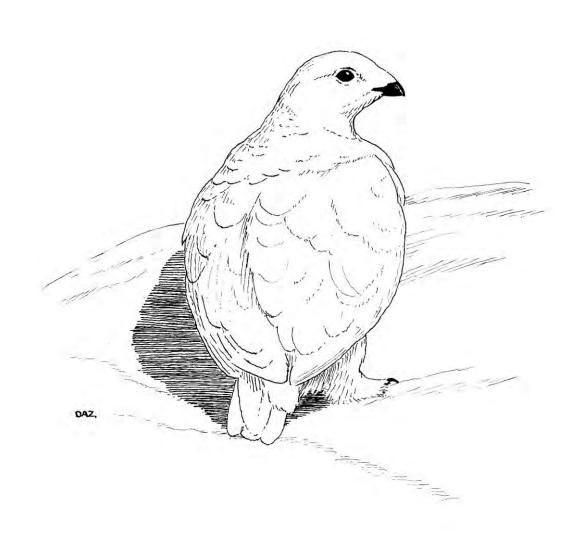
New Mexico Ornithological Society Field Notes



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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 \$10; Family \$15; Student \$5; Supporting \$35; Life \$300. Address for the New Mexico Ornithological Society: P. O. Box 3068, Albuquerque, NM 87190-3068.

Cover: White-tailed Ptarmigan (*Lagopus leucura*). This alpine tundra-inhabiting grouse reaches its southernmost limit in New Mexico's Sangre de Cristo Mts., where it is listed as endangered by New Mexico. Historically found on all the higher peaks of the range, it was nearly extirpated by unrestricted killing and habitat degradation from grazing. A 1981 transplant of Colorado birds to the southern peaks was successful, and the species now occurs in most of the historic range. Art by Dale A. Zimmerman.

SUMMER SEASON 2006

Summer 2006 opened dry, but generous rains began in late June and spread generally statewide by late July, improving habitat for nesting and migrant species. Numerous rarities were found, including state-first Black-capped Gnatcatcher (found nesting), sight reports of the state's first Aztec Thrush and the state's second Green Kingfisher, and photographic documentation of the state's third Berylline Hummingbird. The North American Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) was expanded to New Mexico in 1968 and since has proven to be vital in detecting long-term population trends of birds; this season, all 62 of the state's BBS routes were conducted, so congratulations are in order to all New Mexico BBS volunteers for achieving 100% coverage.

Localities and Counties

Albuquerque, Bernalillo

Animas, Cr., Mts., Valley, Hidalgo

Antelope Wells, Hidalgo

Belen, *Valencia*Bernardo, *Socorro*Bill Evans Lake, *Grant*Bitter Lake NWR, *Chaves*Bloomfield, *San Juan*Bluewater, *Cibola*

Boone's Draw, Roosevelt

Bosque del Apache NWR, Socorro

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

Carlsbad Caverns NP, *Eddy* Cedar Crest, *Bernalillo* Cerrillos, *Santa Fe* Chama, *Rio Arriba*

Cimarron, Canyon, River *Colfax* Cliff, Cliff-Gila Valley, *Grant*

Cloudcroft, *Otero* Columbus, *Luna* Corona, *Lincoln* Datil, *Catron*

Delaware River, *Eddy*

Deming, *Luna*Dixon, *Rio Arriba*Eagle Nest, Lake, *Colfax*Eldorado, *Santa Fe*

Elephant Butte Lake, Sierra El Rito, Cr., Rio Arriba Embudo, Rio Arriba Farmington, San Juan Fence Lake, Cibola Folsom. Union

Fort Sumner, De Baca

French Lake, Colfax

NMOSFN 45:3 (Summer 2006)

Gallinas Mts., *Lincoln*Gila Bird Area, *Grant*Gila Hot Springs, *Grant*

Grenville, Union

Guadalupe Canyon, *Hidalgo* Guadalupe Mts., *Eddy* Holloman Lake, *Otero*

Jal, Lake, Lea

Jemez Falls, Springs, Sandoval

Lake Avalon, Eddy
Lake Roberts, Grant
Lakewood, Eddy
Las Cruces, Doña Ana
Lordsburg, Hidalgo
Los Lunas, Valencia
Luis Lopez, Socorro
Madrid, Santa Fe

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

Mayhill, *Otero*Melrose, *Curry*Mesilla, *Doña Ana*Miami Lake, *Colfax*Mills, Canyon, *Harding*

Mimbres, *Grant*Mogollon, *Catron*Morgan Lake, *San Juan*Navajo Dam, *San Juan*north *Roosevelt* trap (NRT)

Pastura, *Guadalupe* Pecos, *San Miguel* Peloncillo Mts., *Hidalgo*

Piñon, Otero

Pinos Altos Mts., *Grant* Ponil Cr., *Colfax*

Portales, Roosevelt

Post Office Canyon, Hidalgo

Quarai, Torrance Santa Fe, Ski Basin, Santa Fe Quemado Lake, Catron Santa Rosa, Guadalupe Radium Springs, Doña Ana Silver City, Grant Ramah Lake, McKinley Six Mile Dam, Eddy Raton, Pass, Colfax Springer, Lake, Colfax Rattlesnake Springs, *Eddy* Stone Lake, Rio Arriba Stubblefield Lake, Colfax Rodeo, Hidalgo Ruidoso, Lincoln Sugarite SP, Colfax Sabinoso, San Miguel Sumner Lake, Dam, De Baca Sandia Crest, Bernalillo Taos, Ski Valley, Taos Sandia Mts., Sandoval/Bernalillo Trigg Ranch, San Miguel Truth or Consequences, Sierra San Jon, Quay San Juan Pueblo, Rio Arriba Vadito, Taos San Lorenzo, Grant Velarde, Rio Arriba Vermejo Ranch, Colfax

San Mateo Mts., Socorro

Santa Barbara Divide, RA/MO/TA

Standard Abbreviations

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

Initialed Observers

JPB	Jonathan P. Batkin
MJB	Matt J. Baumann
JB	Jason Beason
DJB	David J. Beatty
CEB	Clait E. Braun
CRB	Charles R. Britt
CMB	Celestyn M. Brozek
DJC	David J. Cleary
NSC	Nancy S. Cox
JD-M	Joan Day-Martin
RHD	Robert H. Doster
JD	John Douglas
SF	Stacey Fradkin
MF	Mike Fugagli
GG	Gail Garber
DJG	David J. Griffin
MJH	M. Joan Hardie
DLH	David L. Hawksworth
WHH	William H. Howe
JMH	Jeff M. Howland
CAH	Charles A. Hundertmark
DJK	David J. Krueper
JDL	J. David Ligon
CDL	Carroll D. Littlefield
CGL	Carl G. Lundblad

MDM Martin D. MacRoberts

LKM Larry K. Malone RAM Raymond A. Meyer JBM James B. Montgomery

APN	Alan P. Nelson
BDN	Bruce D. Neville
JRO	Jerry R. Oldenettel
JEP	John E. Parmeter
NDP	Nicholas D. Pederson
RR	Ross Rasmussen
JR	John Rees
MMR	Mary M. Ristow
CMR	Christopher M. Rustay
LAS	Lawry A. Sager
HRS	Hart R. Schwarz
MTS	Marcy T. Scott
RSS	Roland S. Shook
DWS	Dale W. Stahlecker
JNS	James N. Stuart
RT	Robert Templeton
RLV	Raymond L. Vanbuskirk
BV	Brad Vaughn
GLW	Gordon L. Warrick
MLW	
REW	Richard E. Webster
SW	Steve West
	William F. West
	S. O. Williams III
JEZ	
BRZ	2
DAZ	Dale A. Zimmerman

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck—An ad. put in a brief but well documented stop at the Deming waste water treatment plant 14 Jun (LKM**).

Fulvous Whistling-Duck—Two ads. made a short but well documented visit to Bosque NWR 9 Jul (JEP*, NDP*, MJB**, CMR*, BDN*).

Wood Duck—A male was at Eagle Nest L. 21 Jun (DJC) and 2 males were on the Black R. near Rattlesnake Springs 3 Jun (SW).

Gadwall—A female with 2 young was at French L. near Cimarron 6 Jun (DJC).

Ring-necked Duck—Several males summered in Colfax, with 2 at French L. 6 Jun and singles at Stubblefield L. and Maxwell NWR 3 Jul (DJC).

Lesser Scaup—Unseasonal was a pair at Maxwell NWR 9 Jun (DJC).

Hooded Merganser—Up to 3 pre-flight ducklings at Bosque NWR 6 Jun (J. Vradenberg**, JEP) documented another successful nesting there.

Ruddy Duck—A female with 3 young was at Belen's Taco Bell marsh 11 Jun (CMR).

White-tailed Ptarmigan—Partial surveys in the Pecos Wilderness located 6 at several locales along the Santa Barbara Divide 12-14 Jun (CEB*): a male and a pair near Jicarita Peak, Taos and 3 males above the East Fork Santa Barbara R., Rio Arriba. Three apparent males were in the same general area 19 Jul (D. H. Wolfe**).

Dusky Grouse—A male was at the dependable Aspen Vista site above Santa Fe 4 Jun (BRZ).

Gambel's Quail—A pair with 4 chicks was in the Monticello subdivision, Tijeras Canyon, Bernalillo 18 Jun (BV*), where apparently introduced.

Northern Bobwhite—Noteworthy for *Union* was one on Perico Cr. 3 mi west of Texline 26 Jun (HRS).

Montezuma Quail—Much in evidence in Catron, Grant, and Hidalgo, including a pair with 8 chicks at Mogollon 22 Jun (CGL).

Common Loon—Summer singles were at Sumner L. 4 Jun (WHH*) and Miami L. 1-28 Jul (DJC**).

Eared Grebe—Some 225 active nests were at Horse L., Rio Arriba 13 Jul (DWS); 16 nests were at Stubblefield L. 19 Jul, where a pair was tending a chick 21 Jul (DJC**).

Aechmophorus grebes—At Morgan L., 147 were seen carrying nesting material 24 Jun (APN), but successful nesting was not documented. A large mixed species breeding colony was reported at EBL 5 Jun (WFW). Westerns nested in *Rio Arriba*, with up to 30 - 36 -

nests and one brood at Stone L. 13 Jul and a brood at Enbom L. 13 Jul (DWS). A **Western** pair was at a nest on Eagle Nest L. 1 Jul (DJC). Both species nested successfully at Stubblefield L., where there were one **Western** and 3 **Clark's** broods 27 Jun (DJC) and 2 nests of each 13 Jul (DJC**). Three ad. **Clark's** were each tending chicks at Sumner L. 4 Jun (WHH).

Great Blue Heron—Two nests with large young were on the Navajo R. 1.5 mi north of Dulce, *Rio Arriba* 13 Jun (DWS). Three nests at Gila Hot Springs in late Jun fledged 7 young (P. Yoder *fide* DJB).

Great Egret—Beyond usual range were two north to Navajo Dam 20 Jun (J. Groves), singles at three Albuquerque sites 8-13 Jun (DLH), 3 at Peralta, *Valencia* 6 Jul (E. Nunez), and one at Lordsburg 6 Jun (JRO) & 23 Jun (JEP).

Little Blue Heron—An ad. was near Radium Springs 4 Jun (MTS, JEZ**).

Black-crowned Night-Heron—Ads. were carrying sticks at Springer L. 12 & 16 Jun, where a small colony was established by 1 Jul (DJC).

<u>Yellow-crowned Night-Heron</u>—An ad. was at Bosque NWR 10-11 Jun (L. P. Gorbet, CMR*).

<u>Glossy Ibis</u>—An ad. was among several transient White-faceds at Stubblefield L. 1-7 Jun (DJC**).

Osprey—In spite of a massive fish kill at Ramah L. 27 Jun, the nest there fledged at least one young by late Jul (DWS). Of the 17 occupied territories in n. *Rio Arriba*, 8 were successful, fledging 17 young (DWS).

White-tailed Kite—Two to 4 were in the vicinity of Rodeo 8-31 Jul (JEP, REW).

Mississippi Kite—Continued to increase in the middle RGV, with up to 8 pairs in the Los Lunas area Jun-Jul (DLH). North to the upper RGV was one at San Juan Pueblo 14 Jul (SF*).

Northern Harrier—Unusual in summer in drought years, singles were near BLNWR 5 Jun (WHH) and Carlsbad 2 Jun (*fide* SW).

Common Black-Hawk—One was north to Santa Rosa 14 Jul (JRO**). Unusual were 1-2 in a Silver City riparian area through the period (DJB).

Harris's Hawk—Reportedly becoming scarce in the Carlsbad area (SW).

Gray Hawk—Continued to populate *Hidalgo*, with one at Rodeo 16 Jul and later (REW), one in the middle Animas Valley 21 Jul (JEP), and up to 2 in Guadalupe Canyon Jun-Jul (m.ob.).

Zone-tailed Hawk—An active nest at Mills Canyon 30 Jun had failed by 28 Jul (HRS).

Ferruginous Hawk—A nest n. of Roy, *Harding* 29 Jun (HRS) contained both dark and light morph nestlings.

Golden Eagle—Productivity counts at active nests in the northeast 3 Jun found 26 of 46 were successful, producing 36 young (DWS). Ground searches in *Rio Arriba* determined 5 nests fledged 6 young by Jun (DWS).

<u>Aplomado Falcon</u>—At least one ad. was in s. *Luna* Jun-Jul (RAM), where the species has been resident since 2000.

Common Moorhen—An ad. with 2 chicks was at a marsh near the Camino Real Heritage Center, c. *Socorro* 5 Jun (WFW). Elsewhere, 2 ads. were tending 4 chicks at BLNWR 21 Jun (GLW) and 1-2 were at four *Doña Ana* sites 5 Jun-15 Jul (CGL, CRB).

<u>American Golden-Plover</u>—Certainly unseasonal was a bright one at the Navajo agricultural area south of Farmington 22 Jun (JR**).

Snowy Plover—Peripheral were singles at Stubblefield L. 9 Jun (DJC) and Springer L. 12 Jun (DJC**). High counts were 295 at BLNWR 21 Jun (GLW) and 8 ads. at Brantley L. 8 Jun (RHD).

Semipalmated Plover—Earliest were one at Springer L. 22 Jul (DJC) and 2 at Stubblefield L. 31 Jul (DJC).

Mountain Plover—Noteworthy were one on the North Plains, *Cibola* 2 Jun (DJK) and 7 north of Tres Piedras, *Taos* 4 & 11 Jul (JEP. WFW); 18 on the Grenville BBS 25 Jun (CMR) was the largest number there in several years.

Black-necked Stilt—Unusual for summer were 2 each at Stubblefield L. 14 Jun (DJC) and Bill Evans L. 13 Jun (RSS).

Spotted Sandpiper—Noteworthy for the lower Pecos Valley in summer, 1-3 were at BLNWR 7 Jun-19 Jul (GLW) and 5 at L. Avalon 3 Jul (SW). An ad. with 2 downy chicks 3 Jul documented breeding at Sugarite SP (CAH).

Solitary Sandpiper—Earliest fall migrants were one at Vermejo Ranch, *Colfax* 5 & 8 Jul (DJC), one at Bosque NWR 6 Jul (JEP), and 2 at Holloman L. 7 Jul (CRB). Unusual at 2440 m was one west of Datil 30 Jul (MJH**).

Lesser Yellowlegs—The 34 at BLNWR 5 Jul (GLW) and 22 at Bosque NWR 9 Jul (CMR) were large numbers for so early in the fall migration season.

Long-billed Curlew—Unusual along the Mexican border in summer, 8 were in fields west of Columbus 7 Jul (RAM).

Marbled Godwit—Earliest were 15 at Springer L. 16 Jun (DJC**), where there were 5 on 20 Jun (DJC). Singles reached L. Avalon 3 Jul (SW) and BLNWR 5 Jul (GLW).

Red Knot—An ad. was at EBL's Monticello Point 29 Jul (JEP*, JRO**).

Sanderling—Early were singles at Vermejo Ranch 8 Jul (DJC) and L. Avalon 10 Jul (SW).

White-rumped Sandpiper—Impressive numbers passed through in early Jun, including a record 54 at BLNWR 5 Jun (GLW, JMH) and 52 at Stubblefield L. 5 Jun (DJC) where there were 43 on 9 Jun (DJC**). Far west and a *Rio Arriba* first were 2 at Stone L. 10 Jun (JEP).

Stilt Sandpiper—More numerous than usual in the RGV, aided in part by low water levels in lakes and reservoirs; up to 5 were at Bosque NWR 9 Jul (JEP, NDP, CMR) and 20 were at EBL 29 Jul (JEP).

Short-billed Dowitcher—Five were vocal at Stubblefield L. 19 Jul (audio DJC).

Wilson's Snipe—Summering birds included one near Vadito, *Taos* 9 Jul (JEP), 2 just west of Taos on NM 240 on 2 Jul (JEP), and 2 at French L. 7 & 21 Jun (DJC).

Wilson's Phalarope—Returning females were 15 at EBL 20 Jun (JRO) and 170 at Holloman L. the same day (CGL).

Laughing Gull—An ad. was at Brantley L. 3 Jun (SW*).

California Gull—High count for summering birds at Eagle Nest L. was 20 on 21 Jun & 1 Jul (DJC).

Sabine's Gull—Remarkable for the early date was a juv. at Stubblefield L. 31 Jul (DJC*).

Least Tern—Experienced its worst breeding season in New Mexico in recent history. At the BLNWR colony, 13 pairs made 21 nest attempts but fledged only 2 young; predation was the likely cause (JBM). At the new Brantley L. colony, where 7 pairs were present, 4 pairs initiated nests but rising water inundated them all by 12 Jun (JBM, RHD). West to the RGV were singles on the Rio Grande in Albuquerque's South Valley 15 Jun (DLH) and Bosque NWR 1 Jun (BRZ**).

Black Tern—Southbound birds arrived at multiple locales 27-31 Jul; noteworthy were 14 at Quemado L. 28 Jul (MJH), 10 at Deming 30 Jul (LKM), and 50 at Stubblefield L. 31 Jul (DJC).

<u>Arctic Tern</u>—Single ads. were at L. Avalon 3 Jul (SW*) and EBL's Three Sisters Point 29-30 Jul (JEP*, JRO*, NDP*, MJB*, JPB*).

Rock Pigeon—A determined ad. was on a nest atop the moving robotic arm inside a carwash at Los Lunas 13 Jul (DLH).

Eurasian Collared-Dove—An ad. with 2 fledglings was in a rural area near Raton 21 Jun (CAH).

White-winged Dove—In new locales were singles at Embudo in Jun (*fide* RT), Bluewater 23 Jun (HRS), Bear Mts., *Socorro* 2 Jun (HRS), and upper Nogal Canyon, San Mateo Mts. 6 Jun (HRS).

Common Ground-Dove—The female that wintered at Las Cruces was last seen 13 Jul (DJG). One was vocal in the middle Animas Valley 25 Jun (JEP).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo—Typically relatively scarce in n. New Mexico, so noteworthy were one near Folsom 24 Jun (CMR) and, in the upper RGV, 2 at Velarde 6 Jun (RT) and singles at Dixon 8 Jun (*fide* RT) and San Juan Pueblo 14 Jul (MDM). In the southeast, singles were found in saltcedar at Brantley L. 22 Jun (RHD) and former L. McMillan, *Eddy* 6 Jul (RHD) but none was in the Six Mile Dam area where saltcedar has been killed (SW). Up to 5, including one pair, were in hackberry in Walnut Canyon, CCNP 19 Jun (DJG).

Northern Pygmy-Owl—Sounding much like a Cliff Chipmunk, one in the Post Office Canyon area was giving single-note (not two-note) calls 5 Jun (CDL).

Elf Owl—Only recently discovered in *Eddy*, one in Last Chance Canyon was entering a nest cavity 7 Jun (SW).

Long-eared Owl—An ad. with a fledgling was at Eldorado 18 Jun (JPB**). A pair was with 2 young at a nest 13 mi south of Tijeras, *Bernalillo* 23-24 Jun (D. Dain**).

Northern Saw-whet Owl—Scarce in the Sacramento Mts., one was vocal in Philadelphia Canyon, *Lincoln* 17 Jul (SW).

Lesser Nighthawk—Unexpected away from low desert areas, 3 were foraging in upper Post Office Canyon on the evening of 15 Jun (CDL); similarly unusual was one in upper Guadalupe Canyon 24 Jun (JEP).

Black Swift—At least 5 nests were being incubated at Jemez Falls 1 Jul (JEP).

<u>Berylline Hummingbird</u>—A male banded in the Mimbres Valley, *Grant* 25 Jul (JD-M**) provided New Mexico's 3rd record and first away from *Hidalgo*.

Blue-throated Hummingbird—A female was at L. Roberts 24 Jul (JD-M fide DJB).

Magnificent Hummingbird—One was north to the Datil Mts. 13 mi west of Datil 5 Jun (MJH).

Lucifer Hummingbird—Use of standard 35-minute watch periods at feeders in Post Office Canyon yielded 31 males 1 Jul and 8 females 21 Jun & 7 Jul; first fledglings were 2 there 26 Jul (CDL*).

Anna's Hummingbird—An ad. male was at a Santa Fe feeder 7 May-8 Jul (L. C. Herrmann), the same feeder where one spent last fall. An ad. male reached Post Office Canyon 26 Jul (CDL).

Calliope Hummingbird—Earliest were single males at Radium Springs 5 Jul (MTS), Maxwell 7 Jul (DJC), and Las Cruces 8 Jul (DJG).

Rufous Hummingbird—Earliest were single males at El Rito 24 Jun (JRO) and Grey Feathers Lodge, *Grant* 26 Jun (L. Galloway).

<u>Allen's Hummingbird</u>—Two were banded at L. Roberts 16 Jul (JD-M, JEP*, DAZ**), where the capture ratio of Rufous to Allen's was 40:1 (JEP); one to 2 greenbacked apparent Allen's were there 27 Jul (JRO**, NDP, MJB).

Elegant Trogon—A pair in the central Peloncillo Mts. south of Skeleton Canyon 21 Jul (RLV*) provided the first evidence of apparent breeding away from Skeleton Canyon.

Belted Kingfisher—One entered a hole in the stream bank below Jemez Falls 17 Jun (JEP).

<u>Green Kingfisher</u>—Well described was an ad. male seen and heard on the Gila R. at the NM Highway 211 bridge near Cliff 5 Jul (K. M. Brodhead*), but no photographs were obtained. This is the 2nd state report in less than a year for this unverified species.

Lewis's Woodpecker—A small colony at Sugarite SP had at least one active nest 20 Jun (CAH), but the species was gone 30 Jun, and replaced by Acorn Woodpeckers (CAH).

Red-headed Woodpecker—In apparent breeding locales were 11 on Trigg Ranch, e. *San Miguel* 16-17 Jun (SF+ *fide* MDM) and 7 there, including imms., 19-20 Jul (MDM), 2 in a cottonwood grove near Romeroville, *San Miguel* 23 Jun (JNS), an ad. pair entering a cavity at NRT 1 Jun (SOW), and 3 ads. at Boone's Draw 1 Jun (SOW).

Acorn Woodpecker—Up to 4 had invaded Sugarite SP 30 Jun, apparently displacing nesting Lewis's, and by 12-13 Jul the Acorns were actively nesting there (CAH*, DJC**). Two or more in the Gallinas Mts. near Corona early May through Jul (JDL) may be the first for that range. Far east was one at NRT on the afternoon of 1 Jun (R. L. Floyd*), where it was severely harassed by the local nesting Red-headeds.

Gila Woodpecker—Encouraging for the Cliff-Gila Valley were 1-2 near Cliff 23 Jun (LKM) and a nest at GBA 7 Jun (RSS), the first there in a decade. One was on Deer Cr. west of Antelope Wells 9 Jun (SOW), the only locale in New Mexico where the species resides east of the Continental Divide.

American Three-toed Woodpecker—Noteworthy for the Sandia Mts. was one at Sandia Crest 7 & 15 Jul (CMB*). Although resident south to the Mogollon Mts., the species is rarely reported there; this season, 2 were near Willow Cr. CG, *Catron* 21-22 Jul (CGL**).

Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet—Up to 4 were in Guadalupe Canyon 24 Jun (JEP).

Greater Pewee—Up to 6 vocal individuals were north in the Black Range to Dark Canyon, *Grant* 9 Jul (CGL, CRB).

Willow Flycatcher—In recently established summering areas were one on Ponil Cr. east of Cimarron 3 Jun-1 Jul (DJC) and a pair on the Mimbres R. south of San Lorenzo 25 May-14 Jul (RR*).

Gray Flycatcher—Noteworthy were 2 in Armijo Canyon, Sandia Mts. 15 Jun (HRS) and one in Tajique Canyon, Manzano Mts. 16 Jun (HRS). Ten on the BBS in the Gallinas Mts. near Corona 9 Jun (HRS) was twice the annual average there. Ten on the Piñon BBS 13 Jun (WHH) was a record high.

Dusky Flycatcher—An ad. carrying food at Sugarite SP 22 Jun (CAH) and 2 pairs carrying food on the eastern edge of Johnson Mesa, *Colfax* 24 Jun (CMR) strongly suggested nesting in those two areas. Elsewhere in *Colfax*, summering Duskies were in Dean Canyon west of Cimarron 28 Jun (audio DJC), at Raton Pass 5 Jul (CAH), and Bartlett Mesa east of Raton Pass 4 Jul (CAH).

Black Phoebe—Nested north to the Cimarron area for the 3rd consecutive year (DJC**).

Eastern Phoebe—A singing one at Orilla Verde CG, *Taos* 5 Jun (K. Epperson) was not relocated 7 Jun. An active nest was on the Canadian R. at Mills Canyon CG 29 May (*fide* HRS) and a pair was at the head of Mills Canyon 30 Jun (HRS).

Vermilion Flycatcher—Seven were northeast to Trigg Ranch 19-20 Jul (MDM). A male was displaying at BLNWR 4 Jun (WHH).

Dusky-capped Flycatcher—A pair found at Cherry Cr. CG, Pinos Altos Mts. 16 Jun (MF) was observed nest building in a tree cavity there 17 Jun (DAZ**) and continued there into mid-Jul (m.ob.). One or more were in the Jack's Peak area, Burro Mts. 20 Jun (RSS) & 7 Jul (CGL), where first found summering in 2005.

Brown-crested Flycatcher—Maintaining its presence east to *Sierra*, 3 pairs were along Las Animas Cr., Ladder Ranch 5 Jun (WFW).

Thick-billed Kingbird—Following several years of declining numbers, multiple Jun-Jul visits to Guadalupe Canyon found none in the New Mexico portion of the canyon (JEP+).

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher—Noteworthy were a local first one near Lakewood 3 Jun (SW), 1-2 on the Delaware R. 4 Jun & 9 Jul (RAM), and a nest at Waldrop Park, e. *Chaves* 2 Jun (SOW). Beyond expected range were one at Raton 14 Jun (*fide* DJC), one near Sabinoso 19 Jun (CMR), 2 at Trigg Ranch 17 Jun (SF *fide* MDM), 5 at San Jon 16 Jul (MLW), one near Melrose 15 Jul (CMR), and 2 near Portales 1 Jun (SOW).

Bell's Vireo—Where seldom reported were 2 at Rodeo 8 Jul (JEP), one in the middle Animas Valley 25 Jun & 21 Jul (JEP), 2 on WSMR in *Doña Ana* east of San Augustin Pass 2 & 14 Jun (CGL), one at Lakewood 3 Jun (SW), and one at Jal 6 Jun (SOW).

Gray Vireo—Again summered in the Oscura Mts., *Socorro* where there was a pair with a fledgling 20 Jul (CGL, CRB). In the San Andres Mts., singles were in Buckhorn Canyon and Cottonwood Canyon, both *Sierra* 11 Jul (CRB, CGL) and San Andres Canyon, *Doña Ana* 15 Jun (WHH).

Plumbeous Vireo—Unexpected in middle RGV riparian habitat, a successful nest was at Bosque Village, *Valencia* 30 Jun-14 Jul (DLH).

Red-eyed Vireo—An ad. with a begging young at Raton Pass 16 Jul (CAH*) provided the best evidence yet that the species nests in New Mexico. Other apparently summering birds were one at Cedar Crest 28 Jun (CMB), where also present in May, and 2 on the Delaware R. 4 Jun & a male singing there 9 Jul (RAM).

Clark's Nutcracker—Noteworthy for the s. Black Range was one just north of Emory Pass, *Sierra* 4 Jun (CGL).

American Crow—Often overlooked in summer, small groups breed widely in New Mexico's mountains; this season found an ad. feeding young on Bartlett Mesa, *Colfax* 4 Jul (CAH), several near Gila Hot Springs 28 Jun (SOW), 6 at Mayhill 16 Jun (SW), and 2 at Piñon 13 Jun (WHH).

Chihuahuan Raven—Far west was one east of Fence Lake 2 Jun (DJK).

Common Raven—Often overlooked on the prairie, a nest with nestlings was at NRT 4 Jun (WHH). Noteworthy for the Guadalupe Mts. was a nest with nestlings in Robinson Draw near Queen 5 Jun (SW).

Purple Martin—A pair tending nestlings in the Gallinas Mts. near Corona 26 Jul (JDL) provided a local first. Breeding birds were noted in the Sangre de Cristo Mts. in *Colfax* (DJC**) and *San Miguel* (WFW) in Jun.

Tree Swallow—A pair was nesting in a Wood Duck box at Sugarite SP 21 Jun-7 Jul (CAH, DJC**). An active nest was in a box at Eagle Nest 21 Jun (DJC**).

Bank Swallow—Six were at San Juan Pueblo 14 Jul (MDM), where the species nested in past years.

Juniper Titmouse—Unusual was one at GBA 21 Jun (RSS).

Verdin—One at Carlsbad 18 Jun+ (SW) proved adept at slitting the base of trumpetvine blossoms, apparently to obtain nectar.

Red-breasted Nuthatch—One was in the Burro Mts. 27 Jun (LKM), where not known to nest.

Cactus Wren—Noteworthy for *Guadalupe* were 27 on the Pastura BBS 4 Jun (WHH). In e. Albuquerque, an ad. was tending 2 fledglings in Embudo Canyon 16 Jul (CMB).

Golden-crowned Kinglet—Two family groups were on seldom visited Little Costilla Peak, *Colfax* 17 Jun (DJC).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher—Four pairs were in upper Lee's Canyon, Peloncillo Mts. 17 Jun (CDL); a pair fledged one in Post Office Canyon 26 Jul (CDL). One singing on the Piñon BBS 13 Jun was a local first.

Black-tailed Gnatcatcher—Two were north to Cottonwood Canyon, Hardscrabble Mts., *Sierra* 11 Jul (CGL). Up to 4 were in Guadalupe Canyon 5 & 24 Jun (JEP).

<u>Black-capped Gnatcatcher</u>—Previously unreported in New Mexico, the species finally "arrived" when 2 were found in Guadalupe Canyon 4 Jun (RLV+), a vocal male was tape recorded there 9 Jul (audio R. C. Hoyer), and ad. pair was feeding nestlings 22 Jul (P. Abbott**, JRO**, JEP*+) and 24 Jul (REW*). The intact nest was empty 28 Jul (JRO, NDP, MJB).

Eastern Bluebird—Two more pairs were found breeding in the middle RGV: a pair with 2 fledglings at Bernardo 20 Jun (DLH*) and a pair with 2 fledglings at Bosque Farms, *Valencia* 18 Jul (DLH*).

Veery—Found at two dependable summer locales: one east of Vadito 10 Jun (CMR) and 2 at Chama 9 Jun (JEP) & 11 Jul (JRO).

<u>Aztec Thrush</u>—New Mexico's first report was an ad. male along Santa Fe's Bishop Lodge Road 15 Jul (D. F. Doeppers*); efforts to relocate it for photographic verification were unsuccessful. The observation occurred concurrent with the appearance of several individuals in Arizona.

Gray Catbird—Noteworthy for the lower RGV was one in the Mesilla bosque 8 Jun (JD).

Northern Mockingbird—Unusually abundant in the RGV bosque from *Bernalillo* to *Socorro* (DLH). Found occupying habitat recently opened by fire in the Sacramento Mts. in *Otero* (WHH).

Brown Thrasher—Summering were singles in upper Mills Canyon 30 Jun (HRS), Bosque Redondo near Fort Sumner 4 Jun (WHH), and Walnut Canyon, CCNP 19 Jun (DJG).

Curve-billed Thrasher—A nest with eggs was in the Caja del Rio area west of Santa Fe 29 Jun (MMR). A nest with eggs in the Bear Mts., *Socorro* 2 Jun (HRS) provided a local first.

Cedar Waxwing—A new breeding locale was established with the discovery of ads. feeding nestlings south of Jemez Springs 19 Jul & 21 Jul (GG, WHH*). Nine were at San Juan Pueblo 14 Jul (MDM) but no nests were seen.

Phainopepla—Typically arrives north to Quarai in mid-June, where this season there was a nest with small young 23 Jul (HRS). Two were along Galisteo Cr. east of Cerrillos 21 Jul (LAS).

Olive Warbler—Far from known range was a female in Philadelphia Canyon north of Ruidoso, *Lincoln* 24 Jul (SW*), apparently a first for the Sacramento Mts. One was singing in the San Mateo Mts. near Hughes CG 19 Jun (SOW).

Lucy's Warbler—A pair on the Black R. near Rattlesnake Springs 3 Jun (RAM) provided a new *Eddy* locale.

Yellow Warbler—Noteworthy for *Union* were ads. feeding fledglings west of Folsom 24 Jun (CMR).

<u>Cape May Warbler</u>—A male was singing at Sipapu Lodge, *Taos* 9 Jun (JEP*).

Grace's Warbler—A migrant in Post Office Canyon 31 Jul (CDL), traveling with Bushtits, was a local first.

<u>Prairie Warbler</u>—Nicely described was a singing ad. male at Albuquerque's Tingley Beach 2 Jun (T. W. Fetz*).

Black-and-white Warbler—One on the Gila R. near Cliff 6-7 Jun (DAZ+) provided the lone report.

American Redstart—A young male was at the Ladder Ranch, *Sierra* 5 Jun (WFW).

Ovenbird—One heard but not seen was singing at Sugarite SP 9 Jul (CMR*); although not known to nest in New Mexico, the species breeds just to the north in Colorado.

Northern Waterthrush—Late were singles at Radium Springs 4 Jun (MTS, JEZ) and Riley Spring on the R. Salado, *Socorro* 7 Jun (NSC).

<u>Kentucky Warbler</u>—An apparent one was heard but not seen near El Porvenir, *San Miguel* 10 Jun (CMR*); details are under review.

<u>Mourning Warbler</u>—A singing male was described below the L. Maloya Dam at Sugarite SP 2 Jul (D. M. Elwonger*). A subsequent observer reported one of 7 MacGillivray's Warblers there had reduced white eye arcs 9 Jul (CMR*); on 13 Jul, another observer reported a male *Oporornis* lacking bold white eye arcs and singing a song believed intermediate between Mourning and MacGillivray's (CAH*). The New Mexico Bird Records Committee will try to sort these out.

Wilson's Warbler—Clearly summering were 4, including singing males, in the vicinity of the Taos Ski Village 9 Jun (JEP) and 3 there 3 Jul (JEP).

Red-faced Warbler—Continuing in the Sacramento Mts. were 3 along the R. Peñasco south of Cloudcroft 14 Jun (WHH).

Yellow-breasted Chat—Two were in Tajique Canyon, Manzano Mts. 16 Jun (HRS), where regular since 2004.

Summer Tanager—One was north to upper Mills Canyon 28 Jul (HRS) and 5 were at Trigg Ranch 16-17 Jun (SF+ *fide* MDM); a male was on the upper Gila R. at Gila Hot Springs 27 Jun (SOW).

Western Tanager—A male returned to Las Cruces by 3 Jul (DJG).

Cassin's Sparrow—Appeared in numerous unexpected locales west of usual, especially after the rains began in late Jun. Noteworthy were 2 on Rowe Mesa south of Pecos 3 Jun (CMR), singles singing at El Rito 24 Jun (JRO) and Taos 3 Jul (JEP), 35 singing at Caja del Rio near Santa Fe 29 Jun (MMR), 4 singing at the Navajo agricultural area south of Farmington 16 Jul (JR) and one at Bloomfield 21 Jul (JR).

Brewer's Sparrow—Again summered east to Stubblefield L., where there were 2-3 singing males 1 Jun and a nest with eggs 5 Jun (DJC*).

Black-chinned Sparrow—For the 3rd summer, present north to the La Jara Cr. drainage, nw. *Rio Arriba* (*fide* JB). One was singing south of Madrid 11 Jun (B. R. Foy), where now reliable.

Vesper Sparrow—Three were singing along Sauz Cr. 5 mi south of Abbott, *Colfax* 29 Jun (HRS).

Black-throated Sparrow—At the northern edge of the range was a pair feeding young at Caja del Rio near Santa Fe 29 Jun (MMR).

Lark Bunting—Dry conditions in Jun resulted in no known nesting activity in ne. New Mexico; early fall migrants reached s. *Luna* 7 Jul (RAM) and Radium Springs 12 Jul (MTS, JEZ).

Grasshopper Sparrow—One to 2 males were singing in alfalfa near Cliff throughout Jun (MF, DAZ**, JRO) and at least one persisted there 8 Jul (CGL**) & 23 Jul (CGL); a female was suspected but no nesting was confirmed. In the s. Animas Valley, where cattle have been removed for two growing seasons, habitat conditions in Jun were greatly improved in spite of persistent drought; the 47 counted on standard transects there 8 Jun was considerably more than found in 2005, but still down 57% from the population's 1992 high point (SOW).

Fox Sparrow—Intriguing was one singing at Chama 11 Jul (WFW); nesting remains unconfirmed in New Mexico.

Song Sparrow—Five were along upper Bluewater Cr., *Cibola* 20 Jun (HRS), at the southern edge of the breeding range.

Yellow-eyed Junco—Summering in the Burro Mts. were up to 5 on 20 Jun (RSS), an ad. with a juv. 23 Jun (JEP), and others seen 27 Jun (LKM) and 7 Jul (CGL**); *dorsalis* Gray-headed Juncos were also present (JEP, LKM).

Northern Cardinal—A male persisted in Albuquerque's South Valley Jun-Jul (DLH).

Pyrrhuloxia—Noteworthy for *Chaves* were 2 singing in the Salt Cr. area northeast of Roswell 5 Jun (WHH) and one singing at Waldrop Park, e. *Chavez* 2 Jun (SOW). In the middle RGV, a pair north to Luis Lopez produced fledglings by early Jul (D. Perry).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak—A pair was observed mating and carrying nest material at Mesilla 2 Jun, and a second male was in the same area 2 & 8 Jun (JD); a pair, possibly the same, was seen nearby 16 Jun (JD), but no confirmation of nesting was obtained. Others were a female at Maxwell 12 Jun (DJC**) and a male at Cedar Crest 4-17 Jul (JDL).

Lazuli Bunting—Some 8-10 were along the Gila R. near Cliff 8 & 23 Jul (CGL).

Lazuli Bunting X Indigo Bunting—Apparent hybrids were single males at Cimarron 3 Jun (DJC*) and Sugarite SP 13 Jul (CAH*).

Varied Bunting—Up to 5 were in Guadalupe Canyon 24 Jun (JEP). One was singing in San Andres Canyon, *Doña Ana* 15 Jun (WHH).

Painted Bunting—Four males were in the former L. McMillan lakebed, *Eddy* 6 Jul (RHD). Four migrants were west to Rodeo 23 Jul, where there were 3 on 30 Jul (REW).

Dickcissel—Unusual west to *Grant*, one was singing in alfalfa near Cliff 13-21 Jun (MF, JRO**, DAZ**). One to 2 were at four *Colfax* locales on multiple dates 8 Jun-13 Jul+ (DJC, CMR).

Bobolink—Searches at Los Ojos, *Rio Arriba* found none 11 Jul (WFW).

Brewer's Blackbird—The 40 at the Ruidoso golf course 23 Jun (SW) was a large number for the Sacramento Mts.

Bronzed Cowbird—North in the RGV were one at EBL Dam 28 Jun (JNS) and 4 at Truth or Consequences 20 Jun (JRO). In the east, 5 were at Jal 6 Jun (SW).

Scott's Oriole—One was northeast to Burro Hill, *Harding* 20 Jun (CMR) and another was at Trigg Ranch, e. *San Miguel* 19 Jul (MDM).

Pine Grosbeak—A pair was on Little Costilla Peak, Colfax 17 Jun (DJC).

Cassin's Finch—Noteworthy for the Sacramento Mts. was one singing near Sunspot, *Otero* 14 Jun (WHH). The few other reports were restricted to the San Juan, Sangre de Cristo, and Jemez ranges.

Red Crossbill—Small numbers summered in the San Juan, Sangre de Cristo, and Jemez ranges, including up to 15 in the Jemez Mts., *Sandoval* 2 Jun (BRZ) & 1 Jul (JEP). Farther south, 2 were near Hummingbird Saddle, Mogollon Mts., *Catron* 22 Jul (CGL) and one was south of Cloudcroft 13 Jun (WHH).

Pine Siskin—Two ads., which had been present in the area in May, were feeding 2 begging apparent fledglings at Radium Springs 3 Jun (MTS, JEZ); nesting in the lower RGV is unprecedented.

American Goldfinch—A male was singing and displaying south of Jemez Springs 15 Jul (GG) & 21 Jul (WHH), but no females were seen. Multiple singing males were at two known breeding locales near Cimarron in Jul (DJC**).

ERRATUM

NMOSFN 44(3):45 (Summer 2005): The Kentucky Warbler seen and heard near Cimarron was found 11 Jun 2005, not 11 Dec.

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NEW MEXICO COUNTIES



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