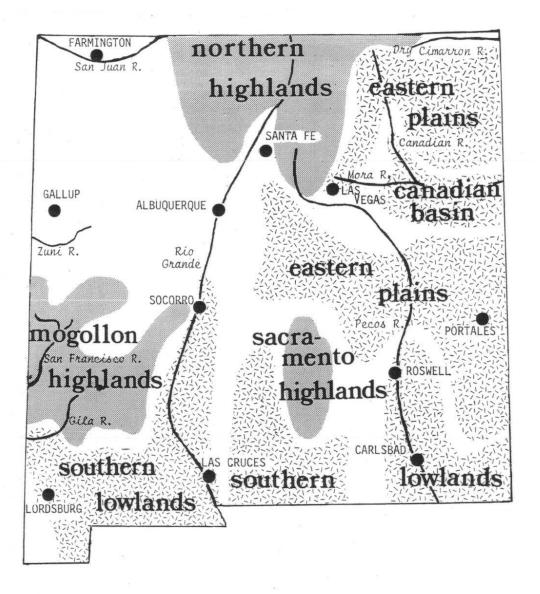
REVISED CHECK-LIST OF THE BIRDS OF NEW MEXICO



BY JOHN P. HUBBARD

NEW MEXICO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY PUBLICATION NO. 6



The New Mexico Ornithological Society was founded in 1962, for the purpose of gathering and disseminating information on the avifauna of the state. Data gathered from the membership and other sources are placed in the Archives of the Society, with the more relevant observations and findings published in the N.M.O.S. Bulletin, Field Notes, Publications, and Bird-finding Guides. Back issues of various of these publications are available for sale through the secretary of the Society, c/o Dr. Bruce J. Hayward, Department of Biology, Western New Mexico University, Silver City, N.M. 88061. All prices given below are postpaid [asterisked (*) items are out-of-print and not usually available].

N.M.O.S. Bulletin (formerly N.M.O.S. Newsletter)

Vol. 1 (1973) to present—available at 25¢ per number (3-4 per year), some as photocopies only.

N.M.O.S. Field Notes

Vol. 1 (1962) to present--available at 50¢ per number (2 per year), some as photocopies only.

Publications

No. 1 (1963)—Catalogue of bird specimens, Southwestern Museum of Natural History, by David M. Niles; 36pp. \$1.00 Supplement to the catalogue of bird specimens, Museum of Southwestern Biology, by David M. Niles (with John L. Darling); 33pp. 50f.

*No. 2 (1966)--Observations on the summer birds of the Animas Mountains, New Mexico, by David M. Niles; 24pp.

*No. 3 (1970)--Check-list of the birds of New Mexico, by John P. Hubbard, 108pp.

No. 4 (1977) -- Summer birds of the San Juan Valley, New Mexico, by C. Gregory Schmitt; **24**pp. \$1.50 (N.M.O.S. membership and wholesale discounts available).

No. 5 (1978) -- Breeding birds of Elephant Butte Marsh, by Charles A. Hundertmark; 17pp. \$1.35 (N.M.O.S. membership and wholesale discounts available).

No. 6 (1978) -- Revised check-list of the birds of New Mexico, by John P. Hubbard; 120pp. \$2.50 (N.M.O.S. membership and wholesale discounts available).

Bird-finding Guides

No. 1 (1966)--Bird-finding localities in southwestern New Mexico and southeastern Arizona, by Dale A. Zimmerman; 16pp.

*No. 2 (1969) -- Bird-finding localities in the vicinity of Roswell, New Mexico, by Vester A. Montgomery, 13pp.

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INTRODUCTION

Over seven years have elapsed since the last comprehensive check-list of New Mexico birds was published (29), and in the intervening interval much has happened with regard to the state's avifauna. Perhaps the major accomplishment has been the continued growth of our knowledge, both through recent field studies and the examination of past data--including important collections of specimens. The leading source of new data has been the membership of and/or contributors to the files and publications of the New Mexico Ornithological Society (N.M.O.S.), i.e., the Field Notes, Bulletin (formerly Newsletter), Publications, and Bird-finding Guides. Without these contributions, our knowledge would be both less extensive and longer in accumulating, for New Mexico is a very large and diverse state with relatively few people who study birds.

Other things that have happened with regard to the state's avifauna include actual changes in the status of various species, as well as revisions that affect the taxonomic treatment of some forms. Since 1970 several species have been shown to breed in the state, including Olivaceous Cormorant, Little Blue Heron, Cattle Egret, and Eastern Bluebird—not to mention several others that certainly bred previously, but which have only been recently so confirmed.

The taxonomic changes involve several forms which occur in the state, and the future promises others, e.g., the likely "lumping" of the Mexican Duck with the Mallard and the Gray-headed with other Dark-eyed Juncos. I have not anticipated such changes in this check-list, other than to mention the possibilities. Thus, the treatment here is in accordance with the 1957 A.O.U. Check-list and recent supplements (21; 22) and corrections.

The net effect of changes to date has been to reduce the 1970 confirmed list from 413 to 406 species, while the 54 unconfirmed, 7 unsuccessful exotic, and 2 retracted species remain intact. On the other hand, 27 additional species have been confirmed, to bring that total to 433; the other totals are 43 unconfirmed, 9 unsuccessful exotics, and 2 retracted species. This yields a grand total of 485 species, of which 476 are actually attributed to our avifauna as wild or successfully established species. Species known only from fossil or subfossil remains are not included, although these include several modern species otherwise unknown from the state.

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

The plan of the present check-list follows generally that of the 1970 work (29), except that some simplification has occurred. For example, county summaries have been eliminated, and fewer symbols, type face treatments, and categories are used. Each account utilizes a standard format, in that in the bulk of them

frequency of occurrence, status, range, numbers, habitats, and elevations are addressed in that order.

STATUS is generally treated in each account in the following order; resident (present in an area yearlong, generally as a breeder), summer (present in an area in the warmer months, generally as a breeder), winter (present in an area in the colder months), and migration—reversible in sequence with winter—(present in an area between summer and winter). Any dates that are necessary are indicated by the month and year, e.g., 7/1975 for July 1975.

FREQUENCY OF OCCURRENCE is in the descending order: regular (always present in an area in season--usually implied in accounts), irregular (less than annual in an area--e.g., every other year), occasional (less than irregular in an area--e.g., once every 5 years), and casual (less than occasional in an area--e.g., once in 10 years).

RANGE is sketched out in broad terms, typically in a way that demands only a general understanding of the state's geography (see Maps 1 and 2). More detailed information is usually reserved for treatment at the end of each account, and it is done in smaller type. Readers are urged to acquaint themselves with the basic geography of the state (Map 1) before making extended use of this checklist. "Local" is used in discussing range (and habitat) to indicate that the species does not occur in all or most suitable-appearing areas.

NUMBERS are imprecisely treated, not only because we lack sufficient data but also because their equivalency differs from group to group. For example, "abundant" in Red-winged Blackbirds may be reflected by the occurrence of 10,000 in a small area, whereas in American Kestrels the figure could be 100. Terms used to express numbers in this work are abundant (very high density in an area for the species or group in question), common (high density), fairly common (moderate density), uncommon (low density), and rare (very low density).

HABITATS are treated here in the broadest possible categories (elevations are meant to indicate typical distribution of each type), as follows:

tundra: above treeline areas of grasses, sedges, forbs, lower
plants, and rocks (11,000 to 13,000 ft.)

forests

spruce-fir: dominated by Engelmann spruce and/or sub
alpine fir in closed stands (9,000 to 11,000 ft.)
fir ("mixed conifer"): dominated by Douglas and/or White

fir--often mixed with pines and deciduous species--in closed stands (8,000 to 9,500 ft.--lower in canyons) pine: dominated by ponderosa pines in open stands (7,000 to 9,500 ft.)

woodlands

evergreen dominated by ponderosa and other pines with understory of live-oaks (in the south) and/or Gambel oak in rather open stands (6,000 to 8,000 ft.) oak: dominated by live-oaks and junipers in open to closed stands (5,500 to 7,500 ft.) pinyon-juniper: dominated by pinyons and/or junipers in rather open stands (5,500 to 7,500 ft.)

riparian: streamside deciduous trees and/or shrubs such as tamarisk, cottonwoods, willows, alders, walnuts, ashes, and sycamore (southwest) in rather open to closed stands (3,000 to 8,500 ft.)

shrublands

evergreen: typically dominated by buckbrush, mountainmahogany, sumacs, and/or other "chaparral" plants on slopes and in canyons in closed stands (5,500 to 8,500 ft.)

microphyll: typically dominated by acacias, mesquite, creosotebush, and/or other species of "hot desert" plants-mainly in the south and east (3,000 to 5,500 ft.)

other: specific types are mentioned when appropriate, including big sagebrush and rabbitbrush sagelands (5,500 to 8,000 ft.)

grasslands: various types occur in the state, but these do not need separation in this check-list (3,000 to 8,000 ft.); meadowlands are lusher types of grasslands, typically found at higher elevations (8,000 ft. and higher).

ELEVATIONS are used here to convey a general sense of ecological condition, but I well recognize that exposure, slope, latitude, air drainage, substrate and other factors modify these implications. The categories used are as follows:

lowlands (lower elevations): typically 2,800 to 5,500 ft; habitats are mainly grasslands and shrublands, with limited areas of riparian and planted woodlands.

midlands (middle elevations): typically 5,000 to 7,500 ft.; habitats are generally grasslands, shrublands, and evergreen woodlands (e.g., pinyon-juniper), with limited areas of riparian woodland.

highlands (higher elevations): typically 7,000 to 13,000 ft.; habitats are mainly forests, with limited areas of riparian woodland and tundra.

OTHER INFORMATION

CONFIRMED RECORDS--Occurrences that are confirmed by specimens or photographs are indicated in the text to underline the validity of such records. In each case, the occurrence in question is typed in upper case letters (all numbers are the same case). These entries are then followed by quotation marks (") if pertaining to a specimen, and an apostrophe (') if pertaining to a photo or tape. In either case, the evidence must have been confirmed by an authority before it is cited.

Typically a bibliographic reference or museum collection is indicated after critical evidence, using numbers or abbreviations respectively.

The focus of upper-casing and marking is on the most definitive item in a reference, e.g., Mogollon Mts. 7/1975" (US). This indicates that the definite record is for July 1975, and the specimen (") is in the U. S. National Museum of Natural History. A notation of, MOGOLLON MTS." 7/1975', would indicate that the species had been collected in this area, in addition to a confirmed photographic record in July 1975. Confirmation is also used in other combinations, but these should be obvious to the reader.

HYPOTHETICAL LIST--Species that have not been confirmed in New Mexico are relegated to the hypothetical list. Confirmation must be in the form of a specimen or part thereof, recognizable photographic image, or recording of distinctive vocalization. Furthermore, such evidence must be verified by a recognized authority, and preferably the evidence should be preserved in a museum or other appropriate place.

I recognize the fact that such evidence cannot always be obtained, particularly when a species is first encountered in an area. In these instances, observers should submit detailed notes on the observations of such species, in order that the validity of each record can be assessed. In New Mexico, the N.M.O.S. Bird Committee undertakes to review records of species not confirmed by the above types of evidence. Records are classed in one of the following categories, based on the evidence assessed by the Committee:

highly probable (validity of the identification virtually certain)
probable (validity almost certain)
possible (validity less than certain)
questionable (validity uncertain)

Hypothetical species can be figured into the state's avifauna by increment, thus giving one a better idea of the total avifauna. For example, the confirmed list is 433 species, to which could be added one or more of the following categories:

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highly probable - 6 (running total becomes 439)
probable -11 (running total becomes 450)
possible -8 (running total becomes 458)
questionable -18 (running total becomes 476)
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BREEDING—Birds are regarded as breeders if positive evidence of reproduction has been obtained in the state. Preferably such reproductive efforts should have been successful for a species to be added to the breeding list, but this is not invariably the case. In addition, it is preferable that breeding be confirmed by an appropriate specimen or photograph, but again this is not invariably the case.

Evidence here accepted as proof of breeding consists of one or more of the following: nest building (preferably to completion), egg-laying, incubation (preferably prolonged), young in the nest, and presence of highly dependent fledglings. Summer occurrence, courtship activities, use of nest holes, carrying of food, or independent fledglings are not sufficient bases for confirmation of breeding.

An asterisk (*) is used to indicate that a species has bred in New Mexico, or at the place or date so indicated. Several species that certainly breed in the state still have not been confirmed to do so (e.g., White-tailed Ptarmigan, Common Snipe, Mexican Chickadee, Red Crossbill, and Savannah Sparrow), and these remain unasterisked. Most of the information on species breeding in the state is to be found in the N.M.O.S. Breeding Records Program, plus earlier references (e.g., 3 and 51).

CITATIONS--As stated above, citations to collections and literature sources are made for critical records. Museum collections are referred to as follows:

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AMNH - American Museum of Natural History
CM - Carnegie Museum of Natural History
CNH - Cincinnati Museum of Natural History
DM - Delaware Museum of Natural History
ENM - Eastern New Mexico Museum of Natural History
KU - University of Kansas
LSU - Louisiana State University, Museum of Natural History
MVZ - Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Univ. California
MCZ - Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard Univ.
NM - Museum of Southwestern Biology, Univ. New Mexico
NMS - New Mexico State Univ. (Dept. Biology & Wildlife coll.)
OU - Oklahoma Univ. (Stovall Museum)
PA - Academy of Natural Science, Philadelphia
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PM - Peabody Museum, Yale University
PU - Purdue Univ. (Dept. Zoology coll.)
SD - San Diego Museum of Natural History

SW - Southwest Research Station, American Museum Nat. Hist.

UA - University of Arizona, Dept. Biology coll.
UM - University of Michigan, Museum of Zoology
US - U. S. National Museum of Natural History

WNM - Western New Mexico University (Dept. Biology coll.)

Literature sources are referred to by number and will be found in the Bibliography. Critical data that are not attributed are from the archives or <u>Field Notes</u> of the N.M.O.S. Inquiries about such records should be addressed to the author at 2016 Valle Rio, Santa Fe 87501.

MISCELLANEOUS--Each check-list on birds has its own pecularities, and this one is no exception. For example, I feel that all species should be listed in regular sequence in one section--not with separate sections for hypotheticals and other groups. Secondly, I feel that any published record deserves inclusion, even if refuted; if such records are missing, then the reader does not know whether this is due to their being rejected or their being overlooked. Third, I believe that questionable records deserve special attention--even if it is no more than a query (e.g.,-reliable?) to signal uncertainty to the reader. Four, I feel that a check-list should at least imply what is unknown or poorly known--as well as stating what is known--thus advertising areas in which additional knowledge is particularly needed. Finally, I believe that overgeneralization is a bane to progress, in that it masks problem areas that may be rediscovered only after prolonged periods of ignorance. Consequently, I have appended many details that I hope will be useful in helping shape future studies of birds in New Mexico.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS--My wife, Claudia, is responsible not only for typing this work, but the 1970 (29) check-list as well. I am grateful to her for these efforts, and for her help and fore-bearance in many other ways. Others who are thanked for having contributed directly to this work, particularly with data compilation, are W. B. Lewis, B. C. and D. McKnight, D. M. Niles, W. Principe, R. L. Teuber, and Lucille Thompson. W. H. Baltosser and J. R. Travis kindly read a draft of this work, as well as providing data. Many, many other people contributed materially to this check-list, either directly or indirectly. In particular I am grateful to the members and contributors to the N.M.O.S. archives and publications, as well as to curatorial staffs of the various collections for allowing me access to New Mexico specimens. Finally, Boyd McLeod deserves special thanks for his contributions to the Society.

GAVIIDAE, Loons.

COMMON LOON (Gavia immer). Migrates and winters almost statewide; generally rare and local, mainly on larger bodies of water. Spring migrants sometimes persist into May, occasionally into June and casually July. June occurrences include Jicarilla Res. (Stone L.) 1968, Conchas L. 1968, and Snow L. 1975; also Bitter Lake NWR 7/1972.

ARCTIC LOON (Gavia arctica). Occasional in autumn-winter in the east and casual elsewhere; rare, mainly on larger bodies of water. Recorded at Clayton 11/1899" (3), Roswell area 12/1965" (US), 10/1970 and Las Cruces 11/1970" (U. Tex., El Paso).

[RED-THROATED LOON (Gavia stellata). Hypothetical, records judged probable (35). Reported Union (47), Sandoval (60), Chaves 11/1957 and Eddy 12/1971 cos.]

PODICIPEDIDAE. Grebes.

[RED-NECKED GREBE (Podiceps grisegena). Hypothetical, records judged questionable (35). Reported Chaves Co. 4/1944, 12/1952 (56), and 2/1955 (56); and Eddy Co. 12/1965 and 12/1969 (56).]

HORNED GREBE (*Podiceps auritus*). Apparently migrates and winters almost statewide, but only verified record is at Elephant Butte L. 2/1965" (NMS); rare to uncommon (sometimes reportedly fairly common), mainly on larger bodies of water. The status of this species is subject to confusion, due to the similarity to the Eared Grebe in winter plumage. Birds in at least partial breeding plumage have been reported at Sumner L., Bosque del Apache NWR, Evans L., and near Carlsbad.

*EARED GREBE (Podiceps nigricollis). Summers in the north; rare to common and local, breeding on vegetated lakes at middle elevations. Winters almost statewide; generally rare to uncommon and local, more numerous in the south. Migrates almost statewide, rare to locally common on water; spring migrants irregularly persist in non-breeding areas into June. Breeds regularly on the Jicarilla Res. (*Horse, *STONE", *Burford, Hayden lakes, and has bred in the Chuska Mts. (*1918, *1970--probably also 1938, 1976) and McAlister L. (*1973). May breed elsewhere, including Black L. (1976); a breeding record at Mesilla (3) is doubtful. Late migrants recorded in June at Eagle Nest L., Santa Fe, Las Vegas, Estancia, Snow L., Bitter Lake NWR, Lake Roberts, Elephant Butte L., and near LOVING".

[LEAST GREBE *Podiceps dominicus*). Hypothetical, record judged questionable (35). Reported in Socorro Co. 10/1973. A report from Union Co. 9/1954 (56) has been withdrawn.]

*WESTERN GREBE (Aechmophorus occidentalis). Summers with increasing frequency in the north and casually to occasionally elsewhere; rare to uncommon, mainly on larger bodies of water. Migrates and winters almost statewide; rare to fairly common, mainly at lower

elevations. Most regular in summer on the Jicarilla Res, (*Burford and *Stone lakes--1960, *1968, 1972, 1974, *1975) and at La Cueva SGR (1962, 1967, 1968, 1970, 1972, 1973); also recorded in the Chuska Mts. (1975), Heron-El Vado lakes (1975, 1976), Maxwell NWR (1971), Las Vegas area (1973), Bosque del Apache NWR (1974), Lake Roberts (1969), and Elephant Butte L, (1975, 1976, *1977).

*PIED-BILLED GREBE (Podilymbus podiceps). Resident almost state-wide; rare to fairly common, breeding on vegetated bodies of water at lower and middle elevations. More numerous and widespread in migration than in summer and winter.

PELECANIDAE. Pelicans.

WHITE PELICAN (Pelecanus erythrorhynchos). Migrates mainly between the southeast and the northwest; rare to fairly common and local, mainly seen at larger bodies of water at lower elevations. Occasional in summer and winter, rare to uncommon. Recorded most regularly in the San Juan and Canadian valleys and vicinity; casual to occasional near Horse Springs 10/1906 (3), Portales 9/1974 (also 12/1968", but specimen may not be of local origin), Lake Roberts 10/1974, and Evans L. 3/1974 and 10/1977. Most summer/winter reports at BOSQUE DEL APACHE NWR"; BITTER LAKE NWR", Elephant Butte L., and Carlsbad area and in summer at Maxwell NWR; casual Morgan L. 6-7/1975 and Conchas L. 6/1975.

[BROWN PELICAN (Pelecanus occidentalis). Hypothetical, records judged possible (35). Reported in 4/1963 in Socorro, Sierra, and Eddy cos. (56).]

PHALACROCORACIDAE. Cormorants.

*DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT (Phalacrocorax auritus). Resident at *Bosque del Apache NWR, Bitter Lake NWR, and *ELEPHANT BUTTE L."; rare to common, breeding locally in trees and shrubs in or near water. Local in summer in the north, and bred near Loving in *1963; rare to uncommon at lower and middle elevations. Winters southward in the Rio Grande (to Las Cruces) and Pecos (to Carlsbad area) valleys, generally rare to uncommon on deeper waters; casual to occasional elsewhere. Irregular in migration in the San Juan Valley (first recorded 10/1972) and the Gila-Mimbres valleys, and casual to occasional elsewhere; rare to uncommon mainly at lower elevations. First recorded in the state near Engle 1/1913" (US), and first recorded breeding at ELEPHANT BUTTE L." *1937 (54) where also verified *1970-*1976. Reportedly now common in summer at Maxwell NWR (77) and present in Rio Arriba Co. (Burford, Heron, El Vado lakes) in 1975 and 1976. Occasional in winter at Clayton (47) while casual to occasional in migration at Eagle Nest L., Espanola, Santa Fe, Las Vegas area, Tucumcari, Snow L., and near RODEO". Breeding birds in the central Rio Grande Valley sometimes have white nuptial plumes and are apparently the western race, P. a. albociliatus (33).

*OLIVACEOUS CORMORANT (Phalacrocorax olivaceus). Breeds and presumably resident at *ELEPHANT BUTTE L.' (first noted *1972); rare

to uncommon, nesting in trees in water. Also occasional to irregular elsewhere in the middle and lower Rio Grande Valley and in the GILA VALLEY", and casually (or questionably) elsewhere; rare near water at lower elevations. Rio Grande records include Bosque del Apache NWR 7/1972, 12/1973', 8/1975, summer/1976, and 8/1977; Caballo L. 1/1976; near Hatch 4/1854"; and near Las Cruces 11/1967". Recorded near Cliff 11/1916', 11/1960', 12/1974, 1-3, 8/1975, and 3, 10-11/1976. Records probably of this species include Bitter Lake NWR 4/1973, San Simon Cienaga 8/1975, near Cloverdale 8/1976, and Antelope Wells 8/1976; a report from near Carlsbad 7/1901 (3) is unverified.

ANHINGIDAE. Anhingas.

ANHINGA (Anhinga anhinga). Vagrant in the lower Rio Grande Valley near Hatch 9/1854" (27); the present whereabouts of the specimen is unknown, but it was verified by Baird (4).

FREGATIDAE. Frigate-birds.

MAGNIFICENT FRIGATE-BIRD (Fregata magnificens). Autumn-winter vagrant in the south; very rare. Recorded at Bitter Lake NWR 10/1955', near Silver City 10/1967", and near Las Cruces 2/1969.

ARDEIDAE. Herons.

*GREAT BLUE HERON (Ardea herodias). Resident almost statewide; rare to fairly common, breeding mainly at lower and middle elevations in trees near water. In winter appears to be less common, especially in north. Occurs widely in migration, including in marginal or even waterless habitats; rare to uncommon mainly at lower and middle elevations. Recent breeding confirmed only in the Mora (*Watrous), San Francisco (*Mule Creek), and Gila (*Gila Cliff Dwellings NM to *Redrock) drainages, but there are summer records also in the San Juan, Chama, Canadian, Dry Cimarron, Rio Grande, Pecos, and Mimbres valleys, near Las Vegas and at San Simon Cienaga. Casual in migration at Santa Fe, Grants, Buckeye, and Guadalupe Canyon.

*GREEN HERON (Butorides striatus). Resident in the Rio Grande Valley (north to Espanola) and the south, and summers locally elsewhere in the north; rare to uncommon and local, breeding mainly at lower elevations in marshes and wooded areas near water. Casual to occasional elsewhere in migration; generally rare and local, occurring mainly at lower elevations. Areas of most regular residency are *Bosque del Apache NWR to *LAS CRUCES" area and *Bitter Lake NWR to *CARLSBAD" area; less regular in the lower SAN FRANCISCO" and lower *GILA" valleys, and as a summer resident in the San Juan Valley and at *Tucumcari. Casual in migration at Clayton, Las Vegas (also casual in winter), Boone's Draw, Hurley.

*LITTLE BLUE HERON (Florida caerulea). Summers irregularly in the middle and lower Rio Grande and lower Pecos valleys; rare to uncommon and local near water. First recorded in the state near Roswell 5/1952 (56) with breeding confirmed at Elephant Butte L.

7/1975". Occurs most regularly in the Los Lunas-Isleta area and at BOSQUE DEL APACHE NWR" and BITTER LAKE NWR!; reported as occasional at Clayton (47) while casual at Albuquerque 6/1972 and Las Cruces 5/1971.

*CATTLE EGRET (Bubulcus ibis), Occasional in summer at *ELEPHANT BUTTE L."; rare and local, breeding in trees over water. Casual to occasional in winter and irregular in migrations; rare and local, more numerous in autumn and in the Rio Grande and Pecos valleys. First recorded in the state at Bosque del Apache NWR 5/1963. Recorded in summer 6/1971 and *7/1975' at Elephant Butte L. Casual at Las Cruces 1/1975' and in migration near Cliff 9/1977 and near Lordsburg 4/1973.

*GREAT EGRET (Casmerodius albus). Resident at *BOSQUE DEL APACHE NWR' and in the lower Pecos Valley (*Bitter Lake NWR to *Lake McMillan); rare to uncommon (less numerous in winter), nesting near water at lower elevations. Summers and possible resident at *Elephant Butte L., and casual in summer elsewhere. Occurs in migration in the area from the Pecos Valley westward and northwestward; generally rare and local near water at lower elevations. First recorded in the state near Las Cruces 4/1934' (52), breeding near Carlsbad by *1949 (50) and at BOSQUE DEL APACHE NWR' by *1950 (56). Casual in summer near Farmington 6/1974 and Redrock 7/1962.

*SNOWY EGRET (Egretta thula). Summers locally in the middle and lower Rio Grande and lower Pecos valleys; rare to fairly common, breeding near water generally at lower elevations. Summers occasionally at Tucumcari L. and may breed there; summer records elsewhere may pertain to migrants. Occasional in winter at *Bosque del Apache NWR and *Bitter Lake NWR and casual elsewhere; rare and local. Migrates statewide; rare to fairly common and local, generally at lower elevations near water. First recorded breeding in the state near LAS CRUCES" *5/1933 (50); most recent confirmed breeding at Albuquerque *1977, Bosque del Apache NWR *1972, Bitter Lake NWR *1970 and *1974, and Elephant Butte L. *1973-*1975. Present in summer at Tucumcari 6/1972, 5/1973, and 6/1974; casual to occasional elsewhere, including Kirtland 6/1972, Burford L. 7/1960 (40), Maxwell NWR (77), Las Vegas 6/1917" and recently (78), and near Rodeo 6/1973. Casual in winter at Carlsbad 12/1972 (56).

LOUISIANA HERON (Hydranassa tricolor). Occasional in the middle and lower Rio Grande and lower Pecos valleys; very rare and local near water at lower elevations. Recorded at Bosque del Apache NWR 4/1955 (56), Bitter Lake NWR 9/1951, 6/1954 (56) [not 6, 9/1955 as in 50], 5/1969, 6/1973; Las Cruces area 8/1961 (56), 4/1977', and Carlsbad area 8/1962" (25), 12/1965 (56), and "July" (83).

*BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON (Nycticorax nycticorax). Resident in the middle and lower Rio Grande and lower Pecos valleys; rare to fairly common and local, breeding near water mainly at lower elevations. Summers on the Jicarilla Res. (*Burford L.) and at *Tucumcari L., and occasionally to casually elsewhere. Migrates almost statewide, but unrecorded east of the Pecos Valley; rare to uncommon and local, generally near water at lower and middle

elevations. Casual in summer at Kirtland 7/1972, LA CUEVA SGR" (UM), and near Cliff *6/1968; occasional at Maxwell NWR (77). Migrants most regularly recorded in the Clayton area (47) and the vicinities of the SAN JUAN" and Gila valleys; casual in the Sandia Mts. 3/1972 and near Antelope Wells 8/1976,

YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT HERON (Nyctanassa violacea). Occasional late summer-autumn migrant (mainly immatures) in the south; very rare and local near water at lower elevations. Casual elsewhere and at other seasons, mainly in the south. Late summer-autumn records in the Socorro area 8/1947" (UCLA) and later (79), Bitter Lake NWR 8/1972 and 8/1974, near Cliff 8/1964" (NM) and 10/1965" (WNM), Carlsbad area 8/1962", and Bell L. 9/1962" (NM) and 9/1977" (US). Casual at Clayton 8-9/1954 (56--reliable?), near Cliff 4/1964, and near Carlsbad 12/1969.

*LEAST BITTERN (Ixobrychus exilis). Summers in the middle and lower Rio Grande and lower Pecos valleys; rare to uncommon and local, breeding in lowland marshes. Casual to occasional elsewhere in summer and migration; rare and local, generally in lowland marshes. No definite winter record, contra 50. Regular summer *Bosque del Apache NWR and *Bitter Lake NWR; occasional Isleta (1971', 1974); casual Kirtland 8/1972, Albuquerque 6/1919 (3), Tucumcari L. 6/1974, Redrock 6/1968. Casual to occasional Espanola 4/1961 (56) and 5/1966, Albuquerque 9/1963" (NM), Silver City 9/1926" (CNH), and near Rodeo.

*AMERICAN BITTERN (Botaurus lentiginosus). Resident at *Bosque del Apache NWR and *Bitter Lake NWR and summers *SAN JUAN VALLEY' (casual in winter), and very local elsewhere; rare to uncommon in marshes at lower and middle elevations. Migrates almost statewide; rare and casual to occasional away from the middle and lower Rio Grande and lower Pecos valleys, mainly at lower elevations. Recent summer records at Burford, Black, and Tucumcari lakes and may breed; casual or past records near Las Vegas, San Rafael, Albuquerque, Mangas Springs, and near Hatch, but no recent evidence of breeding. Casual at Farmington 12/1973 and 1/1974, and at Bell L. 4/1975.

CICONIIDAE. Storks.

WOOD STORK (Mycertia americana). Occasional late summer-autumn migrant in the south; rare and local, generally near water at lower elevations. Most records are from the Rio Grande (north to BERNARDO") and Pecos (north to Bitter Lake NWR) valleys; less regular in the Gila Valley (Lake Roberts; Redrock) and casual in the San Francisco Valley (Glenwood area). Recorded in the 1850's", 1951", 1952, 1963, 1964, 1971', 1974, and 1975.

THRESKIORNITHIDAE. Ibises.

*WHITE-FACED IBIS (*Plegadis chihi*). Occasional in summer almost statewide, but breeding confirmed only at Tucumcari *6/1973'--where also present 6-7/1971 and 5-6/1974; rare to uncommon and

local, generally near water. Occasional in winter at Bosque del Apache NWR and Bitter Lake NWR; rare and local. Statewide migrant; rare to fairly common, mainly near water at lower elevations. Other summer occurrences include San Juan Valley 6/1971, 6/1974, and 7/1976; Regina 6/1975; Maxwell NWR (77), Isleta 6/1970; Moriarty 7/1933" (PM); Bosque del Apache NWR 7/1973 and 6-8/1976; Bitter Lake NWR 6-7/1973 and 6/1974; Elephant Butte L. 6/1974; and Caballo L. 6/1971.

WHITE IBIS (Eudocimus albus). Occasional in autumn and casual at other seasons in the middle Rio Grande and lower Pecos valleys; rare to uncommon and local near water. Records at Bosque del Apache NWR 3/1974' and 9-10/1976' and Bitter Lake NWR 11/1965'-1/1966 and 9/1976'.

[SCARLET IBIS (Eudocimus ruber). Hypothetical, judged questionable. Recorded Bernalillo Co. 6/1864 (18) by E. Coues, who stood by the record (16).]

ANATIDAE. Waterfowl.

WHISTLING SWAN (Cygnus columbianus). Migrates and winters (less numerously and more locally) almost statewide; rare to uncommon, mainly on larger bodies of water at lower elevations. Report of occasional summer occurrences at Maxwell NWR (77) is unconfirmed. Most records are from the middle and lower Rio Grande and lower Pecos valleys.

TRUMPETER SWAN (Cygnus buccinator). Casual at Bear Canyon L., Mimbres Valley 2/1977". Also reported near Mesilla 11/1931" (52), but this cannot be confirmed and is open to question.

*CANADA GOOSE (Branta canadensis). Resident locally in the north and southward in the Rio Grande (to *BOSQUE DEL APACHE NWR') and Pecos (to *Bitter Lake NWR) valleys, as the result of recent introductions; rare to common, generally local and at lower to middle elevations. Migrates and winters almost statewide; rare to common, mainly at water at lower elevations. Major populations occur in the San Juan, Rio Grande, and Pecos valleys and the northeast. Established summering populations include in the *Farmington area, *Maxwell NWR, *Ft. Union-*Watrous, *La Cueva SGR, and *Las Vegas NWR; casual elsewhere, including Fenton L. 6/1971, Los Lunas 6/1969, and Tucumcari 6/1971. Prior to introduction reported to breed only near Hatch in the 1850's (27). Casual Apache Creek 3/1976, Glenwood 12/1967, and Silver City 1/1971 (56).

BRANT (Branta bernicla). Vagrant in the middle Rio Grande Valley and reportedly ("rare, spring") at Maxwell NWR (77); rare and local at lower elevations. Specific records are of 2 birds at Bosque del Apache NWR 10-11/1966' and 1 at Bernardo SGR 1/1967'; the latter was definitely the "black" race, B. b. nigricans.

WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE (Anser albifrons). Migrates and winters in the Rio Grande and Pecos valleys and in the northeast; rare to uncommon and local, generally at lower elevations. Now more-or-

less regular, but formerly less so. Most records are in the area from Maxwell NWR to Las Vegas and at BOSQUE DEL APACHE NWR' and Bitter Lake NWR; also occurs southward to the LAS CRUCES" area and Carlsbad.

SNOW GOOSE (Chen caerulescens), White form migrates almost statewide, but generally less numerous and less regular away from major winter areas and migratory routes to them; rare to abundant, mainly at lower elevations. Winters in and near the middle and lower Rio Grande and lower Pecos valleys and in lesser numbers in the northeast and far southwest (casual to occasional elsewhere); rare to abundant, mainly at lower elevations. Occasionally lingers into late spring or summer. Blue form much less numerous and widespread, occurring mainly in the middle Rio Grande and lower Pecos valleys; rare to fairly common and local, with white geese. Main winter flocks of white birds occur at BOSQUE DEL APACHE NWR' and from Bitter Lake NWR to Artesia; casual to occasional in the San Juan and Gila valleys (and southward). May records at BOSQUE DEL APACHE NWR" and Bitter Lake NWR and casual in summer at Fenton L. 1972 and near Taos 7/1956 (56). Blue birds casual at Farmington 4/1973, Clayton 10/1971, Las Vegas 12/1972 and 1/1973, Cliff 12/1973, Deming 3/1970, and White Sands NM 11/1943 (11). Numbers appear to have increased in recent years; first recorded in the state at BOSQUE DEL APACHE NWR" 12/1940 (11).

ROSS GOOSE (Chen rossii). Migrates and winters in the middle Rio Grande and lower Pecos valleys and occasionally in the northeast and southwest; rare to fairly common and local, mainly at lower elevations. Main flocks occur at BOSQUE DEL APACHE NWR" and Bitter Lake NWR to Artesia area; occasional near Las Vegas and in the LAS CRUCES" area, and casual at Columbus 1/1976". Numbers appear to have increased in recent years; first recorded in the state at Bernardo SGR 12/1956" (64).

[BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING DUCK (Dendrocyna autumnalis). Hypothetical, judged highly probable (35). Records in Grant Co. 6/1968 and 4/1971--reliable? and Eddy Co. 9/1951 (56).]

[FULVOUS WHISTLING DUCK (Dendrocygna bicolor). Hypothetical, judged highly probable (35). Records in Dona Ana Co. 4/1949 (50) and Chaves Co. 5, 10-11/1961 and 4/1962 (56).]

*MALLARD (Anas platyrhynchos). Resident in the northeast (east to *Clayton) and from the Pecos Valley westward; rare to common (less numerous in summer), breeding in wetlands from lower--upward locally--to higher elevations, Migrates and winters statewide in suitable habitats; rare to locally abundant, mainly at lower and middle elevations. Hybridizes with the following form, which see. Historic southern breeding limits unknown, but now summers more-or-less regularly to *LAS

CRUCES" and the Rodeo area; casual to irregular eastward in summer to Tucumcari and Portales.

*MEXICAN DUCK (Anas diazi). Now very rare in pure form, due to hybridization with the Mallard--with which it is best regarded as conspecific (37). In variously hybrid form occurs as a resident in the southwest, south of the Mogollon Plateau and in the lower and middle Rio Grande Valley (northward to *BOSQUE DEL APACHE NWR' and vicinity); rare to uncommon at lower elevations. Summers in the *RESERVE" area and formerly farther northward; rare to uncommon at middle elevations. Formerly occurred (in hybrid form) northward in summer to *BURFORD L." and as a resident to the ALBUQUERQUE" area. In Reserve area summers at *Centerfire Bog, TULAROSA CREEK", and Patterson L.; occasional in the lower Pecos Valley (north to BITTER LAKE NWR" and casual near Grants 8/1950 (56) and at Alamogordo 9/1977".

[BLACK DUCK (Anas rubripes). Hypothetical, judged possible (35). Recorded in Union Co. 12/1964 and 12/1965 (56), Socorro Co. 1/1951 (56), and Chaves Co. 12/1961 (56).]

[MOTTLED DUCK (Anas fulvigula). Hypothetical, judged questionable (35). Recorded Socorro Co. 12/1955 and/or 1/1956 (56).

*GADWALL (Anas strepera). Resident locally in the north and in the middle Rio Grande (*Bosque del Apache NWR) and lower Pecos (*Bitter Lake NWR) valleys; uncommon to common (less numerous in summer) in wetlands at lower and middle elevations. Casual to occasional elsewhere in summer (south to Redrock and Carlsbad areas), but not known to breed; rare and local. Migrates and winters almost statewide; rare to common, mainly at at lower and middle elevations. Northern areas of breeding are the *Jicarilla Res., *Maxwell NWR, *LA CUEVA SGR", and *Las Vegas NWR.

*PINTAIL (Anas acuta). Resident locally in the north and in the middle Rio Grande (*Bosque del Apache NWR) and lower Pecos (*Bitter Lake NWR) valleys; rare to abundant (less numerous in summer) mainly at lower and middle elevations. Irregular in summer in San Juan Valley and casually to occasionally elsewhere (south to Animas and Portales), but not known to breed; rare and local. Migrates and winters almost statewide; rare to locally abundant, mainly at lower and middle elevations. Northern areas of breeding are the *Chuska Mts. *Jicarilla Res, *Maxwell NWR, and *Las Vegas NWR; recorded in June in the San Juan Valley 1970-1972 and 1974.

*GREEN-WINGED TEAL (Anas crecca). Resident locally in the north and in the middle Rio Grande (*Bosque del Apache NWR--formerly only?) and lower *Pecos (*Bitter Lake NWR) valleys; rare to abundant (less numerous and perhaps less regular in summer) in wetlands, mainly at lower and middle elevations. Has bred

casually on the Mogollon Plateau, casual to occasional in summer south to Redrock, LAS CRUCES", and Portales--without evidence of breeding; rare and local. Migrates and winters statewide; rare to common, mainly at lower and middle elevations. Northern areas of breeding are the *Jicarillo Res., *San Juan Mts., *Maxwell NWR, and possibly formerly in San Miguel Co. (3); casual at Centerfire Bog *6/1977 and variously in summer at such likely breeding areas as the San Juan Valley, Chuska Mts., Eagle Nest L., Black L., La Cueva SGR, Apache Creek, and Patterson L.

*BLUE-WINGED TEAL (Anas discors). Migrates and summers almost statewide; rare to common in wetlands, mainly at lower and middle elevations (more local and less numerous in summer). Irregular in winter in the Rio Grande (north to *Bosque del Apache NWR) and Pecos (north to *Bitter Lake NWR) valleys and casual to occasional elsewhere; rare to uncommon mainly at lower elevations. Summers from Clayton and the Pecos Valley westward to the San Juan Valley and *San Simon Cienaga—mainly formerly; casual at Tucumcari 6/1971 and near Portales 6/1973. Casual to occasional in winter north to Farmington, *Maxwell NWR, and Las Vegas NWR.

*CINNAMON TEAL (Anas cyanoptera). Migrates and summers almost statewide; rare to common in wetlands, mainly at lower and middle elevations (more local and less numerous in summer). Irregular in winter in the Rio Grande (north to *Bosque del Apache NWR) and Pecos (north to *Bitter Lake NWR) valleys and casual to occasional elsewhere; rare to uncommon, mainly at lower elevations. Summers from Clayton and the Pecos Valley westward to the *San Juan Valley and *San Simon Cienaga-mainly formerly; casual at Tucumcari 6/1972. Allocation of some breeding records is questionable or provisional, because females of this species appear indistinguishable from those of the previous species (eclipse males are also difficult/ impossible to distinguish). In migration appears to be only occasional in the east, e.g., Clayton and Tucumcari. Casual to occasional in winter (late November-January) north to Farmington area and *Maxwell NWR; February records -- while in the "winter" period -- are probably mainly early spring migrants.

[EURASIAN WIGEON (Anas penelope). Hypothetical, record judged questionable (35). Recorded in Union Co. 4/1954 (56).]

*AMERICAN WIGEON (Anas americana). Irregular resident in the north and at Bitter Lake NWR; rare to common in wetlands, mainly at lower and middle elevations (less numerous and more local in summer). Casual to occasional elsewhere in summer (southward to San Simon Cienaga and *Carlsbad), but generally with no evidence of breeding; rare and local. Migrates and winters statewide; rare to common (locally abundant), mainly at lower and middle elevations. Northern areas of actual or probable breeding are the *Jicarilla Res., *Black L., Maxwell NWR, La Cueva SGR, and Las Vegas NWR; occasional in summer in

the San Juan Valley and at Bosque del Apache NWR and casual near Carlsbad *summer/1964.

*NORTHERN SHOVELER (Anas clypeata). Irregular resident in the north and in the middle Rio Grande (*Bosque del Apache NWR) and lower Pecos (*Bitter Lake NWR) valleys; rare to common in wetlands, mainly at lower and middle elevations (less numerous and more local in summer). Casual to occasional elsewhere in summer (south to Redrock, LAS CRUCES", and Portales), but without evidence of breeding; rare and local. Migrates and winters statewide; rare to common (locally abundant), mainly at lower and middle elevations. Breeds on the *Jicarilla Res. and casually at *Las Vegas NWR and *Tucumcari L.; occasional in summer and expected also to breed elsewhere in the north and in the Reserve area.

*WOOD DUCK (Aix sponsa). Reported resident in the *Farmington area since 1972-73, probably as the result of introductions; rare to uncommon and local. Casual to occasional elsewhere in summer, but no evidence of breeding; rare and local. Migrates almost statewide and winters mainly in the south; rare to uncommon and local, mainly at lower elevations. Other summer occurrences at Burford L., Santa Fe area, Patterson L., Bosque del Apache NWR, and Elephant Butte L. Except for recent San Juan Valley birds, there is no evidence that birds occurring in New Mexico are other than wild and free-ranging.

*REDHEAD (Aythya americana). Irregular in summer at *Bosque del Apache NWR and on the *Jicarilla Res.; rare to uncommon and local in wetlands. Casual to occasional elsewhere in summer (south occasionally to the Reserve area, and Bitter Lake NWR), without evidence of breeding; rare to uncommon and local. Migrates and winters almost statewide; rare to fairly common, mainly at lower and middle elevations. Other occasional areas of summer occurrence include Chuska Mts. and Maxwell NWR; casual records at Crownpoint, Tucumcari L., and Elephant Butte L.

RING-NECKED DUCK (Aythya collaris). Occasional and local in summer, but no evidence of breeding; rare to uncommon, mainly at lower and middle elevations. Migrates and winters almost statewide; rare to locally common, mainly at lower and middle elevations. Occasional in summer on the Jicarilla Res. and at Bitter Lake NWR, and casual in the Chuska Mts., Black L., Las Vegas, and Centerfire Bog.

*CANVASBACK (Aythya valisineria). Irregular in summer in the north and occasionally at *Bosque del Apache NWR and Bitter Lake NWR; rare to uncommon and local in wetlands at lower and middle elevations. Migrates and winters statewide; rare to locally common, mainly at lower elevations. Occasional in summer on the Jicarilla Res, and casual at *Cimarron and La Cueva SGR.

[GREATER SCAUP (Aythya marila). Hypothetical, judged possible (35). Recorded in Colfax, Union, San Miguel, Socorro, Chaves, Sierra, and Otero cos. Most records are little or poorly documented, and none to date can be reliably separated from those of the following species.]

*LESSER SCAUP (Aythya affinis). Irregular in summer on the Jicarilla Res. and at *Bosque del Apache NWR and Bitter Lake NWR; rare to uncommon and local in wetlands. Casual to occasional elsewhere in the north and southwest in summer, but no evidence of breeding; rare to uncommon and local, mainly at lower elevations. Migrates and winters almost statewide; rare to common, wintering mainly on larger bodies of water at lower elevations. Casual in summer at Black L., Maxwell NWR, Chaco Canyon NM, Santa Fe, Crownpoint, Centerfire Bog, and Lordsburg.

COMMON GOLDENEYE (Bucephala clangula). Occasional in June, but no evidence of breeding; rare and very local. Migrates and winters almost statewide (more local and less numerous in the extreme southwest and eastern plains); rare to fairly common, mainly on deeper bodies of water at lower elevations. June records at Navajo L. 1971, Bosque del Apache NWR 1973, and near Artesia 1962.

BARROW GOLDENEYE (Bucephala islandica). One reliable record (east of Farmington 1/1974"--also 12/1976) and occasionally reported in winter elsewhere in the north and at Bitter Lake NWR (12/1942 and 12/1956). Records elsewhere include near Clayton 2/1957 and Springer area 12/1975. A specimen purported taken 45 mi. south of Albuquerque 10/1920" (YPM) apppears to have been relabeled and its actual point of origin is questionable--as are most sight records.

BUFFLEHEAD (Bucephala albeola). Occasional in summer in the Jicarilla Res. area and casual at Centerfire Bog (7/1973), but no evidence of breeding; rare and very local. Migrates and winters almost statewide; rare to fairly common, mainly at lower and middle elevations. Northern summer records at Burford L. 7/1960 (40) and Heron L. 6/1976.

OLDSQUAW (Clangula hyemalis). Occasional in migration and winter; rare and very local, mainly at lower elevations. Recorded near Las Vegas 12/1958-3/1959; Bosque del Apache NWR 2-3/1964' and 4/1971; and Bitter Lake NWR 11/1961' and 5/1968.

HARLEQUIN DUCK (Histrionicus histrionicus). Casual near Tres Piedras, autumn 1945" (US).

WHITE-WINGED SCOTER (Melanitta deglandi). Irregular in autumn migration and winter, occasional in spring, and casual in summer; rare and local, mainly in the east and south and at lower elevations. Recorded autumn and/or winter at Clayton,

Santa Rosa, FLOYD", BOSQUE DEL APACHE NWR', BITTER LAKE NWR', near CLIFF", and at ELEPHANT BUTTE L."; otherwise recorded at Los Alamos 5-11/1971' and Roswell 6/1962, 4/1970, and 4/1963.

SURF SCOTER (Melanitta perspicillata). Occasional in autumn migration and winter and casual in spring; rare and local, mainly at lower elevations. Recorded autumn and/or winter near FARMINGTON", LOS LUNAS", LA JOYA SGR", Evans L., and near ANTELOPE WELLS"; recorded in spring at Bosque del Apache NWR 4/1975 and Bitter Lake NWR (80).

BLACK SCOTER (*Melanitta nigra*). Casual at Bosque del Apache NWR 10/1975" (US). Also reported without details near Clayton 4-5/1956 (56).

*RUDDY DUCK (Oxyura jamaicensis). Resident locally in the western two-thirds of the state; rare to fairly common (more local and less numerous in winter), in wetlands at lower and middle elevations. Migrates and winters almost statewide; rare to common, mainly at lower and middle elevations. Most regular in summer in the *Chuska Mts., *Jicarilla Res., Maxwell NWR, Las Vegas NWR, *Centerfire Bog-*Patterson L. area, *Bosque del Apache NWR, and *Bitter Lake NWR; casual to occasional elsewhere including south to San Simon Cienaga and *Carlsbad.

[MASKED DUCK (Oxyura dominica). Hypothetical, judged questionable (35). Recorded in Hidalgo Co.(or Arizona?) 10/1971 (2).]

HOODED MERGANSER (Mergus cucullatus). Migrates and winters almost statewide; rare to uncommon and local, mainly at lower elevations. Purportedly bred on the upper Pecos River many years ago (3), but this is unverified and doubtful. Occurs most regularly in the middle and lower Rio Grande and lower Pecos valleys; casual to occasional near Clayton and Las Vegas and in the San Juan, Gila, and Mimbres valleys.

*COMMON MERGANSER (Mergus merganser). Resident in the Northern and Mogollon highlands and vicinities; rare to common (more local and less numerous in summer), mainly at lower and middle elevations in canyon-bound streams and adjacent lakes. Migrates and winters almost statewide (east to Clayton area, Ute L., and the Pecos Valley); rare to common (locally abundant), mainly on larger bodies of water at lower and middle elevations. Resident range includes *San Juan, *Chama, *upper Pecos, *San Francisco, and *upper Gila valleys; occasional on the Jicarilla Res. and casual at Eagle Nest L. 6/1968, La Cueva SGR 6/1970, and Loving 6/1965, but not known to breed in these areas.

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER (Mergus serrator). Migrates and winters almost statewide, but mainly in the eastern two-thirds and southwest; rare to uncommon and local, mainly on larger bodies of water at lower elevations. Apparently most regular in the northeast, at ELEPHANT BUTTE L.", and in the lower Pecos Valley; casual in the San Juan Valley.