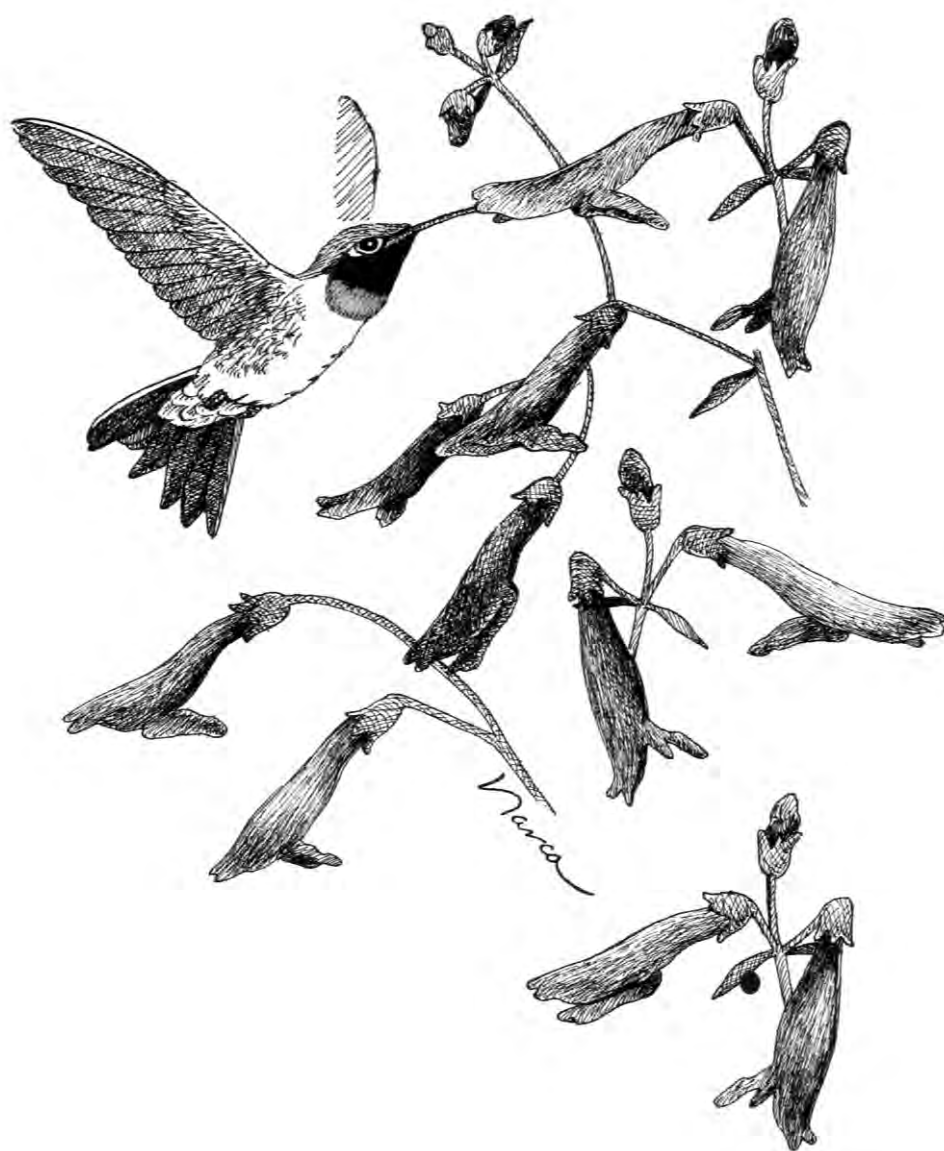


*New Mexico  
Ornithological Society  
Field Notes*



*Volume 49, Number 3, Summer 2010*

NEW MEXICO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY FIELD NOTES

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EDITORIAL STAFF

Sartor O. Williams III, *Editor*

William H. Howe, *Assistant Editor*

EDITORIAL OFFICE

Southwest Natural History Institute

1819 Meadowview Drive NW

Albuquerque, New Mexico 87104-2511

([sunbittern@earthlink.net](mailto:sunbittern@earthlink.net))

*Reporting Observations:* All individuals interested in birds in New Mexico are encouraged to submit their observations to *NMOS Field Notes*. Especially solicited are records of uncommon species, nesting birds, and early, late, or out-of-season/range birds. Records should be submitted in taxonomic order and should include species name, date, exact location, numbers of birds, age, sex, and color morph (if applicable), and name and contact information of observer. Details are necessary for unusual records; these may be submitted on a report form (available from the address above), but any written format is acceptable. Photographic documentation is strongly encouraged.

NEW MEXICO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

(*Founded 1962*)

The New Mexico Ornithological Society was organized to gather and disseminate accurate information concerning the bird life of New Mexico; to promote interest in and appreciation of the value of birds, both aesthetic and economic, to further effective conservation of the state's avifauna; to facilitate opportunity for acquaintance and fellowship among those interested in birds and nature; and to issue publications as a means of furthering these ends.

*Membership and Subscriptions:* Membership in the New Mexico Ornithological Society is open to anyone with an interest in birds. Memberships are for a calendar year and annual dues are payable 1 January. Dues are: Regular Membership \$20; Family \$30; Student \$10; Supporting \$50; Life \$500. Address for the New Mexico Ornithological Society: P. O. Box 3068, Albuquerque, NM 87190-3068.

**Cover:** Black-chinned Hummingbird (*Archilochus alexandri*). This familiar hummingbird is among the most common and widespread of New Mexico's breeding birds. It occurs statewide, and breeds in a variety of habitats from lowest elevations up to at least 2285 m; it achieves its greatest densities in riparian habitats such as the Rio Grande Valley in central and southern New Mexico. Typically arriving by early April, nesting is in full swing by May and continues into August. Recent studies have shown that Black-chinneds reduce nest predation by placing their nests near active accipiter nests in riparian situations. Art by Narca Moore-Craig.

## SUMMER SEASON 2010

Following a cool and wet spring, Summer 2010 began abruptly hot and dry, although scattered rains later in the season eventually brought some relief. The season was unusual for its overall lack of bird activity, and this was mentioned by observers statewide. Termed “silent summer” by Hart Schwarz, many species and families were recorded in unusually (sometimes record) low numbers, but whether this was due to the cold spring, the hot and dry June, or other factors was not clear. There were several surprises, however, including New Mexico’s first confirmed Tropical Kingbirds, a pair at the 9<sup>th</sup> hole of the Santa Teresa Country Club golf course, and the state’s first Sooty Tern, a specimen salvaged in the Laguna Grande area, plus another Elegant Tern, two Arctic Terns, and another Yellow Grosbeak.

### Localities and Counties

Acomita Lake, <i>Cibola</i>	Gila, Bird Area, <i>Grant</i>
Albuquerque, <i>Bernalillo</i>	Glenwood, <i>Catron</i>
Algodones, <i>Sandoval</i>	Glorieta, <i>Santa Fe</i>
Animas, Cr., Mts., Valley, <i>Hidalgo</i>	Guadalupe Canyon, <i>Hidalgo</i>
Apache Creek, <i>Catron</i>	Guadalupe Mts., <i>Eddy</i>
Belen, <i>Valencia</i>	Hillsboro, <i>Sierra</i>
Bernardo, <i>Socorro</i>	Holloman Lake, <i>Otero</i>
Berrenda Cr., <i>Sierra</i>	Horse Lake, <i>Rio Arriba</i>
Bitter Lake NWR, <i>Chaves</i>	Jack’s Creek, <i>San Miguel</i>
Black Range, <i>Grant/Sierra</i>	Jemez Falls, Mts., Spgs., <i>Sandoval</i>
Bluewater Cr., Lake, <i>Cibola</i>	Kingston, <i>Sierra</i>
Bosque del Apache NWR, <i>Socorro</i>	Lake Roberts, <i>Grant</i>
Bosque Farms, <i>Valencia</i>	Las Animas Cr., <i>Sierra</i>
Brantley Lake, <i>Eddy</i>	Las Palomas, <i>Sierra</i>
Caballo Lake, <i>Sierra</i>	Los Alamos, <i>Los Alamos</i>
Capitan, Mts., <i>Lincoln</i>	Los Ojos, <i>Rio Arriba</i>
Caprock, <i>Lea</i>	Loving, <i>Eddy</i>
Carlsbad Caverns NP, <i>Eddy</i>	Madrid, <i>Santa Fe</i>
Carrizozo, <i>Lincoln</i>	Malaga, <i>Eddy</i>
Catwalk, <i>Catron</i>	Mangas Springs, <i>Grant</i>
Chama, <i>Rio Arriba</i>	Mesa Rest Area, <i>Chaves</i>
Chloride Canyon, <i>Sierra</i>	Monastery Lake, <i>San Miguel</i>
Clayton, <i>Union</i>	Montezuma, <i>San Miguel</i>
Cloudcroft, <i>Otero</i>	Morgan Lake, <i>San Juan</i>
Cochiti Dam, Lake, <i>Sandoval</i>	Mount Taylor, <i>Cibola</i>
Corrales, <i>Sandoval</i>	Mountainair, <i>Torrance</i>
Cottonwood Canyon, <i>Hidalgo</i>	north <i>Roosevelt</i> trap (NRT), <i>Roosevelt</i>
Crossroads, <i>Lea</i>	Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo, <i>Rio Arriba</i>
Datil Mts., <i>Catron</i>	Organ Mts., <i>Doña Ana</i>
Deming, <i>Luna</i>	Ortiz Mts., <i>Santa Fe</i>
Edgewood, <i>Santa Fe</i>	Percha SP, <i>Sierra</i>
Elephant Butte Lake, Dam, <i>Sierra</i>	Peloncillo Mts., <i>Hidalgo</i>
El Rito, <i>Rio Arriba</i>	Pinos Altos Mts., <i>Grant</i>
Eunice, <i>Lea</i>	Post Office (P.O.) Canyon, <i>Hidalgo</i>
Farmington, <i>San Juan</i>	Quemado Lake, <i>Catron</i>
Fort Bayard, <i>Grant</i>	Radium Springs, <i>Doña Ana</i>

Ramon, *Lincoln*  
 Rattlesnake Springs, *Eddy*  
 Rodeo, *Hidalgo*  
 Roswell, *Chaves*  
 Sabinoso, *San Miguel*  
 Sacramento Mts., *Lincoln/Otero*  
 Sandia Crest, *Sandoval*  
 Sandia Mts., *Sandoval/Bernalillo*  
 San Ignacio, *San Miguel*  
 San Marcial, *Socorro*  
 San Mateo Mts., *Socorro*  
 Santa Fe, Canyon, Ski Area, *Santa Fe*  
 Santa Teresa, *Doña Ana*  
 Santo Domingo Pueblo, *Sandoval*  
 Serpent Lake, *Taos*  
 Silver City, *Grant*

Sitting Bull Falls, *Eddy*  
 Six Mile Dam, *Eddy*  
 Socorro, *Socorro*  
 Stinking Lake, *Rio Arriba*  
 Stone Lake, *Rio Arriba*  
 Stubblefield Lake, *Colfax*  
 Sumner Lake, Dam, *De Baca*  
 Taos, Ski Area, *Taos*  
 Truth or Consequences, *Sierra*  
 Tyrone, *Grant*  
 Univ. of New Mexico, *Bernalillo*  
 Waldrop Rest Area, *Chaves*  
 White Lakes, *Santa Fe*  
 Williamsburg, *Sierra*  
 Zuni Mts., *McKinley/Cibola*

### 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, Laguna	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

JPB	Jonathan P. Batkin	MSM	Melvin S. Moe
MJB	Matt J. Baumann	RKM	Robert K. Murphy
JB	Jerry Bird	JRO	Jerry R. Oldenettel
CLB	Charles L. Black	JEP	John E. Parmeter
CMB	Celestyn M. Brozek	JNP	James N. Paton
DJC	David J. Cleary	NDP	Nicholas D. Pederson
CC	Celia Cook	TR	Tim Reeves
BRF	Bernard R. Foy	MMR	Mary M. Ristow
GKF	Gary K. Froehlich	CMR	Christopher M. Rustay
MRG	M. Rebecca Gracey	LAS	Lawry A. Sager
DJG	David J. Griffin	JIS	Jeffrey I. Sanchez
MJH	M. Joan Hardie	HRS	Hart R. Schwarz
DLH	David L. Hawksworth	MTS	Marcy T. Scott
PH	Paul Hess	JWS	John W. Shipman
NEH	Nancy E. Hetrick	RSS	Roland S. Shook
WHH	William H. Howe	NS	Noel Sivertson
RH	Robert Hunt	DWS	Dale W. Stahlecker
ABJ	Andrew B. Johnson	HAW	Hira A. Walker
DJK	David J. Krueper	REW	Richard E. Webster
ERL	Eugene R. Lewis	SW	Steve West
JLi	Judith Liddell	WFWe	William F. West
CDL	Carroll D. Littlefield	SOW	Sartor O. Williams III
JLo	James Lofton	CCW	Christopher C. Witt
MDM	Martin D. MacRoberts	WFWi	William F. Wittman
LKM	Larry K. Malone	CJW	Cole J. Wolf
JM	James McPhee	JEZ	James E. Zabriskie

## SPECIES ACCOUNTS

**Wood Duck**—One wandered to Deming 3 Jul (LKM).

**American Wigeon**—Up to 16 apparently summered at Socorro, where seen 4-5 & 16 Jul (JEP, JWS).

**Mallard**—A ♀ with young was at Fred Baca Park, Taos 9 Jul (HAW).

**“Mexican” Duck**—Reports included a pair on the lower Mimbres R. at Simon’s Ranch, *Luna* in Jun (PH), three broods totaling 20 young at Deming 20 Jul (LKM), and 2 at Queen L. e. of Malaga 22 Jul (SW).

**Blue-winged Teal**—Nested at BLNWR this season, where 44, including young, were counted 9 Jun (JIS).

**Redhead**—A ♀ was tending 2 large young at Isleta Marsh, *Bernalillo* 4 Jul (DLH). The species has nested more frequently in recent decades than it did historically in New Mexico, and there are now records of nests or young from eight counties.

**Dusky Grouse**—A ♂ was displaying at the Pajarito Ski Area near Los Alamos 26 Jun (JEP, WFWi). A ♀ was tending one chick in the Latir Peaks Wilderness, *Taos* 28 Jul (HAW).

**“Gould’s” Wild Turkey**—One was n. to P.O. Canyon until 10 Jun (CDL).

**Montezuma Quail**—A ♂ was heard in the Capitan Mts. 29 Jun (WFWi).

**Pied-billed Grebe**—An active nest was at L. Roberts 26 Jun (LKM). A stripe-headed juv. was at Apache Creek 3 Jul (CMR).

**Eared Grebe**—Absent from Stinking L., but being incubated were 190 nests at Stone L. and 46 nests at Horse L. 19 Jul (DWS).

**Western Grebe**—Two broods with half-grown young were at Stone L. 1 Jul (DWS), where 12 new nests were being incubated 19 Jul ((DWS); four nests were being incubated at Horse L. 19 Jul (DWS).

**Brown Pelican**—Continued much in evidence, with singles at Morgan L. 2 Jun (CLB) and BLNWR 7 Jul (S. Haseltine, NS\*\*), and up to 3 at EBL on various dates 22 Jun-29 Jul (DJC\*\*, JEP); 2 at nearby Caballo L. 13 Jul (DLH\*) were likely 2 of the EBL birds.

**Double-crested Cormorant**—Rare in *Catron*, one was at Quemado L. 5 Jul (CMR).

**American Bittern**—Singles at Bosque NWR 5 Jun (CMB) and BLNWR 24 Jul (CJW) provided the only reports.

**Least Bittern**—At least three territories were found in EBL’s Indian Springs area 24-29 Jun (DJC), where the species was in evidence through Jul.



Two Brown Pelicans at Elephant Butte Lake 15 July 2010, where up to three were present in June and July. Photograph by David J. Cleary.

**Colonial Waterbirds**—Surveys to locate nesting colonial waterbirds in the RGV from Albuquerque s. to Truth or Consequences documented colonies in four areas in *Bernalillo*, *Valencia*, *Socorro*, and *Sierra*. A colony in Albuquerque’s South Valley 12 Jun contained at least six **Snowy Egret** nests, seven **Cattle Egret** nests, and three **Black-crowned Night-Heron** nests (JLi, L. F. Neely). One at Bosque Farms 10 Jun held 17 **Snowy** nests and 33 **Cattle Egret** nests plus 17 **Black-crowned Night-Heron** nests (JLi). Three sub-colonies in the Cuates Marsh area s. of San Marcial 20 Jun together contained two **Double-crested Cormorant** nests and eight nests of **unidentified cormorants**, 14 nests of **Great Blue Heron**, 36 of **Great Egret**, 56 of **Snowy Egret**, and 20 of **Black-crowned Night-Heron** (RKM). A colony at EBL’s Indian Springs contained 93 nests 20 Jun, five of **Double-crested Cormorant**, 15 of **Great Egret**, 40 of **Snowy Egret**, and 10 of **Black-crowned Night-Heron** (RKM).

**Tricolored Heron**—An imm. at BLNWR 30 Jul (JEP\*, WFWi) provided the only report.

**Yellow-crowned Night-Heron**—An ad. was in *Curry* s. of Cannon AFB 9-10 Jul (JLo\*\*).

**Glossy Ibis**—Unexpected in summer, one was at Morgan L. 3 Jun (TR\*\*).

**Osprey**—Faired poorly in its n. *Rio Arriba* stronghold, where only eight of 20 nests were successful (DWS). A single nest at Cochiti L. likewise failed (DWS).

**Mississippi Kite**—Four were at Clayton 9 Jun (CMR), where the species apparently now summers.

**Bald Eagle**—All five known New Mexico nests—two in *Rio Arriba* and three in *Colfax*—were successful in 2010 (DWS, HAW, J. Owens).

**Common Black-Hawk**—Reports continued in the RGV n. of Albuquerque, with one near Algodones 6 Jun (JM) and another below Cochiti Dam 16 Jun (D. Bleakly\*).

**Harris's Hawk**—Two were at Santa Teresa Jun-Jul (JNP).

**Gray Hawk**—A pair in the Black R. area, *Eddy* was tending one nestling 24 Jun (HAW). In Guadalupe Canyon, two pairs continued in residence Jun-Jul, and one or more young were reported (m.ob.).

**Zone-tailed Hawk**—Noteworthy for *Otero*, one was at Weed 14 Jul (MJB, CJW\*\*).

**Virginia Rail**—In likely breeding habitat were 2 at Taos 9 Jul (HAW), one along upper Bluewater Cr., Zuni Mts. 7 Jul (HRS), and 4 in the Sacramento Mts. along the R. Peñasco se. of Cloudcroft 10 Jun (WHH).

**Common Moorhen**—In evidence in the RGV from Bosque NWR southward Jun-Jul (m.ob.), including a pair with young at Percha SP 31 Jul (DJC\*\*).

**American Coot**—Ads. were tending juvs. at Tyrone 13 Jun-4 Jul (ERL). An active nest was at L. Roberts 26 Jun (LKM).

**Snowy Plover**—High count was 108 at BLNWR 9 Jun (JIS). Six pairs were at Brantley L. 23 Jun (HAW). One was nw. to Morgan L. 16-17 Jun (TR).

**Mountain Plover**—One was near White Lakes 3 Jun (MRG). Two were on the North Plains, *Cibola* 11 Jun (DJK).

**Black-necked Stilt**—Noteworthy for *Eddy* were 65 at Queen L. e. of Malaga 22 Jul (SW). High count was 140, including chicks, at BLNWR 9 Jun (JIS). Ads. were tending chicks at the Belen Taco Bell marsh 11 Jul (JWS).

**American Avocet**—Six were breeding at small ponds w. of Crossroads 3 Jun (SOW); 30 were at Queen L. e. of Malaga 22 Jul (SW).

**Spotted Sandpiper**—Late were one at Rattlesnake Springs 1 Jun (SOW) and 2 at BLNWR 9 Jun (JIS).

**Willet**—Returning birds numbered 3 at Stubblefield L. 5 Jul (MMR), one at EBL 15 Jul (DJC), and 3 at Morgan L. 22 Jul (TR).

**Upland Sandpiper**—Earliest southbound migrants were singles in the Pecos Valley at BLNWR and Six Mile Dam 30 Jul (JEP).

**Whimbrel**—Late were 2 at Holloman L. 7-8 Jun (MJB\*\*, CJW\*\*).

**Long-billed Curlew**—Conspicuous in *San Miguel* and *Harding* in Jun (CMR). Two pairs were s. to Caprock 2 Jun (SOW). A pair was tending young at White Lakes 3 Jun (MRG). Unusual was one far nw. to Morgan L. 3 Jun (JEP, WFWi, DLH).

**Marbled Godwit**—Presumably early southbound migrants were one at Morgan L. 21 Jun (TR), 6 at EBL 22 Jun (DJC\*\*), and one at Brantley L. 23 Jun (HAW).

**Semipalmated Sandpiper**—One was well-described at BLNWR 31 Jul (WFWi\*, JEP\*).



**Western Sandpiper**—Returned in numbers by the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of Jul, including 439 at BLNWR 21 Jul (JIS).

**Stilt Sandpiper**—One was early at Bosque NWR 10-11 Jul (JEP, DLH, CMR).

**Red-necked Phalarope**—Four lingered at BLNWR 9 Jun (JIS).

**Laughing Gull**—An imm. made a one-day appearance at EBL 8 Jun (DJC\*\*).

**Franklin's Gull**—Lingering were 2 at Brantley L. 9 Jun (SW) and one at Morgan L. 21 Jun (TR).

**California Gull**—One wandered to Acomita L. 11 Jun (DJK).

**Sooty Tern**—Providing a New Mexico first was one salvaged from a brine pool in the Laguna Grande area e. of Loving 8 Jul (CCW, ABJ, \*\*\* to MSB).

**Least Tern**—Up to 3 were nw. to Morgan L. 2-10 Jun (CLB\*, WFWi, TR\*\*, MJB\*\*, m.ob.). Two were in the RGV at Santo Domingo Pueblo 2 Jun (C. K. Lee). Three pairs were nesting at Brantley L. in late Jun, but all eggs failed to hatch (HAW).

**Arctic Tern**—One ad. was at Morgan L. 1 Jun (CLB\*) and 2 ads. were there 2 Jun (CLB\*\*, TR\*\*, MJB\*\*, NDP\*).

**Elegant Tern**—An ad. at Morgan L. 2 Jun (WFWi\*\*, CLB\*\*, TR\*\*, MJB\*\*, NDP\*) provided New Mexico's 4<sup>th</sup> overall record. A remarkable photograph for the Four Corners Region contains this Elegant Tern, 2 Arctic Terns, and one Least Tern (TR\*\*).



New Mexico's fourth Elegant Tern, pictured here with an Arctic Tern, was at Morgan Lake 2 June 2010. Photograph by Tim Reeves.

**Inca Dove**—Up to 3 were at Silver City 5-20 Jul (ERL).

**Common Ground-Dove**—A strong season found up to 4 singing in Guadalupe Canyon 13 Jun (WFWe, NEH\*\*) & 3 Jul (JEP, NDP, CLB), one at a ranch ne. of Rodeo 1 Jul (JEP, CLB) & 3 singing there 18 Jul (REW), and singles in the middle Animas Valley 2 Jul (JEP, CLB), Deming 18 Jun (R. Hodson), and Rattlesnake Springs 25 Jul (SW).



Common Ground-Dove in Guadalupe Canyon 13 June 2010, where up to four were found in June and July. Photograph by Nancy E. Hetrick.

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo**—In peripheral areas were two possibly nesting at NRT 13 Jun (DLH), one carrying food along Berrenda Cr., w. *Sierra* 19 Jun & 3 Jul (DJC\*\*), and singles in nw. *Luna* near Dwyer in mid-Jun (PH) and Guadalupe Canyon 3 Jul (JEP). Four territories were occupied at Rattlesnake Springs by 2 Jun (HAW).

**Greater Roadrunner**—One was n. of Santa Fe 26 Jun (JEP).

**Barn Owl**—Breeding reports were a nest with young near Las Palomas 12 Jun (DJC\*\*), a nest with young along Tierra Blanca Cr., w. *Sierra* 19 Jun (DJC\*\*) and an ad. with young at BLNWR 9 Jun (JIS).

**Whiskered Screech-Owl**—One was in Whitmire Canyon, Peloncillo Mts. 12 Jun (NEH\*\*).

**Northern Pygmy-Owl**—Where seldom reported were singles on the Mt. Taylor BBS 15 Jun (DJK), near P.O. Flats, Zuni Mts. 18 Jun (HRS), and in the Datil Mts. 3 Jul (MJH).

**Elf Owl**—One was in Chloride Canyon 16 Jun & 7 Jul (DJC). Two were along Las Animas Cr. 9 Jul (JEP).

**Spotted Owl**—Among several reports was a pair with two fledglings in Chloride Canyon 7 Jul (DJC\*\*).

**Boreal Owl**—One responded to recorded vocalizations in the Apache Cr. area, n. *Rio Arriba* 18 Jun (CLB).

**Lesser Nighthawk**—One was vocal along Twin Butte Canyon Cr., w. *Chaves* 2 Jun (SOW). Some 152 were feeding over the Rio Grande s. of Williamsburg 11 Jun (DJC).

**Mexican Whip-poor-will**—One was singing n. to Gallinas Canyon near Gallinas, *San Miguel* 12 Jun (CMR), where apparently now regular.

**Black Swift**—Presumably late migrants were 11 over the Corrales bosque 13 Jun (DJK\*). Five nests were active at Jemez Falls by 26 Jun (JEP).

**Broad-billed Hummingbird**—North in the Peloncillo Mts. were single ♂♂ in P.O. Canyon 16 Jun (CDL) and upper Cottonwood Canyon 2 Jul (JEP).

**Violet-crowned Hummingbird**—At least two were in Guadalupe Canyon 3 Jul (NDP, CLB, JEP).

**Blue-throated Hummingbird**—A ♀ was at Silver City 23 Jul (P. Taber *fide* RSS).

**Magnificent Hummingbird**—One to 2 were reported at six locales in the Pinos Altos and Mogollon mts., *Grant* and *Catron* Jun-Jul (m.ob.). Undetailed was a ♀ reported at Farmington 1 Jun (V. Bowman *fide* TR).

**Lucifer Hummingbird**—High count in P.O. Canyon was 25 on 21 Jun but with the onset of the rains, the birds dispersed (CDL). A ♀ was in upper Cottonwood Canyon, Peloncillo Mts. 2 Jul (JEP\*, CLB).

**Anna's Hummingbird**—Earliest post-breeding migrants were an ad. ♂ in the n. Peloncillo Mts. 15 Jul and 2 there 31 Jul (CDL).

**Costa's Hummingbird**—A young ♂ was in upper Cottonwood Canyon 2 Jul (CLB).

**Elegant Trogon**—A ♂ was vocal in a central Peloncillo Mts. canyon 2 Jul (JEP, CLB).

**Red-headed Woodpecker**—A pair was feeding nestlings at Trigg Ranch, e. *San Miguel* 1 Jul (MDM). One was near Sabinoso 19 Jun (CMR).

**Acorn Woodpecker**—Noteworthy for the RGV were one at Santa Domingo Pueblo 18 Jun (LAS) and an ad. with a juv. below EBL Dam 15 Jun (DJC\*\*).

**Williamson's Sapsucker**—Often overlooked in the Sacramento Mts., an ad. ♂ was s. of Cloudcroft 10 Jun (WHH). A pair was feeding nestlings at Jacks Cr. CG 18 Jun (CMR).

**Hairy Woodpecker**—Two were in Albuquerque's South Valley 20 Jun (JEP).

**American Three-toed Woodpecker**—A pair was feeding nestlings at 2560 m near Glorieta 18-20 Jun (JPB\*\*, CMR). An ad. was feeding a fledgling near Sandia Crest 15 Jul (MRG).

**Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet**—Up to 4 were in Guadalupe Canyon 13 Jun (WFWe, NEH\*\*, CMB).

**Olive-sided Flycatcher**—Four were vocal at Serpent L. 18 Jul (ABJ).

**Greater Pewee**—Four were along Sheep Corral Rd., Pinos Altos Mts. 25 Jul (JB *fide* RSS).

**Willow Flycatcher**—Two ♂♂ were singing along the Sapello R. near San Ignacio 14 Jun (RH); the species is not known to breed in *San Miguel*. In recently discovered breeding areas elsewhere, up to four territories were occupied at Taos 16 Jun-9 Jul (HAW) and three pairs were at Rattlesnake Springs 25 Jun (HAW).

**Cordilleran Flycatcher**—A pair was feeding nestlings in Armijo Canyon, Sandia Mts. 21 Jul (HRS).

**Black Phoebe**—A nesting pair on the Peñasco R. se. of Cloudcroft 10 Jun (WHH\*\*) provided breeding evidence for the Sacramento Mts.

**Eastern Phoebe**—Very early was one w. to the GBA 19 Jul (RSS).

**Dusky-capped Flycatcher**—Maintaining a Pinos Altos Mts. presence was one along Cherry Cr. 1 Jul (JB *fide* RSS). Three were in the P.O. Canyon area 8-13 Jun (CDL), where only recently established.

**Brown-crested Flycatcher**—An isolated population of about a dozen was along the Mimbres R. on the Simon Ranch, nw. *Luna* 15-22 Jun (PH). Noteworthy e. to the RGV were 2 at Percha SP 7 Jun (DJC\*\*).

**Tropical Kingbird**—Providing the first verified state record, an apparently mated pair was on the Santa Teresa Country Club golf course from 13 Jul (JNP\*\*) into Aug (MTS\*, JEZ\*\*, m.ob., m.ph., audio JEZ, audio NDP). There are 10 previous credible New Mexico records of kingbirds of the Tropical/Couch's group; three of those are certainly Couch's and two others are likely Couch's while the remaining five (including two that were photographed) cannot be allocated to species.

**Thick-billed Kingbird**—As in recent years, only one pair was found in Guadalupe Canyon 13 Jun (WFWe, NEH\*\*, CMB) & 3 Jul (JEP, CLB, NDP).

**Western Kingbird**—Noteworthy for the San Juan Mts., singles were at two sites near El Rito 21 Jun (JRO). Nine active nests, incubating or brooding, were at the Mesa Rest Area 3 Jun (HAW).

**Eastern Kingbird**—One was s. to Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo 19 Jun (BRF).

**Scissor-tailed Flycatcher**—On their breeding frontiers were 5 plus a nest near Gallegos, *Harding* 19 Jun (MJB\*\*) and a pair w. of Variadero, *San Miguel* 13 Jun (CMR). Continuing from May, one was nest-building at Ramon 1 Jun, but no Scissor-tailed mate was seen (SOW). A pair was nest-building at the Mesa Rest Area 1 Jun (SOW) where a family group was present 31 Jul (JEP).



Tropical Kingbird at the Santa Teresa Country Club 15 July 2010; it was one of a pair present there that together provided New Mexico's first verified record. Photograph by James E. Zabriskie.

**White-eyed Vireo**—Continuing from May, one was singing along the Rio Grande below Williamsburg 4 Jun (DJC).

**Bell's Vireo**—One singing below Sumner Dam 1 Jun (WHH) & 5 Jun (CLB) provided additional evidence of possible breeding at that n. locale. In *Eddy* lowlands, a pair was in Brushy Draw e. of Red Bluff 24 Jun (HAW) and a nest was found near Malaga 22 Jul (SW).

**Black-capped Vireo**—The ♂ found just below the Sitting Bull Falls Picnic Area 31 May (CMR\*) was still singing the morning of 1 Jun (SOW\*) but was not found later that day or on immediately subsequent days. However, on 4 Jul, a ♂ was seen and heard singing along the streamside trail above Sitting Bull Falls (hence, considerably above the Picnic Area) by an observer currently studying the species in Texas (A. Lawson\*).

**Gray Vireo**—Made a good showing at CCNP, with about 26 territories located in Walnut, Slaughter, Rattlesnake, and Yucca canyons Jun-Jul (HAW, SW). Some 32 territories were found at Santo Domingo Pueblo in Jun (LAS). In the Sandia Mts., two territories were in Embudo Canyon and one was in Three Gun Spring Canyon 2 Jul (HAW). Seven were singing n. of Glenwood 4 Jul (CMR) and one was singing s. of Mountainair 17 Jun (DLH).

**Yellow-throated Vireo**—Singles were singing s. of Radium Springs 1 Jun (MTS\*) and at UNM 10 Jun (CCW). West to *Grant* were singles at Fort Bayard 14 Jun (GKF) and Mangas Springs 26 Jun (T. Matelson\*).

**Hutton's Vireo**—In the Organ Mts., 2 were in Fillmore Canyon 13 Jul (DJG) and one was in Soledad Canyon 16 Jul (DJG). In the Black Range, 3 were w. of Kingston 12 Jun (DJC) and 3 were in Chloride Canyon 16 Jun (DJC\*\*).

**Warbling Vireo**—A nest with three young was at the Catwalk 4 Jul (CMR).

**Red-eyed Vireo**—A late one was singing at Rattlesnake Springs 15 Jun (SW).

**Black-billed Magpie**—Three fledglings were at Monastery L. 18 Jun (CMR).

**Common Raven**—Considered scarce in the Guadalupe Mts., a pair was in upper Dark Canyon 30 Jul (JEP).

**Purple Martin**—Nests widely in natural cavities in New Mexico from the Sangre de Cristo and Sacramento ranges westward, but to date there had been no indication of breeding on the e. plains, so surprising was news of three pairs nesting in “supplied housing” (one pair in a martin house and two pairs using gourds) at Eunice in 2010 (W. Lord\*\*, R. Lord\*\*), where one pair had produced fledglings in 2009, the first year the structures were available; this population may be derived from martins expanding from adjacent West Texas.

**Tree Swallow**—Nested again the middle RGV, where up to three pairs in snags at EBL's Indian Springs produced 8 fledglings by 2-9 Jul (DJC\*\*). Six pairs were nesting in bluebird boxes at Pritzlaff Ranch near San Ignacio 3 Jun (RH).

**Cave Swallow**—North in the Pecos Valley was a pair nesting among Cliff and Barn swallows in s. *Chaves* 11 Jun (SW).

**Pygmy Nuthatch**—Providing a first for the Fence Lake BBS were 2 near Trechado, *Cibola* 11 Jun (DJK).

**Cactus Wren**—One about 9 km n. of Tinnie, *Lincoln* 11 Jul (CMR) was in a new locale for the species.

**American Dipper**—Breeding birds included a pair carrying food to a nest at the Catwalk 4 Jul (CMR) and an ad. with a juv. in the Latir Peaks area, *Taos* 28 Jul (HAW).

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**—An active nest was in Chloride Canyon 7 Jul (DJC\*\*).

**Black-capped Gnatcatcher**—Up to 3 were found 3 Jul at two Guadalupe Canyon sites (CLB\*, NDP\*, JEP\*), where present annually since 2006.

**Veery**—One singing at Chama 7 Jun (CLB) provided the only report.

**Hermit Thrush**—Surprising was one singing in Guadalupe Canyon 3 Jul (JEP).

**Gray Catbird**—One at Rattlesnake Springs 2 Jun & 14 Jul (HAW) likely summered there, far s. of usual range.

**Sage Thrasher**—Two were singing at the VLA Rest Area, *Socorro* 3 Jul (CMR).

**Bendire's Thrasher**—One was in the Caja del Rio area, *Santa Fe* 18 Jul (JPB\*\*).

**Curve-billed Thrasher**—One was n. to El Rito Canyon 3 km nw. of El Rito 21 Jun (JRO).

**Crissal Thrasher**—One was n. of BLNWR 2 Jun (WHH), where rare.

**Cedar Waxwing**—Suggestive of local nesting were up to 9 at Farmington's Animas Park 1 Jun-6 Jul (TR), 2 each in El Rito Canyon 21 Jun (JRO), Algodones 6 Jun (JM), and Monastery L. 18 Jun (CMR).

**Olive Warbler**—An ad. carrying food in Corn Canyon 24 Jun (*fide* HRS) provided a new San Mateo Mts. breeding locale. In the Pinos Altos Mts., a ♂ was feeding a fledgling along the Meadow Creek Rd. 26 Jun (LKM).

**Northern Parula**—One was at Fred Baca Park, Taos 18 Jul (B. Wilkerson, E. Kistler).

**Yellow Warbler**—Noteworthy for the middle and lower RGV and environs were one to 2 at EBL's Indian Springs 18 Jun-9 Jul (DJC), 5 ♂♂ singing at Percha SP 7 Jun (DJC), 2 singing at Hillsboro 12 Jun (DJC\*\*), and one along Berrenda Cr. 19 Jun (DJC).

**Black-throated Blue Warbler**—A ♂ was singing near Albuquerque's Altura Park 10 Jun (CMB, NEH).

**Townsend's Warbler**—Very late was a ♂ on Mt. Taylor 15 Jun (DJK).

**Black-and-white Warbler**—Singles were in Soledad Canyon, Organ Mts. 16 Jul (DJG) and Yucca Canyon, CCNP 25 Jul (SW).

**American Redstart**—A young ♂ was banded at BLNWR 3 Jun (JIS\*, NS\*\*).

**Common Yellowthroat**—Present and suspected of nesting at Rattlesnake Springs Jun-Jul (SW, HAW).

**Hooded Warbler**—A singing ♂ was below L. Peterson near Montezuma 10 Jun (CLB\*), another ♂ was in the Santa Fe Canyon Preserve 26 Jun (BRF\*), and a ♀ was in Frijoles Canyon, Bandelier NM, *Los Alamos* 18 Jul (BRF).

**Wilson's Warbler**—Apparently breeding were a singing ♂ at the Taos Ski Area 5 Jun (JEP) where one was carrying food 10 Jul (CJW\*\*), and a ♂ carrying food at Serpent L. 19 Jul (ABJ).

**Red-faced Warbler**—In the Sacramento Mts. in *Otero*, 4 were in lower Karr Canyon 8 Jun (MJB, CJW) and 3 were found on the Cloudcroft BBS 10 Jun (WHH).

**Yellow-breasted Chat**—An active nest was at Rattlesnake Springs 25 Jun (HAW).

**Hepatic Tanager**—One at Trigg Ranch, e. *San Miguel* 1 Jul (MDM) was a local first.

**Summer Tanager**—A young ♂ was singing in pinyon-juniper habitat at Edgewood 4 Jun (CC); noteworthy for *Lincoln* were 4 near Riverside 11 Jul (CMR).

**Cassin's Sparrow**—Typically scarce or absent in the s. Animas Valley, a high 19 were counted on transects there 7 Jul (HAW).

**Grasshopper Sparrow**—Only 21 were counted on transects in the s. Animas Valley 7 Jul (HAW), down considerably from previous years. Conditions were good for this species in the se., and 2 were sw. of Roswell 2 Jun (SOW), and 5 were singing near Caprock 3 Jun (SOW).

**Black-chinned Sparrow**—One was n. to the Ortiz Mts. 6 Jun (BRF).

**Fox Sparrow**—Found at two n. locales this summer: one singing in the Apache Cr. area, n. *Rio Arriba* 6 Jun (CLB\*), and at least 2 singing ♂♂ at Serpent L. 19 Jul (ABJ\*), where also detected in previous summers.

**Lincoln's Sparrow**—Up to 8 were singing at Serpent L. 18-19 Jul (ABJ).

**Northern Cardinal**—Two were in Twin Butte Canyon sw. of Roswell 2 Jun (SOW). East of the Pecos R. one was in Brushy Draw e. of Red Bluff, *Eddy* 24 Jun (HAW). A ♂ was at Hillsboro 12 Jun (DJC\*\*), where the species was present in 2009.

**Pyrrhuloxia**—A ♂ was singing at the Waldrop Rest Area 3 Jun (SOW).

**Yellow Grosbeak**—A ♂ was 8 km nw. of Rodeo 5 Jun (MSM\*\*). There are four previous New Mexico reports, all from the RGV and environs.

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak**—One was w. to Fort Bayard 14 Jun (GKF). Others were singles near San Ignacio 3 Jun (RH) and Madrid 29 Jun (LAS).

**Blue Grosbeak**—A ♂ was in the Datil Mts. 11 Jun (MJH), where seldom reported. A ♂ was tending a fledgling near Radium Springs 24 Jun (MTS, JEZ). An active nest was at Rattlesnake Springs 25 Jun (HAW).

**Lazuli Bunting**—Single ♂♂ were singing s. to Bernardo 24 Jul (DLH), Tierra Blanca Cr, w. *Sierra* 31 Jul (DJC\*\*), and Fillmore Canyon, Organ Mts. 13-14 Jul (DJG), and several were singing at GBA in Jul, where there were also singing **Indigo Buntings** (RSS).

**Lazuli Bunting x Indigo Bunting**—A ♂ was at Farmington's Animas Park 5 Jun (JEP\*) and a ♂ was tending fledglings at Rattlesnake Springs 13 Jul (HAW).

**Varied Bunting**—Appeared to be thriving at CCNP, where surveys found about 14 territories in Walnut Canyon 26-27 Jun (HAW), at least seven territories in Rattlesnake Canyon 28 Jun, where a nest was under construction 15 Jul (HAW\*\*), and one territory in Slaughter Canyon 26 Jun (HAW). Two territories (one containing a pair with a



fledgling) were in San Andres Canyon, *Doña Ana* 6 Jul (HAW). Up to 4 ♂♂ were in Guadalupe Canyon 13 Jun (WFWe, NEH\*\*, CMB) & 3 Jul (CLB, NDP, JEP).

**Painted Bunting**—Noteworthy n. to *Chaves*, 4 ♂♂ were in the Cocklebur L. area n. of BLNWR 2 Jun (WHH).



Male Yellow Grosbeak near Rodeo 5 June 2010; fifth report for New Mexico, and the first away from the vicinity of the Rio Grande Valley. Photograph by Melvin S. Moe.

**Dickcissel**—A southbound migrant was at BLNWR 30 Jul (JEP).

**Common Grackle**—South of expected, a ♂ was at Carrizozo 9 Jun (WHH\*\*).

**Bronzed Cowbird**—Much in evidence across the south and n. to *Grant*, *Socorro*, *Lincoln*, and *Curry*; in the latter county, a fledgling Bronzed was being fed by a **Bullock's Oriole** 15 Jun (JLo\*\*). At Rattlesnake Springs, a blackish ♀ of the eastern subspecies was present 1 Jun (SOW\*\*) and 2 grayish ♀♀ of the western subspecies were present 2 Jun (SOW\*, HAW).

**Orchard Oriole**—North in the Pecos Valley was one singing near Cocklebur L. n. of BLNWR 2 Jun (WHH).

**Hooded Oriole**—A pair at P.O. Canyon produced two broods from the same nest: the first brood fledged 12 Jul, the 2nd brood fledged 20 Aug; an unusual local scarcity of Bronzed Cowbirds may have been a factor in the success (CDL).

**Cassin's Finch**—One at Sunspot, *Otero* 24 Jul (CJW) was the only report away from the n. highlands.

**Red Crossbill**—Generally scarce, but relatively widespread, including 75 at Serpent L. 19 Jul (ABJ), 11 at Mt. Taylor 15 Jun (DJK), 2 at Pueblo Park, *Catron* 4 Jul (CMR), and one at Weed, *Otero* 14 Jul (CJW).

**Lesser Goldfinch**—A pair was tending fledglings at Albuquerque's Paradise Hills 5 Jun (WHH).

**American Goldfinch**—Several were found summering at Taos 18 Jun & 9 Jul (HAW), where breeding was suspected but not confirmed. Two were along the Rio Pueblo, s. Taos 12 Jun (JEP), where now regular in summer. Suggestive were single ♂♂ at Los Ojos 4 Jun & 23 Jul (JEP) and one to 3 at Chama 4 Jun & 24 Jul (JEP).

\* \* \*

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New Mexico Ornithological Society  
P.O. Box 3068  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87190-3068

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