2 fledglings and a "pippling" in Sierra County 3/20 (K. Stinnett, fide JH)....1 adult and 1 immature in Catron County 3/3 (JS, JH+); 1 possibly of this species at Bosque NWR 4/6 (JS, PJ) was late; details sketchy.

NORTHERN HARRIER - unusual: Late individuals near Española 5/18 (BL+); Zuni 5/26 (DC); near Tularosa 5/27 (JSNHT), and at Mangas Springs 5/14 (RF).

COMMON BLACK HAWK -- breeding: 1 at nest on Mogollon Creek 5/6 (PI)....1 at Albuquerque 5/17 (WH, JH)...."I am real happy with the number of Black Hawks this year." 5/6 (RF) -- nesting pairs: 1 or 2 in Redrock area, 7 or 8 in Gila Valley, 1 on San Francisco R., 1 new nest at Glenwood fish hatchery.

HARRIS' HAWK -- unusual: 1 at Bosque NWR, with details, 3/10, 11 (PJ, JS) and 4/4 (PM).

BROAD-WINGED HAWK -- unusual: 1 adult at Boone's Draw 5/5 (PJ, JS); details sketchy.

SWAINSON'S HAWK -- Earliest arrivals, singles at Nutt 3/30, near Hachita 4/4 (Pst), and in Eddy and Lea Counties 3/28 (SW).

ZONE-TAILED HAWK -- breeding: Pair on active nest on Bitter Creek, Grant County, 5/5, adult on nest and adult soaring over the same area 5/18 (SWi)....1 in Guadalupe Canyon 5/7 (SWi).

RED-TAILED HAWK -- breeding: With one exception, all nests observed in the Gila Valley produced only single fledglings (RF).

LESSER PRAIRIE CHICKEN -- Heard at Boone's Draw 5/4 (JS); 10+ at Caprock 3/24 (PJ, JS).

WILD TURKEY -- 1 at San Antonio 4/21 (PJ) and 2 at San Marcial 5/24 (JH) probably derived from the population at Bosque NWR, where 78 were seen 3/11 (RT, PB). 1 near San Jon 5/14 (SW), well east of usual range, was probably a released or escaped bird; singles at Rattlesnake Springs 4/14 and 5/18 (fide PC); present at Dog Canyon 4/23-24 (SF+).

MONTEZUMA QUAIL -- A pair at Mangas Springs 3/29+ (RF); seen regularly at Rodeo all season (RS).

NORTHERN BOBWHITE -- 2 at Rattlesnake Springs 4/20 (MF) and 1 nearby at Washington Ranch 5/9 (SW).

SCALED QUAIL -- Numbers still low in Eddy and Lea Counties (SW).

VIRGINIA RAIL -- 1 at Percha Dam SP 5/11 (PJ). At Bosque NWR, singles seen 4/21, 4/30 and 5/11 (GH), and a few 5/3, 13 and 16 (PM).

SORA -- 1 on Española count. 4/14-5/23 at Bosque NWR (v.o.). Seen 3/1-5/21 in Gila Valley (RF).

COMMON MOORHEN -- 1 seen 5/15 at Clayton L., n. of usual range (AK).

SANDHILL CRANE -- Late 3 at Las Vegas 4/2 (CR). Late singles at Bosque NWR 4/4 (PM) and Las Cruces 4/22 (Barbara & Harold Harrison).

WHOOPIING CRANE -- Last one at Bosque NWR 3/4 (PM).

BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER -- 9 at Bitter L. 5/6 (PJ, JS); 3 at Holloman L. 5/10 (MH).

SNOWY PLOVER -- Young first seen 5/6 (PJ, JS) at Laguna Grande; 1 or 2 at Laguna Plata, Lea County, 3/9 and 3/28 (SW).

SEMPALMATED PLOVER -- 8 at Bosque NWR 3/18 (PB, RT).

PIPING PLOVER -- unusual: 1 at Bitter L. 5/6 (SW); state's 4th report.

MOUNTAIN PLOVER -- 1 near Hatch 4/22 (BO).

BLACK-NECKED STILT -- 2 to 17 at Bosque NWR 3/6 to 5/18 (RT, PB+); 19 near Carlsbad 5/5 (SW).

AMERICAN AVOCET -- 16 to 31 at Bosque NWR 3/6-5/8 (RT, PB+); 40 at Bosque NWR 5/8 (SW). 2 near Clovis 5/3 (MH).

GREATER YELLOWLEGS -- 21 at Bosque NWR 5/13 (MH); 70 near Otis 5/5 (SW).

LESSER YELLOWLEGS -- 2 at Bosque NWR 5/13 (MH); 20 near Otis 5/5 (SW).

SOLITARY SANDPIPER -- 1 at Bosque NWR 3/31 (JTy).

WILLET -- 1 near Gallup 5/2 (Stephen Ingraham); 1 at Bosque NWR 4/9 (PSn); 22 at Bitter L. 4/23 (LG).

WHIMBREL -- Singles at Bluewater L. 5/25 (AS, JT), Bosque NWR 4/29 (PJ) and Bitter L. 5/4 (PJ, JS).

LONG-BILLED CURLEW -- 5 or 6 near Las Vegas NWR 4/23 (PSn); 20 at Bosque NWR 3/6 (PB, RT).

MARBLED GOOWIT -- 1 at Bitter L. NWR 4/22, 23 (LG, TH); 35+ at Bitter L. 5/4 (PJ, JS).

SANDERLING -- 1 at Holloman L. 5/10 (MH).

SEMPALMATED SANDPIPER -- 2 on 4/15 and 4/30 at Las Vegas NWR (CR). From 5/4=13, 1 to 3 at Bosque NWR (MH), Bitter L. (PJ) and Holloman L. (MH).

WESTERN SANDPIPER -- 45 at Bitter L. 3/8 (MH).
LEAST SANDPIPER -- 12 at Bosque NWR 4/9 (PSn); 8 at Bitter L. 3/8 (MH).
WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER -- 1 at Chicosa L. 5/14 (PSt+); 1 at Bitter L. 5/8 (MH).
BAIRD'S SANDPIPER -- 8 at Bosque NWR 3/18(RT, PB). MH saw 52 at Bitter L., 5/8, 21 at Holloman L. 5/10, and 6 to 18 at Bosque NWR 5/13-14.
DUNLIN -- 8 to 9 at Bosque NWR 3/30-4/25 (JB1) and at Laguna Grande 4/13 (SW).
STILT SANDPIPER -- 7 at Chicosa L. 5/14 (PSt).
SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER -- 2 singing at Bitter L. 5/8 (MH).
WILSON'S PHALAROPE -- First sighted were 9 at Bosque NWR 3/21 (PM). Moderate numbers moved throughout the state (v.o.).
RED-NECKED PHALAROPE -- 2 at Holloman L. 5/10 (MH).
FRANKLIN'S GULL -- Present in Rio Grande Valley 4/5-5/4. High count 82 near Bosque NWR 5/1 and 5/4 (PJ, JS). Other reports included 1 at Farmington 5/13 (AN); 5 at Tierra Amarilla 5/12 (CR+), 65 at Las Vegas NWR 4/25 (CR+), 14 at Blackrock L. 4/23 (DC), 7 at Holloman L. 5/1 (Jeff Bickle), and 10+ at Bitter L. 5/4 (PJ, JS).
BONAPARTE'S GULL -- 1 at Las Vegas NWR 4/2 (CR), 2 at Cochiti L. 4/8 (CR+), 1 at Bosque NWR 3/17 (PM) and 30 there 4/8 (SW), 10 at Caballo L. 4/9 (SW), and 35 at L. McMillan 3/24 (PJ, JS).
CALIFORNIA GULL -- 1 at Zuni 5/29 (JT), 1 near Bernalillo 5/18 and 20 (MH), 1 at Bosque NWR 4/9-10 (CR+), 1 at Caballo Dam 3/10 (JB1+), and 1 adult at Percha Dam 3/10 (PJ, JS).
HERRING GULL -- 1 at Cochiti L. 4/8 (CR+).
CASPIAN TERN -- unusual: 2 at Bluewater L. 5/25 (AS, JT).
COMMON TERN -- 1 at Holloman L. 5/10 (MH).
FORSTER'S TERN -- 5 at Bosque NWR 4/9 (SW) were somewhat early.
LEAST TERN -- unusual: 1 adult at Bosque NWR 5/15 (Bob Edens+) was one of few Rio Grande Valley records....2 at Bitter L. 5/6 (PJ, JS).
BLACK TERN -- 6 at Bosque NWR 5/14 (MH) and 2 there 5/16 (PM); 60 at Bitter L. 5/6 (SW). None seen at L. McMillan, totally dry this spring because of flooding of the new Brantley L.
BAND-TAILED PIGEON -- 2 at McMillan Canyon, Gila area, 5/10 (RF) were first arrivals; 1 at Apache Creek, western Grant County, 5/17 (SWi).
RINGED TURTLE-DOVE -- unusual: 1 stayed in Las Cruces 12/30-5/9 (LHS).
WHITE-WINGED DOVE -- unusual: 1 in w. Albuquerque (Paradise Hills) 4/25 (Roy Tomlinson); 1 in Monticello at the Thrae Gun Spring trailhead (Sandia Mts.) 5/30 (HS) -- where very rare -- and 2 at Cherry Creek, Pinos Altos Mts.; 5/24 (MH)....Up to 15 at Socorro 5/3 (PJ), 2 or 3 at Bitter Creek, Grant County, 5/4-5 (SWi), at Alamogordo March through May (William Wells, Naomi Dobbins, RJ, GSmi), w. of Tularosa March-May (JSNht), 1 early at Mangas Springs 3/6 (RF), several at Redrock 3/28 were late first arrivals (AF), common in Carlsbad all spring (SW).
MOURNING DOVE -- breeding: Fledgling at Carlsbad 3/21 was very early (Gerald Duran, SW).
INCA DOVE -- unusual: 1 at Santa Fe 3/11-4/2 (LH) was far north of range.... 2 at Socorro 4/29 (PJ), 3 near La Luz 5/6 (OCBC count), but only singles reported at Alamogordo 3/12 and 4/15 (William Wells).
COMMON GROUND DOVE -- unusual: 1 at Rattlesnake Springs 4/20 (80).

GREEN PARAKEET (Aratinga holochlora)? -- unusual: An all-green parakeet, well described, with long tail and over-all length of about 12 to 14 inches, seen in Carlsbad 5/20 (SW) was probably genus Aratinga and most likely an escape. But the species A. holochlora ranges in the wild to southwest Chihuahua in Mexico, only 300 miles from Carlsbad.

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO -- unusual: 1 near Virden 5/4-5 (SWi) was early.

ELF OWL -- unusual: 1 in Water Canyon 4/29, with details (CB); at northern limit of species' range....Also 1 to 4 on 5/11 (PJ) at Glenwood, where they are more regular; 1 or 2 heard calling in Guadalupe Canyon early 3/19-20 and 5/8 (SWi).

BURROWING OWL -- breeding: Numbers still on rise in Carlsbad, with species seen nearly daily. At least 1 nest in Carlsbad, plus more in surrounding countryside. (SW).

SPOTTED OWL -- 1 on 3/18 and 2 (possibly a pair) near Zuni 4/16, 22, 29 (OC); 1 photographed in McMillan Canyon 3/31 (RF) and seen there following week--and (HGRW).

SHORT-EARED OWL -- 1, with details, at Las Vegas NWR 4/15 (CR).

BOREAL OWL -- unusual: 1 in the Pecos Wilderness at 10,800 feet was a new southerly occurrence of the species (DS+).

LESSER NIGHTHAWK -- 1 at Zuni 5/26 (JT), north of usual range.

COMMON NIGHTHAWK -- 1 at Bell L. 5/6 and 2 along a Lea County road 5/6 (PJ, JS) were first reports of season.

COMMON POORWILL -- 1 or 2 at Bell L. 5/6 (PJ, JS) were early.

WHIP-POOR-WILL -- unusual: 1 in Water Canyon 4/29, with details (CB), and 8 to 10 there and in Big Rosa Canyon (Magdalena Mts.) 5/19-20 (PJ+) were north of usual range....1 at P. O. Canyon 4/1-10 (RS). 1 in Guadalupe Mts. was first reported in Eddy County since 1984 (SW).

CHIMNEY SWIFT -- unusual: West of normal range was 1 at Albuquerque 4/20 (LG)....2 or 3 at Clovis 4/23-5/3 (MH). Returned 5/8 to Clayton, which seems to be the only reliable N.M. location for the species.

WHITE-THROATED SWIFT -- unusual: Early arrivals at Zuni 3/18 (OC), Sandia Mts. 3/9 (HS), 20 at Bandelier NM 3/13 (PSt) and at various sites in north-west Grant County 2/28 and later (SWi).

BROAD-BILLED HUMMINGBIRD -- Single males at Hobbs (details) 6/2 (Jeanne Hayes) and in Guadalupe Canyon 3/20 (SWi), early.

MAGNIFICENT HUMMINGBIRD -- unusual: 2 at Silver City feeders in early May (fide RF).

LUCIFER HUMMINGBIRD -- First male at P. O. Canyon 3/24, female 4/3; up to 10 present throughout the season (RS).

BLACK-CHINNED HUMMINGBIRD -- First arrivals at feeders: 4/13 at Farmington (late) (AN); 4/14 (late) at Albuquerque (RT); 3/27 at Pleasanton (EMc); 4/4 in Socorro (PJ, JH); 3/28 in Alamogordo (OCBC); 4/1 in Silver City (RF).

CALLIOPE HUMMINGBIRD -- unusual: 1 at Silver City feeder 3/28-31+ (RF photo).

BROAD-TAILED HUMMINGBIRD -- unusual: 1 at Bell L. 5/6 was east of normal range (PJ, JS)....Single early arrivals at feeders: Zuni 4/12 (DC); Bandelier NM 4/4 (CJe); Los Alamos 4/13 (PSn), Randall Davey 4/17 (CR); Cedar Crest 4/5 (PSt); Sevilleta NWR 4/13 (RT, PB); Alamogordo 3/26 (OCBC); Truth or Consequences 4/26 (DM); Silver City 5/13 (RF), plus 2 at Carlsbad Caverns 4/20 (PC).

RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD -- unusual: Male at Pleasanton feeder before 3/29; 1 at P.O. Canyon 4/7-10 (RS).

LEWIS' WOODPECKER -- 2+ at Clayton 3/23 (WC); eastern limit of range.

ACORN WOODPECKER -- 2 at Apache Creek (western Grant County, not Catron County) 5/16-17 and a pair at Bitter Creek (western Grant County) 5/19 (SWi) probably nesting in a sycamore, were in remote areas near Arizona-New Mexico border rarely visited by observers.

GILA WOODPECKER -- breeding: Adult feeding young at a cavity at same Bitter Creek 5/5, a remote area....10 on Gila spring count was double usual number.

YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER -- An immature at Silver City 3/2 (DSMZ) was well west of normal range.

GREATER PEWEE -- 1 in Guadalupe Canyon 5/7-8 (SWi) was maybe the first record there; 1 at McMillen campground (Grant County) 5/10 (RF).

EASTERN WOOD-PEWEE -- 1 singing at Boone's Draw 5/6-7 (MH).

WILLOW FLYCATCHER -- 1 to 2 singing at Zuni 5/14 and later (OC).

LEAST FLYCATCHER -- 2 at Boone's Draw and 1 at Clovis 5/6 (MH).

HAMMOND'S FLYCATCHER -- 3 singing in Zuni Mts. 5/28 (JT).

GRAY FLYCATCHER -- 1 singing in Magdalena Mts. 5/4 (JB1+).

EASTERN PHOEBE -- 1 near Redrock 3/24 (RF) was westerly; 1 near Villanueva 5/12 (Pst); 1 near Whites City 4/30 (BO).

VERMILION FLYCATCHER -- 2 at Bosque NWR 4/9 (PI+).

ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER -- 1 near Carlsbad 3/30 (W. Dunmire, SW) was early.

GREAT KISKADEE -- unusual: 1 at Clayton 5/13-14 (WC) was perhaps the third state record.

CASSIN'S KINGBIRD -- Early were singles in the Peloncillo Mts. 3/18-19 (SWi) and near Redrock 3/31 (Pst).

EASTERN KINGBIRD -- 1 at Horse Springs (Catron) 5/6 (BO) was west of usual range.

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER -- Singles near Nara Visa 5/10 (BO+), Elida (Roosevelt) 5/14 (SW), and on Roswell count were northerly.

VIOLET-GREEN SWALLOW -- Estimated 27,000 in five hours below Navajo Dam 4/26 (JB1, WB1) was one of the highest counts ever in New Mexico.

BANK SWALLOW -- breeding: 20 at new site near Alcalde 5/21 (BL+). Old site at San Juan Pueblo was destroyed by construction activities.

CAVE SWALLOW -- High count at Carlsbad Caverns NP was 3,000 as of 5/8 (SW).

BARN SWALLOW -- breeding: 22 nests n. of Rodeo 5/17 (RF) in an area where species is a very local breeder.

BLUE JAY -- Singles occasionally seen in Clayton in May were apparently migrants, but the species was common in Carlsbad residential areas (SW).

STELLER'S JAY -- breeding: A pair nested in a pyracantha bush in Los Alamos, with young present 5/24 (Merle Bunker).

PINYON JAY -- A flock of about 20 near Glenwood 3/2 (JH+) and 10 near Cliff on the Gila Valley count were at the southern limit of their range.

GRAY-BREASTED JAY -- Fairly common 3/14 in small groups on Apache Creek (western Grant County, not Catron) in a remote area (SWi).

CLARK'S NUTCRACKER -- 5 between El Vado and Abiquiu Reservoirs 5/12-14 (CR+) along the Chama R.; 4 in Zuni Mts. 4/8 (OC).

AMERICAN CROW -- breeding: Pair nested at Mangas Springs and were feeding young in May (RF) for the first time in about 50 years....200 at Bosque NWR 3/11 (PB, RT).

BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE -- 24 on Farmington count was high.

BRIDLED TITMOUSE -- 2 at Water Canyon 5/3 and 5/17, and 5 in the San Mateos 4/14 (PJ, JS).

RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH -- 1 or 2 along Chama R. at Aragon 5/13-14 (CR+); 1 on Española count; 2 in Six-Mile Canyon, near Socorro, 4/8 (PJ, Gene Beck).

CANYON WREN -- breeding: Nest with 3 fledglings at Apache Creek (western Grant County) 5/18 (SW1).

BEWICK'S WREN -- breeding: Adults feeding young in cavity on Bitter Creek (Grant County) 5/5 and in Guadalupe Canyon 5/7-8 (SW1).

MARSH WREN -- Late were 2 pairs with both males singing at Mangas Springs 5/18 (RF) and 1 at Zuni 5/29 (DC).

AMERICAN DIPPER -- breeding: 19 adults and 2 nests counted along the Chama R. between El Verde and Abiquiu Reservoirs 5/12-14 (CR).

GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET -- 1 on Española count.

BLUE GRAY GNATCATCHER -- 1 carrying nest material near Aragon, along Chama R., 5/13 (CR+)...6 on Farmington count, 1 at Water Canyon 5/3 (PJ).

EASTERN BLUEBIRD -- 2 at Watrous 5/12 (PSn, LH, Joyce Takamine) and 1 near Cliff 5/6 (RF, CR+) were westerly.

WESTERN BLUEBIRD -- 4 at Bell L. 3/25 (PJ, JS) were easterly.

SWAINSON'S THRUSH -- A male at Blackrock, Zuni, 5/29 (DC, JT).

HERMIT THRUSH -- 22 at Boone's Draw 5/6 (MH), a high migrant count.

VARIED THRUSH -- unusual: 1* that appeared in Carlsbad in January (Field Notes, Vol. 28, No.1, p. 9) lingered until 3/12 (Shirley Swayze+, photo SW). Fourth confirmed state record.

SAGE THRASHER -- 3 at Cochiti 4/8 (CR+); 5 at Bosquecito and 4 near Socorro 4/8 (PJ); 50 at Bosque NWR 4/6 (BO); 4+ at Caprock 3/23 and 4 or 5 at Bell L. 3/25 (PJ, JS).

BROWN THRASHER -- 1 remained at Socorro through 3/10 (PB). Singles at Percha Dam 3/30 (PJ), Glenwood (no date -- BMC), Las Cruces 3/11 (Gordon Ewing, fide EW) and Rattlesnake Springs 3/25 (PJ, JS).

CURVE-BILLED THRASHER -- 1 with nest material in Juan Tabo Canyon 4/8 (BO); 1 at La Joya SGR 5/3 (PJ); 2 at Bell L. 3/25 (PJ, JS).

CRISSAL THRASHER -- 2 pairs in Juan Tabo Canyon 4/8 (BO); 2 at Bell L. 3/25 (PJ, JS).

AMERICAN PIPIT -- 50 at Las Vegas NWR 4/30 (CR, PI+); 40 at Grasslands Turf Farm near Los Lunas 4/20 (BO); 169 at Bosque NWR 4/6 (RT, PB); 40 at Avalon L. 3/25 (PJ, JS).

CEDAR WAXWING -- 39 at Española 5/21 (CR+); 10 on Gila count.

PHAINOPEPLA -- 1 at Socorro 4/26 and 3 at Glenwood 5/12 (PJ); 1 at Walnut Canyon, Carlsbad Caverns NP, 5/15 (fide PC).

EUROPEAN STARLING -- "One in my yard is very good at imitating a Pinyon Jay" (PSn)...Starlings are noted for their wide variety of chirps, squeaks, whistles and songs, and are accomplished mimics, adept at imitating not only other birds, but some mammals and mechanical sounds."
-- Ross Teuber.

BELL'S VIREO -- 2 ON Gila count; present at Rattlesnake Springs 4/23-24 (SF+).

GRAY VIREO -- 4 at Zuni 5/14, 31 (DC, JT); several in Glenwood area 4/21+ (DMc) and 5/7 (BO); 1 in Slaughter Canyon 4/29 (BO).

SOLITARY VIREO -- Earliest report was 1 at Rattlesnake Springs 4/23 (fide PC); 1 of eastern type (solitarius) at Boone's Draw 5/6 (MH).

YELLOW-THROATED VIREO -- unusual: 1 photographed at Clovis 4/28 (MH).

WARBLING VIREO -- 20 on Gila count; arrived 4/28 at Glenwood (BMc).

PHILADELPHIA VIREO -- unusual: 1 at Boone's Draw 5/6 (MH); 1 reported singing at Rattlesnake Springs 5/6 (ML).

RED-EYED VIREO -- 1 at Rattlesnake Springs 5/6 (ML).

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER -- unusual: 1 at Boone's Draw 5/6 (MH); 1 male at Rattlesnake Springs 4/19 was fairly well described (ML).

TENNESSEE WARBLER -- Singles at Rattlesnake Springs 4/20 (MF) and 5/13 (LG).

ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER -- At Pleasanton for a week starting 4/23 (BMc).

NASHVILLE WARBLER -- 1 at Boone's Draw 5/5 (PJ, JS); 1 on Gila count.

VIRGINIA'S WARBLER -- Earliest seen were 1 at Bosquecito 4/21 (PJ) and 3 at Water Canyon 4/24 (GHO).

LUCY'S WARBLER -- 2 at Bosquecito and 2 at San Antonio 4/21 (PJ) were near the northern edge of Lucy's range. 60 on the Gila count; singing at Pleasanton 3/30 (BMc).

YELLOW WARBLER -- Arrived at Pleasanton 4/21 (BMc); 89 on Gila count; 1 at Rattlesnake Springs 4/23 (fide PC).

CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER -- 1 male at Albuquerque 5/24 (CB); 1 at Bell L. 5/6 (PJ, JS); 1 at Rattlesnake Springs 5/16 (Dave Krueper+).

BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER -- 2 at Clovis 5/1-6 (MH).

BLACK-THROATED GRAY WARBLER -- At Dog Canyon 4/23=24 (SF+); 1 near Pleasanton 4/19 (BMc).

TOWNSEND'S WARBLER -- More than usual for spring: 1 in Sandias 5/20 (HS); 1 at Percha Dam 4/30 (CJe); 3 on Gila count; 1 at Pleasanton 4/23 (BMc); 1 or 2 at Boone's Draw 5/5 (PJ, JS); 1 at Bell L. 5/6 (PJ, JS); 1 male at Rattlesnake springs 5/5 (ML).

HERMIT WARBLER -- unusual: 1 in San Mateo Mts. 4/29 (PJ) -- rare in N.M. in spring.

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER -- unusual: 1 at Rattlesnake Springs 4/23-24 (SF+).

BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER -- 1 at Boone's Draw 5/6 (MH).

GRACE'S WARBLER -- 2 or 3 in the San Mateos 4/14 (JS, PJ); 6+ at Water Canyon 4/24 (GHO); present at Dog Canyon 4/23-24 (SF+).

BAY-BREASTED WARBLER -- unusual: 1 at Boone's Draw 5/6 (MH).

BLACKPOLL WARBLER -- 1 male at Percha Dam 4/30 (CJe).

CERULEAN WARBLER -- unusual: 1 female well described at Rattlesnake Springs 4/19 (SW) for the second documented state record.

BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER -- 1 in McMillen Canyon 5/6 (RF, OZ+); 1 at Pinos Altos 5/10 (RF+); 1 male at Bell L. 5/5 (PJ, JS); 1 female at Rattlesnake Springs 4/29 (BO).

AMERICAN REDSTART -- Singles at Alamogordo 5/10 (KJ); Rattlesnake Springs 4/23-24 (SW+) and male there 5/6 (ML).

WORM-EATING WARBLER -- unusual: 1 at Tijeras 5/5 (fide Gordon Vickrey).

OVENBIRD -- 1 at Roswell 5/8 (MH).

NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH -- 1 at Farmington 5/13 (AN); 4 on Gila count; 1 at Rattlesnake Springs 5/6 (ML).

WATERTHRUSH sp. -- 1 at Roswell 4/7 was identified as a Northern (SB). Description did not eliminate Louisiana Waterthrush, which may be more likely at this early date.

KENTUCKY WARBLER -- unusual: 1 fairly well described at Los Alamos 4/26 (CJe).

MacGILLIVRAY'S WARBLER -- 11 on Gila count.

WILSON'S WARBLER -- 2 on Roswell count; 31 on Gila count; 1 at Rattlesnake Springs 4/17 (fide PC).

RED-FACED WARBLER -- 1 in Big Rosa Canyon, San Mateos, 5/20 (PJ, Toni Johnson); 3 in Water Canyon 4/24 (GHo); 3 or 4 at Emory Pass and 10+ at McMillan campground, Gila National Forest, 5/11 (PJ); 1 at Virden 5/5 (SWi).

PAINTED REDSTART -- 2 reported at Frijoles Canyon, Bandelier NM, 4/21 (fide CJe), but without details or confirmation; 4 on Gila count; young were already fledged south of Mule Creek 5/18 (SWi).

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAI -- Earlier reports were 1 at Pleasanton 4/27 (BMc); 1 at Bitter L. 5/6 (fide SB), and 4 at Percha Dam 5/7 (CR+); 54 on Gila count.

INDIGO BUNTING -- 2 on Farmington count, a pair at Zuni 5/29 (DC), 1 in Magdalena Mts. 4/24 (GHo), 1 near Carrizozo 5/29 (SWi), and 1 near Virden 5/19 (SWi).

VARIED BUNTING -- 1 at Rattlesnake Springs 4/17 (fide PC).

GREEN-TAILED TOWHEE -- 1 sw. of Clayton 4/25 (WC).

CANYON TOWHEE -- 1 in Los Alamos at a feeder at 7,400 feet for three weeks in May was at a high elevation (MB).

CASSIN'S SPARROW -- Up to 3 at Zuni 5/16-17 (DC). Early singing birds: 3 s. of Silver City 3/5 (DGMZ), 1 at Rattlesnake Springs 3/9 (PSt), and 1 near Rodeo 3/11 (RF).

CHIPPING SPARROW -- 2 in Santa Fe 3/25-26 (JH) were early.

BREWER'S SPARROW -- 1 singing near Bosque NWR 4/6 (LG).

FIELD SPARROW -- unusual: 1 ne. of Clayton 5/1 (WC).

BLACK-CHINNED SPARROW -- Singing birds s. of Mule Creek 3/1 (SWi), in the Sandie Mts. 3/24 (HS) and near Carrizozo 3/30 (SW). Also, a bird was gathering nest material in the Magdalena Mts. 4/8 (PC, Gene Beck).

VESPER SPARROW -- First arrival at Zuni 3/25 (DC).

LARK SPARROW -- 2 at Bosque NWR 3/11 (PB, RT) were very early.

BLACK-THROATED SPARROW -- breeding: Pair building nest in Embudito Canyon 4/14 (FSRS).

LARK BUNTING -- Generally numerous in east and south mid-April through mid-May (V.O.). Elsewhere, 2 on Farmington count, 1 near Gallup 4/20 (SI+), and 5 at High Rolla 5/6 (William Wells).

SAVANNAH SPARROW -- Earliest arrival at Zuni 3/5 (DC).

GRASSHOPPER SPARROW -- 3 singing at Las Vegas NWR 5/20 (CR).

LE CONTE'S SPARROW -- unusual: 1 singing at Waldron rest stop in a plains area near Caprock. (JBI).

SWAMP SPARROW -- About 10 reports from usual areas along Pecos R. and Rio Grande. Others: 1 at Las Vegas NWR 4/30 and 5/5 (PI, CR); 1 near Gallup 4/29 (SI); 1 at Zuni 5/31 (DC); 2 in Cliff-Mangas Springs area 3/7-5/18 (RF+).

GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROW -- Singles at Santa Fe 4/28 (CR) and Bosque NWR 3/30 and 4/6 (JBI).

HARRIS' SPARROW -- 1 near Socorro 4/22 (RF).

CHESTNUT-COLLARED LONGSPUR -- 6+ at Zuni 3/5 (DC).

BOBOLINK -- 1 near Gallup 5/12 (SI).

GREAT-TAILED GRACKLE -- Peripherals: 1 in the western Sandias foothills 4/26 (HS) and at Queen in the Guadalupe Mts. (SW). Also up to 6 at Zuni (DC), 30 near San Rafael 5/12 (DC), and small numbers in the Gile Valley vicinity as early as 3/21 (RF+).

COMMON GRACKLE -- unusual: 1 at Glenwood 3/1 (JH)...5 on Farmington count, 1 or 2 at Zuni 3/1-5/3 (DC). The species continued to increase at Carlsbad, with one carrying food there 5/22 (SW).

BRONZED COWBIRD -- 2 females in the Roswell area 5/7-8 (MH), a local first indicating a continued northerly and easterly spread in the state. Also notable: 1 at Alamogordo 5/10-19 in same place where present in 1988 (William Wells); 1 at Socorro 3/10 (CR+), and 1 at Mangas Springs 5/14-15 (RF).

ORCHARD ORIOLE -- unusual: 2 near Clayton 5/8 (WC).

HOODED ORIOLE -- 1 at Las Cruces 3/19-4/5 (LHS+); a pair at Redrock 3/24 (AF); 1 at Rattlesnake Springs 5/5-6 (ML).

NORTHERN (BULLDOCK'S) ORIOLE -- breeding: Nest building before 3/28 at Glenwood was very early....A pair at Redrock 3/25 (AF).

NORTHERN (BALTIMORE) ORIOLE -- Male at Rattlesnake Springs 5/16 (David Krueger).

CASSIN'S FINCH - Generally sparse and limited to montane areas, though common in March and April in Waterfall Canyon in the Sandias (HS). Other notable records: several at Chama 5/19-31 (LHS), up to 8 in the Zuni Mts. s. of Gallup 5/20 and 27 (DC, JT), and 6 at Alamogordo 3/2 (William Wells).

RED CROSSBILL -- breeding: 2 family groups in Zuni Mts. 5/20 (DC, JT)... Only other reports: 2 pairs in the Jemez Mts. near La Cueva 4/20 (MS, F. Crisler), and 8 at Zuni 4/30 (DC).

LESSER GOLDFINCH -- Common at Zuni (DC), but almost unreported elsewhere.

AMERICAN GOLDFINCH -- Somewhat more widespread and more numerous than usual (V.O.).

EVENING GROSBEAK -- Common in Waterfall Canyon, Sandias, in March and April (HS), and 2 on west side of this range 5/23 (PSt). Elsewhere, mainly scattered reports from in and near the northern mountains (v.o.). Also, up to 12 in the Zuni Mts. 4/8 and 30 (DC), 1 at Albuquerque 3/30 (JH), and several in the Sacramento Mts. 5/13 (SB+).