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WINTER 1992-1993 HIGHLIGHTS

Moist and mild conditions were the rule this winter. Most areas received above average or record precipitation, with rains responsible for flooding in some areas. Birding was relatively quiet, with essentially no lowland invasion of montane species, but enough surprises were sprinkled about to keep things interesting.

Single Yellow-billed and Red-throated loons appeared on Navajo Lake in February. Lingering into December was a Brown Pelican, remnant of last fall's flight. Trumpeter Swans were recorded in Harding and Eddy Counties. The increased number of Black-shouldered Kite reports of autumn continued into winter. Scaled, Gambel's, and Bobwhite quail were in good numbers throughout, reflecting recent favorable conditions. A Mew Gull appeared for the second year at Conchas Lake.

A Barred Owl was plastered on the grill of a truck somewhere near Albuquerque. A Red-bellied Woodpecker was seen near Carlsbad and there were quite a few Yellow-bellied Sapsucker and Blue Jay sightings. Robins were scarce in most areas. There was a good showing of Lapland Longspurs in the northeast.

Christmas Counts (CBC) run this year were:

Albuquerque	12/20	HS	102 species
Bluewater Lake	1/2	SI	36 species
Bosque del Apache NWR	12/19	SC	107 species
Caballo	1/3	BZ	125 species
Carlsbad Caverns NP	12/19	SW	81 species
Clayton	12/23	MMY	41 species
Española	12/20	BF	67 species
Farmington	12/26	AN	77 species
Gila River	1/2	RF	103 species
Lakes Avalon-Brantley	12/31	MM	89 species
Las Cruces	12/20	BZ	116 species
Las Vegas	1/3	GB	81 species
Loving	12/21	SW	98 species
Peloncillo Mts.	12/26	RS	90 species
Roswell	12/19	SMB	100 species
Sandia Mts.	1/3	TB	45 species
Santa Fe	12/27	PI	61 species
Silver City	12/17	RF	84 species
Zuni	12/19	SI	60 species

Abbreviations Used:

Co.	County	NMSU	N.M. State University
EBL	Elephant Butte Lake	NWR	Natl. Wildlife Refuge
L.	Lake	RBA	Rare Bird Alert
Mt., Mts.	Mountain (s)	SP	State Park
NM	Natl. Monument	v.o.	various observers
NP	Natl. Parl	WMA	Wildlife Manage. Area
+	et al.	*	details provided
**	photo or tape	***	specimen collected

CONTRIBUTORS' INITIALS USED:

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Dickerman, Robt.	RWD	Nelson, Alan	AN	West, Steve	SW
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Fisher, Ralph	RF	Parmeter, John	JP	Zimmer, Barry	BZ
Foy, Bernard	BF	Peckinpough, Mary	MP	Zimmerman, Dale	DAZ
Gorbet, Larry	LG	Rustay, Chris	CR	Zimmerman, Marion	MAZ

PLACE NAMES AND THEIR COUNTIES:

Albuquerque	Bernalillo	Laguna Grande	Eddy
Animas Creek	Sierra	Las Cruces	Doña Ana
Animas Valley	Hidalgo	Las Vegas	San Miguel
Artesia	Eddy	Lordsburg	Hidalgo
Avalon L.	Eddy	Loving	Eddy
Bear Canyon L.	Grant	Mangas Springs	Grant
Bernardo WMA	Socorro	Maxwell NWR	Colfax
Bill Evans L.	Grant	Mesilla, Dam	Doña Ana
Bitter L. NWR	Chaves	Mesilla Park	Doña Ana
Bluewater L.	Cibola	Navajo L.	San Juan
Bosque (del Apache)	NWR	Peloncillo Mts.	Hidalgo
	Socorro	Percha SP	Sierra
Caballo L, CBC	Sierra	Pleasanton	Catron
Carlsbad	Eddy	Rattlesnake Springs	Eddy
Carlsbad Caverns	NP Eddy	Redrock	Grant
Clayton	Union	Roberts L.	Grant
Cliff	Grant	Roswell	Chaves
Columbus	Luna	Sandia Mts.	Bernalillo
Conchas L.	San Miguel	Santa Fe	Santa Fe
Datil, Mts.	Catron	Santa Teresa	Doña Ana
Deming	Luna	Silver City	Grant
Elephant Butte L.	Sierra	Socorro	Socorro
Española	Rio Arriba	Storrie L.	San Miguel
Farmington	San Juan	Tesuque	Santa Fe
Fort Sumner	DeBaca	Tucumcari, L.	Quay
Gila R. Valley	Grant	Velarde	Rio Arriba
Guadalupe Canyon	Hidalgo	Viriden	Hidalgo
Holloman L.	Otero	Zuni	McKinley
La Joya WMA	Socorro		

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

RED-THROATED LOON -- Unusual: a small, winter-plumaged loon at Navajo L. 2/4 (Bill Grossi*), 2/5 (DS), 2/13 (JP*), 2/18 and 2/21 (LG*, SC, Nancy Cox), and 2/23 (CR*, PRS*) was most likely this species, although on 2/4 and 2/5 it was called a Pacific Loon.

PACIFIC LOON -- A possible 1 seen at a distance on Conchas L. 12/8 (CR*); 1 probable at EBL 12/2 (CB*).

COMMON LOON -- 1 at Las Vegas NWR 12/3 (CR); 2 at Conchas L. 1/7 and 2/27 (CR); 6 or 7 at EBL 2/27 (JP, LG); 3 at Avalon L. 12/3 (SW) and 3 on the Loving CBC (CR, SW).

YELLOW-BILLED LOON -- Unusual: 1 at Navajo L. on 2/4 (B. Grossi*) was later seen on 2/5 (DS*, AN), 2/13 (JP*, Tim Reeves), 2/14 (CR+*), 2/18,21 (LG+*), and 2/23 (CR*, PRS*). Described well, it was the state's second record in 2 years.

PIED-BILLED GREBE -- An exceptionally high count of 86 was reported on the Roswell CBC.

HORNED GREBE -- There were nine reports from 4 lakes 12/1 to 2/27, but it was scarce from late December to early February with none on the CBC's. Singles at Storrie L. on 12/1 (E. Espinoza, PRS); at Las Vegas NWR 12/3 (CR) and 2/4 (JP, BP); 5 on 12/8 at Conchas L., but only 1 there 1/7 (CR) and 1/13 (MP) and 3 on 2/27 (CR); 2 at EBL 1/16 (JP) and 11 on 2/26 (CR, PRS).

EARED GREBE -- 164 were counted on the Caballo CBC.

WESTERN GREBE -- Early in the north were 3 at Navajo L. 2/14 and 2/23 and 8 at Conchas L. 2/27 (CR+). 1 was on the Las Cruces CBC (BZ**) at Burn L.

CLARK'S GREBE -- Late for the north was 1 at the Las Vegas NWR 12/3 (CR). Notable singles were at Bill Evans L. 12/2-7 (RF) and Burn L. in Las Cruces 2/17 (CS).

Aechmophorus grebes -- A minimum of 600 were seen during an aerial survey of EBL 1/15 (SOW); an estimated 6000 of both species there on 2/26, some in courtship display (CR, PRS).

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN -- Wintered at Caballo L. with at least 16 12/31 (CS) and 35 on 1/16 (JP); 31 on the Caballo CBC. Late winter reports were 7 at La Joya WMA 2/13 (LH) and 20 to 26 at EBL 2/26-27 (CR, PRS, JP).

BROWN PELICAN -- Unusual: A holdover from the several fall reports was an immature at Bosque NWR 12/22 (H. Messing**).

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT -- Late in the north was 1 at the Las Vegas NWR 12/3 (CR).

NEOTROPIC CORMORANT -- 4 on the Bosque NWR CBC and 2 to 8 there 2/4-26 (v.o). Only 3 among 48 Double-crested on the Caballo CBC; 17 on EBL on 2/26 (CR, PRS).

AMERICAN BITTERN -- 1 on the Bosque NWR CBC.

GREAT BLUE HERON -- 70 on the Las Cruces CBC, a high number.

GREAT EGRET -- An early 1 was north of its range 2/3 at Tucumcari L. (CR*). A late 1 was at Isleta Marsh, Bernalillo Co., 12/18 (AS+). Seemingly wintering were 2 or 3 at Bitter L. NWR. 12/12 to 1/18 (SMB+, SB, SW); 1 was at Caballo L. 12/31 and 1/3 (CS); a high of 5 on the Las Cruces CBC.

CATTLE EGRET -- Unusual for winter were 4 to 13 in the Las Cruces area 12/15 to 1/10 (CS) and 3 on 2/26 (GE).

WHITE-FACED IBIS -- Unusual in winter were 2 to 4 at Bosque NWR on various dates including 12/19, 1/14, 1/17, and 2/28 (v.o.) which were probably this species, although some observers believed there were some Glossy Ibis features.

TUNDRA SWAN -- A second-hand report from Corrales, Sandoval Co., on 12/27 (Terry Brownell, fide RBA).

TRUMPETER SWAN -- Unusual: 3 at the Bell Ranch, Harding Co., from January through 2/25 included 2 with neck collars that had been released as fledged cygnets in Wisconsin 1½ years earlier. Another at Artesia, apparently shot by a hunter "this winter", was released in a Wyoming program (R.Drewien)

GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE -- 2 on the Albuquerque CBC.

WHITE-FRONTED X CANADA GOOSE -- 2 at the Las Vegas NWR on 2/21 (CR, excellent details, sketch).

ROSS' GOOSE -- About 330 at the Las Vegas NWR 2/21 (CR) was a large number for that locale; circa 3600 at Bosque NWR 1/4 (JT). Some 5280 on the Roswell CBC; 8 on the Caballo CBC. The population has steadily increased since 1962 (FN I,2:1).

WOOD DUCK -- A high count of 182 on the Albuquerque CBC. Away from the Rio Grande Valley were 96 on the Farmington CBC; 2 near Roswell 2/27 (SMB+), 1 at the Glenwood Fish Hatchery in Catron Co. 12/27 (JPH, RWD); 4 on the Silver City CBC.

MALLARD -- Mexican Duck form: 3 at Bosque NWR 12/19 (DM*); 5 on the Peloncillo CBC; 12 on the Las Cruces CBC.

CINNAMON TEAL -- Very early in the north were 2 males at the Las Vegas NWR 1/20 and 13 2/2 (CR, Phil Garcia).

GADWALL X GREEN-WINGED TEAL -- This hybrid was at Bill Evans L. on 1/2 (DAZ, MAZ, fide RF).

EURASIAN WIGEON -- The immature male reported 11/21-26 was seen 12/1 at Storrie L. (PRS, E.Espinoza, no details).

CANVASBACK -- 23 at Deming 12/28 (CS) where rarely found.

RING-NECKED DUCK -- 32 on the Peloncillo CBC was a high number); 13 were in the Animas Valley 2/26 (AMC+).

GREATER SCAUP -- Reports of 1 to 11 at 6 locales 12/8 to 2/27 (few with details) included a male at Maxwell NWR 1/31 (CR) and a female 2/4 (JP, BP); 4 males and 2 females at the Las Vegas NWR 1/5 (CR+*); 11 at Conchas L. 12/8 (CR); a male at La Joya WMA 1/30 (LG*, C.Davis); at EBL 6 on 1/16 (JP), a female 2/14 (SB*, sketch), and 2 males and a female 2/27 (JP, LG); 5 on the Gila R. CBC.

OLDSQUAW -- A female at Maxwell NWR 12/11 (CR*).

COMMON GOLDENEYE -- 47 on the Caballo CBC was a high number.

BARROW'S GOLDENEYE -- 4 to 10 on the San Juan R. below Navajo L. from 12/11 (DC*) to 2/21 (LG*). New to the Farmington CBC was 1 on 12/26. 4 males and 2 females on the Rio Grande s. of Pilar, Taos Co., 1/17, a local first (SW*).

HOODED MERGANSER -- High numbers included 12 at Storrie L. 12/3 (CR), 12 on the Bosque NWR CBC, 23 on the Roswell CBC, and 42 on the Caballo CBC. Also 1 at Abiquiu L., Rio Arriba Co., 1/22 (CR+), 1 at La Joya WMA 1/25 (RT, PB), and 2 at Bear Canyon L., Grant Co., 12/7 (J. and M. Carter, fide RF).

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER -- High counts were about 50 at EBL 2/27 (JP, LG) and 150 at Bitter L. NWR 1/18 (SW).

TURKEY VULTURE -- 1 at Silver City 2/18 was remarkably early (DAZ, MAZ, fide RF).

OSPREY -- Unusual in winter was 1 near Cliff 1/2 (fide RF).

BLACK-SHOULDERED KITE -- Fall's 'invasion' continued into winter, with multiple reports from 5 counties: 1 to 2 at Bosque NWR 12/6 to 2/16 (v.o.); 1 or 2 in the Uvas Valley w. of Hatch in Luna Co. 12/5-13 (P. Pashe, fide CS), 12/26 (W. Baltosser*), and 1/7 (R. Irvin); 1 or 2 in the Animas Valley 12/1-24 (AMC, NMC); 1 at Owen's Farm near Santa Teresa 12/2 (CB*); 1 near Rattlesnake Springs 12/20 (F. Hernandez*) "1 of 2 reported in late December" (SW).

BALD EAGLE -- 487 counted on standard aerial transects 1/12-15 (SOW, GS), second highest total on these annual surveys. Single adults were at Thoreau, McKinley Co, on 12/12 (DC) and in the Animas Valley 12/6 (AMC, NMC).

NORTHERN GOSHAWK -- 1 adult in the Mimbres Valley, Grant Co., 12/7 (J. and M. Carter, fide RF); 1 adult in a pecan grove at Mesilla 12/20 (BZ**) and 2/18 (GE*).

HARRIS' HAWK -- 1-2 in Hidalgo Co. 12/28 to 2/25 (v.o.); 3 adults in Otero Co. 1/12 (DS); 17 on the Loving CBC where "recovering, about half the numbers of the early 1980's".

'93-1 (Winter '92-'93)

RED-TAILED HAWK -- Single "Harlan's" forms at Albuquerque 12/20 (T. Brownell*) and Rattlesnake Springs 1/24 (C. Marantz*) and 2 "Kridler's" forms were near Roswell 12/12 (SW). The rufous morph returned to Mangas Springs for the eighth winter (RF).

FERRUGINOUS HAWK -- Widely reported and fairly numerous in the state with more than usual in Eddy Co. (SW).

ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK -- 1 or 2 were in the Animas Valley 12/2 to 1/1 (AMC, NMC); "larger numbers than normal" in Eddy Co., including 3 at Rattlesnake Springs 12/19 (SW+).

MERLIN -- Unusually widespread in the east and south all winter with reports of 1 to 3 from 20 locales (v.o.)

PEREGRINE FALCON -- 1 adult near Albuquerque on 1/26 (W.R. Maynard, fide HS); 1 adult Bosque NWR 1/9 (EL, CS); 2 on the Gila R. CBC.

MONTEZUMA QUAIL -- 8 to 10 were in the Bear Mts., Socorro Co. n. of Magdalena, on 12/3 (GS+).

NORTHERN BOBWHITE -- Good numbers in winter included 18 n. of San Jon, Quay Co., on 2/3 (CR); 18 near Fort Sumner 1/14 (CR), 40 on the Roswell CBC; 38 on the Carlsbad Caverns CBC.

SCALED QUAIL -- Conspicuous on the Santa Fe CBC with 33.

COMMON MOORHEN -- 14 seen on the Las Cruces CBC outnumbered American Coots.

SANDHILL CRANE -- Surprising was 4 at the Maxwell NWR on 1/31 (CR). 4 in the s. Animas Valley 12/21 (AMC, NMC); 1000 were s. of Deming 12/7 (EL).

WHOOPING CRANE -- The experimental flock wintering in N.M. was down to 9 adults and 1 hybrid immature (JT).

SNOWY PLOVER -- 9 were in the Laguna Grande area 2/27 (SW+).

AMERICAN AVOCET -- 2 at the playas w. of Lordsburg 2/25 (CR, PRS) and 2 at Holloman L. 2/26 (fide CS) were early.

SPOTTED SANDPIPER -- 1 near Navajo L. 12/11-12 was late for so far north (DC); 1 on the Gila R. 12/28 (RWD, fide JPH).

LONG-BILLED CURLEW -- Late were 4 on the Loving CBC (CR).

WESTERN SANDPIPER -- 4 were on the Loving CBC.

LEAST SANDPIPER -- 6 were on the Albuquerque CBC counted on the Rio Grande from a canoe (DS). A very high count of 220 was on the Las Cruces CBC.

DUNLIN -- 1 Bernardo WMA 1/24 (LG+) was still present 2/20 (JP); 2 at Bosque NWR 2/26 (CR*, PRS) and 7 on 2/27 (JP, LG); 25 on the Caballo CBC; 1 on the Las Cruces CBC. (BZ**)

LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER -- A notably high number was 160 on the Caballo CBC; 6 on the Bosque NWR CBC, 11 on 1/7 (CS), and 114 on 2/26 (CR, PRS).

COMMON SNIPE -- A flock of 25 at Bosque NWR 2/13 (CS).

BONAPARTE'S GULL -- A high count of 30 on EBL 2/27 (JP, LG); 4 on the Caballo CBC; 1 on the Loving CBC.

MEW GULL -- Unusual: An adult at Conchas L. 2/27 (CR*) was probably this species.

CALIFORNIA GULL -- An adult and a second-winter bird at Storrie L. 1/16 (CR*); 1 second-year bird at Conchas L. 2/27 (CR). High count on the Caballo CBC was 12 winter adults and 3 first-winter birds.

HERRING GULL -- More than usual reports from the northeast and the middle Rio Grande Valley. 1 at Maxwell NWR 2/13, 5 at Storrie Lake 1/16 and 1/20, and 9 at the Las Vegas NWR 1/20 (all CR); 1 at Santa Rosa L., Guadalupe Co., 1/24 (BV); 8 at Sumner L., DeBaca Co., 1/14 (CR); 1 to 2 at Bosque NWR 12/19 to 2/6 (DM*, v.o.); with high counts of 10 at EBL 1/16 (JP) and 2/27 (JP, LG); and 21 on the Caballo CBC.

WHITE-WINGED DOVE -- Up to 5 wintered at Albuquerque (AS) and 20 at Socorro (JP); 2 were at Pancho Villa SP near Columbus 2/25 (CR, PRS); a high of 592 on the Las Cruces CBC. Courting birds were at Carlsbad 1/26 and 2/4 (SW).

MOURNING DOVE -- "Unusually common" at Zuni in winter (DC); singles wintering north of the range were at Las Vegas NWR 1/5 (CR, P. Garcia) and at Apache Creek, Catron Co., 12/26 and 12/31 (JPH).

INCA DOVE -- 1 in Clayton 11/13 remained to 2/10 (WC+). 2 were in Socorro 12/12 (JP), 1 2/6 (JP, BP) and 2/13 (SW). 1 possible at Bosque NWR 12/19 (CR, CS); up to 4 wintered in Roswell (SB); 40 to 50 at Owen's Farm near Santa Teresa 12/2 to 1/22 (CB); 15 wintered at Carlsbad (T.J. Hines, fide SW).

COMMON GROUND-DOVE -- 1 near Cliff 1/2 and 2/13 (RF).

GREATER ROADRUNNER -- Breeding: already had a nest with eggs in Las Cruces 2/22 (GE);...Widespread and relatively numerous. Noteworthy was 1 at Datil 12/31 (JPH).

BARN OWL -- 25 in a roost near Mesilla 12/20 (BZ).

WESTERN SCREECH-OWL -- 11 on the Bosque NWR CBC.

WHISKERED SCREECH-OWL -- 1 in the Peloncillo Mts. on 12/26 (DC).

GREAT HORNED OWL -- Breeding: 1 on a nest near Cotton City, Hidalgo Co., on 12/28 (CS) and 2/25 (PRS).

NORTHERN PYGMY-OWL -- 1 on the Peloncillo CBC.

BURROWING OWL -- 2 wintering at Albuquerque were north of the winter range (CB); 1 near Virden, Hidalgo Co., 12/29 (JPH, RWD).

BARRED OWL -- Unusual: 1, freshly killed on his grill, was confiscated from a trucker at Trinidad, Colo. on the night of 2/1. Colorado officers reported the trucker said he hit it "somewhere outside of Albuquerque"; the actual origin of the owl apparently can't be verified. An adult female, the specimen is at UNM's Museum of Southwest Biology.

LONG-EARED OWL -- 2 at Las Palomas, Sierra Co, 1/16 (JP).

SHORT-EARED OWL -- 1 at Morgan L., San Juan Co., 2/23 (SB, good details, sketch, H.Curtis). There have been very few reports in recent years.

COMMON POORWILL -- 1, probably a female, in the Organ Mts. near Dripping Springs e. of Las Cruces 1/23 (Ray Meyer, good details), likely a local first for winter.

WHITE-THROATED SWIFT -- Wintering birds seen at Owen's Far near Santa Teresa on 12/28 and 1/22 (CB).

MAGNIFICENT HUMMINGBIRD -- A young male molting into adult plumage was in Silver City 10/29 to 2/28 and photographed 2/13 (RF).

ANNA'S HUMMINGBIRD -- A female in Guadalupe Canyon 2/9 and 2/16 (AMC, NMC); 1 female in Las Cruces on 12/20 (Harold Harrison*, fide BZ).

Selasphorus hummingbird -- 1 immature, like a Rufous, at Las Cruces 12/20 (T. and B. Solegal**) erroneously reported as different birds, 1 a female Rufous (American Birds 47:287)

RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD -- An adult male at Silver City 12/5 was late (DAZ, MAZ, fide RF); an immature male was still present in Post Office Canyon, Hidalgo Co., 12/26 (RS*), and a juvenile or female was seen at Las Cruces until 12/5 (GE).

BELTED KINGFISHER -- Late for such a high elevation was 1 Angel Fire, Colfax Co., on 12/12 (CR+).

LEWIS' WOODPECKER -- High count on the Albuquerque CBC of with 1 on the Bluewater CBC.

GILA WOODPECKER -- 3 on the Gila R. CBC while singles were at Redrock and Virden 2/24 (CR, PRS). 2 on the Peloncillo Count and in the Animas Valley 3 on 2/25 (CR, PRS). Up to in Guadalupe Canyon in February (AMC, NMC).

RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER -- Unusual: 1, possibly a female, at Perico Creek s. of Clayton 12/9 (WC*). Previous records for the area were 12/22/55 to 3/4/56 and 10/21/90 (fide WC).

YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER -- Reported more than usual in low-lands from the Rio Grande Valley eastward: 1 male at Tesuque 12/26 and an adult female 12/27 (CR*); an immature at Conchas L. 12/8 (CR); single adult males at Albuquerque 12/17, 12/19 (AS*) and 2/21 (BV*); an immature at Socorro 2/6 (JP*, BP, J.Shipman); an immature male molting into adult plumage at Bosque NWR 12/12 to 2/27 (JP*, CR*, LG*); 1 immature at Caballo L. 1/3 (BZ*), 1 adult male at Las Cruces 12/20 (L.Schulte*); 1 adult male at Rattlesnake Springs 1/1 (CB*) and an immature female there 1/24 (C.Marantz*).

RED-NAPED SAPSUCKER -- Late for the north was a female at the Bishop's Lodge in Tesuque 12/27 (CR*).

WILLIAMSON'S SAPSUCKER -- 1 at Santa Fe 12/25 (LH) and a female 12/27 (Norrine Sanders*); 1 male in the Sandia Mts. 1/9 (DM); 1 on the Peloncillo CBC; 1 female at Rattlesnake Springs 12/19 (Lori Bush, fide SW).

LADDER-BACKED WOODPECKER -- 1 near Velarde 1/23 (JP); 52 on the Peloncillo CBC was double the previous high count.

DOWNY WOODPECKER -- Singles at Silver City 12/17 (fide RF), Bosque NWR 12/19 (CR+), and Rattlesnake Springs 12/19 (L. Bush, fide SW*) were south of the usual range.

NORTHERN FLICKER -- Yellow-shafted forms were a male plus 160 Red-shafted on the Española CBC; 1 at Las Cruces 12/20 (BZ).

NORTHERN BEARDLESS-TYRANNULET -- An early one was seen and heard in Guadalupe Canyon on 2/27 (AMC, NMC).

HAMMOND'S FLYCATCHER -- 1 at Percha SP (BZ**) and 2 at Animas Creek nearby (GE+*) on 1/3.

Empidonax flycatcher -- 1 at Dripping Springs east of Las Cruces on 1/23 (GE*).

EASTERN PHOEBE -- Singles at Animas Creek 1/3 (GE+); at Percha SP 12/3 (LH), 1/3 (BZ**), and 2/26 (CR*, PRS); and on the Las Cruces CBC.

SAY'S PHOEBE -- Singles on the San Juan R. below Navajo L. 1/23 (CR+) and at San Jon, Quay Co., 2/3 (CR) were early. 51 were counted on the Caballo CBC.

VERMILION FLYCATCHER -- Single males were at Rodeo 12/27 (RS+) and in the Animas Valley 2/25 (AMC, NMC), Hidalgo Co.

TREE SWALLOW -- A late 2 were at EBL 12/28 (DC); while 3 at Bosque NWR 2/18 (RT, PB) and 5 2/26 (CR, PRS) were early.

NORTHERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW -- Very late or possibly wintering were 1 at Percha SP 12/18 (SB, S. Gershen) and 2 at Caballo L. 1/3 (BV*); early was 1 at Mesilla's Old Refuge 2/18 (GE) and 3 at Redrock WMA 2/24 (CR, PRS).

CAVE SWALLOW -- Arrived at Carlsbad Caverns NP 2/12; later than the average date (SW).

GRAY JAY -- 1 at 9500 feet between Black L. and Ocate in Colfax Co. 12/12 (CR).

BLUE JAY -- Singles appeared n. of Ocate, Colfax Co., 1/16 (CR) and Santa Fe 12/12 and 12/27 (SB). "More than ever" wintered at Clayton (WC); 15 at Fort Sumner 1/14 (CR); 73 on the Roswell CBC; 15 on the Avalon-Brantley CBC; 2 at Rattlesnake Springs 12/19 (fide SW); others recorded at Carlsbad and Loving (SW)

PINYON JAY -- High counts were 561 on the Santa Fe CBC, 135 on the Bluewater CBC, 335 on the Sandia Mts. CBC, and 100 in the Datil Mts. 12/2 (GS). 43 on the Albuquerque CBC was notable, while at the southern fringe of the range were 30 at Roberts L. 12/25 (EL) and 8 on the Silver City CBC.

CLARK'S NUTCRACKER -- 8 on the Bluewater CBC; 1 in the Datil Mts. 12/2 (GS) where not often reported.

BLACK-BILLED MAGPIE -- 1 appeared at Albuquerque 12/20 (HS).

AMERICAN CROW -- High CBC counts included 332 on the Santa Fe, 338 on the Las Vegas, 122 on the Bluewater, 5747 on the Albuquerque, and 2090 on the Bosque NWR. Singles were at Clayton 2/10 (WC) and Conchas L. 2/27 (CR). In the south small numbers were at Aragon 12/31, Apache Creek 12/26, Glenwood and Alma 12/27, all in Catron Co. (JPH, RWD); 4 to 30 wintered at Mangas Springs (RF); 48 were on the Las Cruces CBC.

CHIHUAHUA RAVEN -- Unusual were a possible 2 near Trementina, San Miguel Co., 2/3 (CR), "identified by voice and size". 55 were roosting among crows at Albuquerque on 12/20 (W.R. Maynard, fide HS).

BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE -- High counts were 46 on the Española CBC and 47 on the Albuquerque CBC.

BRIDLED TITMOUSE -- East of the expected range were 8 on the Caballo CBC, with singles lingering at Percha SP 1/16 (JP) and 2/26 (CR, PRS).

VERDIN -- A high count on the Las Cruces CBC of 32.

BUSHTIT -- 357 on the Santa Fe CBC.

RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH -- Notable were 3 in the Datil Mts. 12/2 (GS); singles at Roswell 2/19 (SMB+), near Mule Creek, Grant Co., 12/29 (JPH), and at Mesilla Park 12/20 (BZ).

BROWN CREEPER -- 6 at Percha SP 1/23 was a high count (CS); 1 near Loving 12/21 (CR).

CACTUS WREN -- 3 at Gallegos, Harding Co., 2/3 (CR) and 1 at Conchas L. 1/1 (MP) were northeast of the state range.

HOUSE WREN -- 2 at Percha SP 1/3, 3 at Las Cruces 12/20 (BZ)

MARSH WREN -- 1 near Frisco Hot Springs, Catron Co., 12/30 (JPH); 8 were in the Animas Valley 2/25 (AMC).

AMERICAN DIPPER -- 1 at Cochiti Dam, Sandoval Co., 12/12 was further downstream than usual (JPH).

GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET -- 2 in salt cedar near Loving 12/21 (CR, SW) were in an unusual habitat.

RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET -- Reported as "numbers low" in the Santa Fe and Las Vegas areas (CR) and "not as common as usual" in the Gila Valley and Grant Co. areas (RF).

BLACK-TAILED GNATCATCHER -- 2 calling 9 miles n. of Rodeo, Hidalgo Co., 12/27 (RS); 1 at Las Cruces 12/20 (BZ).

EASTERN BLUEBIRD -- In the east were 2 males at Conchas L. 1/7 (CR), 15 at Fort Sumner 1/14 (CR), 15 at Roswell 1/18 (SW), and a very high count of 212 at Rattlesnake Springs 12/19 (SW+). In the southwest up to 5 were near Cliff 1/2 (RF+) plus a male 2/13 (RF); 2 on the Silver City CBC; 4 on the Peloncillo CBC; 10 on the Las Cruces CBC.

MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD -- Notable numbers in the northeast, including 187 at Conchas L. 1/7 (CR), about 600 at Las Vegas NWR 1/20 (CR+), and over 100 near Pastura, Guadalupe Co., 12/11 (E. and T. Wootten, CS).

HERMIT THRUSH -- Northerly were 2 at Farmington 12/26 (AN+). Notably high numbers included 5 on the Santa Fe CBC, 26 on the Albuquerque CBC, 6 at Fort Sumner 1/14 (CR), 54 on the Las Cruces CBC; and 26 on the Carlsbad Caverns CBC.

GRAY CATBIRD -- Well detailed were singles at Socorro 1/20 (JP*, BP) and Roswell 12/19 (Phelps White*). Rare anywhere in the state in winter.

NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD -- Singles were at Farmington in late December (AN), at Clayton (WC), e. of Mosquero, Harding Co., 2/3 (CR), and at Fort Sumner 1/14 (CR).

BROWN THRASHER -- Singles at Santa Fe 1/19, 2/5, and 2/7 (S.H. Jones*), Fort Sumner 1/14 (CR*), Bosque NWR 12/27 (BV), Las Cruces all winter (fide CS), and Loving 12/21 (SW); 4 on the Carlsbad Caverns CBC.

CRISSAL THRASHER -- The 113 on the Peloncillo CBC was an all-time national high (fide American Birds 47:1023).

AMERICAN PIPIT -- 452 counted on the Loving CBC.

CEDAR WAXWING -- Moderate numbers in the southwest all winter, north to Pleasanton and Caballo L. (v.o.); in the east 1 was at Fort Sumner 1/14 (CR) and up to 300 at Roswell "all winter" (SMB), where cemetaries were favored.

PHAINOPEPLA -- 3 were at EBL 2/14 (SB); 1 at Percha SP 1/16 (JP); 2 females were in Slaughter Canyon s. of Carlsbad 12/19 (Amy Rush*); high counts were 17 on the Silver City CBC, 53 on the Peloncillo CBC; and 19 on the Las Cruces CBC.

NORTHERN SHRIKE -- 1 adult on the San Juan R. below Navajo L. 2/13 (JP*) and 2/21 (LG+*); 1 at Cebolla, Rio Arriba Co., 1/22 (CR+), 1 adult e. of Taos, Taos Co., 2/7 (LH, SB); 1 adult at Guadalupita, Mora Co., 12/12 (CR*); 1 immature at Rainsville, Mora Co., 1/16 (CR*), 1 adult at the Las Vegas NWR 12/3 (CR); and an immature near Zuni 2/7 and 2/27 (DC*).

SOLITARY VIREO -- Unusual: 1, perhaps solitarius, at Percha SP 12/28 (GE) and 12/31 (CS*). 1 each of solitarius and cassini for the Las Cruces CBC (BZ**). There are few winter records, but they seem to be increasing.

HUTTON'S VIREO -- 2 on the Peloncillo CBC, where it has been reported 9 of the last 10 years. 1 was at Percha SP 12/31 (CS), 1/3 (BZ**), 1/16 (JP), and 1/23 (CS); 1 on the NMSU campus in Las Cruces 1/8 and 2/8 (CS).

ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER -- 21 in the Mesilla area on 12/20 (BZ+) was a very high count.

TOWNSEND'S WARBLER -- 1 probable at Las Cruces 12/23 (CS*), the fourth winter report in the past five years.

COMMON YELLOWTHROAT -- 1 was on the Caballo CBC.

NORTHERN CARDINAL -- 1 male at Tucumcari in February (Bob McClelland, fide HS) was west of its range. High counts were 23 on the Gila R. CBC, 30 on the Peloncillo CBC, and 7 on the Carlsbad Caverns CBC.

PYRRHULOXIA -- Far north was a female in the Sandia Mts. near Carneul 12/13 to 1/13 (L. and C. Trent**, HS). High counts at the n. edge of the range included 7 on the Gila R. CBC; 13 on the Bosque NWR CBC, and 9 on the Roswell CBC; farther south there was 168 on the Las Cruces CBC and 189 on the Avalon-Brantley CBC. It seems to be spreading north.

GREEN-TAILED TOWHEE -- 1 or 2 on the Bosque NWR from 12/12 to 2/6 (JP, SC+) was north of its wintering range.

CANYON TOWHEE -- A high count of 372 on the Peloncillo CBC. Reportedly much more common than usual in the lowlands of Doña Ana and Eddy Cos (GE, CS, SW).

ABERT'S TOWHEE -- 3 on the Gila R. CBC; about 10 at Redrock 2/24 (CR, PRS); at least 2 at the San Simon Cienega, Hidalgo Co., 2/25 (CR, PRS).

CASSIN'S SPARROW -- 1 or 2 reported on the Jornada Experimental Range, Doña Ana Co., 12/15-20 and 2/12 (CS).

RUFIOUS-CROWNED SPARROW -- 3 along the Canadian R. near Roy, in Mora and Harding Cos., on 2/5 (CR); 79 were counted on the Carlsbad Caverns CBC.

AMERICAN TREE SPARROW -- Generally scarce in the northeast this winter (fide CR), probably due to mild conditions.

BREWER'S SPARROW -- Up to 12 at the Petroglyph NM near Albuquerque were wintering farther north than usual (HS).

BLACK-CHINNED SPARROW -- 11 on the Carlsbad Caverns CBC.

BLACK-THROATED SPARROW -- 3-4 that wintered at the Petroglyph NM near Albuquerque were northerly (HS).

LARK BUNTING -- Early for the northeast was 1 n. of San Jon, Quay Co., on 2/3 (CR).

SAVANNAH SPARROW -- 2 were on the Farmington CBC were north of the usual winter range.

GRASSHOPPER SPARROW -- 1 on the Peloncillo CBC.

FOX SPARROW -- Singles at Cliff 1/2 (fide RF), Redrock 2/24 (CR*), Las Cruces 12/20 (CR*), Loving 12/21 (SW), and found dead (was it saved?) on the Carlsbad Caverns CBC.

SWAMP SPARROW -- High counts were 6 at Bosque NWR on 1/21 (CR), 5 on the Las Cruces CBC, and 6 on the Loving CBC.

WHITE-THROATED SPARROW -- Widely reported with a high count of 11 on the Caballo CBC; 1 was at Zuni 1/16 (DC) and 3 were on the Gila R. CBC.

GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROW -- 2 at Albuquerque 12/20 (HS, Donna Broudy*), 1 adult present through 1/31 (JP*, BV*); 1 near Cliff 1/2 (RF, no details); 1 adult found in Guadalupe Canyon 2/13 (NMC).

HARRIS' SPARROW -- 1 at Española 12/20 (fide BF, no details) and a winter adult at Percha SP 1/3 (BZ**).

DARK-EYED JUNCO -- 1 "White-winged" form was in the Clayton area during the winter (fide WC).

MCCOWN'S LONGSPUR -- 7 at the Green Chaparral Turf Ranch near Moriarty, Torrance Co., 2/8 (SB); 40 to 50 were at the Grasslands Turf Farm at Los Lunas, Valencia Co., 1/9 (JP) and 2/13 (LH, SB); 2 at Bosque NWR 12/6 (LG*).

LAPLAND LONGSPUR -- A good showing in the northeast with 23 at Maxwell NWR 1/31 (CR), 4 on 2/5 (JP, BP) and 12 on 2/18 (SB*, sketch); heard 1 at Springer, Colfax Co., 12/8 (CR); 22 e. of Las Vegas 1/11 and 2 on 2/17 (CR); 1 heard at Las Vegas NWR 1/20 (CR) and on 2/4 (JP, BP), with 1 seen on 2/17 (CR); and 1 at Conchas L. 12/8 (CR).

CHESTNUT-COLLARED LONGSPUR -- Notable for the northeast in winter were 9 at Maxwell NWR 1/31, 140 w. of Roy in Harding Co. 2/5, and 10 e. of Las Vegas 1/11 (all CR). 4 were in the Datil Mts. on 12/2 (GS).

EASTERN MEADOWLARK -- 1 among many Westerns at Zuni 1/28 (DC); 2 were singing at Bosque NWR 1/30 (JP, BP); 7 were singing near Mule Creek, Grant Co., 12/29 (JPH, RWD).

COMMON GRACKLE -- Reports were 42 on the Roswell CBC; 9 at the Redrock WMA 2/24 (CR*, PRS*); and 5 on the Las Cruces CBC (CS, CR*).

BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD -- A few wintered north to Clayton area feedlots (WC), including 3 12/23 (MMY).

SCOTT'S ORIOLE -- A male at Pancho Villa SP 1/21 (CB) was the third recent winter record for that site near Columbus.

ROSY FINCH -- Relatively plentiful in Colfax Co., with most identified as Brown-capped, a few as Gray-crowned, and a very few as Blacks. 20 at Eagle Nest 1/20 (JPH+) were Brown capped and Gray-crowned, including the Hepburn's form; 200 at Angel Fire 12/12 (CR+) and 2/17 (SW) contained 1 Black o each date; 450 near Black L. 12/12 (CR) with 200 on 1/16 (CR) and 2/7 (LH, SB*); 58 at Las Vegas 1/3 (CR). Finally 2 were near Navajo L. 2/14 (CR).

PINE GROSBEAK -- 10 on Sandia Crest 1/31 (JP, BP) and 1 elsewhere in the Sandia Mts. 12/6 (DM).

CASSIN'S FINCH -- Generally scarce with low numbers; report where unusual included 5 possible on the Roswell CBC (SMB*) 1 on the Peloncillo CBC (Dennis Hodson*), 2 on the Las Cruces CBC.

RED CROSSBILL -- 5 nw. of Cuba, Sandoval Co., 2/13 (JP); 15 between Apache Creek and Quemado L., Catron Co., 12/24 (DC) 2 near Mule Creek, Grant Co, 12/29 (JPH, RWD); 5 Turkey Canyon e. of Sitting Bull Falls in the Guadalupe Mts., Eddy Co., 2/6 (K. Bruns, fide SW).

EVENING GROSBEAK -- Scarce all winter, restricted to northern foothill areas.

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