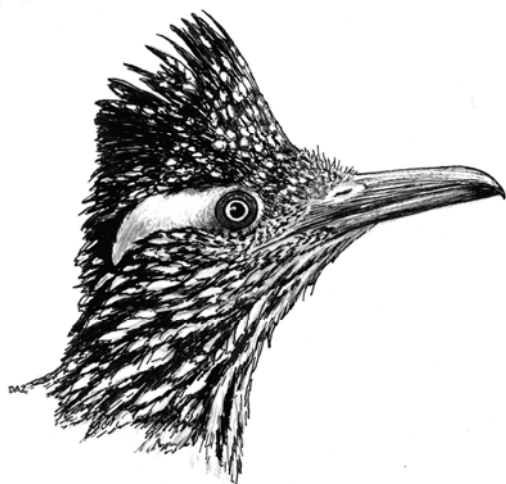


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**FIFTH REPORT OF THE NEW MEXICO
BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE**

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This fifth report of the New Mexico Bird Records Committee (NMBRC, or Committee) summarizes decisions reached between July 1998 and April 2007. During that period, 342 records of 126 bird species were evaluated, with 246 (72 %) accepted and 46 (13 %) not accepted; 50 (15 %) are being re-circulated and are not discussed here. Most records evaluated were from the mid-1990s to the mid-2000s, but a few were from earlier decades. During the period, 21 species were accepted as new to New Mexico, including 20 resulting from Committee evaluations and one resulting from a taxonomic split. These bring the New Mexico list of bird species confirmed by specimen, photograph, or audio recording to 517 through April 2007. The 20 evaluated species (scientific names are in the main list, below) added to the state list are: Short-tailed Hawk, Black Rail, King Rail, Parasitic Jaeger, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Royal Tern, Elegant Tern, Eastern Screech-Owl, Barred Owl, Green Violet-ear, Allen's Hummingbird, Black-capped Vireo, Clay-colored Robin, White Wagtail, Swainson's Warbler, Golden-crowned Warbler, Henslow's Sparrow, Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow, Yellow Grosbeak, and Streak-backed Oriole. The Cackling Goose (*Branta hutchinsii*) was accepted to the state list following its split from the larger Canada Goose (*B. canadensis*); its New Mexico status, distribution, and identification were discussed by Williams (2004). Documentation for several additional species potentially new to the state list has been received and awaits evaluation.

The first Committee report (Williams 1995) provided the history, purpose, procedures, and membership of the NMBRC and presented an initial review list of species for which complete documentation of each record was requested. The second through fourth reports (Williams 1996, 1997, 1999) continued to detail the work of the Committee. Information about the NMBRC, including background details, members, the current review list, a report form for rare species, the New Mexico state list, and how to report sightings of New Mexico birds, can be found on the New

Mexico Ornithological Society (NMOS) web site at www.nmosbirds.org. **Observers are reminded that the posting of reports to “hotlines” and “e-mail lists” does not constitute formal submission or documentation of observations.**

The decade 1998-2007 saw a great increase in the number of reports submitted and, perhaps more importantly, a revolution in the technology employed to document birds. Much of the latter involved electronic methods both to document birds and to submit reports, bringing new challenges to sorting and archiving individual bird records. For example, “photographs” may now arrive as prints, slides, video tape, printed images, and/or compact disks (of images or video), while “audio” records can arrive on videotape, compact disks, electronic files, or cassette tapes. Adding additional complexity, tapes and disks may include multiple species spread over more than one season, while multiple observers may document a specific record using various media. The Committee continues to adapt to these new technologies, but acknowledges that it has experienced logistical difficulties in circulating material for review.

The current NMBRC consists of Alan M. Craig, William H. Howe, David J. Krueper, Jerry R. Oldenettel, Sartor O. Williams III (secretary), Barry R. Zimmer, and Dale A. Zimmerman. Former members who also voted on some records in this report are John E. Parmeter, Christopher M. Rustay, and Scott H. Stoleson.

The records treated in this report are divided into accepted and unaccepted. Within each category, records are arranged taxonomically following the 7th Edition of the American Ornithologists’ Union’s *Check-list of North American Birds* (AOU 1998) and its subsequent supplements. Each record is identified by a NMBRC file number—this number is in parentheses and consists of the year the record was originally circulated to the Committee (*not* the year in which the record occurred), followed by a dash and a number; if a letter (e.g., “A”) is appended, it indicates a record of two birds was split into two records. Also given is the location (with county, in *italics*, given the first time a locality appears), the accepted date(s) of the record, and the initials of the observer(s) who submitted documentation. Observers are not listed for reports which were not accepted. Standard abbreviations used are MSB (Museum of Southwestern Biology), NM (National Monument), NWR (National Wildlife Refuge), SP (State Park), WMA (Wildlife Management Area); others include ad. (adult), imm. (immature), mi (miles), ph. (for all photographic materials, including

video), and audio (for all audio recordings). A non-standard locality abbreviation often used is “NRT” for “North Roosevelt Trap,” referring to the migrant trap often called “Melrose Trap,” situated 10 miles west of Melrose but located in north Roosevelt County, as discussed by Parmeter (2007). Eight species addressed in this report, identified by an asterisk (*), were removed from the review list during the period covered here; although these are no longer review species, brief details sufficient to identify the species are still requested in future reports.

ACCEPTED RECORDS

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*). Two (2001-50) ads. were at a pond on the south edge of Roswell, *Chaves* 1 Jul 2001 (SW); over three-fourths of acceptable records have occurred during the Jun to mid-Sep period.

Fulvous Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna bicolor*). Two (2000-01) ads. were at Holloman Lake, *Otero* 1 Oct 1999 (GJE). One (2002-10) ad. was in a flooded field 2 mi south of San Antonio, *Socorro* 22-23 Apr 2002 (RK, ph. JRO, PRS). One (2003-01) imm. was at Lake Avalon, *Eddy* 8-9 Sep 2002 (ph. JRO, SW). First verified in 1997, there remain fewer than a dozen credible New Mexico reports.

Surf Scoter (*Melanitta perspicillata*). Seven (2002-02) at Bitter Lake NWR, *Chaves* 9 Nov 1999 (CMR) constituted the largest flock yet found in New Mexico. One (2000-03) ad. female was at Conchas Lake, *San Miguel* 14 Nov 1999 (WHH).

***Long-tailed Duck** (*Clangula hyemalis*). One (1998-62) apparent winter ad. female was at Bosque del Apache NWR, *Socorro* 12-13 Nov 1995 (ph. KEC, CRM, CMR). One (1998-63) winter ad. male was at Brantley Lake, *Eddy* 11 Nov 1995 (JRO). One (1998-64) winter ad. male was at the San Jon, *Quay* sewage ponds 19 Nov 1995 (ph. JRO).

Barrow's Goldeneye (*Bucephala islandica*). One (1998-32) ad. male was on the Chama River below El Vado Dam, *Rio Arriba* 7 Jan 1998 (DWS). One (1999-53) apparent imm. male was at Conchas Lake 16 & 23 Jan 1999 (WHH, JRO, JEP). One (2006-02B) female was at Stubblefield Lake, *Colfax* 18 Nov 2005 (ph. DJC).

Red-throated Loon (*Gavia stellata*). One (1998-86) in winter plumage was at Elephant Butte Lake, *Sierra* on various dates 8 Feb-11 Apr 1998

(DAE, BDN, JEP, JRO, CMR). One (1998-87) molting into summer plumage was at Brantley Lake 1 May 1998 (DAE, BDN, JEP).

Yellow-billed Loon (*Gavia adamsii*). One (1998-31) imm. was at Caballo Lake, *Sierra* 10 & 13 Jan 1998 (sketch BRZ, JRO, PEL). One (2001-15) imm. was at Farmington Lake, *San Juan* 16 Nov 2000-29 Jan 2001 (ph. TR, ph. JRO).

Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*). One (2000-17) ad. male was at Bitter Lake NWR 29 Apr 2000 (JEP, JWM). One (2002-01) female or imm. was along the Rio Grande in White Rock Canyon, *Sandoval* 1 Jun 2002 (SMF). These represent only the 3rd and 4th well-documented New Mexico reports.

Reddish Egret (*Egretta rufescens*). One (2001-38) dark morph imm. was at Elephant Butte Lake 29 Jun-1 Jul 2001 (ph. JRO, JEP). One (2002-08) dark morph imm. was actively feeding at Holloman Lake 24 May 2002 (BRZ).

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*). One (2002-09) ad. was at Bosque del Apache NWR 26 May 2002 (TW).

White Ibis (*Eudocimus albus*). One (2001-01) ad. was at La Joya WMA, *Socorro* 10-20 Aug 2000 (ph. JRO, JEP, BDN, DAE).

Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*). One (2000-18) ad. was at Bosque del Apache NWR 21-22 Apr 2000 (JEP, ph. JRO) and the same or another was there 12-13 May 2000 (BDN, DAE, ph. JRO). One (2001-29) ad. was at Bosque del Apache NWR 20 Apr 2001 (JEP). One (2001-30) ad. was at Bosque Redondo, *De Baca* 5 May 2001 (JEP). One (2001-31) ad. was at Bitter Lake NWR 26 May 2001 (JRO). One (2001-39) ad. was in the vicinity of La Union, *Doña Ana* 28-29 April 2001 (ph. JEZ, MTS). Reports have increased dramatically during the 2000s.

Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*). One (2001-16) ad. near Sunland Park, *Doña Ana* but on the east bank of the Rio Grande wandered into New Mexico airspace 6 Aug 2000 (JNP), but spent most of its time in adjacent El Paso, Texas, where it was seen by several observers 31 Jul-10 Aug (ph. JNP). This provided the 6th New Mexico report and the 4th to be verified by specimen or photo.

Gray Hawk (*Buteo nitidus*). One (2001-32) imm. was along the Gila River near Cliff, *Grant* 9 July 1998 (SHS). One (2002-11) ad. was over the Gila River near Virden, *Hildago* 19 Apr 2002 (DAZ). One (2002-12) imm. was in Guadalupe Canyon, *Hidalgo* just east of the state line 5 Jul 2002 (JEP, JRO).

Short-tailed Hawk (*Buteo brachyurus*). At least one (2005-16) ad. in the Animas Mts., *Hidalgo* 24 May & 28 Jun 2005 (ph. JPD, SOW) provided the first record for the species in New Mexico; details of this record and a photograph were published in Williams et al. (2007), which discussed range expansion by the species.

Crested Caracara (*Caracara cheriway*). One (1999-54) imm. was 0.5 mi N of San Antonio 18 Apr 1999 (ph. JPR, MRG).

Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis*). One (2006-15) very vocal at Clabber Hill Ranch below Conchas Dam, *San Miguel* 12-26 May 2006 (RLV, audio CMR, JEP, MJB, JN-M, JPB, WFW, NDP, audio JRO, m.ob.) was accepted as the state's first confirmed record. An earlier report (2002-14) of a vocal individual along Ponil Creek, *Colfax* 29 Apr 2002, also supported by audio (albeit faint), has circulated twice with no decision, and will be re-circulated.

King Rail (*Rallus elegans*). One (2002-02), apparently an ad., seen and heard at Willow Lake, *Eddy* 7 Mar-18 Apr 1999 (SW, ph. & audio JRO, JEP, PRS, m.ob.) was accepted as the first confirmed record for the state. Members concluded the available video and audio documentation, sonogram analyses, and written descriptions were consistent with this species and not Clapper Rail (*R. longirostris*).

American Golden-Plover (*Pluvialis dominica*). One (1998-90) in winter plumage was at Bosque del Apache NWR 26 Apr 1998 (JRO) and was reported without details by others 25 & 27-28 Apr. One (1998-91) in winter plumage was at Bitter Lake NWR 9 May 1998 (JEP, JRO) and was reported without details by others 10 May. One (1999-55) in breeding plumage was 3 mi south of Mesquite, *Doña Ana* 7 May 1999 (ph. JNP). Documentation for these three records was considered sufficient to identify this species and eliminate other species, including *P. fulva*.

Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*). One (2001-40) ad., with complete breast band typical of the interior subspecies *C. m. circumcinctus*, was at Bitter Lake NWR 21-27 Apr 2001 (JWM, GLW, JEP, BDN, DAE, ph. WHH); this provided New Mexico's 7th overall record, and 3rd to be photo-documented.

Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*). One (1998-46) was at Bosque del Apache NWR 9 May 1998 (BDN, DAE). One (1999-1) was at Elephant Butte Lake 16 Aug 1998 (CMR, BDN, DAE). One (1992-2) was at Bitter Lake NWR 4 Sept 1998 (BDN, DAE). One (1999-3) was on a sandbar in the Rio Grande W of Mesilla, *Doña Ana* 13 Sep 1998 (GJE).

Hudsonian Godwit (*Limosa haemastica*). Up to 5 (1998-92) in breeding plumage were at Bitter Lake NWR 28 Apr-5 Jun 1998, with one to 2 from 28 Apr to 27 May (including 2 on 3 May-ph. JRO), 5 on 30 May (DAE), and one lingering to 5 Jun (GLW). One (1999-56) in breeding plumage was on a Rio Grande sandbar W of Mesquite 7-8 May (RPR). One (2002-21) male in breeding plumage was at Springer Lake, *Colfax* 25-26 May (DAE, BDN, CMR) and at nearby Maxwell NWR, *Colfax* 28 May (ph. DJC).

Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*). One (1998-93) adult in breeding plumage was at Bitter Lake NWR 27 Jul 1998 (GLW). One (1998-94) adult at Bitter Lake NWR 22 Aug 1998 was at a different location from 1998-93 and had not been detected during intervening systematic surveys and is considered a different bird. One (1999-70) imm. was at Elephant Butte Lake 24-29 Sep 1998 (JEP, ph. JRO); it was salvaged recently dead 29 Sep (WFW; specimen to MSB 26130). One (1999-71) in winter plumage was at Lake Isabel, *San Miguel* 12 Oct 1999 (WFW). Two (2001-03) apparent imms. were at Caballo Dam, *Sierra* 19 Aug 2000 (LKM).

Red Knot (*Calidris canutus*). One (1994-04) ad. in breeding plumage was at Bitter Lake NWR 31 July 1998 (JEP).

Semipalmated Sandpiper (*Calidris pusilla*). One (1996-06), reportedly an ad., at Bosque del Apache NWR 10 Sep 1998 (CMR) was accepted 5-1, with one member uncomfortable with any sight records, and especially of winter ads., in New Mexico west of the plains.

Little Stint (*Calidris minuta*). New Mexico's first Little Stint was one (2005-15) ad. in breeding plumage at Bitter Lake NWR 31 May 2005 (ph. JRO, GLW, ph. MM, JF); the record was accepted 6-1, with a majority concluding the documentation (including video) sufficiently identified this species and eliminated similar species, including Red-necked Stint (*C. ruficollis*).

Ruff (*Philomachus pugnax*). One (2000-04), likely an imm. female, was at Zuni's Nutria Lake No. 2, *McKinley* 22 Aug 1999 (JAT). One (2006-03) imm. was at Stubblefield Lake 5 Oct 2005 (ph. DJC).

Short-billed Dowitcher (*Limnodromus griseus*). One (1998-66) vocal imm. was at Las Palomas on Caballo Lake 10 Sep 1995 (JNP, BDN, DAE); plumage and voice descriptions plus date were convincing for this species.

American Woodcock (*Scolopax minor*). One (2005-05) was in Albuquerque's North Valley, *Bernalillo* 28 Nov 1999 (ph. DAB; photo in *N. Am. Birds* 54:86); this provided New Mexico's 8th well-documented report.

Red Phalarope (*Phalaropus fulicarius*). An impressive six individuals were at five sites during fall 1995, as follows: one (1998-67) at Radium Springs, *Doña Ana* 26 Sep 1995 (EGW, ph. LS, GJE); one (1998-68A) at Maxwell NWR 28 Sep 1995 (JEP); one (1998-68B) at Stubblefield Lake 28 Sep 1995 (JEP); one (1998-69) at Zuni's Blackrock Lake, *McKinley* 6 Oct 1995 (DJC); one (1998-70) at Ute Lake, *Quay* 7 Oct 1995 (CMR); and one (1998-71) at Stubblefield Lake 22-23 Oct 1995 (CMR, ph. JRO). At least one (1999-31) was at Zuni's Tekapo Lake, *McKinley* 5 & 12 Sep 1998 (ph. DJC). One (2000-06) was at Holloman Lake 9 Oct 1999 (DAE, BDN). One (2000-07) was at Las Vegas NWR, *San Miguel* 20 Oct 1999 (WFW). One (2001-51) in partial breeding plumage was at Springer Lake 15-18 Jun 2001 (ph. DJC).

Laughing Gull (*Larus atricilla*). One or two (1998-72) were at Brantley Lake 14-15 May 1998, as follows: an ad. in breeding plumage described and photographed 14 May (JEP, ph. JRO; photo in *Field Notes* 52:369) and the same or, based on photos, another there 15 May (ph. SW). One (1998-73) ad. was at White Sands Missile Range's Main Post headquarters, *Doña Ana* 20 May 1998 (DAH). One (2002-15) ad. was on the Rio Grande at Sunland Park 30 Mar 2002 (ph. JNP).

Little Gull (*Larus minutus*). One (2006-04) apparent winter ad. was at Lake Avalon 29 Nov 2001 (SW).

Mew Gull (*Larus canus*). One (1998-48) imm. was feeding behind a tractor with Ring-billed Gulls in Albuquerque's South Valley 7 March 1998 (BDN, DAE). One (1999-34) winter ad. was at Elephant Butte Lake 26 Dec 1998 (DJC).

Lesser Black-backed Gull (*Larus fuscus*). One (2002-03) winter ad. at the Sunland Park race track 25 Dec 2001-8 Jan 2002 (ph. JRO, JNP, ph. BRZ, LKM, MTS, JEZ, JEP, PRS, m.ob.) established a first New Mexico record. The description of the bird, which split its time between New Mexico and Texas, was consistent with *L. f. graellsii*.

Black-legged Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*). One (1998-34) winter ad. was at Willow Lake 29 Dec 1997 (ph. CCC), only the 2nd adult to be documented in the state. One (1999-08) imm. was at Sumner Lake, *De Baca* 8 Nov 1998 (WHH, SOW). One (1999-09) imm. was at Bluewater Lake, in both *Cibola* and *McKinley*, 19-22 Nov 1998 (ph. BP, JEP, JRO, DAE).

Arctic Tern (*Sterna paradisaea*). One (1998-75) ad. was at Brantley Lake 15 May 1998 (ph. SW; photo in *Field Notes* 52:369); this 4th New Mexico record, along with the previous three, was discussed as regards the recent

discovery of the species breeding in Montana (Dinsmore and Jorgensen 2001). At least 3 (2001-20) at Elephant Butte Lake 26-30 Sep 2000, as follows: an ad. on the upper lake and a juv. plus an apparent subad. at Monticello Point 26 Sep (WFW), and 2 juvs. at Monticello Point 30 Sep (DAE, BDN); both Forster's and Common terns were present with the Arctic's, allowing direct comparison.

Royal Tern (*Thalasseus maximus*). Providing a first for New Mexico was one (2005-04) winter ad. at Cochiti Lake, *Sandoval* 12 Oct 2003 (WHH, SOW, ph. JRO, JEP, WFW, m.ob.; photo in *N. Am. Birds* 58:174).

Elegant Tern (*Thalasseus elegans*). Providing an abundantly well documented first for New Mexico was one (2001-34) ad. in breeding plumage at Burn Lake in Las Cruces, *Doña Ana* 7-8 May 2001 (ph. TLS, ph. JNP, MTS, ph. JEZ, GJE, ph. JRO, JEP, m.ob.). Surprisingly, another (2001-41) ad. or near ad. in breeding plumage was at the B-Square Ranch in Farmington, *San Juan* 18 Jul 2001 (ph. TR). It is noteworthy that 2 additional Elegant Terns were documented in Arizona in Jul 2001 (*N. Am. Birds* 55:465), and a photo of one of them was published (*N. Am. Birds* 55:506)—unfortunately mislabeled as the Farmington bird.

Black Skimmer (*Rynchops niger*). One (2001-42) ad. at Bitter Lake NWR 10-12 Jun 2001 (JWM, ph. JRO, JEP, SW, ph. WHH) provided New Mexico's 3rd confirmed and 4th overall record.

Parasitic Jaeger (*Stercorarius parasiticus*). New Mexico first confirmed Parasitic Jaeger was one (2001-17) imm. captured in a weakened condition at Conchas Lake 19 Sep 1998 (LC) and taken to Santa Fe for rehabilitation, where it was described, measured, and photographed 6 Oct (ph. SOW, ph. CGS); this event was discussed by Williams and Schmitt (1999) and a photo published in *N. Am. Birds* 53:118. The jaeger reportedly made a complete recovery and was relocated to the Texas coast, where the unbanded bird was released at Freeport on or about 30 Dec.

Long-tailed Jaeger (*Stercorarius longicaudus*). One (2001-18) ad. was at Stubblefield Lake 26-27 Jun 2000 (PEL, ph. CLW, WFW), an unusual date for the species in New Mexico. One (2001-19) ad. was at Maxwell NWR 14-18 Aug 2000 (DD, PEM).

***Common Ground-Dove** (*Columbina passerina*). Three (1998-35) were at Redrock WMA, *Grant* 6 Dec 1997 (DAZ, MAZ). One (1998-76) was at Santa Teresa, *Doña Ana* 24 Sep (JNP) & 29 Oct (DAE) 1995. One (1998-88) was in Post Office Canyon, *Hidalgo* 2 Jun 1998 (WFW). One (1998-89) vocal ad. male was in Clanton Canyon, *Hidalgo* 4 July 1998 (JEP, JRO).

Two (1999-10), both vocal, were at Double Adobe, *Hidalgo* 23 May 1998 (AMC, NM-C). One (1999-13) ad. female was at a Las Cruces feeder 24 Oct 1998 (GJE). One (1999-57) female was 1 mi east of Rodeo, *Hidalgo* 19 May 1999 (AMC).

Ruddy Ground-Dove (*Columbina talpacoti*). One (2001-22) ad. male was west of Rodeo 0.3 mi east of State Line Road 27 Oct 2000 (ph. SR).

Eastern Screech-Owl (*Megascops asio*). Providing a New Mexico first was one (2005-09) very vocal red morph at Eastern New Mexico University, Portales, *Roosevelt* 18 Nov 2003-May 2005 (ph. & audio JDA, ph. GSK, JEP, ph. JRO, LPG, BDN, CMB, SW, ph. JPB, m.ob., including most attendees at the annual NMOS meeting 7 May 2005; photo in *N. Am. Birds* 56:174). This occurrence was summarized by Avery and Keller (2006), who mentioned without detail a subsequent detection there, presumed to be the same individual, in Mar 2006.

Barred Owl (*Strix varia*). One (2005-11) occasionally vocal in cottonwoods along Galisteo Creek at Galisteo, *Santa Fe* 29 May-2 Oct 2004 (ph. JPB, JEP, JRO, RLV, PEM, RDB, CMB, m.ob.) provided the first verified record for the state.

***Short-eared Owl** (*Asio flammeus*). Three (1998-37) were in the south Animas Valley, *Hidalgo* 12 Jan 1998 (ph. JRO). One (1999-14) was in the south Animas Valley 20 Nov 1998 (DAE).

Green Violet-ear (*Colibri thalassinus*). One (2005-12) visiting an Upper Canyon Road feeder at Santa Fe, *Santa Fe* 16-18 Nov 2004 (ph. RDE, ph. JRO, JPB, BRF, m.ob.; photo in *N. Am. Birds* 59:191) furnished a New Mexico first. Documentation was reviewed by Steven W. Cardiff and Sheri Williamson, who concluded it was an ad. of unknown sex.

White-eared Hummingbird (*Hylocharis leucotis*). One (2001-52) female in upper Indian Creek Canyon, Animas Mts. 15 June 2001 (AMC, NM-C), was well described and distinguished from similar species.

Berylline Hummingbird (*Amazilia beryllina*). One (2002-16) ad., probably a male, in the south Animas Valley 5 mi east of Cloverdale along the road to San Luis Pass 10 Jun 2002 (SOW) provided the 2nd accepted New Mexico record.

Blue-throated Hummingbird (*Lampornis clemenciae*). One (2001-54) ad. male was 2 mi west of Six Mile Dam, *Eddy* 21 June 2001 (SW). One (2001-54) male was at Raton, *Colfax* 14 July 2001 (JEP, JRO), where originally reported 3 Jul by Florence Higgins.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird (*Archilochus colubris*). One (2006-07) ad. male was nicely photographed at Carlsbad, *Eddy* 25 Aug 2005 (ph. TJH).

Costa's Hummingbird (*Calypte costae*). One (1998-96) young male was vocal and displaying at Zuni's Blackrock Dam, *McKinley* 27 Aug 1996 (JAT).

Allen's Hummingbird (*Selasphorus sasin*). One (2001-04) hatch-year male captured, measured, photographed, and banded—and diagnostic tail feathers retained—at Grey Feathers Lodge on Sapillo Creek 15 mi north of Silver City, *Grant* 28 Jul 2000 (JED-M, ph. Fred Bassett, ph. Jack Milchanowski) established the first confirmed New Mexico record. William A. Calder and William H. Baltosser reviewed the documentation and concurred with the identification.

Red-bellied Woodpecker (*Melanerpes carolinus*). One (2001-23) vocal ad. male at Socorro, *Socorro* 10 Nov-18 Dec 2000 (ph. PB, DAE, BDN) provided a first for the Rio Grande Valley.

Eastern Wood-Pewee (*Contopus virens*). Two (1998-98) very vocal singing/calling birds were at Rattlesnake Springs, *Eddy* 6 Jun 1998 (ph. & audio JRO).

Buff-breasted Flycatcher (*Empidonax fulvifrons*). One (1998-99) singing and strongly territorial ad. was in Clanton Canyon 1-15 June 1998 (WFW, ph. JRO, SOW, audio CAM, JEP, audio LPG), but there was no evidence of a second bird in the area. One (1999-59) singing ad. was at Cistern Saddle, Animas Mts. 8 May 1999 (NM-C).

Great Crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus crinitus*). One (1999-60) was along the Rio Grande 2 mi south of Hatch, *Doña Ana* 14 May 1999 (RPR); the species is rare in New Mexico west of the plains and rare anywhere in the state in spring.

Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher (*Myiodynastes luteiventris*). One (1999-15) at a pond at the turf farm 5 mi east of Moriarty, *Torrance* 11 Sep 1998 (JEP, ph. JRO) was a surprise for the prairie.

Couch's Kingbird (*Tyrannus couchii*). One (1998-100) occasionally singing and calling was along the Gila River south of Riverside, *Grant* (specifically, about one mi downstream from the Mangas Creek road crossing) 24 Feb-1 Apr 1998 (LKM, JEP, ph. JRO, ph. & audio DAZ, GJE, audio LPG, MAP, CAM, m.ob.; photo in *Field Notes* 52:407). The abundance of excellent documentation, including sonogram/spectrogram analysis of vocalizations, confirmed this 2nd New Mexico record.

Couch's/Tropical Kingbird (*Tyrannus couchii*/T. *melancholius*). One (1998-101) originally reported as Tropical was feeding at beehives at Rodeo

14-21 Dec 1980 (ph. JS, RTS); the bird may have been silent, as there is no description of voice, but since the observers had no reason to consider what was then the Couch's subspecies of Tropical Kingbird, they may have overlooked vocalizations. The photos clearly show a kingbird of the Couch's/Tropical group, but allocation to currently-recognized species cannot be done with certainty; based on apparent bill characteristics, two members leaned toward Couch's and away from Tropical. This bird has entered the literature as a Tropical Kingbird (e.g., Monson and Phillips 1981, Stouffer and Chesser 1998) although that species as currently recognized remains unverified in New Mexico.

White-eyed Vireo (*Vireo griseus*). One (1998-49) was in a roadside grove of trees along US 285 about 15 mi southeast of Vaughn, *Guadalupe* 3 May 1998 (JRO). One (1999-16) was at Percha SP, *Sierra* 14-15 Aug 1998 (DAE, JEP). One (1999-17) was at NRT, *Roosevelt* 10-11 Oct 1998 (ph. JRO, BDN). One (1999-62) ad. was banded at Bosque del Apache NWR 19 May 1998 (ph. DLH). One (2001-25) ad. was seen and heard in Skeleton Canyon, *Hidalgo* 13 Aug 2000 (JEP, JRO, AMC, NM-C). One (2001-55) singing ad. was at Rattlesnake Springs 8 May 2001 (LA). One (2001-56) singing ad. was at Albuquerque's oxbow 23 May 2001 (sketch NV). One (2002-17) singing ad. along the Cimarron River east of Cimarron 8 July 2002 (ph. DJC) provided a *Colfax* first.

Black-capped Vireo (*Vireo atricapilla*). One (2005-13) ad. male at NRT 1-2 May 2004 (JEP, ph. JRO, ph. ELC, ph. LPG) furnished New Mexico's 2nd report and first confirmed record; photo in *N. Am. Birds* 58:411.

Blue-headed Vireo (*Vireo solitarius*). One (1999-39) at NRT 29-30 Aug & 6 Sep 1998 (DAE, JRO, BDN) was treated as the same individual, although the seven day time interval suggests two birds may have been involved. One (1999-41) was at Bosque Redondo 1 Nov 1998 (DAE). Many New Mexico birders seem unaware that this species is easily confused with bright Cassin's Vireos (*V. cassinii*), hence most reports received lack sufficient details to determine species.

Philadelphia Vireo (*Vireo philadelphicus*). One (2000-09) fall-plumaged bird was carefully described below Sumner Dam, *De Baca* 2 Oct 1999 (DAE, BDN), another (2001-06) was similarly described at Percha SP 14 Oct 2000 (CMR, DAE), and another (2006-09) was at NRT 30 Sep 2005 (JEP, JRO).

Yellow-green Vireo (*Vireo flavoviridis*). One (1999-18) was in riparian vegetation below Sumner Dam 21 & 23 Aug 1998 (JEP, JRO). This

represents the 6th detailed report for the species, but not all previous reports have been reviewed.

Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*). Reports continued to accumulate for this species. One (1999-19) was singing at Socorro's Riverine Park 23 Feb-31 May 1998 (JRO, JEP, PRS, CMR, MAP, m.ob.). One (1999-20) was at Sumner Dam 10 Oct 1998 (BDN, DAE). One (1999-63) was singing near Pilar, *Taos* 20 May 1999 (CMR). One (1999-77) was singing in Albuquerque's university area 18-28 Mar 1999 (LL, JEP, JRO). An ad. pair at a nest and later with 3 fledglings (2000-10) at Socorro's Riverine Park 5 Aug-15 Sep 1999 (ph. JRO, CMR) established the first documented breeding in New Mexico.

***Winter Wren** (*Troglodytes troglodytes*). One (1998-79) was at San Nicholas Spring, San Andres NWR, *Doña Ana* 28 Oct 1995 (MEW). Reports have proliferated in recent years, and the species was removed from the review list, but brief details are requested for all observations so status can be adequately understood.

Gray-checked Thrush (*Catbarus minimus*). One (2006-18) was at NRT 16 May 2004 (MAP); the careful description was good for this species and eliminated similar species. One (2006-19) at NRT 23 May 2004 (CLB) was likewise nicely described; its occurrence 7 days after 2006-18 argues that this was a different individual, especially given the high migrant turnover at this site and the presence of birders but absence of reports in the interval between observations. With but one confirmed New Mexico record (a specimen), this remains one of our rarest species, and all reports require extensive documentation.

Wood Thrush (*Hylocichla mustelina*). One (1998-50) at NRT 12 & 17 May 1998 (JEP, ph. JRO, BDN, DAE) was believed by observers to be the same bird both dates. One (1999-21) was at NRT 24 Oct 1998 (JEP, JRO). One (2000-20) was northeast of Milnesand near Lingo, *Roosevelt* 26 Apr 1999 (ph. LAS; photo in *N. Am. Birds* 53:344). One (2001-08) was at NRT 29 Sep 2000 (ph. WHH). One (2001-09) was north of Clovis at Ned Houk Park, *Curry* 7 Oct 2000 (ph. JRO).

Clay-colored Robin (*Turdus grayi*). Providing a New Mexico first was one (2002-25) at Horseshoe Springs near La Cueva, *Sandoval* from about 22 Nov 2001 to May or Jun 2002 (ph. RMH, GH, J&RS). The six photos are clearly of this species, so wild origin became the only question. The bird's behavior (which indicated no familiarity with feeders or captivity), the apparently good condition of its plumage, the timing of its arrival, and the

remote location together with our understanding that the species is expanding in south Texas, where it is now breeding at several locations, all argued convincingly for this being a genuine stray. It was accepted on a 3rd circulation.

Varied Thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*). One (1988-38) ad. male was in San Nicholas Canyon, San Andres NWR 25 Feb 1998 (MEW). One (2001-10) ad. male in the Ortiz Mts. near Cerrillos, *Santa Fe* 7 Oct 2000 (SLM) arrived with a large flock of robins following a storm.

White Wagtail (*Motacilla alba*). One (1998-39) photographed at Bosque del Apache NWR 8 Apr 1998 (DMP, ph. PN, J&AK; photo in *Field Notes* 52:370) was clearly of the White Wagtail/Black-backed Wagtail (*M. alba*/*M. lugens*) group, but after three circulations plus outside reviews by Joseph Morlan, Nick Lethaby, and Steve N. G. Howell, the species remained unresolved, with 5 members for Black-backed, one for Black-backed/White probably Black-backed, and one for Wagtail sp. The problem was solved when the AOU (*Auk* 122:1026-1031, 2005) merged Black-backed into White Wagtail (where it had been in earlier years), forming one species and providing New Mexico with a new confirmed species.

***Sprague's Pipit** (*Anthus spragueii*). One (1998-40) was in the south Animas Valley 12 Jan 1998 (ph. JRO), 4 (1998-51) were there 27 Mar 1998 (JEP), 2 (1999-44) were there 24 Oct 1998 (CMR) and at least 2 (1999-45) were there 20-21 Nov 1998 (DAE, JRO). At least 3 were at the turf farm west of Santa Teresa 12-13 Oct 1998 (ph. JNP).

Blue-winged Warbler (*Vermivora pinus*). One (1999-22) apparent male was at NRT 4 Oct 1998 (ph. JRO). One (2000-21) apparent male was at Bitter Lake NWR 25 Apr 2000 (JWM). One (2000-22) singing ad. male was at Quarai, *Torrance* 13 May 2000 (NV, HRS). One (2001-35) ad. male was along El Rito Creek at Santa Rosa, *Guadalupe* 17 Apr 2001 (ph. DLB). One (2001-36) vocal ad. male was at Zuni's Blackrock Dam 8 May 2001 (JAT). One (2001-37) ad. male was at Mesilla's Old Refuge 8 May 2001 (WS).

Golden-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*). One (1999-23) female or young male was at Percha SP 14 Aug 1998 (DAE). One (2000-23) singing ad. male was at NRT 12 May 2000 (ph. WHH). One (2000-24) apparent female was along the Canadian River in *San Miguel* about 10 mi northwest of Tucumcari 13 May 2000 (WFW). One (2001-11) male was at Fort Sumner, *De Baca* 20 Sep 2000 (WFW).

***Chestnut-sided Warbler** (*Dendroica pensylvanica*). One (1998-80) in fall plumage was at Bosque del Apache NWR 24 Sep 1998 (BDN, DAE). One (1998-81) in fall plumage was at the turf farm 5 mi east of Moriarty 29 Sept 1995 (JEP). One (1998-82) apparent male was at Albuquerque 10-11 Oct 1995 (KBO).

Magnolia Warbler (*Dendroica magnolia*). One (1999-64) male was at Boone's Draw, *Roosevelt* 14 May 1999 (JEP). One (2000-25) male was at Ruby Ranch 6 mi northeast of Las Vegas, *San Miguel* 13 May 2000 (CMR). One (2002-26) apparent female was at Paradise Hills, *Bernalillo* 9 May 2002 (JPD). One (2002-27) male was at NRT 19 May 2002 (BDN). One (2002-29) female or young male was at NRT 27 May 2002 (JEP, ph. JRO, WFW); despite intense coverage, no individuals were detected at NRT between 19 and 27 May. One (2002-30) ad. male was at NRT 2 June 2002 (BDN, DAE), at least the 3rd individual found at that site in spring 2002.

***Black-throated Blue Warbler** (*Dendroica caerulescens*). One (1998-83) male was at Boone's Draw 23 Sep 1995 (JEP, JRO). One (1998-84) female was at Percha SP 4 Oct 1995 (EGW). There are now over 100 records for this species, averaging over 4 per year since the late 1990s.

Black-throated Green Warbler (*Dendroica virens*). One (1998-103) male was at Ramon in northeast *Lincoln* 10 May 1998 (JRO, JEP). One (1999-46) female or young male was at Rattlesnake Springs 5 Sep 1998 (CMR). One (1999-47) female or young male was at NRT 4 Oct 1998 (JRO). One (1999-48) female or young male was at Boone's Draw 10 Oct 1998 (JEP). One (1999-49) was at Boone's Draw 24-25 Oct 1998 (JEP, JRO, DAE). This species can be easily confused with other similar species, so each report requires comprehensive details.

Blackburnian Warbler (*Dendroica fusca*). One (1999-24) of uncertain age/sex was photographed at NRT 4 Oct 1998 (ph. JRO). One (2002-12) female was at Boone's Draw 18 Sep 1999 (JEP, JRO).

Yellow-throated Warbler (*Dendroica dominica*). Three records, all apparently of the white-lored race *albiflora*, as follows: one (1999-25) male at Rattlesnake Springs 12 Aug 1998 (DJH), one (2002-18) ad. at Rattlesnake Springs 21 July 2002 (JBV), one (2006-10) ad. along Trout Creek north of Luna, *Catron* 2 Sep 2005 (LKM).

Prairie Warbler (*Dendroica discolor*). One (1999-26) singing ad. male was southwest of Raton at the NRA Whittington Center, *Colfax* 10 Jun 1997 (DRC). One (1999-27) at Pep, *Roosevelt* 5 Sep 1998 (ph. JRO) was the 4th to

be photo-documented in the state. One (2002-32) apparent young male was at Rattlesnake Springs 26 May 2002 (JRO).

Pine Warbler (*Dendroica pinus*). One (2003-04) ad. male was at Springer Memorial Park, *Colfax* 11 Sep 2001 (DJC). One (2003-05) ad. male was at NRT 7 Oct 2001 (DAE, BDN).

Palm Warbler (*Dendroica palmarum*). Six records were accepted, all assigned to the western subspecies, as follows: one (1998-52) along the Rio Grande in Albuquerque's South Valley 23 Apr 1998 (JPH); one (1998-28) at Bosque Redondo 1 Nov 1998 (JRO); one (1999-78) at Carlsbad Caverns NP, *Eddy* 24 Apr 1999 (JEP); one (2000-13) at NRT 5 Oct 1999 (WFW); one (2000-14) at Sunland Park 9 Oct 1999 (JNP); and one (2000-15) at Las Vegas NWR (McAllister Lake) 17 Oct 1999 (BRF, DMF).

Bay-breasted Warbler (*Dendroica castanea*). One (2005-06) ad. male was at NRT 4 Jun 2003 (CLB).

Blackpoll Warbler (*Dendroica striata*). One (2001-12) young male was captured, photographed, and banded at San Marcial, *Socorro* 15 Sep 2000 (ph. HAW).

Cerulean Warbler (*Dendroica cerulea*). One (2001-44) singing ad. male in the San Mateo Mts. at Springtime Campground, *Socorro* 26 May 2001 (ph. CMR) provided New Mexico's 2nd confirmed and 5th overall record.

Worm-eating Warbler (*Helminthos vermivora*). One (1998-53) was at Boone's Draw 9 May 1998 (JEP, ph. JRO). One (1988-54) was at Bitter Lake NWR 15 May 1998 (JEP, JRO). One (1998-105) singing along the Gila River 6 mi north of Gila, *Grant* 24 Jun-20 Jul 1998 (ph. DLH) was captured, photographed, and banded 2 Jul and recaptured at the same site 20 Jul. One (1999-65) was at an I-40 rest area in *Guadalupe* about 35 mi east of Clines Corners 2 May 1999 (DBA). One (1999-80) was at Rattlesnake Springs 25 Apr 1999 (JEP). One (1999-81) was at Percha SP 27 Apr 1999 (WFW). One (1999-82) was at Jal, *Lea* 7 May 1999 (JEP, JRO). One or 2 (1999-83) were along the Gila River near Cliff 28 May 1999 (SHS, ACF) in the same general area where one (1998-105) summered the previous year; it was believed 2 birds were present because the detections occurred over a mile apart but only 10 minutes apart in time.

Swainson's Warbler (*Limnothlypis swainsonii*). One (2000-27) nicely photographed at New Mexico Tech University in Socorro 30 Jul-14 Aug 1999 (ph. JRO, JEP, BDN, DAE, CMR, BRF, LKM, m.ob.) provided the first confirmed state record; there were 5 previous undocumented sightings

dating back to 1983. One (2002-23) was at Rattlesnake Springs 23 Sep 2001 (SW).

Louisiana Waterthrush (*Serius motacilla*). One (2006-11) was at New Mexico Tech University in Socorro 10 Sep 2005 (JRO).

Kentucky Warbler (*Oporornis formosus*). One (1998-106) male was at the turf farm 5 mi east of Moriarty 10 May 1998 (JEP, ph. JRO, DAE, BDN, CMR; photo in *Field Notes* 52:371). One (1999-84) apparent female was at Rattlesnake Springs 25 Apr 1999 (JEP, JRO). One (1999-85) male was at White Sands NM housing area 1-6 May 1999 (ph. JM). One (1999-86) male was at NRT 6 May 1999 (ph. JRO, JEP). One (1999-87) female was near Lingo 23 May 1999 (ph. LAS; photo in *N. Am. Birds* 53:314). One (2000-28) apparent female was at Ropes Spring, San Andres NWR 26 Apr 2000 (ph. MEW). One (2000-29) male was at Tatum, *Lea* 29 Apr 2000 (DAE). One (2001-26) male was at NRT 17 Sep 2000 (NDP, NV). One (2001-45) singing male was at Cochiti Pueblo, *Sandoval* 16 May 2001 (DLH). One (2001-47) male was 1 mi northeast of Escondida Lake, *Socorro* 19 Jun 2001 (JPD).

Canada Warbler (*Wilsonia canadensis*). One (1998-107) apparent male was at NRT 9 Jun 1998 (CAM). One (2001-14) apparent female was at Mesilla's Old Refuge 30 Sep 2000 (SW). One (2006-10) female or young male was at New Mexico Tech University in Socorro 30 Aug 2006 (ph. CMR, ph. JRO).

Golden-crowned Warbler (*Basileuterus culicivorus*). Certainly new to New Mexico was one (2005-14) extensively documented at NRT 8-10 May 2004 (JEP, ph. JRO, ph. WHH, BDN, DAE, LKM, RHD, J&KH, m.ob.), which not only provided a state first but also the first U.S. record away from Texas. The event was described, with photos, by Howe and Parmeter (2004); photo also in *N. Am. Birds* 58:463.

Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*). One (1998-55) spring ad. male was at Pep 9 & 12 May 1998 (JEP, JRO). One (1998-56) spring ad. male was at NRT 25 May 1998 (GG). One (1998-41) spring ad. male was singing at the NRA Whittington Center 12 & 18 Jun 1998 (KMS). One (2000-30) spring ad. male was near Rattlesnake Springs at Washington Ranch, *Eddy* 11 May 2000 (SW).

***Baird's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus bairdii*). One (1998-42) was at Cannon Air Force Base, *Curry* 25 Apr 1997 (RPR). One (1998-44) was in the south Animas Valley 29 Nov 1997 (ph. JRO; photo in *Field Notes* 52:106). One (1998-48) at Bitter Lake NWR 23-25 Dec 1997 was nicely photographed

when it came to a feeder during a snowstorm (ph. GLW; photo in *Field Notes* 52:272). One (1998-45) was in the middle Animas Valley 27 Dec 1997 (AMC, sketch NM-C). Up to 4 (1999-50) were at two general locales in the south Animas Valley 20-21 Nov 1998 (DAE, JEP, JRO).

Henslow's Sparrow (*Ammodramus henslowii*). One (2005-03) nicely photographed at Clabber Hill Ranch below Conchas Dam 10-22 Oct 2003 (ph. JRO, JEP, WFW) provided the first confirmed record for the state; photo in *N. Am. Birds* 58:171.

Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow (*Ammodramus nelsoni*). One (2005-02) imm. was killed by a cat near the Albuquerque fairgrounds 22 Sep 2003; the dead bird was transported to MSB via Wildlife Rescue. The specimen (MSB 23852) constitutes the first confirmed New Mexico record and is representative of the smaller-billed, more western, freshwater marsh subspecies *A. n. nelsoni* (fide Robert W. Dickerman).

Yellow Grosbeak (*Pheucticus chrysopheplus*). One (2003-07) at Sunlit Hills southeast of Santa Fe 18-21 Oct 2002 (VAE, ph. DRE) was documented with a series of excellent photographs, which show it to be a fresh-plumaged imm. showing no evidence of ever having been in captivity. This, the 4th New Mexico report (the previous three all from the Jul-Oct period; see unaccepted reports, below), was accepted as the first confirmed state record on a 7-0 2nd circulation vote, with the consensus being that mere lack of a fall vagrancy pattern for the species should not argue heavily against acceptance; photo in *N. Am. Birds* 57:144. One (2006-21) at Albuquerque from about 1 Dec 2005 to 1 May 2006 gained national attention while being viewed and photographed by hundreds from throughout North America and, like the Thick-billed Parrot before it, appearing on television and making the pages of newspapers, magazines, and journals (see photo in *N. Am. Birds* 60:266). Apparently a subad. male, it first appeared at a North Valley feeder in early Dec 2005 (ph. RP), and, with other finches, continued to visit feeders in that neighborhood into late Jan 2006. Its presence was brought to the attention of birders, whereupon it quickly gained national attention, attracting birders to Albuquerque to see it, photograph it, and argue about its provenance. It disappeared from the North Valley in early Feb but was rediscovered visiting a feeder in the University area by mid-Feb, where it continued to attract birders until last seen 1 May (EB). It was first heard singing 23 Mar and continued to sing into Apr (JEP). After seeking and receiving information and advice from numerous authorities, plus reviewing an analysis of previous North

American records including convincing arguments in favor of natural origin, the record was accepted on a 6-1 first circulation vote, with one member questioning wild origin.

Bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*). One (1998-108) singing male in the Jemez Mts, *Sandoval*—specifically on Forest Service road 376 some 6 mi south of the Fenton Lake road, at a wet meadow along the Rio Cella Guadalupe that flows from Fenton Lake—on 27-28 Jun 1998 (PF).

***Rusty Blackbird** (*Euphagus carolinus*). Two (1998-58), a male and a female, at Mangas Springs, *Grant* 15 Mar 1998 (ph. [of male] JNP). One (1999-68) at Peña Blanca, *Sandoval* 26 Jan 1999 (WFW).

Streak-backed Oriole (*Icterus pustulatus*). One (2001-48) imm., possibly a male, at Corrales, *Sandoval* 9-29 Dec 2000 (ph. PP, ph. JRO) provided the first verified New Mexico record.

Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*). One (1998-59A) ad. male was at Washington Ranch 25 Apr & 2 May 1998 (DAE, BDN, JEP). One (1998-60) ad. male was at NRT 2 May 1998 (ph. JRO). One (1999-69) young male was in the Rincon Valley about 7.2 mi south of Hatch 14 May 1999 (RPR). One (2001-27) female or imm. at Fort Sumner 30 Sep 2000 (JRO, JEP) was carefully compared to a typical female Bullock's nearby.

Purple Finch (*Carpodacus purpureus*). One (2003-08) female-plumaged bird was at Santa Rosa 23 Jan-9 Feb 2003 (PEL, ph. JRO, JEP, DAE, BDN).

White-winged Crossbill (*Loxia leucoptera*). One (1999-51) male was at a Santa Fe feeder 20 Oct-1 Nov 1998 (FQ, SOW, JEP, ph. JRO, BDN, DAE, m.ob); photo in *N. Am. Birds* 53:119. Two additional reports from the same season are being re-circulated.

UNACCEPTED REPORTS

Barrow's Goldeneye. One (1998-65) reported as an ad. female of this species was at Heron Lake, *Rio Arriba* 12 Nov 1995; it failed on a 2-4 vote on its 2nd circulation, with a majority concluding the details did not eliminate female Common Goldeneye.

Swallow-tailed Kite. One (2005-07) reported as this species was at Carlsbad 14 Aug 2004; it failed 0-7 owing to absence of any useful details to evaluate.

White-tailed Hawk (*Buteo albicaudatus*). One (2001-02) reported as this species was along the Rio Grande near Hatch 28 Nov 2000; members

concluded the details provided failed to describe any distinctive features of this species or to eliminate other more likely species. The species is unverified in New Mexico.

Black-and-white Hawk-Eagle (*Spizastura melanoleucus*). One (2002-13, circulated at request of observer) reported as this species was perched in a snag along the Rio Grande north of Velarde, *Rio Arriba* 28 Sep 2002. The description of the bird (seen briefly from a moving vehicle) was inaccurate for this or any other conceivable species, and is considered erroneous; it most likely referred to an Osprey. The species is unknown north of tropical Mexico.

Crested Caracara. One (2001-33) reported as this species was in pine-oak woodland west of Saddle Mt., *Catron* 1 Aug 2001; members concluded the incomplete description of the bird briefly seen in flight failed to identify this species or eliminate other more likely species.

Aplomado Falcon (*Falco femoralis*). One (1999-30) reported as this species was at Escondida 29 Nov 1998; members noted the observer was uncertain of the identification, and the details provided suggested a female Northern Harrier may have been seen.

Short-billed Dowitcher. Two (2005-08) reported as this species were at Bosque del Apache NWR 13 Jan 2005; members concluded the details provided could fit either dowitcher species, and noted a mid-winter Short-billed in New Mexico would be unprecedented while Long-billed would be expected at that time and location.

Little Gull. One (1999-32) reported as this species was at Cherry Lake, *Mora* 20 Sep 1998; members concluded it may have been this species but the incomplete details coupled with the observer's uncertainty proved insufficient for acceptance.

Thayer's Gull (*Larus thayeri*). One (1999-35) reported as this species was at Elephant Butte Lake 26 Nov 1998; all members concluded the written description and two photos were inadequate for identification. One (1999-36) reported as this species was at Storrie Lake, *San Miguel* 11 Nov 1998; the majority of members (including the observer) concluded the identity was probably but not certainly correct.

Lesser Black-backed Gull. One (2006-05) reported as possibly this species was at Elephant Butte Lake 13-14 Oct 2005; members concluded the identity may have been correct but the descriptions were insufficient to be certain.

Pomarine Jaeger (*Stercorarius pomarinus*). One (1999-07) reported as this species at Bitter Lake NWR 6 Feb 1999 was certainly a jaeger, apparently an adult or near-adult, but the brief details provided were insufficient to identify Pomarine or rule out Parasitic.

Common Ground-Dove. One (1999-11) reported as this species was in the middle Animas Valley 25 May 1998; it may have been this species but, as it was heard only, and no description of the vocalization was provided, there was no report to evaluate. One (1999-12) reported as this species was at Percha SP 12 Oct 1998; it was clearly a ground-dove, but the details were not sufficient to distinguish this species from Ruddy Ground-Dove.

Ruddy Ground-Dove. One (2001-21) reported as this species was at Redrock 13 Aug 2000; a majority concluded the brief details did not eliminate Common Ground-Dove.

Thick-billed Parrot (*Rhynchopsitta pachyrhyncha*). One (2005-01) at the Armendaris Ranch near Engle, Sierra 7 May-23 June 2003 was seen by hundreds from throughout North America and beyond, photographed by scores, and detailed by many. It was also featured in magazines and newspapers and on television and radio, and was the subject of intense discussion, speculation, and controversy at the state and national level; photo on cover of *N. Am. Birds* 57 (3). The identity of the bird was never in question, but how it came to be at the ranch was questioned, and the Committee concluded it most likely arrived there with human assistance via the illegal cage bird trade, probably after being wild-caught in northwestern Mexico. The Committee's packet of documentation and discussion was forwarded to the American Birding Association's Checklist Committee, which concurred with New Mexico's decision (Pranty 2006). It should be noted that a small population of Thick-billed Parrots nests about 50 miles south of the New Mexico line, so the potential for a vagrant to reach the state remains; until then, the species remains unconfirmed in the state.

Eastern Screech-Owl. One (2005-10) was reported as this species on the basis of a "quavering whistle" heard at mid-day at 10,000 ft at Aspen Vista near the Santa Fe Ski Area, Santa Fe 12 Jan 2004; members concluded this was inadequate to substantiate such a remarkable record.

Tawny-collared Nightjar (*Caprimulgus salvini*). One (1998-95, circulated at request of observer) reported as this species was at Oliver Lee SP, Otero 17 Aug 1998. Members noted this was a silent nightjar seen briefly in flight after it flushed from a trail in early morning, that the details

did not eliminate other nightjars (especially Whip-poor-will) more likely to occur there, that the location was far from known range in Mexico, and that there were no previous U.S. records, and concluded the report was likely erroneous.

Allen's Hummingbird. One (2006-08) reported as an ad. male of this species was at Carlsbad 14 Aug 2005; a majority concluded the incomplete details did not rule out green-backed Rufous Hummingbird.

Black-backed Woodpecker (*Picooides arcticus*). One (1998-97) reported as a female of this species was at Bandelier NM, *Sandoval* 15 Aug 1998; details provided were incomplete and the identity was based almost entirely on "no barring on the back," but most members noted that a worn American Three-toed Woodpecker (*P. dorsalis*) can appear essentially black-backed and would be likely in early Aug. Black-backed Woodpecker is unknown in the Rocky Mts. south of the Yellowstone area in Montana/Wyoming.

Gilded Flicker (*Colaptes chrysoides*). One (1999-37) described as a female of this species was in Zuni's coniferous-forested Mullen Canyon, *McKinley* 17 Dec 1998. While the written description was about as good as a sight record can get for this species, it did not rule out the possibility of an intergrade (Gilded X Red-shafted, or Yellow-shafted X Red-shafted), several of which were also present in the area. One (1999-38) reported as this species was along Animas Creek in the middle Animas Valley 3 Jan 1999; the 20-word description, from an Arizona resident unaware of the novelty of the observation, was suggestive but inadequate to rule out an intergrade flicker.

Buff-breasted Flycatcher. Two (2000-08) silent individuals reported as this species were in Clanton Canyon 18 Aug 1999. Although suggestive, a majority found the description unconvincing and the behavior of traveling with a mixed-species feeding flock of non-flycatchers in cottonwood riparian habitat unusual at best.

Great Kiskadee (*Pitangus sulphuratus*). One (2006-17) reported as this species was heard once at Rattlesnake Springs 8 Sep 2002. A majority concluded that the reported "long, plaintive call" neither identified this species nor ruled out others.

Rose-throated Becard (*Pachyramphus aglaiae*). One (2002-06) reported as an ad. male of this species was at Las Cruces 6-7 June 2002. A majority thought some details were inconsistent for this species, that the behavior "feeding at a bird feeder" was unusual, and that the possibility of an

escaped cage bird could not be ruled out. The species is unverified in New Mexico.

White-eyed Vireo. One (1999-75) reported as this species at Santa Fe 17 May 1999 was judged too incompletely detailed for acceptance.

Philadelphia Vireo. One (2001-05) reported as this species was at Deming, *Luna* 30 Aug 2000, but the details were insufficient to rule out fall-plumaged Warbling Vireo (*V. gilvus*) or Yellow-green Vireo. One (2001-07) reported as this species was at Capilla Peak, Manzano Mts. *Torrance* 27 Oct 2000, but some details provided were inconsistent for the species.

Carolina Wren. One (1999-76) reported as this species was at Cerrillos 27 & 29 Nov 1998. Most members thought the report was likely correct but the details were inadequate to identify the species.

Northern Wheatear (*Oenanthe oenanthe*). One (2002-23) reported as this species was at Santa Fe 4 Nov 2002. A majority found the details insufficient for this species, and noted the behavior of perching in trees and associating with juncos was atypical.

Golden-winged Warbler. One (2001-57) reported as this species was at Lake Valley, *Sierra* 17 June 2001. A majority was uncomfortable with a "heard only" report from an observer with no prior experience with the species.

Magnolia Warbler. One (2002-28) reported as a female of this species was at NRT 19 May 2002 but no useful details were provided and members concluded it likely resulted from a poor view of a male (2002-27) that was present that day.

Pine Warbler. One (1998-104) reported as this species was at Las Cruces 17 Apr 1998; the Committee decided the incomplete details were insufficient to identify this easily confused species. One (2000-26) reported as this species at Rattlesnake Springs 29 Apr 2000 failed on a 2nd circulation, with a majority noting some details were incorrect for this species and the overall description was inadequate to eliminate other species. One (2001-58) reported as this species was southeast of Clayton, *Union* 16 May 1991; originally submitted as a Magnolia Warbler but later changed by the observer to Pine, most members suggested Magnolia was the better guess, but that details were not conclusive for it.

Palm Warbler. One (1999-79) reported as this species was near Milnesand 3 May 1999. A majority found the incomplete description inadequate for the species.

Mourning Warbler (*Oporornis philadelphia*). One (1998-85) reported as this species was at NRT 16 May 1998; a majority concluded the details derived from the 5-second view of a possible female were insufficient to positively identify such a rare species. One (2001-13) reported as a female of this species was at Carlsbad 27 Sep 2000; a majority thought the brief details, while suggestive, were inadequate to identify this species or eliminate others.

Slate-throated Redstart (*Myioborus miniatus*). One (1999-66) reported as this species was at McMillan Campground north of Silver City 2 May 1999; members concluded the brief notes, written from memory and omitting most key marks, were too vague to identify this species. One (1999-67) reported as this species was at Bandelier NM 27 May 1999; members thought the description was suggestive but omitted many key characters, and noted the observers were unaware of the significance of the sighting, choosing not to photograph the bird. One (2006-13) reported as this species was at Bluff Springs south of Cloudcroft, *Otero* 17 Aug 2005 by an observer apparently unaware of previous unverified reports (in 1993) from that site; a majority concluded the description was suggestive but inadequate for the species.

Baird's Sparrow. One (1998-57) reported as this species was on Otero Mesa, *Otero* 23 Apr 1998. A majority thought the details were suggestive but inconclusive.

Yellow Grosbeak. One (1999-88) reported as a male of this species was in southeast Albuquerque 15 & 18 July 1999. This, the first New Mexico report, failed on a 2-4 vote, with five of six Committee members accepting the identification but four questioning wild origin, largely owing to lack of previous accepted records from north of southeast Arizona. One (1999-89) reported as a male of this species was at Bosque del Apache NWR 4 Oct 1999. This, the 2nd New Mexico report, failed on a 1-5 vote, with four of six members accepting the identification but questioning wild origin, largely owing to lack of a pattern of Arizona records outside the May-July period. One (2001-59) reported as an imm. female of this species was seen along NM highway 14 between Madrid and Tijeras 24 Aug 2001. This 3rd New Mexico report failed on a 0-7 vote, with all members questioning the identification and suspecting another species was seen.

Baltimore Oriole. One (1998-59B) reported as a female of this species was at Washington Ranch 2 May 1998; a majority noted there was

confusion among observers as to what was present, with an intergrade being one possibility.

CONTRIBUTORS

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NMOS 46th ANNUAL MEETING

12 April 2008
Vagabond Inn Executive
1901 University Blvd. SE
Albuquerque, New Mexico

The New Mexico Ornithological Society will hold its 46th Annual Meeting on Saturday, 12 April 2008 at the Vagabond Inn Executive (formerly Airport University Inn), located at 1901 University Blvd. SE in Albuquerque. Further details on the meeting, including the Call for Papers and registration information, will appear in upcoming issues of the *NMOS Bulletin*. Details of the meeting will also be posted on the NMOS web site, www.nmosbirds.org.

NMOS RESEARCH GRANTS

The New Mexico Ornithological Society is again pleased to announce the availability of two \$1000 research grants, through the Ryan Beaulieu Research Grant Program, to support research on New Mexico birds.

The criteria for the grants are: the grant money must be spent while conducting research on birds in New Mexico; the recipient must either present a paper based on the research at an annual NMOS Meeting or submit an article based on the research to the *NMOS Bulletin*; and preference will be given to student applicants.

A short research proposal (2 pages maximum) must be submitted describing the nature of the project and how the funds would be spent (e.g., on gas, tape recording, specific equipment, etc.). Each proposal should include two letters of reference, one of which should be from a graduate advisor if the applicant is a graduate student. References should comment on the applicant's commitment to New Mexico ornithology and ability to design and carry out creative, independent research. Research proposals must be received by 12 March 2008. Please submit your electronic proposal, with "NMOS Grant" in the subject line, to:

Dr. Roland Shook
Western New Mexico University
Silver City, NM 88061
shookr@wnmu.edu

All applications will be acknowledged upon receipt. If no acknowledgement is received, it is the applicant's responsibility to follow-up with their submission to ensure consideration. Grant awards will be announced at the NMOS Annual Meeting on 12 April 2008.

DUES INCREASE FOR 2008

The current dues amounts for New Mexico Ornithological Society membership have been unchanged since 1993. Beginning 1 January 2008, dues will increase from their current level. Members wishing to renew before the prices increase are encouraged to do so. Changes to the dues schedule are shown below.

Membership category	Current dues	Dues effective 1 January 2008
Regular	\$10	\$20
Family	\$15	\$30
Student	\$5	\$10
Supporting	\$35	\$50
Life	\$300	\$500

Current members should check their membership expiration date, which appears on the mailing label of this issue, to avoid a lapse. Membership renewals can be mailed to: NMOS, P.O. Box 3068, Albuquerque, NM 87190-3068

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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: Post Office Box 3068, Albuquerque, NM 87190-3068.

NMOS BULLETIN

The *Bulletin* is published quarterly; subscription is by membership in NMOS. The *Bulletin* serves two primary purposes: (1) to publish articles of scientific merit concerning the distribution, abundance, status, behavior, and ecology of the avifauna of New Mexico and its contiguous regions; and (2) to publish news and announcements deemed of interest to the New Mexico ornithological community.

NMOS members are encouraged to submit articles and news. Articles received are subject to review and editing. Published articles are noted in major abstracting services. Please submit articles in double-spaced electronic format, such as a Microsoft Word document, by e-mail to the Editor (see inside front cover). Refer to recent issues of the *Bulletin* for examples of style. News items may be submitted to the Editor by way of e-mail.

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