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## New Mexico Ornithological Society

### Field Notes

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## SPRING 1999 HIGHLIGHTS

New Mexico experienced an extremely dry and windy spring. Although April and May precipitation improved conditions in the north and east, the south remained very dry. In the Animas Valley it was considered the driest in 82 years (AC) . The neotropical migration was very impressive, especially in the southwest.

Several warm country species continued to advance northward. Many observers made comments on the huge swallow numbers that passed through the state. Rare, but increasingly regular, are several stray eastern warblers.

Increased field work in northern Chihuahua in Mexico continued to further our understanding of our southern neighbor, and several significant records from there are included.

### Abbreviations Used

EBL - Elephant Butte Lake	N.M. - New Mexico
Co. - County	RGV - Rio Grande Valley
HWI - HawkWatch Internatl.	R. - River
L. - Lake	SP - State Park
Mt(s) - Mountain (s)	v.o. - various observers
NM - National Monument	+ - plus, et al. details given
NP - National Park	** - tape, photo given
NWR - Natl. Wildlife Refuge	

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#### PLACE NAMES AND THEIR COUNTIES

Albuquerque (Bernalillo)	Los Alamos (Los Alamos)
Alcalde (Rio Arriba)	Loving (Eddy)
Animas Mts. (Hidalgo)	Lyden (Rio Arriba)
Animas Valley (Hidalgo)	Mangas Springs (Grant)
Artesia (Eddy)	Maxwell NWR (Colfax)
Aztec (San Juan)	Melrose trap (Roosevelt)
Bandelier NM (Sandoval)	Mesa road rest (Chaves)
Belen (Valencia)	Milnesand (Roosevelt)
Bitter L. NWR (Chaves)	Morgan Lake (San Juan)
Bluewater L. (Cibola)	Peloncillo Mts. (Hidalgo)
Boone's Draw (Roosevelt)	Pep (Roosevelt)
Bosque (del Apache) NWR (Socorro)	Percha Dam SP (Sierra)
Brantley Lake (Eddy)	Pilar (Taos)
Caballo Lake (Sierra)	Pinos Altos Mts. (Grant)
Cerro (Taos)	Portales (Roosevelt)
Clayton, Lake (Union)	Post Office Canyon (Hidalgo)
Cliff (Grant)	Quarai Ruins (Torrance)
Columbus (Luna)	Rattlesnake Springs (Eddy)
Conchas Lake (San Miguel)	Redrock (Grant)
Corrales (Sandoval)	Roswell (Chaves)
Deming (Luna)	Ruidoso (Lincoln)
Elephant Butte L. (Sierra)	San Mateo Mts. (Socorro)
Escondida (Socorro)	Sandia Mts. (Bernalillo)
Espanola (Rio Arriba)	Santa Fe (Santa Fe)
Farmington, Lake (San Juan)	Santa Rosa (Guadalupe)
Fort Sumner (DeBaca)	Silver City (Grant)
Gila, Gila Valley (Grant)	Socorro (Socorro)
Glenwood (Catron)	Stubblefield L. (Colfax)
Guadalupe Mts. (Eddy)	Sumner Lake (DeBaca)
Hatch (Dona Ana)	Taos (Taos)
Heron Lake (Rio Arriba)	Texico (Curry)
Holloman Lake (Otero)	Tucumcari (Quay)
Isleta Marsh, Pueblo (Valencia)	Willow Lake (Eddy)
Lake Valley (Sierra)	Zuni (McKinley)
Las Vegas, NWR (San Miguel)	

## SPECIES ACCOUNTS

PACIFIC LOON -- 1 from winter was still on Conchas L. 3/6 (JP, JO). Late were 2 on Maxwell NWR 5/21 (BN\*, DE\*, CR\*).

COMMON LOON -- Quite late was 1 at Bitter L. NWR on 5/28-29 (JO, JP, GW).

YELLOW-BILLED LOON -- Lingering from winter was 1 at Conchas L. on 3/6 (JP, JO\*\*).

PIED-BILLED GREBE -- Breeding: 1 with 2 chicks on 4/8 in the S. Animas Valley was a first nesting record (AC, NMC).

HORNED GREBE -- The only spring reports were 2 on Conchas L. and 2 on Sumner L., both on 3/6 (JO, JP+) and 1 on 3/27 on Farmington L. (TR).

NEOTROPIC CORMORANT -- North were 4 near Isleta Lakes, Bernalillo Co., on 3/7 and 5/31 (BV) and 1 to 2 at Bitter L. NWR from 4/24 to 5/28 (GW, JO, JP).

AMERICAN BITTERN -- 1 to 2 at Bitter L. NWR 4/1 to 4/9 (SW+, GW), 1 near Rattlesnake Springs on 5/9 (SW), and 1 at Maddox L. near Hobbs in Lea Co. on 3/27 (SW).

LEAST BITTERN -- 5 calling at Tucumcari L. on 5/21 (JO).

SNOWY EGRET -- 1 near Lake Valley, Sierra Co., on 4/28 (CR, GG).

LITTLE BLUE HERON -- 1 or 2 adults at Bosque NWR 4/20 to 5/1 (JO, JP+), 1 calico immature at Bitter L. NWR on 4/2 to 5/8 (JO\*\*, GW, PM).

TRICOLORED HERON -- 1 strayed north to Santa Rosa from 5/2 to 5/15 (JO\*\*, JP, BW). 1 at Bitter L. NWR 5/8 to 5/14 (GW, BN, DE).

CATTLE EGRET -- 1 near Zuni on 4/24 and 5/8 (DC); 7 at the Maxwell NWR on 5/22 (CR, DE, BN).

WHITE IBIS -- 1 adult was a surprise at Maxwell NWR on 5/16 to 5/23 (JO\*\*, John Hirth\*\*, BN\*, DE\* CR\*, PRS).

GLOSSY IBIS -- Singles at Santa Rosa on 5/9 (JP\*, JO\*\*), Bosque NWR from 4/18 to 4/24 (BN\*, DE\*, CR\*, JO\*\*, GE\*, SW, v.o.), and Bitter L. NWR on 4/24 (JO\*\*, PM).

TURKEY VULTURE -- 1427 passed the Sandia Mts. site from 3/11 to 5/2 (HWI).

GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE -- 1 at Bosque NWR from 3/18 to 4/24 (JO, JP, GE, Tim Lawton).

WOOD DUCK -- 2 found in the RGV at Espanola on 3/7 (JT+) and 5/1 (BF+) and 2 pairs were on the Rio Casas Grandes near Janos, Chihuahua, Mexico on 4/28 (BO).

MEXICAN MALLARD -- 116 at Deming on 3/5 (LM), 30 in the Animas Valley 5/8 (NMC), 1 w. of Columbus 5/24-25 (SOW).

GREATER SCAUP -- The only reports were a female 4/15 on Farmington L. (TR); 2 females on Caballo L. 4/18 (DE, BN).

LONG-TAILED DUCK -- 1 wintering at Cochiti L. in Sandoval Co. lingered until 3/20 (JP, JO). 1 on Laguna Uno near Loving on 4/5 to 4/12 (SW, CC, v.o.).

COMMON GOLDENEYE -- Late were 2 females at Farmington L. on 4/22 (TR) and 1 on Ute L., Quay Co., on 4/21 (BW).

OSPREY -- Breeding: another active territory was located at Heron L. on 5/31 (DS). It increased the known number of n. N.M. nests to 6; ... high counts for migrants were 7 at Sumner L. on 4/24 (Roger Hoppe); 4 at Grindstone L. near Ruidoso 4/24 (DS), and 10 at Avalon L. 4/9 (SW, CC). 67 passed over the Sandia Mts. site from 3/25 to 5/3 (HWI).

WHITE-TAILED KITE -- 1 at Percha SP on 4/18 (BN, DE).

MISSISSIPPI KITE -- In the RGV were 1 at Los Lunas, Valencia Co., on 5/16 (BV) and 2 at Socorro on 5/14 (PB).

BALD EAGLE -- Breeding: the 3 known nests in Colfax Co. each had young on 4/19 (SOW), but the Sierra Co. nest was not active (SOW, Steve Dobrott); ...unusual was an adult over Post Office Canyon 5/17 (JDM, RTS). 1 adult at the Pecos R. bridge at San Juan/San Jose, San Miguel Co. 4/4 (JT). 18 over the Sandia Mts. site from 2/28 to 4/9 (HWI).

NORTHERN HARRIER -- 1 female near Hermanas, Luna Co. 5/25 (SOW). 6 passed over the Sandia Mts. site from 2/25 to 5/1 (HWI).

SHARP-SHINNED HAWK -- 386 over the Sandia Mts. site from 2/25 to 5/3 (HWI).

COOPER'S HAWK -- Breeding: nesting was active near Zuni on 5/22 (DC) and near Corrales on 4/11 (BH); ....670 over the Sandia Mts. site from 2/27 to 5/2 (HWI).

NORTHERN GOSHAWK -- 1 near Zuni on 5/8 (DC). 3 over the Sandia Mts. site from 2/26 to 4/1 (HWI), was a record low count.

COMMON BLACK-HAWK -- Breeding: in southeastern N.M. the newly established population along the Rio Hondo drainage continued to prosper with three occupied territories at Glencoe, San Patricio, and Tinnie in Lincoln Co. on 4/23-24 (DS) with 2 active nests at the last 2 sites;...In the middle RGV, where it is rare, 1 was at Bosque NWR on 4/16 (Robert Kruidenier).

HARRIS'S HAWK -- Breeding: 2 nests near Deming failed from undetermined causes (LM).

BROAD-WINGED HAWK --1 counted at the Sandia Mts. site on 4/28 and 1 on 4/29 (HWI). 1 immature at Socorro on 5/26 (JO\*\*), 1 at Portales on 5/1 (JO\*\*), and an immature at Rattlesnake Springs from 4/20 to 5/8 (SW, JP, JO, BP).

SWAINSON'S HAWK -- The first spring report was 2 near Pep on 3/29 (LS).

ZONE-TAILED HAWK -- Far east was 1 at the migrant trap west of Melrose on 5/10 (LG+). 2 were over the Sandia Mts. site on 4/27-28 (HWI).

FERRUGINOUS HAWK -- 7 were over the Sandia Mts. site from 2/27 to 4/20 (HWI), a record low count.

ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK -- Late singles were s. of Farmington on 4/6 (DS), n of Questa, Taos Co., 3/20 (JO, JP), and near Arch in Roosevelt Co. on 3/29 (LS).

GOLDEN EAGLE -- 304 at the Sandia Mts. site from 2/26 to 5/3 (HWI).

CRESTED CARACARA -- 1 sub-adult was n. of San Antonio, Socorro Co., on 4/18 (Rebecca Gracey\*, Jim Rini\*\*, sketches), the first for the RGV in several decades.

MERLIN -- 15 counted at the Sandia Mts. site from 3/16 to 4/21 (HWI). Also 1 at Willow L. 3/12 (SW, CC) and 4/25 (JO, JP).

PEREGRINE FALCON -- 56 counted 3/1 to 5/2 at the Sandia Mts. site, down for the second consecutive year (HWI).

PRAIRIE FALCON -- 18 were counted over the Sandia Mts. lookout from 2/25 to 4/6 (HWI).

GOULD'S WILD TURKEY -- The mountains of Sw. N.M. contain the only naturally occurring population of Gould's north of Mexico. Encouraging spring reports are from 2 Animas and 3 Peloncillos canyons (AC, NMC, LM, SOW).

NORTHERN BOBWHITE -- In the Pecos Valley singles north to Sumner L. 5/14 (JP) and Santa Rosa on 5/31 (JO). 1 at Los Alamos 3/29 was likely an escape (Carlyn Jervis\*).

KING RAIL -- Sonograms may eventually identify a large rail, believed by many to be this species. It was seen, taped, and partially photographed at Willow L. from 3/7 to 4/18 (SW, JO\*\*, video, JP\*, BN, DE, PRS, v.o.). There are prior reports of King/Clapper Rails from Bitter L. NWR (last in 1970), but neither is verified for N.M.

BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER -- 1 at Bosque NWR on 5/7 (DE), 1 at Stubblefield L. on 5/21 (BN, DE, CR); 2 at Bitter L. NWR on 5/5 and 1 in winter plumage on 5/8 (JP, JO).

AMERICAN GOLDEN-PLOVER -- 1 in alternate plumage was near Mesquite, Dona Ana Co., on 5/7 (JNP\*\*).

SNOWY PLOVER -- Breeding: 17, including 1 chick, at Holloman L. on 5/29 (GE);...West were singles at Gila on 5/12 (DZ) and at the playas w. of Lordsburg on 5/13 (LM). A high count of 181 at Bitter L. NWR on 5/14 (GW).

MOUNTAIN PLOVER -- Notably scarce, 1 at Franciscan L. in McKinley Co. on 5/28 (TR\*\*) provided a new locality while 1 on Otero Mesa, Otero Co., on 4/5-6 (RM\*) in an area with few recent records.

WILLET -- Had a good showing statewide, including an early 2 at Mangas Springs on 3/22 (RF); high counts of 13 at Zuni on 4/24 (DC), 36 near Pep on 4/19 (LS), 30 near Cliff on 5/15 (Allen Gast, fide DZ), and 12 in the Animas Valley on 5/2 (AC, NMC).

UPLAND SANDPIPER -- Normally scarce in spring. This spring produced 1 at Boone's Draw on 5/6 (JP, JO).

WHIMBREL -- 1 or 2 were at Bosque NWR 4/22 to 5/7 (JP\*, JO\*\*, video, DE\*, Jo Osterhouse\*, LC, v.o.). Late were 2 at Bitter L. NWR on 5/28 (JP\*, JO\*\*, video, GW+).



LONG-BILLED CURLEW -- Early were 55 in the Uvas Valley w. of Hatch, Dona Ana Co., on 3/2 (BH). Impressive was an estimated 600 near Arch, Roosevelt Co., on 3/29 (LS).

HUDSONIAN GODWIT -- Extremely rare was 1 near Mesquite in Dona Ana Co. on 5/7-8 (RR\*).

MARbled GODWIT -- Present from 4/16 to 5/8 (v.o.). High counts were 275 at Morgan L. on 4/22 (Claudia Dawley), 175 at EBL on 4/27 (BW), and 252 at Bitter L. NWR on 4/16 (GW).

SANDERLING -- 1 at EBL on 4/27 (BW) and 1 in winter plumage at Loving on 5/28 (JO, JP).

SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER -- 2 at Las Vegas NWR on 5/9 (CR\*); 1 at Bosque NWR on 4/27 (JO\*\*); 1 at Texico on 5/14 (JP, JO); at Bitter L. NWR 1 on 4/23 (JP+) and 5/6 (JO, JP) and 3 on 4/24 (JO, GW); and 4 at Avalon L. on 5/6 (JO, JP).

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER -- The earliest was 1 at Portales 5/14 (JO, JP). High count of 40 at Bitter L. NWR on 5/29 (JO, JP). 3 near Clovis. Curry Co., 5/29 (CR) and Loving on 5/29 (JO, JP).

PECTORAL SANDPIPER -- 4 near Loving on 4/24 (JO, JP).

COMMON SNIPE -- The wetlands at Sunshine Valley, Taos Co., near Cerro hosted 3 pairs on 5/20 (CR). Local breeding was suspected.

WILSON'S PHALAROPE -- At the Sunshine Valley wetlands in Taos Co. were 7 pairs 5/20 (CR). It may have bred there.

RED-NECKED PHALAROPE -- Uncommon in spring. 2 or 3 at Bitter L. NWR on 5/14 (BN, DE, GW).

LAUGHING GULL -- Again made news, with a first-winter bird at Stubblefield L. on 5/20-21 (CR\*, BN\*, JO\*\*) and a near adult at Brantley L. on 5/6 (JP\*, JO\*\*) and 5/8 (SW).

CALIFORNIA GULL -- Late for the south were 1 or 2 subadults at EBL on 5/23 (JO) and 5/27 (BH).

THAYER'S GULL -- Lingering from winter was a first-winter at Farmington L., last seen on 3/10 (TR\*\*).

CASPIAN TERN -- 1 at Bitter L. NWR on 5/14 (BN, DE, GW) provided the only report.

COMMON TERN -- Probables were 1 at Farmington L. on 4/22 (TR) and 2 adults s. of Hatch on 5/14 (RR).

LEAST TERN -- Notably early were singles at Bosque NWR on 4/23 (JP+) and Brantley L. on 4/24 (JO); 8 were at Bitter L. NWR by 5/28 (GW).

BLACK TERN -- Impressive were 96 migrants on EBL 5/27 (BH).

EURASIAN COLLARED DOVE -- Continued in evidence in the east, including singles at Fort Sumner on 5/21 (JP, JO\*\*) and 5/31 (JO), Portales on 5/21 (JP, JO\*\*), and Bitter L. NWR on 5/22 (GW), plus 8 to 15 at Roswell 3/27 and 4/1 (SW+, JP, JO) and 1 to 3 at Carlsbad, Eddy Co., 4/23 to 5/28 (JP, JO\*\*, v.o.). 2 or 3 west to Albuquerque in May (JP, Charles Painter).

RINGED TURTLE-DOVE -- Apparent singles in Roswell on 4/6 (Kent Graves), Artesia on 5/27 (Harold Creswell), and Albuquerque on 3/2 (Randy Isler) complicated the picture.

WHITE-WINGED DOVE -- 1 north to Zuni on 5/17 (DC\*\*), singing at Santa Fe on 2/25 with up to 5 there 4/10 (Eric Rominger), 1 at Eldorado near Santa Fe on 5/16 (BF) and present at Fort Sumner 3/6 to 5/30 (JP, JO, CR, SOW, v.o.) 1 in Capitan on 3/23 (JO) and 5 in Lincoln on 4/3 (JP+), both in Lincoln Co.

INCA DOVE -- Breeding: a pair with 4 fledglings at Roswell on 5/21 (PMM);...northerly were 1 to 2 at 2 Albuquerque sites on 3/22 and 5/7 (JO, HS) and 1 at the Melrose migrant trap on 5/11 (BW).

COMMON GROUND-DOVE -- Well detailed was a female-plumaged near Rodeo, Hidalgo Co., on 5/19 (AC\*).

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO -- Early was a vocal 1 at Rattlesnake Springs on 4/25 (JP, JO).

WESTERN SCREECH-OWL -- Near the Texas line were 2 near Pep on 4/30 (LS).

ELF OWL -- 1 calling in the Guadalupe Mts. on 4/27 (SW+).

LONG-EARED OWL -- Breeding; a nest with young was near Cabezon Peak, Sandoval Co., on 5/18 (CR) furnishing a new breeding locale.

SHORT-EARED OWL -- 1 near Milnesand on 3/29 and 4/18 (LS\*).

NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWL -- Often overlooked, 1 was in the Pinos Altos Mts. on 5/6 (BZ, JNP).

COMMON NIGHTHAWK -- Early were singles in Union Co. on 4/22 (LF) and near Pep on 4/27 (LS).

BUFF-COLLARED NIGHTJAR -- Causing considerable consternation among birders was a probable heard calling and seen by herpetologists at Ash Creek near Redrock during the night of 5/30-31 (Toby Hibbitts\*). Follow-ups in June were unsuccessful (v.o.).

WHIP-POOR-WILL -- 1 at Boone's Draw on 5/9 (JP, JO) furnished a rare eastern plains record.

CHIMNEY SWIFT -- Westerly was a single seen well flying low at Redrock on 5/1 (DZ, MZ). 1 at Rattlesnake Springs on 4/25 (JP, JO).

CHAETURA SWIFTS -- 1 on 5/1 near Cliff (SS, fide DZ) and 1 probable Chimney on 5/15 (DZ, 55) A presumed Chimney over Percha SP on 5/6 (JNP, BZ).

WHITE-THROATED SWIFT -- Far east was 1 near Pep 4/3 (LS).

BROAD-BILLED HUMMINGBIRD Consolidating their n. spread into the central Peloncillo Mts. were 4 on 5/25 (SOW). 1 female farther north at Post Office Canyon on 4/10 (RTS).

MAGNIFICENT HUMMINGBIRD -- 1 female-type at Glenwood on 4/30 (Barbara McKnight). 1 male at Post Office Canyon from 4/5 to 5/16 (RTS).

LUCIFER HUMMINGBIRD -- Banding studies at Post Office Canyon netted 9 adults from 5/16 to 5/23, plus 2 additional adults on 6/6 (JDM). First male was seen there 4/11 (RTS).

ANNA'S HUMMINGBIRD -- A remarkable 22 hatch-year birds were banded at Post Office Canyon from 5/16 to 5/29 (JDM).

COSTA'S HUMMINGBIRD -- An adult male was at Silver City from 4/22 to 5/12 (DZ\*\*, Paul Boucher). Another male was banded at Post Office Canyon on 5/20 (JDM).

RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD -- 1 male was found dead in Animas in May (Dave Dunigan, fide Dan True\*\*\*).

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER -- Breeding: an adult carrying food in Fort Sumner 5/30 (SOW);....1 adult in Ruidoso 4/21 to 5/1 (Diana Harris).

RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER -- 1 male put in a brief appearance at the migrant trap w. of Melrose on 5/28 (JP\*, JO\*\*).

YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER -- 1 adult female below Caballo L. on 4/11 (JO, LC+).

DOWNY WOODPECKER -- Far east was 1 female at Boone's Draw 4/17 (JP, JO). A pair was at Escondida on 4/18 and 1 on 5/2 (HS).

LEAST FLYCATCHER -- Notable was 1 or 2 singing at Boone's Draw on 5/28 to 5/31 (CR, JO\*\*, JP).

DUSKY FLYCATCHER -- Early was 1 at Corrales on 4/11 (BH). Notable was 1 singing in the San Mateo Mts. on 5/13 (HS).

BUFF-BREASTED FLYCATCHER -- Further evidence that they may be staging a comeback was furnished by 1 singing in the Animas Mts. on 5/8 (NMC\*).

BLACK PHOEBE -- 2 were north to Aztec on 5/19-20 (TR\*\*) Other northerly records were in the upper RGV with 2 near Pilar on 5/19 (CR), 3 near Lyden on 5/19 (CR), southward to Alcalde on 3/7 (JT).

EASTERN PHOEBE -- 1 in Socorro on 4/3 (JO, JP), 1 singing at Santa Rosa on 4/17 (JP, JO), 1 s. of Mesa on 5/19 (PM), 1 at Bitter L. NWR 3/21 (GW), and 1 at Rattlesnake Springs on 3/26 (JP).

VERMILION FLYCATCHER -- A pair was in the northeast at Conchas L. on 4/21 (BW).

GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER -- Far west was 1 near Hatch on 5/14 (RR\*). 1 s. of the border at Janos, Mexico on 4/28 (BO) may be a first record for Chihuahua.

BROWN-CRESTED FLYCATCHER -- 2 near Janos, in Chihuahua, Mexico on 5/28 (BH).

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER -- Far west were singles at Cliff on 5/8 (RS, *fide* DZ) and 20 miles s. of Wall L., Catron Co., on 5/19 (Peter Russell, *fide* DZ).

WHITE-EYED VIREO -- Singles were singing at Santa Fe on 5/17 (BW\*) and Socorro on 5/1 (CR).

BELL'S VIREO -- Perhaps responding to locally improving riparian conditions was 1 singing near Lake Valley on 4/28 (CR, GG).

CASSIN'S VIREO -- Typically scarce in spring. This year there were numerous reports east to the Texas line from 4/10 to 5/13. Along the Gila R. 6 were counted 5/1 (DZ, RS+). They were also reported in the Animas Valley area (AC, MAC, LM); Deming (LM), Silver City (DAZ), near Lake Valley (CR, CC), Corrales (CR, PRS), Escondida (HS), and Socorro (JO). On the eastern plains they were seen at Boone's Draw (JO, JP, BW) and Rattlesnake Springs (SW, BN, BE, CR).

BLUE-HEADED VIREO -- Probable singles were at the Melrose migrant trap on 5/1 (JO\*\*) and Boone's Draw from 5/1 to 5/6 (JP\*, JO\*\*).

PHILADELPHIA VIREO -- Rare in N.M. was a silent 1 at the Melrose trap on 5/1 (JO\*\*).

CLARK'S NUTCRACKER -- 1 was in the n. Black Range near Taylor Peak in Sierra Co. on 4/23 (SOW).

BLACK-BILLED MAGPIE -- Breeding: crashing the neighborhood was a pair nesting in the base of an active Bald Eagle nest in Colfax Co. on 4/19 (SOW).

AMERICAN CROW -- About 200 were in the Pep area 3/24-25 (LS).

PURPLE MARTIN -- 2 near Zuni on 5/2 and 5/8 (DC) and 2 at Quemado L., Catron Co., 5/22 (JO).

BANK SWALLOW -- Encouraging was news that the large colony at Albuquerque's Calabacillas Arroyo was again active (BH). 2 near Tyrone, Grant Co., 5/16 (Gene Lewis) and 1 in the Animas Valley on 4/16 (AC, NMC).

CAVE SWALLOW -- 2 over Six-Mile Dam near Loving on 3/26 (JP) and 6 at Willow L. on 4/10 (BN, DE, CR, *fide* SW).

BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE -- South in the RGV was 1 at Bosque NWR on 3/14 (DE, BN); likely a local first.

BUSHTIT -- Breeding: previously considered uncommon in the middle RGV bosques, 3 pairs were nesting at Corrales on 4/11 (BH). A flock of 10 was at Bosque NWR on 3/13 (JP).

VERDIN -- Breeding: 3 nests in mesquites at Escondida on 4/11 (HS).

CAROLINA WREN -- Continued to haunt the RGV, with 1 or 2 (a pair?) at Socorro from 4/7 through 5/27 (BH, DE, CR, JO\*\*). Farther north was 1 singing at Albuquerque on 3/10 to 3/21 and 3/23 (Lane Leckman, JP\*, JO\*). Another was heard near Pilar, Taos Co., on 5/20 (CR\*).

WINTER WREN -- In the Gila Valley 2 persisted into April, with the last seen on 5/13 (RS, *fide* DZ). The colors suggested 2 different subspecies.

MARSH WREN -- At Sunshine Valley near Cerro 47 were singing in seemingly suitable breeding habitat on 5/20 (CR). 1 was at the Quarai Ruins on 5/3 (HS).

AMERICAN DIPPER -- Breeding: 2 building a nest at Arroyo Hondo, Taos Co., on 3/7 (JO). 1 at the Taos Ski Valley on 3/14 (JT+).

EASTERN BLUEBIRD -- 1 or 2 were at Socorro from 4/14 to 5/26 (JO, DE, CR) suggestive of local breeding.

MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD -- A pair was using a burrow in a cut-bank in the Spur L. Basin, Catron Co., on 5/10 (SOW).

SWAINSON'S THRUSH -- 1 banded in the Animas Valley 5/16 (AC). 1 at the Moriarty sod farm, Torrance Co., on 5/21 (JO) and 4 to 6 in the Gila Valley near Cliff/Gila 5/12-13 (SS, David Hawksworth, *fide* DZ).

WOOD THRUSH -- 1 was near Milnesand on 4/26 (LS\*\*).

GRAY CATBIRD -- Singles at San Juan Pueblo, Rio Arriba Co., 5/19 (CR); Clayton L. on 5/19 (John Hubbard, *fide* LF); singing at Isleta Marsh on 4/24 (CR); Socorro on 5/1 (CR); the Melrose trap on 5/14 (JP); and near Cliff on 5/17 (RS, *fide* DZ). 3 at Socorro 5/25 (JO) and 3 near Pep 5/24 (LS).

NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD -- Unusual were 2 at 7500 feet on Bluewater Creek in the Zuni Mts. on 5/28 (HS).

BROWN THRASHER -- Westerly were singles at Cerro on 5/27 (RW), Socorro on 5/27 (PB), and Cliff on 4/24 (SS, *fide* DZ); elsewhere 1 to 3 were at five sites from the Pecos Valley eastward (v.o.).

LONG-BILLED THRASHER -- Now into its third year, the bird at Bosque Redondo Park near Fort Sumner was still singing from 3/6 to 4/17 (JP, JO, PRS, LC, v.o.).

BENDIRE'S THRASHER -- Singles near the junction of routes 371 and 7500 in San Juan Co. on 4/27 and 5/1 (TR); singing near Santa Fe on 5/23 (CR); and singing near Casas Grandes in Mexico may represent a Chihuahua first (BH).

CRISSAL THRASHER -- Breeding: 2 nests found on 3/5 and on 3/11 at the Petroglyph NM near Albuquerque (HS).

SPRAGUE'S PIPIT -- 1 in the Animas Valley on 3/2 (DZ, RS) provided the only report.

CEDAR WANWING -- Widespread and relatively numerous in May (v.o.); the latest were 5 at Zuni on 5/31 (DC) and 12 at Sumner L. (CR), 1 at Boone's Draw (CR), and 6 at Rattlesnake Springs all on 5/29 (JP, JO).

PHAINOPEPLA -- 1 female strayed northeast to the Mesa rest stop in n. Chaves Co. on 5/29 (JP, JO\*\*).

OLIVE WARBLER -- 2 were north to Springtime Canyon, San Mateo Mts., on 5/13 (HS), for the second consecutive year.

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER -- Likely a first for Chihuahua, Mexico, was a well-detailed male near Janos on 5/28 (BH\*).

TENNESSEE WARBLER -- 1 near Lake Valley on 4/28 (CR\*).

NORTHERN PARULA -- Made a notable showing, with a male at Corrales 4/25 (CR\*, PRS+), male at Quarai Ruins 5/3 (HS), male at Sumner L. dam on 4/11 and 5/15 (JP, JO\*\*, LC), male at the Melrose trap 4/17 to 4/19 (SOW, JP, JO, PRS, v.o.), Boone's Draw on 5/11 (BW), male at Bill Evans L. near Cliff 5/8 (RF), and female near Milnesand (LS\*) on 5/24.

CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER -- 1 male at Bandelier NM on 5/15 (Steve Greetham\*) and 1 at Rattlesnake Springs 5/12 (RR).

MAGNOLIA WARBLER -- 1 male at Boone's Draw on 5/14 (JP\*).

BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER -- 1 male near Milnesand on 5/16 (LS\*\*).

MYRTLE X AUDUBON'S WARBLER -- A male hybrid was at Corrales on 4/11 (BH).

BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER -- 1 at Rattlesnake Springs on 5/7 (JP\*, JO\*\*).

TOWNSEND'S WARBLER -- Typically less common in spring than in fall. Conspicuous from the RGV westward this spring (v.o.), and especially so in the Silver City area with 1 to 10 from 4/26 to 6/2 (DZ+). 1 male near Pep 4/27 (LS\*\*). High count of 50 in the Animas Mts. on 5/8 (AC, NMC).

HERMIT WARBLER -- Typically rare in spring, a small "wave" pushed through sw. N.M. with singles 5/8 in Grant Co. (*fide* Robert Webster) and Guadalupe Canyon, Hidalgo Co., (AC). In the Animas Mts. 5 on 5/1 and 25 on 5/8 (AC, NMC).

PALM WARBLER -- Singles were at Carlsbad Caverns NP, Eddy Co., on 4/24 (JP\*, BP) and near Milnesand on 5/3 (LS\*).

BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER -- Impressive were 1 or 2 at 8 sites from the RGV eastward from 4/18 to 5/22 (v.o.). Westward was 1 at Glenwood on 5/3 (BM).

AMERICAN REDSTART -- Singles where rarely reported were a male at Cerrillos, Santa Fe Co., on 5/3 (Andrew Fenney), a female at Quaral Ruins 5/3 to 5/10 (HS), and male near Pep on 5/15 (LS).

PROTHONOTARY WARBLER -- Increasingly regular, singles were at Rattlesnake Springs 4/25 (JP\* JO\*\*) and 4/29 (*fide* BH) and w. of Eunice, Lea Co., on 5/7 (JP\*, JO\*\*).

WORM-EATING WARBLER -- Singles in Guadalupe Co. e. of Clines Corners on 5/2 (Damien Andrus\*), at Percha SP 4/27 (BW\*), Rattlesnake Springs 4/25 (JP\*), and Jal, Lea Co., 5/7 (JP\*, JO\*). 2 near Cliff 5/28 (SS\*, Arnanda Favis).

OVENBIRD -- Singles at Socorro on 5/18-19 (JO\*\*), the Melrose trap on 5/30 (JO), and at Ramon, Lincoln Co., on 5/5 (BW). 2 near Lake Valley on 4/28 (CR, GG).

LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH -- A well documented 1 at Socorro on 3/27 to 4/3 (PB, BN\*, DE\*, JP\*, JO\*\*, LC, John Shipman) furnished the state's tenth overall record.

KENTUCKY WARBLER -- Singles were a male at the Melrose trap 5/6 (JP\*, JO\*\*), a female near Lingo, Roosevelt Co., 5/23 (LS\*\*), a male at White Sands NM, Otero Co., 5/1 to 5/6 (John Mangimeli\*\*), and a female was at Rattlesnake Springs on 4/25 (JP\*, JO\*).



HOODED WARBLER -- Another good season found a male at Galisteo, Santa Fe Co. on 5/15 (BF\*); a male at Quarai Ruins 5/8 to 5/10 (HS); a male at Socorro on 5/7 (DE) and 5/11 (JO\*\*); a female on 5/10 (LG) and a male 5/14 (JO, JP) at the Melrose trap; a male at Boone's Draw 5/9 (JP, JO) and a female on 5/30 (JO); and a female near Milnesand on 5/3 (LS\*).

WILSON'S WARBLER -- Inundated the state by late April, including 1159 on the Gila Valley count on 5/1 (RS+) and in the Animas Valley 400 on 4/28 and 300 on 5/16 (AC). CR counted 217 near Lake Valley on 4/28.

PAINTED REDSTART -- 1 wandered east to Percha SP on 4/15 (PB, GE, Ross Teuber).

SLATE-THROATED REDSTART -- Intriguing, but inconclusive, were single possibles described from Bandelier NM on 5/27 (Juliette and David Hulen\*) and the Pinos Altos Mts. 5/2 (May Tokuda\*). Well detailed was another in unsuitable habitat e. of Janos, Chihuahua, Mexico on 5/31 (BH\*).

HEPATIC TANAGER -- Easterly were 5 at Mills Canyon, in Harding Co., 5/20 (JO) and 1 at Boone's Draw 5/11 (BW).

SUMMER TANAGER -- Continued to push north. 2 at the Orilla Verde Park near Pilar on 5/19 (CR) and singles at Galisteo, Santa Fe Co., on 5/23 (Jo Osterhouse) and at Conchas L. 5/9 (CR).

GREEN-TAILED TOWHEE -- Lingering south of known breeding areas were singles at Tajique Canyon, Torrance Co., 5/21 (HS), Deming on 5/24 (LM), and the Peloncillo Mts. 5/25 (SOW).

CANYON TOWHEE -- A local first was 1 singing at 7500 feet on Bluewater Creek on 5/28 (HS).

ABERT'S TOWHEE -- A high of 31 were tallied on the Gila Valley count on 5/1 (RS+).

RUFIOUS-CROWNED SPARROW -- Noteworthy were singles near Cerro on 5/23 (RW) and at Moriarty, Torrance Co., 5/21 (JO). 4 were near Lake Valley on 4/28 (CR, GG).

FIELD SPARROW -- Late were singles near Tucumcari on 4/21 (BW) and at Rattlesnake Springs on 4/24 (JP).

BLACK-CHINNED SPARROW -- North in the RGV were singles singing at Orilla Verde Park near Pilar on 5/19 (CR) and in the White Rock part of Los Alamos on 5/30 (Charles Keller\*).

SAGE SPARROW -- 2 at Crownpoint, McKinley Co., 4/4 (JO).

BAIRD'S SPARROW -- Surveys for migrants produced only 1 to 4 on Otero Mesa, Otero County, 4/19 to 4/28 (RM).

LECONTE'S SPARROW -- A winter holdover, the last of the Conchas L. birds was seen on 4/21 (SW).

WHITE-THROATED SPARROW -- 1 at Valdez, Taos Co., on 3/7 (JO\*\*); 1 at Glenwood on 5/3 (BM).

GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROW -- 1 was at La Plata, San Juan Co., on 3/18 (TR\*\*). The 1 that wintered at Bosque NWR remained until 3/13 (JP).

NORTHERN CARDINAL -- Consolidating their northward. Range expansion were 6 in se. San Miguel Co. near Tucumcari on 4/21 (BW). 3 on Macho Creek in Sierra Co. n. of Nutt on 4/29 (CR) furnished a new locality.

PYRRHULOXIA -- Additional evidence of breeding in sw. deserts was provided by 1 at Columbus on 5/25, 10 near Hatchet Gap, Hidalgo Co., on 5/26, and 4 near Gage, Luna Co., on 3/28 (SOW).

ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK -- 1 to 3 were at 8 sites from the RGV eastward from 4/24 to 5/14 (v.o.). West were a male at Mangas Springs 5/13 to 5/18 (RF), 1 at Silver City on 5/21 (*fide* DZ), and 1 male in Grant Co. west of Deming at the Separ exit of I-10 on 5/7 (LM).

PAINTED BUNTING -- North of the expected range were males near Aztec 4/28 to 5/2 (TR\*\*), Zuni 5/22 to 5/26 (DC\*\*), near Belen 4/22 to 4/26 (Ginger Washburn, HS\*\*), and a female near White Signal, Grant Co., on 5/16-17 (*fide* DZ).

BRONZED COWBIRD -- Interesting, but ominous, was 1 male displaying north to Bitter L. NWR 5/8 and 5/20 (GW, PMM\*).

ORCHARD ORIOLE -- North in the RGV to Socorro was 1 female on 5/13 (PB).

HOODED ORIOLE -- Also north to Socorro was a male on 5/14 (PB).

BALTIMORE ORIOLE -- Of uncertain status in N.M., singles were in Union Co. on 5/24 (LF) and an immature male was near Hatch on 5/14 (RR\*. sketch).

SCOTT'S ORIOLE -- Far north was 1 female at Pilar on 5/21 (RW).

ROSY FINCHES -- Some 100, including Brown-capped, Black, and Gray-crowned, were at the Taos Ski Valley, n. of Taos, on 3/7 (JO) and 3/14 (JT).

PINE GROSBEAK -- 2 at the Santa Fe Ski Basin on 5/31 (JP).

CASSIN'S FINCH -- Continued to be scarce and largely restricted to northern montane areas (v.o.).

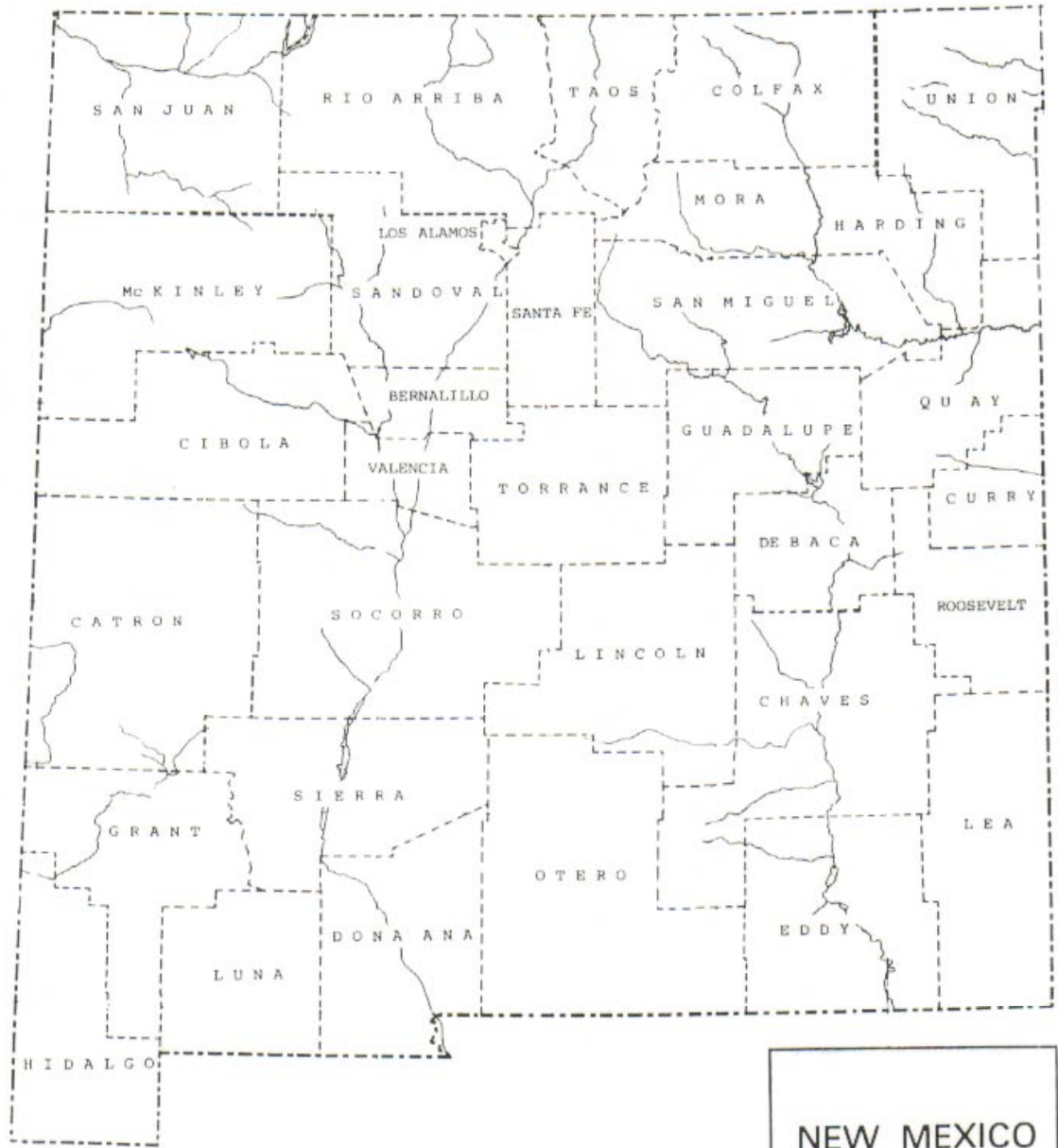
RED CROSSBILL -- Also scarce, but more widely distributed. Noteworthy were 11 in the Sierra Blanca area and at Alto, Lincoln Co., on 3/28 (JO) and up to 12 in the Burro Mts., Grant Co., with odd calls from 3/9 to 5/15 (DZ, MZ, RS, LM, CR, v.o.).

PINE SISKIN -- Widely scattered in the lowlands. 42 were late in Union Co. on 5/8 (LF), 2 at Las Cruces, Dona Ana Co., on 5/12 (GE), and 3 at Deming on 5/29 (LM).

AMERICAN GOLDFINCH -- Late were 3 near Aztec 5/20 (TR), 8 at Zuni 5/31 (DC), 1 female at the Melrose trap on 5/29 (SOW), and 10 in Silver City 5/16 (R. Webster, *fide* DZ).

EVENING GROSBEAK -- The few reported were restricted to the Sangre de Cristo Mts. and also the Jemez Mts. in Sandoval Co. The high count was 50 at Taos 5/17 to 5/20 (RW).

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