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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](mailto: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.

**Front Cover:** Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*) at Roswell, Chaves County, New Mexico, 25 November 2014; second confirmed state record (see page 53). Photograph by Jerry R. Oldenettel.

**Back Cover:** Common Crane (*Grus grus*) at Roswell, Chaves County, New Mexico, 30 November 2014; first confirmed state record (see page 54). Photograph by Jerry R. Oldenettel.

## AUTUMN SEASON 2014

The generous rains that began in July continued into August and beyond, with most of New Mexico receiving above average precipitation during the Autumn 2014 season, including widespread and persistent rains resulting from the remnants of two Pacific hurricanes, “Odile” in mid-September and “Simon” in mid-October. Grasslands, shrublands, woodlands, forests, streams, and lakes all responded positively, providing seemingly excellent habitat conditions for resident and migrant birds. Many rarities were documented, including the state’s first confirmed Common Crane and second Black Vulture

### Localities and Counties

Alameda, *Bernalillo*  
Albuquerque, *Bernalillo*  
Angostura Dam, *Sandoval*  
Apache Creek CG, *Catron*  
Armendaris Ranch, *Sierra*  
Belen, *Valencia*  
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*  
Cannon AFB, *Curry*  
Carlsbad, *Eddy*  
Carlsbad Caverns NP, *Eddy*  
Charette Lake, *Mora*  
Clayton, Lake, *Union*  
Clovis, *Curry*  
Cochiti Lake, *Sandoval*  
Columbus, *Luna*  
Conchas Lake, Dam, *San Miguel*  
Corrales, *Sandoval*  
Crossroads, *Lea*  
Deming, *Luna*  
Elephant Butte, Lake, Dam, *Sierra*  
Encino, *Torrance*  
Engle, *Sierra*  
Estancia, *Torrance*  
Fort Sumner, *De Baca*  
Galisteo, *Santa Fe*  
Garfield, *Doña Ana*  
Glenwood, *Catron*  
Hatch, *Doña Ana*  
Hobbs, *Lea*  
Holloman Lake, *Otero*  
La Cieneguilla, *Santa Fe*  
Laguna del Perro, *Torrance*  
Lake Avalon, *Eddy*  
Lake Roberts, *Grant*  
Las Cruces, Dam, *Doña Ana*  
La Union, *Doña Ana*  
Las Vegas NWR, *San Miguel*  
Leasburg SP, *Doña Ana*  
Lordsburg, Playa, *Hidalgo*  
Loving, *Eddy*  
Lovington, *Lea*  
Maljamar, *Lea*  
Manzano Mts., *Torrance*  
Maxwell, NWR, *Colfax*  
Mesilla Bosque SP, *Doña Ana*  
Milnesand, *Roosevelt*  
Mountainair, *Torrance*  
Montezuma, *San Miguel*  
Ned Houk Park, *Curry*  
north *Roosevelt* trap (NRT), *Roosevelt*  
Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo, *Rio Arriba*  
Oliver Lee SP, *Otero*  
Otis, *Eddy*  
Percha SP, *Sierra*  
Portales, *Roosevelt*  
Post Office (P.O.) Canyon, *Hidalgo*  
Quarai, *Torrance*  
Quemado Lake, *Catron*  
Radium Springs, *Doña Ana*  
Rattlesnake Springs, *Eddy*  
Rio Grande Nature Center, *Bernalillo*  
Road Forks, *Hidalgo*  
Rodeo, *Hidalgo*  
Roswell, *Chaves*  
San Andres Spring, *Doña Ana*  
Sandia Crest, Park, *Bernalillo*

Sandia Mts., *Sandoval/Bernalillo*  
 Santa Fe, Canyon, Ski Area, *Santa Fe*  
 Santa Rosa, Lake, *Guadalupe*  
 Sevilleta NWR, *Socorro*  
 Six Mile Dam, *Eddy*  
 Stanley, *Santa Fe*  
 Stubblefield Lake, *Colfax*  
 Sumner Lake, Dam, *De Baca*  
 Sunland Park, *Doña Ana*

Tatum, *Lea*  
 Texico, *Curry*  
 Ute Lake, *Quay*  
 Valle de Oro NWR, *Bernalillo*  
 Vaughn, *Guadalupe*  
 Washington Ranch, *Eddy*  
 Watrous, *Mora*  
 Yeso, *De Baca*

### Standard Abbreviations

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

## Initialed Observers

FA	Francisco Anaya	BM	Brandon Miller
JPB	Jonathan P. Batkin	NM-C	Narca Moore-Craig
MJB	Matthew J. Baumann	JN-M	James Nelson-Moore
DAB	Dan Allen Belcher	RN	Robert Nieman
CMB	Celestyn M. Brozek	JRO	Jerry R. Oldenettel
RC	Roger Clark	JEP	John E. Parmeter
DJC	David J. Cleary	NDP	Nicholas D. Pederson
SDC	Steve D. Collins	CMR	Christopher M. Rustay
AMC	Alan M. Craig	JMR	Janet M. Ruth
WTE	Wyatt T. Egelhoff	MTS	Marcy T. Scott
BRF	Bernard R. Foy	JWS	John W. Shipman
RF	Robert Friedrichs	MS	Michael Shoop
DG	Doug Gochfeld	NGS	Nancy G. Stotz
CJG	Coleman J. Goin	RLV	Raymond L. VanBuskirk
LPG	Larry P. Gorbet	HAW	Hira A. Walker
DLH	David L. Hawksworth	MLW	Mark L. Watson
CLH	Charles L. Hayes	REW	Richard E. Webster
NEH	Nancy E. Hetrick	MEW	Mara E. Weisenberger
WHH	William H. Howe	SW	Steve West
DJK	David J. Krueper	WFWe	William F. West
CL	Carol Levine	DW	Debra Whitecotton
CDL	Carroll D. Littlefield	WFWi	William F. Wittman
WM	William Maley	JEZ	James E. Zabriskie
LKM	Larry K. Malone		

## SPECIES ACCOUNTS

**Greater White-fronted Goose**—One was west to the Lordsburg playa 26-30 Nov (DLH, CMR\*).

**Brant**—A “Black” Brant was at RGNC 15 Nov (R. & M. Weisz\*\*); the species has been found in the state in four of the past five years.

**Egyptian Goose**—Feral individuals of this exotic species continued to be seen in and around Clovis, including 8 at Green Acres Park 2 Oct (JRO) and 2 at the US 60-Norris junction 22 Nov (CMR).

**Tundra Swan**—An ad. was at Maxwell NWR 15-17 Nov (CMR\*, WTE\*) and an imm. was at Bosque NWR 21-30 Nov (J. Cook\*\*, JWS\*\*, NEH\*\*).

**Wood Duck**—Among numerous reports was one at Riverside Park in Aztec, *San Juan* 14 Sep (CMR\*).

**Eurasian Wigeon**—An ad. ♂ was at EBL 18 Nov (DG\*, RLV).

**“Mexican” Duck**—Over 60 were at the Lordsburg treatment ponds 14 Aug (SW).

**Greater Scaup**—Two ♀♀ were west to Bluewater L., *Cibola* 22 Nov (NDP); singles were at Bosque NWR 12 Nov (MJB\*\*) and Maxwell NWR 15 Nov (CMR).

**Surf Scoter**—Three ♀♀ were at L. Roberts 27 Oct (W. Bridge\*\*).

**White-winged Scoter**—A ♀/imm. was at Quemado L. 22-30 Nov (NDP\*\*, JRO\*\*, JEP\*, DLH).

**Black Scoter**—A ♀ was at Holloman L. 31 Oct-1 Nov (JEP\*, JRO\*\*, CMR\*, NEH\*\*).

**Long-tailed Duck**—Up to 3 ♀♀ at the Clovis treatment ponds 6-7 Nov (JRO\*\*, WFWi) provided a *Curry* first.

**Bufflehead**—Unusual for the date was one at Stubblefield L. 9 Aug (WTE).

**Barrow’s Goldeneye**—First of the season was an ad. ♂ at the Ohkay Owingeh lakes 30 Nov (BRF\*).

**Red-breasted Merganser**—Where seldom reported were singles at Charette L. 15 Nov (CMR, WTE) and Quemado L. 22 Nov (NDP) and 3 at Lordsburg playa 14 Nov (JEP).

**Montezuma Quail**—A ♂ was singing at Apache Creek CG 9 Aug (DLH).

**Chukar**—No self-sustaining populations known in the state, but released/escaped birds continue to be found, e.g., 5 near Watrous 9 Nov (C. Grindle) and one west of Hatch 22 Nov (D. Soules\*\*).

**White-tailed Ptarmigan**—Four were seen on Jicarita Peak, *Taos* 10 Sep (B. J. Long).

**Wild Turkey**—Five at the Alameda wetlands 28 Sep (DLH) probably dispersed from successful introductions farther upstream in *Sandoval*.

**Red-throated Loon**—One, retrieved from a potash mine pit in the Laguna Grande area east of Loving, was rehabilitated and released at L. Avalon 23 Nov (SW\*\*).

**Pacific Loon**—An early one was at Conchas L. 11 Oct (MJB\*, NDP). Singles were at Charette L. 15 Nov (CMR\*, WTE\*) and Greenwood L., Hobbs 13 Nov (CL\*).

**Common Loon**—One at Albuquerque's Tingley ponds from 16 Nov into Dec (NEH\*\*, m.ob., m.ph.) made the front page of the Albuquerque *Journal* and also garnered radio and television coverage. One at Sumner L. 17 Aug (NDP) and 21 Sep (NEH\*) had summered locally.

**Horned Grebe**—One was early at Brantley L. 20 Sep (RN\*\*).

**Neotropic Cormorant**—Two were north to Clayton L. 26 Sep (JRO) and a late ad. was there 16 Nov (CMR\*, WTE\*).

**Brown Pelican**—Four reports: singles at Caballo L. 16 Aug-15 Sep (DJC\*\*), Santa Rosa L. 9 Oct (J. M. Johnson\*\*), Quemado L. 16 Oct (C. Cogsdill\*\*), and Conchas L. 31 Oct (WFWe).

**American Bittern**—Up to 3 at BLNWR 8-22 Oct (FA, CMR, NEH\*\*). Singles at Brantley L. 8 Oct (SW\*) and Carlsbad 19 Nov (SW).

**Least Bittern**—One was walking across a mudflat at Caballo L. 8 Sep (DJC\*\*).

**Great Egret**—North was one at Corrales 2 Sep (C. Ramotnik\*). Some 70 were counted at EBL 7 Aug (DJC).

**Tricolored Heron**—Noteworthy for *Santa Fe* were 3 at the Galisteo playa 4 Aug (RC\*\*). In the lower Pecos Valley, up to 2 were at BLNWR 9 Aug-10 Sep (JEP\*, FA, NEH\*\*, LKM, DLH) and up to 3 at Brantley L. 9-24 Aug (JEP\*, NDP, MJB\*).

**Cattle Egret**—A high 485 were counted at the Belen marsh 10 Aug (DLH). One in a snowstorm was late at Washington Ranch 17 Nov (SW).

**Yellow-crowned Night-Heron**—Another good season in the east, with up at 6 imms. at five sites: one at the Clovis zoo 22 Aug (JEP\*), up to 2 at the Clovis treatment ponds 19 Sep-2 Oct (JEP\*, JRO\*\*), one at BLNWR 9 Sep (FA\*\*), one at Tatum 13 Sep-12 Oct (SDC\*\*, JRO\*\*, CMR\*, NEH\*\*), and one at Brantley L. 19-21 Sep (RN\*\*, SW\*).

**White-faced Ibis**—Late reports included singles at Bosque NWR 6 Nov (CLH) and Six Mile Dam 13 Nov (SW) and 6 at BLNWR 29 Nov (MJB).

**Black Vulture**—Providing the state's second confirmed record was one in the vicinity of the Roswell zoo from 23 Nov (M. Richardson\*\*) to 4 Dec (m.ob., JRO\*\*, NDP\*\*, MJB\*\*, SW\*\*); it roosted with 20 **Turkey Vultures** during its stay.

**Osprey**—Late for the north were singles at Terrero, *San Miguel* 2 Nov (MJB), Conchas L. 16 Nov (WTE), and Quemado L. 2 Nov (NDP). Noteworthy were 3 at the Quarai ruins 7 Sep (CMR) and one over NRT 3 Oct (JRO). A nest at Cochiti L. had 3 large young 2 Aug (WHH\*\*).

**Swallow-tailed Kite**—One was at the Texico marsh 7 Sep (G. Reeves\*) and another was at Cannon AFB 19-21 Sep (JEP\*, JRO\*\*, DW\*\*, WTE\*). The species has been annual in New Mexico 2009-2014, with 8 individuals documented in those six years.

**Common Black-Hawk**—An ad. was at RGNC 1 Oct (HAW\*\*).

**Harris's Hawk**—One was reported north to Bosque NWR 31 Oct (S. Moss *vide* MJB). A popular falconry species, so care is needed with extralimital reports.

**Red-shouldered Hawk**—The ad. *elegans* at Apache Creek C.G., first found in Jul, continued to 17 Aug (JRO\*\*). One at the Tatum treatment ponds 27 Sep-12 Oct (JEP\*, JRO\*\*, CMR\*, NEH\*\*) represented one of the eastern subspecies.

**Gray Hawk**—Last in the Rattlesnake Springs area was one 13 Sep (RN).

**Swainson's Hawk**—A flock of 75 near Rodeo 16 Sep (W. P. Cavaliere) appeared to be feasting on abundant grasshoppers. An ad. near Garfield 26 Oct was late (MTS, JEZ).

**Zone-tailed Hawk**—Noteworthy migrants were one over Carlsbad 10 Sep (SW) and another 5 km south of Deming 21 Sep (DLH).

**Red-tailed Hawk**—One photographed near Fort Sumner 20 Oct (DW\*\*) was identified as the “**Krider's**” subspecies (*vide* J. Liguori and B. Sullivan); there are few confirmed state records for this race. Returning “**Harlan's**” were one at Rodeo 19 Oct and later (REW), the third year for that individual there, and one at La Cieneguilla 27 Nov and later (BRF), the fifth year for that individual there.

**Rough-legged Hawk**—A dark morph individual was near Portales 28 Nov (SW).

**Sora**—At least 20 were in flooded lowlands around Brantley L. 8 Oct (SW).

**Sandhill Crane**—Earliest was one at Maxwell NWR 24-25 Sep (L. Wilkins). Seldom reported in *Harding*, 19 flew over Bueyeros 8 Oct (CMR). By 19 Nov, 24,720 were counted in the BLNWR-Roswell area (FA).

**Common Crane**—Reports of one to 2 at Muleshoe NWR in Texas in late Nov caused JRO to begin searching the large Sandhill flocks in the Roswell area for this species, where he discovered one 30 Nov (JRO\*\*) that was soon seen and documented by numerous observers (m.ph.); the individual continued through Dec and into Jan, often roosting at BLNWR. While this is the first in New Mexico to be verified by photo, it's the second to be credibly reported, as there was a well-documented sight report of one at BLNWR 10 Mar 1961 (*Audubon Field Notes* 15:349), which was the first Common Crane ever recorded in the “lower 48” states.



**American Avocet**—Notably late were 5 at Caballo L. 25 Nov (DJC\*\*) and 2 at a rain pool west of Lovington 28 Nov (SW).

**Black-bellied Plover**—Noteworthy for *Torrance* were 2 at Laguna del Perro east of Willard 7 Sep (CMR). Four were together at BLNWR 25-26 Sep (FA\*\*).

**American Golden-Plover**—Two were south of Holloman L. at Walker Ranch 17 Oct (NGS\*\*).

**Mountain Plover**—A juv. was near White Lakes, *Santa Fe* 17 Aug (WTE\*\*).

**Solitary Sandpiper**—In *Sierra*, 3 were at Jornada L. 11 Aug (DJC\*\*) and 2 were at the nearby Armendaris Ranch 18 Aug, where one was found 25 & 30 Sep (DJC). One was heard over Albuquerque the night of 9 Sep (WHH).

**Lesser Yellowlegs**—Some 48 were counted in a flooded field near Columbus 21 Sep (DLH).

**Upland Sandpiper**—Singles were noted west to Crane L at LVNWR 9 Aug (WTE), the Galisteo playa 16 Aug (WTE), and Laguna del Perro 6 Sep (JEP).

**Long-billed Curlew**—Migrant flocks included 164 near Estancia 1 Oct (RC), 285 in native prairie near Crossroads 12 Oct (CMR), and 788 in alfalfa near Otis 26 Oct (SW).

**Marbled Godwit**—Noteworthy for *Torrance* were 6 at Laguna del Perro 14 Sep (DLH). One was near Dilia, *Guadalupe* 18 Sep (RF).

**Sanderling**—High counts were 3 each at Laguna del Perro 12 Oct (WTE), Armendaris Ranch east of Engle 30 Sep (DJC), and Caballo L. 13 Sep (DJC\*\*).

**Dunlin**—Two each were at Laguna del Perro 29 Oct (RC\*\*) and Bosque NWR 8 Nov (CMR\*, NEH\*\*, WTE).

**Semipalmated Sandpiper**—Several were west to the RGV, including singles photographed at Belen 3 Aug (NEH\*\*), EBL 12 Aug (DJC\*\*), Armendaris Ranch 9 Sep (DJC\*\*), and Caballo L. 5 Sep (DJC\*\*).

**Short-billed Dowitcher**—A vocal one was at the Las Cruces Dam 3-4 Sep (NGS\*\*, BM).

**Red-necked Phalarope**—Numerous reports from the RGV eastward 2 Sep-5 Oct; high counts were 64 at Laguna del Perro 6 Sep (JEP) and 37 at BLNWR 25 Sep (FA\*\*). One was at Deming 10-30 Sep (LKM).

**Parasitic Jaeger**—A dark morph juv. at Brantley L., first seen 23 Aug (SDC\*\*), continued through 30 Aug (m.ob., JRO\*\*, MJB\*\*, NDP\*\*, NEH\*\*, RN\*\*, JPB\*\*, WTE\*\*), when it was joined by a second dark juv. Parasitic 30 Aug-1 Sep (RN\*\*, JRO\*\*, WTE\*). Another dark juv. Parasitic was at EBL 20 Sep (NDP\*\*, MJB\*).

**jaeger sp.**—An unidentified dark jaeger at EBL 23 Sep (DJC) may have been the Parasitic seen there 20 Sep. Another unidentified dark jaeger was at Santa Rosa L. 21 Sep (WTE\*).

**Black-legged Kittiwake**—An ad. was at Bosque NWR on the early date of 12 Oct (JWS\*\*). There are fewer than two dozen state records.

**Sabine's Gull**—A respectable season produced reports of 12 individuals at 10 locales in seven counties from the RGV eastward 10-30 Sep (m.ob.), including an ad. near Mountainair 10 Sep (E. Wade). Others were at Santa Rosa L., Sumner L., Conchas L., EBL, Cedar L. near Engle, Caballo L., Holloman L., and Brantley L. (m.ob.).

**Bonaparte's Gull**—Noteworthy for *Luna* were 51 at the Deming treatment ponds 12 Nov (LKM).

**California Gull**—One was east to Storrie L., *San Miguel* 15 Nov (CMR, WTE).

**Lesser Black-backed Gull**—One at the Sunland Park racetrack 29 Nov (DAB\*\*) provided the lone report.

**Caspian Tern**—One was at EBL 18 Sep (DJC\*\*) and presumably the same individual was there 22 Sep (JRO\*\*).

**Common Tern**—A relatively rare transient through the state, so noteworthy were singles at Conchas L. 11 Oct (MJB, NDP) and Ute L. 19 Sep (JEP\*, JRO), 3 at Brantley L. 19 Sep (RN\*\*, SW), and up to 3 at EBL 18-21 Sep (DJC\*\*, MJB, NDP) plus a late one there 16 Oct (DJC\*\*).

**Arctic Tern**—An alternate plumaged ad. at Conchas L. 14 Sep (MJB\*\*, NDP) furnished a *San Miguel* first. The species is rare and irregular in New Mexico, although it has been reported in six of the past seven years.

**Inca Dove**—Scarce in recent years, this season found the species more widespread across the south, including 2 east to Eunice, *Lea* 15 Nov (P. W. McCasland\*\*) and 3 at Deming 3 Aug (WTE), and multiple reports from both Carlsbad and Las Cruces. High counts included 12 at Elephant Butte 25 Nov (DJC\*\*) and 15 at La Union 16 Nov (DAB). Reported at two mid-town Albuquerque locales, with one at one site 14 Sep (MS) and 4 at another 2 Nov (J. Bennett).

**Common Ground-Dove**—A ♂ and ♀ were at Washington Ranch 15 Aug (SW\*), and a vocal ♂ was at Rodeo 14 Nov (JEP\*, NM-C\*).

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo**—Seldom reported in *Torrance*, one was in roadside elms 3 km north of Moriarty 3 Aug (RC\*\*). Three at Bosque Redondo 29 Aug (LKM) were believed to be two ads. with a juv.

**Black-billed Cuckoo**—A juv. was at NRT 13 Sep (JEP\*, JRO\*\*). The majority of New Mexico's 21 records are from such prairie oases.

**Groove-billed Ani**—One near Oliver Lee SP 25-27 Oct (B. Barber\*\*, CMR\*, WTE\*\*, NEH\*\*, JRO\*\*) provided an *Otero* first. One at Rodeo 9-10 Nov (REW\*, AMC\*, N. Snyder\*\*, JRO) was the first confirmed for *Hidalgo*. The species has been reported in the state in three of the past four years.

**Barn Owl**—One was at Vaughn 28 Sep (CMR); there are few *Guadalupe* reports.

**Flammulated Owl**—A regular fall migrant across the eastern plains, one was at NRT 19 Oct (JRO\*\*).

**Long-eared Owl**—Seven were in Arroyo Varrido near the Sevellita NWR south gate 11 Nov (DLH).

**Short-eared Owl**—A grassland species that benefitted from favorable habitat conditions this season. One was on the Las Cruces West Mesa 22 Oct (NGS\*\*) and 13 were flushed there 9 Nov (CMR\*, NEH\*\*). Others were singles near Taiban, *De Baca* 25 Oct (JEP\*), near Tolar, *Roosevelt* 22 & 29 Nov (CMR\*, WTE), and north of Fort Sumner 29 Nov (WTE).

**Common Poorwill**—One was in Walnut Canyon, CCNP 22 Nov (SW).

**Magnificent Hummingbird**—Where seldom reported were singles along Negrito Creek, *Catron* 4 Sep (JRO) and one east of Las Cruces at the base of the Organ Mts. 15 Sep (B. Carson\*\*).

**Blue-throated Hummingbird**—Rare in New Mexico, where not consistently found anywhere, this season found one at Black Canyon CG near Hyde SP, *Santa Fe* 18 Sep (D. Joyce\*\*) and one 3 km south of Radium Springs 20 Oct (M. Desmond\*).

**Lucifer Hummingbird**—Numbers in P.O. Canyon peaked at 32 (21 ♂♂, 11 ♀♀) on 15 Aug, then steadily declined through Sep; the last ♀ was seen 2 Oct and the last ♂ on 11 Oct (CDL\*).

**Anna's Hummingbird**—A ♂ was singing north to Albuquerque 9 Aug (HAW\*). A ♀ arrived 5 km south of Radium Springs 23 Oct (MTS\*, JEZ\*), where it remained through the fall and into the winter. At least 69 Anna's passed through P.O. Canyon 1 Aug-29 Nov, including a peak 9 on 24 Sep; the last ad. ♂ was seen 5 Nov and the last young ♂ was on 29 Nov (CDL\*).

**Broad-tailed Hummingbird**—A ♀ lingered near Radium Springs to 8 Nov (MTS, JEZ).

**Broad-billed Hummingbird**—A peak of 10 was in P.O. Canyon 31 Aug, then numbers quickly declined, with the last seen 26 Sep (CDL\*).

**Lewis's Woodpecker**—Singles wandered south to Caballo Dam 6 Nov (NGS\*\*), La Union 17 Oct (DAB), and south of Road Forks 1 Nov (NM-C), and up to 4 were in a pecan orchard near Leasburg SP 6-30 Nov (NGS\*\*, JEZ\*\*, MTS, CMR, NEH\*\*).

**Red-headed Woodpecker**—One was in the RGV at Angostura Dam 7 Sep (DLH), where the species had been present during the summer. One was at Galisteo 13 Sep (JPB\*\*, BRF\*\*, WTE\*).

**Acorn Woodpecker**—One was east to NRT 11 Oct (NEH\*); the species is unexpected on the eastern plains. Unusual was one below EBL Dam 7 Oct (DJC\*\*).

**Williamson's Sapsucker**—A ♂ was east to NRT 5 Oct (JRO\*\*, SDC).

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**—Those with useful documentation were single juvs. at NRT 4 Oct (JRO\*\*, JEP\*), San Andres Spring 16 Oct (WHH\*, MEW\*), and La Union 1-28 Nov (DAB\*\*).

**Downy Woodpecker**—Scarce in the Sacramento Mts., one was at Alto L., *Lincoln* 26 Oct (CMR\*).

**American Three-toed Woodpecker**—One was at Sandia Crest 31 Oct (DLH).

**“Yellow-shafted” Flicker**—Apparently “pure” individuals were a ♀ west to the Ohkay Owingeh lakes 19 Oct (BRF\*) and a ♂ at Ute L. 16 Nov (CMR\*, WTE). Intergrades were described at Ute L. 16 Nov (CMR\*), NRT 5 Oct (SDC), and Encino 28 Sep (CMR\*).

**Merlin**—Early (but undetailed) were 2 at Caballo L. 8 Sep (DJC) and one at the Las Cruces Dam 13 Sep (BM).

**Apomado Falcon**—Wandering birds of uncertain provenance were singles at L. Avalon 11 Sep (SW\*) and the Corralitos Ranch area west of Las Cruces 24 Oct (NGS\*\*, CJG\*\*).

**Peregrine Falcon**—Late was one over the P.O. Canyon area 11 Nov (CDL).

**Greater Pewee**—Unusual in the n. Peloncillo Mts., a migrant was near P.O. Canyon 5 Aug (CDL).

**Least Flycatcher**—One was west to the Sandia Mts. at Carlito Spring, *Bernalillo* 31 Aug (CMR\*) and another was at Stanley 14 Sep (JPB\*\*). One was at NRT 10 Aug (JRO) & one to 2 were there on multiple dates 1-28 Sep (JEP, JRO, SW). A high 8 were at Boone's Draw 6 Sep (MJB).

**Hammond's Flycatcher**—Late was one at the Glenwood fish hatchery 30 Nov (DLH\*).

**Eastern Phoebe**—One was at the Fort Stanton treatment ponds 26 Oct (NEH\*\*, CMR\*, WTE); the species is seldom reported in *Lincoln*.

**Vermilion Flycatcher**—One was north to the Alameda area 24 Sep (WM).

**Ash-throated Flycatcher**—An ad. was tending 3 recent fledglings in P.O. Canyon 5 Aug (CDL).

**Great Crested Flycatcher**—A rare but regular fall migrant in the east, singles were at NRT 14-15 Sep (JRO\*\*, NDP, NEH\*\*) and Carlsbad 22 Sep (RN\*\*).

**Cassin's Kingbird**—One lingered at Rodeo 10 Nov (JRO).

**Eastern Kingbird**—A scarce migrant in the southeast, one was at Rattlesnake Springs 24 Aug (SW). South in the RGV to the Albuquerque area were singles near Alameda 3 Sep (WM\*\*) and at Valle de Oro NWR 7 Sep (NEH\*\*, DLH).

**Scissor-tailed Flycatcher**—One was west to Valle de Oro NWR 24 Oct (K. Herzenberg\*, C. Brady).

**Northern Shrike**—Undetailed singles were west of Watrous 15 Nov (CMR, WTE) and at Bosque NWR 29 Nov (D. Cuellar).

**Bell's Vireo**—One netted at Boone's Draw 7 Sep (NDP\*\*, MJB) was the eastern subspecies *bellii*. At least one continued at La Union to 28 Nov (DAB).

**Plumbeous Vireo**—One was singing at La Union 28 Nov (DAB).

**Cassin's Vireo**—One was late at Percha SP 8 Nov (CMR\*).

**Blue-headed Vireo**—This eastern species is proving to be a rare but regular fall migrant in eastern New Mexico. This season, singles were at Milnesand 27 Sep (JEP\*), near Maljamar 30 Sep (C. L. Black), and Carlsbad 22 Sep (RN\*\*). Depending on how accurately turnover is estimated, about 5 individuals were at NRT on ten days during the period 13 Sep-24 Oct (JEP\*, JRO\*\*, NEH\*\*, WTE, LKM).

**Warbling Vireo**—One was late at P.O. Canyon 17 Oct (CDL).

**Philadelphia Vireo**—Made a remarkable showing at NRT, with presumably different singles documented 18 Sep (JRO\*\*), 25 Sep (JRO\*\*), 3 Oct (JEP\*, JRO\*\*), and 17-19 Oct (JEP\*, CMR\*).

**Red-eyed Vireo**—One at Costilla 3 Sep (RF\*) provided a *Taos* first. Others were singles at NRT 30 Aug (JRO), Albuquerque 31 Aug (WM), Radium Springs 7 Sep (MTS, JEZ\*\*), and Tatum 5 Sep (JEP\*) plus a late one at NRT 11 Oct (JEP\*, CMR\*, NEH\*\*).

**Gray Jay**—Three were near the Santa Fe Ski Area 12 Oct (JEP), a dependable locale for the species.

**Steller's Jay**—Beyond expected range were singles near Leasburg SP 7 Nov (JEZ), in the Tres Hermanas Mts. near Columbus, *Luna* 29 Nov (LKM), and near P.O. Canyon 25-26 Oct (CDL).

**Blue Jay**—One wandered to Albuquerque's Montessa Park 28 Oct (NDP).

**Western Scrub-Jay**—Dispersing were up to 2 at NRT 17-18 Oct (JEP, JRO) and 3 at La Union 13 Oct (DAB).

**Black-billed Magpie**—One was south to Valle de Oro NWR 3 Sep (DLH).

**Cave Swallow**—One north to EBL 18 Nov (DG\*\*, RLV) provided a *Sierra* first. The 673 counted at Rattlesnake Springs was a high count for that site.

**Barn Swallow**—A migrant flock of 2500 was perched on wires at the flooded Lordsburg playa 9 Oct (DLH).

**Mountain Chickadee**—Spread east and south by mid-Oct, including one at Vaughn 19 Oct (JRO) and 2 at Yeso 18 Oct (JEP).

**Verdin**—One was north to Belen 9 Nov (DLH).

**Red-breasted Nuthatch**—Staged a conspicuous flight east across the plains and south into the lowlands, beginning in mid-Sep. Found at NRT as early as 30 Aug (JRO), up to 12 were there 5 Oct (SDC). At San Andres NWR, 8 singles passed through San Andres Spring during the period 9 Sep-29 Oct (MEW\*\*).

**Pacific Wren**—A vocal one was 5 km south of Radium Springs 28 Oct (MTS\*, JEZ audio).

**Winter Wren**—Another busy season, with reports from ten locales in ten counties from the RGV eastward, including singles at Santa Fe Canyon Preserve 9-29 Nov (BRF\*), Montezuma 6 Nov (W. Jaremko-Wright\*\*), Corrales 1 Nov (CMR\*), Cienega Canyon, Sandia Mts. 22 Nov (C. J. Wolf\*), Sumner Dam 8 Nov (JRO\*\*), and below EBL Dam 9 Nov (DJC). Several sites had multiple birds: singles netted and banded at San Andres Spring 28 Oct & 29 Oct (MEW\*\*), 3 at Brantley L. 2-8 Nov (RN), 3 at Tatum 22 Nov (RN), and 3 to 5 at NRT during the period 17 Oct-6 Nov (JEP\*, JRO\*\*, CMR).

**Carolina Wren**—One made a brief stop at NRT 9 Aug (D. W. Mehlman\*). A vocal one was in the Cerrillos bosque from 8 Nov into Dec (A. C. Fenner\*). At least one continued at Bosque NWR 27 Sep (DLH).

**Cactus Wren**—Where seldom reported were up to 4 at Bueyeros, *Harding* 8 Oct (CLH, CMR) and singles north of Encino 28 Sep (CMR) and at Crossroads 5 Sep (JEP). One was in the Caja del Rio area near Santa Fe 24 Nov (C. A. Beidleman\*).

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**—A late one was at Caballo Dam 17 Nov (LKM).

**Wood Thrush**—One was at NRT 19 Oct (JRO\*\*).

**Varied Thrush**—A ♂ was at San Andres Spring 28 Oct (MEW\*), the third recent record for that locale. Another ♂ was 5 km west of Sandia Park 17 Nov (M. J. Dreibelbis\*\*).

**Gray Catbird**—One at Bosque Redondo 16 Aug (JEP) may have summered locally. Late for the north was one at Ute L. 16 Nov (CMR, WTE).

**Brown Thrasher**—High count was 3 at Conchas L. 11 Oct (MJB, NDP). West to the RGV were one banded at RGNC 25 Oct (LPG) and one at Broad Canyon Ranch near Radium Springs 25 Oct (R. Bowers\*\*).

**Bendire's Thrasher**—One made a brief stop at Deming 27 Oct (LKM).

**Sprague's Pipit**—Much in evidence on the eastern plains by mid-Oct in *Union, Harding, Curry, Roosevelt,* and *Lea*, and west to *Socorro* and *Doña Ana*. Some 26 were flushed from Las Cruces West Mesa grasslands 9 Nov (CMR\*, NEH\*\*).

**Cedar Waxwing**—Perhaps stimulated by the late summer rains, the species nested successfully at two *Sandoval* sites: Cochiti Lake Village, where an ad. was working on a nest 16 Aug (MLW\*\*) and feeding fledglings 14-21 Sep (MLW\*\*), and Corrales, where an ad. was feeding very recent fledglings 16-18 Sep (D. Elder\*\*).

**Ovenbird**—Noteworthy for *Torrance*, one was at Quarai 7 Sep (CMR\*).

**Louisiana Waterthrush**—One was at Washington Ranch 8 Aug (JEP\*).

**Blue-winged Warbler**—Rare in fall, one was at NRT 17-19 Oct (WFWi, JEP\*, JRO\*, CMR\*).

**Black-and-white Warbler**—Reports included singles at Quarai 23 Sep (RC), NRT 19-20 Sep (JEP), Milnesand 5 Sep (WFWi, JEP), and Rattlesnake Springs 4 Sep (SW\*).

**Prothonotary Warbler**—One at Orilla Verde 4 Sep (T. Jackman\*) provided the second record for *Taos*.

**Tennessee Warbler**—One was well-described at NRT 5 Oct (SDC\*).

**Nashville Warbler**—Some 14 individuals passed through P.O. Canyon 18 Aug-8 Sep (CDL). Among the latest reports were singles at Ohkay Owingeh lakes 19 Oct (BRF\*), NRT 17-19 Oct (JEP, CMR\*), and Rattlesnake Springs 17 Oct (RN\*\*).

**Mourning Warbler**—One, apparently a young ♀, netted at San Andres Spring 11 Sep (MEW\*\*) provided a *Doña Ana* first; there are now about 20 credible state records.

**Hooded Warbler**—A ♀ was at NRT 4 Oct (JEP\*, JRO\*\*).

**American Redstart**—Three were netted and banded at San Andres Spring, one each on 10 Sep, 11 Sep, and 14 Oct (MEW\*). In the east, up to 3 were at NRT on various dates 1-28 Sep (JEP, JRO, LKM), 2 were at Boone's Draw 7 Sep (NDP), and singles were at Fort Sumner 25 Sep (LKM) and Milnesand 5 Sep (JEP). One was late at Bosque NWR 29 Nov (L. Howard\*, T. Benson\*\*).

**Northern Parula**—Singles were in Albuquerque's North Valley 1 Sep (CMR\*) and at NRT 24-27 Sep (LKM, JEP\*, JRO\*\*).

**Magnolia Warbler**—Singles were at Galisteo 6 Oct (RC, JPB\*\*) and NRT 4 Oct (JEP\*, JRO\*\*).

**Bay-breasted Warbler**—Much more rare in fall than spring, one was at NRT 4 Oct (JEP\*, JRO\*\*).

**Blackburnian Warbler**—An ad. ♀ was netted and banded at San Andres Spring 7 Oct (MEW\*\*). Found annually in the state during the six year period 2009-2014, there are now about 42 credible records overall.

**Yellow Warbler**—Providing proof of local breeding at Cochiti L., a ♂ was singing and a ♀ was feeding a cowbird fledgling on 2 Aug (WHH\*).

**Chestnut-sided Warbler**—Singles were at NRT 18-19 Oct (WFWi, JEP\*, JRO\*\*, CMR\*), Boone's Draw 13 Sep (MJB\*, NDP), and the Las Cruces Dam 13 Sep (BM\*).

**Blackpoll Warbler**—One was at Galisteo 7 Sep (JPB\*\*).

**Black-throated Blue Warbler**—A ♂ was at NRT 27 Sep (JRO\*\*, JEP\*) and a ♀ was there 31 Oct (JRO\*\*). Another ♀ was banded at San Andres Spring 9 Oct (MEW\*\*).

**Palm Warbler**—Singles were at NRT 8 Oct (JN-M) and 18-19 Oct (JEP\*, JRO\*\*).

**Black-throated Gray Warbler**—Some 54 migrants passed through P.O. Canyon 6 Aug-14 Sep (CDL) and a straggler was there 30 Sep (CDL).

**Townsend's Warbler**—Late for the east were singles at Ned Houk Park 11 Oct (CMR) and NRT 27 Oct (JRO). One was at Oliver Lee SP 1 Nov (CMR\*).

**Hermit Warbler**—One was in P.O. Canyon 6 Aug (CDL), and at least 8 were on Jack's Peak, Burro Mts., *Grant* 15 Aug (MJB).

**Black-throated Green Warbler**—Had an impressive season, with singles at Boone's Draw 6 Sep (MJB\*, NDP\*\*), Quairai 23 Sep (RC\*), and Sumner Dam 25 Oct (JEP\*) plus 2 at NRT 17-19 Oct (JEP\*, JRO\*\*) and another one there 6 Nov (JRO\*\*).

**Botteri's Sparrow**—One to 2 were at three locales in and near Rodeo 1-17 Aug (REW, WTE).

**American Tree Sparrow**—An early one was banded at RGNC 25 Oct (LPG). Elsewhere in the RGV, one was near Alameda 14-19 Nov (WM) and up to 7 were at Ohkay Owingeh lakes 15-30 Nov (BRF, WTE). Noteworthy for *Guadalupe* was one at Vaughn 20 Nov (SW\*).

**Clay-colored Sparrow**—Five were at Rodeo 17 Oct (REW), where 3 lingered to 22 Nov (REW).

**Field Sparrow**—The earliest reached NRT 8 Oct (JN-M), and up to 9 were there 29 Nov (JRO).

**Grasshopper Sparrow**—Migrant singles were at the Clovis treatment ponds 30 Aug (WTE) and Las Cruces West Mesa 22 Oct (NGS\*).

**Baird's Sparrow**—Nicely documented was one in Las Cruces West Mesa grasslands 29 Oct (NGS\*\*).



**Swamp Sparrow**—Near the northern edge of the winter range, 2 were in the Corrales bosque 30 Nov (JMR, DJK).

**White-throated Sparrow**—Notably early was an imm. at Boone's Draw 6-7 Sep (MJB, NDP) and it, or another, was there 13 Sep (MJB, NDP).

**Harris's Sparrow**—An imm. was at La Union 28 Nov (DAB).

**Golden-crowned Sparrow**—An early one was at the Alameda bridge 13 Oct (WM). Singles were at a Corrales feeder 2-3 Nov (JMR, DJK) and at Rodeo 14 Nov (NM-C\*).

**Yellow-eyed Junco**—One at Capilla Peak 11-14 Sep (S. Brenner\*\*) provided a first for the Manzano Mts. and the northernmost yet recorded in the state.

**Northern Cardinal**—A ♂ was a surprise at Edgewood, *Santa Fe* 20 Sep (P. L. Nobel\*). In the northeast, single ♂♂ were at NRT 6-30 Nov (JRO\*\*) and at Ute L. 16 Nov (CMR). In *Grant*, one was north of Separ at the Pitchfork Ranch 30 Aug (J. Swackhamer).

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak**—Among the few reports were singles at Boone's Draw 7 Sep (NDP), Albuquerque 6 Oct (M. Smith\*), and Quarai 7 Sep (CMR).

**Indigo Bunting**—A ♀ at NRT 17 Oct (JEP) was late.

**Painted Bunting**—The species was much in evidence in the east, including one at Vaughn 28 Sep (CMR\*) and 5 at NRT 5 Sep (JEP). Four were banded at San Andres Spring 9-29 Sep (MEW\*\*). Late singles were at Milnesand 4 Oct (JRO), Mesilla Bosque SP 4 Oct (NGS\*\*), and La Union 13 Oct (DAB).

**Dickcissel**—Where seldom reported were singles at Vaughn 6 Sep (SW) and along Tierra Blanca Creek, w. *Sierra* 3 Sep (DJC\*\*).

**Rusty Blackbird**—A ♂ was at Santa Fe 23 Nov (N. Harrison\*) and a ♀ was at the Vaughn treatment ponds 20 Nov (SW\*).

**Bronzed Cowbird**—A ♂ lingered at La Union 16 Nov (DAB).

**Orchard Oriole**—A high 5 were at Milnesand 5 Sep (JEP) and 2 were at Crossroads 5 Sep (JEP).

**Hooded Oriole**—An ad. ♂ was far north to Santa Fe 3 Aug (D. Doremus\*\*).

**Baltimore Oriole**—A good season found an ad. ♂ at Rattlesnake Springs 13 Sep (RN\*\*) and another ad. ♂ at Hobbs 17-18 Sep (CL\*). A ♀ or young ♂ was at NRT 13-15 Sep (JEP\*, JRO\*\*, NEH\*\*, MS\*).

**Pine Grosbeak**—Four were at the Santa Fe Ski Area 16 Aug (BRF\*\*), a reliable locale for the species.

**Purple Finch**—Providing a *Roosevelt* first, one at Portales 27-28 Oct (J. Lofton\*\*) was identified as the eastern subspecies *purpureus* (*fide* P. Pyle and C. Rutt).

**Cassin's Finch**—Began spreading into the east and south by early Oct, including up to 5 at NRT 3-26 Oct (JEP, JRO\*\*) and one at Elida, *Roosevelt* 12 Oct (CMR\*, NEH\*\*) and, in the south, one banded at San Andres Spring 7 Oct (MEW\*\*) and 2 in P.O. Canyon 7 Oct (CDL).

**Red Crossbill**—Small to moderate numbers were seen, primarily in the mountains of the north and southwest. Present in the Sandia Mts. Aug-Nov, flocks of up to 90 were reported there in Oct, including a recent fledgling begging from an ad. ♂ at Sandia Crest 31 Oct (DLH\*).

**White-winged Crossbill**—Three were found among Red Crossbills at Sandia Crest 25 Oct (D. Youkerd\*\*), where at least one lingered 30-31 Oct (CMB\*\*, DLH\*).

**Lesser Goldfinch**—Noteworthy for the late date, an apparent fledgling was persistently begging from an ad. ♂ at Corrales 2 Nov (CMR\*).

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**NEW MEXICO COUNTIES**

