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

NEW MEXICO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

(*Founded 1962*)

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

Membership and Subscriptions: Membership in the New Mexico Ornithological Society is open to anyone with an interest in birds. Memberships are for a calendar year and annual dues are payable 1 January. Dues are: Regular Membership \$10; Family \$15; Student \$5; Supporting \$35; Life \$300. Address for the New Mexico Ornithological Society: P. O. Box 3068, Albuquerque, NM 87190-3068.

Cover: Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*). Known from New Mexico since the 1850s, this waterbird reaches its northernmost limit in New Mexico, where it is a rare breeder in the middle Rio Grande Valley, and where it is threatened by loss of breeding sites, disturbance, food supply fluctuations, and persecution. Art by Dale A. Zimmerman, commissioned by New Mexico Department of Game and Fish for a series on state endangered species. Used by permission.

SPRING SEASON 2003

Although some precipitation materialized in March, Spring 2003 saw continued drought conditions over most of New Mexico. Migration was judged “slow,” but persistent birding discovered several surprises, including at least one species potentially new to the state. Concentrated efforts along the Canadian River in eastern San Miguel County and the lower Mimbres River in northwestern Luna County provided numerous distributional records, as did continued work in Colfax and Hidalgo counties.

Localities and Counties

Albuquerque, <i>Bernalillo</i>	Isleta, Lake, Marsh, <i>Bernalillo/Valencia</i>
Animas, Mts., Valley, <i>Hidalgo</i>	Jal, Lake, <i>Lea</i>
Antelope Wells, <i>Hidalgo</i>	Katfish Kove, <i>Luna</i>
Aragon, <i>Catron</i>	Kingston, <i>Sierra</i>
Bill Evans Lake, <i>Grant</i>	Laguna Grande, <i>Eddy</i>
Bitter Lake NWR, <i>Chaves</i>	Lake Avalon, <i>Eddy</i>
Bosque del Apache NWR, <i>Socorro</i>	Lake David, <i>San Miguel</i>
Bosque Redondo, <i>De Baca</i>	Lake Isabel, <i>San Miguel</i>
Brantley Lake, <i>Eddy</i>	Las Cruces, <i>Doña Ana</i>
Caballo Lake, Dam, <i>Sierra</i>	Las Vegas, NWR, <i>San Miguel</i>
Caprock, <i>Lea</i>	Last Chance Canyon, <i>Eddy</i>
Carlsbad, <i>Eddy</i>	Lingo, <i>Roosevelt</i>
Clanton Canyon, Cienega, <i>Hidalgo</i>	Lordsburg, Playa, <i>Hidalgo</i>
Cliff, Cliff-Gila Valley, <i>Grant</i>	Luis Lopez, <i>Socorro</i>
Clovis, <i>Curry</i>	Maddox Lake, <i>Lea</i>
Cochiti, Lake, Dam, <i>Sandoval</i>	Madrid, <i>Santa Fe</i>
Columbus, <i>Luna</i>	Magdalena, Mts., <i>Socorro</i>
Conchas Lake, Dam, <i>San Miguel</i>	Maxwell, NWR, <i>Colfax</i>
Cotton City, <i>Hidalgo</i>	Mesilla, Dam, Valley, <i>Doña Ana</i>
Deming, <i>Luna</i>	Mills Canyon, <i>Harding</i>
Double Adobe, <i>Hidalgo</i>	Milnesand, <i>Roosevelt</i>
Eagle Nest, Lake, <i>Colfax</i>	Mimbres, <i>Grant</i>
Eldorado, <i>Santa Fe</i>	Monticello, <i>Sierra</i>
Elephant Butte Lake, Dam, <i>Sierra</i>	north <i>Roosevelt</i> trap, <i>Roosevelt</i>
El Vado Lake, <i>Rio Arriba</i>	Ned Houk Park, <i>Curry</i>
Emory Pass, <i>Grant/Sierra</i>	Oliver Lee SP, <i>Otero</i>
Engle, <i>Sierra</i>	Otero Mesa, <i>Otero</i>
Eunice, <i>Lea</i>	Peloncillo Mts., <i>Hidalgo</i>
Florida Mts., <i>Luna</i>	Petroglyph NM, <i>Bernalillo</i>
Floyd, <i>Roosevelt</i>	Percha SP, <i>Sierra</i>
Gila Bird Area, <i>Grant</i>	Placitas, <i>Sandoval</i>
Gila Lower Box, <i>Hidalgo</i>	Portales, <i>Roosevelt</i>
Guadalupe Canyon, <i>Hidalgo</i>	Post Office Canyon, <i>Hidalgo</i>
Guadalupe Mts., <i>Eddy</i>	Quarai, <i>Torrance</i>
Hatchet Gap, <i>Hidalgo</i>	Quemado, Lake, <i>Catron</i>
Heron Lake, <i>Rio Arriba</i>	Radium Springs, <i>Doña Ana</i>
Hillsboro, <i>Sierra</i>	Rattlesnake Springs, <i>Eddy</i>
Holloman Lake, <i>Otero</i>	Redrock, <i>Grant</i>
Hurley, <i>Grant</i>	Reserve, <i>Catron</i>

Rio Grande Nature Center, *Bernalillo*
 Rodeo, *Hidalgo*
 Roswell, *Chaves*
 Ruby Ranch, *San Miguel*
 Sandia Crest, *Bernalillo*
 Sandia Mts., *Bernalillo/Sandoval*
 Sandia Park, *Bernalillo*
 San Andres NWR, *Doña Ana*
 San Antonio, *Socorro*
 San Jon, *Quay*
 Santa Fe, *Santa Fe*
 Santa Rosa, *Guadalupe*
 Silver City, *Grant*
 Skeleton Canyon, *Hidalgo*
 Springer, Lake, *Colfax*
 Socorro, *Socorro*
 Storrie Lake, *San Miguel*

Stubblefield Lake, *Colfax*
 Sumner Lake, Dam, *De Baca*
 Sunland Park, *Doña Ana*
 Taiban, *DeBaca*
 Tatum, *Lea*
 Tierra Amarilla, *Rio Arriba*
 Timberon, *Otero*
 Truth or Consequences, *Sierra*
 Tucumcari, *Quay*
 Turn, *Valencia*
 Tyrone, *Grant*
 Water Canyon, *Socorro*
 White Rock, *Los Alamos*
 Whites City, *Eddy*
 Virden, *Hidalgo*
 Yeso, *De Baca*
 Zuni Mts, *McKinley/Cibola*

Standard Abbreviations

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

Initialed Observers

PB	Pat Basham	JNP	James N. Paton
CWB	Craig W. Benkman	NP	Nick Pederson
JB	James Black	EMR	Eric M. Rominger
RC	Robert Chapman	RAR	Rose Ann Rowlett
DJC	David J. Cleary	CMR	Christopher M. Rustay
NSC	Nancy S. Cox	LAS	Lawry A. Sager
AMC	Alan M. Craig	KCS	Kenneth C. Schneider
JSD	J. Scott Dieni	RTS	Robert T. Scholes
DAE	Douglas A. Emkalns	HRS	Hart R. Schwarz
GJE	Gordon J. Ewing	MTS	Marcy T. Scott
MRG	M. Rebecca Gracey	JWS	John W. Shipman
DLH	David L. Hawksworth	RSS	Roland S. Shook
RH	Roger Hoppe	PRS	Patricia R. Snider
WHH	William H. Howe	DWS	Dale W. Stahlecker
HA	Hawks Aloft	PT	Patricia Taber
HWI	HawkWatch International	RT	Ron Troy
TJH	Tom J. Hines	NV	Nick Vaughn
DJK	David J. Krueper	GLW	Gordon L. Warrick
ERL	Eugene R. Lewis	REW	Richard E. Webster
CDL	Carroll D. Littlefield	MEW	Mara E. Weisenberger
LKM	Larry K. Malone	SW	Steve West
DWM	David W. Mehlman	WFW	William F. West
RAM	Raymond A. Meyer	RW	Robert Wilcox
NM-C	Narca Moore-Craig	SOW	S. O. Williams III
RN	Robert Neiman	JEZ	James E. Zabriskie
BDN	Bruce D. Neville	DAZ	Dale A. Zimmerman
JRO	Jerry R. Oldenettel	MAZ	Marian A. Zimmerman
JEP	John E. Parmeter		

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

Red-throated Loon—An ad. in bright breeding plumage at Conchas L. 30 Apr (WFW*) furnished a *San Miguel* first and New Mexico's 20th overall record.

Horned Grebe—Several lingered late, including 1-2 at Stubblefield L. 6 Mar-9 May (DJC**) and 2 at Conchas L. 10 May (WFW).

American White Pelican—Noteworthy for the southwestern deserts were 60 soaring over Lordsburg 28 Mar (JEP). One was found dead of gunshot wounds at L. Avalon 23 Mar (SW).

Brown Pelican—An imm. at LVNWR 8 Mar (R. VanBuskirk*, R. Beaulieu*) provided only the 2nd record for *San Miguel*.

Neotropic Cormorant—One was far north to Allen L. near Springer 21 Apr-3 May (DJC**).

Double-crested Cormorant—Five active nests were in a waterbird colony at Mims L. near Truth or Consequences 28 May (WHH*, JSD); no Neotropics were seen in the area.

American Bittern—One in ponds along the lower Mimbres R. at Katfish Kove 23 Mar-11 Apr (MTS*, JEZ**) provided a *Luna* first. One at BLNWR 25 Apr (JEP, JRO) furnished the only additional report.

Least Bittern—Suggestive of local breeding were one or more singing at the Clabber Hill marsh on the Canadian R. below Conchas Dam 16 May (JEP, JRO) and 25 May (DAE, BDN, CMR) and one singing at Springer L. 24 & 28 May (audiotape DJC).

Great Blue Heron—Four nests were at Bosque NWR 29 May (GJE).

Great Egret—The species was widely reported, including in the north with one in *San Juan*, one in *Taos*, and 1-3 in *Colfax* 12 Apr-13 May (v.o.) and one west to Hurley 10 May (ERL).

Snowy Egret—Sixty active nests were in a waterbird colony in flooded saltcedar at Mims L. near Truth or Consequences 28 May (WHH, JSD).

Little Blue Heron—An ad. was at Bosque NWR 30 Apr & 2 May (JEP, JRO).

Tricolored Heron—One was north to RGNC 25-27 Apr (JEP*, NSC).

Cattle Egret—Thirty-five active nests were in a waterbird colony at Mims L. near Truth or Consequences 28 May (WHH, JSD).

Green Heron—An active nest at Katfish Kove 18 May (MTS, JEZ, JNP) provided a *Luna* breeding first.

Black-crowned Night-Heron—Three active nests were at a waterbird colony at Mims L. near Truth or Consequences 28 May (WHH, JSD).

Glossy Ibis—An ad. was at San Antonio 10-11 Apr (JRO**, JEP*) and another ad. was at BLNWR 26 Apr (JEP*).

White-faced Ibis—An impressive flight estimated at 8600 birds passed over Radium Springs during a period of three hours on the evening (17:00-20:00) of 20 Apr (MTS*, JEZ*).

Turkey Vulture—Earliest arrivals were singles near Deming 8 Mar (LKM) and Redrock 9 Mar (PT) and 10 at Carlsbad 9 Mar (SW); first at the Sandia Mts. hawkwatch lookout site were 2 on 11 Mar (HWI).

Mexican Duck—Reported at 16 sites in *Hidalgo* and *Luna* (v.o.), including a high 60 at Lordsburg 28 May (AMC, NM-C). Farther afield were 2 at BLNWR 16 Apr (GLW) and 8 at Tyrone 13 Apr (ERL).

Greater Scaup—Among the few reports were a male at Bosque NWR 9 Mar (WHH*) and one at Jal 1 Mar (JRO). Late were 2 males and 2 females at Stubblefield L. 9 May (DJC) where 2 males were still present 14 May (DJC).

Surf Scoter—One was near Storrie L. 10 May (CMR) and another was below Elephant Butte Dam 24-31 May (MTS*, JEZ**, PRS, JEP*). Undetailed was an internet report of one at Holloman L. 1 May.

Long-tailed Duck—An ad. male was at LVNWR 29 Apr-4 May (WFW*).

Barrow's Goldeneye—Unusual was a female east to Stubblefield L. 16 Mar (JRO**).

Ruddy Duck—A white-headed male was at Stubblefield L. 27-29 Mar (DJC**).

Osprey—Migrants were widely reported 22 Mar-31 May (m.ob.), including 2 “in the middle of nowhere” at the U.F.O. “crash site” in *Chaves* 1 May (BDN). At the Sandia Mts. hawkwatch lookout, 79 were counted 22 Mar-3 May (HWI). Four were actively catching goldfish at Quemado L. 2 Apr (SOW). Fifteen breeding pairs were monitored during the period, including 13 in the Heron-El Vado-Tierra Amarilla area (DWS+).

Mississippi Kite—One was at Mesilla 10 May (CWB), where scarce in recent years. West was one at Rodeo 26-27 May (REW, RAR). Up to 7 were along the Canadian R., east *San Miguel* 10-17 May (WFW, JEP, JRO).

Northern Harrier—A male-female pair was engaged in prey transfer at BLNWR's Hunter Marsh 31 May (SOW).

Northern Goshawk—A high 31 passed the Sandia Mts. lookout 24 Feb-3 May (HWI), a 183 % increase above the annual average of 11 there.

Common Black-Hawk—A pair was nest-building along the Canadian R. downstream from Conchas Dam 10 May (WFW). In the RGV, a pair nested at Isleta, *Valencia* in May (H. Smith).

Harris's Hawk—Noteworthy for *Doña Ana* was one at Sunland Park 19 May (JNP).

Broad-winged Hawk—Singles were at Santa Fe 20 Apr (T. Rahm*), Katfish Kove 20 Apr (MTS*, JEZ*), Las Cruces 24-25 Apr (CWB), and Jal 10 May (JEP*).

Swainson's Hawk—Early returnees included singles in *Doña Ana* 20 Mar (GJE) and the Animas Valley 23 Mar (AMC, NM-C, REW).

Zone-tailed Hawk—Early were singles at Cochiti Dam 27 Mar (MRG) and Wall L., *Grant* 30 Mar (JRO). Noteworthy for the Sacramento Mts. was a nest at Timberon 29 May (T. McDaniel).

Golden Eagle—Noteworthy for the eastern plains was a pair attempting to nest on a 100 m tower at Taiban Mar-May (DJK, W. Ostheimer).

Merlin—Some 17 passed the Sandia Mts. hawkwatch lookout 4 Mar-26 Apr (HWI).

Applomado Falcon—An ad. was on territory in *Luna* Mar-May (RAM*). Another ad. was east to *Eddy* 23 Mar (SW*).

Chukar—One at Sandia Park 2 May (*fide* KCS) and another at 2745 m in the Sandia Mts. 6 May (*fide* KCS) indicated continued releases by unknown entities there.

Black Rail—A vocal one in an extensive Canadian R. marsh below Conchas Dam 10-25 May (WFW*, JEP*, JRO*, DAE*, BDN*) provided the 2nd state report in two years; unfortunately, no photographs or voice recordings were obtained.

Common Moorhen—Far north and a *Colfax* first was one at Allen L. near Springer 10 Apr-12 May (DJC**).

Black-bellied Plover—High counts were 5 at Stubblefield L. 14 May (DJC**) and 6 there 16 May (DJC).

American Golden-Plover—Well-described were singles at Bosque NWR 2 May (JEP*) and BLNWR 22-26 Apr (GLW, JEP*, JRO**).

Snowy Plover—Migrants included singles at Springer L. 21 Apr (DJC) and Bosque NWR 10 May (DAE, BDN), 2 at Lordsburg Playa 5 Apr (CMR) and one at Lordsburg 6 & 15 May (AMC, NM-C), a high 17 at Brantley L. 19 Apr (JRO), and 5 at Laguna Grande 1 Mar (JRO); peak count at BLNWR was 273 on 26 Apr (GLW).

Semipalmated Plover—High counts were 8 at Springer L. 7 May (DJC) and 6 at L. David 4 May (WFW). Three at McKinney Tank near Antelope Wells 26 Apr (AMC, NM-C) furnished a local first.

Mountain Plover—Two migrants were on Otero Mesa 18 Mar (T. Mader). In *Taos*, 80 were counted at 56 sites 29 Apr-19 May, including “active territories” at 21 of those sites (HA). In the El Malpais area of *Cibola*, 11 were counted at 8 sites 19 Apr-6 Jun, with two sites judged as active territories and breeding confirmed at one (HA).

Black-necked Stilt—Two nests were at Lordsburg 25 May (AMC, NM-C).

American Avocet—High count was 478 at BLNWR 23 Apr (GLW). Breeding activity included two nests at Starr L., *McKinley* 15 May (DWS), two nests at Turn 24 May (CMR), and two nests at Lordsburg 25 May (AMC, NM-C).

Solitary Sandpiper—One-two reported from *Socorro, Luna, Chaves, Eddy, and Lea* 18 Apr-10 May (v.o.).

Willet—The season produced several sizable flocks, including 78 at Bosque NWR 7 May (JB), 50 at Bill Evans L. 3 May (LKM), and 35 near Deming 6 May (MTS, JEZ**).

Spotted Sandpiper—Far from water was one on the shoulder of the highway at Yeso 23 May (JRO).

Whimbrel—Among the very few reports were 3 at Maxwell NWR 16 May (DJC) and 7 at BLNWR 3 May (JRO**).

Long-billed Curlew—Wasting little time, a Long-billed Curlew pair had fledglings near McAlister, *Quay* 26 May (CMR).

Hudsonian Godwit—One was at Bosque NWR 17-18 May (JRO**).

Ruddy Turnstone—One at Stubblefield L. 14 May (DJC**) provided a *Colfax* first.

Sanderling—A remarkable flock of 34 were at L. Isabel 10 May (CMR*).

White-rumped Sandpiper—The earliest was one at Portales 15 May (WFW). Highs were 32 at Stubblefield L. 21 May (DJC**) and 30 at BLNWR 24 May (JEP).

Pectoral Sandpiper—Two were west to Deming 24 Apr (LKM*).

Dunlin—Late were 2 in breeding plumage at BLNWR 3 May (JRO).

Stilt Sandpiper—Reports were confined to the region east of the RGV 22 Apr-30 May, with high counts of 44 at Maxwell NWR 20 May (DJC), 53 at Stubblefield L. 21 May (DJC**), and 47 at BLNWR 21 May (GLW).

Long-tailed Jaeger—An ad. at Conchas L. 10 May (WFW*) furnished a *San Miguel* first and New Mexico's 10th overall.

California Gull—No gull breeds in New Mexico, but this species is a good candidate. Noteworthy were 20 at Eagle Nest L. 31 May (DJC**).

Thayer's Gull—One was at EBL's Three Sisters area 23 Mar (JRO**).

Caspian Tern—Undetailed was one reported in *San Juan* 10 May (*fide* SW).

Sandwich Tern—Certainly unexpected was one at L. Avalon 13 May (TJH**). Written details, including "larger than Forster's, black bill with yellow tip, white forehead" and distant photographs of this coastal species are under review; there are no previous New Mexico reports.

Forster's Tern—Late were 6 at BLNWR 28 May (GLW).

Least Tern—Earliest at BLNWR were singles 16 & 23 Apr (GLW); another strayed to Sumner L. 16 May (JRO, WFW) and 2 were at Brantley L. 24 May (JEP).

Black Tern—A notable concentration of 120 was at Sumner L. 17 May (JEP, JRO).

Band-tailed Pigeon—Perhaps a first for San Andres NWR was one in upper Ash Spring 22 May (MEW**). Unusual was one at Washington Ranch near Rattlesnake Springs 9 May (JEP).

Eurasian Collared-Dove—The species was found nearly statewide, including west to *San Juan*, *Grant*, and *Hidalgo*, and in barely eight years seems to have effectively colonized all corners of the state. A nest in Albuquerque had a large nestling 30 Mar (WHH).

White-winged Dove—One was north to Maxwell 2 May (DJC**).

Mourning Dove—A pair at Albuquerque's Paradise Hills, after successfully fledging two broods, was incubating a 3rd clutch 18 May (WHH).

Inca Dove—Where seldom noted were 2 at Hillsboro 4 & 12 Apr (CMR, JEP), 3 at Kingston 6 Apr (CMR), and one in Guadalupe Canyon 31 May (JEP).

Common Ground-Dove—Encouraging news for this species were reports of 2 at Redrock 24 Apr (EMR), where singing was reported (*fide* DAZ), up to 4, including singing birds, at Rodeo 21-27 May (REW*), another near Rodeo 30 May (REW), and a singing individual in Guadalupe Canyon 31 May (JEP).

Ruddy Ground-Dove—The remarkable invasion that began in Oct continued into spring, with one singing at Luis Lopez 9 Mar-1 Apr (JRO*), a male at Silver City 14 Mar (DAZ*, MAZ*) and a female there 4 Apr (DAZ*, MAZ*), at least 4 persisting at Cotton City 28 Mar (JEP*), and a female plus a “full-tailed juvenile” in Guadalupe Canyon 17 May (DAZ*, MAZ*).

Mitred Parakeet—Apparently enjoying its freedom from a cage, a spiffy *Aratinga mitrata* was roaming about northeast Albuquerque in May (CMR** *fide* DJK).

Thick-billed Parrot—Making national news was one that took up residence in a grove of exotic pines on the Armendaris Ranch at Engle from 8 May into Jun (except for three days absence during 23-26 May) (T. Waddell, m.ob.). By the end of May, over 400 birders from at least 20 states and six countries had enjoyed the bird. Many hundreds of excellent photographs left no doubt as to the parrot's identity, but origin was a hotly-debated issue.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo—Surveys in recent years documented numerous cuckoos in saltcedar along the lower Pecos R., but a government-sponsored herbicide program initiated in late winter may have ended that; surveys found no cuckoos in their usual haunts there through 31 May (SW). Elsewhere, earliest arrivals were singles at NRT 7 May (BDN) and GBA 15 May (RSS).

Greater Roadrunner—A pair in Albuquerque's North Valley proved adept at capturing, smashing, and extracting the meat from large land snails 3 Apr (SOW).

Barn Owl—A nest in a streambank cave along Ponil Cr. (DJC**) provided one of the few *Colfax* breeding records. One at Quarai 25 May (NV, NP) furnished a local first.

Whiskered Screech-Owl—A vocal one near Aspen Spring 10 May (NM-C, RAR) provided only the 3rd Animas Mts. record.

Elf Owl—Seven were vocal in Last Chance Canyon, Guadalupe Mts. 20 Apr (SW), the most yet found in *Eddy*.

Long-eared Owl—Three were roosting in dense saltcedar at Bosque Redondo 8 Mar (JEP, JRO). For the 2nd consecutive year, an active nest was in the Sandia Mts. at La Madera, *Sandoval* 23 May (MRG).

Lesser Nighthawk—Far north of expected, up to 11—all frustratingly silent—were at Clabber Hill Ranch below Conchas Dam 10-25 May (WFW+).

Common Poorwill—Earliest was one in the Florida Mts. 15 Mar (CMR*).

Chimney Swift—An early one was at Roswell 25 Apr (JEP, JRO).

Broad-billed Hummingbird—A male strayed north to Silver City 15 Apr (PT*). In the Peloncillo Mts., another male was north to Post Office Canyon 1 Apr-31 May (CDL) and 2 were reported in Skeleton Canyon 10 May (RC).

White-eared Hummingbird—A female was in Indian Cr. Canyon, Animas Mts. 10 May (NM-C*, RAR), in the same area where one was seen in June 2001.

Blue-throated Hummingbird—One was in the Animas Mts. 10 May (RAR *fide* NM-C).

Magnificent Hummingbird—Three were in the Animas Mts. 10 May (NM-C, RAR).

Lucifer Hummingbird—Relatively scarce in Post Office Canyon, with only 4 males there by 25 Apr and a single female by 3 May (CDL). Two were in Skeleton Canyon 10 May (RC) where a male was present 28 May (JB).

Black-chinned Hummingbird—Early was a male in Post Office Canyon 14 Mar (RTS).

Calliope Hummingbird—Possibly increasing in spring in southwestern New Mexico, this season found a male in Post Office Canyon 16 & 24 Apr (CDL) and an undetailed two were reported in Skeleton Canyon 10 May (RC).

Broad-tailed Hummingbird—Early was a male in Post Office Canyon 8 Mar (CDL).

Rufous Hummingbird—Unexpected in spring, 1-3 males were present in Post Office Canyon 23 Mar-8 May and a female was there 26 Mar (CDL). Unfortunately undetailed were reports of one in *Grant* and 2 in *San Juan* 10 May (*fide* SW).

Lewis's Woodpecker—Lingering from winter was one at Deming 9 & 30 Mar (MTS, JEZ), last seen 2 Apr (LKM). One wandered to the Rattlesnake Springs area 8 Mar (SW) and 19 Apr (JEP, JRO).

Red-headed Woodpecker—A good showing by this species, including discovery of 10-15 along the Canadian R. below Conchas Dam in May (m.ob.), individuals or pairs at three Carlsbad locales in Apr & May (SW), and one near Eunice 31 May (SOW). Unusual was one in the Fra Cristobal Mts., *Sierra* 23 May (EMR).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker—A male was at Bosque NWR 16 Mar (CMR*).

Downy Woodpecker—Far east was a female at NRT 28 Apr (WHH).

Hairy Woodpecker—Unexpected were up to 2 at Katfish Kove 23 Mar-18 May (MTS, JEZ, CMR, LKM, JNP).

Yellow-shafted Flicker—A female was near Milnesand area 11 Apr (CMR*).

Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet—Unprecedented was a vocal male east to Washington Ranch near Rattlesnake Springs 19-25 Apr (JEP*, JRO**, SW), a first for southeast New Mexico. Early was a male singing in Guadalupe Canyon 29 Mar (JEP, JRO), where a pair was feeding a large young 16 May (DAZ, MAZ).

Greater Pewee—One was at Aspen Spring, Animas Mts. 10 May (NM-C, RAR), where scarce in recent years.

Hammond's Flycatcher—Perhaps a winter holdover, one believed to be this species was at Katfish Kove 9 & 23 Mar (MTS, JEZ) and 2 were reported there 6 Apr (CMR*).

Gray Flycatcher—East were singles at Caprock and Tatum 19 Apr (JRO) and at Ned Houk Park near Clovis 28 Apr (WHH*).

Dusky Flycatcher—Noteworthy were up to 6 singing along Bluewater Cr., Zuni Mts. 28 May (HRS).

Buff-breasted Flycatcher—Surprising was one well-seen in upper Skeleton Canyon 10 May (RC*).

Eastern Phoebe—Lingering were one at Katfish Kove 3 Mar-6 Apr (MTS, JEZ, DAE, BDN, CMR) and one singing at Isleta 9 May (SOW). Suspected breeders were 2 in Mills Canyon, *Harding* 17 May (DJC) and a displaying male near Tucumcari 24 Apr (WHH).

Vermilion Flycatcher—Unusually numerous and widespread in the south, with multiple reports from *Grant, Hidalgo, Sierra, Luna, Otero, Chaves, and Eddy*. In the northeast, several were along the Canadian R., eastern *San Miguel*, an active nest was at Conchas Dam 24 Apr (WHH), single males were at Sumner L. 25 Mar (RH) and Causey, *Roosevelt* 3 May (JRO**), and a nest was at Hondo, *Lincoln* 31 Mar (RT).

Ash-throated Flycatcher—Early was one at Virden 15 Mar (LKM).

Great Crested Flycatcher—Very rare in spring, one was at NRT 18 May (DAE, BDN, CMR, JEP*, JRO**).

Brown-crested Flycatcher—Unusually numerous in Guadalupe Canyon, with up to 10 there 10 May (AMC+).

Cassin's Kingbird—Early was one in Guadalupe Canyon 29 Mar (JEP, JRO).

Thick-billed Kingbird—Only one had returned to Guadalupe Canyon by the end of the period (AMC, NM-C, DAZ, MAZ, JEP).

Western Kingbird—An active nest was on the moving arm of a pumpjack near Loco Hills, *Eddy* 19 May (CMR).

Eastern Kingbird—Rare in *Roosevelt* was one at NRT 18 May (m.ob.).

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher—West was one at LVNWR in late may (*fide* K. Kuyuk).

White-eyed Vireo—One was at NRT 27-28 Apr (JEP*, JRO*, WHH**); the species has become increasingly frequent in New Mexico in recent years.

Bell's Vireo—Two in the southern Hachita Valley, *Hidalgo* 29 May (SOW) provided a local first. North in the RGV was one at Bosque NWR 2 May (JEP).

Yellow-throated Vireo—Made a good showing, with singing singles in Guadalupe Canyon 10 May (AMC*), near Mimbres 17 May (T. & C. Jervis*), and at Rattlesnake Springs 24-25 Apr (JEP*, JRO**).

Blue-headed Vireo—One was at NRT 2 Apr (JRO*) and again 18 Apr (BDN*).

Hutton's Vireo—One was north to Water Canyon 11 Apr (JEP), where only recently established. Some 11 pairs were in the Post Office Canyon area during the season (CDL), and a pair was feeding nestlings in nearby Skull Canyon 13 May (CDL).

Red-eyed Vireo—One was singing in the Rattlesnake Springs area 10 May (JEP). One was at NRT 16 May (WFW) & 24 May (JEP).

Steller's Jay—The massive fall and winter invasion of lowland areas continued to recede through Apr, and most had vacated such locales by early May. Among the last were 20 in downtown Albuquerque 30 Apr (DJK), 15 at Bosque Redondo 20 Apr (JRO), and singles at Socorro (PB) and Deming (LKM) 20 Apr, Radium Springs 30 Apr (MTS, JEZ), and Post Office Canyon 5 May (CDL).

Blue Jay—Singles were west to RGNC 15 Mar & 5 Apr (JEP) and Socorro 20-21 Mar & 15-26 Apr (PB). Unusual for *Taos* was one at Peñasco 8 May (D. R. Williams**).

Western Scrub-Jay—One was east to Tatum 1 Mar (JRO).

Mexican Jay—In Post Office Canyon, a pair was nest-building 31 Mar, incubating 4 Apr, and had fledglings 8 May (CDL).

Pinyon Jay—The species wandered far and wide, including 2 on the caprock south of San Jon 11 Apr (CMR), one in Albuquerque's North Valley 26 Apr (DWM), 5 at Luis Lopez 9 May (JRO), one at Radium Springs 8-28 Apr (MTS, JEZ), and 11 in the Peloncillo Mts. 29 Apr. (CDL).

Black-billed Magpie—One was south to the I-25 bridge at Isleta 25 Apr (BDN).

American Crow—Remnants of the winter invasion of the lower Pecos Valley included 250 at Brantley L. 5 Mar (SW).

swallows—The trend of early arriving swallows continued, with a **Tree** at Maddox L. 1 Mar (JRO), a **Violet-green** in the Gila Lower Box 11 Mar (SOW), 5 **Cliffs** at EBL 1 Mar (JEP), and a **Barn** at Carlsbad 10 Mar (SW).

Cave Swallow—Continued to thrive in *Doña Ana*, with 42 at La Union 10 May (GJE) and one north to Leasburg 30 May (MTS, JEZ**). Out of range was one at Maddox L. 4 May (BDN).

Mexican Chickadee—Nine were in Indian Cr. Canyon, Animas Mts. 10 May (NM-C, RAR).

Bridled Titmouse—A pair with 3 fledglings at Katfish Kove 2 May (MTS, JEZ [*of ad.]) provided a *Luna* breeding first.

Juniper Titmouse—Two active nests in boxes at the Placitas Open Space 26 Apr (HRS): one with 4 eggs and the other with a sitting ad.

Red-breasted Nuthatch—Late for the east were singles at Rattlesnake Springs 18 Apr (BDN, SW) and Tatum 3 May (JRO).

White-breasted Nuthatch—Present at Katfish Kove from 9 Mar into May (MTS, JEZ), including an ad. and a fledgling 18 May (MTS, JEZ, JNP), likely a *Luna* breeding first.

Carolina Wren—One along the Pecos R. at Villanueva 9 Mar (JRO**) & 18 Mar (JEP*) provided a *San Miguel* first. Apparently persisting from 2002, one began singing in the GBA 14 Mar (RSS) and 2 (one seen well) were vocal there 31 May (RSS); one there 25 May was suspected of being a possible Carolina x Bewick's hybrid (JRO*), but this was not confirmed.

House Wren—An estimated 75 were at NRT 26 Apr (JRO), but only 10-15 were there 27 Apr (JRO) and only 6 were found 28 Apr (WHH).

Golden-crowned Kinglet—Suggestive of local breeding were 6 singing in spruce-fir habitat on South Baldy, Magdalena Mts. 30 May (HRS).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher—Earliest arrivals were singles in Post Office Canyon 27 Mar (CDL) and Clanton Canyon 28 Mar (JEP).

Black-tailed Gnatcatcher—North in the RGV were a male at Bosque NWR 9 Mar (WHH) and 2 at South Highlands Point, EBL 1 Mar (JEP). Noteworthy for the southwest was one at Double Adobe 23 Mar (NM-C, REW).

Eastern Bluebird—A pair suspected of nesting at Conchas Dam 24 Apr (WHH) was feeding a fledgling there 10 May (WFW). Noteworthy for *Luna* were 2 at Deming 5 Mar (LKM) and 2 in the Florida Mts. 11 Mar (LKM).

Mountain Bluebird—An active nest was in a metal box beneath a house trailer at 3200 m at Langmuir Lab, Magdalena Mts. 30 May (HRS).

Townsend's Solitaire—Late was one feeding on mulberry fruits at Virden 25 May (NM-C); another lingered at Radium Springs until 3 Jun (MTS, JEZ).

Swainson's Thrush—One banded at Ropes Spring 2 May (MEW) provided a San Andres NWR first.

Hermit Thrush—A migrant “wave” of some 200 were at NRT 26 May (JRO), where less than 20 were present the following day and only 8 were found 28 Apr (WHH).

Rufous-backed Robin—One in Guadalupe Canyon 22-31 May (AMC*, NM-C*, REW**, RAR, JRO**, JEP*) provided the state's 7th overall and first outside the RGV.

Gray Catbird—One to 2 were singing south to Bosque Redondo 17 May (JEP, JRO). West was one in riparian habitat at Aragon 26 May (JRO), as was one at Katfish Kove on various dates 23 Mar-20 Apr (MTS, JEZ, DAE, BDN, CMR).

Northern Mockingbird—A nest with 3 eggs was at Petroglyph NM 4 May (HRS).

Brown Thrasher—Singles were west to Cotton City 28 Mar (JEP) and Hillsboro 6 Apr (DAE, BDN, CMR). At least one was at Bosque Redondo on various dates 8 Mar-23 May (JEP, JRO), but no Long-billed Thrasher was detected there.

Curve-billed Thrasher—Some 40 pairs were in residence at Eldorado Mar-May (DWS).

Crissal Thrasher—Two were north to Eldorado 20 & 27 Apr and one was there 16 May (DWS).

Phainopepla—A male was north to the vicinity of Lower San Francisco Plaza south of Reserve 26 May (JRO).

Olive Warbler—Two were north to the Magdalena Mts. above Water Canyon 2 May (JEP) and one was there 10 May (DAE). A high 6 were in Indian Cr. Canyon, Animas Mts. 10 May (NM-C, RAR).

Orange-crowned Warbler—A very bright one was at Bosque NWR on the early date of 9 Mar (WHH).

Lucy's Warbler—Earliest in the Gila Valley were singles at Virden 15 Mar (LKM) and GBA 22 Mar (RSS). Noteworthy for *Eddy* was one at Rattlesnake Springs 25 Apr (JEP).

Northern Parula—Single males were at Socorro 27 Apr (DLH), NRT 3-4 May (JEP, JRO), and BLNWR 18-20 Apr (JEP, JRO, GLW).

Chestnut-sided Warbler—An ad. male was at NRT 7 & 9 May (DAE* BDN*, JEP*).

Magnolia Warbler—A male was at Bosque Redondo 9 May (JEP*); a female was reported at Madrid 27 Apr (LAS).

Black-throated Gray Warbler—Earliest was one at Post Office Canyon 27 Mar (CDL).

Hermit Warbler—Very rare in spring, 2 were in Indian Cr. Canyon, Animas Mts. 10 May (NM-C, RAR); another was reported in *Grant* 10 May (*fide* RW).

Blackburnian Warbler—One, described as a male, was at NRT 26 May (BDN*, DAE*, CMR).

Grace's Warbler—Arriving about on schedule were 3 in Water Canyon 11 Apr (JEP), one in the Sandia Mts. (HRS) and 2 on Emory Pass (JRO) 12 Apr, and one at Deming 13 Apr (LKM).

Palm Warbler—Up to 3 were reported at Socorro 20-22 Apr: an individual in bright breeding plumage 20-21 Apr (PB*), another in partial breeding plumage 21 Apr (PB**), and another in drab plumage 22 Apr (PB*).

Black-and-white Warbler—A singing male was at NRT 27 Apr (JEP, JRO), another singing male was at Albuquerque 25 May (DAE, BDN), a male was at Tatum 3 May (JRO), and one was reported in *Grant* 10 May (*fide* RW).

American Redstart—An ad. male at NRT 7 May (DAE, BDN) provided the only report.

Prothonotary Warbler—A singing male was at Washington Ranch near Rattlesnake Springs 10 May (JEP*).

Worm-eating Warbler—One was along Sapello Cr. on Ruby Ranch north of Las Vegas 4 May (WFW*).

Ovenbird—One was at Bosque NWR 2 May (JEP).

Kentucky Warbler—A singing male was in Albuquerque's North Valley 26 May (DWM*). A possible one was heard but only poorly seen at Virden 25 May (JRO*, AMC, NM-C).

Hooded Warbler—A male was at Socorro 8-10 May (JWS, BDN, DAE).

Red-faced Warbler—One in cottonwoods south of Katfish Kove 2 May (MTS, JEZ) may be a *Luna* first.

Painted Redstart—Noteworthy for *Luna* were 2 at Katfish Kove 30 Mar (MTS, JEZ**). East to the Sacramento Mts. was one in Dog Canyon at Oliver Lee SP 28 Mar (H. Haskell).

Hepatic Tanager—A male was singing east to NRT 3-4 May (JEP, JRO) and a male and female were there 9 May (JEP).

Summer Tanager—North were 4 or more along the Canadian R. below Conchas Dam 10, 17, & 25 May (m.ob.); singles were at NRT 26 Apr (JEP) & 17 May (JRO).

Canyon Towhee—Noteworthy for the eastern plains were 2 near Milnesand 13 Apr (CMR) and one near Eunice 28 May (LAS).

Cassin's Sparrow—Several were detected in the southwest (where absent in some years), including 3 at Tyrone 11 May (ERL), one near Katfish Kove 24 May (MTS, JEZ), 14 near Hatchet Gap 29 May (SOW), and 3 near Columbus 28 May (SOW).

Botteri's Sparrow—One singing at a Rodeo farm 27 May (REW, RAR) provided a new locality for this recently-established species.

Brewer's Sparrow—For the 2nd consecutive year, nesting was documented in *Colfax*, with up to 6 singing males plus a female incubating eggs in saltbush at Stubblefield L. 26 May (DJC**).

Field Sparrow—One was near Milnesand 12 Apr (CMR).

Black-chinned Sparrow—Noteworthy for Albuquerque's West Mesa was a male singing in Rinconada Canyon, Petroglyph NM 4 May (HRS). One at Quarai 10 May (NV) provided a local first.

Black-throated Sparrow—One was north to Maxwell NWR 20 May (DJC*).

Grasshopper Sparrow—At least 3 were in mountain grasslands north of Monticello 11 Apr: 2 in *Socorro* and one in *Sierra* (JEP, JRO). Near McAlister, *Quay* 2 were in exotic weeping lovegrass 26 May (CMR).

Baird's Sparrow—A grassy ridge at about 2150 m in the southern San Mateo Mts. north of Monticello harbored 5 Baird's 8 Apr (WFW*) and at least one was there 11 Apr (JEP*, JRO*); the site is in southern *Socorro* very near the *Sierra* line.

Fox Sparrow—Three wintered in Post Office Canyon, where 2 remained 31 Mar and the last was seen 14 Apr (CDL). Elsewhere, singles were at Deming 6 Mar (LKM), Percha SP 26 Mar (GJE), and Whites City 8 Mar (RN).

Harris's Sparrow—Singles were in *San Miguel* 10 May (WFW), at Socorro until 18 Apr (PB), and at Bosque NWR until 27 Apr (JO); rare in *Luna*, one was at Katfish Kove 20 Apr (JEZ*).

Golden-crowned Sparrow—Singles were at Bosque NWR 9 Mar (WHH), Post Office Canyon 1 May (CDL), and near Rattlesnake Springs 10 May (JEP*).

Lapland Longspur—Several reports of small numbers in *Colfax* in early Mar, with the last 6 at Springer L. 20 Mar (DJC).

Northern Cardinal—The species continued its northward march, including at least 2 along the Canadian R. in eastern *San Miguel* 10 & 17 May (WFW, JEP, JRO), one at Santa Rosa 17 May (CMR), a male and female at Sumner L. until late Mar (RH), and one near Floyd 11 Apr (C. L. Hayes*).

Pyrrhuloxia—Two were north to NRT 13 Apr (CMR).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak—A strong showing produced 1-3 in 13 counties, including west to *Grant* and *Hidalgo*, 25 Apr-22 May (m.ob.).

Varied Bunting—The species enjoyed a good season in *Eddy*, with singles in Walnut Canyon 3 & 25 May (DAE, BDN, JEP) and Slaughter Canyon 3 May (SW) plus 6 in Rattlesnake Canyon 25 May (SW).

Painted Bunting—One was north to NRT 16-17 May (JEP) and two were along the Canadian R. in eastern *San Miguel* 10 May (WFW), where a male was singing 17 May (JEP, JRO).

Rusty Blackbird—Unprecedented was a flock of 14 at Rattlesnake Springs 2 Mar (JRO**), with 25 there when last reported 8 Mar (SW, BDN).

Bronzed Cowbird—Continued to increase in range and numbers, with reports from a record 14 counties, including 2 males at Taiban 3 May (JEP), an apparent western female near NRT 26 May (DAE, BDN), a male at Ned Houk Park near Clovis 6 May (DAE, BDN), and one at Lingo 21 May (CMR).

Orchard Oriole—Singles wandered to Luis Lopez 18 May (JRO*) and NRT 17-26 May (m.ob.).

Hooded Oriole—Two were at Hillsboro 12 Apr (JEP) & 3 May (CMR) and one was at Luis Lopez 14-16 May (*fide* JRO).

Scott's Oriole—Two males were north to Madrid 20 Apr (LAS) and one was near Las Vegas 4 May (WFW).

Common Chaffinch—Presumably another refugee from the cagebird trade was a nifty blue-headed male *Fringilla coelebs* at White Rock 9 May (M. Dross*).

rosy-finch—The now-famous flock at Sandia Crest gradually departed during Mar, with the last three-species flock of 24 birds (2 **Gray-crowneds**, 10 **Blacks**, and 12 **Brown-cappededs**) noted 8 Apr (KCS) and the last individual reported 14 Apr (*fide* KCS). Last at Eagle Nest was a three-species flock of 76 birds (nearly 80 % **Brown-cappededs**) 19 Apr (DJC).

Red Crossbill—Notably scarce statewide; unusual were singles at Conchas Dam 25 May (DAE, BDN) and Luis Lopez 6 May (JRO).

Lawrence's Goldfinch—Last of the winter's incursion was a female at Radium Springs 7 Apr (MTS, JEZ**).

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