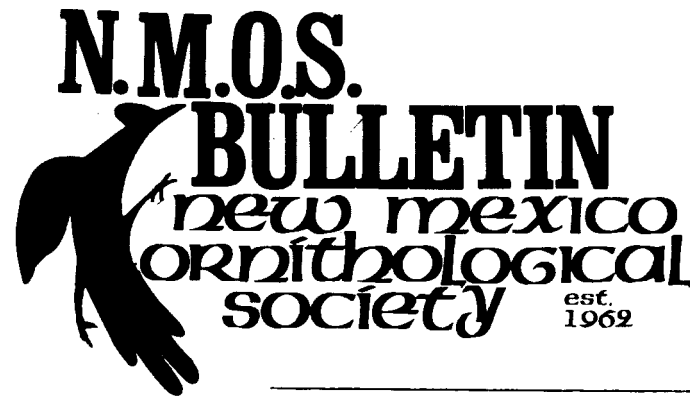


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Volume 6 1978 Number 3

REPORT FROM THE ANNUAL MEETING

By John P. Hubbard

The 1978 Annual Meeting was held on 8 April in Portales, at the Department of Biology, Eastern New Mexico University. The session was well-attended, with more than 70 people present at various times. The Society is grateful to E.N.M.U. and Tony Gennaro for hosting the meeting, and the services of all those who helped in arrangement and execution of the event are hereby acknowledged.

There was a full slate of presentations at the meeting (see NMOS Bull. 6:9-10, 1978), as well as the

conducting of Society business. Officers elected were Charles A. Hundertrnark (address: 223 Morningside NE, Albuquerque 87108) as Secretary to replace Henry Zeller, plus reelection as Directors of William H. Baltosser, John P. Hubbard, and James R. Travis (new address: 9420 Avenida de la Luna NE, Albuquerque 87111).

Among the other items of business was the issuance of the *Revised Check-list of the Birds of New Mexico*, with the Society's sincere thanks to Boyd McLeod for his help in the publication of the work. Prices are to be as follows: first copy to members - \$1.50; wholesale price - \$1.75; retail price - \$2.50. Jim Travis arranged a loan of \$1250 from the Sangre de Cristo Audubon Society to help pay publication costs, and the Society wishes to express its deepest gratitude for this help. Claudia Hubbard typed the checklist, and this is also most appreciated by the Society.

The treasury, as of 19 March 1978, showed a balance on hand of \$1108.64. Receipts for 1977 were \$1445.07, of which \$862.68 were from dues. Another \$400 came from a contract executed by Henry Zeller in behalf of the NMOS with the US Forest Service; we appreciate Henry's efforts most sincerely. Disbursements in 1977 were \$660.78, of which printing and postage were \$485.54. Printing costs in 1978 will be considerably higher, with the publication of the check-list.

SPECIES RECORDED ON NEW MEXICO CHRISTMAS COUNTS, 1934-1976

By Charles Rex Wahl

The first Christmas bird count in New Mexico was conducted at Mesilla in 1934. There were 11 observers, and they spent 5 hours and 30 minutes in the field. On that occasion, 46 species and 610 individuals were recorded. By 1976, 285 counts at 34 different locations had been conducted in the state. A total of 249 highly probable and probable species have been recorded as a result, along with 7 possible and 24 questionable species. The additional ("new"), cumulative, and percent increase for highly probable-probable species are shown below.

<u>Year</u>	<u>New</u>	<u>Cumulative increase¹</u>		<u>Year</u>	<u>New</u>	<u>Cumulative Increase¹</u>	
1934	47	47	0	1955	1.7	3	184
1935	6	53	12.8	1956	1.1	2	186
1936	4	57	7.5	1957	2.7	5	191
1937	17	74	29.8	1958	1.6	3	194
1938	17	91	23.0	1959	4.6	9	203
1939	1	92	1.1	1960	1.0	2	205
1940	2	94	2.2	1961	2.4	5	210
1941	24	118	25.5	1962	1.0	2	212
1942	11	129	9.3	1963	1.9	4	216
1943	6	135	4.4	1964	0.5	1	217
1944	2	137	1.4	1965	1.8	4	221
1945	1	138	0.7	1966	0.4	1	222
1946	4	142	2.8	1967	0.4	1	223
1947	0	142	0	1968	0.4	1	224
1948	5	147	3.5	1969	1.0	2	226
1949	3	150	2.0	1970	1.8	4	230
1950	11	161	7.3	1971	0.4	1	231
1951	1	162	0.6	1972	2.2	5	236
1952	11	173	6.8	1973	0.8	2	238
1953	7	180	4.0	1974	0.8	2	240
1954	1	181	0.6	1975	2.1	5	245
				1976	1.6	4	249

¹This is the ratio of “new” species to the previous cumulative total.

The counts that have been run are as follows (count number and name, number of counts, years of counts):

1. Alamogordo (3): 1963, 1965-66 (also see La Luz).
2. Albuquerque (21): 1935-39, 1947, 1961-69, 1971-76.
3. Bitter Lake NWR (6): 1942, 1949-53.
4. Bosque del Apache NWR (24): 1941, 1948-57, 1963-68, 1970-76.
5. Carlsbad (4): 1937-41.
6. Carlsbad Caverns NP (12): 1957-58, 1960, 1962-65, 1971-74, 1976.
7. Chaco Canyon (2): 1968, 1970.
8. Clayton (23): 1953-67, 1969-76.
9. Cliff (1): 1967.
10. Coronado National Forest, Cloverdale (2): 1950, 1952.
11. Espanola (23): 1954-1976.
12. Estancia (3): 1950-51, 1953.
13. Farmlington (10): 1946, 1968-76.
14. Fort Wingate (1): 1938

15. Gila River (5): 1972—76 (also see Cliff).
16. Glenwood (4): 1967, 1974-76.
17. Jal (3): 1961-63.
18. Lakes Avalon-McMillan (7): 1965—66, 1971-73, 1975-76.
19. La Luz (1): 1963 (also see Alamogordo).
20. Las Cruces (2'): 1975-76 (also see Mesilla).
21. Las Vegas (23): 1942-43, 1956-76.
22. Los Alamos (1): 1953.
23. Loving (11): 1965-76.
24. Mesilla (1): 1934 (also see Las Cruces).
25. Peloncillo Mts. (2): 1975-76 (also see Rodeo).
26. Reserve (2): 1945, 1951.
27. Rodeo (2): 1973-74 (also see Peloncillo Mts.).
28. Roswell (22): 1954-55, 1957-76 (also see Bitter Lake NWR).
29. San Andres NWR (4): 1942, 1944, 1952, 1966.
30. Sandia Mts. (15): 1961—69, 1971-76.
31. Santa Fe (19): 1949-50, 1953, 1955-65, 1972-76.
32. Silver City (16): 1957, 1960-61, 1963-66, 1968-76.
33. Socorro (9): 1948-56:
34. Virden (1): 1952.

The list of highly probable-probable species is as follows (name, count number and year of first record):

Common Loon (21-1959), Red-throated Loon (18-1971).

Eared Grebe (2-1935), Western Grebe (3-1943), Pied-billed Grebe (5-1937).

White Pelican (28-1955).

Double-crested Cormorant (4-1941), Olivaceous Cormorant (4-1973).

Great Blue Heron (2-1936), Green Heron (10-1952), Cattle Egret (23-1965), Common Egret (3-1943), Snowy Egret (4-1950), Black-crowned Night Heron (23-1969), American Bittern (3-1943).

White-faced ibis (4-1957), White ibis (28-1965).

Whistling Swan (4-1948), Canada Goose (4-1941), White-fronted Goose (4-1941), Snow Goose (4-1941), Ross Goose (28-1955), Mallard (24-1934), Mexican Duck (4-1941), Gadwall (2-1935), Pintail (5-1937), Green-winged Teal (2-1935), Blue-winged Teal (3-1943), Cinnamon Teal (3-1942), American Wigeon (24-1934), Northern Shoveler (5-1937), Wood Duck (31-1962), Redhead (2-1935), Ring-necked Duck (3-1942), Canvasback (5-1938), Lesser Scaup (5-1937), Common Goldeneye (3-1942), Bufflehead (4-1941), Ruddy Duck (5-1937), Surf Scoter (15-1976), Hooded Merganser (3-1942), Common Merganser (24-1934), Red-breasted Merganser (4-1941).

Goshawk (5-1941), Sharp-shinned Hawk (24-1934), Cooper Hawk (4-1941), Red-tailed Hawk (5-1937), Zone-tailed Hawk (10-1950), Rough-legged Hawk (5-1938), Ferruginous Hawk (5-1937), Harris Hawk (6-1957), Golden Eagle (14-1938), Bald Eagle (4-1941), Marsh Hawk (24-1934).

Osprey (3-1943).

Prairie Falcon (31-1950), Peregrine Falcon (34-1952), Merlin (14-1938), American Kestrel (24-1934).

Lesser Prairie Chicken (28-1970).

Bobwhite (8-1957), Scaled Quail (5-1937), Gambel Quail (4-1941), Montezuma Quail (32-1960), Ring-necked Pheasant (4-1941).

Turkey (12-1950).

Whooping Crane (4-1975), Sandhill Crane (3-1942).

Virginia Rail (3-1942), Sora (4-1949), Common Gallinule (4-1952), American Coot (24-1934).

Snowy Plover (23-1976), Killdeer (24-1934).

Common Snipe (2-1939), Long-billed Curlew (8-1956), Long-billed Dowitcher (4-1941), Spotted Sandpiper (13-1946), Western Sandpiper (4-1941), Least Sandpiper (4-1941), Greater Yellowlegs (2-1936), Lesser Yellowlegs (28-1974), Dunlin (28-1959).

American Avocet (28-1954), Black-necked Stilt (23-1975).

Herring Gull (3-1953), Ring-billed Gull (5-1937), Bonaparte Gull (28-1967).

Band-tailed Pigeon (31-1963), Rock Dove (valid after 1974), White-winged Dove (20-1975), Mourning Dove (24-1934), Ground Dove (4-1972), Inca Dove (32-1970).

Roadrunner (24-1934).

Barn Owl (23-1966).

Screech Owl (33-1946), Great Horned Owl (4-1941), Pygmy Owl (31-1957), Burrowing Owl (3-1952), Spotted Owl (12-1950), Long-eared Owl (28-1964), Short-eared Owl (3-1953), Saw-whet Owl (28-1972).

Poor-will (6-1961).

White-throated Swift (6-1961).

Belted Kingfisher (24-1934).

Common Flicker (24-1934), Red-bellied Woodpecker (8-1955), Gila Woodpecker (15-1973), Red-headed Woodpecker (3-1953), Acorn Woodpecker (14-1938), Lewis Woodpecker (21-1942), Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (24-1934), Williamson Sapsucker (31-1949), Hairy Woodpecker (24-1934), Downy Woodpecker (21-1942), Ladder-backed Woodpecker (24-1934), Arizona Woodpecker (10-1950), Northern Three-toed Woodpecker (31-1953).

Eastern Kingbird (28-1974), Eastern Phoebe (4-1952), Black Phoebe (24-1934), Say Phoebe (24-1934), Empidonax sp. (6-1958), Myiarchus sp. (15-1976), Vermilion Flycatcher (4-1948), Ash-throated Flycatcher (5-1941).

Horned Lark (2-1937).

Tree Swallow (11-1958).

Gray Jay (31-1953), Blue Jay (31-1950), Steller Jay (14-1938), Scrub Jay (24-1934), Mexican Jay (26-1945), Black-billed Magpie (4-1941), Common Raven (14-1938), White-necked Raven (24-1934), Common Crow

(2-1936), Pinon Jay (2-1938), Clark Nutcracker (31-1950).

Black-capped Chickadee (21-1943), Mountain Chickadee (5-1938), Plain Titmouse (5-1938), Bridled Titmouse (10-1950), Verdin (4-1941), Bushtit (5-1938).

White-breasted Nuthatch (24-1934), Red-breasted Nuthatch (21-1942),
Pygmy Nuthatch (14-1938).

Brown Creeper (24-1934).

Dipper (21-1942).

House Wren (3-1953), Winter Wren (26-1951), Bewick Wren (4-1941), Cactus Wren (24-1934), Long-billed
Marsh Wren (24-1934), Short-billed Marsh Wren (28-1970), Canon Wren (29-1941), Rock Wren (5-1937).

Mockingbird (24-1934), Gray Catbird (4-1963), Brown Thrasher (4-1949), Bendire Thrasher (25-1976),
Curve-billed Thrasher (5-1938), Crissal Thrasher (5-1937), Sage Thrasher (5-1937).

American Robin (24-1934), Hermit Thrush (5-1937), Varied Thrush (32-1972), Eastern Bluebird (6-1962),
Western Bluebird (24-1934), Mountain Bluebird (24-1934), Townsend Solitaire (2-1935).

Black-tailed Gnatcatcher (29-1952), Golden-crowned Kinglet (3-1946). Ruby-crowned Kinglet (24-1934).

Water Pipit (24-1934), Sprague Pipit (17-1961).

Bohemian Waxwing (11-1958), Cedar Waxwing (24-1934).

Phainopepla (29-1944).

Northern Shrike (2-1938), Loggerhead Shrike (24-1934).

Starling (5-1938).

Solitary Vireo (32-1957).

Orange-crowned Warbler (32-1972), Olive Warbler (25-1975), Yellow-rumped Warbler (24-1934), Common Yellowthroat (28-1959).

House Sparrow (2-1936).

Eastern Meadowlark (6-1963), Western Meadowlark (24-1934), Yellow-headed Blackbird (24-1934), Red-winged Blackbird (24-1934), Scott Oriole (25-1975), Northern Oriole (2-1965), Rusty Blackbird (23-1959), Brewer Blackbird (24-1934), Great-tailed Grackle (24-1934), Common Grackle (28-1969), Brown-headed Cowbird (5-1937).

Cardinal (34-1952), Pyrrhuloxia (29-1942), Black-headed Grosbeak (28-1956), Dickcissel (13-1970), Evening Grosbeak (31-1950), Cassin Finch (24-1934), House Finch (24-1934), Pine Grosbeak (30-1968), Gray-crowned Rosy Finch (11-1959), Black-crowned Rosy Finch (11-1959), Brown-capped Rosy Finch (11-1959), Common Redpoll (8-1960), Pine Siskin (14-1938), American Goldfinch (4-1941), Lesser Goldfinch (24-1934), Lawrence Goldfinch (24-1934), Red Crossbill (31-1963), White-winged Crossbill (30-1972), Green-tailed Towhee (4-1952), Rufous-sided Towhee (24-1934), Brown Towhee (2-1935), Abert Towhee (34-1952), Lark Bunting (28-1959), Savannah Sparrow (4-1940), Grass-hopper Sparrow (23-1965), Vesper Sparrow (4-1948), Lark Sparrow (31-1959), Rufous-crowned Sparrow (4-1941), Black-throated Sparrow (5-1937), Sage Sparrow (5-1937), Dark-eyed Junco (24-1934), Gray-headed Junco (24-1934), Tree Sparrow (2-1938), Chipping Sparrow (24-1934), LeConte Sparrow (3-1952), Brewer Sparrow (10—1952), Field Sparrow (17-1961), Black-chinned Sparrow (16-1944), Harris Sparrow (13-1946), White-crowned Sparrow (24-1934),

White-throated Sparrow (3-1953), Fox Sparrow (4-1948), Lincoln Sparrow (4-1940), Swamp Sparrow (4-1948), Song Sparrow (24-1934), Chestnut-collared Longspur (10-1950).

The list of possible species is as follows:

Horned Grebe (3-1943).

Black Duck (28-1961).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (4-1941).

Baird Sparrow (8-1954), Clay-colored Sparrow (6-1962), Cassin Sparrow (6-1965), McCown Longspur (33-1948).

The list of questionable species follows:

Red-necked Grebe (23-1965).

Mottled Duck (4-1955), Greater Scaup (3-1951), Barrow Goldeneye (28-1956).

Turkey Vulture (1-1964).

Swainson Hawk (5-1937).

Baird Sandpiper (1-1966).

Western Gull (28-1955), Glaucous-winged Gull (28-1955).

Common Nighthawk (6-1964).

Western Kingbird (29-1944), Western Wood Pewee (6-1963).

Tufted Titmouse (21-1968).

Wrentit (8—1963).

Swainson Thrush (31-1958).

Bell Vireo (28-1961), Gray Vireo (29-1966), Warbling Vireo (31-1958).

Northern Waterthrush (11-1962), MacGillivray Warbler (31-1957), Wilson Warbler (29-1966).

Bronzed Cowbird (6-1962).

Purple Finch (29-1952), Mexican Junco (29-1952).

Literature Sources:

Bird Lore (Audubon Magazine) 1934-1940. Vol. 37, No. 1-Vol. 42, No. 1.

Audubon Magazine 1941-1946. Vol. 43, No. 1-Vol. 48, No. 1.

Audubon Field Notes 1947-1970. Vol. 2, No. 2-Vol. 25, No. 2.

American Birds 1971-1977. Vol. 26, No. 2-Vol. 31, No. 4.

Postscript:

In 1977, 17 Christmas Counts were run, and these recorded 202 species. Of these species, nine seem likely for addition to the highly probable-probable list (count numbers in parentheses): Red-necked Grebe (23), Harlequin Duck (28), phalarope sp. (28), Rivoli Hummingbird (30), Anna Hummingbird (20), Blue-gray

Gnatcatcher (18), Hutton Vireo (25), Clay-colored Sparrow (20), and Cassin Sparrow (25). This brings the cumulative total to 258 (an increase of 3.6%) for the 302 counts conducted since 1934. The “possible” list would decrease by 3 species (Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Clay-colored and Cassin sparrows), and the questionable list by 1 species (Red-necked Grebe).

THE STATUS OF THE PYRRHULOXIA IN NEW MEXICO

By John P. Hubbard

In xeric shrublands--typically dominated by mesquites (*Prosopis* spp.)--from Jal westward to Rodeo, and northward at least occasionally to Silver City, Socorro, and Roswell, New Mexico is host to the handsomely elegant Pyrrhuloxia (*Cardinalis sinuatus*). In such habitats in the lower Rio Grande Valley and from the Guadalupe Mountains eastward, it is difficult to conceive many more typical avian denizens than this species--also known as the Gray Cardinal. However, the available data suggest that this species may have come to inhabit the state only in rather recent historic time--perhaps a century or so ago. This paper will discuss the past and present record, and include comments on breeding and taxonomy.

The first record of the Pyrrhuloxia in New Mexico appears to have been in 1881, when C. Dury took at least two pairs (Cincinnati Mus. Nat. Hist.; Purdue Univ.) on 10 and 12 April at Ft. Fillmore, near Mesilla, in Dona Ana County. On 6 April 1887, G. Armstrong took a male in the Mimbres Valley in Grant County, while an obvious vagrant was taken by C. Eckemeier (spelling?) at Santa Fe in the spring of 1897 (American Mus. Nat. Hist.). Oddly enough, Bailey (1928) gives no records from the state prior to 1902--when two birds were taken at Tularosa in November--with most reports being from the lower Rio Grande Valley in the period 1909-1916. The only other reports listed are from the Carlsbad area and eastward--birds recorded by J. S. Ligon in 1916-1919.

The implication from the above is that the Pyrrhuloxia was at least scarce and perhaps absent from its present New Mexico range until the 1880's. Negative evidence includes the failure of most of the 19th and early 20th Century workers to record the bird in areas where it now occurs, e.g. Abert (Socorro area in 1846), McCall (lower Rio Grande Valley in 1850), Woodhouse (lower Rio Grande Valley in 1851), Henry (lower Rio Grande and Mimbres valleys in 1852-1858), Heerman (lower Rio Grande Valley to the Arizona line in 1854), Pope (lower

Rio Grande to the lower Pecos Valley in 1854), Henshaw (Gila and Mimbres valleys in 1873), Stephens (Socorro area in 1875, Mimbres to Gila Valley in 1875-76), Marsh (Silver City area in 1883-84), Anthony (Hachita area in 1886 and 1889), Barrell (lower Gila Valley area in 1890), Dutcher (lower Pecos Valley in 1892), Fisher (Silver City area in 1894), Mearns (Mexican border west of Rio Grande in 1892-93), Wilson (Silver City area, 1896-97), F. and/or V. Bailey (Deming, 1899; lower Pecos Valley, 1899 and 1901; Guadalupe Mts. area, 1902; Silver City area, 1906), Fuertes (Guadalupe Mts. area, 1901), Gaut (lower) Pecos Valley, 1902), Goldman (Deming and westward, 1908), Hollister (lower Pecos Valley, 1902), Hunn (Silver City area, 1903-1905), and Ligon (lower Pecos Valley, 1913; Silver City to Mexico border, 1920)--all cf. Bailey (1928).

The exact timing of establishment of populations outside the lower-most Rio Grande and Pecos valleys is unknown, but farther north in these areas reports began to accumulate most notably in the mid-1950's, e.g., in the Socorro and Roswell areas (Audubon Field Notes= A.F.N.). West of the Rio Grande, the first record after the 1887 specimen from the Mimbres Valley was of a male collected near Gila on 22 February 1932 (Cincinnati Mus. Nat. Hist.). This bird was taken by R. T. Kellogg of Silver City, who did not record any other Pyrrhuloxias in his many years in the area, i.e., from 1912 into the 1940's. In 1960, I saw a female in Guadalupe Canyon on 15 May, while other records accumulated soon after south of Hachita (1965, 1967), Silver City (1966, 1967), and near Rodeo (1966)--all in the period October-May (NMOS Field Notes=NMOS). Occurrences in the extreme southeast date from 1961--in the Jal area (A.F.N.)--however, this area was poorly worked prior to that, and it is very likely the species occurred there earlier.

Outside of the lower Rio Grande Valley (Sierra and Dona Ana cos) and lower Pecos Valley (Eddy Co.)--and perhaps in part of the intervening area--occurrences of the Pyrrhuloxia were not only mainly confined to the last quarter century or so, but they were also largely between autumn and spring. Even today, there seems to be only one specific summer record farther north, i.e., 1 near San Antonio on 4 June 1974 (NMOS). West of the Rio Grande Valley one of the earliest summer records is of a bird near Deming on 10 June 1968 (Us Fish and Wildlife Service Breeding Bird Survey= F.W.S.). Other summer records in that area include in the Hachita area (1971), Columbus area (1972), Rodeo (1973), and near Antelope Wells (1976)--all NMOS. Summer records in the extreme southeast date from at least 1971--Jal to Maljamar--but again these are probably well after the first actual occurrences.

Summer occurrences in an area may not necessarily indicate breeding of Pyrrhuloxias, particularly in the case of solitary birds and birds early in the season. Of six nests on which I have data, five contained eggs or small young in July: 1 near Antelope Wells in 1976 (NMOS), 1 at Mesilla in 1913 (Bailey, 1928), 2 near Carlsbad in 1954 (Ligon, 1961), and 1 west of Jal in 1971 (NMOS). The only exception is a report of a nest with large young at Elephant Butte Lake on 26 May 1975 (NMOS). From these data it would appear that late spring or early summer records may not indicate breeding, especially in more xeric areas. Indeed, it may be that the Pyrrhuloxia in New Mexico keys its breeding to the summer rains, at least in some areas and/or years.

Aside from these areas in Hidalgo, Sierra, Dona Ana, Eddy, and Lea counties, the Pyrrhuloxia almost certainly now breeds near Rodeo and probably in the Deming and Hobbs areas. There is little present indication of breeding--or summering--near Socorro or Roswell, although this could change. Zimmerman (1965) implied that the Redrock area in the Gila Valley is an area of regular occurrence (or residency), but this is not borne out by the data. True enough, the lower' Gila Valley appears suitable for breeding, but the few records to date are mainly in the period from autumn through spring.

Extralimital New Mexico records of Pyrrhuloxia to date include the 1897 Santa Fe record, plus one near Portales on 19 March 1970 (NMOS). In addition, the species is still only occasional in Guadalupe Canyon and north to the Gila Valley (Virden to Cliff), Silver City, and La Joya State Game Refuge. Overall, only sparse populations appear to inhabit much of the southwest (i.e., in Luna, Grant, and Hidalgo counties) and the Tularosa Basin, with numbers highest in the autumn-spring period. Populations are largest and most widespread in the southeast, westward to the Guadalupe Mts.

An examination of specimens taken in New Mexico is revealing in terms of the origins of the populations occurring in the state. Two populations are possible sources for our birds, those of the Chihuahuan Desert (*P. s. sinuata*) and the Sonoran Desert (*P. s. fulvescens*). To date, all specimens (40) that I have examined from the state have been the Chihuahuan form, although the Sonoran race might be expected in Guadalupe Canyon--from which we have no specimens. Some authorities recognized two forms in the Chihuahuan Desert, i.e., the smaller more easterly *P. s. sinuata* and the larger more westerly *P. s. beckhami*. Oberholser (1974)

distinguishes these two as follows:

<u>wing length</u> (mm)	<u>males</u>	<u>females</u>
<i>inuata</i>	88.4- 94.5	86.1-90.4
<i>beckhami</i>	94.5—101.1	88.4-96.0

<u>tail length</u> (mm)	<u>males</u>	<u>females</u>
<i>sinuata</i>	93.5-104.9	83.8--96.5
<i>beckhami</i>	100.6-112.0	96.0-105.9

Based on 14 specimens for which I have measurements, I find--as expected from Oberholser (1974)--that birds from the Pecos Valley and eastward average smaller (= *sinuata*) than those from the Rio Grande Valley and southwest (= *beckhami*)

southeast (4 specimens)	<u><i>sinuata</i></u>	<u>overlap</u>	<u><i>beckhami</i></u>
wing	75%	0	25%
tail	50%	0	50%

southwest (10 specimens)	<u><i>sinuata</i></u>	<u>overlap</u>	<u><i>beckhami</i></u>
wing	30%	0	70%
tail	10%	30%	60%

Obviously, the contradistinctions are not rigid, but my samples are small and the differences between the two populations are not that great. Nonetheless, there does seem to be some basis for segregating the two populations, although perhaps not as formally recognized races. The important thing is that the data point to

two different sources for the populations that now occur in New Mexico, one from the area of westernmost Texas (and central-northern Mexico) and the other from farther east. On the other hand, the western Mexican-Arizona race appears not to have invaded New Mexico, based on the data now available.

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Zimmerman, D. A. 1965. The Gray Hawk in the Southwest. Audubon Field Notes 19:474-477.

Publications of the NMOS are available from our Secretary, Chuck Hundertmark in Albuquerque. The *Revised Check-list* (see prices on page 17), *Breeding Birds of Elephant Butte Marsh* (\$1.35), and *Summer Birds of the San Juan Valley* (\$1.50) are all available, along with *Bulletins* and *Field Notes*.

NOTES AND NEWS

Membership in the NMOS can be established by writing to our Secretary and enclosing payment as follows:

Institutional	\$2.50
Student	\$2.50
Regular	\$5.00
Family	\$7.50
Supporting	\$25.00
Patron	\$100.00

News of our members and other bird people:

We are saddened to report the deaths of Fred McCormick of Silver City and Jim Sikes of Roswell.

Boyd McLeod suffered a heart attack this spring, but we are happy to report that he has recovered well from it. Mary Russell has been moved to California and is in stable condition following a stroke last winter.

Several members have moved out-of-state, and we wish Jodi Corrie, Judy Nordstrum, Bill Principe, and Ro Wauer well. Greg Schmitt and Donna Cole will travel to Central and South America this autumn for a year of fieldwork, and we wish them our best. We welcome back Steve West, who has reestablished residence at Loving (Box 104, 88256). John and Laurie Egbert will return to Santa Fe, while new additions to the scene are Roger and Kate Skaggs of Glenwood. Delbert Boggs has retired at Bitter Lake NWR but we hope he will continue to be a New Mexico birder. Recent moves that we have heard about include Tom Brake to Farmington, the Pierre Hartshornes to Las Cruces, Jim Travis to Albuquerque and the Henry Zellers to Silver City. Marjorie Williams wrote us from Alabama and sent a write-up on birding on Dauphin Island; copies are available by writing to the Editor.

Christmas count dates are needed for our announcement of them in our next issue. Please send information, including the name and phone number of the coordinator, to the Editor as soon as possible. Help your counts improve by publicizing them in the *Bulletin*.

Nesting record cards for 1978 (and any previous years) should be sent to the Editor as soon as possible. We hope to have a summary for 1976 in the next *Bulletin*. and for 1977 as soon after as possible.

This is your *Bulletin* and we urge you to contribute to it. We welcome short notes, articles, news, and announcements. The deadline for the next issue is 15 November 1978, so let the Editor hear from you.