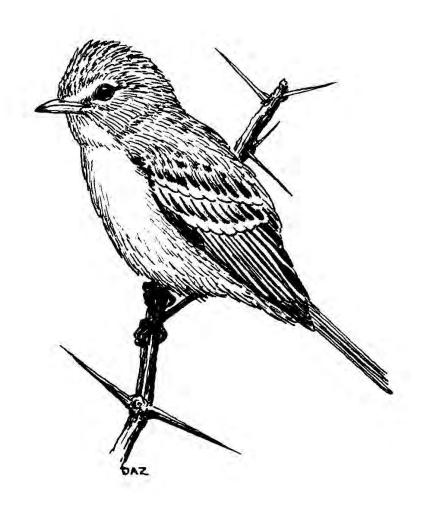
New Mexico Ornithological Society Field Notes



Volume 47, Number 4, Autumn 2008

NEW MEXICO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY FIELD NOTES Volume 47, Number 4, Autumn 2008 1 August – 30 November 2008

A quarterly publication of the New Mexico Ornithological Society

EDITORIAL STAFF

Sartor O. Williams III, *Editor* William H. Howe, *Assistant Editor*

EDITORIAL OFFICE

Southwest Natural History Institute 1819 Meadowview Drive NW Albuquerque, New Mexico 87104-2511 (sunbittern@earthlink.net)

Reporting Observations: All individuals interested in birds in New Mexico are encouraged to submit their observations to NMOS Field Notes. Especially solicited are records of uncommon species, nesting birds, and early, late, or out-of-season/range birds. Records should be submitted in taxonomic order and should include species name, date, exact location, numbers of birds, age, sex, and color morph (if applicable), and name and contact information of observer. Details are necessary for unusual records; these may be submitted on a report form (available from the address above), but any written format is acceptable. Photographic documentation is strongly encouraged.

NEW MEXICO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY (Founded 1962)

The New Mexico Ornithological Society was organized to gather and disseminate accurate information concerning the bird life of New Mexico; to promote interest in and appreciation of the value of birds, both aesthetic and economic, to further effective conservation of the state's avifauna; to facilitate opportunity for acquaintance and fellowship among those interested in birds and nature; and to issue publications as a means of furthering these ends.

Membership and Subscriptions: Membership in the New Mexico Ornithological Society is open to anyone with an interest in birds. Memberships are for a calendar year and annual dues are payable 1 January. Dues are: Regular Membership \$20; Family \$30; Student \$10; Supporting \$50; Life \$500. Address for the New Mexico Ornithological Society: P. O. Box 3068, Albuquerque, NM 87190-3068.

Cover: Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet (*Camptostoma imberbe*). A regular but scarce summer resident in New Mexico, the former "Beardless Flycatcher" is found annually only in Guadalupe Canyon, Hidalgo County, where it nests in sycamores and other riparian trees. Territories tend to be near the few water pools in the otherwise dry canyon; numbers have declined there in recent years, coincident with a general drying trend experienced in the canyon. The small and localized population is vulnerable to loss of required low-elevation riparian habitat from burning, clearing, reduced water table, or overgrazing. Art by Dale A. Zimmerman.

AUTUMN SEASON 2008

Late summer rains continued into Autumn 2008, especially in the south, resulting in improved grasslands, woodlands, and wetlands generally, and both resident and migrant birds dispersed to take advantage of these conditions. The season was notable for rarities, highlighted by a Black-tailed Gull in August and a Sungrebe in November, the latter the first of the pantropical family Heliornithidae (Finfoots) to reach the United States.

Localities and Counties

Alameda, *Bernalillo* Albuquerque, *Bernalillo*

Animas, Cr., Mts., Valley, Hidalgo

Belen, *Valencia* Bernardo, *Socorro* Bingham, *Socorro*

Bitter Lake NWR, Chaves

Bluewater Lake, McKinley/Cibola

Boone's Draw, Roosevelt

Bosque del Apache NWR, Socorro

Bosque Redondo, De Baca

Brantley Lake, *Eddy*Caballo Lake, Dam, *Sierra*Capilla Peak, *Torrance*Carlsbad, Lake, *Eddy*

Carlsbad, Earle, Eddy
Carlsbad Caverns NP, Eddy
Cedar Crest, Bernalillo
Cedar Mts., Grant/Luna
Cherry Lake, Mora

Clanton Canyon, Cienega, *Hidalgo*

Clovis, Curry

Cochiti, Lake, Dam, Sandoval Conchas Lake, Dam, San Miguel

Corona, *Lincoln*Corrales, *Sandoval*Crossroads, *Lea*Deming, *Luna*

Eagle Nest, Lake, Colfax

Elephant Butte Lake, Dam, Sierra

Española, *Rio Arriba*Fort Sumner, *De Baca*Galisteo, *Santa Fe*

Guadalupe Canyon, Hidalgo

Guadalupe Mts., Eddy
Hatch, Doña Ana
Holloman Lake, Otero
Jack's Peak, Grant
Kingston, Sierra
La Cienega, Santa Fe
La Jara, Sandoval
Lake Avalon, Eddy

Las Cruces, Doña Ana

Las Vegas, NWR, San Miguel Lordsburg, Playa, Hidalgo Luis Lopez, Socorro Madrid, Santa Fe

Magdalena Mts., Socorro

Malaga, Eddy

Manzano, Mts., *Torrance* Maxwell, NWR, *Colfax*

Melrose, Curry

Mesa Rest Area, *Chaves* Milnesand, *Roosevelt* Mims Lake, *Sierra* Morgan Lake, *San Juan*

north Roosevelt trap [NRT], Roosevelt

Ortiz Mts., Santa Fe Otero Mesa, Otero

Otis, Eddy

Peloncillo Mts., Hidalgo

Pep, Roosevelt Percha SP, Sierra

Post Office Canyon, *Hidalgo* Radium Springs, *Doña Ana* Rattlesnake Springs, *Eddy*

Rio Grande Nature Center, Bernalillo

Rodeo, Hidalgo

Sandia Crest, Park, *Bernalillo* Sandia Mts., *Sandoval/Bernalillo*

San Mateo Mts., Socorro

San Simon Cienega, R., Valley, *Hidalgo*

Santa Fe, Baldy, *Santa Fe*Santa Rosa, Lake, *Guadalupe*Santo Domingo, *Sandoval*

Sena, San Miguel
Silver City, Grant
Six Mile Dam, Eddy
Socorro, Socorro
Springer, Lake, Colfax
Stubblefield Lake, Colfax
Sumner Lake, Dam, De Baca
Sunland Park, Doña Ana

Tatum, *Lea*Tucumcari, Lake, *Quay*Tyrone, *Grant*Ute Lake, *Quay*Villanueva, *San Miguel*

Virden, *Hidalgo* Wagon Mound, *Mora* Yeso, *DeBaca* Zuni Mts, *McKinley/Cibola*

Standard Abbreviations

AFB	Air Force Base	SP	State Park
Bosque NWR	Bosque del Apache NWR	UNM	Univ. of New Mexico
BLNWR	Bitter Lake NWR	USFWS	U.S. Fish & Wildlife
BBS	Breeding Bird Survey		Service
CBC	Christmas Bird Count	WMA	Wildlife Management
CCNP	Carlsbad Caverns NP		Area
CG	Camp Ground	WSMR	White Sands Missile
Cr.	Creek		Range
EBL	Elephant Butte Lake	3	male (represents sword &
GBA	Gila Bird Area		shield of Mars)
L.	Lake, Laguna	9	female (represents mirror
LVNWR	Las Vegas NWR		of Venus)
MSB	Museum of Southwestern	ad(s).	adult(s)
	Biology	subad(s).	subadult(s)
Mt(s).	Mountain(s)	imm(s).	immature(s)
NM	National Monument	juv(s).	juvenile(s)
NMSU	New Mexico State Univ.	sp.	species
NP	National Park	m.ob	many observers
NRT	north <i>Roosevelt</i> trap	V.O.	various observers
NWR	National Wildlife Refuge	+	others; et al.
R.	River	*	written details provided
RGNC	Rio Grande Nature	**	photo or tape provided
	Center	***	specimen obtained
RGV	Rio Grande Valley		

Initialed Observers

JPB	Jonathan P. Batkin	NM_C	Narca Moore-Craig
MJB	Matt J. Baumann		Bruce D. Neville
DJB		JRO	
	David J. Beatty		Jerry R. Oldenettel
KB	Karen Beckenback	DP	Danny Paez
JLB	Jerry L. Bird	JEP	John E. Parmeter
JMB	James M. Black	JNP	James N. Paton
CMB	Celestyn M. Brozek	NDP	Nicholas D. Pederson
DJC	David J. Cleary	CMR	Christopher M. Rustay
NSC	Nancy S. Cox	LAS	Lawry A. Sager
AMC	Alan M. Craig	JIS	Jeffrey I. Sanchez
RHD	Robert H. Doster	MTS	Marcy T. Scott
SMF	Stephen M. Fettig	JWS	John W. Shipman
DJG	David J. Griffin	NS	Noel Snyder
DLH	David L. Hawksworth	JSS	Jacob S. Spendelow
NEH	Nancy E. Hetrick	JBV	J. Brad Vaughn
MOH	Michael O. Hilchey	HAW	Hira A. Walker
WHH	William H. Howe	MLW	Mark L. Watson
JMH	Jeff M. Howland	REW	Richard E. Webster
HWI	HawkWatch International	SW	Steve West
DJK	David J. Krueper	WFWe	e William F. West
ERL	Eugene R. Lewis	WFWi	William F. Wittman
JDL	J. David Ligon	CJW	Cole J. Wolf
CDL	Carroll D. Littlefield	JEZ	James E. Zabriskie
MDM	Martin D. MacRoberts	DAZ	Dale A. Zimmerman
LKM	Larry K. Malone		

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

Tundra Swan—Two ads. reached Stubblefield L. 15 Nov (NEH**).

Wood Duck—Concentrations away from usual areas included 35 below Cochiti Dam and 20 near Belen 9 Oct (MLW). A ♂ was east to Clovis 3 Oct (JEP), 3 were at BLNWR 19 Nov (JIS), and 4 were at L. Avalon 20 Aug (SW).

Gadwall—A \supseteq with downy young was at La Jara 10 Aug (BDN).

<u>American Black Duck</u>—A dark Mallard-like duck at Bosque NWR 15 Nov (S. J. Drown**) was thought to possibly be this species, which is unverified in New Mexico, but details and photographs appear insufficient to separate it from other dark Mallard-like ducks.

Greater Scaup—Noteworthy for *Santa Fe* was a ♂ at Santa Fe 25 Oct & 3 Nov (JPB**).

Surf Scoter—A good season found an ad. \subsetneq at Tyrone 26 Oct (ERL*), a \circlearrowleft at Wagon Mound 15 Nov (NEH**), and a \subsetneq /imm. at Stubblefield L. 26 Oct (JPB**) & 7-8 Nov (JEP*, MJB**, NDP*).

<u>Black Scoter</u>—Providing only the 9th record, but the 3rd in the past three years, 2 ♀♀ were at Bluewater L., *Cibola* 1-4 Nov (CMR, JEP*, WFWi*, JRO**, MJB**, MOH*).

Hooded Merganser—A \circlearrowleft was at Socorro 23 Aug (JEP); the species has recently been found nesting elsewhere in *Socorro*. One appeared at a desert playa west of Las Cruces 23 Aug & 9 Sep (MTS, JEZ**).

White-tailed Ptarmigan—Four were in the Jicarita Peak area, *Taos* 23 Aug (G. Soehnel**), a reliable locale for the species for several decades.

Dusky Grouse—Had a good reproductive season in the s. Sangre de Cristo Mts., *Santa Fe/San Miguel* in Aug, with young birds noted at Aspen Vista, Holy Ghost Canyon, and Black Canyon (WFWe).

Montezuma Quail—Notably successful in the n. Peloncillo Mts., with flocks of up to 16 in four canyons Sep-Nov (CDL).

Common Loon—Unseasonal was one at Cherry L. 4 Aug (WFWi). Early were 3 at Stubblefield L. 1-9 Sep (CMR*, MOH*) and one at Conchas L. 20 Sep (WHH).

Pied-billed Grebe—An impressive 61 were at Stubblefield L. 10 Nov (DLH).

Horned Grebe—Well-documented was an early one at Bosque NWR 18 Oct (C. Mangeng**).

Eared Grebe—Up to 20 pairs nested at Clovis, where ads. were incubating and others were tending young 8 Aug (MOH**); nesting activity continued there 27 Aug (MOH).

Aechmophorus grebes—Aerial surveys counted 1350 in the EBL-Caballo L. area 9 Oct (MLW) and 3200 there by 6 Nov (MLW).

Brown Pelican—A mini-invasion produced an imm. at Brantley L. 14-15 Aug (RHD**) and up to 5—an ad. and 4 imms.—at EBL 13-15 Nov (DJC**, JEP*, JRO*, CJW**, MOH**).

Neotropic Cormorant—An ad. was at Brantley L. 27 Aug (RHD).

Least Bittern—One was north to Isleta, *Bernalillo* 23 Aug (DJK).

Little Blue Heron—An imm. at Six Mile Dam was the lone report (SW*).

Tricolored Heron—An imm. was at EBL 4-21 Aug (DJC**, CJW**, m.ob.).

Cattle Egret—Late were 4 each at Belen 15 Nov (DLH) & Bosque NWR 30 Nov (SMF**) and one at Mims L. 18 Nov (DJC**).

<u>Yellow-crowned Night-Heron</u>—An imm. was at Clovis 27 Aug-26 Sep (MOH, JEP*, JRO**) and an ad. was at Six Mile Dam 16 Aug (SW); the species has been annual in recent years.

Turkey Vulture—Late was one at Deming 13 Nov (LKM).

Osprey—Late for the north was one at Acomita L., *Cibola* 1 Nov (CMR). A high 50 were counted at Capilla Peak, Manzano Mts. 30 Aug-22 Oct (HWI), a substantial increase over the long-term average there.

White-tailed Kite—Continuing from summer were singles in the San Simon Valley 3 Aug (REW), Rodeo 16 Aug (REW), and the middle Animas Valley 8 Aug (JRO**).

Mississippi Kite—A high 9 were north to Santa Rosa 7 Sep (DLH). Noteworthy were singles at Galisteo 9 Sep (JPB**) and NRT 16 Sep (WFWi) and 2 at Arch, *Roosevelt* 8 Aug (MOH). Late was an imm. at Tatum 3 Oct (JEP).

Northern Harrier—Some 89 were counted at Capilla Peak 6 Sep-4 Nov (HWI), a 47% increase over the long-term average there.

Cooper's Hawk—A pair was nest-building at Cedar Crest 30 Sep (JDL).

Common Black-Hawk—One was at Isleta, *Bernalillo* 23 Aug (DJK). Single migrant ads. were near BLNWR 16 Sep (JIS*) and Guadalupe Canyon 7 Sep (AMC, NM-C, NS).

Broad-winged Hawk—A record 17 were counted at Capilla Peak 17 Sep-1 Oct (HWI). Others were an ad. at Fort Sumner 20 Sep (JEP*), 2 ads. at Milnesand 27 Sep (MJB, NDP, CJW*), and 2 imms. west to Silver City 3 Oct (M. Cantrell *fide* DJB).

Gray Hawk—Continued its remarkable surge into the state, with three territories in Guadalupe Canyon (plus three more territories in the Arizona portion) 7-8 Sep (AMC, NM-C, NS), an ad. in Clanton Canyon 1 Sep (DLH), and a juv. at Rodeo 15 Sep (REW). A pair in *Eddy* was successful, with ads. tending one fledgling 19 Aug-6 Oct (m.ob., RHD**, JRO**). A paper documenting the changing status of the Gray Hawk in New Mexico was published in *Western Birds* 39(4):202-208, 2008.

Swainson's Hawk—Much in evidence, including kettles of 50 near BLNWR 28 Sep (MLW) and 45 near Deming 31 Aug (LKM); 2952 were tallied at Capilla Peak 3 Sep-6 Oct (HWI). Late were 2 near Malaga 4 Nov (T. J. Hines *fide* SW).

Zone-tailed Hawk—One was in the Sacramento Mts. at Bluff Springs, *Otero* 23 Aug (DJG). One was late at Santo Domingo 23 Oct (LAS).

Rough-legged Hawk—Earliest arrivals were singles north of Melrose 24 Oct (JEP*, JRO**) and near Tinaja, *Colfax* 29 Oct (CMR).

Merlin—Widely reported, including in 15 of New Mexico's 33 counties. A near-record 47 passed Capilla Peak 13 Sep-2 Nov (HWI).

Aplomado Falcon—An ad. south of Deming 1 Oct (DJG**) and 30 Oct (RAM) was believed by some to be a naturally occurring individual.

Peregrine Falcon—Only 42 passed Capilla Peak 9 Sep-24 Oct (HWI), continuing a significant multi-year declining trend there. One was roosting with Turkey Vultures at Carlsbad 13 Sep (SW).

Sungrebe—Providing a first for the United States was a ♀ at Bosque NWR 13 Nov (S. A. King**) & 18 Nov (JRO**, SMF**, JEP*, MJB*, NDP*, MOH*). A paper documenting this occurrence was published in *North American Birds* 63(1):4-9, 2009.

American Coot—An aerial survey counted some 13,645 in the northeast 6 Oct, including 5600 at Stubblefield L. 6 Oct (MLW). At BLNWR, 5678 were counted 22 Oct (JIS+).

Sandhill Crane—Earliest at BLNWR were 15 on 21 Sep (JIS+), where numbers peaked at 20,000 on 5 Nov (JIS+).

Black-bellied Plover—Impressive for *Mora* were 4 at Wagon Mound 20-21 Sep (NEH**, MOH, CMR). One was west to the Lordsburg Playa 12-17 Oct (DLH). High count was 8 at BLNWR 22 Oct (JIS+), where there was a late one 19 Nov (JIS).

Semipalmated Plover—Latest were 3 at Sumner L. 25 Oct (JEP) and one at EBL 7 Nov (DJC**).

American Avocet—Two downy chicks were among ads. at a desert playa west of Las Cruces 23 Aug (MTS, JEZ).

Solitary Sandpiper—Noteworthy for *Harding* was one at Chicosa L. 28 Aug (SW). One was west to Tyrone 24 Aug (ERL). Late was one near Las Cruces 19 Nov (MTS, JEZ).

Upland Sandpiper—High counts were 46 in recently cut alfalfa at Fort Sumner 27 Aug (MOH) and 14 in *Lea* 23 Aug (CMR, BDN). Others were one at BLNWR 8 Aug (JIS), 3 near Otis 15 Aug (JEP), and several heard over Otero Mesa predawn 24 Aug (DJG).

<u>Whimbrel</u>—Rare in autumn, singles were at BLNWR 12 Sep (JEP*, MJB**, NDP*) and Brantley L. 14 Aug (RHD*).

Long-billed Curlew—Two flocks totaling 780 birds were in cut hayfields in *Lea* 23 Aug (CMR, BDN); 52 were in the Uvas Valley west of Hatch 2 Nov (MTS, JEZ).

Sanderling—High counts were 5 at Maxwell NWR 7 Sep (CMB*) and 7 at Sumner L. 20 Sep (JPB); west was one at Lordsburg Playa 12 Oct (DLH). Late were one at BLNWR 5 Nov (JIS) and 3 at Caballo L. 15 Nov (MOH).

Semipalmated Sandpiper—Noteworthy west to the RGV were singles at Cochiti L. 7 Sep (MOH*), Alameda 29 Aug (WHH**, DJK*, MOH*, CMR*), and Sunland Park 20 Sep (JNP**).

Pectoral Sandpiper—Latest was one at Belen 8 Nov (M. R. Gracey).

Dunlin—At Caballo L. numbers increased from 2 on 17 Oct (DJC) to 6 on 20 Nov (DJC**) and 7 by 24 Nov (DJC). Notably early was one at Alameda 10 Aug (JBV). One was at Brantley L. 23 Nov (SW).

Stilt Sandpiper—A good season produced highs of 20 at Wagon Mound 2 Sep (WFWi), 21 at Maxwell NWR 21 Sep (MOH, CMR), and about 150 at BLNWR 26 Sep (JEP). Farther west were singles at Alameda 24 Aug (JEP) and EBL 16 Aug (DJC), 7 at Belen 14 Sep (DLH), and up to 3 in the Uvas Valley, *Doña Ana* 16-23 Aug (WHH, MTS, JEZ**).

Short-billed Dowitcher—Those reported with useful details were single juvs. at Springer L. 14 Sep (JPB*) and Clovis 29 Aug (JEP*, JRO**) and 2 juvs. at Belen 1 Sep MJB**, NDP*, CJW**, MOH*). A vocal ad. was at EBL 16 Aug (DJC).

Red-necked Phalarope—A high 18 were at Stubblefield L. 21 Sep (MOH, CMR); only singles were reported at four additional sites.

Red Phalarope—One was at EBL 16 Oct (DJC**).

<u>Laughing Gull</u>—Undetailed was one at Stubblefield L. 31 Aug (CMR). A 2nd-cycle one was at Clovis 29 Aug (JEP*, JRO, WFWi).

Franklin's Gull—Singles lingered at Caballo L. 14 Nov (DJC) and Sunland Park 15 Nov (JNP).

Bonaparte's Gull—Earliest were 3 at EBL 23 Oct (DJC) and Uvas Valley, *Doña Ana* 24 Oct (DJK).

<u>Black-tailed Gull</u>—Providing a New Mexico first was an ad., or near-ad., extensively documented at Brantley L. 16-18 Aug (SW*, m.ob.*, JRO**, MJB**, CJW**, JEZ**, JPB**). This vagrant from coastal Asia is casual in North America.

Sabine's Gull—Had another impressive season 7 Sep-20 Oct, with (all imms.) one at Santa Fe 7 Sep (JPB), up to 5 at Maxwell NWR 13-14 Sep (JSS**, JPB**), 2 each at Stubblefield L. 20 Sep (NEH**), Springer L. 14 Sep (JPB), Wagon Mound 21 Sep (MOH, CMR), Santa Rosa 26 Sep (JEP), one to 2 at Sumner L. 20 Sep-1 Oct (m.ob.), and singles at Holloman L. 28 Sep (SW) and the Uvas Valley 20 Oct (DJK).

Caspian Tern—One was at Cochiti L. 12 Oct (MJB, NDP, MOH*, JEP*). The species has occurred annually in the state since 1988.

Black Tern—In the west were 14 at Morgan L. 6 Aug (WFWi) and one at Lordsburg 10 Aug (JRO). High counts were 136 at Brantley L. 14 Aug (RHD) and 105 at EBL 23 Aug (DJC).

Common Tern—A fair season, with an early 2 at Brantley L. 23 Aug (BDN) and one to 2 at Conchas L. (WHH**), Ute L. (MJB, NDP), Sumner L. (JEP, MOH, NDP, JPB), and Caballo L. (LKM*) 13 Sep-16 Oct. Up to 5 were at EBL 12 Sep-5 Oct (DJC, NEH**).

Forster's Tern—Latest were 2 at EBL 2 Oct (DJC) and 1 at Lordsburg 12 Oct (DLH).

<u>Long-tailed Jaeger</u>—An intermediate morph juv. at Sumner L. 13-28 Sep (JEP*, m.ob.*, CJW**, JRO**) furnished the 13th overall and 8th verified state record.

Rock Pigeon—A pair nesting behind a large theater sign at Silver City had produced three broods since spring and was initiating a 4th clutch 30 Sep, with 2 chicks hatched by 28 Oct (D. Culbertson *fide* DJB).

Band-tailed Pigeon—Notably late were 15 at Capulin Spring, Sandia Mts. 2 Nov (RHD), one near Riverside, *Grant* 21 Nov (ERL, JLB), and one to 3 in the Magdalena Mts. 28 Nov (JEP et al.).

Eurasian Collared-Dove—Reportedly outnumbered Mourning Doves in the Carlsbad area during the season (SW).

Common Ground-Dove—Reports were one at the San Simon R. crossing on NM 80 on 6 Aug (REW), 2 ads. at Rodeo 16 Aug and one there 15 Sep (REW), and 3 (2 singing) at Rattlesnake Springs 1 Aug (JEP*) where there one ad. ♂ 27 Aug (RHD**).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo—A pair was mating near Villanueva 13 Aug (WFWe); others along the upper Pecos R. were singles at Sumner Dam 6 Sep (WFWi) and Bosque Redondo 30 Aug (JEP). One was at NRT 30 Aug (JEP).

Flammulated Owl—Possibly the same one was at NRT 4 Oct (JRO**, MOH**), 10 Oct (JEP, WFWi, CJW**), and 15 Oct (MOH, WFWi).

Western Screech-Owl—One was northeast to Corrumpa Cr., *Union* 1 Oct (CMR).

Burrowing Owl—One was at Corrales 21 Nov (DJK), where the species has overwintered in past years.

Long-eared Owl—Singles were at Boone's Draw 5 Oct (MOH), north of Kingston 26 Nov (DJC), and Deming 25 Nov (LKM).

Short-eared Owl—One was soaring over grasslands west of Las Cruces 18 Oct (DJG*).

Lesser Nighthawk—One was north to Albuquerque's Montessa Park 4-5 Sep (NDP*, MJB*).

Common Nighthawk—Migrant concentrations included 100 in Apache Canyon, *Santa Fe* 13 Aug (JPB) and 150 at L. Carlsbad 11 Aug (SW). Late was one near Santa Rosa 2 Oct (CMR).

Common Poorwill—One was late at Rodeo 5 Nov (AMC, NM-C).

Chaetura swifts—Three believed to be Chimneys were late at Clovis 16 Oct (MJB, NDP). An apparent Vaux's was at San Simon Cienega 24 Sep (REW).

Broad-billed Hummingbird—Tends to wander more than most hummers of the Southwest; this season found single $\bigcirc \bigcirc$ north to Montezuma, *San Miguel* 20-23 Sep (C. L. Benavidez**), near Radium Springs from 19 Oct into Dec (MTS, JEZ**), and north of Silver City 26 Oct-11 Nov (KB**), and one was at a Carlsbad feeder through 25 Nov (SW). A \bigcirc was on eggs in Guadalupe Canyon 1 Aug (HAW**).

Violet-crowned Hummingbird—A \supseteq on a nest in Guadalupe Canyon 1 Aug (HAW**) was tending a recent fledgling there 12 Aug (HAW).

Blue-throated Hummingbird—Singles were at Silver City 21 Aug (*fide* DAZ) and Post Office Canyon 19 Sep (CDL) and 24-25 Sep (DJG).

Magnificent Hummingbird—Late was one north of Silver City 25 Nov (KB**).

Lucifer Hummingbird—Plentiful wildflowers likely resulted in reduced numbers seen at Post Office Canyon feeders, where the fall peak was 27 on 3 Sep and the last was seen 7 Oct (CDL).

Anna's Hummingbird—The migration through Post Office Canyon began with one 20 Aug, grew to 17 by 25 Sep, peaked at 27 on 9 Oct, dropped to 12 by 17 Oct and 3 on 4 Nov, with the last seen 25 Nov (CDL). East to the RGV was an imm. \circlearrowleft at EBL 19 Oct-30 Nov (DJC**) and an ad. \circlearrowleft there 22 Oct (DJC**) and one to 2 near Radium Springs 7 Oct-8 Nov (MTS, JEZ); another was northeast of Las Cruces 12-30 Nov (DJG).

Calliope Hummingbird—Last was one in Post Office Canyon 23 Oct (CDL).

Rufous Hummingbird—Last were a \circlearrowleft at Silver City 19 Nov (JLB) and 2 \circlearrowleft \circlearrowleft at Las Cruces 10-16 Nov (J. Douglas).

Selasphorus hummingbirds—A green-backed Rufous/Allen's was at Albuquerque 16 Nov (WHH); 2 Rufous/Allen's were north of Silver City to 25 Nov (KB).

Red-headed Woodpecker—One was west to El Vado, *Rio Arriba* 31 Aug (L. Pierce); a pair was at Ruby Ranch north of Las Vegas 4 Aug (WFWe).

Gila Woodpecker—One was at San Simon Cienega 13 Oct (DLH), where irregular.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker—Single juvs. were at Sumner Dam 11 Oct (JEP*, WFWi) and Luis Lopez 15 Nov (JRO**).

Red-naped Sapsucker x Red-breasted Sapsucker—A hybrid \circlearrowleft was at Silver City 4 Nov (A. Tromby**); Red-breasted remains unverified in New Mexico.

American Three-toed Woodpecker—One to 4 continued in the Sandia Crest area 4 Aug (DP) and 2 & 8 Nov (RHD, JEP).

"Yellow-shafted" Flicker—An apparently pure \bigcirc was banded at NRT 21 Oct (SMF**); a \circlearrowleft Yellow-shafted x Red-shafted intergrade was banded there 8 Oct (SMF**).

Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet—Present at two Guadalupe Canyon sites 9 Aug (JEP, JRO), and ads. were feeding nestlings at one site there 12 Aug (HAW).

Least Flycatcher—One to 2 were at NRT 27 Aug-20 Sep (MOH, JEP, JRO, NDP). Elsewhere, singles were in the Ortiz Mts. 20 Sep (LAS), Capilla Peak (banded, *fide* WFWi), and Tatum 23 Aug (BDN).

Dusky Flycatcher—One was vocal at a Bosque NWR site 21-24 Nov (JEP, DLH), where the species wintered in past years.

Great Crested Flycatcher—Singles were at NRT 29 Aug-6 Sep (JEP*, JRO**) & 12-14 Sep (MJB, NDP, JRO**), EBL 24 Sep (LKM*), BLNWR 27 Sep (NDP, CJW**), and Rattlesnake Springs 22 Aug (J. Hite*).

<u>Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher</u>—Certainly unexpected on the Great Plains, one was at NRT 4 Oct (MOH**, JRO**, JEP*, JPB); searches 5 Oct were negative (MOH).

Cassin's Kingbird—Late was one at Bosque NWR 19 Nov (DJK).

Western Kingbird—Last were singles at Tatum 10 Oct (JEP, JRO) and near Las Cruces 18 Oct (DJG).

Eastern Kingbird—Two were late at L. Avalon 29 Oct (SW).

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher—One was west to Galisteo Cr. at I-25, *Sandoval* 12 Sep (LAS). Others beyond usual range were 2-3 north of Newkirk, *Guadalupe* 13 & 20 Sep (NDP, WHH) and one at Yeso 12 Oct (JRO).

Northern Shrike—One to 2 reached *San Miguel* 7 Nov (MDM), *Colfax* and *Union* 9 Nov (MJB, NDP), and *Santa Fe* 26 Nov (JPB).

Bell's Vireo—A bright yellow one at NRT 3-6 Oct (JRO**, JEP*, MOH*, DP) was identified as the nominate subspecies *V. b. bellii*, previously unverified in the state; another was detailed at Crossroads 29 Aug (JEP*, WFWi). Two other subspecies nest commonly across s. New Mexico, *V. b. arizonae* in the southwest and *V. b. medius* from the RGV eastward.

Gray Vireo—Last were 3 in Last Chance Canyon, *Eddy* 31 Aug (SW).

Cassin's Vireo—Late for the plains was one at NRT 2 Nov (DLH).

Blue-headed Vireo—Singles were documented at NRT 14 Sep (JRO, NEH**) & 10-13 Oct (JEP*, JRO**, DP), Pep 3 Oct (JEP*, WFWi), and Milnesand 18 Oct (JRO**).

Hutton's Vireo—Expanding their Guadalupe Mts. foothold, 2 were north to Last Chance Canyon 31 Aug (SW).

<u>Philadelphia Vireo</u>—Well-described was one at NRT 17-18 Oct (JRO*, MJB*, NDP*, JEP*).

Clark's Nutcracker—Noteworthy was one in the Zuni Mts. along Bluewater Cr., *Cibola* 1 Nov (CMR). Others where seldom reported were singles at Sandia Crest 8 Nov (JEP), Bear Trap Canyon, San Mateo Mts. 23 Aug (MOH), and near Burnt Cabin Flats, w. *Sierra* 9 Aug (DJC**).

Chihuahuan Raven—One was at Silver City 23 Nov (DAZ**), where the species has become more frequent recently.

Purple Martin—Ads. were tending fledglings at a snag in Burnt Cabin Flats, w. *Sierra* 9 Aug (DJC**).

Cave Swallow—Four were at Milnesand 12 Sep (MJB, NDP*, JEP*). Some 62 at Carlsbad Cavern, CCNP 10 Nov (SW) were the last seen.

Barn Swallow—A late nest with nestlings was at BLNWR 6 Sep (SW). Last was one at Caballo L. 14-16 Nov (DJC**, WFWi).

Black-capped Chickadee—Possibly spreading south along the Pecos R., one was at Pueblo south of Sena 13 Aug (WFWe).

Red-breasted Nuthatch—Reached the lowlands at Santo Domingo 2 Sep (LAS), RGNC 13 Sep (MOH), and NRT 14 Sep (MOH).

<u>Carolina Wren</u>—One along the Pecos R. at Santa Rosa 23-26 Sep (WFWe, JRO**, JEP*) provided a *Guadalupe* first.

Winter Wren—Efforts to distinguish "Eastern" and "Western" ones yielded single apparent Easterns at NRT 15-25 Oct (MOH, MJB*, NDP*, JRO, JEP*) and Rattlesnake Springs 8 Nov (JRO**) and single apparent Westerns at Corrales 11 Nov (DJK) and north of Española 26 Nov (DJK*).

Eastern Bluebird—In the west, 14 were at Virden 30 Nov (CMR, BDN).

Swainson's Thrush—Seldom reported in fall, at least one was at NRT 12-20 Sep (NDP, JEP, MOH, JPB).

<u>Rufous-backed Robin</u>—One at Rodeo 14 Oct (REW*) furnished the state's 10^{th} record, but only the 2^{nd} away from the RGV.

<u>Varied Thrush</u>—A \supseteq at NRT 13-15 Oct (DP*, MOH*, WFWi) was the 2^{nd} for that prairie site and one of the few for the eastern plains.

- 59 -

Brown Thrasher—Two were at Maxwell NWR 21 Sep (MOH**, CMR), one to 2 were at NRT on multiple dates 5 Sep-17 Oct (m.ob., JRO**), and one was at Rattlesnake Springs 19 Oct (JRO).

Bendire's Thrasher—Singles were near the Victorio Mts., *Luna* 8 Oct (DJG) and at San Simon Cienega 13 Oct (DLH).

Curve-billed Thrasher—Scarce in *Mora*, one was at the Wagon Mound Rest Area 25 Aug (SW).

Crissal Thrasher—One was north to Santa Fe's Arroyo Chamiso 1-2 Nov (JPB, B. R. Foy); another was east to BLNWR 7 Aug (JMH).

Sprague's Pipit—Vocal migrants were 2 at NRT 15 Oct (MOH*) and singles there 18 & 26 Oct (JEP, CMR). One was at Ned Houk Park north of Clovis 16 Oct (MJB). Two were at Lordsburg Playa 13 Oct (DLH).

Cedar Waxwing—Presumed migrants were 14 at Madrid 9 Aug (LAS), 2 below Navajo Dam, *San Juan* 10 Aug (BDN), and 28 at Rio Rancho, *Sandoval* 14 Aug (G. Garber). An ad. and a juv. at Corrales 27 Aug (DJK) may have summered locally.

Phainopepla—Far north was a ♀ perched on a wire at La Jara 10 Aug (BDN).

Golden-winged Warbler—An ad. ♂ at Spirithaven Ranch south of Santa Rosa 23 Sep (WFWe*) was a first for *Guadalupe*.

Tennessee Warbler—One was at NRT 19 Sep (JMB*, JRO). A late one at Madrid 18 & 20 Nov (LAS**) is under evaluation.

Northern Parula—One at RGNC 25 Sep (MOH, DLH) provided the lone report.

Chestnut-sided Warbler—A good season produced one at La Cienega 19 Sep (CMR*), one banded at RGNC 7 Sep (NSC, JEP), and an imm. at NRT 14 Sep (MOH) & 26 Sep (JEP*, JRO**, JWS).

<u>Magnolia Warbler</u>—One was at Sumner Dam 28 Sep (NDP*, CJW**, JPB). At NRT, an imm. ♂ was present 27 Sep (MJB*, NDP*, JEP*, JRO**), an imm. ♂ and an imm. ♀ were reported 5 Oct (MOH*), and an ad. ♂ was there 11 Oct (JEP, JRO**).

Black-throated Blue Warbler—At NRT were a \circlearrowleft 27 Sep (MJB, NDP, JEP*, CJW**, JRO**), a \hookrightarrow there 2-6 Oct (WFWi, JEP*, JRO**, MOH), and up to 2 \circlearrowleft 15-26 Oct (m.ob., JRO**). A \hookrightarrow was at Sumner Dam 28 Sep (MOH, JPB).

Black-throated Gray Warbler—One was east to McAlister, *Quay* 1 Sep (CMR).

Black-throated Green Warbler—At NRT, an undetailed one was present 23 Aug (BDN), a \circlearrowleft there 3-4 Oct (JEP*, JRO**, MOH) was joined by a 2nd \circlearrowleft on 5 Oct (MOH), and an imm. was there 23-25 Oct (JEP*, JRO**).

Townsend's Warbler—Late were singles at NRT 2 Nov (DLH) and Madrid 11 Nov (LAS*).

Hermit Warbler—Earliest were singles near Eagle Peak, *Catron* 13 Aug (WFWi) and Clanton Canyon 13-14 Aug (HAW), where there was also one 1 Sep (DLH). Individuals were in the Post Office Canyon area 14 Aug, 17 Aug, 18 Sep, & 12 Oct (CDL). One was east to Radium Springs 16 Aug (MTS*).

<u>Blackpoll Warbler</u>—An imm. was at NRT 27 Sep (JRO**, CJW**, MJB*, NDP*, JEP*).

Black-and-white Warbler—A \circlearrowleft was occasionally singing at NRT 5-6 Sep (JWS, JEP*) and a \supsetneq was there 14 Sep (MOH); elsewhere one was at Crossroads 26 Sep (JEP, WFWi) and a late \supsetneq was at Bernardo 8 Nov (JEP).

American Redstart—One to 3 were at six sites from the RGV eastward 30 Aug-24 Sep (m.ob.), including 2 at Shoemaker, *Mora* 30 Aug (CMR); in the west was a continuing pair near Alma, *Catron* 3 Aug (DLH).

Prothonotary Warbler—One was feasting on fall webworms at EBL Dam 30 Sep-7 Oct (DJC**).

<u>Worm-eating Warbler</u>—A good season produced singles at RGNC 25 Sep-5 Oct (DLH*, m.ob*, JPB**, CJW**, DJK**), NRT 10-15 Oct (MOH*, CJW**, JEP*, JRO**), and Tatum 3 Oct (JEP*, WFWi, JRO**).

Northern Waterthrush—One was late at Rattlesnake Springs 20 Oct (SW).

Hepatic Tanager—A \circlearrowleft was feeding a fledgling on Atalaya Mt., Santa Fe 13 Aug (JPB). Last was one in the n. Peloncillo Mts. 19 Oct (CDL).

Summer Tanager—A \circlearrowleft was feeding a fledgling at Sena 13 Aug (WFWe). Unusual was one north to the Reserve area, *Catron* 7 Sep (CMR).

Cassin's Sparrow—Responding to favorable summer rains, the species was conspicuous in the south, especially *Hidalgo* and *Luna* in Aug (CDL, DLH) and many ads. were with juvs. in grasslands near the Cedar Mts., s. *Grant* and *Luna* 8 Oct (DJG).

Botteri's Sparrow—Providing a first for *Grant* was one in sacaton grasslands north of Separ at Burro Cienega, Pitchfork Ranch 14 Aug (C. E. Bock*). North of Rodeo, singles were at two sites along the San Simon R. 3 Aug (REW).

Rufous-crowned Sparrow—A pair was feeding fledglings near Post Office Canyon 28 Sep (CDL).

American Tree Sparrow—One was south to Alameda 16 Nov (CMR).

Clay-colored Sparrow—High counts included 50 at Maxwell NWR 7 Sep (MOH), 30 near Duran, *Torrance* 9 Sep (DLH), and 10 at Tucumcari L. 27 Sep (JRO). Lingering in the southwest were singles in the n. Peloncillo Mts. 12 Oct (CDL), Rodeo 14 Oct (REW), and the Uvas Valley, *Doña Ana* 24 Oct (DJK).

Field Sparrow—One was west to the Cedar Mts. 8 Oct (DJG**).

Grasshopper Sparrow—Four were in the grassy foothills of the Cedar Mts. 8 Oct (DJG). One was on Owl Canyon Ridge, Peloncillo Mts. 19 Oct (CDL).

Baird's Sparrow—Singles were at Maxwell NWR 14 Sep (JSS**), grasslands west of Bingham 28 Nov (JEP*), and Stockard Well, Otero Mesa 5 Oct (SW).

Fox Sparrow—Single red ones were at NRT 23 Oct (JRO) and Bernardo 8 Nov (JEP*).

Swamp Sparrow—North for the season were 2 at Ute L. 29 Nov (JEP).

Harris's Sparrow—An ad. was at Bernardo 24 Oct-11 Nov (NEH**, JEP*, CMB*, CJW**, DLH**, RHD*).

Golden-crowned Sparrow—An ad. at Alameda 30 Nov (JBV) was the lone report.

Yellow-eyed Junco—Continuing was one on Jack's Peak, Burro Mts. 7 Nov (LKM).

McCown's Longspur—Early were 4 at Stubblefield L. 21 Sep (CMR, MOH).

Lapland Longspur—One was at Eagle Nest L. 11 Nov (MOH) and 3 were near Springer 22 Nov (JEP).

Northern Cardinal—Continuing in the northeast were an ad. ♂ with 2 juvs. at Santa Rosa 23 Sep (WFWe) and one at Tucumcari L. 1 Sep (CMR).

Pyrrhuloxia—One was north to NRT 30 Oct-2 Nov (JRO, DLH).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak—Singles were at NRT 13 Sep (MJB, NDP) & 6 Oct (DP). A ♀ was west to Post Office Canyon 12 Sep (CDL).

Varied Bunting—A pair was in Walnut Canyon, CCNP 1 Aug (JEP). A nest with nestlings was in Guadalupe Canyon 1 Aug (HAW), where there were several family groups including fledglings 7-8 Sep (NM-C et al.).

Painted Bunting—Five were banded along the Pecos R. at BLNWR 7 Aug (JMH). Noteworthy were 2 at the Mesa Rest Area 17 Aug (CMR) and one at Yeso 1 Sep (JRO**).

Dickcissel—Small numbers of migrants were in the eastern plains (*Quay, Roosevelt*, and *Lea*), the RGV (*Socorro*, *Sierra*, and *Doña Ana*), and on Otero Mesa 23 Aug-28 Sep (m.ob.). Singles were west to Rodeo 23 & 26 Sep (REW) and Tyrone 12 Oct (ERL).

Orchard Oriole—A remarkable passage was noted 29 Aug, with 10 at NRT, 6 at Crossroads, 2 each at Milnesand and Tatum, and one at Pep (JEP). Noteworthy for *Lincoln* was one at Ramon 17 Aug (CMR).

Baltimore Oriole—An imm. ♂ was at Luis Lopez 16 Sep (JRO*).

Scott's Oriole—Late was an ad. ♂ at Las Cruces 6 Nov (DJG).

rosy-finch—Earliest Sandia Crest returnees were 10 on 6 Nov (D. Weaver); 30 there 8 Nov were mostly **Blacks** with a few **Gray-crowneds** (NSC et al.).

<u>White-winged Crossbill</u>—A window-killed \mathcal{P} salvaged at Sandia Crest 29 Oct (T. P. Archdeacon***, specimen to MSB) provided the first New Mexico specimen.

Lesser Goldfinch—A black-backed male was feeding fledglings at Madrid on the late date of 19 Oct (LAS).

ERRATUM

NMOSFN 46(4):58 (Autumn 2007): The adult woodpeckers with young in the Gallinas Mts. near Corona 24 Aug (JDL) were Acorn Woodpeckers, not Red-headeds.

* * * Published 17 August 2009



NEW MEXICO COUNTIES



New Mexico Ornithological Society P.O. Box 3068 Albuquerque, New Mexico 87190-3068

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION US POSTAGE **PAID** PERMIT NO. 623

ALBUQUERQUE NM