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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: Mating pair of Mississippi Kites (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) west of Clovis, Curry County, New Mexico, 9 May 2013 (see page 21). Photograph by Debra Whitecotton.

Back cover: Color-banded Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*) at Brantley Lake, Eddy County, New Mexico, 4 May 2013 (see page 22). Photograph by Matthew J. Baumann.

SPRING SEASON 2013

Spring 2013 saw continued drought over most of New Mexico, plus unusually windy conditions that continued through May. Temperatures were above normal, but were punctuated by sharp cold snaps that negatively affected both migrant and resident birds. Numbers of many typically common species seemed much depressed, causing concern that another poor nesting season was just around the corner. In contrast, however, several typically rare vagrants, particularly certain warblers, were found in unprecedented numbers, such as, 10 Blackpoll Warblers and 9 Palm Warblers. Other highlights included a successful Common Ground-Dove nest near Radium Springs, and several singing Bobolinks at Albuquerque's new Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge.

Localities and Counties

Abiquiu Lake, *Rio Arriba* Acomita Lake, *Cibola* Alameda, *Bernalillo* Albuquerque, *Bernalillo*

Amistad, Union

Animas, Mts., Valley, Hidalgo

Belen, Valencia

Bitter Lake NWR, Chaves

Bluewater Lake, *McKinley/Cibola* Bosque del Apache NWR, *Socorro*

Bosque Redondo, *De Baca* Brantley Lake, *Eddy*

Broad Canyon Ranch, *Doña Ana* Caballo Lake, Dam, *Sierra*

Carlsbad, *Eddy*Carrizozo, *Lincoln*Cedar Crest, *Bernalillo*Cerrillos, *Santa Fe*Chama, *Rio Arriba*

Clanton Canyon, Cienega, *Hidalgo*

Clayton, Lake, Union

Cliff, *Grant* Clovis, *Curry*

Cochiti, Lake, Dam, Sandoval

Columbus. Luna

Conchas Lake, Dam, San Miguel

Corrales, *Sandoval* Deming, *Luna*

Elephant Butte, Lake, Dam, Sierra

Escondida, *Socorro*Española, *Rio Arriba*Galisteo, Creek, *Santa Fe*Guadalupe Canyon, *Hidalgo*Heron Lake, *Rio Arriba*

Hobbs, Lea

Holloman Lake, Otero

Isleta Pueblo, Bernalillo/Valencia

Jal, Lake, *Lea* Kingston, *Sierra*

Kirtland AFB, Bernalillo La Cienega, Santa Fe La Joya WMA, Socorro Lake Avalon, Eddy Las Cruces, Doña Ana La Union, Doña Ana Leasburg SP, Doña Ana

Lingo, Roosevelt

Los Alamos, Los Alamos Luis Lopez, Socorro Magdalena, Mts., Socorro

Melrose, Curry

Mesa Rest Area, *Chaves* Mesilla, Dam, Park, *Doña Ana*

Milnesand, *Roosevelt* Morgan Lake, *San Juan* Mountainair, *Torrance*

Navajo Agri. Prod. Industry, San Juan

Ned Houk Park, *Curry* Nichols Canyon, *Grant*

north Roosevelt trap [NRT], Roosevelt

Oasis SP, Roosevelt

Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo, Rio Arriba

Oliver Lee SP, *Otero* Organ Mts., *Doña Ana*

Otto, Santa Fe

Peloncillo Mts., *Hidalgo* Percha SP, *Sierra*

Portales, Roosevelt

Post Office [P.O.] Canyon, *Hidalgo*

Ouarai. Torrance

Radium Springs, Doña Ana

Ramon. Lincoln

Rattlesnake Springs, *Eddy*

Redrock, Grant

Rio Grande Nature Center, Bernalillo Sunland Park, Doña Ana

Rodeo, *Hidalgo* Tatum, *Lea*

Roswell, Chaves Trigg Ranch, San Miguel

San Antonio, Socorro Ute Lake, Quay

San Mateo Mts., Socorro Valle de Oro NWR, Bernalillo

Sandia Mts., Bernalillo/Sandoval Vaughn, Guadalupe

Santa Fe, Canyon, Santa Fe
Santa Rosa, Guadalupe
Sevilleta NWR, Socorro
Williamsburg, Sierra

Silver City, Grant Yeso, De Baca Six Mile Dam, Eddy Zuni, McKinley

Socorro, Socorro Zuni Mts., McKinley/Cibola

Sumner Lake, Dam, 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 |
| CBC | Christmas Bird Count | | Service |
| CCNP | Carlsbad Caverns NP | WMA | Wildlife Management |
| CG | Camp Ground | | Area |
| Cr. | Creek | WSMR | White Sands Missile |
| EBL | Elephant Butte Lake | | Range |
| GBA | Gila Bird Area | 3 | male (represents sword & |
| L. | Lake | | shield of Mars) |
| LVNWR | Las Vegas NWR | 2 | female (represents mirror |
| MSB | Museum of Southwestern | | of Venus) |
| | Biology | ad(s). | adult(s) |
| Mt(s). | Mountain(s) | subad(s). | subadult(s) |
| NAPI | Navajo Agricultural | imm(s). | immature(s) |
| | Products Industry | juv(s). | juvenile(s) |
| NM | National Monument | sp. | species |
| NMSU | New Mexico State Univ. | m.ob. | many observers |
| NP | National Park | m.ph. | many photographs |
| NRT | north <i>Roosevelt</i> trap | V.O. | various observers |
| NWR | National Wildlife Refuge | + | others; et al. |
| PA | Picnic Area | * | written details provided |
| R. | River | ** | photo or tape provided |
| RGNC | Rio Grande Nature | *** | specimen obtained |
| | Center | | |

Initialed Observers

| FA | Francisco Anaya | LKM | Larry K. Malone |
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| WHH | William H. Howe | JWT | James W. Tuomey |
| JPJ | James P. Joseph | RLV | Raymond L. VanBuskirk |
| DJK | David J. Krueper | SW | Steve West |
| SL | Shawn LaBrier | WFWe | William F. West |
| CL | Carol Levine | DW | Debra Whitecotton |
| JDL | J. David Ligon | SOW | Sartor O. Williams III |
| CDL | Carroll D. Littlefield | WFWi | William F. Wittman |
| JL | James Lofton | CJW | Cole J. Wolf |
| MDM | Martin D. MacRoberts | JEZ | James E. Zabriskie |
| | | | |
| | | | |

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

Chen geese—A 6 Mar count at BLNWR tallied 13,693 Snow Geese and 27,800 Ross's Geese (FA). Very late were 4 Ross's flying with one Snow at Cochiti L. 5 May (WHH**).

"Mexican" Duck—Twenty, most of them paired, were at the Columbus treatment ponds 28 May (SOW). A ♂-♀ pair was on the Middle Fork of the Gila R., *Catron* 15 Apr (SOW). Farther north, a ♂ and possible ♀ were at Albuquerque's new Valle de Oro NWR 11 May (NEH**), 2 were at Bluewater L. 3 Mar (CMR*, NEH**), and 2 were on the Chama R. near Chama 11 May (WHH*).

Ring-necked Duck—A pair was late at the Vaughn treatment ponds 15 May (SW).

Greater Scaup—Two $\lozenge\lozenge$ and a \lozenge were late at Bosque NWR 28 Apr (JEP*, MJB*, NDP).

Surf Scoter—One described as a \bigcirc /imm. at Acomita L. 17 Apr (KS*) provided a first record for *Cibola*.

<u>Barrow's Goldeneve</u>—Last of the winter's influx were 3 on the Rio Grande near Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo 10 Mar (JF).

Red-breasted Merganser—A large concentration of 175 was at L. Avalon 1 Mar (JEP); 80 were at Six Mile Dam 7 Mar (SW).

quail—Owing to continued drought, quail numbers statewide continued much depressed, with both **Scaled Quail** and **Gambel's Quail** reported as scarce or very rare, while **Northern Bobwhite** appeared to have disappeared from many of its eastern strongholds.

Ring-necked Pheasant—Has become quite rare in *Eddy*, perhaps owing in part to feral hog predation on nests and to NMDGF abandoning the Seven Rivers WMA (*fide* SW).

Lesser Prairie-Chicken—Owing to low numbers of birds, the annual Lesser Prairie-Chicken Festival at Milnesand was cancelled.

"Gould's" Wild Turkey—Noteworthy for the northern Peloncillo Mts. were singles in Lee Canyon 27 Apr (CDL) and P.O. Canyon 31 May (CDL).

Common Loon—One was late at Ute L. 31 May (JEP, JRO).

<u>Red-necked Grebe</u>—Very late was one in breeding plumage at Heron L. 11 May (WHH**).

Neotropic Cormorant—Continued to appear north of traditional range, including a high 24 at Albuquerque's Tingley ponds 5 Apr (DLH), singles at Corrales 18 May (WHH*) and Española 27 May (BRF**). One to 2 were at each of two Clovis sites Apr-May (JEP, JRO, DW**).

Double-crested Cormorant—Eight active nests were at Abiquiu L. 22 Apr (K. Eagleson).

Least Bittern—Singles were singing at Bosque NWR 28 Apr (JEP) and Six Mile Dam 8 May (JEP).

Great Blue Heron—At least five nests were active in cottonwoods at Chama 11 May (WHH*).

Great Egret—Noteworthy numbers for early in the season were 20 at Six Mile Dam 7 Mar (SW) and 21 at BLNWR 20 Mar (FA). West were singles at Clanton Cienega 11 May (NM-C, RAR) and Deming 25 Apr (LKM).

Snowy Egret—One at BLNWR 1 Mar (JEP) had wintered locally.

Little Blue Heron—Scarce in recent years, single ads. were at Bosque NWR 21-24 Apr (A. & D. Brockway, JWS**) and again 9-14 May (v.o., JPJ**), and at Sevilleta NWR 15 May (AET, JWT).

Tricolored Heron—An ad. lingered at Leasburg SP 27 Apr-13 May (CJG**, MTS*, JEZ**, NGS**). Farther north, single ads. were at EBL 1 May (DJC**) and BLNWR 23-26 Apr (G. W. Beauprez, JEP*).

Reddish Egret—A dark morph individual was at Six Mile Dam 17 Mar & 6 Apr (RN**) and another was at EBL's Monticello Point 24 May (DJC**).

Cattle Egret—An impressive 90 were at the Belen marsh 21 Apr (DLH). Noteworthy for the Zuni area was one in the Nutria Valley 29 May (JAT).

Glossy Ibis—One to 2 ads. were seen at Bosque NWR on multiple dates 18 Apr-11 May (GKF*, MOH, JEP*, WFWi). Single ads. were at Luis Lopez 23 Apr (JRO**), Valle de Oro NWR 22-23 May (NDP, JEP*, NEH*), and BLNWR 27 Apr (RN**).

Glossy Ibis x White-faced Ibis—Single hybrids were identified at NAPI 11 May (TR**), Zuni 27 May (JAT*) and Valle de Oro NWR 22 May (NDP, MOH).

Osprey—Nesting in peripheral locales were a pair at a nest at Fenton L., *Sandoval* 14 Apr (P. Johnson**) and a pair at a nest below Cochiti Dam 31 Mar (WHH*).

Mississippi Kite—Reported from several towns on the eastern plains, including Hobbs (CL) and Tatum (JEP), at two sites in the Santa Rosa area (WFWe), and the middle RGV at Corrales (CLH). A pair was observed mating in *Curry* west of Clovis 9 May (DW**).

Bald Eagle—Noteworthy for the lower Pecos Valley, an ad. was at L. Avalon 29 Apr (SW**).

Common Black-Hawk—Continued to populate the RGV, including one at Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo 27 Apr (JF*), 2 at Algodones, *Sandoval* 7 Apr (J. McPhee), and singles at Alameda 9 Apr (AG), Valle de Oro NWR 10 Apr (MOH), Isleta Pueblo 31 Mar-7 May (JPJ, JEP, JRO), Bosque NWR 20 Apr (GKF*), and Leasburg SP 30-31 Mar (CJG**). An ad. was on a nest at Spirithaven Ranch south of Santa Rosa 23 May (WFWe), the 4th year the species has bred there (*fide* F. Hinker). In the lower Pecos Valley, one was at Rattlesnake Springs 20 Mar (AG).

Broad-winged Hawk—Much in evidence from the RGV eastward, with often multiple reports from at least 13 sites in seven counties 2 Apr-12 May. Surprisingly early was one reported at Milnesand 2-3 Apr (LAS); all others were found 14 Apr or later.

Gray Hawk—Returned to the Rattlesnake Springs area by 5 Apr (RN). Two active nests were documented in the s. Peloncillo Mts. 11-12 May (DJG**); both were in live oaks, one near the mouth of Bunk Robinson Canyon and the other near the mouth of Indian Springs Canyon.

Zone-tailed Hawk—One at Mesilla Park 18 Mar (C. W. Benkman*) provided one of the earliest spring arrivals yet for the species in New Mexico; other Mar reports were singles near Bill Evans L., *Grant* 23 Mar (CMR*) and in the middle Animas Valley 30 Mar (JEP). Far northeast of expected, one at Clayton L. 18 May (MJB**, NDP) provided a first for *Union*. In *Lincoln*, a pair was in the Glencoe area 5 May (JMB, WFWe).

Ferruginous Hawk—Late for *Eddy*, one was near Artesia 8 May (SW).

Rough-legged Hawk—Lingering from the winter invasion, singles were at Portales 25 Mar (LAS), EBL 27 Mar (DJC), Luis Lopez 12-14 Apr (JEP, WFWi, JWS**, JRO), and Otto 7-15 Apr (RC**).

Virginia Rail—Singles where rarely reported were at Los Alamos 18 May (K. Selvage**) and a vocal one at Capitan, *Lincoln* 19 Apr (JWS*).

American Coot—An ad. with 6 chicks was at Santa Fe Canyon Preserve 25 May (BRF).

Sandhill Crane—One was late at Valle de Oro NWR 22 May (NDP, MOH).

Black-bellied Plover—One was early at Brantley L. 5 Apr (RN**). Elsewhere, 2 bright ones were at Morgan L. 8 May (TR**) and one was at EBL 31 May (DJC**).

Semipalmated Plover—Last spring migrants were 4 at EBL 20 May (DJC) and one at Acomita L. 26 May (CMR*).

<u>Piping Plover</u>—One at Brantley L. 4 May (JEP*, MJB**, NDP**, RN**) had been color-banded as a chick on the Missouri R. near Yankton, South Dakota in Jun 2012; it provided only the ninth credible New Mexico record.

Mountain Plover—One was in sw. *Union* along NM 120 east of Ute Cr. 17 Mar (CMR*).

Black-necked Stilt—Two were at Zuni 27 May (JAT), where not known to breed. Peripheral were one at Otto 11 May (WTE*) and 3 at Mountainair 15 May (SW). Eleven pairs were at the Columbus treatment ponds 28 May (SOW).

American Avocet—Migrants at EBL peaked at 616 on 19 Apr (DJC). Other high counts included 150 at Holloman L. 12 Apr (DJK, JMR) and 207 at BLNWR 1 May (FA). Some 30 were at Zuni 27 May (JAT), where the species nested in 2012, and 15 were at the Columbus treatment ponds 28 May (SOW).

Willet—In unusual circumstances were 17 circling over Silver City 27 Apr (MJB, CMR) and 15 on a desert road at Kirtland AFB 16 May (JEP).

Whimbrel—A strong season, including a *Bernalillo* first one at RGNC 1 May (C. K. Smith**). Others were 2 at Brantley L. 13 Apr (NEH**) and one there 5 May (JEP*, MJB**, NDP, SW*), up to 3 at EBL 12-17 May (DJC**), and singles at Morgan L. 30 Apr (CLB*), BLNWR 5 May (MJB**, NDP**, JEP*), and Otto 17-19 May (BRF*, WTE*, RC).

Long-billed Curlew—Some 42 were in a La Union alfalfa field 16 Mar (DAB). Three were found shot at L. Avalon 7 Apr (RN), where enforcement of wildlife protection laws is reportedly lax (*fide* SW).

<u>Hudsonian Godwit</u>—An impressive season produced one at BLNWR 5-7 May (MJB**, NDP**, JEP*) and 3 at L. Avalon 17 May (E. Pierce**). Two at Morgan L. 7 May (CLB*) provided the first record for *San Juan* and one of the few from west of the RGV.

Marbled Godwit—Early singles were at L. Avalon 8 Apr (RN**), Albuquerque's Alameda bridge 11 Apr (MOH) and Bosque NWR 12 Apr (JEP, JRO), and 3 were at EBL 12 Apr (DJC).

<u>Ruddy Turnstone</u>—One at Morgan L. 9 May (TR**) furnished the first confirmed and second overall *San Juan* record.

Sanderling—High count was 7 at EBL 18 May (DJC). Latest were singles at Ute L. (JRO) & Clovis (JEP) 31 May.

Semipalmated Sandpiper—Occurred in above average numbers in the east, often outnumbering Western Sandpipers away from BLNWR (*fide JEP*). High counts included 8 each at the Clovis treatment ponds 9 May (JEP) and Brantley L. 5 May (JEP) and 14 at BLNWR 5 May (NDP). Remarkably early was one briefly detailed at Bosque NWR 1 Apr (CMR*); all other reports were from 26 Apr or later.

White-rumped Sandpiper—Earliest spring migrants were 4 at Clovis 10 May (JEP, JRO). Northbound migrants continued through the month, with reports from Conchas L., Ute L., Sumner L., Clovis, EBL, and Williamsburg, plus a *Cibola* first one at Acomita L. 26 May (CMR*) and a *Lincoln* first 2 at Carrizozo 19 May (JRO). High count was up to 20 at Clovis 16-17 May (WFWe, JEP), where up to 15 were present 31 May (JEP, JRO).

Dunlin—A flock of 12 was at Bosque NWR 9 Mar (SW).

<u>Stilt Sandpiper</u>—Remarkably early was one detailed at BLNWR 20 Mar (J.I. Sanchez*). High counts were 210 at BLNWR 1 May (FA) and 150 at Clovis 16 May (WFWe).

Wilson's Snipe—The wet meadows and marshes in the vicinity of Chama are dependable snipe breeding locales; on 11 May, 21 were winnowing or vocalizing along the highway south of Chama (WHH*).

Wilson's Phalarope—Some 1482 were counted at EBL 10 May (DJC).

Red-necked Phalarope—A good spring flight through the RGV 1-24 May produced reports of singles from Cochiti L. 5 May (WHH**) and RGNC 1-2 May (NEH**, JEP, WHH*, DJK), one to 2 at Bosque NWR 11-18 May (DLH, GKF, JPJ**), a high 27 at EBL 16 May (DJC), and one at Caballo L. 17 May (DJC). Noteworthy for *Lincoln* were 2 at Carrizozo 19 May (JRO).

<u>Lesser Black-backed Gull</u>—A first-cycle individual at Sumner L. 6 May (JEP*) furnished a *De Baca* first. Another first-cycle one showed up in the EBL area 26 Apr-29 May (RLV, MOH, CJW**, DJC**).

Least Tern—Proved to be decidedly scarce in breeding areas in *Chaves* (FA) and *Eddy* (SW). Elsewhere, singles were at Jal L. 9-11 May (MR, P. W. McCasland**) and Carrizozo 19 May (JRO).

Caspian Tern—One at 2630 m on Monte Verde L. near Angel Fire, *Colfax* 4 May (C. Beidleman*) established an elevation record for the state. Others were singles at Morgan L. 30 Apr (CLB**), EBL 28 Apr-1 May (MOH, RLV, DJC), Caballo L. 28 Apr (NDP), and Brantley L. 13 Apr (NEH**).

Common Tern—A breeding plumaged ad. was at Caballo Dam 6 May (K. Stinnett**).

<u>Arctic Tern</u>—Three were at Morgan L. 6 May (CLB*), which by three days was the earliest spring record yet. The species has appeared in the state in five of the past six years.

Band-tailed Pigeon—Perhaps reflecting poor food resources in the mountains, singles were in the RGV at Bosque NWR 6 Apr (DLH) and Sunland Park 13 Apr (JNP). Others were visiting feeders, including 30 north of Kingston 25 May (DJC) and 2 at Silver City 6 May (EH).

Inca Dove—Generally scarce in New Mexico in recent years. Among the few reports from north of historical core range this season were one at Albuquerque 17 May (D. Ginter**), 6 at Roswell in May (R. Larsen), and one at Kingston 7 Apr (DJG).

Common Ground-Dove—The species occurs across s. New Mexico, but confirmed breeding records have been hard to come by. This season, a pair 8 km south of Radium Springs was in evidence Mar-Apr, and the ♀ was eventually found on a nest in a mulberry tree 13 May; nestlings were seen 22 May and on 27 May the ♀ was photographed with two very recent fledglings (MTS*, JEZ**). In *Hidalgo*, 2 were in the middle Animas Valley near the Geronimo Trail road junction 11 May (RD) and 3 were at Clanton Cienega 11 May (NM-C, RAR).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo—Noteworthy for *Union* was one on Seneca Cr. above Clayton L. 17 May (NDP).

Flammulated Owl—Following a brief but very deep cold snap, an emaciated one fell from a tree at Cochiti L. 19 Apr and soon died (M. L. Watson*, specimen to MSB). An insect eater, early migrants are particularly susceptible to spring cold spells.

Elf Owl—Notably scarce in Guadalupe Canyon, where only 3 were detected on evening and pre-dawn searches 10-11 May (SOW, PM).

Burrowing Owl—Continued scarce statewide. At Kirtland AFB, only 2 pairs were found 25 Apr (C. A. Finley), where there had been 52 pairs in 1999. Reported as extremely rare in the Carlsbad area where only 2 singles were noted this season (SW).

Long-eared Owl—Up to 4 were roosting at the Cooper Cemetery north of Jal 1 & 28 Mar (JEP, SW).

Short-eared Owl—One was in shinnery oak dunes near Lingo 11 Apr (LAS*).

Lesser Nighthawk—Very early was one at La Union 1 Apr (DAB).

Common Nighthawk—Very early, several were reported among Lessers over an alfalfa field at Carlsbad 25 Apr (SW). Three were at BLNWR 7 May (JEP). One was reported among Lessers at Rincon, *Doña Ana* 11 May (MTS).

Common Poorwill—Early was a vocal one in s. *Sierra* 21 Mar (DWS**).

Mexican Whip-poor-will—Far north was one singing west of El Vado L. 12 May (DWS). One was in Hausner Canyon, Zuni Mts. 31 May (JAT). One was vocal along Corralitos Road in the Sierra de las Uvas, *Doña Ana* 22 May (MTS).

Chimney Swift—West to Albuquerque were up to 2 at RGNC 10-12 May (DLH*, DJK**) and one at Tingley bosque 11 May (NEH**). Other *Chaetura* swifts in the RGV were singles at La Cienega 16 May (JPB), RGNC 19 May (MOH), and at Broad Canyon Ranch north of Radium Springs 9 May (MTS). Chimney Swifts typically return to the state the last week in Apr, so right on schedule were 2 at Clovis 26 Apr (JEP).

Blue-throated Hummingbird—One was reported in oaks in lower Clanton Canyon 11 May (RD).

Lucifer Hummingbird—The first \circlearrowleft returned to P.O. Canyon 25 Mar and the first \hookrightarrow arrived 5 Apr; peak was 26 (17 \circlearrowleft 9 \hookrightarrow 9) on 26 Apr, but birds dispersed in May, likely attracted to blooming ocotillo in the area (CDL).

Black-chinned Hummingbird—Earliest report was a \circlearrowleft at Las Cruces 6 Mar (J. L. Douglas). Noteworthy for the 2365 m elevation was a \circlearrowleft at Chama 10 May (WHH*).

Anna's Hummingbird—A ♂ was in P.O. Canyon 3 & 6 Apr (CDL).

Rufous Hummingbird—The historical "rule" that Rufous did not occur as a spring migrant in New Mexico has been effectively overturned in recent years, and this season saw a continuation of that trend. At least 22 passed through P.O. Canyon 20 Mar-21 Apr, including a peak of 4 on 6 Apr (CDL). Farther east, 5 passed through the Radium Springs area 31 Mar-25 Apr (MTS, JEZ), single ♂ were at La Union 23 Mar (DAB**) and 11 Apr (DAB), Leasburg SP 4 May (DJG), north of Kingston 10 Apr (DJC**), and at Deming 28 Apr (LKM), and a ♂ and ♀ were at Luis Lopez 15 Apr (JRO**).

Calliope Hummingbird—Another species historically absent in spring, Calliope has been following the same pattern as Rufous, including this season with singles in P.O.

Canyon 30 Mar and 16 Apr (CDL), Deming 20 Apr and 10 May (LKM), and 2 at Spring Canyon SP, *Luna* 11 May (LKM).

Broad-billed Hummingbird—This is the "Mexican" hummer that tends to stray most widely; this season, a ♂ at Escondida 4-7 May (SL**, NEH**) provided a *Socorro* first. The species has now been documented in 16 of New Mexico's 33 counties.

Elegant Trogon—A \circlearrowleft that wandered to Palomas Canyon, *Sierra* 27 Apr (J. Murphy) was likely a spring overshoot. A \circlearrowleft that came to water in P.O. Canyon 22 May (CDL) suggested continued summering in the Peloncillo Mts.

Lewis's Woodpecker—The one that wintered in the Rattlesnake Springs area was last seen 5 May (SW, MJB, JEP). In the RGV, singles were at Socorro 11 May (JWS**), San Antonio 26 May (V. Dern), and La Union 21 Apr (DAB).

Acorn Woodpecker—The one found at Clovis in Feb was last seen 22 Mar (W. Anderson**).

<u>Red-bellied Woodpecker</u>—The ♀ present in the Rattlesnake Springs area since Dec continued through 13 Apr (NEH**) and was last reported 3 May (RN).

Williamson's Sapsucker—A \mathcal{Q} was west to Milnesand 10 Apr (LAS).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker—Very late was a \mathcal{P} molting into ad. plumage at NRT 17 May (JEP*, JRO).

Ladder-backed Woodpecker—Five were northwest to lower Bluewater Gorge, *Cibola* 31 May (JAT).

Merlin—Very late was one reported at Otto 11 May (JPB**).

[Monk Parakeet]—Present since 2010, the one near the Alameda bridge continued in residence 2 Mar (WHH) and 16 May (CLH).

Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet—A pair and a vocal single were in Guadalupe Canyon 11 May (SOW, PM).

Greater Pewee—Considerably north of traditional range, one singing in upper Water Canyon from 19 May into Jun (WTE*, m.ob.) provided the second record for the Magdalena Mts.; another singing at Red John Corral in West Red Canyon from 30 May into Jun (SEM*) was the first for the San Mateo Mts.

Least Flycatcher—Scarce west of the eastern plains, singles were reported at Albuquerque 23 May (MOH*) and Broad Canyon Ranch 11 May (MTS*).

Gray Flycatcher—Typically the earliest returning *Empidonax* in spring. Singles were at Broad Canyon Ranch 4 Apr (NGS**) and Bosque NWR 5 Apr (JEP).

Buff-breasted Flycatcher—Again occupied the Animas Mts., where at least 3 were seen 11 May (JPJ, RLV).

Black Phoebe—A surprise for the prairie, one was at the Mesa Rest Area 23 Mar (JEP).

Eastern Phoebe—One was singing at the Alameda bridge 6-11 Apr (NEH*, CLH*, MOH*), where the species nested in 2012. Late for the lower RGV was one at Mesilla Dam 13 May (KBO).

Vermilion Flycatcher—Spring arrivals were singles at Deming 10 Mar (LKM), Percha SP 14 Mar (JWS), and Rattlesnake Springs 14 Mar (SW); 2 were northeast to Trigg Ranch by 19 Mar (MDM).

Ash-throated Flycatcher—Arrival dates were singles at Redrock 29 Mar (JEP), Milnesand 2 Apr (LAS), and Rattlesnake Springs 5 Apr (RN), and 2 at Broad Canyon Ranch 4 Apr (NGS**).

Thick-billed Kingbird—Only one was found below the ranch in Guadalupe Canyon 11 May (SOW, PM).

Eastern Kingbird—One was south in the RGV to Valle de Oro NWR 22 May (JPJ**).

<u>White-eyed Vireo</u>—A silent one was at Ned Houk Park 10 May (JEP*, JRO**), a singing one was at Elephant Butte 20 May (DJC*), and an undetailed one was reported at the Maljamar Rest Area, *Lea* 9 May (MR, *fide* MJB).

Bell's Vireo—Again found north to Sumner Dam, where at least one was singing on multiple dates 9-31 May (JEP, JRO). Another was singing at NRT 23 May (JRO).

Gray Vireo—Some 16 were in a newly discovered area east of Zuni's Blackrock bosque in late May, including 15 singing $\lozenge \lozenge$ and a nest-building \lozenge (JAT).

Yellow-throated Vireo—Singles were at NRT 6 May (JEP*) and Rattlesnake Springs 11 May (SW*). The species is a rare but regular spring migrant in New Mexico.

Cassin's Vireo—Arrival dates were singles at Deming 24 Mar (CMR, WTE), Rattlesnake Springs 31 Mar (RN**), and Percha SP 6 Apr (JEP).

Red-eyed Vireo—Singles were at Ned Houk Park 31 May (JEP*, JRO), west of Clovis 30 Apr (DW**), singing at Quarai 20 May (WFWi), and near Cliff 4 May (*fide* RSS).

Steller's Jay—Unusual was one in ocotillos in Beehive Canyon, n. Peloncillo Mts. 16 May (CDL).

Blue Jay—The one that wintered at Albuquerque's Botanical Gardens continued through 24 Apr (H. A. Walker) to 6 May (*fide* MJB). One persisted at Galisteo through Apr (JPB, JEP, WTE) to 9 May (BRF).

Black-billed Magpie—Two ads. with 2 fledglings were at Peña Blanca, *Sandoval* 24 May (WHH).

Purple Martin—Two over Green Meadow L. at Hobbs 26 May (DLH*) may indicate expansion of the recently discovered *Lea* breeding population.

Bank Swallow—Populations in the Rio Rancho area, *Sandoval* appear to have crashed, e.g., only 2 birds were present at the Iris Road arroyo 18 & 26 May (CLH*, WHH*), where some 350 burrows used in previous years were empty.

Cave Swallow—Found nesting below the concrete dam at Six Mile Dam, where up to 12 were present 24 May (SW). In the Las Cruces area, two active nests were at the Picacho bridge 10 May (KBO).

Black-capped Chickadee—A pair was at a nest cavity at the Pecos Monastery, *San Miguel* 13 Apr (C. Grindle).

Mexican Chickadee—Only 2 were detected in the Animas Mts. 11 May (RLV, JPJ).

Juniper Titmouse—One was singing east to Ragland, *Quay* 14 Mar (CMR).

White-breasted Nuthatch—One of the eastern subspecies continued in the Rattlesnake Springs area 1 Mar (JEP*).

Winter Wren—One was heard and seen west to Mangas Springs, *Grant* 23 Mar (CMR*, WTE). Another was seen at La Union 3 & 8 Apr (DAB*).

<u>Carolina Wren</u>—Continued to attract attention at Bosque NWR, where present since 2011; one to 2 could usually be heard in the vicinity of the Chupadera Deck 4 Apr-28 May (GKF, CMR, JEP, JRO, JWS, MOH, DLH, SOW); on 27 Apr, 2 were singing in the Chupadera Deck area and a third was seen and heard farther south at the Rio Viejo Trail (GKF*); all were described as singing typical songs, suggesting all were ♂♂.

Black-tailed Gnatcatcher—Reports included 2 at Oliver Lee SP 13 Apr (DJK, JMR) and singles at La Joya WMA 11 May (DLH) and west of Redrock 11 May (RSS).

Western Bluebird—For the second consecutive year, a pair nested in Albuquerque's Tingley bosque, where seen feeding nestlings 9-14 May in the same cavity used in 2012, and tending fledglings 21 May (DLH).

Mountain Bluebird—Late for the east was one at Ned Houk Park 6 May (JEP).

Swainson's Thrush—Earliest was one at Carlsbad 28 Apr (SW).

Brown Thrasher—One was singing at Bosque Redondo 16-18 May (JEP*, JRO**), where the species has nested in past years. Spring migrants included one west to Silver City 5 May (KB).

Bendire's Thrasher—One was singing north of Rodeo 29 Mar (JEP). One was northeast of Grants, *Cibola* along NM 547 on 7 May (DJK).

Crissal Thrasher—North to *Santa Fe*, a pair was at Cerrillos 21 Apr (BRF).

Cedar Waxwing—Two—one carrying nest material—were at Cedar Crest 22 May (JDL), but were not seen later.

<u>Lapland Longspur</u>—Very late and far south was an ad. δ at Holloman L. 6 Apr (NGS**).

Snow Bunting—Under review is a report of a possible one in a freshly turned agricultural field near Lingo, *Roosevelt* 5 Apr (LAS*).

Worm-eating Warbler—One was at Santa Rosa 23 May (WFWe*).

Black-and-white Warbler—One to 2 were at 11 sites in 10 counties from the RGV eastward 27 Apr-23 May; singles were west to Water Canyon 15 May (JDL) and Cliff 11 May (*fide* RSS).

Prothonotary Warbler—One was at Cerrillos 27 May (JPB**, BRF**).

Tennessee Warbler—Those with adequate details were one or 2 in the Rattlesnake Springs area 4-5 May (NDP, RN**, JEP*, MJB**) & 11 May (SW*) and singles at Bosque NWR 11 May (GKF*) and Ned Houk Park 23-25 May (JRO**, JEP*).

Lucy's Warbler—One was north in the Pecos Valley to Sumner Dam 27 Apr (JEP, WFWi). North in the RGV, 4 were singing near Bosque, *Valencia* 28 Apr (DLH).

Kentucky Warbler—Single ♂♂ were at Rattlesnake Springs 3-4 May (RN, JEP*) and Albuquerque's UNM area 15 May (S. Kelling**, NDP, JEP*, MOH).

Hooded Warbler—Reports of 5 individuals: a \circlearrowleft at RGNC 13-14 Apr (G. A. Owings, CMR*, CJW**), one at Socorro 2 May (*fide* MJB), a \circlearrowleft below Sumner Dam 25 May (JEP*), a \circlearrowleft at NRT 25 May (JEP*, JRO**), and a \circlearrowleft at Ned Houk Park 6 May (JEP*).

American Redstart—Reported from 12 counties from the RGV eastward 26 Apr-31 May, including one at Yeso 12 May (JRO), 2 each at Clayton L. 17-18 May (MJB**, NDP) and Hobbs 12 May (CL), and multiple birds at NRT 6-31 May (m.ob.).

Northern Parula—An active season, with detailed reports from nine sites from the RGV eastward, including early singles at Oliver Lee SP 13 Apr (DJK**), Tatum 14 Apr (NEH**), and La Union 17 Apr (DAB*) and a *Union* first one at Clayton L. 18 May (MJB, NDP). Others were 3 individuals at NRT during 17-31 May (JEP*, JRO**) and singles at Ned Houk Park 17 May (JEP*, JRO), Melrose 12 May (JRO**), Hobbs 5 May (CL*), and near Radium Springs 13 May (MTS*). Undetailed was a report from near Cliff 4 May (*fide* RSS).

<u>Magnolia Warbler</u>—A singing \circlearrowleft at Mesilla Park 11 May (KBO*) furnished a *Doña Ana* first. Farther east, single \circlearrowleft were at Oasis SP 9-11 May (A. Hersey, JEP*, JRO**), Sumner Dam 12 May (JEP*), and Carlsbad 12 May (R. Hurd**, SW**). One to 3 were at NRT during the period 18-31 May: a \circlearrowleft 18 May (JEP*), the same or another \circlearrowleft on 24 May (JRO**), and an undetailed bird 31 May (JRO).

Yellow Warbler—Noteworthy for the upper RGV were 8 singing 33 and 2 99 at Cochiti L. 24 May (WHH).

Chestnut-sided Warbler—Recently regular in spring migration, singles were at Galisteo 15 May (JPB**), NRT 17 May (JEP*, JRO**), Ute L. 17-18 May (NDP, MJB**, NMOSFN 52:2 (Spring 2013)

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JRO**), near Roswell 21 May (COC), and west to Sevilleta NWR 31 May (K. A. Granillo*).

<u>Blackpoll Warbler</u>—An unprecedented season produced 10 individuals in nine counties from the RGV eastward 1-27 May: one at Fred Baca Park, Taos 19 May (AET*, JWT**) provided a *Taos* first, and one at the old bridge at Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo 27 May (BRF**) provided a *Rio Arriba* first. Others were singles at Santa Fe 9 May (S. Brayshaw*), Bandelier NM, *Sandoval* 15 May (A. Washuta**), Socorro 6 May (JRO**), Bosque NWR 11 May (GKF), Mesilla Park 5 May (DJG*), Oliver Lee SP 1 May (B. Barber**), NRT 10 May (JEP*, JRO**), and Washington Ranch near Rattlesnake Springs 4-6 May (RN**, MJB**, NDP**, JEP*, JMB*).

Black-throated Blue Warbler—Typically scarce in spring migration, single ♂♂ were in the Rattlesnake Springs area 6 May (JMB*, WFWe) and NRT 25 May (L. Cuellar, JEP*, JRO**).

<u>Palm Warbler</u>—A record season found 9 individuals in seven counties, including one west to Acomita L. 29 Apr (KS**) and another there 26 May (CMR*, S. Drilling**), and one 16 km south of Magdalena 5 May (J. Wilson**). Others were singles along the Old Las Vegas Highway southeast of Santa Fe 11 May (L. Howard*, N. Brandt*), RGNC 19-20 May (JEP*, NDP), Bosque NWR 4 May (C. M. Brozek, MOH), Caballo L. 26 Apr (MOH, RLV, *fide* MJB), Clayton L. 18-19 May (MJB*, NDP), and Melrose City Park 19 May (JRO**).

Prairie Warbler—An ad. ♂ in the Brokeoff Mts. 4 May (SW*) provided an *Otero* first.

Grace's Warbler—Typically scarce in lowlands, singles were at Caballo Dam 22 Apr (NGS**) and Bosque NWR 27 Apr (GKF) and one to 2 were in the Rattlesnake Springs area 4-5 May (RN**, NDP**, MJB, JEP).

Black-throated Gray Warbler—Singles in the east were at Clayton L. 18 May (NDP), Melrose City Park 17 May (JRO), and Milnesand 10-16 Apr (LAS).

Townsend's Warbler—A ♂ was singing at Clayton L. 19 May (MJB**, NDP).

Hermit Warbler—East of expected, singles were at Sevilleta NWR 11 May (DLH*) and Las Cruces 13 May (S. Palmer**); at Bosque NWR, a ♂ was present 6 May (SEM**) and one to 2 ♂♂ were there 9-11 May (GKF). Farther west, one was in the Peloncillo Mts. 3 May (CJW**) and 2 were in the Animas Mts. 11 May (RLV, JPJ).

<u>Black-throated Green Warbler</u>—One was at Clayton L. 18 May (MJB**, NDP**). Also on 18 May, another was at RGNC (K. Herzenberg, JNP, JPJ).

Red-faced Warbler—A pair was in Hausner Canyon, Zuni Mts. 31 May (JAT).

Painted Redstart—Several appeared beyond expected range and habitat: one was north to Bear Canyon near Santa Fe 22 May (WTE*, JPB**), one to 2 were east to Rattlesnake Springs 2-5 May (RN**, m.ob., m.ph.), and singles were at Percha SP 23 Mar (CMR*), Leasburg SP 3 Apr (CJG**), Organ Mts. 30 Mar (D. D. Sorensen**), and Deming 24 Mar (CMR*, WTE).

Eastern Towhee—A ♂ was at Galisteo 19-20 May (WTE*, JPB**, BRF**).

Cassin's Sparrow—Practically non-existant in its core breeding areas in the east, where detections we down by 95% on some late May BBS routes.

Field Sparrow—Latest were one at NRT 20 Apr (JRO, DLH) and 2 near Rattlesnake Springs 4 May (MJB**, NDP).

Black-chinned Sparrow—One east to NRT 8 May (JEP) furnished the 2nd local record.

Baird's Sparrow—A late one was near Rattlesnake Springs 4 May (NDP**, MJB**, RN**, JEP*). Another was in e. *Lea* 7 Apr (LAS**).

Fox Sparrow—In the far southwest, a red one was in P.O. Canyon 16-24 Mar and a gray one was there 25 Mar (CDL).

Song Sparrow—Noteworthy lower Gila R. reports were 3 at Nichols Canyon 4 May (RSS) and one in the vicinity of the Virden bridge, *Hidalgo* 11 May (B. Rodrigues).

Swamp Sparrow—Lingering were singles at Leasburg SP 13 May (CJG**) and NRT 23 May (JRO**).

Harris's Sparrow—The one that wintered at Bosque NWR remained until 1 May (m.ob.). Others were noted at Redrock 24 Mar (CMR*, WTE), the Cooper Cemetery near Jal 28 Mar (SW*), near Lingo 21 Apr (CMR*), at Waldrop Rest Area 21 May (COC), and Oasis SP 19-22 May (JL, *fide* MJB).

Golden-crowned Sparrow—One visited a Corrales feeder 23 Mar (DJK**).

Yellow-eyed Junco—At least 3 were in the Animas Mts. 11 May (RLV, JPJ). None was seen on Jack's Peak, *Grant* 28 Apr (N. S. Cox), but Gray-headeds were present there.

Hepatic Tanager—Reports out on the prairie included singles at Ramon 12 May (SW), Vaughn 17 May (SW), south of Amistad 17 May (MJB, NDP), and NRT 31 May (JEP).

Summer Tanager—A \circlearrowleft was early at Elephant Butte 25 Mar (DJC**). Six \circlearrowleft were singing at Zuni's Blackrock bosque 30 May (JAT), where breeding was first confirmed only in 2012.

Scarlet Tanager—A ♂ below Bluewater Dam 28 May (KS) provided a *Cibola* first. Farther east, single ♂♂ were south of Amistad 17 May (MJB**, NDP**, JEP*) and at Galisteo 23 May (JPB**).

Northern Cardinal—Continued in evidence in the northeast, with singles near Sabinoso, *San Miguel* 16 Mar (CMR*), near Santa Rosa 23 May (WFWe), and Tucumcari L., *Quay* 18 May (JRO) and a pair at Ute L. 18 May (JRO**).

Pyrrhuloxia—One north to Santa Fe 10-11 Mar (JPB**, BRF) was a local first.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak—Numerous reports from at least 13 counties from the RGV eastward 23 Apr-23 May. Singles were west to Silver City 6 May (EH), P.O. Canyon 10 May (CDL), and Double Adobe, *Hidalgo* 11 May (AMC).

Varied Bunting—Reached *Eddy* by the first week of May, with at least one in the Rattlesnake Springs area 4-5 May (SW, RN, NDP) and up to 3 in Slaughter Canyon 5-6 May (JEP, JMB, WFWe).

Dickcissel—Singles west to the RGV were at Percha SP 26 Apr (RLV) and Mesilla Park 11-12 May (KBO).

Bobolink—Caused much excitement at Valle de Oro NWR, where up to 3 ♂♂ were singing 22-31 May (DLH*, mo.b., m.ph.). In *Santa Fe*, up to 3 ♂♂ were at Las Campanas 10 May (JPB**, BRF**, RC) and another was at the Wildlife Way pond 13 May (JPB*).

Common Grackle—Returned to Santa Fe 20 Mar (WFWe), the earliest ever there.

Bronzed Cowbird—Two $\lozenge\lozenge\lozenge$ were displaying northeast to Ute L. 17 May (MJB, NDP). Single $\lozenge\lozenge\lozenge$ at NRT 7-31 May (JEP*, JRO**) and near Rattlesnake Springs 8 May (JEP*) were the grayish western subspecies.

Hooded Oriole—An ad. ♂ was north to Escondida 21-22 Apr (SL**).

Baltimore Oriole—A \circlearrowleft was at Oasis SP 7-11 May (JL, JEP*, JRO**). Farther west, an ad. \circlearrowleft was at Manzano L., *Torrance* 5 May (WFWi*) and single \circlearrowleft were at Luis Lopez 6 May (JRO*) and Bosque NWR 10-12 May (GKF).

House Finch—An orange ♂ was at Roswell 26 Apr (K. Truetken**).

Red Crossbill—Unusually widespread, including being considered "common" in the Zuni Mts. in May (JAT) and with up to 62 in the Sandia Mts. 27 May (WHH). Roaming flocks included up to 6 at Elephant Butte 12-20 May (DJC), 10 near Radium Springs 25 Mar (MTS, JEZ), and up to 11 at Deming 20-24 Mar (LKM, CMR, WTE). Several seen repeatedly at Silver City in May were suspected of nesting locally (D. A. Zimmerman*).

<u>Lawrence's Goldfinch</u>—Apparently the last of those that wintered in the lower Pecos Valley, a 3 was at Carlsbad 5 Apr (W. Parr*). In the lower RGV, a 3 and 4 came to water near Radium Springs 11 Mar (MTS) and a 4 made a brief appearance there 18 Mar (MTS, JEZ).

American Goldfinch—An impressive flock of 250 was at Conchas Dam 19 May (MJB).

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NEW MEXICO COUNTIES

