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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: American Three-toed Woodpecker (*Picoides dorsalis*). This quiet and inconspicuous woodpecker reaches its southernmost distribution in New Mexico, where it inhabits mature spruce-fir forests of the higher mountains south to the Mogollon and Sacramento ranges. Its preference for bark beetles makes it quick to invade forests recently damaged by fire or insect infestation, but overall populations are likely limited by extent of old growth forests with dependable supplies of dead and dying trees through time. It is vulnerable to practices that fragment forests, such as clearcutting, or that remove dead and dying trees, such as salvage logging. Art by Dale A. Zimmerman.

AUTUMN SEASON 2009

The dry conditions of summer continued into Autumn 2009, until early cold and scattered precipitation arrived in mid-October. The season was characterized by conspicuous incursions of woodpeckers, jays, chickadees, and other montane groups. However, the scant summer rainfall resulted in poor grass seed production across the south, and numbers of sparrows and other seed eaters were notably reduced; the few that were seen quickly continued on farther south. A number of interesting rarities were documented, and Blue-footed Booby and Golden-cheeked Warbler were added to the state list.

Localities and Counties

Acomita Lake, *Cibola* Alameda, *Bernalillo* Albuquerque, *Bernalillo*

Animas, Cr., Mts., Valley, Hidalgo

Artesia, *Eddy* Belen, *Valencia*

Bill Evans Lake, *Grant* Bitter Lake NWR, *Chaves*

Bluewater Canyon, Gorge, Cibola

Boone's Draw, Roosevelt

Bosque del Apache NWR, Socorro

Brantley Lake, *Eddy* Burro Mts., *Grant*

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

Carlsbad Caverns NP, Eddy

Carrizozo, *Lincoln*Cedar Crest, *Bernalillo*Cerrillos, *Santa Fe*Cherry Creek CG, *Grant*Cherry Lake, *Mora*Chloride Canyon, *Sierra*

Clanton Canyon, Cienega, *Hidalgo*

Cliff, *Grant* Clovis, *Curry*

Cochiti, Lake, Dam, Sandoval

Columbus, Luna

Conchas Lake, Dam, San Miguel

Corrales, Sandoval Cotton City, Hidalgo Datil Mts., Catron Deming, Luna Eldorado, Santa Fe

Elephant Butte Lake, Dam, Sierra

Emory Pass, *Grant/Sierra*

Eunice. Lea

Farmington, *San Juan* Florida Mts., *Luna*

Fort Sumner, *De Baca*Galisteo, *Santa Fe*Gila Bird Area, *Grant*Grulla NWR, *Roosevelt*Guadalupe Canyon, *Hidalgo*Guadalupe Mts., *Eddy*

Hillsboro, *Sierra*Hobbs. *Lea*

Holloman Lake, *Otero* Jemez Springs, *Sandoval*

La Joya, *Socorro* 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* Morgan Lake, *San Juan* Mountainair, *Torrance* Navajo Dam, *San Juan*

north Roosevelt trap [NRT], Roosevelt

Organ Mts., *Doña Ana* Ortiz Mts., *Santa Fe* Otero Mesa, *Otero*

Otis, Eddy

Peloncillo Mts., *Hidalgo*

Percha SP, Sierra Pinos Altos Mts., Grant Portales, Roosevelt

Post Office Canyon, *Hidalgo* Quemado Lake, *Catron* Radium Springs, *Doña Ana*

Ramon, Lincoln

Rattlesnake Springs, Eddy

Rincon, Doña Ana

Spring Canyon SP, Luna Rio Grande Nature Center, Bernalillo Stubblefield Lake, Colfax Rodeo, Hidalgo Roswell, Chaves Sumner Lake, Dam, De Baca Ruby Ranch, San Miguel Sunland Park, Doña Ana Sandia Crest, Park, Bernalillo Taos, Taos Sandia Mts., Sandoval/Bernalillo Tatum, Lea Texico, Curry San Jon, Quay San Mateo Mts., Socorro Tyrone, Grant San Simon Cienega, R., Valley, Hidalgo Vaughn, Guadalupe Santa Fe, Canyon, Santa Fe Virden, Hidalgo Santa Rosa, Lake, Guadalupe Wagon Mound, Mora Santo Domingo, Sandoval Watrous, Mora Shoemaker, Mora Yeso, DeBaca Sierra Grande, Union Zuni, McKinley

Silver City, Grant Zuni Mts, McKinley/Cibola

Socorro, Socorro

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	8	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	LKM	Larry K. Malone
MJB	Matt J. Baumann	PWM	Pat W. McCasland
KB	Karen Beckenbach	JRO	Jerry R. Oldenettel
PB	Phred Benham	JEP	John E. Parmeter
CLB	Charles L. Black	JNP	James N. Paton
JMB	James M. Black	NDP	Nicholas D. Pederson
CMB	Celestyn M. Brozek	TR	Tim Reeves
DJC	David J. Cleary	CMR	Christopher M. Rustay
NSC	Nancy S. Cox	LAS	Lawry A. Sager
AMC	Alan M. Craig	JIS	Jeffrey I. Sanchez
JLD	John L. Douglas	CIS	Catherine I. Sandell
SMF	Stephen M. Fettig	MTS	Marcy T. Scott
SF	Stacey Fradkin	JWS	John W. Shipman
DJG	David J. Griffin	RSS	Roland S. Shook
MJH	M. Joan Hardie	JNS	James N. Stuart
DLH	David L. Hawksworth	JAT	John A. Trochet
CLH	Charles L. Hayes	JBV	J. Brad Vaughn
NEH	Nancy E. Hetrick	HAW	Hira A. Walker
MOH	Michael O. Hilchey	MLW	Mark L. Watson
WHH	William H. Howe	REW	Richard E. Webster
HWI	HawkWatch International	SW	Steve West
ABJ	Andrew B. Johnson	WFW	William F. West
JPJ	James P. Joseph	DW	Diane Williams
DJK	David J. Krueper	SOW	Sartor O. Williams
JCL	Julian C. Lee	CJW	Cole J. Wolf
ERL	Eugene R. Lewis	JEZ	James E. Zabriskie
JDL	J. David Ligon	DAZ	Dale A. Zimmerman
CDL	Carroll D. Littlefield	MAZ	Marian A. Zimmerman
MDM	Martin D. MacRoberts		

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

Greater White-fronted Goose—Noteworthy for *Santa Fe* was one at the Santa Fe Canyon Preserve 15-22 Oct (JPB**, SF, R. Whitman**).

Tundra Swan—One reached EBL 15 Nov (JRO**, DJC). Two were at Bosque NWR in Nov, an ad. for one day, and an imm. longer (CIS). A swan below Conchas Dam 30 Nov (MLW) may have been this species.

[Mandarin Duck]—A spiffy ♂ was on the Chama R. below El Vado Dam, *Rio Arriba* 12 Sep (D. W. Stahlecker); such escapees are usually found closer to populated areas.

Canvasback—High counts from aerial surveys were 700 at LVNWR 16 Nov (MLW) and 470 at Cherry L. 16 Nov (MLW).

Greater Scaup—A ♂ was w. to Bill Evans L. 27 Nov (RSS).

Surf Scoter—Earliest were 2 imms. at EBL 15 Oct (MJB**, CJW**); another imm. was at LVNWR's Crane L. 14 Nov (JEP*).

Hooded Merganser—An impressive 50 were at LVNWR 8 Nov (PB).

White-tailed Ptarmigan—One or more ads. and at least 2 chicks were in the Santa Barbara Ridge area, s. *Taos* 8-17 Aug (CJW**, JEP*, LKM*, W. Kuehn).

Montezuma Quail—At the n. edge of their range, 8 were in the Datil Mts. 13 Sep (*fide* MJH). Scarce in the Organ Mts. one was at Aguirre Springs 1 Aug (CMR).

<u>Red-throated Loon</u>—Rarely verified, a winter-plumaged one was at EBL's Dam Site Marina 27 Nov (JRO**).

Pacific Loon—One at Stubblefield L. 6 Nov (JEP*, JRO) provided the only report.

Western Grebe—Where seldom reported were one or more at Acomita L. and Quemado L. 14 Nov (CMR). High count for *Aechmophorus* grebes was 4200 at EBL's Monticello Point 27 Nov (SMF).

American White Pelican—High count was 575 at EBL 26 Sep (CMR).

Brown Pelican—Had another impressive season, with an ad. at Morgan L. since 21 May, last seen 17 Oct (TR**), an imm. at Santa Rosa L. since 6 Jun, last seen 6 Oct (MOH), and an imm. at Conchas L. 12 Sep (JRO**). An ad. and 2 imms. were at EBL 17 Aug-20 Nov (DJC**, m.ob., many photos).

<u>Blue-footed Booby</u>—New Mexico's first was discovered at Conchas Dam 15 Aug (R. A. Mumford*, S. Peterson**) and quickly attracted birders from around the country, who enjoyed its plunge-diving antics until at least 10 Sep (m.ob., JRO**, MJB**, CJW**, WHH**, JPB**, NEH**).

Neotropic Cormorant—One was n. to Acomita L. 16 Oct (DLH*), where presumably the same bird was still present 14-17 Nov (CMR*, JRO). Up to 2 were e. to Clovis 27 Aug-1 Oct (JRO**, JEP*, S. Collins**).

American Bittern—Continued scarce, with singles at Belen 13 Sep (CMR*) and Bosque NWR 27 Sep (DLH). At BLNWR, one was seen 23 Sep (JIS) but 3 were there 21 Oct & 18 Nov (JIS).

Great Egret—Plentiful in the RGV, including 73 at EBL 1 Sep (DJC) and 91 at Caballo L. 18 Sep (DJC**). Wanderers were w. to *Grant* (RSS) and n. to *Santa Fe* (JPB) and *San Miguel* (CMR) during the season. Late for *Cibola* was one at Acomita L. 14 Nov (CMR).

Tricolored Heron—A strong season found singles at Clovis 23 Aug (CMR*), L. Avalon 6 Sep (SW*), and Holloman L. 1 Aug (CMR*), one continuing from Jul at Brantley L. 1 Aug (JEP*), and 2 continuing from Jul at BLNWR 1-28 Aug (JEP*, m.ob., MJB**, NDP**, NEH**, JRO**), with 3 there 9 Sep (JIS) and 4 on 11-12 Sep (JEP, JRO).

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron—An imm. was at BLNWR 23 Sep (JIS**).

Turkey Vulture—Of 2221 roosting at Carlsbad Aug-Nov for which age was determined, only 45 (2%) were imms. (SW). At the Capilla Peak hawkwatch site, only 82 were counted all season, down 79% from the 1985-2008 long-term average there (HWI).

Osprey—Two peripheral nests were late, the Cochiti L. nest fledged 2 on 9 Aug (MLW**) and the Navajo Dam nest fledged two on 10 Aug (TR**).

<u>Swallow-tailed Kite</u>—One was well-documented at Santa Rosa's Power Dam Park 19-20 Sep (JEP*, CMB, NEH*, JRO**, CMR*), providing the 7th reliable state record.

White-tailed Kite—Singles were at Bosque NWR 11 Nov (WHH**) and Columbus 15 Nov (JRO, JEP*, CJW).

Mississippi Kite—A pair was feeding 2 fledglings at Corrales 24-31 Aug (DJK, J. Ruth), 5 were n. to Santa Rosa 22 Aug (DLH); at NRT, an ad. was present 21 Aug (JEP) and an imm. was there 5 Sep (JEP, JRO).

Bald Eagle—Early was one at Santa Rosa L. 30 Aug (DJK).

Common Black-Hawk—Present at three Santa Rosa sites in Sep (m.ob., CJW**). A migrant juv. was at Roswell 24 Sep (C. Powell**). Last reported were singles at Percha SP 9 Oct (DJG) and near Cliff 17 Oct (*fide* RSS).

Harris's Hawk—Maintaining a *Luna* presence were up to 3 in the Columbus area 14-15 Nov (JRO**, JEP). North in the RGV were singles at Bosque NWR 11 Nov (CIS) and near Radium Springs 14 Sep (MTS, JEZ). In *Otero*, singles were at Holloman AFB 1 Aug (CMR) and La Luz 25 Sep (SW).

Red-shouldered Hawk—Under evaluation is one heard, then seen under poor conditions, at Percha SP 6 Oct (CLB*) and seen again, very briefly, 9 Oct (DJG*).

Broad-winged Hawk—Six were counted at the Capilla Peak hawkwatch site, Manzano Mts. 4 Sep-11 Oct (HWI). In the east, an ad. was at Sumner L. 26 Sep (NEH**) and a juv. was at NRT 2 Oct (CMR*) & 9 Oct (JEP*).

Gray Hawk—Noteworthy was one seen soaring over Silver City, then pursued by a raven, 30 Sep (B. C. McKnight). An ad. lingered in the Rattlesnake Springs area 19 Sep (SW) and another ad. was in Clanton Canyon 27 Sep (CMR*).

Zone-tailed Hawk—One was on the east side of the Florida Mts. 8 Sep (LKM). Quite late was an imm. at Percha SP 27 Oct (CLB).

Merlin—A good season produced reports from 17 of New Mexico's 33 counties 13 Sep-30 Nov (m.ob.). Remarkably early, if accurate, were singles in the Ortiz Mts. 1 Aug (JPB*, LAS) and near Grassy Lookout, San Mateo Mts. 12 Aug (WFW).

Peregrine Falcon—Only 43 passed Capilla Peak 6 Sep-9 Nov, down considerably from the 127 counted there just seven years earlier (HWI); productivity, as measured by imm. to ad. ratio, was notably poor, at 0.18 (HWI).

Virginia Rail—Noteworthy for *Taos* was one at Taos 8 Aug (SW).

Sora—One was vocal at Taos 8 Aug (SW).

<u>Purple Gallinule</u>—Last reported in New Mexico in 2004, an imm. near La Union, *Doña Ana* 31 Aug (D. Allen**) provided the state's first fall and 11th acceptable record.

Common Moorhen—One strayed to Deming 2 Nov (LKM). Observed frequently in the RGV from EBL southward, with a high 4 at Percha SP 27 Nov (SMF). In the Pecos Valley, one was north to BLNWR 23 Sep (JIS**).

American Coot—An aerial survey found an impressive 20,275 in the northeast 5 Oct, including 9580 at Stubblefield L. and 5000 at nearby Maxwell NWR (MLW).

Sandhill Crane—An albino was a standout in a flock in the Uvas Valley, *Doña Ana* 29 Oct (JRO). Impressive counts included an estimated 30,000 at Grulla NWR 31 Oct-1 Nov (JRO) and 22,859 counted at BLNWR 4 Nov (JIS).

Black-bellied Plover—Earliest were 2 still in breeding plumage at Ruby Ranch, *San Miguel* 23 Aug (WFW). A high 18 were at L. Avalon 7 Oct (SW*). Last was one at EBL 5 Nov (DJC).

American Golden-Plover—One was at Holloman L. 2 Oct (MJB**, CJW*).

Semipalmated Plover—Late were one at Caballo L. 7 Nov (DJC) and 2 at EBL 8 Nov (DJC). Noteworthy for *Bernalillo* were up to 3 at Alameda 20-21 Sep (JEP, JRO, WHH).

<u>Piping Plover</u>—One seen by many at Conchas L. 16 Aug (CMR, JEP*, JRO**, MJB**, CJW**, WHH**, JPB**) provided the 4th confirmed state record.

American Avocet—Late for the north were 45 at LVNWR 20 Nov (JEP).

Solitary Sandpiper—Late were one at Zuni 27 Sep (JAT) and 2 near Radium Springs 4 Oct (DJG); high counts were 5 near Las Vegas 23 Aug (WFW) and 6 at Alameda 7 Sep (CMR).

Upland Sandpiper—Made a strong showing in the east, with reports from seven counties 1 Aug-13 Sep, including up to 45 in fresh cut alfalfa at Fort Sumner 9-11 Aug (MJB**, NDP, JMB*), 23 at Artesia 8 Aug (JWS**), and 60 in alfalfa at Otis 16 Aug (SW). Noteworthy for *Lincoln* was one at Ramon 22 Aug (JEP).

Whimbrel—Undetailed were 2 at Holloman L. 20 Aug (SW).

Long-billed Curlew—Some 500 were near Tatum 6 Sep (JWS). Late for the north was one at LVNWR 8 Nov (PB, MOH). One in the Mescalero Sands area, e. *Chaves* 13 Aug had been satellite-tagged in Montana (*fide* D. W. Mehlman).

Marbled Godwit—Among the few reports during 10 Aug-12 Sep were up to 8 at EBL 3-24 Aug (DJC).

<u>Ruddy Turnstone</u>—An active season found 2 at Conchas L. 18 Aug (M. L. Arthur) and singles at Bosque NWR 12 Sep (DLH*) and EBL 3-4 Oct (NDP**, JRO**, m.ob.).

Semipalmated Sandpiper—One to 2 were west to Morgan L. 7-22 Aug (TR**) and 4 Sep (TR**).

Western Sandpiper—Late for the north was one at Maxwell NWR 20 Nov (JEP*); another was at Tyrone 29 Nov (ERL).

Pectoral Sandpiper—Seen daily at Zuni 24-29 Sep, with a high 36 there 27 Sep (JAT); high counts elsewhere were 12 in the Uvas Valley, *Doña Ana* 27 Sep (CMR) and 15 at Holloman L. 2 Oct (CJW, MJB).

Dunlin—Arrived in the RGV in late Oct, with one at Bosque NWR 24-29 Oct (R. Crofton*, W. Harmon*, JRO), one at EBL 28-29 Oct (DJC**, JRO), and 4 at Caballo L. 29 Oct (DJC**).

<u>Buff-breasted Sandpiper</u>—Rare in New Mexico, a juv. provided a *Sierra* first at Caballo L. 1-9 Oct (DJC**, JEP*, NDP, JPB, JRO**, MTS*, JEZ**).

<u>Short-billed Dowitcher</u>—Carefully documented were 2 juvs. at Alameda 7-13 Sep (CJW, JEP*, CMR*, JRO**, NEH*, CLH, MJB*) and 5 at BLNWR 11 Sep (JEP*).

Long-billed Dowitcher—Late for *Bernalillo* was one at Alameda 22 Nov (WHH); noteworthy for Otero Mesa were 3 at Grief Tank 27 Sep (SW).

Wilson's Phalarope—At Holloman L., 1130 were counted 1 Aug (CMR) and some 1000 were there 20 Aug (SW).

Red-necked Phalarope—Reports from out-of-the way places included singles at Zuni 28 Sep (JAT), Bill Evans L. 14 Sep (RSS), Tyrone 20 Sep (ERL), Deming 14 Aug (LKM), and Mountainair 29 Aug-13 Sep (DLH).

Red Phalarope—Two in gray plumage were at Holloman L. 25 Oct (JRO**).

<u>Black-legged Kittiwake</u>—Unreported since 2006, a juv. at Bosque NWR 14 Nov (D. L. Brown**) provided New Mexico 16th record.

Sabine's Gull—A juv. was at Sumner L. 11-13 Sep (JEP, JRO, CJW, NDP) & 19 Sep (JEP, NEH, CMB). Elsewhere, single juvs. were at Conchas L. 18 Sep (JEP), Alameda 20 Sep (JEP, JRO**, NDP**, CJW**, DJK), and EBL 3 Oct (MJB, CJW, NDP), and 2 were at Brantley L. 17 Oct (CLB).

Bonaparte's Gull—Singles in the desert southwest were at Deming 2 Nov (LKM) and Lordsburg 27 Nov (JEP).

<u>Laughing Gull</u>—An apparent second-winter one was at Brantley L. 17 Oct (CLB*).

Franklin's Gull—Lingering into Nov were one at LVNWR 3 Nov (WFW*) and 3 at Conchas L. 7 Nov (MJB, NDP).

Mew Gull—A first-winter one was at EBL 22 Nov (DJC**).

Thayer's Gull—A first-winter one was at EBL 19 Oct (HAW**).

<u>Lesser Black-backed Gull</u>—Recently annual in New Mexico, a first-winter one was at Sunland Park 9-11 Nov (JNP**).

<u>Gull-billed Tern</u>—An apparent ad. was perched beside a Forster's Tern at Brantley L. 12 Aug (SW*); there is but one previous state record.

jeager sp.—Two light-morphs of undetermined species seen speeding over EBL 18 Aug (DJC) were first thought to be Peregrine Falcons.

Band-tailed Pigeon—Noteworthy were singles at EBL Dam 17 Oct (NEH**) and Stockard Well, Otero Mesa 27 Sep (SW).

Inca Dove—North was one singing at Conchas L. 18 Sep (JEP). A pair at Las Cruces fledged one young on the late date of 11 Oct (DJG).

Common Ground-Dove—Singles were at Rattlesnake Springs 1 Aug & 11 Sep (SW) and at Rodeo 27 Oct (CLB).

Ruddy Ground-Dove—Made another strong showing, with a \circlearrowleft on the Black R. near Rattlesnake Springs 20 Sep (DJG*) & 16 Oct (CLB*), a \circlearrowleft at Percha SP 19 Oct (JRO**), a \circlearrowleft near Radium Springs 12 Oct (JEZ), and one near Cotton City 27 Oct (CLB). Over the past decade, the species has been nearly annual in New Mexico.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo—One was vocal near Shoemaker 12 Sep (CMR).

Flammulated Owl—One was at NRT 2-12 Oct (JRO**), where now a regular migrant.

Elf Owl—One was along Tierra Blanca Cr. south of Hillsboro 13 Aug (DJC).

Lesser Nighthawk—Two at Las Cruces 3 Nov (DJG) were late.

Common Nighthawk—A swarm of at least 150 was over the Valley of Fires w. of Carrizozo 13 Aug (DJG). Late for the north were 5 at Taos 13 Oct (JNS*).

Chimney Swift—Three were w. to Las Vegas 23 Aug (WFW), and 2 were at NRT 22 Aug (JEP, JRO).

<u>Vaux's Swift</u>—An impressive season found swifts apparently of this species east to the RGV, with one to 5 at RGNC 1-2 Oct (JMB*, m.ob., CJW**), one at EBL 4 Oct (JRO**), and one to 2 near Radium Springs 4 Oct (MTS, JEZ**, DJG**, JRO) plus, in the southwest, 3 at San Simon Cienega 19 Sep & one there 26 Sep (REW); the state's first specimen was obtained in the Peloncillo Mts. 21 Sep (ABJ***).

Broad-billed Hummingbird—Wandering far from expected haunts were a \bigcirc east to the Waldrop Rest Area 19-20 Sep—a *Chaves* first (DLH*), a \bigcirc at Carlsbad 11 Oct (SW*), an ad. \bigcirc near Radium Springs 10-19 Aug (MTS JEZ**) and single imm. \bigcirc there 23-30 Aug and 13-14 Sep (MTS, JEZ), and a \bigcirc at Silver City 26 Sep (KB).

Violet-crowned Hummingbird—Providing a 3rd *Doña Ana* record was one at Las Cruces 3-11 Oct (R. Castetter, MTS, JEZ**, DJG**, JRO**).

<u>Blue-throated Hummingbird</u>—A \bigcirc was at Lewis Ranch, s. Guadalupe Mts. 12 Oct (SW), where reportedly present 5 Sep-18 Oct.

Magnificent Hummingbird—Noteworthy were one in the Black Range, *Grant* 5 Aug (P. F. Boucher *fide* RSS) and one at Las Cruces 8 Oct (M. E. Weisenberger).

Lucifer Hummingbird—In Post Office Canyon, the post-breeding peak was 31 on 18 Aug; last there was one on 24 Oct (CDL).

<u>Ruby-throated Hummingbird</u>—An ad. \circlearrowleft was at Washington Ranch near Rattlesnake Springs 9-11 Sep (DJG*, SW*).

Black-chinned Hummingbird—One at an Albuquerque North Valley feeder was weathering a snowstorm 29 Oct and was last seen 31 Oct (B. Groll). Peak passage through Post Office Canyon was 110 on 13 Aug (CDL); peak near Radium Springs was some 200 during the period 14-21 Aug (MTS, JEZ).

Anna's Hummingbird—Post-breeding birds were in Post Office Canyon by 1 Aug, peaked at 30 there on 9 Oct, and were last seen 5 Nov (CDL); singles were east to Las Cruces by 13 Sep (W. Seager), EBL 18 Sep (DJC*), Florida Mts. 25 Oct (LKM), and Carlsbad 29 Nov (SW*).

Rufous Hummingbird—An ad. ♂ at Albuquerque 26 Nov (C. Witt) was late.

Lewis's Woodpecker—Noteworthy were one at RGNC 5 Oct (M. Bruce**), flyover singles in the Ortiz Mts. 19 Sep (LAS), Manzano Mts. 12 Oct (SMF), and Emory Pass 8 Oct (JCL), and singles south to Virden 28 Nov (JEP) and Cotton City 27 Oct (CLB).

Red-headed Woodpecker—An ad. was west to Rincon 2 Oct (JLD).

Acorn Woodpecker—Dispersing singles were near Jemez Springs 8 Sep (CLH), Fourth of July Canyon, Manzano Mts. 19 Sep (B. A. Millsap), Tyrone 11 Oct (ERL), Florida Mts. 8 Sep (LKM), Radium Springs 20 Oct (JEZ**), and Tatum 9 Oct (JEP).

Gila Woodpecker—A ♂♀ pair was at San Simon Cienega 27 Sep (AMC).

Williamson's Sapsucker—An early migrant reached Sumner Dam 15 Aug (JEP).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker—Singles were west to Zuni's Tekapo 27 Sep (JAT), in the RGV at Luis Lopez 14 Oct (JRO), and in the east at Conchas L. 7 Nov (MJB**, NDP), and at Portales in early Nov (Z. Jones); one to 2 were in the Rattlesnake Springs area 10 Oct (SW), and 23-25 Oct (JRO, JEP*).

Red-naped Sapsucker—Far east was one at Eunice 1 Oct (PWM**).

Red-naped Sapsucker x Yellow-bellied Sapsucker—One of these hybrids was at Cedro Peak, Manzano Mts. 12 Nov (J. E. Liddell**).

Red-naped Sapsucker x Red-breasted Sapsucker—One of these hybrids was at Silver City 21 Oct (A. Trombly**); pure Red-breasted remains unverified in the state.

Ladder-backed Woodpecker—One was northwest to Zuni 27 Sep (JAT), where rare.

Downy Woodpecker—One was south to Percha SP 26 Nov (SMF).

Hairy Woodpecker—Singles were in the RGV at Corrales 7 Sep (DJK), RGNC 1 Oct (JEP, CJW), and Percha SP 17 Oct (JEP); 2 reached Deming 22 Nov (LKM).

American Three-toed Woodpecker—A pair with fledglings were seen along the Sandia Crest Trail on various dates 2 Aug-14 Sep (NEH**, JDL, SOW).

"Yellow-shafted" Flicker—Apparently pure ones were detailed at NRT 12-24 Oct (JRO, JEP*, CMR) and Eldorado 23 Nov (C. & K. Doyle*); an obvious hybrid Yellow-shafted x Red-shafted male was east to the San Jon area 16 Sep (CMR*).

Greater Pewee—One was north to the Heart Bar WMA, s. *Catron* 9 Aug (NEH*).

Eastern Wood-Pewee—One identified by voice was at NRT 23 Aug (CMR*).

Empidonax flycatchers—A large migrant wave in the Burro Mts. 1-2 Sep (DJG) reportedly contained several hundred *Empidonax* flycatchers of several species but primarily **Duskies**, which were estimated to number at least 200 individuals.

Least Flycatcher—One to 2 were at NRT on various dates 13 Aug-13 Sep (CJW, MJB, NDP, CMR*, JRO, JEP*); late were undetailed singles at Texico 3 Oct (CMR) and NRT 12 Oct (JRO).

Pacific-slope Flycatcher—An ad. *Empidonax* banded at 2713 m below the Pajarito Ski Area, *Los Alamos* had measurements consistent with this species (SMF**). Based on call, one of 2 "westerns" at NRT 9 Aug was believed to be this species (CMR*).

Black Phoebe—North to the Mora R. were singles at Watrous and near Shoemaker 12 Sep (CMR). Others of note were singles west to Acomita L. 5 Sep (CMR), east to NRT 7 Sep (JWS) and Eunice 27 Sep (PWM**), and up into mixed conifer habitat in Bear Trap Canyon, San Mateo Mts. 30 Aug (ABJ).

Eastern Phoebe—An ad. and 2 fledglings were at Santa Rosa's Power Dam Park 13 Sep (CJW). Early migrants were singles at Wagon Mound 2 Aug (DLH), Santo Domingo 21 Aug (LAS), Cerrillos 30 Aug (LAS), and west to the GBA 21 Aug (RSS).

Dusky-capped Flycatcher—Late were a vocal 2 in Clanton Canyon 27 Sep (CMR).

Ash-throated Flycatcher—Late was one at NRT 29 Sep (CLB**).

Great Crested Flycatcher—One was west to the Las Vegas riverwalk 23 Aug (WFW*); farther east were singles on Sierra Grande 25 Aug (CLB), at NRT 27 Aug (JRO) & 5 Sep (MJB*, CJW*, JEP*, JRO), and Carlsbad 20 Sep (SW).

Cassin's Kingbird—One was late at Tyrone 7 Nov (KB).

Thick-billed Kingbird—Two ads. were tending at least 2 fledglings in Guadalupe Canyon 11 Aug (HAW).

Northern Shrike—One reached Maxwell NWR 1 Nov (J. & M. Hirth).

White-eyed Vireo—One was at NRT 7 Nov (JRO**).

Bell's Vireo—Singles described as the eastern subspecies *bellii* were at Las Vegas 23 Aug (WFW*), NRT 7 Sep (JEP*), and Ramon 13 Sep (DLH*) and a duller 'western' one was at Sumner Dam 7 Sep (JEP). In the southwest, singles at Tyrone 6 Sep (ERL) and Spring Canyon SP 9 Oct (LKM) provided local firsts.

Yellow-throated Vireo—One was at NRT 25 Sep (CLB, JEP*, JRO**).

Blue-headed Vireo—Rare but regular in fall on the southeastern plains, one was at Tatum 9 Oct (JEP*).

Philadelphia Vireo—One was at NRT 24-25 Sep (CLB*, JMB*).

Red-eyed Vireo—One was early at Radium Springs 21 Aug (MTS, JEZ**) and another was there 15-16 Sep (MTS, JEZ**). In the east, singles were at Ruby Ranch 29 Sep (WEW), NRT 25 Sep (JRO**, JEP*), and Boone's Draw 26 Sep (CJW*).

Steller's Jay—Staged a modest lowland incursion, including several in the RGV from Albuquerque to Percha SP 21 Sep-26 Nov (v.o.), 5 at LVNWR 6 Nov (JEP), and one near Yeso 14 Oct (JRO). In the southwest, singles were at the GBA 27 Nov (RSS) and Post Office Canyon 6 Oct (CDL).

Blue Jay—One was west to Galisteo 18 Oct (WHH) and another reached Socorro 10-21 Nov (JWS, JEP). A high 15 was at NRT 10 Oct (JEP).

Western Scrub-Jay—The species wandered widely, including in the RGV from Corrales to Las Cruces Sep-Nov (m.ob.). One was at San Simon Cienega 6 Nov (AMC). In the east, one to 3 were at NRT 10-28 Sep (m.ob.) and singles were near San Jon 16 Sep (CMR), Vaughn 27 Sep (JTO), and BLNWR 23 Sep (JIS).

Pinyon Jay—Unusual in the Albuquerque bosque, 23 were at Alameda 30 Aug (JBV) and 7 at RGNC 12 Oct (DLH). Five were east to Ragland, *Quay* 6 Sep (JRO).

Black-billed Magpie—Four were south to the Corrales bosque 20 Sep (DJK).

American Crow—Unusually early was one at Las Cruces 7 Aug (JLD).

Northern Rough-winged Swallow—Two lingered at Bosque NWR 11 Nov (DLH); very late was one at the Alameda bridge 22 Nov (PB, WHH).

Cave Swallow—Maintaining a *Doña Ana* presence were one at Mesilla Valley SP 2 Aug (CMR), 14 near La Mesa 2 Aug (CMR), 20 near Gadsden 8 Sep (SW), and 15 at Radium Springs 23 Sep (MTS, JEZ).

Mountain Chickadee—Staged a conspicuous lowland invasion statewide, beginning in late Sep and continuing through Nov (m.ob.).

Bridled Titmouse—Providing a new locality was one east to EBL Dam 17 Oct (CMB, NEH**) and 10 Nov (DJC).

Juniper Titmouse—Singles wandered to Maxwell 12 Sep (CMR), Socorro 14 Oct-18 Nov (JRO, DLH), Percha SP 7 Nov (DLH), and Carlsbad 28 Nov (SW).

Brown Creeper—Scarce in the Peloncillo Mts., one was on Black Mt. 22 Oct (CDL).

Cactus Wren—Has expanded to Albuquerque's West Mesa, with 2 near Double Eagle Airport 21 Nov (JPJ). In the Sandia Mts. foothills east of Albuquerque, five nest structures were in Embudo Canyon 20 Nov (WHH).

<u>Carolina Wren</u>—One was singing at the Pecos R. bridge in Santa Rosa 20-26 Sep (CMR*, JEP*, CJW**); another was at Carlsbad 20 Oct (SW*).

Winter Wren—An early eastern-type was described at NRT 5 Sep (MDM*, SF*). Dark western-types were 2 in Hausner Canyon, Zuni Mts. 29 Sep (JAT*) and one on Black Mt., Peloncillo Mts. 22 Oct (CDL*). One at RGNC 9 Oct was not identified beyond species (CMB*, NEH*).

Marsh Wren—Noteworthy for the prairie was one foraging in an abandoned Christmas Tree at Ramon 13 Sep (DLH).

Golden-crowned Kinglet—Spread widely over the state during the period, including east to *Curry* and *Roosevelt* by late Sep and south throughout the RGV mid-Oct and later. In the Zuni Mts., 26 were in Hausner and Ojo Bonito canyons 29 Sep, including a flock of 14 in upper Ojo Bonito (JAT).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher—An ad. was feeding a fledgling Brown-headed Cowbird at Post Office Canyon 17 Aug (CDL). Late were one at NRT 15-24 Oct (JRO, CMR), one to 2 at Corrales 20-29 Nov (DJK), and one at EBL 27 Nov (SMF).

Black-tailed Gnatcatcher—Surveys in the EBL area found seven occupied territories 1 Aug (DJC).

<u>Black-capped Gnatcatcher</u>—Maintaining a Guadalupe Canyon presence were 2 there 31 Oct (DJC).

<u>Veery</u>—Rarely detected in migration, one was at Rattlesnake Springs 17 Oct (CLB*).

<u>Rufous-backed Robin</u>—One at Percha SP 10 Oct (CJW**) provided the 2nd Sierra record in two years.

American Robin—Ads. were feeding fledglings at the Hobbs cemetery 22 Aug (SW).

<u>Varied Thrush</u>—A ♂ at Silver City 19-20 Nov (MAZ, DAZ**) was the 3rd for *Grant* but the first to be confirmed.

Gray Catbird—Where seldom reported were singles at Zuni's Tekapo 27 Sep (JAT), Madrid 19 Oct (LAS), Texico 17 Oct (CMR), Cedar Crest 4 Nov (JDL), Skull Tank, Peloncillo Mts. 26 Oct (CDL), near Deming 5 Nov (LKM), and Eunice 24 Sep (PWM).

Northern Mockingbird—Late was one at Albuquerque's Montessa Park 30 Nov (NDP).

Brown Thrasher—West to the RGV were singles at RGNC 10-25 Oct (MOH), Bosque NWR 27 Sep (DLH), and Caballo Dam 11 Oct (JNP, MTS, JEZ), and 2 at Socorro 26 Nov (JEP). In the east, one to 2 were at NRT 12 Sep-15 Oct (JEP, JRO, NDP) and one was on the Black R. near Rattlesnake Springs 24 Sep (JRO).

Curve-billed Thrasher—Noteworthy for *Los Alamos* were 2 at White Rock 29 Aug (CMR). In the west, 2 were at San Rafael, *Cibola* 25 Sep (JAT) and 5, apparently a family group, were at the mouth of Bluewater Gorge 25 Sep (JAT).

Crissal Thrasher—Continuing to push north, one was at Taos 29 Nov (K. Leopold*). One was near Madrid from 7 Aug through Nov (LAS).

Cedar Waxwing—An ad. tending 2 fledglings at Cochiti 8 Aug (MLW**) provided a 2^{nd} breeding record for that locale.

Phainopepla—Lingering north in the RGV were 2 at Escondida L., *Socorro* 1 Nov (NEH) and singles at Socorro 21-26 Nov (JEP), Bosque NWR 13-17 Nov (CIS), and EBL Dam 27 Nov (JRO).

Olive Warbler—Two or more were near Grassy Lookout, San Mateo Mts. 12 Aug (WFW).

Blue-winged Warbler—Casual in fall, an ad. ♂ was at NRT 24 Oct (CMR*).

Tennessee Warbler—Singles were at NRT 11 Sep (JEP*, JRO) and 2 Oct (JRO**), Percha SP 6 Sep (CMR*), and near Radium Springs 13-15 Sep (MTS, JEZ**).

Virginia's Warbler—Late was one at Bosque NWR 11 Nov (DLH).

Northern Parula—One was at Albuquerque's Montessa Park 30 Sep-2 Oct (NDP**).

Chestnut-sided Warbler—One was at NRT 6 Oct (MOH*).

Magnolia Warbler—One was captured and banded at NRT 20 Oct (MOH**).

Black-throated Blue Warbler—A \supseteq was at NRT 6 Sep (MDM*, SF*).

Black-throated Gray Warbler—Late was one at Alameda 25 Oct (DLH*).

Golden-cheeked Warbler—Furnishing a New Mexico first was a ♀ nicely photographed at Eunice 23 Aug (PWM**); the bird was gone the following day.

Black-throated Green Warbler—Providing an *Otero* first was one at Holloman L. 2 Oct (MJB*, CJW*). Single ♂♂ were at Horseshoe L. near Malaga 10 Oct (SW*) and Rattlesnake Springs 17 Oct (CLB*).

Hermit Warbler—Made a strong showing, including one east to the Doc Long area, Sandia Mts. 30 Aug (DLH*). Moderate numbers passed through the Magdalena, San Mateo, Pinos Altos, and Peloncillo ranges 8 Aug-18 Oct (m.ob.). Among the migrant wave in the Burro Mts. 1-2 Sep, DJG counted 23 Hermits and estimated 50 or more were present. Lowland records included singles at Percha SP 11 Oct (JNP, MTS, JEZ) and Columbus 26 Oct (CLB*).

Townsend's Warbler x Hermit Warbler—One in Bluewater Canyon 24 Sep (JAT*).

<u>Blackburnian Warbler</u>—Providing an *Otero* first was a ♂ at Pate Windmill, Otero Mesa 27 Sep (SW*).

<u>Prairie Warbler</u>—A remarkable three were documented: an ad. ♂ at NRT 9-11 Aug (NDP**, MJB*, JEP*, CMR*, JRO, JMB*) and an imm. there 19 Sep (JEP*, S. Collins**, CMB*, NEH**, JPB) plus one at Bosque NWR 28 Nov (JRO**, SMF**).

Black-and-white Warbler—Found at 10 sites 28 Aug-3 Oct, including singles west to Cherry Creek CG 4 Sep (LKM), Animas Valley 5 Sep (DLH), and Rodeo 21 Sep (REW).

American Redstart—Reported at seven sites from the RGV east 29 Aug-3 Oct (m.ob.).

Prothonotary Warbler—One at Bonita L. 10 Sep (A. L. Powell*, C. Naegle**) was a *Lincoln* first. One lingered at Bosque NWR 13-27 Sep (CMB*, NEH, DLH*).

Worm-eating Warbler—One was at Rattlesnake Springs 5 Sep (SW*).

<u>Kentucky Warbler</u>—Casual in fall, singles were at Santo Domingo 21 Aug (LAS*) and NMSU, Las Cruces 6 Sep (M. Brooks).

Hooded Warbler—One was at the Santa Fe Canyon Preserve 5-16 Sep (A. Fenner, JPB*, CMR*, J. Berry*), where one was present in Jun; another was in Chloride Canyon 27 Aug (DJC**), where one was found in Jun. Elsewhere, one was at Albuquerque's Montessa Park 18 Sep-8 Oct (NDP**, JEP*, CJW, MJB).

Red-faced Warbler—Far east was one at NRT 20 Aug (JRO**).

Painted Redstart—Unexpected north to *San Miguel* was one on Sapello Cr., Ruby Ranch 18 Sep (WFW).

<u>Scarlet Tanager</u>—Surprisingly early was a \circlearrowleft at Dixon, *Rio Arriba* 5 Aug (SW); single $\supsetneq \supsetneq$ were at Madrid 6 Sep (LAS) and Boone's Draw 26 Sep (NDP**, MJB*).

Western Tanager—One was late at Luis Lopez 12 Nov (JRO).

Field Sparrow—Two near Grulla NWR 7 Nov (MJB, NDP) and one at NRT 22 Nov (DLH) provided the only reports.

Grasshopper Sparrow—Noteworthy for *Bernalillo* was one at RGNC 9-10 Oct (m.ob., CJW**, JPJ**).

Baird's Sparrow—One was in cut alfalfa at Rodeo 5 Sep (REW*); another was at Rattlesnake Springs 30 Sep (SW*).

Fox Sparrow—Slate-colored ones numbered 6 in the Zuni area 26 Sep (JAT*), 2 at GBA 3 Nov (RSS), and singles at Post Office Canyon 30 Oct, 5-9 Nov, & 13 Nov (CDL); single red ones were at NRT 20-25 Oct (MOH et al., NEH**, JPB**), Luis Lopez 23 Nov (JRO), and Black R. near Rattlesnake Springs 31 Oct (SW).

Song Sparrow—One was early at EBL Dam 31 Aug (DJC).

White-throated Sparrow—Singles were west to Morgan L. 11 Nov (MJB, NDP) and Post Office Canyon 29-31 Oct (CDL).

Harris's Sparrow—One was west to Farmington 29 Nov (TR). Two were at Bosque NWR 20-30 Nov (m.ob., JRO**, B. R. Foy**).

Golden-crowned Sparrow—One was at Bosque NWR 20-30 Nov (JRO**, m.ob.).

Yellow-eyed Junco—A juv. north to the Catwalk near Glenwood 7 Sep (W. Scott*, J. Hand*, F. Gallo**) was a *Catron* first. Two strayed to Clanton Canyon 22-27 Sep (ABJ, CMR).

Northern Cardinal—A ♂ was at Hillsboro 4-14 Aug (DJC**) and 5 were on the Pitchfork Ranch north of Separ, *Grant* 22 Aug (CMR).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak—A good season found singles at NRT 20-27 Aug (JRO, MJB), 11-13 Sep (v.o., JRO**, CJW**), and 26 Sep (JEP*), Shoemaker 12 Sep (CMR), EBL Dam 20 Oct (DJC**), Silver City 1 Aug (MAZ, DAZ**), and a late one at Bosque NWR 22-25 Nov (JRO**, JNS**, CIS**).

Lazuli Bunting—Two were at 2955 m near Grassy Lookout, San Mateo Mts. 12 Aug (WFW); one to 2 were in pines at 2390 m in the Burro Mts. 1-2 Sep (DJG).

Varied Bunting—At least four territories were occupied in Guadalupe Canyon 11 Aug (HAW); a ♂ was singing in Slaughter Canyon, CCNP 1 Aug (HAW).

Painted Bunting—Migrants heading southwest included 5 at La Joya 11 Aug (K. Madden*) and singles at Deming 8 Aug (LKM), Pitchfork Ranch, *Grant* 22 Aug (CMR), Post Office Canyon area 27 Aug (CDL), and Rodeo 22 Aug, 5 Sep, and 24 Sep (REW).

Dickcissel—One to 3 were at multiple sites in 12 counties from the RGV eastward 9 Aug-15 Oct, including isolated Ramon; in the west were one at Pitchfork Ranch 22 Aug (CMR) and 4 at Rodeo 13 Sep (REW).

Bobolink—A flock of 16 was on a fence near Des Moines, *Union* 24 Aug (CLB).

Common Grackle—One was west to the Datil Mts. 15 Sep (MJH); unexpected was one at Columbus 15 Nov (JEP, CJW).

Orchard Oriole—Singles were west to Maxwell 11 Aug (D. Nelson) and Sumner Dam 22 Aug (DLH).

Hooded Oriole—A ♂ was at Hillsboro 4 Aug (DJC**).

Baltimore Oriole—An ad. ♂ was at NRT 12 Sep (L. Leckman, JEP*, MJB*, v.o., CJW**); reports of single imm. ♂♂ at EBL 25 Sep-1 Oct (DJC**) and near Radium Springs 7-8 Sep (MTS*, JEZ*) are under evaluation.

Scott's Oriole—Latest were 2 at Columbus 26 Oct (CLB).

rosy-finches—About 30 had returned to Sandia Crest by 6 Nov, and by 29 Nov the local flock was estimated at 150 mostly **Blacks**, with fewer **Brown-cappeds**, and even fewer **Gray-crowneds** (NSC et al.).

Pine Grosbeak—Five were south to the Sandia Mts. 22 Nov (MOH).

Cassin's Finch—One was south to Post Office Canyon 4 Nov (CDL).

Lesser Goldfinch—One of our latest nesting species, this season found an active nest at Albuquerque 2 Oct (H. Schwarz) and ads. feeding fledglings at Madrid 13 Oct (LAS) and near Radium Springs 1 Nov (MTS, JEZ).

Lawrence's Goldfinch—Invaded the southwest, beginning with singles at Radium Springs 6 Oct (MTS, JEZ**) and the Ladder Ranch, *Sierra* 13 Oct (WFW) followed by 7 at Tyrone 18 Oct (ERL), up to 16 near Deming 23 Oct-19 Nov (DW**, LKM), and at least 10 at Columbus 26 Oct-15 Nov (m.ob., JRO**).

Orange Bishop—A \circlearrowleft of unknown provenance was in *Arundo* at Las Cruces 3-7 Nov (DJG**); feral populations are becoming established as nearby as Arizona.



NEW MEXICO COUNTIES



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