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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; www.nmbirds.org.

Front cover: Adult **White-eyed Vireo** (*Vireo griseus*) at the north Roosevelt County migrant trap west of Melrose, New Mexico, 19 April 2012, one of six found in New Mexico this season (see page 25). Photograph by Jerry R. Oldenettel.

Back cover: **Gray-cheeked Thrush** (*Catharus minimus*) at Fort Sumner, De Baca County, New Mexico, 20 May 2012, one of four found in the state this season (see page 27). Photograph by Nicholas D. Pederson.

SPRING SEASON 2012

Spring 2012 witnessed deepening drought over most of New Mexico which, together with unusually warm temperatures and occasional strong winds, combined to create difficult conditions for both resident and returning migrant birds. Spring migration was considered a disappointment by many, especially as regards common western species, such as flycatchers and warblers. Nevertheless, birders focusing on the eastern plains found an abundance of eastern vagrants, including such rarities as Gray-cheeked Thrush and Canada Warbler.

Localities and Counties

Alameda, <i>Bernalillo</i>	Las Animas Creek, <i>Sierra</i>
Albuquerque, <i>Bernalillo</i>	Las Cruces, <i>Doña Ana</i>
Animas, Mts., Valley, <i>Hidalgo</i>	Las Vegas, NWR, <i>San Miguel</i>
Belen, <i>Valencia</i>	Leasburg SP, <i>Doña Ana</i>
Bitter Lake NWR, <i>Chaves</i>	Los Alamos, <i>Los Alamos</i>
Black Range, <i>Grant/Sierra</i>	Luis Lopez, <i>Socorro</i>
Boone's Draw, <i>Roosevelt</i>	Magdalena, Mts., <i>Socorro</i>
Bosque del Apache NWR, <i>Socorro</i>	Maxwell NWR, <i>Colfax</i>
Bosque Redondo, <i>De Baca</i>	Mesilla, Dam, Park, <i>Doña Ana</i>
Brantley Lake, <i>Eddy</i>	Mesilla Valley SP, <i>Doña Ana</i>
Caballo Lake, <i>Sierra</i>	Milnesand, <i>Roosevelt</i>
Cabezon Peak, <i>Sandoval</i>	Ned Houk Park, <i>Curry</i>
Cannon AFB, <i>Curry</i>	north <i>Roosevelt</i> trap [NRT], <i>Roosevelt</i>
Carlsbad, <i>Eddy</i>	Oasis SP, <i>Roosevelt</i>
Cedar Crest, <i>Bernalillo</i>	Organ Mts., <i>Doña Ana</i>
Chloride Canyon, <i>Sierra</i>	Otero Mesa, <i>Otero</i>
Cimarron, <i>Colfax</i>	Peloncillo Mts., <i>Hidalgo</i>
Clayton, Lake, <i>Union</i>	Percha SP, <i>Sierra</i>
Clovis, <i>Curry</i>	Pojoaque, <i>Santa Fe</i>
Cochiti, Lake, <i>Sandoval</i>	Portales, <i>Roosevelt</i>
Conchas Dam, <i>San Miguel</i>	Post Office [P.O.] Canyon, <i>Hidalgo</i>
Corrales, <i>Sandoval</i>	Rattlesnake Springs, <i>Eddy</i>
Deming, <i>Luna</i>	Redrock, <i>Grant</i>
Double Adobe, <i>Hidalgo</i>	Rodeo, <i>Hidalgo</i>
Elephant Butte, Lake, Dam, <i>Sierra</i>	Roswell, <i>Chaves</i>
Española, <i>Rio Arriba</i>	Sacramento Mts., <i>Lincoln/Otero</i>
Eunice, <i>Lea</i>	San Mateo Mts., <i>Socorro</i>
Fort Sumner, <i>De Baca</i>	Sandia Crest, <i>Bernalillo</i>
Galisteo, Creek, <i>Santa Fe</i>	Sandia Mts., <i>Bernalillo/Sandoval</i>
Guadalupe Canyon, <i>Hidalgo</i>	Santa Fe, Canyon, <i>Santa Fe</i>
Guadalupe Mts., <i>Eddy</i>	Silver City, <i>Grant</i>
Heron Lake, <i>Rio Arriba</i>	Six Mile Dam, <i>Eddy</i>
Hillsboro, <i>Sierra</i>	Socorro, <i>Socorro</i>
Hobbs, <i>Lea</i>	Sumner Lake, Dam, <i>De Baca</i>
Holloman Lake, <i>Otero</i>	Sunland Park, <i>Doña Ana</i>
Isleta, <i>Bernalillo/Valencia</i>	Tatum, <i>Lea</i>
Kirtland AFB, <i>Bernalillo</i>	Tierra Blanca Creek, <i>Sierra</i>
La Cieneguilla, <i>Santa Fe</i>	Trigg Road, <i>San Miguel</i>
Lake Avalon, <i>Eddy</i>	Tyrone, <i>Grant</i>

Ute Lake, *Quay*
Waldrop Rest Area, *Chaves*
Water Canyon, *Socorro*

Watrous, *Mora*
Williamsburg, *Sierra*

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 Service
BBS	Breeding Bird Survey	WMA	Wildlife Management Area
CBC	Christmas Bird Count	WSMR	White Sands Missile Range
CCNP	Carlsbad Caverns NP	♂	male (represents sword & shield of Mars)
CG	Camp Ground	♀	female (represents mirror of Venus)
Cr.	Creek	ad(s).	adult(s)
EBL	Elephant Butte Lake	subad(s).	subadult(s)
GBA	Gila Bird Area	imm(s).	immature(s)
L.	Lake	juv(s).	juvenile(s)
LVNWR	Las Vegas NWR	sp.	species
MSB	Museum of Southwestern Biology	m.ob.	many observers
Mt(s).	Mountain(s)	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		
R.	River		
RGNC	Rio Grande Nature Center		
RGV	Rio Grande Valley		

Initialed Observers

CLA	Collin L. Adams	MDM	Martin D. MacRoberts
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KB	Karen Beckenbach	NM-C	Narca Moore-Craig
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PMB	Phred M. Benham	RN	Robert Nieman
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CMB	Celestyn M. Brozek	KBO	K. Bruce Ostyn
RC	Roger Clark	GAO	Gale A. Owings
DJC	David J. Cleary	JEP	John E. Parmeter
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VD	Vicki Dern	EP	Eric Pierce
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GKF	Gary K. Froehlich	CIS	Catherine I. Sandell
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DJG	David J. Griffin	DMS	Donna M. Simonetti
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NEH	Nancy E. Hetrick	HT	Hank Taliaferro
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WHH	William H. Howe	JBV	J. Brad Vaughn
RH	Ron Hurd	DLW	Donald L. Weidemann
ABJ	Andrew B. Johnson	DEW	Douglas E. Weidemann
JPJ	James P. Joseph	SW	Steve West
TK	Tom Kennedy	WFWe	William F. West
DJK	David J. Krueper	DW	Debra Whitecotton
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CGL	Carl G. Lundblad	BRZ	Barry R. Zimmer
EM	Ed MacKerrow		

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck—An ad. was at the Clovis treatment ponds 4 & 18 May (JEP*, JRO). The species has been annual in the state for three of the past four years.

[**Bar-headed Goose**]—One of these apparently popular Asian exotics was at Caballo L. 10-26 May (DJC**).

Canada Goose—A pair was nesting in a planter on the porch of an Albuquerque school 24 Mar (*Albuquerque Journal***). Four pairs were nesting at BLNWR 18 Apr (JIS) and three pairs had young at EBL 17 May (DJC**).

[**Mute Swan**]—An apparent escapee was at Bosque NWR 17 Apr-15 May (m.ob.).

Tundra Swan—Four lingered at LVNWR 13 Mar (CMB*). An imm. was late at Bosque NWR 10-11 May (CMR*), and it or another was at Cochiti L. 14 May (M. Gustafson*).

Eurasian Wigeon—A ♂ was on the Rio Grande below Williamsburg 24 Mar (DJC**). A ♂ at Ute L. 14 May (WFWi**) provided a *Quay* first.

“**Mexican**” **Duck**—Outnumbered Mallards 59 to 5 in *Hidalgo* (AMC) and 42 to 3 in *Doña Ana* (MTS) on 12 May. A pair was n. to Corrales 25 Mar (DJK) and a ♂ was e. to Brantley L. 22 May (SW).

Greater Scaup—A ♀ lingered at the Belen marsh 3-4 Apr (JRO**, CMB*).

Surf Scoter—A ♂ was at Bosque NWR from 31 Mar (GKF**) to 25 Apr (CIS, m.ob.). A ♀ was late at L. Avalon 16 May (LKM*).

Wild Turkey—One at the Alameda bridge 7 Apr (JBV) and 6 in the Corrales bosque 14 May (WHH) were likely derived from recent Sandia Pueblo releases.

Pacific Loon—One at Holloman L. 23 Apr (DJG, DMS**) died soon thereafter (specimen to MSB).

Eared Grebe—Two ads. were at a nest at the Clovis treatment ponds 15 May (CJW**).

Neotropic Cormorant—The 19 at Albuquerque’s Tingley Beach from 6 Mar into Jun (WHH**, DLH, m.ob.) were the most yet recorded in *Bernalillo*. Notable in the east was one at Clovis 9 May (JEP) and 2 at Six Mile Dam 22 Mar (RN**).

Brown Pelican—An imm. at EBL 15 Apr (DJC**, NDP, CJW**) continued into May.

American Bittern—Where rarely reported were singles at EBL 9 May (LKM) and L. Avalon 22 Apr (EP).

Snowy Egret—Noteworthy for *Torrance* was one at Mountainair 11 Apr (JRO).

Little Blue Heron—Single ads. were at Santa Fe’s Las Campanas 12 May (RC, WTE*, JPB**) and BLNWR 2 May (JIS**).

Tricolored Heron—An ad. was at EBL 27-28 Apr (DJC**).

Reddish Egret—A dark morph was at Ute L. 29 May-1 Jun (WFWi**), marking the 2nd consecutive year the species has occurred at this site.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron—Much in evidence, with an ad. at Bosque NWR 28 Apr (CMB**, CIS**) and a remarkable 3 there 29 May-1 Jun (CIS**); elsewhere, single ads. were at Roswell 9 May (C. G. Powell**) and Leasburg SP 10-12 May (CJG**, NGS**, MTS).

Glossy Ibis—Now regular in spring, single ads. were at Bosque NWR 6-7 Apr (GKF, JEP*, JRO, CMR) and again 14 May (JRO**), n. Las Cruces 14 Apr (CMR, MTS*, JEZ*), and Fort Sumner 20-27 May (MJB*, NDP**, JEP*, JRO**). An apparent Glossy Ibis x White-faced Ibis hybrid was also at Bosque NWR 7 Apr (JEP*).

Osprey—By 20 Apr, 17 pairs were nesting in n. *Rio Arriba* (DWS).

White-tailed Kite—Two were in the San Simon Valley near Rodeo 16 May (BRZ**) and singles were in the middle Animas Valley 11 May (CMR, CLA), the southern Hachita Valley in *Hidalgo* 31 May (SOW), and n. in the RGV to Bosque NWR 31 Mar (GKF).

Mississippi Kite—A pair was nesting at Clayton 28 May (DLW), where only recently established.

Bald Eagle—Seven active territories were documented, one in *Catron*, two in *Rio Arriba*, and three in *Colfax*, all traditional territories, plus a new one in *Union* (*fide* DWS); ads. lingered into May at sites in *Taos* and *San Miguel*, but nesting was not confirmed at either.

Common Black-Hawk—Again populated the RGV, with reports from Española 19 Apr (J. Money**) s. through Isleta 28 Mar into May (CMB, G. Garber*, TPA, CJW**), Bosque NWR Apr-May (CIS*, JRO), Las Animas Cr. 26 May (DJC*), Percha SP 5 May (CMR), and Mesilla Valley SP 24 Mar (DJG). Noteworthy for the lower Pecos Valley was one at Rattlesnake Springs 4-5 May (VD).

Harris's Hawk—One was n. to Bosque Redondo 5 Apr (VD); at least one pair was nesting at Las Cruces 5 May (CMR), where seen all season (JEZ**).

Broad-winged Hawk—Northbound migrants were at 10 sites in seven counties from the RGV eastward 18 Apr-13 May (m.ob.).

Gray Hawk—Returned to Rattlesnake Springs by 31 Mar (SW, RN), where nest building was in progress 21 Apr (MOH); others were seen in Guadalupe Canyon and the middle Animas Valley 12 May (*fide* AMC).

Swainson's Hawk—Some 23 were on the ground at upper Caballo L. 11 May (DJC**), catching invertebrates as they were being displaced by the lake's rising waters.

Zone-tailed Hawk—One wandered e. to Clovis 1 Apr (P. McDaniel*). Singles were in *Socorro* at Bosque NWR 23 Apr (TK*) and East Red Canyon, San Mateo Mts., 12 May (SEM*), and in *Sierra* along Las Animas Cr. 29 Apr (RM) and Hillsboro 5 May (CMR*).

“Harlan’s” Hawk—Singles lingered at La Cieneguilla 4 Mar (JPB) and Valmora, *Mora* 11 Mar (CMR*).

Merlin—One was late at Santa Fe’s Las Campanas 22 Apr (WTE).

Sora—One at Boone’s Draw 18 May (NDP, DJK**) was in trees, not on the ground.

Black-bellied Plover—Five were together at Bosque NWR 13 May (CMR).

American Golden-Plover—A bright one was at BLNWR 6 May (MJB**, NDP*).

Snowy Plover—A pair was tending small chicks at Holloman L. 4 May (BRZ**).

American Avocet—Three were on eggs at EBL 20 May (DJC**).

Willet—Found statewide 19 Apr-27 May, including highs of 71 at Holloman L. 4 May (BRZ**) and 62 at Apache Cr., *Catron* 29 Apr (DLH).

Whimbrel—Another good season found singles at Brantley L. 2 May (RN**) and BLNWR 12 May (JEP*, JRO*) and 2 at Bosque NWR 4 May (CMB*).

Marbled Godwit—An impressive 205 were at EBL 20 Apr (DJC**) and up to 100 were at BLNWR the same day (MOH, JEP).

Ruddy Turnstone—One was a treat at Holloman L. 21 May (CJG, DMS**).

White-rumped Sandpiper—Earliest was one at Ned Houk Park 9 May (JEP). Others were at five additional sites after 17 May, including 23 at Maxwell NWR 29 May (L. Wilkins**).

Dunlin—One was late at BLNWR 15 May (CJW**).

Franklin’s Gull—Early were singles at Sunland Park 12 Mar (DAB) and EBL 17 Mar (CMR). Impressive numbers moved across the state in a broad front in mid-Apr, including 200 at Sumner L. 13 Apr (JRO), 250 at Cochiti L. (D. Yeamans) and 86 at Heron L. (LKM) 17 Apr, and 114 at BLNWR 18 Apr (JIS).

Mew Gull—Lingering from Feb was an ad. at the Alameda bridge 3-4 Mar (TK).

California Gull—Rare in the east, 2 were at Clayton L. 26 Mar (DEW*).

Herring Gull—Late were singles at BLNWR 2 May (JIS) and EBL 5-9 May (CMR, LKM).

Thayer’s Gull—Continuing from winter, a first cycle was at EBL 2 Mar (JRO).

Lesser Black-backed Gull—Continuing from winter, an ad. was at EBL through Mar (JRO, CMR, DJC**) to 6 Apr (JEP*, JRO).

Glaucous Gull—Continuing from winter, an imm. was at EBL 2-4 Mar (JRO, DJC).

Least Tern—A high 12 were at Brantley L. 22 May (SW) but were not seen thereafter.

Caspian Tern—Present at EBL 28 Apr-4 May, with 6 seen on 29 Apr (RM).

Band-tailed Pigeon—Early arrivals reached the Silver City area 11 Mar (KB).

White-winged Dove—One was singing at Valdez, *Taos* 30 Mar (S. Hanks).

Inca Dove—Has largely disappeared from many areas, including Deming (LKM) and Carlsbad (SW); one at Albuquerque 7 Apr (JEP) was one of the few found there in recent years.

[**Monk Parakeet**]—A lone individual continued to tend a roost structure near the Alameda bridge, where seen 2 Apr-1 May (CLH, HT, m.ob.).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo—Noteworthy for *Curry* was one south of Cannon AFB 30 May (DW**). Other late May arrivals included singles at Galisteo 27-28 May (JPB, BRF), NRT 27 May (JEP, JRO), EBL Dam 21 May (DJC), and Rattlesnake Springs 27 May (SW).

Greater Roadrunner—A ♂ was courting his reflection in a glass door at Carlsbad Apr-May (RH*).

Barn Owl—Nests in *Santa Fe* were in a box near Nambe 5 Apr (EM) and in a cavity at Caja del Rio 31 May (JPB).

Flammulated Owl—Spring migration across the prairies found singles at Boone's Draw 27 Apr (MJB, NDP) & 5 May (MJB) and Oasis SP 5 May (DW**).

Elf Owl—Earliest was one in upper Guadalupe Canyon 10 Mar (CGL). Noteworthy were singles in Chloride Canyon, Black Range 12 May (DJC), Soledad Canyon, Organ Mts. 4 May (DJG, CMR), and 3 along Rocky Arroyo, *Eddy* 6 May (RN, EP).

Burrowing Owl—Populations reportedly have crashed in several areas, including *Santa Fe*, where 40 pairs in 2008 were reduced to six pairs in 2012 (J. E. Walters), and Kirtland AFB, where some 52 pairs in the late 1990s were down to about 11 pairs in 2012 (C. Finley); a lone pair at Deming 14 Mar (LKM) was described as the last in the area.

Long-eared Owl—A nest in n. *Santa Fe* had at least two chicks 23 May (BRF*).

Lesser Nighthawk—One was north of expected range at Boone's Draw 19 May (NDP, DJK).

Common Poorwill—Early for the north was a vocal one along Tecolote Cr. near Las Vegas 14 Mar (J. Witters).

Mexican Whip-poor-will—Two were vocal in Fourth of July Canyon, Manzano Mts., *Torrance* 29 Apr (VD).

Chimney Swift—One seen and heard at Carlsbad 11 Apr (RN*) was early by two weeks. Up to 6 were noted in the Clovis area 28 Apr-11 May (JEP, JRO, NEH**).

White-throated Swift—Two were e. to Trigg Ranch, e. *San Miguel* 11 May (MDM).

Lucifer Hummingbird—In P.O. Canyon, first ♂ arrived 29 Mar, and first ♀ on 7 Apr; maximum was 19 individuals 24 Apr (CDL).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird—Single ad. ♂♂ were in *Curry* s. of Cannon AFB 23 Apr (DW**) and at NRT 15-19 May (CJW**, JPB**, JRO**, NDP**, MJB*, JEP*, m.ob.).

Anna's Hummingbird—A female incubating two eggs in Indian Creek Canyon, Animas Mts. 12 May (CMR*, RLV, CLA) provided the 3rd New Mexico nesting record in recent years. Single hatch-year ones were in P.O. Canyon 28 & 30 May (CDL).

Calliope Hummingbird—Six passed through P.O. Canyon 25 Mar-22 Apr (CDL) and one was at Deming 14 Apr (LKM).

Rufous Hummingbird—A ♂ was east to s. *Curry* 29-30 Apr (DW**). Some 44 northbound Rufous passed through P.O. Canyon, where present on 16 days during 25 Mar-28 Apr, including 6 on 2 Apr (CDL).

Belted Kingfisher—A ♂ was near a fresh nesting burrow on the Mora R. upstream from Watrous 12 May (DJK et al.). Singles migrating across the prairie were at NRT 14 Apr (JEP, JRO) and 29 Apr (JRO) and Boone's Draw 29 Apr (NDP).

Lewis's Woodpecker—One was far e. to Boone's Draw 5 May (MJB, NDP, JEP).

Red-headed Woodpecker—An ad. was w. to Galisteo 22 May (JPB**, BRF**). Three pairs were in residence at Boone's Draw by 31 May (NDP). A pair was near Hobbs 28 May (DLH).

Williamson's Sapsucker—A ♀ was at Sumner Dam 6 May (JEP).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker—Detailed reports were an imm. at Conchas Dam 3 Mar (JEP*) and a ♀ at Rattlesnake Springs 21 Apr (RN*).

American Three-toed Woodpecker—Perhaps owing to recent fires, the species seems to be thriving in the state, with reports this season from *Sandoval*, *Santa Fe*, *San Miguel*, *Bernalillo*, and *Sierra*.

Northern Flicker—A Red-shafted x Yellow-shafted intergrade was feeding young in a cavity at Galisteo 31 May (JPB**).

"Yellow-shafted" Flicker—An apparently pure one was along Cloverdale Cr., s. Peloncillo Mts. 9-10 Mar (CGL**).

Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet—Only 2 were found in Guadalupe Canyon 12 May (NM-C, RAR).

***Empidonax* flycatchers**—Many observers commented on the dearth of migrant empids, e.g., at P.O. Canyon, only 4 **Duskies** were counted this season, down from 35 there in 2011 (CDL).

Gray Flycatcher—Always scarce on the plains, singles were at NRT 18 Apr (JRO), Ned Houk Park 19 Apr (JRO), and Boone's Draw 27 Apr & 4 May (NDP).

Least Flycatcher—Present at Boone's Draw 11-20 May (MJB, NDP), including 4 on 13 May (MJB, NDP) and 3 on 18 May (NDP, DJK).

Eastern Phoebe—Furnishing a *Bernalillo* first, a pair nested at Albuquerque's Alameda bridge, where first noted 20 Apr (CJW**) and seen visiting the nest 5 May (WHH**); at least one fledgling was seen 26-27 May (CMR, WHH).

Vermillion Flycatcher—A ♂ was northeast to Clayton L. 24 Mar (DEW) and one was singing at NRT 20 Apr (JEP, JRO); 4 were along Trigg Road, e. *San Miguel* 12 May (MDM).

Ash-throated Flycatcher—Surprisingly early were singles at Tyrone 4 Mar (ERL) and Silver City 5 Mar (KB); another reached NRT 1 Apr (DW**).

Great Crested Flycatcher—Rare in spring, one was at Rattlesnake Springs 23 May (KBO).

Brown-crested Flycatcher—Maintaining a strong *Sierra* presence, four pairs and 2 singles were along Las Animas Cr. 11 May, including one with nesting material (DJC**).

Thick-billed Kingbird—Four were in Guadalupe Canyon 12 May (NM-C, RAR).

Eastern Kingbird—Noteworthy for the early date and the location, one was near Tajique, *Torrance* 22 Apr (NEH**). In *San Miguel*, 3 pairs at Ruby Ranch were along the Sapello R. 19 May (CMR) and one bird at Wind River Ranch was on the Mora R. near Watrous 13 May (DJK).

White-eyed Vireo—Much in evidence, with singles at Albuquerque's Tingley bosque 19 Apr (HT), Bosque NWR 22 Apr (SEM**), and in *Otero* in Culp Canyon, s. Sacramento Mts. 16 May (DJG**); at least 3 were at NRT, one each 19-21 Apr (JEP*, JRO**, CMR, CLA**), 29 Apr-8 May (JEP, JRO**, m.ob.), and 25-26 May (JRO, JEP*).

Bell's Vireo—One was singing on Otero Mesa southeast of Orogrande 16 May (RAM); one was at Brantley L. 2 May (RN).

Gray Vireo—One was singing on Mesa Prieta near Cabezon Peak 25 May (WHH) and a pair was at Albuquerque's Manzano Open Space 27 May (JPJ), where also present in 2011. Gray Vireo surveys in the s. Sacramento Mts., *Otero* this season located about 10 territories in Culp Canyon and two in West McAfee Canyon (DJG); in the Organ Mts., one to 3 territories were noted in each of five canyons (DJG).

Yellow-throated Vireo—Found at six sites from the RGV eastward 21 Apr-20 May, with singles at Albuquerque 24 Apr (singing, J. E. Egbert*), EBL Dam (singing, DJC**), near Cimarron at Vermejo Lake No. 2 20 May (singing, J. Drummond*), Waldrop Rest Area 13 May (singing, KBO*), and Rattlesnake Springs 21 Apr (RN*); at NRT, singles were present 20 Apr (singing, JEP*, JRO, CLA**) and 3-4 May (singing, JEP*, JRO**) and 2 were there 13-14 May (both silent, JEP*, JRO**, v.o.).

Blue-headed Vireo—Singing singles were at Milnesand 10-11 May (JEP*, audio MJB, NDP**) and Rattlesnake Springs 23 May (KBO*).

Hutton's Vireo—Six were in upper Sawmill Canyon, Magdalena Mts. 6-8 May (ABJ*) and 2 were singing at Soldier Spring, s. Guadalupe Mts. 12 May (SW).

Red-eyed Vireo—An impressive season, with 2 west to Deming 26 May (LKM*), one in Water Canyon 11-13 May (TPA, M. J. O'Donnell), and one at Galisteo 19 May (RC, JPB**). In the east, one was at Ned Houk Park 24 May (JRO), singles were at NRT 10 May (JEP*, JRO) & 14-15 May (JPB, CJW**), and at Boone's Draw 14 May (CJW) & 20 May (MJB*, DJK).

Steller's Jay—One strayed to the lowlands near San Marcos, *Santa Fe* 15-16 Apr (R. B. Olcott).

Blue Jay—One was west to Sandia Park, *Bernalillo* 1 Apr (CMB*).

Chihuahuan Raven—North of historical range in the RGV, a pair was nest-building at Albuquerque's Paradise Hills 15 Apr (WHH*), the 2nd consecutive year for nesting there.

Purple Martin—Three were at bird houses at Eunice 7 May (P. W. McCasland), where nesting has only recently been confirmed. Others in the east were singles at Boone's Draw 14 May (CJW) and Milnesand 5 May (MJB).

Cave Swallow—Has spread far beyond caves in *Eddy*; this season, at least two nests were active in the desert east of Carlsbad at the Waste Isolation Pilot Project 30 Apr (RN**). In *Doña Ana*, a new colony was in a culvert in n. Las Cruces near the Shalem Colony bridge 12 May (R. C. Castetter).

Mexican Chickadee—One was found in the Animas Mts. in the Cistern Saddle area 12 May (RLV, CLA**).

Bridled Titmouse—Noteworthy for the San Mateo Mts., a pair was at nest cavity in a Gambel's oak at Springtime CG 24 Apr (SEM*, M. Bradford**).

Bushtit—A pair was gathering nest material in the Corrales bosque by 25 Mar (DJK).

Cactus Wren—A newly constructed nest near Cabezon Peak 24 Mar (WHH**) was at the northwestern fringe of the expanding range.

Carolina Wren—At least 2—both heard singing—were at Bosque NWR from 23 Mar (GKF) into Jun (m.ob., CLA**, JRO**), in the same area where found in 2011.

Pacific Wren—Continuing from winter, the one at Albuquerque's Tingley bosque continued through Mar (JPJ, JEP*, DLH) to at least 7 Apr (CJW**); undetailed reports continued to 22 Apr (*fide* MJB).

Winter Wren—One passed through Cedar Crest 29 Mar (JDL).

Sedge Wren—What was thought to be this species was heard, not seen, at Bosque NWR 8 Apr (WHH).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher—One at Redrock 23 Mar (JEP) likely wintered locally.

Black-tailed Gnatcatcher—Has been decidedly scarce in s. New Mexico since the freeze of Feb 2011. Countywide counts in *Hidalgo* (AMC) and *Doña Ana* (MTS) 12 May recorded none.

Western Bluebird—A pair in Albuquerque's Tingley bosque was feeding nestlings 15 May and tending fledglings 23 May (DLH*), providing a local first; previously, only Eastern Bluebirds had been found nesting there.

Gray-cheeked Thrush—A record season found one at Boone's Draw 13 May (MJB**, NDP**, JRO**, JEP*, JPB*) and another there 17 May (WFWe*), and singles at Ned Houk Park 14 May (audio CJW**) and Fort Sumner 20 May (NDP**, MJB*).

Swainson's Thrush—Numerous and widespread on the eastern plains, including 28 at Boone's Draw 13 May (NDP, MJB). The earliest arrived simultaneously on 29 Apr—singles at Ned Houk Park (NEH**) and NRT (JEP) and 3 at Boone's Draw (NDP, MJB).

Wood Thrush—One was at NRT 10-14 May (JEP*, JRO**, CJW**, m.ob.).

Gray Catbird—Noteworthy for Otero Mesa were 2 northeast of Orogrande 16 May (RAM).

Brown Thrasher—Reported from nine sites in five counties from the RGV eastward.

Bendire's Thrasher—In a new area for the species, one was singing along Longbow Road in the Uvas Valley, *Luna* 17 Mar (JEP, WFWi).

Crissal Thrasher—Far north in the Pecos Valley, one was singing at Sumner Dam 3 & 6 Mar (JEP, WFWi, JRO). Apparently declining in the n. Peloncillo Mts., where systematic surveys found 50 in spring 2010, 37 in spring 2011, but only 9 in spring 2012 (CDL).

Olive Warbler—Maintaining a Magdalena Mts. presence, one was in upper Water Canyon 7 Apr (CMR).

Chestnut-collared Longspur—One was late near Datil, *Catron* 28 Apr (DLH).

McCown's Longspur—One was late along Chain of Craters Road south of Grants, *Cibola* 8 Apr (CMR*).

Worm-eating Warbler—One near Tinaja 20 Apr (W. & I. Prather**) provided a *Colfax* first. Other singles were at NRT 20 Apr (JEP*, JRO**, CLA**) and Rattlesnake Springs 5 May (RN, SW).

Golden-winged Warbler—A ♀ was at Boone's Draw 11 May (MJB**, NDP**) and a ♂ was there 14 May (JPB**, CJW**).



Male Golden-winged Warbler at Boone's Draw, Roosevelt County, 14 May 2012.
Photograph by Jonathan P. Batkin.

Blue-winged Warbler—One was at Rattlesnake Springs 4-5 May (RN*, SW*).

Black-and-white Warbler—Among several reports were early singles 28 Mar at Las Vegas (C. Ruge) and Socorro (R. Koehler*). In the west, one was singing in Indian Cr., Animas Mts. 12 May (CMR, RLV). Others were in the RGV at Albuquerque and Bosque NWR and in the east at NRT, Boone's Draw, near Clovis, and Tatum (m.ob.)

Prothonotary Warbler—Three reports: singles at Rattlesnake Springs 6 Apr (EP, RN**), Tatum 22 Apr (MOH), and BLNWR 2 May (JIS, L. Ulibarri**).

Tennessee Warbler—One was at NRT 5 May (JEP*, JRO**).

Orange-crowned Warbler—Singles that passed through P.O. Canyon 5 & 11 Apr appeared to be the bright West Coast *lutescens*, while others there 20 Apr-16 May appeared to be the duller Great Basin-Rocky Mountains *orestera* (CDL*); peak of passage there was 22-30 Apr.

Lucy's Warbler—North in the RGV were 2 ♂♂ singing at the bridge at Bosque, Valencia 28 Apr (DLH) and one singing at the Madrone Ponds near Belen 6 May (WHH). In the east, the species was conspicuous at Rattlesnake Springs Apr-May (v.o.), while farther north one was a surprise at Boone's Draw 18 Apr (G. W. Beauprez*).

Nashville Warbler—A ♂ was singing in ne. Albuquerque 12-14 May (CLB**). Based on absence of tail-wagging behavior, one to 2 at NRT and Boone's Draw on various dates 29 Apr-19 May (JRO*, DJK*) were thought to be the eastern *ruficapilla* subspecies.

Mourning Warbler—A ♂ was well-documented at NRT 12 May (JEP*, JRO**, NEH**, S. D. Collins**).

Kentucky Warbler—A strong season produced five reports: singles in the RGV were a ♀ at Percha 24 Apr (CMR*) and a window-killed ♂ at Mesilla Park 25 Apr (NGS**, specimen to NMSU); in the east, a ♂ was at Ned Houk Park 6 May (JEP*), another ♂ was at NRT 10-12 May (JRO**, CJW**, JEP*, NEH**), and a ♀ was at Boone's Draw 20 May (MJB**, NDP*, DJK**).

Hooded Warbler—At least 3 were at NRT during the period 20 Apr-24 May: a ♂ 20 Apr (CMR*), another ♂ 6 May (JEP*, JRO**, NEH**, CLA**) and a 3rd ♂ on 24 May (JRO**). Others were a ♂ at Fort Sumner 19 Apr (CLA*), single ♀♀ at Boone's Draw 29 Apr (MJB*, NDP*, CJW**) and 6 May (MJB, NDP*), a ♂ at Milnesand 21 Apr (CMR, CLA*), and a “heard only” bird at Bosque NWR 6 May (R. Bello).

American Redstart—Reported from 10 locales in seven counties from the RGV eastward, including a ♀ at the Prather Ranch, Otero Mesa 22 May (RAM).

Northern Parula—The species is especially scarce in northwestern New Mexico; a ♂ at the Ice Caves Trading Post 31 May-3 June (K. Score*) provided a *Cibola* first. Others were at 15 locales in nine counties from the RGV eastward 13 Apr-27 May.

Bay-breasted Warbler—A ♂ at NRT 9 May (JEP*, JRO**, MJB**, NDP**, CJW**, JPB**, v.o.) provided the first state record since 2006.



Male Bay-breasted Warbler at the north Roosevelt County migrant trap west of Melrose, 9 May 2012. Photograph by Matthew J. Baumann.

Blackburnian Warbler—A ♂ at Bosque NWR 13 May (PMB*) furnished a local first.

Chestnut-sided Warbler—A ♂ was singing at Brantley L. 7 May (JEP*), another ♂ was at Boone's Draw 13 May (MJB**, NDP), and an apparent ♀ was at NRT 29 May (TPA).

Black-throated Blue Warbler—Single ♂♂ were at Boone's Draw 14 May (CJW**, JPB), Rattlesnake Springs 19 May (RN**), and NRT 19-20 May (JEP*, WFWi**, JRO**, MJB**, NDP**, DJK**); a different ♂ was at NRT 25-26 May (JRO, JEP*) along with a ♀ on 26 May (JEP*).

Palm Warbler—One was west to Albuquerque's Tingley bosque 29-30 Apr (HT, DLH*); in the east, singles were at Boone's Draw 29 Apr (MJB*, NDP*, CJW**) and NRT 17 May (WFWe).

Pine Warbler—Continuing from Feb, one was at Rattlesnake Springs 9-10 Mar (JEP*).

Yellow-throated Warbler—One was at NRT 22 Apr (DLH*). One west to White Rock 17 May (C. J. Clinton**) provided a *Los Alamos* first.

Grace's Warbler—In unlikely habitat were singles singing at Bosque NWR 8 & 15 Apr (WHH, NDP), one at Rattlesnake Springs 6 May (RH), and one in desert 30 km east of Carlsbad 14 May (SW).

Black-throated Gray Warbler—Scarce on the eastern plains, singles were at NRT 14 Apr (JEP, JRO) & 20-21 Apr (JEP, JRO), Boone's Draw 29 Apr (NDP), and Hobbs 20 Apr (CL*).

Hermit Warbler—Unexpected in the east, a ♂ was at Oasis SP 23 Apr (DW**) and 2 ♀♀ were at Milnesand 4 May (JEP*, JRO**) where one lingered to 6 May (MJB*, NDP**, CLA*).

Black-throated Green Warbler—One was at Rattlesnake Springs 21 Apr (RN**). A ♂ and ♀ were at Milnesand 4-5 May (JEP*, JRO**, MJB*, NDP**), where the ♀ remained until 6 May (NDP**, CLA**).

Canada Warbler—A ♂ at NRT 10 May (JEP*, JRO*) provided New Mexico's 10th credible record.

Red-faced Warbler—A singing ♂ was far north to Galisteo 26 May (G. Szpatura, JPB**, BRF**, CMR*); noteworthy along the Rio Grande was one at Percha SP 24 Apr (CMR).

Painted Redstart—North to the Magdalena Mts., a pair was likely breeding in Sixmile Canyon 29 Apr (SEM) and one was in upper Sawmill Canyon 7 May (ABJ*).

Rufous-winged Sparrow—One was singing in Guadalupe Canyon 12 May (NM-C, RAR), where the species was first found in Jan 2011.

Botteri's Sparrow—One found near Double Adobe 11-12 May (CMR*, CLA**) was far east of the Animas Cr. floodplain and in non-sacaton habitat.

American Tree Sparrow—One was south to Embudito Canyon, Sandia Mts., *Bernalillo* 11 Mar (J. Franks*).

Brewer's Sparrows—Occupied two territories in *Atriplex* near Cabezon Peak 25 May (WHH), at the southeastern fringe of the breeding range.

Field Sparrow—Up to 3 were west to Sumner Dam 25 Mar (JEP) and one was at Clayton L. 25 Mar (DEW**); late were singles in s. *Curry* 29 Apr (DW), Boone's Draw 28 Apr (NDP, JEP, CJW**), and near Causey, *Roosevelt* 21 Apr (CMR) plus 2 at Rattlesnake Springs 21 Apr (RN).

Grasshopper Sparrow—One was late at Rattlesnake Springs 27 May (SW).

Swamp Sparrow—One was a surprise at NRT 10-13 May (JEP, JRO).

Harris's Sparrow—Individuals continuing from winter persisted at Pojoaque to 24 Apr (H. Morgan*), Embudo Canyon, *Bernalillo* to 17 Apr (GAO), Luis Lopez to 21 Apr (JRO) and Percha SP to 29 Apr (MOH).

White-crowned Sparrow—Early was a dark-lored individual at NRT 11 Apr (JRO); dark-lored ones arrived in P.O. Canyon 21 Apr (CDL). Noteworthy for *Curry* was a dark-lored individual south of Cannon AFB 4 May (DW**).

Golden-crowned Sparrow—Continuing from winter, singles were last seen at Cerrillos 4 May (AF), Albuquerque 30 Apr (WHH**), and EBL 27 Mar (DJC**).

"Gray-headed" Junco—One of what appeared to be the southern *dorsalis* subspecies was at Sandia Crest 4 Mar (CMR*).

Yellow-eyed Junco—A nest with eggs was found on Cistern Saddle, Animas Mts. 12 May (RLV), and at least 4 individuals were seen (RLV, CLA**).

Hepatic Tanager—Singles arrived on the eastern plains 27 Apr at NRT (JEP, JRO) and Boone's Draw (NDP).

Northern Cardinal—Continued in evidence in w. *Sierra*, with two territories at Hillsboro Mar-May (DJC**) and a pair along Tierra Blanca Cr. Mar-May (DJC**).

Pyrrhuloxia—Two in s. *Curry* 1 Apr (DW) had wintered locally.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak—Flooded the state from the RGV eastward, with often multiple reports from 15 counties in May. Notably early was a ♂ at Mesilla Dam 21 Mar (A. Trompler*). Other early ♂♂ were singles at Los Alamos 10-13 Apr (B. Larsen) and Tatum 20 Apr (JEP).

Blue Grosbeak—Remarkably early was one at Tyrone 25 Mar (ERL).

Indigo Bunting—A ♂ was early at NRT 14 Apr (JEP). Surprising for the Peloncillo Mts., single ♂♂ passed through P.O. Canyon 24 Apr, 4 May, 24 May, and 28-29 May (CDL).

Varied Bunting—Conspicuous in *Eddy*, with reports from Walnut, Rattlesnake, and Slaughter canyons in May (m.ob.), but none were detected in Guadalupe Canyon 12 May (*fide* AMC).

Bobolink—A flock of 6 ♂♂ was a surprise at Los Alamos 12 May (SMF**). A ♀ at the Prather Ranch, Otero Mesa 22 May (RAM*) furnished the only additional report.

Eastern Meadowlark—At least 2 were in nw. *Sandoval* near Cabezon Peak 25 May (WHH).

Rusty Blackbird—Possibly continuing from winter, one was at a feedlot near Clayton 4 Mar (DLW).

Common Grackle—Far west as well as unusually early, one was at Buckhorn, *Grant* 21 Mar (D. Tallman**).

Bronzed Cowbirds—Found across the south, north to *Grant*, *Socorro*, and *Curry*. Females at Ned Houk Park 25 May (JRO**) and Rattlesnake Springs 24 May (KBO*) were of the darker, eastern *aeneus* subspecies.

Orchard Oriole—An ad. ♂ was singing west to Rodeo 21 May (D. Stejskal**), and another was singing at Fort Sumner 20 May (JEP).

Hooded Oriole—Single ♂♂ were early at Las Cruces 25 Mar (DJG) and Post Office Canyon 30 Mar (CDL). Observers considered the species scarce throughout its range in s. New Mexico.

Bullock's Oriole—The ad. ♂ that overwintered at a Portales sugar water feeder was last seen 31 Mar (D. Batten**).

Baltimore Oriole—An ad. ♂ was at Galisteo 22 May (JPB**, BRF**); this marks the 2nd consecutive spring that the species has occurred at that site.

Scott's Oriole—A ♂ reached Redrock 23 Mar (JEP); first at P.O. Canyon arrived 30 Mar (CDL).

Cassin's Finch—Five northbound migrants were at P.O. Canyon 8 Apr (CDL); elsewhere, the species was almost entirely restricted to the northern mountains.

Lesser Goldfinch—A pair was feeding fledglings at Albuquerque 17 Apr (SOW), implying nest initiation in Mar.

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NEW MEXICO COUNTIES

