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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 \$20; Family \$30; Student \$10; Supporting \$50; Life \$500. Address for the New Mexico Ornithological Society: P. O. Box 3068, Albuquerque, NM 87190-3068; www.nmbirds.org.

Cover: American Three-toed Woodpecker (*Picoides dorsalis*). This quiet and inconspicuous woodpecker reaches its southernmost distribution in New Mexico, where it inhabits mature spruce-fir forests of the higher mountains south to the Mogollon and Sacramento ranges. Its preference for bark beetles makes it quick to invade forests recently damaged by fire or insect infestation, but overall populations are likely limited by extent of old growth forests with dependable supplies of dead and dying trees through time. It is vulnerable to practices that fragment forests, such as clearcutting, or that remove dead and dying trees, such as salvage logging. Art by Dale A. Zimmerman.

WINTER SEASON 2008-2009

Winter 2008-09 presented New Mexico birds and birders with another relatively warm and dry season, and many species seemed to respond by lingering late, overwintering north of usual, or returning early. Several remarkable species were documented, including a record three Lesser Black-backed Gulls, a “yellow” Palm Warbler, and the state’s third Snow Bunting. Noteworthy was the continuing presence Black-capped Gnatcatcher, a recently arrived Mexican species, as was the overdue arrival of the state’s first Rufous-capped Warbler.

Localities and Counties

Aguirre Springs, <i>Doña Ana</i>	Holloman Lake, <i>Otero</i>
Alameda, <i>Bernalillo</i>	Kingston, <i>Sierra</i>
Albuquerque, <i>Bernalillo</i>	Ladder Ranch, <i>Sierra</i>
Anapra, <i>Doña Ana</i>	La Joya, <i>Socorro</i>
Animas, Mts., Valley, <i>Hidalgo</i>	Lake Avalon, <i>Eddy</i>
Belen, <i>Valencia</i>	Las Animas Creek, <i>Sierra</i>
Bernardo, <i>Socorro</i>	Las Cruces, <i>Doña Ana</i>
Bill Evans Lake, <i>Grant</i>	Las Palomas, <i>Sierra</i>
Bitter Lake NWR, <i>Chaves</i>	Las Vegas, NWR, <i>San Miguel</i>
Bosque del Apache NWR, <i>Socorro</i>	Lordsburg, Playa, <i>Hidalgo</i>
Brantley Lake, <i>Eddy</i>	Los Alamos, <i>Los Alamos</i>
Buckman, <i>Santa Fe</i>	Loving, <i>Eddy</i>
Caballo Lake, Dam, <i>Sierra</i>	Luis Lopez, <i>Socorro</i>
Carlsbad, <i>Eddy</i>	Magdalena Mts., <i>Socorro</i>
Carlsbad Caverns NP, <i>Eddy</i>	Maxwell, NWR, <i>Colfax</i>
Chloride Canyon, <i>Sierra</i>	Mesilla, Park, Dam, Valley, <i>Doña Ana</i>
Cimarron, Canyon, <i>Colfax</i>	Orilla Verde, <i>Taos</i>
Clanton Canyon, Cienega, <i>Hidalgo</i>	Pancho Villa SP, <i>Luna</i>
Clayton, <i>Union</i>	Pecos, <i>San Miguel</i>
Cliff, Cliff-Gila Valley, <i>Grant</i>	Peloncillo Mts., <i>Hidalgo</i>
Clovis, <i>Curry</i>	Percha SP, <i>Sierra</i>
Cochiti, Lake, Dam, <i>Sandoval</i>	Quarai, <i>Torrance</i>
Columbus, <i>Luna</i>	Questa, <i>Taos</i>
Conchas Lake, Dam, <i>San Miguel</i>	Radium Springs, <i>Doña Ana</i>
Corrales, <i>Sandoval</i>	Rattlesnake Springs, <i>Eddy</i>
Deming, <i>Luna</i>	Roswell, <i>Chaves</i>
Dixon, <i>Rio Arriba</i>	San Antonio, <i>Socorro</i>
Elephant Butte, Lake, Dam, <i>Sierra</i>	Sandia Crest, Park, <i>Bernalillo</i>
Emory Pass, <i>Grant/Sierra</i>	Sandia Mts., <i>Bernalillo/Sandoval</i>
Española, <i>Rio Arriba</i>	San Simon Cienega, <i>Hidalgo</i>
Eunice, <i>Lea</i>	Santa Fe, <i>Santa Fe</i>
Farmington, Lake, <i>San Juan</i>	Santa Rosa, Lake, <i>Guadalupe</i>
Galisteo, <i>Santa Fe</i>	Sevilleta NWR, <i>Socorro</i>
Gila, Bird Area, <i>Grant</i>	Silver City, <i>Grant</i>
Guadalupe Canyon, <i>Hidalgo</i>	Springer, Lake, <i>Colfax</i>
Hachita, <i>Grant</i>	Stubblefield Lake, <i>Colfax</i>
Hatch, <i>Doña Ana</i>	Sunland Park, <i>Doña Ana</i>
Hermanas, <i>Luna</i>	Truth or Consequences, <i>Sierra</i>
Hillsboro, <i>Sierra</i>	Tyrone, <i>Grant</i>

Ute Lake, *Quay*
 Virden, *Hidalgo*
 Water Canyon, *Socorro*

Whites City, *Eddy*
 Zuni, *McKinley*
 Zuni Mts., *McKinley/Cibola*

Standard Abbreviations

AFB	Air Force Base	SP	State Park
Bosque NWR	Bosque del Apache NWR	UNM	Univ. of New Mexico
BLNWR	Bitter Lake NWR	USFWS	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
BBS	Breeding Bird Survey	WMA	Wildlife Management Area
CBC	Christmas Bird Count	WSMR	White Sands Missile Range
CCNP	Carlsbad Caverns NP	♂	male (represents sword & shield of Mars)
CG	Camp Ground	♀	female (represents mirror of Venus)
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		
RGNC	Rio Grande Nature Center		
RGV	Rio Grande Valley		

Initialed Observers

BB	Bob Barber	DWM	David W. Mehlman
JPB	Jonathan P. Batkin	NM-C	Narca Moore-Craig
MJB	Matt J. Baumann	APN	Alan P. Nelson
DJB	David J. Beatty	WN	William Norris
KB	Karen Beckenbach	JRO	Jerry R. Oldenettel
GB	Grant Beauprez	JEP	John E. Parmeter
CMB	Celestyn M. Brozek	JNP	James N. Paton
DJC	David J. Cleary	NDP	Nicholas D. Pederson
NSC	Nancy S. Cox	BKP	Brandon K. Percival
SWC	Steven W. Cox	JP	John Puschock
AMC	Alan M. Craig	CMR	Christopher M. Rustay
CCC	Craig C. Cranston	JMR	Janet M. Ruth
RHD	Robert H. Doster	LAS	Lawry A. Sager
JLD	John L. Douglas	JIS	Jeffery I. Sanchez
BRF	Bernard R. Foy	HRS	Hart R. Schwarz
TG	Tony Godfrey	MTS	Marcy T. Scott
MRG	M. Rebecca Gracey	RSS	Roland S. Shook
DJG	David J. Griffin	JPS	James P. Smith
DLH	David L. Hawksworth	KS	Ken Stinnett
CLH	Charles L. Hayes	NGS	Nancy G. Stotz
NEH	Nancy E. Hetrick	RT	Robert Templeton
MOH	Michael O. Hilchey	JAT	John A. Trochet
TJH	Tom J. Hines	NV	Nick Vaughn
WHH	William H. Howe	MLW	Mark L. Watson
JPJ	James P. Joseph	RW	Robert Weber
TFL	Timothy F. Lawton	SW	Steve West
LK	Lea Knutson	WFWe	William F. West
DJK	David J. Krueper	WFWi	William F. Wittman
JAL	Joseph A. LaFleur	CJW	Cole J. Wolf
ERL	Eugene R. Lewis	JEZ	James E. Zabriskie
CGL	Carl G. Lundblad	BRZ	Barry R. Zimmer
LKM	Larry K. Malone	KJZ	Kevin J. Zimmer
PWM	Pat W. McCasland		

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

Ross's Goose—One west to Tyrone 2-7 Feb (ERL+) provided a local first. Two blue morphs were among 50 whites at Bosque NWR 10 Jan (DJK) and at least one blue morph was there 25 Jan (JPS**).

Cackling Goose—Noted in the east and in the middle RGV; high counts were 4083 at Clayton 17 Dec (CMR, DJK, JMR) and 1283 at Clovis 14 Dec (GB, CMR).

Trumpeter Swan—A family of 2 ads. and 3 juvs. made a brief stop at Las Cruces 28 Dec (NGS**, DJG**, CGL**).

Tundra Swan—Reports included one at Stubblefield L. 6 Dec (BKP**) and 2 at LVNWR 3 Jan (LK+) & 15 Feb (NEH**, CMB); an unidentified swan was below Conchas Dam 7 Jan (MLW).

Wood Duck—Widely reported, including on 12 CBCs from the RGV eastward. Noteworthy were 13 west to Zuni's Eustace L. 15 Dec (JAT).

Eurasian Wigeon—A ♂ was at Caballo L. 22 Feb (MJB**, NDP*).

Eurasian Wigeon x American Wigeon—A apparent hybrid at EBL Dam 6 Jan (DJC**) resembled a ♂ American Wigeon but with a red rather than green eye patch.

"Mexican" Duck—A ♂ was north to Zuni 13 Dec (JAT).

Blue-winged Teal—Unexpected in winter, a ♂ was north to Corrales 13 Jan (MRG).

Cinnamon Teal—Late for the north, 4 ♂♂ were at Zuni's Blackrock L. 12 Dec (JAT).

Northern Shoveler x Gadwall—An odd duck at Bosque NWR 27 Dec (JPB**) was believed to be a hybrid involving these two species.

White-winged Scoter—An ad. ♂ was at Maxwell NWR 6-16 Dec (BKP**, CJW**, m.ob.).

Long-tailed Duck—Singles were at Holloman L. 30 Dec-9 Jan (BB, DJG) and at Bosque NWR from 7 Feb into Mar (C. K. Lee**).

Barrow's Goldeneye—A ♀ at Stubblefield L. 6 Dec-11 Jan (BKP**, DJK*, CJW**, JEP*, WFWi, NDP) was joined by a ♂ 16-17 Dec (JPB, MJB**). Undetailed was one at Orilla Verde 20 Dec (RW+).

Hooded Merganser—A high 64 were on the Las Vegas CBC 3 Jan (LK+).

[Chukar]—Two were at Roswell 20 Dec (JIS+); there are no established populations of this exotic partridge known in the state.

Scaled Quail x Gambel's Quail—Five of these hybrids were reported on the Las Cruces CBC 20 Dec (DJG+).

Montezuma Quail—Noteworthy was one at GBA 16 Dec (RSS), and 16 were along Las Animas Cr., Ladder Ranch 18 Dec (DJC**); smaller numbers were in the Magdalena, Black, and Peloncillo ranges (v.o.).

Red-throated Loon—An imm. was at Conchas L. 16 Jan (JEP*, WFWi).

Common Loon—Noteworthy for *Grant* was one at Bill Evans L. 8 Dec (RSS). High counts were 8 at Conchas L. 16 Jan (JEP) & 15 Feb (CMB).

Horned Grebe—One was west to Deming 3-29 Dec (LKM).

Aechmophorus grebe—The mid-winter maximum at EBL was 3582 on 2 Jan (RHD).

Brown Pelican—An imm. found at the Los Alamos skating rink in Los Alamos Canyon 14 Dec (C. Lutes**) provided a *Los Alamos* first; efforts to capture it failed when the bird flew away.

Neotropic Cormorant—Few reports, with 15 at Mims L. near Truth or Consequences 2 Dec (DJC) the high count.

Double-crested Cormorant—Large numbers wintered in the lower Pecos Valley (SW), including 500 at Brantley L. 8 Jan (MLW).

American Bittern—One was at Las Cruces 20 Dec (KS**). Singles were at BLNWR 20-31 Dec (JIS, SW) & 18-25 Feb (SW, WFWi).

Great Egret—Continued to be found in winter in numbers, including 4 at BLNWR 18 Jan (DLH) and 17 at Loving 20 Dec (CCC+).

Snowy Egret—Several spent the winter north to BLNWR, including 9 there 20 Dec (JIS+) and 3 on 18 Jan (DLH).

Cattle Egret—Noteworthy for winter were 3 at Belen 28-29 Dec (DLH, WHH), 3 at La Joya 1 Jan (DLH), and 2 south of San Antonio 3-17 Jan (CMB*, MRG); 9 were in Las Cruces at the NMSU livestock pens 6 Jan (WFWi).

White-faced Ibis—Lingering were singles at BLNWR 31 Dec (SW) and Belen 24 Jan (JEP, WFWi); 6 were at BLNWR 30 Jan (SW).

[Black Vulture]—A roost of up to 70 was at Douglas, Arizona in Dec (R. E. Webster), and 14 were counted there 1 Jan (JEP); the site is but 45 km from New Mexico, where there is but one confirmed record of the species.

Turkey Vulture—The winter roost was again active at Roswell, with 21 there 20 Dec (JIS+) and 14 on 30 Jan (SW). Late or wintering were singles in CCNP's Walnut Canyon 21 Dec (D. B. Coddling*) and south of Deming 27 Dec (MJB, NDP); wintering

or early were 4 at Fort Bayard, *Grant* 1 Feb (M. A. Murphy) and one at Deming 2 Feb (LKM).

Osprey—Late for the north was one at Embudo, *Rio Arriba* 15-19 Dec (RT**).

White-tailed Kite—One was in *Hidalgo* 15 km south of Hachita 30 Jan (JEP*, MJB**).

Bald Eagle—Some 44 were at Santa Rosa L. 8 Jan (MLW) but only 13 were counted in the EBL-Caballo L. area 21 Jan (RHD).

Northern Harrier—Continued as one of the most widespread and numerous raptors wintering in New Mexico, with reports from 31 CBCs statewide, including a high 48 at Loving 20 Dec (CCC+).

Northern Goshawk—An ad. was in Guadalupe Canyon 29 Dec (MJB, NDP, CJW), where rarely reported.

Harris's Hawk—A high 52 were tallied on the Loving CBC 20 Dec (CCC+).

“Harlan's” Hawk—Undetailed reports continued to proliferate, with little effort to distinguish Harlan's from the numerous other dark Red-tailed Hawks, leading to confusion as to the actual status of this taxon in New Mexico. In the RGV were reports of singles at La Cieneguilla, *Santa Fe* 18 Jan (JPB), Bernardo 29 Dec (WHH*), Sevilleta NWR 16 Dec (SWC+), and near Hatch 28 Dec (MTS, JEZ), and 2 at Las Cruces 20 Dec (DJG+); in the Pecos Valley were reports of 4 at Roswell 20 Dec (JIS+) and one at Whites City 11 Feb (SW*).

Crested Caracara—One San Andres NWR 18 Dec (K. Cobble) provided a local first and only the 3rd for *Doña Ana*, the earlier ones in 1856 and 1914.

Apomado Falcon—An unbanded ad. in s. *Luna* 4 Jan-28 Feb (JPB, m.ob., DJC**, JP**, CMB**, NEH**) may have been a naturally occurring bird, but the picture is murky owing to release of some 120 captives (primarily in adjacent *Sierra*) since 2006 and the dispersal of unbanded progeny of the released birds.

Peregrine Falcon—North for winter were singles at Zuni's Tekapo L. 13 Dec (JAT) and Sandia Crest 1 Jan (CLH) and 2 at Alameda 17 Jan (JPJ).

Virginia Rail—One was north to Española 28 Dec (BRF+); high count was 11 at Las Palomas 3-11 Jan (DJC, JEP).

Sora—One was north to Española 28 Dec (BRF+).

Black-necked Stilt—Late or wintering were 4 each at Las Cruces 20-28 Dec (NGS**, CGL) and Anapra 1 Jan (MTS, JEZ) and 2 at Sunland Park 6 Jan (WFWi).

American Avocet—Two wintered at Caballo L. 27 Dec-16 Feb (DJC**).

Spotted Sandpiper—One was north to Orilla Verde 20 Dec (RW).

Greater Yellowlegs—Noteworthy for winter were singles north to Española 28 Dec (BRF*), Corrales 14 Dec (DJK*), and near Luna, *Catron* in mid-Jan (B. Heap *fide* DJB).

Long-billed Curlew—Impressive were 60 in *Eddy* south of Lake Arthur 31 Dec (SW).

Sanderling—Unprecedented in winter was one at Caballo L. on multiple dates 1 Jan-23 Feb (DJC**, JEP*, WFWi).

Western Sandpiper—Unexpected in winter were 2 at Caballo L. 1 Jan (DJC**) & 16 Feb (DJC).

Least Sandpiper—A concentration of over 1000 was at Caballo L. 1 Dec-2 Feb (DJC**, CJW, LKM), including 1129 on 25 Dec and 1225 on 2 Feb (DJC).

Dunlin—Up to 7 wintered at Caballo L. 1 Dec-16 Feb (DJC**, JEP, MJB, NDP, CJW, LKM). One was at the Lordsburg Playa 16 Feb (AMC, NM-C).

Bonaparte's Gull—Unusually conspicuous in Dec in the lower RGV and lower Pecos Valley, including 5 at EBL 15-16 Dec (DJC**), 4 at Caballo Dam 17 Dec (JPB), and 23 at Loving 17 Dec (SW, CCC), and one was north at Maxwell NWR 16-19 Dec (JEP); lingering was one at Caballo L. 1-12 Jan (JEP, WFWi, DJC**).

Mew Gull—Single first-cycle birds were at Cochiti L. 22 Feb (JPB**) and EBL 28 Dec-23 Jan (DJC**, JEP*, JPS**); an ad. also was at EBL 23 Jan (JPS**).

California Gull—Singles were at Zuni's Blackrock L. 12 Dec (JAT), Deming 16 Dec (LKM), and Brantley L. 23 Dec (SW*); others were up to 5 at Sunland Park 1-25 Dec (JNP) and up to 6 at EBL 5 Dec-22 Feb (m.ob., DJC**).

Thayer's Gull—Made a strong showing Dec-Feb, with an ad. at EBL 17 Jan-22 Feb (JEP*, m.ob., JPS**, RHD**) and a first-cycle there 31 Jan-7 Feb (JEP*, MJB*, RHD**, WFWi), plus single first-cycles at Cochiti L. 22-28 Feb (JPB**), Alameda 2 Jan-13 Feb (WHH**, MJB**, NEH**, m.ob.), and Brantley L. 16 Feb (MOH*, SW).

Lesser Black-backed Gull—A record three were documented: an ad. at EBL 15-29 Dec (DJC**, JPB**, JEP*, CGL*), a third-cycle at EBL 23 Jan (JPS**), and a second-cycle at Sunland Park and adjacent Texas 7 Dec-11 Jan (JNP**).

Glaucous Gull—Unreported since 2006, a first-cycle individual was at Brantley L. 16 Feb (MOH**, SW).

Band-tailed Pigeon—An unprecedented winter showing found 50 near the Sandia Ski Area, *Bernalillo* 7 Dec (CJW) and 2 there 7 Feb (DJK), one singing at 2590 m in Water Canyon 1 Jan (CJW**) and 4 there 7 Jan (BRZ) plus 16 elsewhere in the Magdalena Mts. 24 Jan (JEP), and 15 in the Mogollon Mts. near Pleasanton, *Catron* 14 Feb (A. Seegart *fide* DJB). In the Black Range, one was south of Emory Pass 1 Feb (JAL), 2 were vocal north of Emory Pass 23 Feb (JAL), and 33 were north of Kingston 28 Feb (DJC).

Eurasian Collared-Dove—Continued much in evidence statewide, including on 28 CBCs; a pair was nest-building at Truth or Consequences 6 Feb (JAL).

White-winged Dove—Reported on CBCs north to Farmington, Santa Fe, Pecos, and Clayton in late Dec (m.ob.); 18,502 were counted at Las Cruces 20 Dec (DJG+).

Inca Dove—One was north to Farmington 20 Dec (APN).

Common Ground-Dove—One at Eunice 1 Dec-21 Feb (PWM**, JRO**) furnished a *Lea* first. A ground-dove on the Dry Cimarron R., *Union* 16 Dec (DJK*, JMR) was not identified to species.

Barn Owl—Singles were north to Zuni 14 Dec (JAT) and Las Vegas 3 Jan (LK).

Burrowing Owl—Two wintered north to Corrales Dec-Feb (DJK, JMR).

Long-eared Owl—Found roosting at Pancho Villa SP 10 Dec-28 Feb (m.ob.), including 13 counted there 30 Jan (JEP, MJB, WFWi) & 16 Feb (DLH). An ad. was on a nest near Dog Canyon, *Otero* 19 Feb (BB**).

Short-eared Owl—Reports included a road-killed one near Nutt, *Luna* 15 Dec (B. J. Long***), singles in the middle Animas Valley 28 Dec (MJB, NDP, CJW) and at Columbus 16 Feb (LKM), and 3 in the south Animas Valley 27 Feb (S. Smith *fide* AMC).

White-throated Swift—Mid-winter reports included 30 at Las Palomas 16 Jan (DJK).

Broad-billed Hummingbird—Continuing from Oct was an imm. ♂ at Silver City, last seen 26 Dec (KB**). Also continuing from Oct was another imm. ♂ south of Radium Springs, still present 28 Feb (MTS*, JEZ**, JEP, WFWi). An ad. ♂ was at Las Cruces 24 Jan (TFL**).

Magnificent Hummingbird—Noteworthy for winter were a ♀ at Silver City during Jan, last seen 26 Feb (KB), and an imm. ♂ there 12 Feb (KB). One was in Clanton Canyon 15 Feb (DJB, KB).

Anna's Hummingbird—An imm. ♂ was east to Carlsbad 8-31 Dec (SW*) and 2 imm. ♂♂ and a ♀ wintered at Elephant Butte 1 Dec-16 Jan (DJC**, m.ob.). An ad. ♂ was singing at the NMSU golf course, Las Cruces 23 Jan (MTS, JEZ).

Broad-tailed Hummingbird—An imm. ♂ was last seen at Silver City 27 Dec (KB**). An ad. ♂ was at Las Cruces 15 Dec-24 Jan (TFL).

Rufous Hummingbird—Lingering *Selasphorus* believed to be this species were singles at Silver City 9 & 27 Dec (J. & D. Bird) and Carlsbad from Dec into mid-Jan (SW), and 4 at Las Cruces 20 Dec (DJG+).

Lewis's Woodpecker—One was at Cedar Crest, *Bernalillo* 11 Jan (JPJ).

Red-headed Woodpecker—An ad. was at Las Cruces 31 Jan-3 Feb (KS**, MTS, JEZ).

Acorn Woodpecker—Good numbers in the Black Range included 20 in Chloride Canyon 28 Jan (DJC) and 18 north of Kingston 14 Jan (DJC).

Gila Woodpecker—One was at San Simon Cienega 18 Jan (WHH).

Williamson's Sapsucker—Near the northern edge of the winter range were a ♂ at Santa Fe 20 Dec (M. J. Ellis**) and another at Las Vegas 3 Jan (LK).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker—An imm. was at Percha SP 6-27 Dec (MJB, NDP, JEP*, CGL*); undetailed was one at CCNP 21 Dec (SW).

Downy Woodpecker—One was south to the Ladder Ranch 19 Dec (WFWe).

“Yellow-shafted” Flicker—Single ♂♂ were west to downtown Santa Fe 24 Dec (L. C. Herrmann*) and the Santa Fe racetrack 18 Jan (D. J. Williams**); undetailed were singles at Clayton 17 Dec (CMR), Loving 20 Dec (CCC), and CCNP 21 Dec (SW).

***Empidonax* flycatchers**—Historically unknown in winter in New Mexico, *Empidonax* flycatchers have been found in dramatically increasing numbers in recent winters; this season produced reports of 7 Hammond's at five locales, 9 Duskie at seven sites, at least one Gray, and 3 unidentified empids.

Hammond's Flycatcher—One lingered at Albuquerque 12-19 Dec (I. Murphy**, CMB*, MOH, MJB, NDP). Others, all in the R.G.V., were singles at EBL Dam 30 Dec (DJC**) and Las Palomas 20 Dec-16 Jan (DJC), an undetailed 2 at the Ladder Ranch 19 Dec (*fide* WFWe), and one to 2 at Percha SP on multiple dates 6 Dec-22 Feb (JEP*, MJB*, NDP*, DJC**, CGL, BRZ, JAL).

Gray Flycatcher—One was at Rattlesnake Springs 20 Feb (SW*).

Dusky Flycatcher—In the RGV were a continuing one at Bosque NWR 5 Dec (JEP*) & 31 Jan (DLH*), and singles at Las Palomas 13 Feb (DJC), Caballo L. 11 Dec (DJC**), and Percha SP 6 Dec-9 Jan (JEP*, MJB*, WFWi, DJC**). Others were one near Bill Evans L. 27 Dec (WN *fide* RSS), 2 in Guadalupe Canyon 29 Dec (NDP) and one there 2-4 Jan (JEP, NDP), and 2 at Rattlesnake Springs 26 Dec (SW*, CMR).

***Empidonax* sp.**—Single unidentified empids were at Bosque NWR 31 Jan (DLH), GBA 12 Dec (RSS), and Tyrone 28 Dec (ERL).

Black Phoebe—One was late at Zuni 14 Dec (JAT).

Eastern Phoebe—North for the season was one at Santa Fe 1 Jan-1 Feb (JPB**, BRF).

Say's Phoebe—Three lingered late at Farmington 20 Dec (APN+).

Cassin's Kingbird—Very late was one at Albuquerque 7 Dec (CMB*).

Northern Shrike—Another impressive season, with one to 3 at 13 sites in *Taos*, *Colfax*, *Union*, *Santa Fe*, *Mora*, *San Miguel*, *Harding*, and *Quay* 15 Dec-28 Feb (m.ob.); nicely

documented were single imm. south to Trementina, *San Miguel* 15 Feb (NEH**) and Santa Fe 16 Jan-28 Feb (BRF, JPB**).

Plumbeous Vireo—Another increasing winterer in New Mexico, this season produced singles at Percha SP 6-22 Feb (JAL, JEP*, MJB, NDP), Mesilla Park 5 Jan (KJZ**, BRZ), and Deming 22 Dec & 22 Feb (LKM).

Hutton's Vireo—Conspicuous in the Black Range throughout the season, including in Chloride Canyon (DJC), north of Kingston (DJC**), and along Tierra Blanca Cr. south of Hillsboro (DJC**).

American Crow—Seven were in the Cliff-Gila Valley 27 Dec (*fide* RSS), where scarce in recent years. High count was 3440 at Las Cruces 20 Dec (DJG+).

Tree Swallow—Wintering were 5 at Percha SP 1 Jan (JEP); first presumed spring migrants were 5 at Radium Springs 13 Feb (MTS).

Northern Rough-winged Swallow—Early were 2 at Percha SP 8 Feb (JAL), 4 at Mesilla 12 Feb (JLD), and singles at Tyrone 15 Feb (ERL) and north to Alameda 15 Feb (DJK**).

Barn Swallow—Late was one at Caballo L. 1-8 Dec (DJC**, JEP); earliest was one at Leasburg SP, *Doña Ana* 7 Feb (WFWi).

White-breasted Nuthatch—One was east to Conchas Dam 16 Jan (JEP).

Cactus Wren—Unusual for the Cliff-Gila Valley were 2 near Bill Evans L. 27 Dec (WN *fide* RSS).

wren sp.—A heard-only wren at Percha SP 6 Dec (MJB, JEP) sounded much like a Carolina Wren, but only Bewick's Wrens were seen; another heard-only wren near Radium Springs, last heard 3 Dec (MTS, JEZ) likewise sounded Carolina-like, but it too was never seen or confirmed.

Winter Wren—Made another good showing, with 7 reports from as many locales. Those with details, all identified as "easterns," were singles in Zuni's upper Mullen Canyon 12 Dec (JAT*), at Galisteo 1 Dec (JPB*), Alameda 3-25 Jan (JPJ**), Quarai 16 Feb (DJK*), and Percha SP 6-7 Dec (MJB*, NDP*, CJW*, JEP*); undetailed singles were at Loving 20 Dec (CCC) and CCNP 21 Dec (SW).

Marsh Wren—Late for the north was one at Stubblefield L. 21 Dec (WHH).

Golden-crowned Kinglet—One was singing north of Emory Pass 23 Feb (JAL).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher—Evidence of this species wintering in New Mexico continued to accumulate, but lack of details for many reports, especially from areas where Black-tailed Gnatcatcher is resident, continued to cloud the issue. An undetailed one was far north to Farmington in Dec (*fide* APN); others were 2 at EBL 7 Feb (JEP*) and singles at Caballo Dam 6 Dec (JEP, MJB, CJW) & 3 Jan (JEP), in the Peloncillo Mts. 28 Dec (*fide*

TG), and in CCNP's Rattlesnake Canyon 25 Jan (SW), while 8 were reported on the Las Cruces CBC 20 Dec (DJG+).

Black-tailed Gnatcatcher—Residents were detected across the south in *Hidalgo, Luna, Doña Ana,* and *Eddy,* and north in the RGV to *Socorro.*

Black-capped Gnatcatcher—Discovered in Guadalupe Canyon only in 2006, the species was there in force this season, with at least two pairs in the New Mexico portion of the canyon and another pair in the Arizona portion 29 Dec-6 Feb (CJW**, MJB*, NDP*, JEP*, LKM*, WHH*, DJK**, DJC**).

Eastern Bluebird—Well-represented across the state, including on 10 CBCs. One was north to Clayton 17 Dec (CMR). High counts included 40 at Corrales Dec-Feb (DJK) and 20 at Aguirre Springs 5 Jan (BRZ). In the west were 2 at Zuni 14 Dec (JAT), 7 at the GBA 12 Dec & 4 there 30 Jan (RSS), 8 at Virden 31 Jan (JEP, MJB), and 13 in the Peloncillo Mts. 28 Dec (TG+).

Western Bluebird—Notably widespread and generally common, including being found on 24 CBCs; high count was 563 at Silver City 15 Dec (R. Metz+).

Hermit Thrush—At the northern edge of the wintering range were singles at Farmington 20 Dec (APN), Questa 28 Dec (RW), and Paradise Canyon northwest of Clayton 17 Dec (DJK*).

American Robin—A “partial albino” was near Silver City 23 Feb (S. Lynch**).

Varied Thrush—A ♂ seen and heard at Zuni's Blackrock Arroyo 13 Dec (JAT*) provided a local first and about the 30th New Mexico record.

Gray Catbird—Unexpected anywhere in New Mexico in winter, one was north to Las Vegas 3 Jan (LK+).

Brown Thrasher—One was in Paradise Canyon near Clayton 17 Dec (DJK*); a high 7 were found on the CCNP CBC 21 Dec (SW+).

Curve-billed Thrasher—Singles on the northern frontier of the range were at Zuni's Blackrock Dam 12 Dec (JAT), Dixon 15 Dec (RT), and Orilla Verde 20 Dec (RW).

Sprague's Pipit—Noteworthy for the season were singles in grasslands on the Five Points portion of Sevilleta NWR 19 Dec (WHH*), the Ladder Ranch 19 Dec (*fide* WFWe), and near Hermanas 30 Jan (JEP*, MJB*).

Cedar Waxwing—Moderate numbers lingered through Dec, including 234 at Albuquerque 14 Dec (HRS+). Among the few Jan reports were 8 at Percha SP 6 Jan (BRZ) and one at Hanover, *Grant* 10 Jan (J. Rogers**).

Phainopepla—North for the season was one at Bosque NWR 15 Dec (*fide* DLH); another was in the Black Range north of Kingston 28 Feb (DJC).

Olive Warbler—Winter records have increased in New Mexico in recent years, and this season was no different, with reports of several in the Black Range in mid-Jan and later, including up to 5 north of Kingston 14 Jan-28 Feb (DJC**); others were a ♂ in Chloride Canyon 18 Feb (DJC**) and 2 ♀♀ at Emory Pass 23 Feb (JAL).

Orange-crowned Warbler—Now considered regular in winter in southern New Mexico; this season found singles at Percha SP 17 Jan (JEP) & 22 Feb (MJB, NDP), at a Radium Springs suet feeder 22 Dec and later (MTS, JEZ), Carlsbad 2 Jan (SW), Loving 20 Dec (CMR), and Eunice 21 Feb (CJW), plus 7 at Las Cruces 20 Dec (DJG+). One was north at Madrid, *Santa Fe* 1 Dec (LAS).

Yellow-rumped Warbler—“Myrtles” outnumbered “Audubon’s” 13 to 7 in the L. Avalon-Brantley L. area 23 Dec (TJH+), 16 to 7 at Loving 20 Dec (CCC+), and 8 to 3 at Zuni 14 Dec (JAT+).

Black-throated Gray Warbler—Probably wintering was a ♂ in Guadalupe Canyon 2 Jan (JEP); 3 ♂♂ were in the Arizona portion of the canyon 17 Jan (DJK).

Pine Warbler—A singing ♂ in the Eunice cemetery 16-23 Feb (MOH**, PWM, CJW**, WFWi*) provided a first for *Lea*.

Palm Warbler—A “yellow” one (eastern subspecies *hypochrysea*) at Percha SP 6-17 Jan (BRZ*, KJZ**, JEP*, WFWi) may be the first of that race to be confirmed in the state.

Ovenbird—Unexpected anywhere in New Mexico in winter, one was at Albuquerque 26 Dec-4 Jan (G. Krolick, CMB*, MJB, MOH**, JEP*, WFWi).

Common Yellowthroat—One was north to Alameda 1-25 Jan (CMR, WHH**, D. Paez); one at Las Cruces 20 Dec (DJG+) provided the only additional report.

Rufous-capped Warbler—Providing a new species for New Mexico was an ad. in Guadalupe Canyon 2 Jan-12 Feb (JEP*, m.ob., JPB**, CJW**, DJK**, JRO**, A. Gorbet**). First found in Texas in 1973, and Arizona in 1977, records of this Mexican species have increased in both states, and its arrival in New Mexico has been anticipated for some time.

Western Tanager—Very late was an imm. at Caballo Dam 6 Dec (MJB*, NDP, CJW*, JEP).

Green-tailed Towhee—Much in evidence in the southwest, including a high 254 on the Peloncillo Mts. CBC 28 Dec (TG+).

Abert’s Towhee—Notable counts along the Gila R. were 10 in Nichols Canyon, *Grant* 24 Feb (RSS), 9 at Redrock, *Grant* 28 Jan (RSS), and 6 at Virden 31 Jan (JEP, MJB); 5 were at San Simon Cienega 18 Jan (WHH).

Rufous-crowned Sparrow—One was north to Clayton 17 Dec (CMR).

American Tree Sparrow—South of usual was one at Alameda 15 Feb (DJK)

Chipping Sparrow—Unexpected in winter in the northern half of the state, so noteworthy were well-seen individuals in Albuquerque’s North Valley 14 Dec (DWM), Sandia Park 26 Dec (B. A. Poulsen*), and Alameda 25 Jan (DJK). Undetailed reports from farther north, such as on CBCs, require verification.

Field Sparrow—A strong season produced reports of at least 15 individuals at five locales, including one west to Alameda 1-25 Jan (CMR, WHH**, CJW**, m.ob.). In the northeast were 2 at Clayton L. 17 Dec (DJK, JMR) and 2 along Seneca Cr., *Union* 3 Jan (MJB, A. B. Johnson). In the southeast were 6 at CCNP 21 Dec (SW+) and one to 3 at Eunice 13-27 Dec (PWM, JRO**) and 4 there 21 Feb (CJW).

Lark Sparrow—Credible reports were one at San Simon Cienega 18 Jan (WHH*), 2 in the middle Animas Valley 28 Dec (AMC, NM-C), and one at Clanton Cienega 16 Feb (AMC, NM-C).

Savannah Sparrow—Unusual was one north to Clayton 17 Dec (CMR+).

Baird’s Sparrow—One to 2 were on the Ladder Ranch 18-19 Dec (DJC, WFWe) and one was at Las Cruces 20 Dec (DJG*). There were no Jan reports, but 4 were in grasslands near Hermanas 17 Feb (JP).

Fox Sparrow—A good season produced single “red” ones at Zuni 14 Dec (JAT*), Alameda 15 Feb (DJK*), Luis Lopez 21-30 Jan (JRO**), and Las Palomas 17-20 Dec (JPB**, DJC**), and single “gray” ones in the Sandia Mts. 26 Dec (R. K. Hoppe*), Miner’s Canyon, Peloncillo Mts. 28 Dec (MJB*, NDP, CJW), Guadalupe Canyon 17 Jan (DJK*, WHH), and Eunice 21-24 Feb (CJW**, WFWi*).

Lincoln’s Sparrow—Singles lingered north at Clayton 17 Dec (CMR), Española 28 Dec (BRF*), and Corrales 27 Dec (DJK).

Swamp Sparrow—Noteworthy distributional records were singles north to the Dry Cimarron R., *Union* 16 Dec (DJK, JMR), Ute L. 16 Jan (JEP), Alameda 1 Jan (WHH, CMR), Quarai 16 Feb (DJK), and Clanton Cienega 27 Feb (NM-C).

Harris’s Sparrow—Noteworthy for *Lea* was an ad. at Eunice 13 Dec-22 Feb (PWM**, JRO, SW) and an imm. at a second location there 16-24 Feb (MOH**, CJW**, WFWi). One on the Caballo CBC 27 Dec (JLD) provided the only additional report.

White-crowned Sparrow—Unexpected in winter, a dark-lored one was at Buckman 7 Dec (JPB**) and 2 dark-lored ones were at Percha SP 20 Dec (JPB).

Golden-crowned Sparrow—An ad. was at the Alameda bridge 4 Dec-13 Feb (CLH, DWM, m.ob., CJW**) and an imm. was at Bear Canyon L., *Grant* 23 Feb (J. Rogers**).

“Slate-colored” Junco—High counts were 50 at Clayton 17 Dec (CMR, DJK, JMR) and 23 along the Dry Cimarron R., *Union* 16 Dec (DJK, JMR).

McCown's Longspur—A minimum of 600 were at Clovis 14 Dec (CMR*, GB); the birds were seen in a burned area and going and coming from sprouting winter wheat; only 17 **Chestnut-collareds** were detected in the area.

Lapland Longspur—This species continued its impressive increasing trend in New Mexico, including a high 263 at Clayton 17 Dec (CMR, DJK, JMR). *Colfax* reports included 3 at Stubblefield L. 19 Dec (JEP), one at Maxwell NWR 21 Dec (WHH), 8 at Springer L. 29 Dec (NEH**, CMB*), 80 near Dorsey L. 11 Jan (JEP), and 40 southeast of Springer 11 Jan (JEP). A male wandered far south to the Las Cruces area 13-15 Dec (R. Ketchum*).

Chestnut-collared Longspur—High count was 740 at EBL 11 Jan (DLH) foraging under open salt cedar, an unusual habitat for this species.

Snow Bunting—A highlight of the season was an apparent ♀ at Stubblefield L. 15-21 Dec (DJK**, JMR*, JEP*, WFWi, MOH**, CJW**, NDP*, MJB**, JPB**, JRO**, WHH**), where it was dependable among the rocks of the dam for seven days; it provided the state's first record since 1991, and only the 2nd to be confirmed, the first being an 1886 specimen.

Northern Cardinal—One wandered to San Simon Cienega 18 Jan (WHH).

Black-headed Grosbeak—Late was a ♂ at a Silver City feeder 5 Dec (E. Halbedel*).

Common Grackle—Noteworthy for winter was one in Albuquerque's South Valley 10-25 Jan (JPJ**, JEP); reports of large numbers farther north were undetailed and require confirmation.

Brown-headed Cowbird—North of usual were singles at a Clayton feed lot 16 Dec (DJK, JMR) and Galisteo 31 Dec (LAS).

Scott's Oriole—Remarkable if accurate was an undetailed one at Las Cruces in mid-Dec (*fide* DJG).

rosy-finch—The three-species flock at Sandia Crest continued to entertain many throughout the season, and, by late Feb, 269 had been banded—62 % **Brown-cappeds**, 23 % **Blacks**, and 15 % **Gray-crowned**s (NSC, SWC et al.). Among several recaptures of birds banded in earlier years was a Black banded in Nov 2006.

Cassin's Finch—Notably scarce and largely restricted to the northern mountains; south were 2 in Water Canyon 1 Jan (CJW), 4 near Kingston 13 Jan (DJC**), 6 at Silver City 18 Feb (ERL), and 3 at Tyrone 22 Feb (ERL).

Red Crossbill—Scarce statewide, with 34 in the Sandia Mts. 26 Dec (NV+) the high count. Seven in pine-juniper habitat in Mullen Canyon, Zuni Mts. 12 Dec (JAT*) were described as the "Type 2" vocal group.

Pine Siskin—An albino was at Los Alamos 19 Feb (S. M. Fettig, T. F. Hodapp**).

Lesser Goldfinch—North of historic winter range were 56 at Farmington 20 Dec (APN+), 13 at Cimarron 19 Dec (M. J. Kelly+), and 8 at Las Vegas 3 Jan (LK+).

Evening Grosbeak—Very few reports, and largely restricted to the Sangre de Cristo Mts. and adjacent areas; high count was 32 at Orilla Verde 20 Dec (RW+).

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