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## BIRDS OF SEVILLETA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

By Ross L. Teuber  
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Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge is located approximately 60 miles south of Albuquerque on both sides of I-25, between Bernardo and San Acacia. It is bounded on the east by the Los Pinos Mountains, and on the west by the Ladrones. It has a total area of about 238,000 acres and borders the villages of Contreras and La Joya as well as the La Joya State Game Refuge. The elevation varies from about 4,000 feet along the Rio Grande to over 9,000 feet in the Ladrones. Although there is a network of rather low standard roads, much of the area is accessible only by four-wheel drive vehicle, by horse or by helicopter. Three major biological communities come together here: Great Plains grassland, Great Basin shrub-steppe, and Chihuahuan Desert. Within these major biological communities, several varied habitats occur.

Most of the land area was at one time a Mexican Land Grant. It passed through a number of ownerships over the years, and was acquired by The Nature Conservancy from the private owners in late 1975 or early 1976, with the stipulations that it be maintained primarily for wildlife use, be kept as nearly as possible in the natural condition, and be open to the public only for approved research projects. In 1976 the entire property was turned over to the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and became a National Wildlife Refuge.

A number of studies of soil, vegetation, and climate have been carried on by various government and academic researchers. However, very few data have been collected on birds and their place in the ecology of the area.

In 1984 in cooperation with Theodore Stans, the refuge manager, the Sevilleta Christmas Bird Count was established. Due to unfavorable weather conditions the first count was not carried out until 1985. In the spring of 1986, again in cooperation with Ted Stans, Dr. Jelle DeBoer and I undertook a project to make a study of the birds on the area and their interaction with other ecological elements. Permits to carry on this work are reissued annually. The fall of 1987, Dr. DeBoer left the project. Several others including Pat Basham and Paul Steel, have worked with me to continue the project.

A wealth of data has been collected during weekly or biweekly trips to the refuge. Two 25-mile Breeding Bird Survey routes

have been established with surveys taken during the breeding season and other times of the year. A number of high-use areas for birds were identified and surveyed as frequently as possible. A second CBC was established, the Five Points CBC, and made in December, 1990. A great deal of the work remains to be done, but both Ted Stans and I feel collected sufficient data to enable us release a tentative check-list of birds on the refuge.

TENTATIVE BIRD CHECK-LIST

SEVILLETA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

This list includes 189 species which have been observed, and verified on the Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge. An additional 12 species have been reported but not verified in the field: these species are shown in "[ ]" brackets. It is based on Dr. John P. Hubbard's A PRELIMINARY CHECKLIST OF THE NATIVE BIRDS OF NEW MEXICO of September 13, 1989. Sequence of species conforms to the American Ornithologists' Union Check-list of North American Birds, 6th. Edition, 1983, as amended .

Names of species known to nest on the refuge are preceded by an \* and those species which probably or possibly nest here by the letters PR or PO. Seasons: S=Spring (March-May), S=Summer (June-August), F=Fall (September-November), and W=Winter (December-February). Relative abundance: A=Abundant, C=Common, U=Uncommon, O=Occasionally, R=Rare, and a=Accidental.

Field data were collected, compiled, verified and edited by or under the direction of Ross L. Teuber, a volunteer, working under a special use permit. Sightings of additional species, or evidence of nesting of listed species should be reported to him through the Refuge Manager.

<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>W</u>
GREBES				
Pied-billed Grebe	R		O	O
Eared Grebe			R	
PELICANS				
American White Pelican	O		O	
CORMORANTS				
Double-crested Cormorant	R	R	R	
Olivaceous Cormorant			R	
HERONS				
Great Blue Heron	O		O	O
[Great Egret]		?		
PO Snowy Egret	O		O	O

<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>W</u>
Little Blue Heron		R		
Cattle Egret	R	R	R	
Green-backed Heron			R	
Black-crowned Night-Heron	R	R		
IBISES				
White-faced Ibis		R	R	
SWANS, GEESE, DUCKS				
pTundra Swan]		?		
Greater White-fronted Goose				R
Snow Goose	R		R	C
[Ross' Goose]				?
Canada Goose				O
Richardson? (Form)				R
[Wood Duck]				
Green-winged Teal	O		O	U
Mallard	O		O	O
Northern Pintail	O	O	O	
Blue-winged Teal	O			O
Cinnamon Teal	O		O	O
Northern Shoveler	U	O	O	O
Gadwall	O	O	O	O
American Wigeon		O	O	O
Canvasback				O
Redhead	O	O	O	O
Ring-necked Duck			O	
Lesser Scaup	O			O
Bufflehead				O
Common Merganser				O
Ruddy Duck	O		O	O
AMERICAN VULTURES				
PO Turkey Vulture	U	U	U	
EAGLES, HAWKS				
Osprey			R	
Bald Eagle				O
Northern Harrier	U		U	U
Sharp-shinned Hawk	R		O	O
Cooper's Hawk			O	O
Swainson's Hawk	R	O		
* Red-tailed Hawk	C	U	C	C
Ferruginous Hawk	O	R	O	R
PR Golden Eagle	O	O	O	O
FALCONS				
PR American Kestrel	C	C	C	C
Merlin			R	R
(Peregrine Falcon)				
Prairie Falcon	R		R	R

<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>W</u>
PHEASANTS, TURKEYS, QUAIL				
Ring-n. Pheasant (White-w.)	O	O	O	
Wild Turkey				
* Scaled Quail	O	O	O	O
* Gambel's Quail	U	U	U	U
RAILS, GALLINULES, COOTS				
PO Virginia Rail		R		
PO Sora		R		
Common Moorhen			R	
PO American Coot	C	O	O	U
CRANES				
Sandhill Crane			U	U
Whooping Crane				R
PLOVERS				
PO Killdeer	O	O	O	R
Mountain Plover		R		
STILTS, AVOCETS				
Black-necked Stilt		R	O	
American Avocet		R		
SANDPIPERS, PHALAROPES				
Greater Yellowlegs		R		
Lesser Yellowlegs		R		
Spotted Sandpiper		R		
[Long-billed Curlew]				
Western Sandpiper		R		
[Least Sandpiper]				
Baird's Sandpiper			R	
Stilt Sandpiper		R		
Long-billed Dowitcher		O		
Wilson's Phalarope			O	
SKUAS, GULLS, TERNS				
Parasitic Jaeger			a	
Ring-billed Gull	O			
Common Tern			a	
Forster's Tern			R	
Black Tern			O	
PIGEONS, DOVES				
Rock Dove	C	C	C	C
Mourning Dove	C	C	C	C
Common Ground-Dove			a	
CUCKOOS, ROADRUNNERS				
Greater Roadrunner	O	O	O	O
TYPICAL OWLS				
Great Horned Owl		O		O
Burrowing Owl	R	O	O	
Long-eared Owl			R	

<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>W</u>
GOATSUCKERS				
Lesser Nighthawk	R	O		
Common Nighthawk	R	O	R	
Common Poorwill	R	R		
SWIFTS				
PO White-throated Swift	O	O		
HUMMINGBIRDS				
Black-chinned Hummingbird	U	U		
Broad-tailed Hummingbird	O			
Rufous Hummingbird		O		
KINGFISHERS				
Belted Kingfisher	O	O	O	O
WOODPECKERS				
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker				R
Red-naped Sapsucker			R	
Williamson's Sapsucker			R	
Ladder-backed Woodpecker	R	R	R	
Downy Woodpecker		R	R	R
Hairy Woodpecker			R	
TYRANT FLYCATCHERS				
Western Wood-Pewee	O	O	O	
Willow Flycatcher			O	
[Gray Flycatcher]				
PR Black Phoebe	O	O	O	R
Say's Phoebe	U	U	U	O
PR Ash-throated Flycatcher	U	U		
Cassin's Kingbird	O			
PR Western Kingbird	U	C	U	
Eastern Kingbird	R			
LARKS				
PR Horned Lark	C	A	C	U
SWALLOWS				
PO Tree Swallow	O	O	O	
PO Violet-green Swallow	U	U		
PO N. Rough-winged Swallow	O	O	O	
Bank Swallow		R		
* Cliff Swallow	U	U	R	
* Barn Swallow	U	C	U	
JAYS, CROWS				
Steller's Jay	R			
PR Scrub Jay	C	C	C	C
PR Pinyon Jay	U		U	U
PO American Crow	O	O	O	O
Chihuahuan Raven		O	R	O
Common Raven	C	C	C	C

<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>W</u>
TITMICE				
Mountain Chickadee	O		U	O
PR Plain Titmouse	O	O	O	U
VERDINS				
* Verdin	O	O		R
BUSHTITS				
PR Bushtit	O	O	O	O
NUTHATCHES				
Red-breasted Nuthatch			R	
White-breasted Nuthatch			R	
WRENS				
* Cactus Wren		R	R	R
PR Rock Wren	U	U	U	R
Canyon Wren	R		R	
Bewick's Wren			O	O
(Marsh Wren)	?			
KINGLETS, GNATCATCHERS				
Ruby-crowned Kinglet			O	O
* Blue-gray Gnatcatcher			O	R
Black-tailed Gnatcatcher			R	R
THRUSHES				
Western Bluebird				C
Mountain Bluebird				C
Townsend's Solitaire	R		R	C
Hermit Thrush				U
PO American Robin	O	O	C	C
MOCKINGBIRDS, THRASHERS				
Gray Catbird			R	
* Northern Mockingbird	C	C	U	O
Sage Thrasher	O		C	C
Curve-billed Thrasher	O	O	O	
Crissal Thrasher		O	O	U
PIPITS				
American Pipit				R
SILKY-FLYCATCHERS				
PO Phainopepla		R	R	R
SHRIKES				
Northern Shrike				R
Loggerhead Shrike	C	C	C	U
STARLINGS				
PR European Starling	C	U	C	C
VIREOS				
(Warbling Vireo)	?			
WOOD-WARBLERS				
Virginia's Warbler	R			
Yellow Warbler			O	

<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>W</u>
Yellow-rumped Warbler	R		U	R
Black-thtd. Gray Warbler			R	
Townsend's Warbler			R	
MacGillivray's Warbler	R		O	
PR Common Yellowthroat	O	O	O	
Wilson's Warbler	R		R	
Yellow-breasted Chat		O		
TANAGERS				
Summer Tanager			O	
Western Tanager			R	
CARDINALS, GROSBEAKS				
Pyrrhuloxia				R
PR Black-headed Grosbeak	O	O	R	
PO Blue Grosbeak	U	U	U	
SPARROWS				
PO Green-tailed Towhee	R	R	O	
PR Rufous-sided Towhee	R	R	U	U
PR Canyon Towhee (Brown Towhee)	C	U	C	C
PR Cassin's Sparrow	U	U	O	
Rufous-crowned Sparrow				O
Chipping Sparrow	U	O	U	R
Clay-colored Sparrow	R			
Brewer's Sparrow	O	U	O	R
Vesper Sparrow	R	U	U	O
* Lark Sparrow	U	U	U	
PR Black-throated Sparrow	C	C	C	U
PR Sage Sparrow	C	O	C	C
PO Lark Bunting		O	O	
Savannah Sparrow				R
(Fox Sparrow)				?
Song Sparrow	O		O	U
(Swamp Sparrow)			?	
White-throated Sparrow				R
White-crowned Sparrow	U		C	A
Dark-eyed Junco	U		C	A
BLACKBIRDS, ORIOLES				
PR Red-winged Blackbird	U	U	U	U
Eastern Meadowlark	O			
PR Western Meadowlark	C	U	C	C
Yellow-headed Blackbird		O	U	
PO Brewer's Blackbird		U	U	U
Great-tailed Grackle	U			
PR Brown-headed Cowbird	C	C	O	
Hooded Oriole		a		
* Northern Oriole	O	U		
PR Scott's Oriole	O	U	O	



<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>W</u>
FINCHES				
Cassin's Finch				R
PR House Finch	C	C	C	C
Pine Siskin				R
Lesser Goldfinch	U		U	U
American Goldfinch			R	O
Evening Grosbeak				O
OLD WORLD SPARROWS				
* House Sparrow	U	U	U	U

Received 21 December, 1990

This is contribution #10 to the Sevilleta Long-term Ecological Research Program, funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF BSR-8811906) at the University of New Mexico.

#### **NORTHERN HARRIER ATTACKS COOPER'S HAWK**

Catherine I. Sandell  
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My backyard east of Las Cruces was frequented from December 1989 to April 1990 by both an adult female and an immature male Cooper's Hawk though never at the same time. On one occasion, the male stood in the bird bath with his belly and tail in the water for over thirty minutes. I heard a scream and saw the Cooper's Hawk crouching with wings outspread looking up. A split second before a male Northern Harrier reached him with outstretched talons, the Cooper's Hawk leapt away and through a nearby saltbush. The harrier departed empty-taloned. Later the male Northern Harrier attacked the immature Cooper's Hawk as the latter attempted to get at a bird caught in a Potter trap. In addition, I often saw a female harrier chasing one of the Cooper's Hawks out over the mesquite and creosote.

Received 17 September 1990.

#### **BYLAWS OF THE NEW MEXICO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

ARTICLE I. NAME, LOCATION, AND CORPORATE SEAL.

Section 1. Name: The name of this corporation shall be the New Mexico Ornithological Society, a non-profit organization hereinafter referred to as the Society.

Section 2. Location: The location of the principal office of the corporation shall be in the City of Albuquerque, County of Bernalillo and State of New Mexico.

Section 3. Seal: The corporate seal of the corporation shall have inscribed thereon the name of the corporation and the words "Corporate Seal" "New Mexico" and "1961."

## ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP OF THE NEW MEXICO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Section 1. Qualifications: Members of the Society shall be persons interested in ornithology whose dues are paid. Dues shall be payable annually.

Section 2. Classes of Membership and Dues: The classes of membership of the Society shall be Patron, Supporting, Family, Regular, and Student with corresponding dues determined by the Board of Directors. Life Members may be appointed by the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Annual Meeting: There shall be an annual meeting of the Society for the purpose of transacting such business as may appear on the agenda or be brought before the Society. Biennially the Annual Meeting shall be held in Albuquerque. In alternate years an effort shall be made to hold the Annual Meeting at a location other than Albuquerque.

Section 4. Notice: Call for the annual meeting of the Society shall be given not less than 30 days thereto by written notice sent to each member at the address which appears on the membership records of the organization.

Section 5. Rights and Privileges: The members of the Society may specifically instruct the Board of Directors in the performance of its duties by: an affirmative vote of the majority of members attending an annual meeting of the Society; or an affirmative vote of the majority of the mailed ballots of members received resulting from a petition by any three members of the Society for such a vote: provided that the number of affirmative ballots in each case must exceed one-fourth of the total paid-up membership of the Society at the time of the vote.

## ARTICLE III. BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Section 1. Number and Tenure: The Board of Directors shall consist of seven members comprising the Officers plus three additional Directors with the President as Chairperson. Members

of the Board shall be elected by the membership for terms of two years. An effort shall be made to obtain representation of different parts of the State among the Directors.

Section 2. Proxy Voting: Any Director who is unable to attend a meeting of the Board of Directors shall give his/her proxy to a member who will be present. Such a proxy may be general or specific, but will not affect the necessity for the presence of a quorum.

Section 3. Duties and Powers: The Board of Directors shall be vested with the general management of the affairs of the corporation, shall care for and control its property, shall have power by majority vote of the remaining Directors to fill vacancies on the Board of Directors for unexpired terms, and shall act as the Editorial Advisory Board.

Section 4. Annual Meeting: The annual organizational meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Society and without further notice than this Bylaw.

Section 5. Quorum: Four (4) Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Board of Directors, and further provided, that if less than a quorum is present at any meeting, a majority of the Directors present may adjourn the meeting without further notice. The acts of a majority of the Directors present at a meeting, at which a quorum is present, shall be the acts of the Board of Directors: Provided, that if a majority of the Directors shall severally or collectively consent in writing to any act to be taken by the corporation, such action shall be as valid corporate action as though it had been authorized at a meeting of the Board of Directors.

Section 6. Resignation: Any Director may resign at any time; such resignation to be made in writing to the Board of Directors, and upon its acceptance by the Board of Directors shall become effective immediately.

#### ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES.

Section 1. Officers: The Officers of the corporation shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 2. President: The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors and meetings of the Society. The President may, on behalf of the corporation, sign any

documents or instruments which the Board of Directors has authorized to be executed except in cases where the signing and execution thereof shall be expressly delegated by the Board of Directors or by these Bylaws to some other Officer or Agent of the corporation, or shall be required by law to be otherwise signed or executed; and in general shall perform all duties incident to the office of President and such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Vice-President: The Vice-President, in the absence of the President, or in the event of the President's inability or refusal to act, shall perform the duties of the President and, when so acting, shall have all the powers of and be subject to all the restrictions upon the President. The Vice-President shall perform such other duties as, from time to time, may be assigned by the President or by the Board of Directors.

Section 4. Secretary: Under the direction of the President the Secretary shall carry out the necessary preparatory work, such as the preparation of agenda and the circulation of papers for consideration, for all business meetings of the Society; keep and distribute the minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors and the Society; see that all notices are duly given in accordance with the provisions of the Bylaws; be custodian of the corporate records and of the seal of the corporation and see that the seal of the corporation is affixed to all instruments and documents, the execution of which has been authorized by the Board of Directors; and keep and distribute a directory of Society members. The Secretary shall also perform other duties as assigned by the President or by the Board of Directors.

Section 5. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall have custody and charge and be responsible for all funds and securities of the corporation; shall prepare an annual financial report for presentation at the annual meeting; and shall cause to be deposited all corporate monies in the name of the corporation in such banks, trust companies, or other depositories as shall be selected by the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall pay bills as directed by the Board of Directors and accomplish such other tasks as directed by the Board.

#### ARTICLE V. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS.

Section 1. Nominations: The President shall appoint a nominating committee, consisting of three members of the Society, excluding members of the Board, which committee shall nominate and submit a list of proposed Officers and Directors by position, residents of New Mexico and members of the Society, to the Secretary for

publication in the Annual Meeting Notice (See Art. II, Sec. 4,). Further nominations, if any, signed by at least three members of the Society, must be mailed to the Secretary in time for publication in the Annual Meeting Notice. No nominations shall be accepted from the floor during the Annual Meeting.

Section 2. Nominations for Re-election: Any Officer or Director may be nominated for re-election.

Section 3. Election of Officers and Directors: The Officers and Directors shall be elected every two years at the Annual Meeting held in Albuquerque.

#### ARTICLE VI. SALARIES.

Section 1. Salaries: No salary or other compensation shall be paid to any Director for acting in that capacity.

#### ARTICLE VII. STAFF.

Section 1. Appointees: The President with the consent of the Board of Directors may appoint an Editor of the Bulletin, an Editor of the Field Notes and other functionaries as needed. All such appointees may participate in meetings of the Board of Directors without vote.

#### ARTICLE VIII. FISCAL YEAR AND AUDIT.

Section 1. Fiscal Year: The Fiscal Year of the corporation shall be the Calendar Year.

Section 2. Audit: Preceding each annual meeting of the Society, an audit of the records of the Society shall be made. The results of this audit shall be presented at the annual meeting and incorporated into the minutes.

#### ARTICLE IX. AFFILIATION.

Section 1. Conditions: Upon an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the Society voting, the Society may affiliate with another society organized for a related purpose, provided that the Society shall in no way lose its autonomy or the privilege of terminating such affiliation upon a subsequent affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the Society voting.

#### ARTICLE X. COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS.

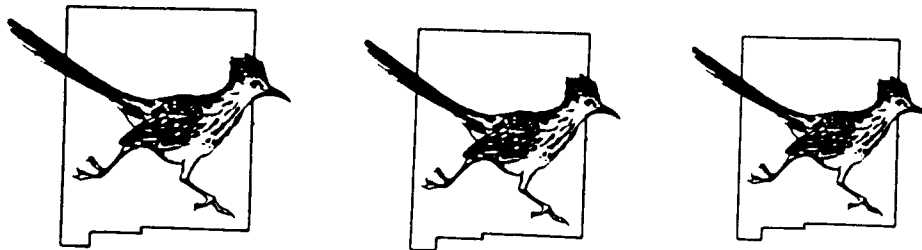
Section 1. Bulletins and Newsletters: A minimum of four such publications shall be published by the Society each year and distributed to the Society membership. Referees for professional papers to be published in the Bulletin shall be appointed by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Field Notes: Field Notes for each of the four seasons shall be distributed to the Society membership upon completion.

Section 3. Other Publications: Any other communications or publications which the Board of Directors may cause, from time to time, to be published shall be made available to the membership.

#### ARTICLE XI. AMENDMENTS.

Section 1. Requirements: These Bylaws may be amended by majority vote of the members present at the annual meeting, or by majority vote of the entire membership in case of balloting by mail, but in either event only after any proposed change in these Bylaws shall have been submitted in writing to the members not less than 30 days prior to the date such action is to be taken or considered.



#### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 19 JANUARY BOARD MEETING

The NMOS Board of Directors met 19 January 1991 at UNM. Good progress was reported for the revised edition of the New Mexico Bird Finding Guide. The revised bylaws for the NMOS were read and approved. One important change in the bylaws is that all officers are to be elected every two years at the Albuquerque meeting. In order to facilitate this change the present officers have agreed to serve an additional year. The next election of officers will be Spring 1992 in Albuquerque. Until a new editor for the Bulletin is appointed the bulletins/newsletters will be cooperatively produced by a select group of reluctant volunteers who are beginning to greatly appreciate Sandy Williams'

professional bulletins of the past.

### **1991 NMOS ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE AND CALL FOR PAPERS**

The 1991 annual meeting of the New Mexico Ornithological Society will be held on Saturday 27 April at the Dripping Springs Natural Area, east of Las Cruces at the base of the Organ Mountains. Field trips in the immediate vicinity and a business meeting will occupy the morning; a paper session will be held in the afternoon.

Please consider enhancing the value of the meeting by sharing the results of an ornithological project of yours. Send your name, address (i.e., indicate how you wish to be listed on the program), the title of your presentation and a typed abstract of about 200 words (to be published in a future NMOS Bulletin) to Dr. Ralph Raitt or Dr. Peter Houde, Department of Biology, NMSU, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88003 (505-646-3611). Unless advance arrangements are made, presentations should be planned for 15 minutes, with an additional 5 minutes for discussion. The deadline for receiving abstracts is 31 March.

The evening program, after a banquet at the Mesilla Valley Inn, will be a comprehensive report on the status of the Gray Ranch.

A Sunday morning field trip to the Percha-Caballo area is planned. Details will be announced on Saturday.

The Meeting Committee is: Eleanor Wootten, Chair, Cathie Sandell, Lorraine Schulte, Katie Skaggs, Peter Houde and Ralph Raitt.

### **NOTICE OF THE NEXT NMOS BOARD MEETING**

The Board of Directors of the New Mexico Ornithological Society will meet Saturday 7 September at 1:00 PM in the conference room of the Department of Biology, UNM. The agenda will include: NMBFG progress, Data Management progress, 1992 Annual Meeting date, appointments of any Board openings, plus other items that may come up. The meeting is open to the membership.

### **HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2ND NMOS DATA MANAGEMENT MEETING**

The principal issues in setting up a data management system are extraction of data from primary sources, entry of data into a computer, and software for handling the database. At the first data management meeting in November, John Hubbard suggested that to get data management underway, we start with data extraction

for a few species with the proposed data form. Our first objective is to transfer the information in the New Mexico Field Notes into a database.

The second meeting, on 19 January 1991, was held to review progress in this direction. The idea is to design a draft form for data entry close enough to the final product, even if modified over time, with a standardized formalism--what kinds of data and how they are to be entered--for data extraction and eventual data entry into a computer. John designed a form; it needs to be tested. Lois Herrmann, pioneering the effort, entered data for a selected set of species onto the proposed data entry form. In so doing, she encountered a variety of problems. At the meeting she described the process, identified problems, and offered some solutions. Her presentation engendered a wide-ranging, detailed discussion of the data, how to enter it in a standard way, how it would be used, and how to improve and standardize computer data entry (need hooks to relate records meaningfully, for example), and possible software approaches. Among the questions raised were definition of a record, numbers when not quantitative, multiple sightings, sightings of the same bird over a period of time or from year to year, and problems arising from changes in nomenclature (The split of the Red-naped Sapsucker from the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker--how to retrofit?--was used as an example).

Points clearly made were that data extraction requires knowledgeable bird people, and formal oversight of the extraction process is necessary. Much of the information is straightforward "raw data"--species, number seen, date, and place--but other valuable information may be reported, synthesized, or generalized. Nest records, as another example, may have a complicated data set.

This was an effective, highly informative, working group meeting for those taking the lead in data extraction and computer data management.

The NMOS is planning a discussion and instructional session on data extraction at the upcoming annual meeting in Las Cruces.





**MEMBERS OF THE NEW MEXICO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

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Membership in the New Mexico Ornithological Society is open to anyone with an interest in birds. Memberships are for a calendar year. Annual dues for calendar year 1991 were due and payable 1 January 1991. If you have not yet done so, please join or renew at one of the following membership rates: Regular \$7.50; Family \*10.00; Student \*3.00; Supporting \$30.00; Life \$300.00. Checks should be made payable to NMOS and sent to the Treasurer, Ross L. Teuber, 1612 Kentucky NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110. (NOTE: No need to overpay! Check your mailing label on this issue — if it says '91, you're all paid up.)

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